





**“ A made-in-Alberta rural broadband solution
to serve rural Albertans now ”**

THE DATA UTILITY FOR RURAL ALBERTA






Rural Alberta needs high speed broadband access now, and into the future. The lack of available broadband access has made life in rural Alberta challenging and has hampered economic development in the regions that drive the primary industries of our provincial economy.



A UNIQUELY ALBERTA SOLUTION

-  **Not-for-profit open access data utility**
-  **Wholesale provider**
-  **Increase market competition and innovation**
-  **Counties and municipalities maintain ownership of the network through EQUUS Connect**

EQUUS CONNECT BENEFITS RURAL ALBERTANS

-  **Access to online schooling**
-  **Digital medical support**
-  **E-commerce opportunities**
-  **Networked security systems**
-  **Rural business access to technology for efficiency**





DELIVERING
MORE THAN **POWER**

EQUUS CONNECT: THE DATA UTILITY FOR RURAL ALBERTA

- EQUUS CONNECT is a non-profit, member-owned data utility that owns and operates the infrastructure required to deliver open-access wholesale connectivity services on a cost-of-service basis to Albertans in participating counties and municipalities.
- Functioning under a structure that was developed based on the successful Rural Utilities model, EQUUS CONNECT will own and operate the necessary infrastructure to provide a broadband network to its county and municipal member-owners.
- The members will provide oversight and governance of EQUUS CONNECT as Directors on the Board.
- EQUUS CONNECT members determine rates and quality of service standards within their service territory and maintain cost oversight through their position on the Board of Directors.
- EQUUS CONNECT will own and operate an open-access broadband network without providing retail services, and facilitate the development of a competitive retail market.
- EQUUS CONNECT will be constructing a fibre-to-the-node network that will be expanded to a fibre-to-the-premise network as demand evolves. The network will be capable of further growth and expansions with affordable access, delivering speeds up to 1 GB per second.

A MADE-IN-ALBERTA SOLUTION WITH MADE-IN-ALBERTA ADVANTAGES

- **Innovation** – Providing rural Albertans with equal access to technology and information supports growth, development, and modernization, and ensures that broadband is available to all Albertans.
- **Economic Development** – Rural Alberta is home to several key industries in Alberta including agriculture, oil and gas, forestry, and tourism that will grow with affordable access to high-speed broadband supporting their business.
- **Competition** – A service-based retail market design maximizes competition while reducing infrastructure costs, creating a highly-efficient and cost-effective market for consumers.
- **Leverage** – EQUUS CONNECT can utilize existing Rural Utilities structure and legislation.
- **Cost-Effective** – Developing and maintaining this critical infrastructure using an at-cost business model enables economies of scale which increase cost-efficiencies as the network grows.
- **Self-Governing** – The EQUUS CONNECT Board of Directors consists of its members, who maintain control without any need for government oversight.
- **Security** – Providing the core infrastructure required to enable remote and networked security systems for rural businesses and residents.
- **Construction Ready** – EQUUS CONNECT will allow rural counties to easily build infrastructure now, through their ownership in EQUUS CONNECT.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EQUUS CONNECT:

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