

July 31, 2018

Council of North Huron  
274 Joseph Street  
Wingham, Ontario  
N0G 2W0

**RE: Relocation of Blyth Fibre Hub to a proposed severance at the ESTC site**

**History:**

Tuckersmith Communications is a member owned Co-operative whose primary focus is service which we do by investing in infrastructure. In 2013 Tuckersmith entered into an agreement with the Township of North Huron to lease space in the ESTC to host a fibre hub to serve Blyth/Londesborough and area. (See attached press release)

**Current Situation:**

The Township of North Huron has declared the ESTC building surplus. This has put the long term tenancy for the Blyth fibre hub in doubt. Tuckersmith needs to maintain a permanent space as the usable life expectancy of our current fibre deployments is fifty years plus. Therefore, locating critical points of fibre infrastructure like the fibre hub at the ESTC in a private enterprise is not desirable for the following reasons.

- Access - we need access to the equipment 24 hours a day 7 days a week not unlike a firehall that may not align with the interest of a private owner as they may have safety, security or bio contamination issues they want to manage.
- Building reconfiguration- the new owner may want to re arrange or repurpose the building -the main fibre runs through the floor to the opposite side of the building will this remain undisturbed.
- Ownership may change multiple times over the decades and potential lease dispute may cause a future owner to lockout future Tuckersmith employees putting the entire regional network in jeopardy.
- Infrastructure investment as it is our intention is to invest a significant amount of capital in the Blyth site over the next few decades it will be exponentially more difficult and costly as time goes on to relocate it should we be asked to vacate the premises.
- We feel it simply is not feasible to try to negotiate terms with private business to satisfy our concerns of risk to the network for the next half century.

**Going Forward:**

Tuckersmith may freeze future capital investment in the Blyth fibre hub until a new site is in operation. The reason for doing this is every service we turn on will have to be mirrored in the new site. This means if we spend a dollar in the ESTC means we will have to invest a dollar at the new site. As the new site has to be operational before customer migration can begin from the old site. Unfortunately, it is not an option for us to turn off the equipment and move it.

**Solution:**

We have chosen the northeast corner of the ESTC for severance as the preferred potential solution for the following reasons.

- Proximity to the ESTC
- Use the existing duct structure that was installed 5 years ago which will reduce construction cost
- Ease of obtaining a hydro service
- The property is currently under the control of the municipality

**Conclusion:**

To be prepared for any future development in the area Tuckersmith needs to act fast to bring the new site online so that we are prepared to offer service when requested. This is not only in Tuckersmith's best interest but feel it is in the best interest of North Huron, Central Huron and Huron County as well.

I have attached a picture of one of our current standalone hubs and a preliminary site plan that indicates the proposed severance.

Sincerely,



Rob Van Aaken  
General Manager  
Tuckersmith Communications Co-operative Limited



For Immediate Release  
Tuesday June 4, 2013

### **FIBRE OPTICS INVESTMENT IN BLYTH**

*North Huron* - The next generation of technology is coming soon to Blyth. Tuckersmith Communications Cooperative Ltd. (TCC), in conjunction with the Township of North Huron, is working on increasing the fibre capacity to Blyth. This will allow for improved bandwidth offerings to residential customers and it will make fibre optic services available to Blyth businesses and municipal facilities. Fibre has the highest bandwidth capacity available for both sending and receiving data and this occurs almost instantly.

TCC and North Huron have entered into an agreement to allow TCC to install fibre optic cable and equipment at the Emergency Services Training Centre (ESTC) in Blyth to serve as TCC's hub so that it can expand its telecommunications infrastructure to Blyth and the surrounding area.

“This investment will provide Blyth with access to the most technologically advanced infrastructure in the area,” said Rob Van Aaken, General Manager, Tuckersmith Communications Co-operative Ltd.

“Our residents and businesses depend on fast and reliable telecommunications to share information and stay connected,” said North Huron Reeve Neil Vincent. “TCC's investment in Blyth to improve connectivity will encourage other partnerships, retain and attract residents, and generate investment and new economic opportunities.”

Those looking for more information on TCC's services and these advancements can contact the business office at 519-606-2211. TCC has been offering communications services throughout the area for over 100 years. In operation since 1909, TCC has evolved from a small, local independent telephone company to one of the leading full-service communications firms in Huron County. TCC is proud to invest in local communities – giving residents and businesses one of the most advanced communications infrastructures in Canada.

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For more information, contact:

Gary Long, CAO/Clerk  
Township of North Huron  
519-357-3550 x.24

Rob Van Aaken, General Manager  
Tuckersmith Communications Co-operative  
519-264-5040

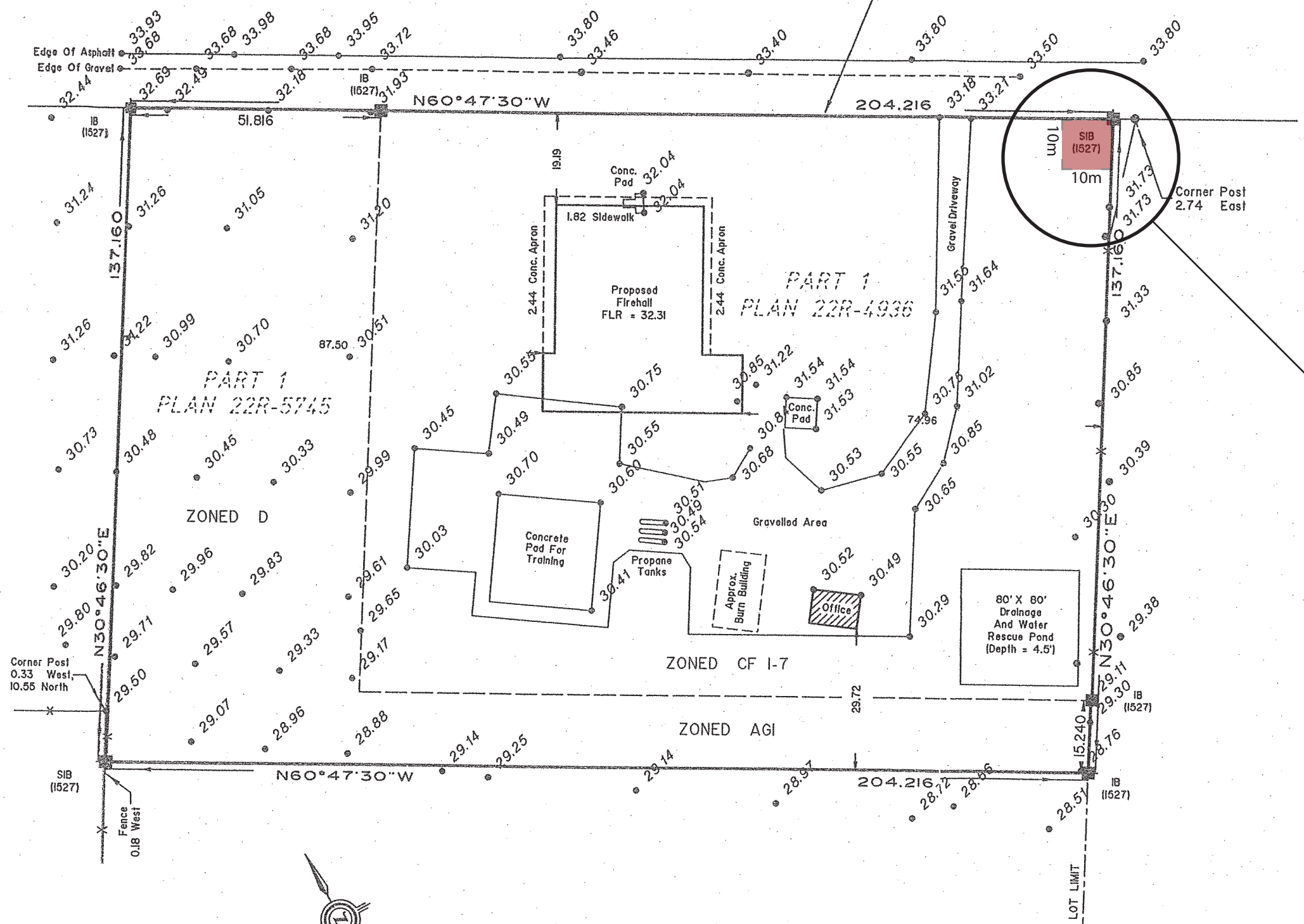




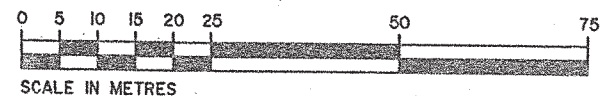


SITE BENCH MARK  
Nail In Hydro Pole  
ELEV. = 35.585  
(Assumed)

COUNTY ROAD No. 25  
KNOWN AS BLYTH ROAD  
17.00' ROAD WIDENINGS BY DEPOSIT PLAN No. 1701



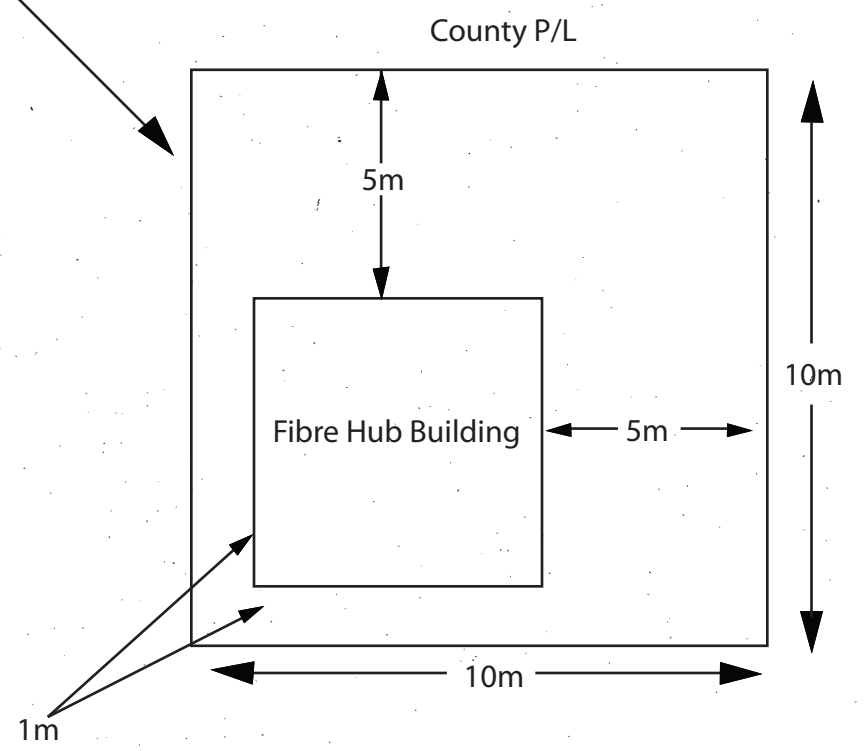
SITE SKETCH  
OF PART OF  
**LOT 22**  
**CONCESSION 14**  
GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF HULLETT  
MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL HURON  
COUNTY OF HURON



2010  
D. CULBERT LTD.  
ONTARIO LAND SURVEYOR

NOTES & LEGEND

• 100.00  
DENOTES EXISTING SPOT ELEVATION



METRIC: DISTANCES SHOWN ON THIS PLAN ARE IN METRES AND CAN BE CONVERTED TO FEET BY DIVIDING BY 0.3048.

OCTOBER 26, 2010

**D. CULBERT LTD.**  
ONTARIO LAND SURVEYOR  
GODERICH, ONTARIO PHONE 519-524-5321

ONTARIO  
**DCL**  
LAND SURVEYOR

THIS SKETCH WAS PREPARED  
FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF  
NORTH HURON EMERGENCY  
SERVICES TRAINING CENTRE

DRAWN BY: BDCS	DIGITAL FILE: M090711	PLAN No:
CHECKED BY: DAC	FILE No: HUL-14-22-1	G-5068