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Smart Capital

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Building the World's Most Connected City

Ottawa is forging forward with determination and commitment to build the world's most connected city. To provide 100 per cent access to broadband service. It's all about a high-speed communications revolution for a community on the fast track to the future.

The broadband future is happening in Ottawa. Accelerating the growth of on-line services is the SmartCapital initiative led by the Ottawa Center for Research and Innovation (OCRI). This multi-million dollar initiative brings together over 50 development partners in 20 on-line service projects.

And the City of Ottawa is committed. A Broadband Connectivity Strategy is now an integral part of the city's official planning process.



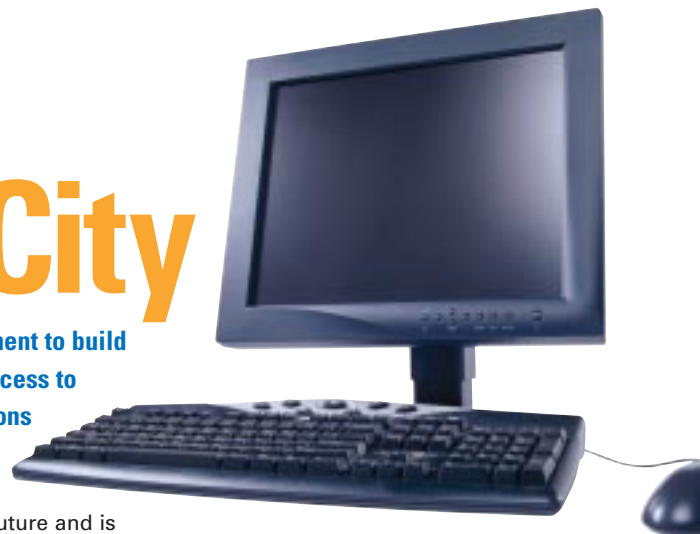
Ottawa has seen the future and is embracing it wholeheartedly, transforming its technology landscape, becoming fully ready and wired for the escalating telecommunications needs of tomorrow.

Transforming the Way We Interact

Ottawa already has an advanced physical infrastructure in place with sophisticated high-speed networks connecting the Region's universities, national research facilities and large private sector companies to one another.

A mecca for telecommunications research and development a full 80 per cent of Canada's telecommunications activity is orchestrated out of Ottawa, making the region a facilitator and focal point of its own technology.

Not only is Ottawa making huge strides in the development of a superior wired infrastructure. Working in collaboration with numerous partners, the region is creating and implementing a host of breakthrough applications. Transforming challenges faced by countless other communities into unprecedented opportunities. And in turn strengthening Ottawa's ability to compete economically while enhancing an already exceptionally high quality of life.



"SmartCapital has established one of the most dynamic smart application development environments in the world. Ottawa is truly a showcase and test bed for Canadian online technology and services."

Paul Wilker
Executive Director SmartCapital



"Broadband connectivity is essential to economic development in modern cities. As a global technology center Ottawa is competing around the world for new markets, investments and employees. Ottawa's new broadband network will form an integral part of the infrastructure of the City and will be rapidly deployed, competitive, cost effective, scalable for future growth."

Mayor Bob Chiarelli
City of Ottawa



Changing the Delivery of Health Care

In the health sector, for example, on-line remote consultation and diagnosis, continuing medical education to health professionals and health education in preventative care for the public is becoming a reality through the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. Using the latest communication and multimedia technologies, the Heart Institute's one-stop cardiac program demonstrates that telehealth is a viable strategy for improved access to quality care. While this project is primarily concerned with cardiac health care, the technology and techniques developed will have crucial applications for other areas of medicine.



Wired for Educational Success

On the educational front, for the post secondary school community, a consortium between Carleton University, La Cité collégiale, the University of Ottawa and OCRI, called EduNET, provides a common platform for students in the region to connect into the electronic networks at their campuses. Other examples of web based education includes: the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Medicine whose undergraduate students can access the majority of their curriculum through the internet or the university's web



"Expanding new technologies to improve local access to our cluster is essential for economic growth. Increased broadband capabilities will provide the necessary infrastructure to support innovation in all sectors of the economy."

Dr. Arthur J. Carty
President
National Research Council

based intranet, and Algonquin College's "E-College Program" which increased the opportunities for students to pursue their education objectives in locations and times that suit their schedules and lifestyles. E-College offers a large number and wide variety of online courses to suit the needs of post-secondary and continuing education students.

Changing the Way the Community Interacts

Within the community itself, a community services platform provides Ottawa residents with affordable access to the Internet, to basic software applications, and to library information. More than 150 locations provide access to free Internet-ready computers conveniently located in schools, municipal offices, libraries and other facilities across the Region.

Ottawa's Library is online via the library's website, offering a fully comprehensive bilingual database with over 2.2 million items including a collection of 48,000 books on tape; 43,000 videos; 16,000 music CDs; 5,000 DVDs and 900 books.

Ottawa's wired infrastructure is an ongoing work in progress; ever evolving to build a dynamic community connected through online learning, teaching, and resource services.