

CONNECTED COAST



Bringing high-speed internet to rural and remote communities along the BC coastline, Haida Gwaii and Vancouver Island.

Date: 27-12-2021

September 2021

Central Coast Regional District

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Information on Connected Coast project
3. Service to communities within CCRD
4. Environmental Considerations
5. Questions



Hazelbrae Holdings Ltd.

- Owner's representative - Project Manager
 - Paul Daniell



- Prime contractor (design, construction, environmental surveys)
 - Darren Dofher



- Project lead for community engagement and permitting
 - Pontus Lindgren



BROADBAND DECLARED BASIC SERVICE TO ALL CANADIAN COMMUNITIES

A new FUND
for projects
that will help
ensure that...

by 2021, 90% of Canadian homes and small businesses have access to fixed broadband services that offer:



SPEEDS OF
↓ 50 MBPS
↑ 10 MBPS



UNLIMITED DATA
ALLOWANCE

Canadians have access to the latest wireless technology at their homes, small businesses and on the road.



CONNECTIVITY

- CRTC universal service objective that Canadians – in all communities should have access to voice services and broadband internet access services on fixed and mobile wireless networks with a target speed of 50 Mbps down/10 Mbps up and unlimited data allowance
- Connect to Innovate Program \$500M (Dec 2016)
- Additional \$750M CRTC fund over 5 years
- Universal Broadband fund for last mile \$1.75B
- Economic Recovery Intake \$90M

THE CONNECTED COAST PROJECT

- From north of Prince Rupert to Haida Gwaii, South to Vancouver and around Vancouver Island
- To bring new or improved high speed internet accessibility to 139 coastal communities
- Approximately 3,400 km of sub-sea backbone fiber network
- Benefit an estimated 175,000 British Columbians living in 90,000 households
- Allow residents in rural and remote communities access to many essential services such as online education, health and e-commerce
- Provide affordable, reliable high-speed broadband across Vancouver Island and the West Coast
- Work with partners to facilitate digital uptake and maximize the end-use benefits of improved internet
- Construction 2021 through 2023



PROJECT FUNDING

CONNECT TO INNOVATE PROGRAM



- \$47M project
- Federal Government – ISED (CTI Program)
- Department of Indigenous Services Canada (DISC)
- Province of BC/NDIT (Connecting BC)



FIRST NATIONS

- Fiber path will cross the traditional territories of most coastal First Nations
- New or enhanced service for as many as 48 First Nation communities
- Opportunities for economic development, health, and education

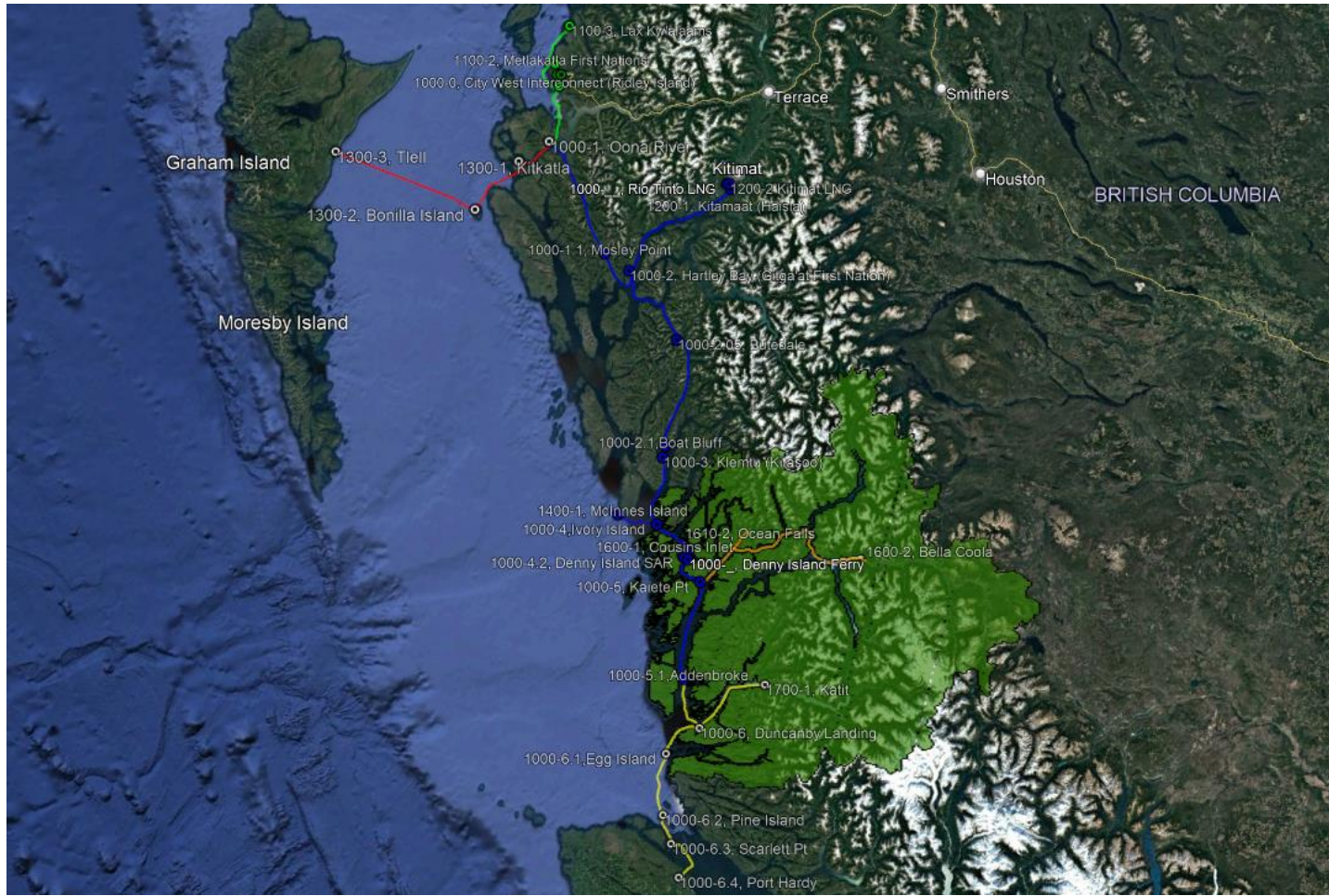


Other potential collaborators

- Coast Guard (lighthouses, SAR bases)
- Natural Resources Canada, (early earthquake and tsunami warnings)
- Library Board
- Ministry of Education, School Districts, colleges
- Community cooperatives
- Health Authorities
- Ocean Networks



Block 3 – 5 permit packages





Proposed landing sites within CCRD

- **First Nations Communities**
 - Heiltsuk Nation – Bella Bella
 - Nuxalk Nation – Bella Coola
 - Wuikinuxv Nation – Katit
- **Civic Communities/Sites**
 - Denny Island
 - Martin Valley
 - Ocean Falls
 - Duncanby Landing
- **Coast Guard**
 - Ivory Island
 - Dryad Point
 - Denny Island SAR
 - Addenbroke Island
 - Egg Island



FIBER, SUBSEA DEPLOYMENT AND SHORE LANDINGS



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS



- Materials used are inert and nontoxic
 - readily colonized by marine life
- Accurate placement of cable can avoid sensitive habitats (e.g., glass sponge reefs)
- Cable installed on ocean floor (no trenching or jetting), which minimizes environmental impacts



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Potential impacts to eelgrass – mitigation to be approved by DFO
- Cable laying operation itself:
 - is very short term (completed within hours within a given area)
 - very slow-moving vessels
 - Minimal noise disturbance
 - Risk of marine mammal collision extremely low
 - Interaction with other marine traffic easily avoided
 - Marine Mammal Observer on board



- **Archaeological concerns addressed:**
 - Via consultation with the First Nation
 - Any required permitting
 - Chance Finds procedures



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Operations:
 - Passive system (no amplification required within marine environment)
 - No concerns related Electromagnetic Field (EMF) disturbance.
 - Shipping lanes and anchorage sites avoided during design.
 - Cable location marked on charts + Advice via NOTMAR, email.
 - Minimal to no impacts to fishing
 - Cable self-buries on soft substrates and very limited potential to interact with fisheries other than ground trawling
 - Coordinating with fishing industry to further minimize potential for interaction (GTAC, TBuck Suzuki, Crab Fishermen's Association, shrimp trawlers, etc.)



PERMITS / REFERRALS

- BC Crown land tenure
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada request for review
- *Species at Risk* permit where Northern Abalone may be present (to allow for salvage).
- Some landing sites (on Crown Land) require *Heritage Alteration Permit*



QUESTIONS?

CONNECTED
COAST

