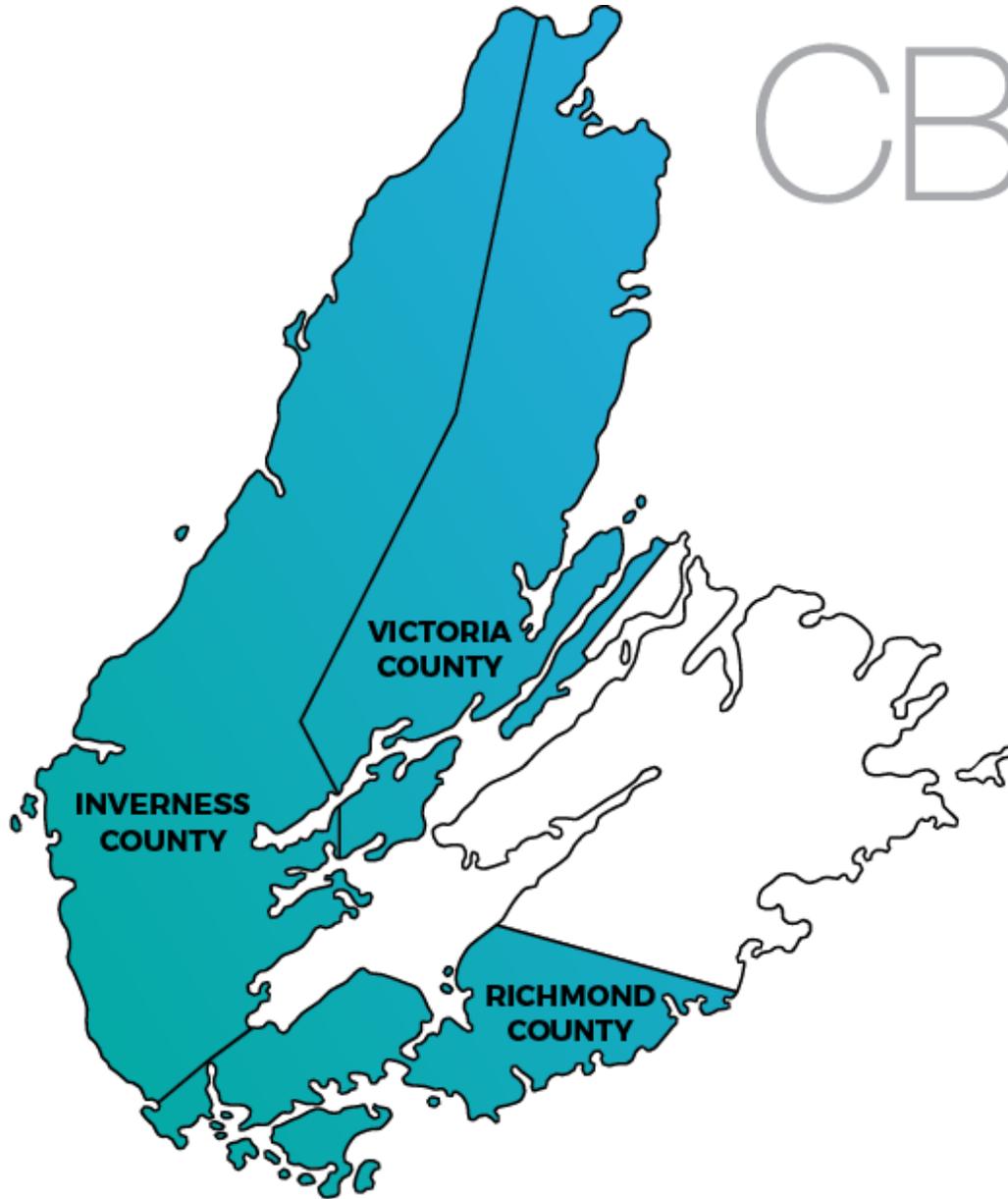


Cape Breton Regional Enterprise Network Broadband Strategy

November 10, 2017





Background



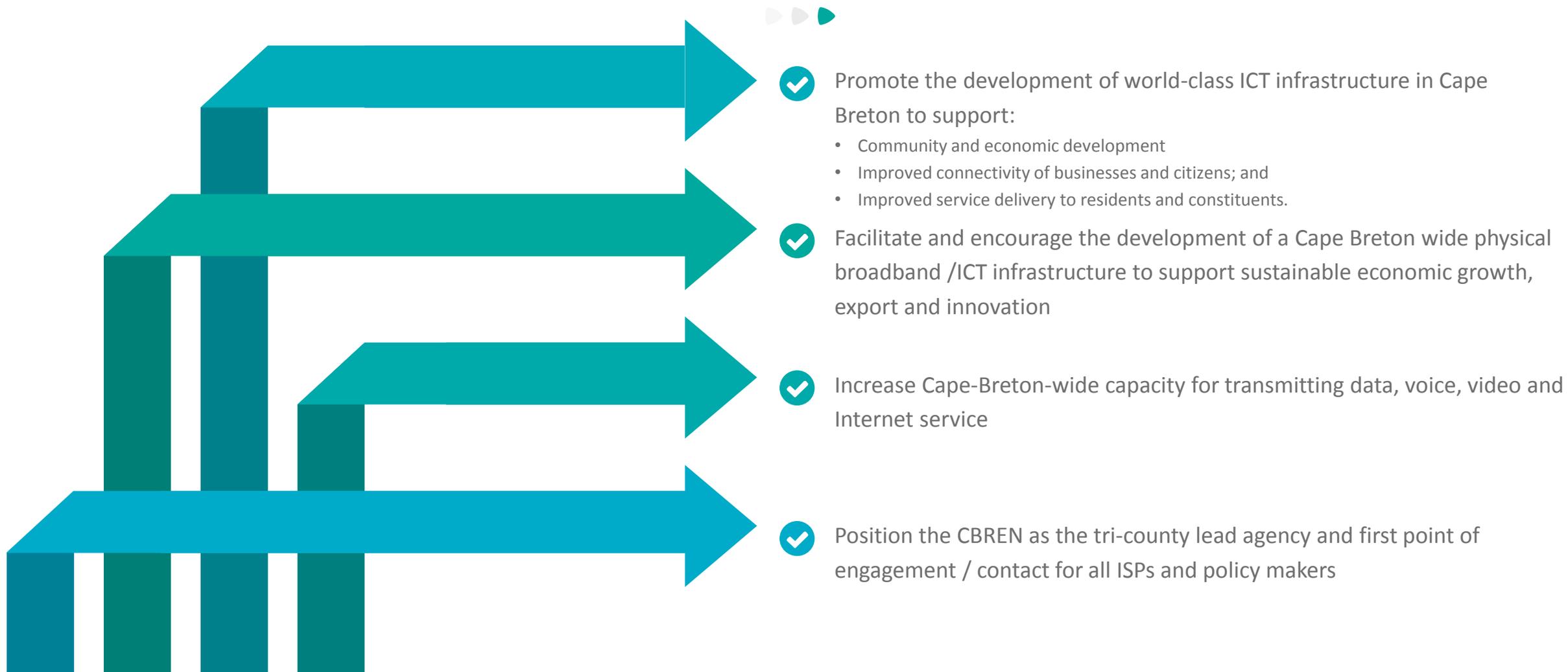
- Provincial Funding up to \$75,000 per project
 - Skye Glen Tower
 - Victoria County Tower and Improvements
- Business Roundtables & BRE
 - Labour
 - Internet
 - Housing
- Priority for Municipalities and Businesses
- Connect to Innovate

Project Scope



- It was determined that the ‘readiness factor’ suggested an in-depth approach – one that would provide a up-to-date situational report in the three counties and among First Nations and more precisely identify gaps/needs/potential costs/forward options
- Direction from Municipal leaders supported assessment of a joined-up approach to addressing an integrated broadband strategy for the three counties

Strategy Goals and Objectives



Objectives



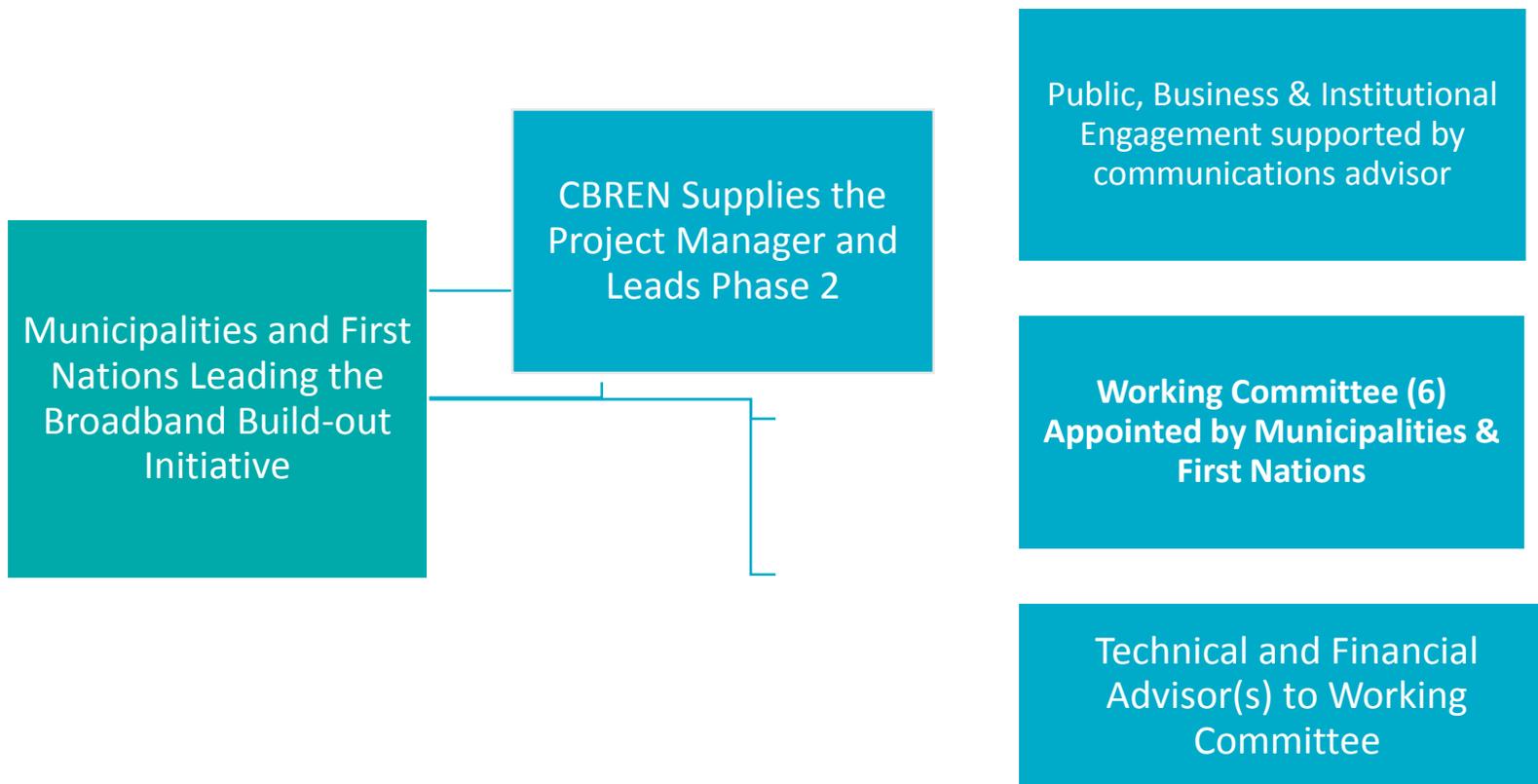
- Increase bandwidth capacity available for use in Cape Breton
- Facilitate the extension of bandwidth availability to rural and underserved areas of Cape Breton and, thereby bridge the urban-rural digital divide in high-speed connectivity
- Support a competitive environment where access to bandwidth is affordable
- Promote demand and stimulate broadband uptake to enhance the business case for broadband investment and growth potential
- Advocate for enhanced broadband availability and connectivity in Cape Breton
- Enable enhanced monitoring, measurement and overall accountability

Vision & Mission



- Vision: “Create a collaborative broadband ecosystem under the leadership of the CBREN that can sustain broadband infrastructure and network development supporting affordable adoption by all citizens; promotion of economic and social development; and enhanced equity of access to knowledge, information, and e-services.”
- Mission: “Elevate broadband infrastructure, connectivity and digital citizenship within the region to the national standard, while making the region exemplar in business, government, First Nations and community connectivity.”

Structure



Work Plan



Task 1

Project Launch

Task 2

Gap Analysis

Task 3

Public & Stakeholder Engagement

Task 4

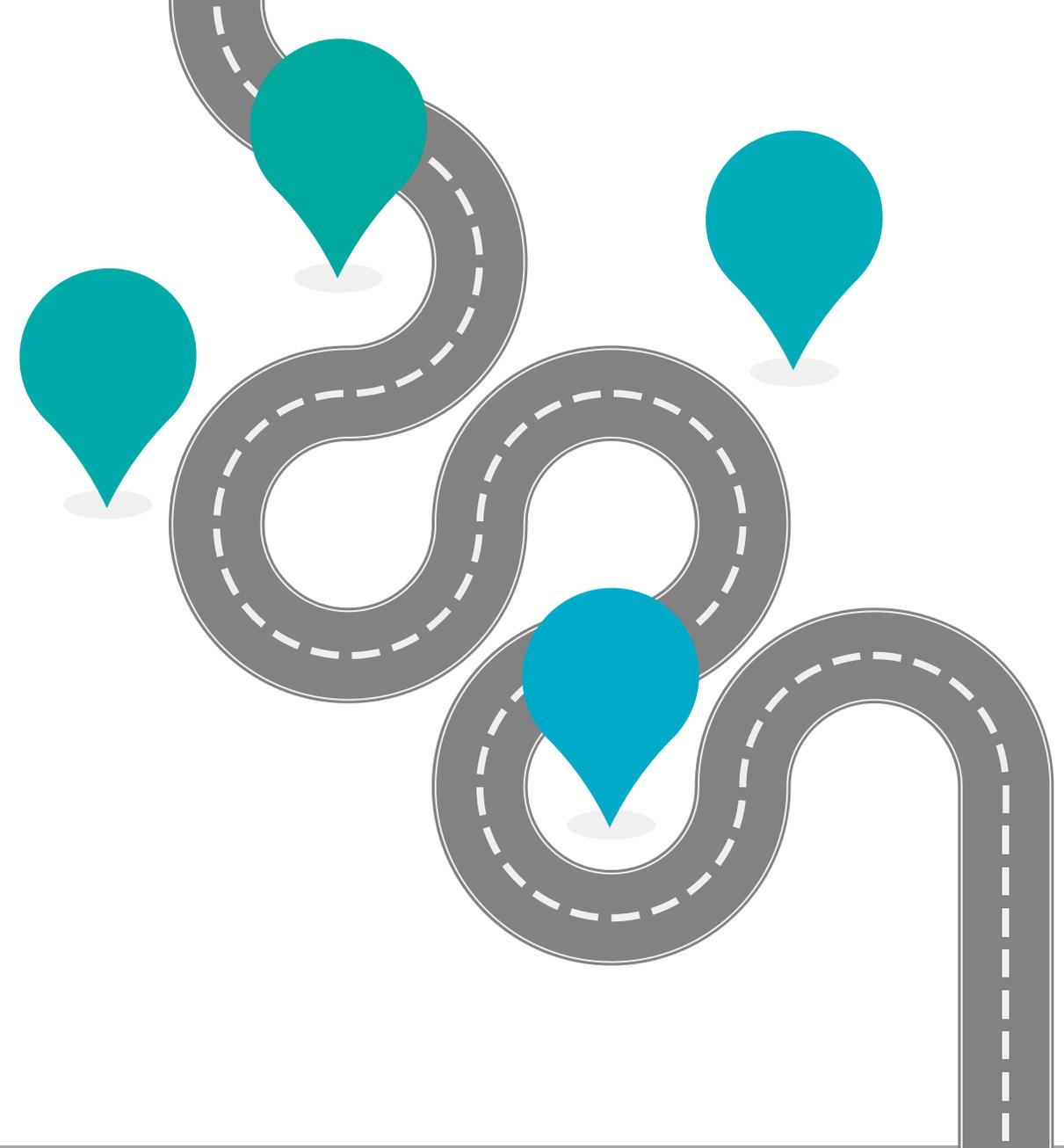
Technical Specifications and Funding Requirements

Task 5

Forward Plan and Strategy

Task 6

The Funding Strategy



Core Year 1 and 2 Activities



- Meetings with Working Group partners to further refine their respective agendas and support for the initiative, confirm goals, establish reporting and accountability protocols, and, more generally, set the administrative infrastructure that will underpin the working relationship going forward.
- Meetings with ISPs (current and potential) to socialize the role of the organization, its mission and mandate, as well as to establish tools (e.g. NDAs and confidentiality agreements) which would allow for a greater level of information exchange and open dialogue between the ISPs and the Working Group lead.
- Likewise, meetings with potential funders to provide an overview of the organization, mission and mandate, as well as to establish lines of communications and an understanding of policy priorities and upcoming plans to support broadband investment under potential programs and / or under specific project proposals.
- Core year 1 and 2 activities would also include:
 - Proposal development – either in relation to specific opportunities or in response to calls for proposals;
 - Assembly of information / preparation of information for the application process so that this material is ready to be used under the sometimes-tight timelines that have, at least historically, been a hallmark of past funding support programs;
 - Monitoring and reporting back to the CBREN and its partners; and
 - Laying groundwork for needs analysis in Year 1.

Benefits of a CBREN-level Broadband Strategy



- Compilation of basic information
- Mobilization of parties to act and leverage forthcoming funding opportunities
- Aggregate capacity among the SME/social enterprises, and municipalities/First Nations
- Build out the capacity to monitor, measure, and report on social and economic impacts
- Assembly of CBREN project priorities, issues and sensitivities of particular importance to the CBREN Committee
- Priority communities
- Organized to approach other funding sources and levels:
 - Partners and contribution toward project costs; community benefits
- Organized to approach technology partners – single point contact to share information
- Generate inventory of submission-ready win-themes

Funding Sources



- Recent and expected funding opportunities
 - CRTC
 - ISED
 - Atlantic Growth Strategy: Infrastructure
 - NS forthcoming broadband strategy
- Overview of regional initiatives

NEXT STEPS



THANK
YOU