



Municipality of the District of Digby: Rural Broadband & Cellular

Final phase of installation to reach Smith's Cove, Doucetteville and Conway

The Tri-County area in partnership with the Western Regional Economic Network (REN) were early leaders in pursuing rural internet and cellular access. The Rural Broadband & Cellular Project was a complex, multi-year and multi-partner undertaking first initiated in 2016. The final phase of this project, supported by the BCSF-CS, focused on reaching Smith's Cove, Doucetteville and Conway, which for reasons of geography were the most difficult to connect.

The District of Digby and surrounding areas recognized early that reliable high-speed internet access would be important for their residents and businesses. The first phases of the project were accomplished by the Province, the Western REN and a group of municipalities partnering with internet providers and accessing different pools of funding. These stages took care of the central populated areas, and then the next-easiest to reach set of communities and homes. In total, 1312 civic addresses in Digby were covered in Phases 2 and 3 of the project. This left a few communities that, for various reasons, were too challenging to be included in earlier rounds.

In 2025, with Build Communities Strong Fund (BCSF) Community stream funding, the three communities of Smith's Cove, Doucetteville and Conway were added to the Bell infrastructure, empowering 233 households covering a total area of 43 km² to receive reliable broadband internet and cellular service.

“Thanks to the BCSF Community stream, we’re closing the gap and bringing reliable high-speed internet to the rural areas that need it most. This investment ensures our residents and businesses can stay connected, and it helps to build a stronger, more resilient community for the future.”

– Linda Gregory, Warden, Municipality District of Digby

BCSF Community stream
funding: \$135,000

Total project cost: \$147,000

Total BCSF Community
stream funding, all phases:
\$493,369

Category:
Rural Broadband

