# TELECOMMUNICATION ANTENNA SITING PROTOCOL

The intent of this schedule is to guide the telecommunications industry and amateur radio operators through the process of tower siting within the municipality. An applicant proposing to locate a telecommunication, radio communication or broadcast antenna system within the County, which does not meet the exclusion criteria as shown in Appendix E (Telecommunication Antenna Siting Protocol Exclusion List) shall be subject to the following siting protocols and requirements. This guide was developed in accordance with Industry Canada siting protocols.

#### 1. MUNICIPAL APPROVAL OR CONCURRENCE

- (a) Proposals for freestanding telecommunication antennas shall not be required to obtain a development permit but shall be required to make a submission to the Municipal Planning Commission including:
  - (a) the information as listed in Section 2, and
  - (b) complete the notification and public consultation process found in Section 3.
- (2) Concurrence with the proponent's project will be measured against the requirements of each district's requirements, the criteria listed below and public input and comments. Upon conclusion of the public consultation process, the Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) will issue a response to the proponent in writing indicating either concurrence with the proposed development or specific concerns or comments relating to the antenna system.

## 2. INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

# Co-utilization (Co-location)

- (1) In a rural setting: All proponents for freestanding antenna structures will be requested to identify any other such structures within a radius of 2 miles (3.22 km) of the proposed location and to provide documentary evidence that co-utilization of the existing or new structure is not a viable alternative to a second structure.
- (2) In a hamlet, grouped country or resort residential setting: All proponents for freestanding antenna structures will be requested to identify any other such structures within a radius of 500 metres of the proposed location and to provide documentary evidence that co-utilization of the existing or new structure is not a viable alternative to a second structure.

#### **Appearance**

(3) All proponents for antenna structures which are visible from residential areas may be requested to employ innovative design measures to mitigate the visual impact of these structures. The proponent shall provide stealth structure options when requested by the Municipality. Stealth structure options will be based on an evaluation of the massing, form, colour, material, and other decorative elements, that will blend the appearance of the facility into and with the surrounding lands.

# Lighting and signage

- (4) Lighting in addition to that which is required by applicable federal agencies shall be avoided. Security lighting may be considered provided it meets the requirements of the applicable land use district.
- (5) Only signage that is required by applicable federal agencies is permitted. No advertising signage shall be permitted.

## 3. NOTIFICATION AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

- (1) At the expense of the applicant, the Municipality will notify all land owners within a distance of 2 miles (3.22 km) of the proposed structure.
- (2) With each notification, the proponent will be responsible to submit a letter providing notification of the location of the tower, physical details of the tower, the time and location of the public meeting, and a contact name and phone number of someone employed by the proponent who can answer questions regarding the proposal. The notifications should be sent a minimum of 25 days prior to the public meeting.
- (3) The proponent shall be prepared to hold an open house regarding their development proposal and should proactively explain all aspects of the siting, technology and appearance of the proposed structure.
- (4) From the public meeting or open house, the proponent will be responsible to provide the Municipal Planning Commission with a copy of the agenda and the minutes indicating the topics discussed, additional concerns raised with resolutions, and any outstanding issues that the proponent and/or landowners could not resolve.
- (5) Where the public process has raised unresolved concerns about public health and related effects of wireless communication technology, Vulcan County will request a ruling by Industry Canada prior to the issuance of a letter of concurrence.