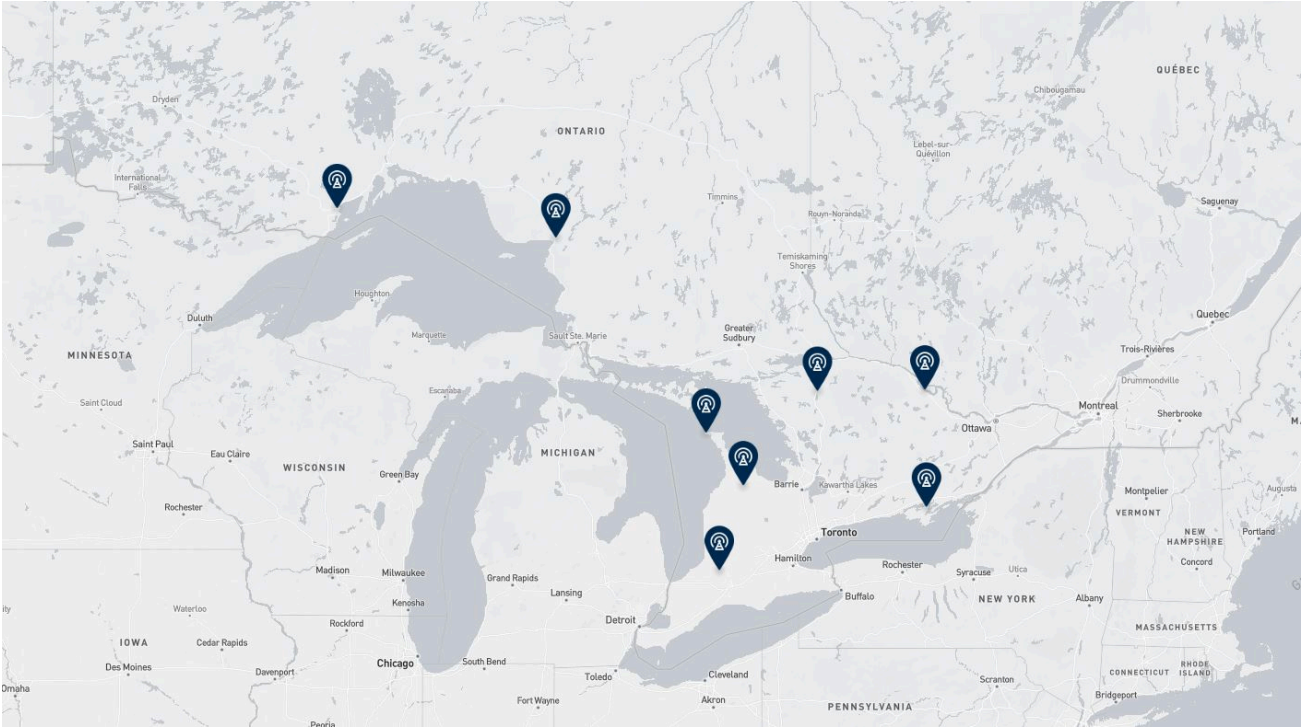


# Accelerated High Speed Internet Program



Jurisdiction	Up to 339 municipalities throughout the province
Province/State	Ontario
Country	Canada
Nature of Engagement	Procurement
Government Level	Provincial
Client	Infrastructure Ontario
Client Role	Public Authority
Value	\$1,252,500,000 CAD
Key Features	Multijurisdictional, Indigenous involvement

Torys acted as counsel to Infrastructure Ontario as the public authority for the landmark Ontario Connects initiative, a new, innovative procurement process involving reverse auction events to subsidize the construction of high-speed internet projects throughout the province, a component of the Government of Ontario's C\$4 billion commitment to connect every region in Ontario to reliable, high-speed internet by the end of 2025.

**The Accelerated High Speed Internet Program won the 2022 Silver Award for Innovation and Excellence in Project Development from the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships (CCPPP).**

A first of its kind in Canada, Infrastructure Ontario launched the new competitive procurement process in 2021, giving telecommunications and internet service providers the opportunity to bid for provincial funding to support high-speed internet infrastructure development in defined geographic areas.

On August 4, 2022, the Government of Ontario announced that it signed agreements with eight internet service providers, selected through the two-stage competitive procurement process, to bring access to as many as 339 municipalities across Ontario.

<b>Internet Service Provider</b>	<b>Estimated Provincial Funding</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Effected Homes and Businesses</b>
Bell Canada	\$483.8 million	Up to 82,632 premises
Bragg Communications	\$69 million	Up to 9,507 premises
Cogeco Connexion	\$74.3 million	Up to 13,856 premises
Community Network Partners	\$150.2 million	Up to 9,397 premises
Eh!tel Networks Inc	\$24.7 million	Up to 3,265 premises
North Frontenac Telephone Company	\$39.5 million	Up to 3,682 premises
Rogers Communications Canada Inc.	\$171 million	Up to 89,295 premises
Xplornet Communications Inc.	\$240 million	Up to 54,679 premises

Further information on the program can be found at [ontario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca).

The Torys team was led by Mark Bain and Josh Van Deurzen, and that included Thomas Yeo, Jessica Ho-Wo-Cheong and Emily Stewart (projects/procurement), Dennis Mahony and Henry Ren (environmental) and Ryan Lax (Indigenous involvement).