



Member of Parliament
Pontiac-Kitigan Zibi
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Advancing Connectivity in Pontiac–Kitigan Zibi

Every community deserves reliable internet and cellular service. In rural regions like Pontiac–Kitigan Zibi, connectivity is essential to opportunity, safety, and quality of life. It helps families stay connected, businesses grow, and communities build a stronger future.

For too long, many rural communities in Pontiac–Kitigan Zibi have faced gaps in high-speed internet and cellular coverage. In a region where distance matters and many residents live far from major centres, limited connectivity creates real barriers for businesses, remote workers, emergency services, and families who rely on reliable digital access every day.

Since my election in 2021, I have worked to ensure our region benefits from federal investments that expand high-speed internet and strengthen connectivity in rural communities.



2021 – 2023

As Chair of the Liberal Rural Caucus, I worked to keep rural connectivity on the federal agenda and supported investments to expand high-speed Internet access in Quebec and across Canada. That included support for our government's Universal Broadband Fund, which in Quebec was implemented through the Canada–Quebec Operation High Speed agreement launched in 2021.

I was proud to see this work help deliver a major result: by September 2023, **100% of households in Quebec had access to high-speed Internet**, whether through cable or satellite solutions!

The High-Speed Internet Access Dashboard continues to track progress toward connecting 100% of Canadians by 2030. As of November 2025, 96.3% of Canadians had access to high-speed Internet.



2024-2026

While I was proud to see major progress on high-speed Internet access, I also knew the work was not finished. Too many communities in Pontiac–Kitigan Zibi still face gaps in reliable cellular service, including Cayamant, Otter Lake, Sheenboro, and other more remote areas.

These gaps are not unique to our region. They reflect a broader challenge affecting rural communities across Canada, where unreliable cellular coverage continues to create barriers for safety, daily life, and economic opportunity.

That is why I continued pressing for better cellular coverage with federal partners and ministers, including through my work as former Chair of the Liberal Rural Caucus. I know this is not an issue the federal government can solve alone, since tower deployment often depends on provinces and private providers. Still, I was encouraged to see our government commit in Budget 2025 to consult on ways to simplify and speed up approvals for new cell towers, an important step for underserved rural areas.

There is still work to be done to bridge the digital divide. I remain committed to pushing for the coordination and support needed to close the connectivity gap in our region.