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City of Airdrie Installs Cutting-Edge Wireless Network System

Airdrie, Alberta – The City of Airdrie has installed a mobile mesh wireless network, the first successful install of its kind in Canada. This new initiative enables employees with a laptop and wireless repeater to connect from five kilometres away with a broadband network connection back to the City of Airdrie network, allowing mobile City employees, such as Municipal Enforcement, to better service residents as they can access more information, more efficiently, right from their vehicles.

“This system will allow us to provide better customer service, such as accessing current dog licensing information right on the spot,” says Officer McKeage, City of Airdrie Municipal Enforcement Community Peace Officer. “It creates a workstation right in our vehicle, giving us instant access to all the tools we need to do our jobs. It is another example of the City of Airdrie always looking for new technology to make things more efficient for our customers and employees.”

This project has actively embraced Airdrie’s efforts to become more sustainable by substantially reducing commuting, not trenching new cables, as well as utilizing alternate energy sources. A self-contained, solar powered radio repeater used in the project was also the first install of its kind in Canada for this technology. The radio was installed in one location with additional locations planned. All solar elements of this solution were bought off the shelf at local Airdrie businesses. The Mobile Mesh Wireless Network currently has coverage of approximately 60 per cent of Airdrie with plans in place to move to 100 per cent coverage within three months.

“Secure Group is delighted to provide the City of Airdrie with this Secure Wireless Mobile Mesh Network. Airdrie continues to lead the way by adopting new technologies and remains a flagship for other communities. We’re proud to be leading the charge with the City of Airdrie,” says Sean Walinga, Business Progression, SecureGroup.

It will also aide Municipal Enforcement by being able to monitor problematic areas in real time which increases safety and reduces issues, both for the officers and for the residents.

“This project has been a great success so far thanks to great superior collaboration between numerous City departments, our vendor and supplier,” says Paul Hurst, Information Technology, City of Airdrie.

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