

## The Global Connectivity Challenge

Governments, industry, and global organizations such as the United Nations formally recognize the critical importance of Internet connectivity to sustainable development of communities worldwide. The edge of the connected world is currently limited by the cost of deploying wired and mobile networks in remote and rural areas. Beyond this edge, individuals and communities are without this essential service.

Access to healthcare, education, government services, financial services, social resources, and markets for goods and services continues to become increasingly dependent upon being connected to the digital world. Without Internet access, individuals and communities risk being left further and further behind socially and economically. This rapidly widening digital divide threatens not only the physical, mental, emotional, and financial health of each individual but the health of their communities and ultimately the health of any nation.

## Our Solution

First Broadband is extending the edge of the connected world to include more people and providing access to critical Internet services and resources more effectively than other wide-area coverage technologies available on the market today.

The First Broadband UHF Broadband wireless Internet system comprises one or more basestations at tower locations creating a coverage area that enables connections at multiple and widespread locations. Each location connects using robust and easily-installed customer premise equipment. Basestation coverage typically reaches 35 kilometres and can exceed 50 kilometres.

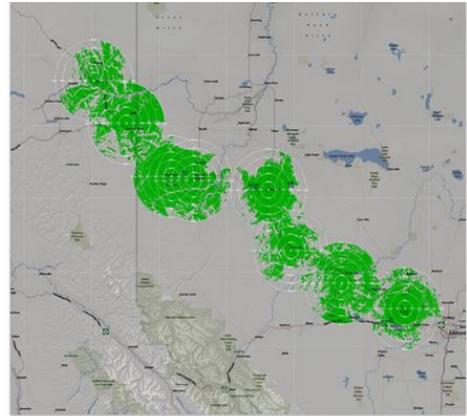
The system not only delivers reliable connectivity for basic Internet, as well as essential services to areas not reachable with other technology, but is also capable of delivering high-speed performance comparable to urban Internet for strategic locations. The system deployment is fast, affordable, and the connections deployed today have the technical capacity to handle the fastest definitions of broadband Internet being predicted years in the future.

First Broadband communications network projects also encourage local ownership and operation consistent with our mission to contribute to long-term local employment, community health, and prosperity.

# FirstBroadband Group

## First Broadband

First Broadband is a Canadian-owned company whose vision is to connect and protect unserved and underserved individuals and communities by providing reliable access to the critical resources available in the digital world. We deploy the UHF Broadband systems that we have developed within our own Internet service provider business in Western Canada. We have the technology, capability, experience, and corporate strength to deliver a successful project with lasting social and economic impact.



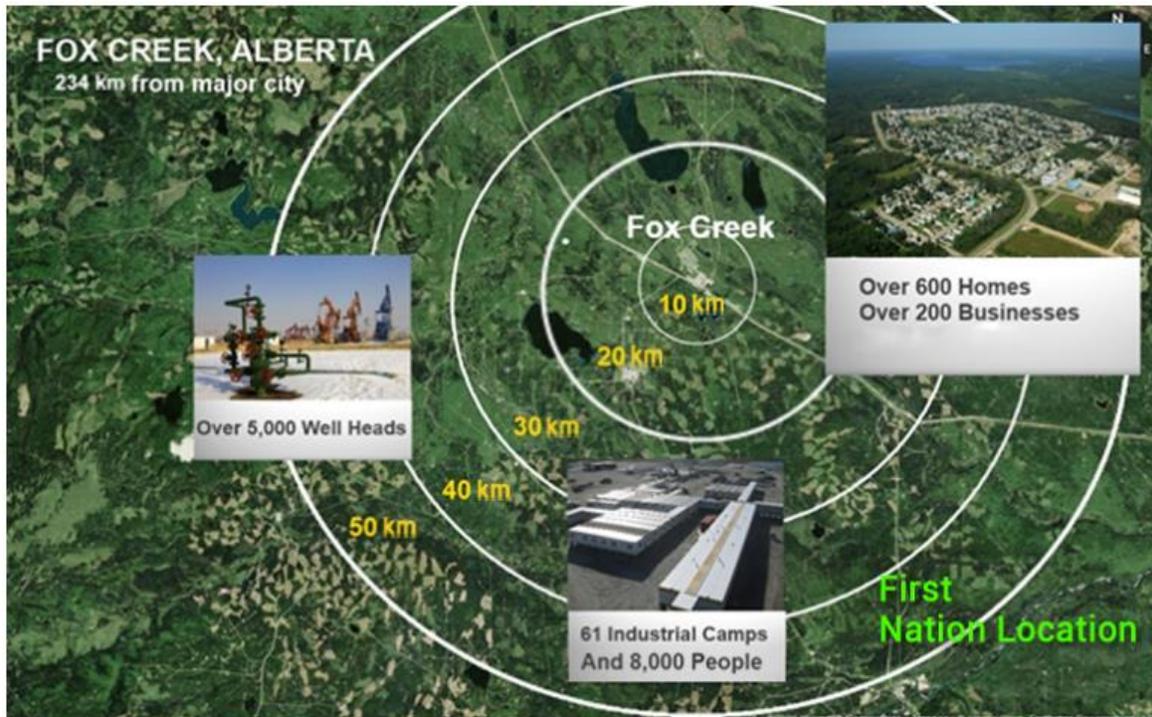
## How We Are Different

First Broadband terrestrial wireless systems operate in the UHF frequency spectrum and are designed specifically to deliver wireless Internet connectivity to rural and remote communities. We have developed a unique solution by deploying a robust wired communication protocol over wireless frequencies that can reach further, faster, more reliably, and more affordably than other systems.

First Broadband is uniquely-positioned as a supplier of UHF Broadband wireless Internet systems because we develop and test our technology not only in the lab but in both a live demonstration system and in a commercial operating environment in northern Canada. One of our missions is to only deliver technology that has been field-proven in our own wireless Internet service provider business.

The ease of deployment and operation means that our projects allow governments, companies, or cooperatives to establish local ownership and control of the communications infrastructure and to develop marketable expertise in the deployment and operation of wireless Internet technology.

## Typical Deployment



A single First Broadband basestation tower is typically capable of covering ~4,000 square kilometres (~1,500 square miles) and, depending upon terrain and tower elevation, can potentially cover up to 8,000 square kilometres (3,000 square miles).

The customer premise equipment (CPE) installation is simple, robust, and can be deployed quickly by installers for whom training is provided by First Broadband as part of any project.

First Broadband will provide infrastructure equipment, engineering and operations training, and all necessary support to ensure a successful implementation and ongoing operation of the system.

The First Broadband basestation equipment and individual links are scalable and connectivity performance is limited only by available RF spectrum (granted by regulators). For greatest impact and benefit to the community, we recommend offering basic Internet connectivity with up to 1Mbps performance for the majority of connections and increase to higher speeds for government offices, community centers, and businesses as required.

A basestation system can be deployed in as little as three months and customer equipment can then be installed immediately anywhere within the coverage area.

## Help Us Meet the Global Connectivity Challenge

First Broadband is seeking customers, channel partners, and vendors who share our vision.

We are interested in learning about how we can partner with you to help individuals and communities bridge the digital divide and build better futures.

**Please contact us.**

### The M.I.K. Group of Companies

First Broadband Group is a wholly-owned subsidiary of M.I.K. Industries Inc. which is a privately-held, 100% Canadian-owned organization comprising a successful group of companies of which Alliance Mercantile is the largest. This family-owned and managed group of companies has been in business for fifty-five years starting with Alliance Mercantile and has grown into a large-scale, global operation in Canada, Malaysia, China, and the United States. M.I.K. provides operational resources, financial strength, and international reach to First Broadband Group and the ownership is passionately committed to continued development of wireless Internet technology, building partnerships worldwide, and realizing the vision of connecting communities and making a positive social impact.



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