This page was exported from - Shelburne Free Press
Export date: Fri Oct 30 8:29:02 2026 / +0000 GMT

Crewson to advocate for Internet changes in Ottawa

Ed Crewson, Federal Liberal candidate and former Mayor, is already going to Ottawa to advocate for Dufferin-Caledon and the real need for ultra high speed internet. He will be speaking with Liberal leadership and caucus members to present the South Western Integrated Fibre Technology Program (SWIFT) outline already supported by County representatives.

?We need to push the Federal government harder to get the services our residents are demanding,? stated Crewson. ?The current situation puts established businesses at a disadvantage and makes it more difficult, if not impossible to attract new and dynamic businesses to areas in our riding.?

While access to networks has long been a challenge for rural municipalities, many have surpassed Dufferin-Caledon in their efforts to provide this essential service. Caledon businesses have reported paying up to $600 a month to access high speed internet while in Mount Forest residents have had reliable fibre access for years.

Despite being a Conservative election promise back in 2008, there has been no interest from the Harper government or MP David Tilson in the SWIFT project. SWIFT stands to be the best solution to level the playing field when it comes to network access.

?Students do not have the same access as their peers to content and resources putting them at a learning disadvantage,? further commented Crewson. ?Our residents, especially seniors, can benefit from expanded access to home healthcare. These services exist across Southern Ontario but not universally within Dufferin-Caledon.?

SWIFT is a collaborative effort to bring affordable ultra high speed internet to all businesses and residents in South Western Ontario, by building the infrastructure needed to provide fair and accessible services. This model ensures a decrease in the economic disparity between densely populated cities and our smaller communities and rural areas to help us compete globally and prosper locally.