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### LOW-COST NATIVE PLANT PROGRAM OPENS

May 10, 2018 – Native plants are a beautiful addition to your property while providing habitat for local wildlife and pollinators and acting as a filter for rainwater runoff. To assist local landowners with improving their properties or shoreline, Kawartha Conservation has launched our Native Plant Distribution Program for 2018.

There will be two order deadlines and pick-up deadlines this year, one in the spring and one in the early fall, to accommodate both planting seasons.

“Native plants are a great addition to yards and shorelines and not only look great, but help support the environment,” explained Stewardship Coordinator Holly Shipclark.

Native plant root systems take hold easily, grow well, and adapt to changing conditions. As they mature, they build a complex web of roots within the soil, offering greater stability and erosion protection.

“You can enhance your property with native plants in a number of low-cost projects,” said Ms. Shipclark. “The Native Plant Distribution Program provides native plants to community members in the Kawartha Watershed for the purposes of shoreline re-naturalization, habitat creation, erosion control, the establishment of rain gardens, and low-maintenance property beautification.”

The final date to order your low-cost native plants for the spring pick-up is Tuesday, May 29, with pick up on Tuesday, June 5 from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The final date to order for the fall pick-up is Monday, September 3, with pick up on Saturday, September 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Pick-up of native plant orders is at the Field Centre at Ken Reid Conservation Area, located at 277 Kenrei Road, Lindsay.

Shoreline property owners may also be eligible to receive a matching contribution of native plants through Kawartha Conservation, up to \$200, for shoreline naturalization.

For more information about the 2018 Native Plant Distribution Program or to see the plants available, visit [kawarthaconservation.com/nativeplants](http://kawarthaconservation.com/nativeplants).

If you would like to speak with a Kawartha Conservation, Stewardship Technician before placing your order or to set up a shoreline naturalization site visit, please call 705.328.2271 ext 242 or email [Stewardship@KawarthaConservation.com](mailto:Stewardship@KawarthaConservation.com).

### Is there room for more competition among internet providers?

New market study to examine broadband competitive landscape and consumer habits in purchasing internet services

Every day, Canadians rely on broadband services to connect with their peers, make purchases, or run their business. Today, the Competition Bureau launched a market study to look into consumer habits in purchasing internet services, with the goal of better understanding the competitive dynamics within the Canadian broadband sector.

The study will explore whether there are ways to foster more competition in this sector, which could lead to more choices and lower prices for Canadians. Could changes to internet regulations result in a broader range of service options, encourage more informed consumer choice, or reduce barriers to consumer switching between providers?

The Bureau's market study will focus on the state of competition in the broadband sector, and will seek to identify positive steps that regulators or policymakers could take to further support competition among broadband providers. The study will address four broad themes: the ability of broadband providers to deploy competitive service offers, consumer reactions to new competitive alternatives, the impact of existing regulation on broadband providers, and whether there are lessons to be learned from how other countries manage and regulate broadband competition.

Those with an interest in the Canadian broadband sector are invited to share their views on the issues raised by the study. Further information on how to get involved is available in our Market Study Notice.

**Quick Facts**

Most Canadian homes are served by two networks capable of providing broadband internet services: one owned by the local telephone company, and the other by the local cable company.

The CRTC has historically taken action to increase the level of competition in Canadian broadband markets by allowing independent resellers to use existing telephone and cable networks to provide modern, high-speed internet services to Canadians.

According to the CRTC:

More than 550 companies have been established to act as competitive alternatives to traditional telephone and cable companies.

As of 2016, 87% of retail internet subscriptions in Canada were purchased from a traditional telephone or cable company, whereas 13% were purchased from independent resellers.

Market studies allow the Bureau to perform an in-depth examination of an industry and gain a better understanding of the competitive dynamics at play. Through market studies, the Bureau can identify competition issues and suggest potential solutions.

“There are few products more vital to Canada's economic future than broadband. We want to shine a light on potential competitive issues in a sector at the heart of our daily lives.”

John Pecman Commissioner of Competition

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