

NORTHERN
POLICY INSTITUTE

INSTITUT DES POLITIQUES
DU NORD

SYSTEM SERVICES MANAGER WHITE PAPER

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NSWPB BOARD MEETING



What is Northern Policy Institute?

Northern Policy Institute is a **think tank** that conducts **independent** policy work, to provide **evidence-based solutions** to sustain and grow Northern Ontario.

- **Independent** – authors are free from interference from everyone, including us
- **Non-partisan** – we do not take “sides”
- **Evidence based** – we collect, measure and interpret data
- **IN the North** – we deal with local, regional, provincial, national and international issues from a northern perspective

What is the SSM and Why are We Doing a Study?

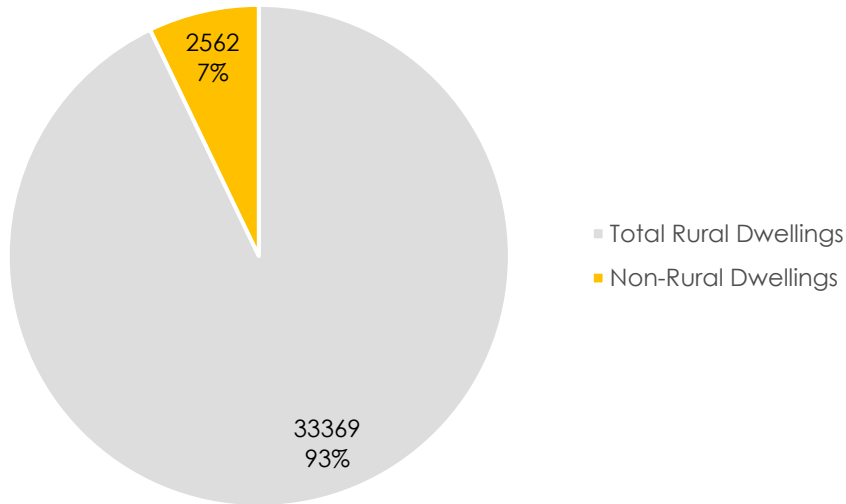
- Motivation behind the new system and what it entails
- Recommendation out of the Sioux Lookout discussion for NPI to develop a white paper
- Four Key Themes
 - **Digital delivery** is unrealistic at present in Northwestern Ontario
 - **Geographic distance and climate** makes delivery costly and unreliable
 - Centralized coordinating entity won't work with a **diverse service population**
 - Lack of **system level supports**

Digital Delivery

- **Statement:** Digital delivery is unrealistic at present in Northwestern Ontario.
- **Main Conclusion:** While there is some infrastructure in place, a digital divide exists in Northwestern Ontario. Gaps include coverage in broadband and cellular service, download and upload speeds, and levels of digital literacy.
- **Examples from Paper:**
 - Digital literacy
 - Dwellings lacking 50/10 mbps

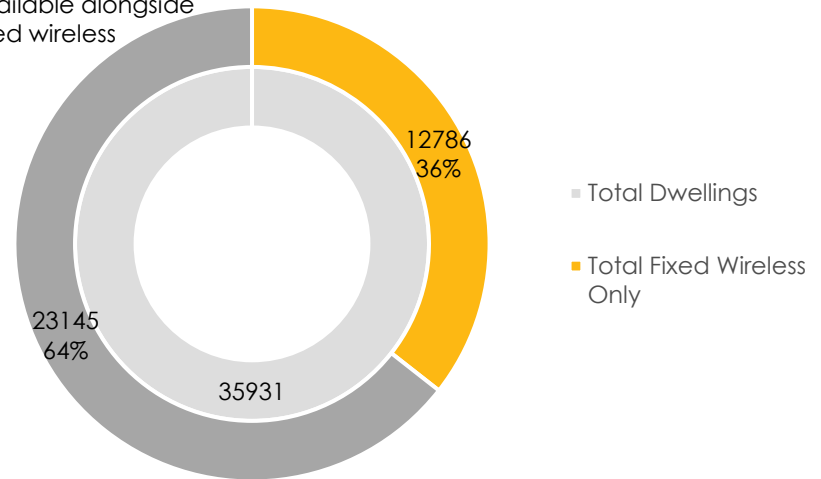
Digital delivery: 50/10 mbps

Total NWO without 50/10 Mbps by Population Classification



Total Dwellings without 50/10 Mbps Internet, NWO

No 50/10 speed but other connections available alongside fixed wireless



Geographic Distance

- **Statement:** Geographic distance and climate makes delivery costly and unreliable.
- **Main Conclusion:** Geography and climate do play roles, however they are not the only influencing factors. As well, understanding why people live and how they commute will help to define appropriate service boundaries.
- **Examples from Paper:**
 - What determines costs?
 - Reliability and climate

System Design and Diversity of Service Population

- **Statement:** Diversity of service population – the populations in the Northwest are so diverse that concerns were raised about the lack of potential efficiency gains of a SSM model.
- **Main Conclusion:** There are a range of similarities and differences across all three Northwestern Districts and as such, a mixed model may be the appropriate approach.
- **Examples from Paper:**
 - Client characteristics
 - Northwestern Ontario population characteristics
 - Centralization vs decentralization

System Supports

- **Statement:** Lack of system supports – lack of transportation, housing etc. More specifically, the issue around getting people to work rather than the issue of talent or availability.
- **Main Conclusion:** There are multiple factors that can influence an individual obtaining or retaining a job. As such, wraparound supports are key.
- **Examples from Paper:**
 - Childcare, Transportation, and Housing
 - Other Factors

Next Steps

- **Deeper dive** into what employment and training management model would be the best fit
- Ensure the decision makers have **up-to-date data**
- Current assets – **what are they?**
- Current assets – **short and medium term uses**
- **Tap into the Northeastern discussions** about the SSM system
- **Engagement** of identified actors
- **Connect** with the prototype regions

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Thank you. Marsee. Paq̄.ᑎᑦᑲᑎᑦ
Merci. Miigwech.

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