

Lyle Fabian  
President, KatloTech Communications  
13 Burwash Drive  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2V1

March 25, 2020

**Re: Letter of Support for KatloTech Communications Next Generation Fibre Optic Network**

Dear Lyle,

I am sending this letter in support of the work KatloTech Communications is leading for the Next Generation Fibre Optic Network Project in Northern Canada. At Microsoft we believe that access to reliable and high-performance broadband is critical to organizations and individuals to thrive in our digital economy. There is an important correlation between broadband access and economic growth and higher incomes, which is part of why there is a clear economic divide between those with broadband and those without. This divide will only expand as advanced technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Analytics, Cloud and Internet of Things become more deeply embedded in our day-to-day lives. Access to high speed internet is the path to prosperity, but in addition, provides access to education and drives innovative solutions to address societal challenges such as the food supply and security project to help bring choice, lower cost of food production and more healthy choices to northern communities.

Fortunately, organizations such as KatloTech Communications are investigating solutions to address this gap in northern areas of Canada and the globe. At Microsoft we are committed to working with Indigenous owned companies such as KatloTech Communications. By taking steps now to prepare people for tomorrow's jobs and to ensure that everyone has access to reliable, broadband connectivity, I believe we will not only create the conditions where economic opportunity can flourish, but we will enable an era of important societal progress.

**Sincerely,**



**Nuzio Ruffolo**  
**Microsoft Canada**  
**National Transformation & AI Officer**  
**(416) 209-5315**