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To: Toronto Public Library Board – May 10, 2004
From: City Librarian
Subject: **Bell Canada – Approval of Contract to Purchase Services**

Purpose:

To obtain Toronto Public Library Board approval to purchase telecommunication services for a five (5) year term from Bell Canada, under the terms and conditions of the Master Telecommunications Services Agreement. The City of Toronto and Bell Canada entered into the Agreement as of January 15, 2004.

Funding Implications and Impact Statement:

All dollar amounts in this report include applicable taxes less the Municipal Goods and Services Tax rebate.

Based on current usage for the existing branches, the annual cost for eTornet Ethernet Inter-Networking and Business Internet Dial charges is \$621,446.60. The estimated annual cost for Long Distance usage is \$3,250.00.

The total cost for the five-year term is \$3,123,483. Costs are covered in the annual operating budgets.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Toronto Public Library Board:

- (1) approve the purchase of eTornet Ethernet Inter-Networking, Long Distance and Business Internet Dial Services for a five (5) year term from Bell Canada under the terms and conditions of the Master Telecommunications Services Agreement signed by the City and Bell Canada; and
- (2) authorize and direct the appropriate Library staff to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

The City of Toronto issued an RFP in 2003 for the City's telecommunications requirements for voice and data, and City Council awarded the contract to Bell Canada. Two agreements were signed between the City and Bell Canada, one for the Metnet Federation Centrex services (ratified by the Board at its January 19, 2004 meeting) and one for various unregulated telecommunications services.

The terms of the Master Telecommunications Services Agreement include the provision that Bell Canada is permitted to offer services to Federation members (Agencies, Boards and Commissions and Departments of the City) on the same terms as set out in the Agreement. The Library Board is a member of the Federation and therefore can purchase services from Bell Canada under the terms of the Agreement, by signing Schedule "F", the Federation Member Agreement.

The Toronto Public Library currently uses and anticipates continued use of the following services: eTornet Ethernet Inter-Networking, Long Distance, and Business Internet Dial.

Service	Description
eTornet Ethernet Inter-Networking	Bell's e-Tornet Ethernet Inter-networking service is a service that provides connectivity between the Library branches and the central computing site. The service provides a virtual private connection over the wide area network delivering transparent LAN services. The network provided consists of broadband facilities, equipment and management to support the network connectivity between the Service Interface Points.
Long Distance	Services Bell Canada to furnish and maintain Long Distance (outbound toll) service and Toll-Free (toll-free) service in accordance with the terms and conditions set out or referenced in the Customer's Master Telecommunications Services Agreement.
Business Internet Dial	Business Internet Dial Enterprise (10 hours) Service Description The Business internet Dial Enterprise Service provides national PSTN connectivity to the Internet from major Canadian cities to Bell Points of Presence supporting asynchronous dial-up connections with V90, V34, V.Fast, V.FC, V32bis, V.32, V42bis, V.42, MNP2-5 protocols.

Comments:

As a Federation member, the TPL was not able to sign an agreement with Bell Canada until the City of Toronto had completed its negotiation of the rates and had signed its agreement with Bell Canada. The Library has reviewed the signed agreement and finds that the rates are advantageous to the Library. The eTornet data communication rates are the same or lower than those paid in 2003, and the long distance rates are lower than those paid currently.

The agreement is for a five-year term, terminating on January 14, 2009, with an option for City Council to renew the Agreement for two one-year renewal periods.

The Library proposes to purchase eTornet Ethernet Inter-Networking, Long Distance, and Business Internet Dial Services from Bell Canada. Costs for existing services do not increase with the new Agreement and are covered in the annual operating budget.

Cabling services are available as an optional service from Bell Canada under the terms of this agreement. The Library plans to continue its practice of obtaining competitive bids for cabling requirements as needed. Cabling requirements are determined by renovation and building projects and funded through operating and capital funding identified for those projects.

Conclusion:

Given that the rates are the same as or lower than current rates in the City's Agreement with Bell Canada, it is recommended that the Toronto Public Library Board approve the purchase of eTornet Ethernet Inter-Networking, Long Distance and Business Internal Dial services from Bell Canada under the terms and conditions of the master Telecommunications Services Agreement signed by the City and Bell Canada.

Contact:

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Josephine Bryant
City Librarian

List of Attachments:

Not applicable.