

# TDRA

## **Tiverton and District Ratepayers Association Inc.**

December 2, 2014

Members of Council  
Municipality of Kincardine  
1475 Concession 5, R.R. #5  
Kincardine, ON N2Z 2X6

Dear Mayor Eadie and Members of Council

### Re: Sale of Bruce Telecom

It has come to the attention of the TDRA that Mayor-Elect Eadie is not going to honour her election platform, and is now going to push for the sale of Bruce Telecom.

Bruce Telecom is a 100 + year old company that MOK (Municipality of Kincardine) acquired free of charge from the Township of Bruce due to amalgamation.

Bruce Telecom has completed over \$10 million dollars in upgrades and issued an average dividend of over \$1 million dollars per year in the past 12 years from its cash flow. It currently has over \$5 million cash on hand.

The previous Council was told that Bruce Telecom had to borrow \$10 million dollars for upgrades. This fact is highly questionable as Bruce Telecom had \$3 million cash on hand, and just finished completing a \$5 million dollar upgrade out of cash flow. MOK has never had to put 1 cent into Bruce Telecom. The proposed \$10 million in upgrades could have been easily financed from cash flow.



The previous Council has shown little compassion for Bruce Telecom employees who gave up wage increases and a wage rollback to make certain Eric Dobson's plan to "future proof" Bruce Telecom would be a success.

It is painfully obvious that the mayor should not have voting rights on the Bruce Telecom Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of Bruce Telecom should have a mandate to oversee the operations without political interference.

When matters come before Council, it is important to remember the Mayor has one vote, and the CAO of MOK is an employee, and not your boss. You are being told you are going into closed session on December 4, 2014 before you have even been sworn in, and given a chance to vote on participation in a closed session.

We urge the new Council to closely examine any renewed initiative to sell Bruce Telecom. The last attempt would have likely resulted in the loss of millions of dollars to ratepayers, and loss of local employment. It is imperative that an independent second opinion be obtained to review any and all information presented to Council.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert A. Wilson".

Robert A. Wilson  
President

**"Neighbour Helping Neighbour"**