

REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON
RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT
RAPPORT

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DATE 31 May 2000

TO/DEST. Co-ordinator Transportation Committee

FROM/EXP. Director Mobility Services and Corporate Fleet Services
Environment and Transportation Department

SUBJECT/OBJET **ANNUAL REPORT ON NORTEL NETWORKS**
"GREENCOMMUTE" PROGRAM

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION

That the Transportation Committee and Council receive this report for information.

INTRODUCTION

This report provides background information to a presentation by Nortel Networks scheduled for the Transportation Committee meeting of 21 June 2000. At that time, a Nortel representative will provide the second annual report on the GreenCommute program, in conformance with the terms of the Regional site plan agreement for Nortel's Carling campus expansion.

DISCUSSION

In 1997, Nortel began planning for a 93,000 square metre expansion of its research campus at Carling Avenue and Moodie Drive. One of the key challenges faced by Nortel during the planning process was how to mitigate the impacts of commuting to the site by 3,800 additional employees. To this end, Nortel agreed to establish a transportation demand management (TDM) program at the Carling campus in conjunction with the Region and OC Transpo. Nortel and the Region agreed to operating objectives for the Carling campus, leading to the desired achievement of a non-auto modal share of 25% and an auto occupancy of 1.5 persons per vehicle by 2005.

On 08 October 1997, Regional Council approved a motion requesting Nortel to provide an annual report on its TDM program to Transportation Committee. This request was formalized in the Regional site plan agreement, wherein Nortel agreed to provide reports annually until 2006, or until the program

objectives are achieved. Nortel formally launched the GreenCommute program in March 1999, and the first annual report was submitted in June of that year.

The Region and OC Transpo have provided advice and assistance to Nortel in several areas during the development of GreenCommute, including:

- assistance with a baseline survey of Nortel employees' commuting habits in 1998;
- conduct of annual traffic and transit counts at Nortel sites;
- operation of OC Transpo's "Test-Ride" project at the Carling campus in April 1999;
- provision of an OC Transpo information telephone, telidon and information cases for the Carling site's "transit hub";
- provision of Regional cycling maps;
- participation in a transportation fair for Nortel employees held in May 2000;
- provision of expert advice concerning the use of geographic information system (GIS) technology for computerized carpool matching.

As the most advanced employer-based TDM initiative in Ottawa-Carleton, Nortel's GreenCommute program is an important motivator and role model for the development of similar programs by others – a process that is being actively facilitated by the Region's TravelWise program. Nortel's GreenCommute also provides a supportive environment for the co-operative development and testing of new TDM measures with the Region and OC Transpo.

CONFORMITY TO OFFICIAL PLAN AND TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

The Region's role in GreenCommute conforms to policies in the Official Plan (9.5.1) and Transportation Master Plan (2.5.1.4) regarding the use of partnerships to deliver TDM measures.

CONSULTATION

Nortel's GreenCommute program is a private initiative, and public consultation by the Region on its development and implementation would not be appropriate.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has no financial implications. Funds to support the Region's involvement in the GreenCommute partnership are drawn as required from the 2000 Capital Budget, internal order 900101, Transportation Demand Management, (reference page 203).

*Approved by
Doug Brousseau*

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