



*providing advanced connectivity*

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## **Seneca Town Supervisor Named Access Ontario Board Chairman**

**Canandaigua, N.Y., May 19, 2014** — John Sheppard has been named chairman of the board of directors for Access Ontario, the public-benefit corporation that oversees the 200-plus-mile open access fiber-optic ring in Ontario County.

Sheppard, supervisor of the town of Seneca, was selected for the position following the resignation of former chair Donna Reeves Collins, who stepped down from the post due to increasing professional commitments at Rich Products.

“I am proud to take on this role,” Sheppard said. “Access Ontario has accomplished much over the years, and I look forward to working with my fellow board members as we lead this organization in the months and years ahead.”

As an ex-officio member of the Access Ontario board, Sheppard also serves on the board’s executive, finance and governance committees.

Sheppard is a retired Lieutenant Colonel of the United States Air Force, and the former vice president of Sheppard Grain in Phelps. He also serves as an Ontario County budget officer and on the County’s Environmental Quality and Personnel committees. He is an United States Air Force Academy graduate and received his masters of business administration degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy.

*About Access Ontario*

Imagine where fiber technology can take us. Access Ontario has. With an open-access, dark-fiber infrastructure and a non-profit approach — serving as an example for a national model — the 200-plus-mile fiber ring has Ontario County, NY, on the fast track to greater economic development, better quality of life, and global competitiveness. By providing this critical source for advanced connectivity and increased flexibility through quicker, more affordable broadband, businesses and organizations, as well as residents, will have improved capabilities like never before.

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