

## Project Proposal Form

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Please complete and submit this form to:

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### Submission Date:

2015-10-30

### Proposal Number:

YT-2015-01

### Champion:

Vern Marshall, Yukon Wildland Fire Management; [vern.marshall@gov.yk.ca](mailto:vern.marshall@gov.yk.ca); 867-667-3169

### Background:

The ability to communicate is essential for safe, cost effective operations. The field of telecommunications is growing quickly. Evolutions in technology opens new opportunities for improved communications.

### Issue:

Currently there is no formal mechanism by which agency telecoms professionals to share best practices and improve interoperability. This proposal would see this gap addressed by conducting a survey of current practices and a face-to-face workshop to highlight innovation and tech transfer.

**Objective(s):**

Survey of FPInnovations member agencies on the status of what communications systems are currently in use, identify plans to upgrade their systems over the next five years and identify exploratory research being undertaken into new technologies that may have implications for fire and emergency management.

This survey could be broken down by the following criteria:

- a) What radio system is currently in use? E.g. P25, 700 Mhz, VHF, Nextedge etc...
- b) What type of handhelds are in use?
- c) What type of broadband is being used? How is it being used?
- d) What satellite communications platforms are being used? What are the upgrade paths, what situations warrant satellite based communications?
- e) How are mobile phones being used? Any issues with durability / resiliency?
- f) How are tablets being used? Any issues with durability / resiliency?

A workshop to discuss survey findings, showcase interoperability, best practices and recent innovations.

**Approach:**

Vern Marshall will assist FPInnovations with the development and dissemination of the survey. Results will be disseminated through the WFORG members through a workshop. A workshop be hosted to bring industry specialists and key agency personnel together to showcase new technologies and discuss best practices.