

## Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **BEK Communications Receives Regional and National Recognition**

BEK Communications Cooperative was recently recognized by BroadbandNow\* with two regional awards and one national award. The awards highlight BEK's commitment to providing fast, reliable, and future-proof internet service to our rural communities.

BEK Lightband gigabit internet, which runs on the BEK Fiber network, was recognized in three small market categories for 2019:

- Top Internet Speeds Nationwide
- Top Three Fastest Internet Providers in North Dakota
- #1 Fastest Fiber Provider in North Dakota

We're honored to be recognized as one of the nation's top internet providers, and even more excited to be the #1 Fastest Fiber Provider in our home state," said BEK Communications CEO and General Manager, Derrick Bulawa. "Every home, business, and family in our cooperative benefits from gigabit broadband internet service. It improves the quality of life and economic opportunities, especially in our rural landscape."

BEK Communications has attracted the national spotlight numerous times since it began building the BEK Fiber network in 2004. The company received two coveted awards in 2008, the Broadband Communities Cornerstone Award for ingenuity in planning and deployment, and the TelcoTV Vision Award for innovative local content. In 2011, BEK was awarded the Calix Innovation award for original local content delivery. And in 2016, after finishing the BEK Fiber network in the cooperative area and new service areas of Valley City and rural Bismarck, BEK was granted the NTCA GIG Certification, certifying that BEK deployed 100% Gig capable infrastructure.



\* BroadbandNow is a website that aggregates millions of lines of data to create a single tool that consumers can use to find internet providers in their area. Some of their data sources include FCC reports, Census Bureau reports, and speed tests. Awards are given to local, regional, and national internet providers who offer outstanding products in their markets.

## **About BEK Communications Cooperative**

BEK Communications Cooperative, founded in 1952, is a communications services company headquartered in Steele, North Dakota. In the last 67 years, the company has grown to include branch offices in Bismarck and Valley City and now serves nearly 11,000 customers. BEK provides fiber-based voice, Gigabit broadband, and IP television services; cloud-based security, automation, surveillance, voice, and storage services; and hospital and business communications solutions in North Dakota. The company also provides statewide sports broadcasting on the BEK Sports Network, and television content across North Dakota through KNDM, KNDB, KRDK.

BEK emphasizes their fast, friendly, local service experience and a broad portfolio of high-quality communications, broadcasting, and advertising services.

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