

The Zion Line Telephone Association

The history of the community includes the development of the telephone systems. That advance brought about welcome communication to all, eliminating the need to drive around to tell neighbours of an impending storm or to ask for help with chores or a threshing. It was also a great way to have a friendly chat with a friend or neighbour. With the turn of a crank you could instantly be connected with your neighbour, this drawing people together.

A by-law to establish telephone use in this rural area was passed in April 2010 by Ross Township council. The first telephone service in Ross Township was established in the Queen's Line area. About 1912-13 the Ross Municipal Council enabled the erection of telephone poles and lines in Zion Line area to connect to a switchboard in Forester's Falls. Following that time, additional lines were connected to Cobden switchboard.

The first meeting to form a telephone association for the Zion Line area was March 25, 1912 at the home of Sam McMillan.

The first slate of officers elected were:

- President: Samuel Johnson
- Vice-President: Sam Scott
- Secretary: William McMillan
- Treasurer: William McMillan

The following were the first nineteen subscribers:

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. Archie Davidson | Mr. Leo Dunlop | Mr. W.J. Pettigrew |
| Mr. Isaac Eckford | Mr. Robert Gibson | Mr. John Gibson |
| Mr. James Eckford | Mr. Sam Simpson | Mr. Sam Johnson |
| Mr. Allan Thibeau | Mr. Sam Scott | Mr. William Cummings |
| Mr. William Strong | Mr. James Wright | Mr. William McMillan |
| Mr. Ness Dobson | Mr. Thomas Appleby | Mr. Alex Thibeau |
| Mr. Samuel McMillan | | |