

**PETER MURDOCH**

Vice-President Media

Vice-président Média

March 30, 2009

Robert Morin  
 Secretary General  
 CRTC  
 1 Promenade du Portage  
 Ottawa, ON  
 K1A 0N2

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

**Re: *Licence Renewals for Private Conventional Television Stations, Broadcasting Notice of Consultation CRTC 2009-113 (Ottawa, 3 March 2009)***

- 1 The attached constitutes the intervention of the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada (CEP) in the above-noted proceeding with respect to the applications filed by Canwest.
- 2 CEP opposes the applications of Canwest to amend its local programming requirements.
- 3 CEP supports the granting of one-year licence terms with conditions of licence to maintain hours of original local news at the levels granted in these ownership groups' most recent (full-term) licence renewal decisions, whether by condition of licence, "commitment" or "expectation".
- 4 A copy of our intervention has been sent to Canwest.
- 5 CEP wishes to appear at the CRTC's amendment hearing with respect to Canwest, to address new evidence being filed in April by Canwest, to address Canwest's replies to our interventions, and to respond to claims made by Canwest at the hearing.
- 6 As the Commission may know, our members work at the applicants' stations, across Canada. In order for certain of our members to attend this hearing, they must inform their employers beforehand, as stipulated in their labour agreements. We would therefore appreciate the Commission's advising us at its earliest convenience of its scheduling of our appearance. CEP also reserves the right to respond in writing to submissions made at the hearing.
- 7 For the record, CEP objects to the Commission's failure to observe its own *Rules of Procedure* in this proceeding. Section 4(2) of the *Rules* establishes that the CRTC's Secretary General is

to gazette applications when they are complete, but in this proceeding, the applications made public by the CRTC on March 3, 2009 are incomplete – as the CRTC is permitting the applicants to file new information in the week before the hearing. Section 20 of the *Rules* permits the CRTC to treat “financial statements of an applicant” as confidential if the applicant so requests, but the CRTC in this proceeding has granted confidentiality to applicants’ views of the prospective impact of the 1:1 foreign-Canadian spending ratio, without requests from the applicants for such confidentiality.

- 8 Should you have any questions, please contact our legal counsel in this proceeding, Ms. Monica Auer.

Sincerely yours,



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