

Minister of Canadian Heritage
and Status of Women



Ministre du Patrimoine canadien
et de la Condition féminine

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0M5

Mr. Alain Pineau
National Director
Canadian Conference of the Arts
804 – 130 Albert Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5G4

APR 23 2007

Dear Mr. Pineau:

Thank you for your correspondence of March 5, 2007, regarding the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) hearing scheduled for April 30, 2007, with respect to the proposed CTVglobemedia Inc./CHUM Limited transaction.

I appreciate your advising me of your organization's views on this matter and have carefully noted your comments. While the Department of Canadian Heritage is responsible for overall broadcasting policy and legislation, the CRTC is responsible for the licensing, regulation and supervision of all aspects of the Canadian broadcasting system. The Commission was established by Parliament under the *Broadcasting Act* as an autonomous body that operates independently of the Government and is responsible for its own day-to-day operations and decisions.

As outlined in your correspondence, on March 1, 2007, the CRTC announced that on April 30, 2007, it would hold a public hearing to consider the CTVglobemedia Inc./CHUM Limited transaction and, at the same time, would seek comments on its ownership policy. Subsequently, on March 13, 2007, the CRTC announced that it would hold a separate proceeding to review issues relating to the objective of the *Broadcasting Act* of ensuring that the broadcasting system provides Canadians with a diversity of voices. It stated that a public hearing on this issue would be held in fall 2007.

The Commission then withdrew any review of its common ownership policy for over-the-air television from the public hearing of April 30, 2007, on the CTVglobemedia Inc./CHUM Limited transaction. It also announced that, in the interest of fairness, the recently announced transactions of CanWest MediaWorks Inc. and Alliance Atlantis Communications Inc. as well as Astral Media Inc. and Standards Radio Inc. will also be assessed in light of the Commission's existing regulations and policies.

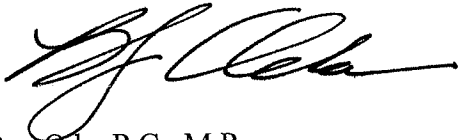
.../2

Canada 

The separate proceeding, dedicated to a diversity of voices, will provide an opportunity for all parties to comment on this important issue.

I trust that this information is useful. Please accept my best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bev Oda', written in a cursive style.

Bev Oda, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Andy Scott, P.C., M.P.
Mr. Jim Abbott, M.P.
Mr. Charlie Angus, M.P.
Ms. Colleen Beaumier, M.P.
Ms. Diane Bourgeois, M.P.
Mr. Gord Brown, M.P.
Mr. Ed Fast, M.P.
Ms. Tina Keeper, M.P.
Mr. Maka Kotto, M.P.
Mr. Francis Scarpaleggia, M.P.
Mr. Gary Schellenberger, M.P.
Mr. Chris Warkentin, M.P.