

Minister of Canadian Heritage
and Status of Women



Ministre du Patrimoine canadien
et de la Condition féminine

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0M5

APR 23 2007

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

Dear Mr. Pineau:

Thank you for your correspondence of February 26, 2007, regarding the Canadian Television Fund (CTF) and a review of the mandate of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC).

I appreciate your advising me of your organization's views on these matters and have carefully noted your comments. Please be assured that the Government is committed to the creation of high-quality Canadian content, a vibrant Canadian production industry and a strong broadcasting system. On January 26, 2007, in support of these objectives, the Government announced the renewal of its annual \$100 million investment to the Fund, with a two-year commitment that will allow for longer term planning and provide greater stability for the production and broadcasting sectors.

With respect to a review of the mandate of the CBC, it is government policy that the CBC is and will remain Canada's public broadcaster in both English and French. The House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage is currently conducting a full investigation of the role of the national public broadcaster, including consultations with the public. The Committee has not yet indicated when it expects to complete its review.

.../2

Canada

As an important first step toward modernizing Canadian broadcasting policy, the Government directed the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) to report on the impact of technological change on Canadian broadcasting as a whole. The Government is now studying the report to assess its implications for the Canadian broadcasting system as a whole, including Canada's national public broadcaster. The CRTC report and the upcoming work of the Standing Committee will inform the Government's ongoing policy deliberations to ensure that broadcasting policy is responsive to and reflective of the changing nature of the broadcasting system and of audiences.

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', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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