



BROADCAST Dialogue

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Page One of Four

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REVOLVING DOOR: *CanWest Global Communications* has named **Leonard Asper** as COO. He'll add that responsibility to his Exec. VP duties and will be responsible for the *CanWest Entertainment* division and *TV3 Ireland*... **Helen Slinger** is new ND at *VTV Vancouver*, succeeding **Bob McLaughlin** who moved into programming... **Richard Carpenter**, at *Twentieth Century Fox / Motion Television Distribution* in Toronto, has been promoted to Product Manager, from Sales Coordinator... **Pat Ellingson** is new Creative Head of children's and daytime programming for *TVOntario*... **CBS Corp.** Chairman/CEO **Michael Jordan** is handing over the company's reins at the end of the year to CBS President **Mel Karmazin**. He'll also become CEO... **Bob Watson** replaced **Bill Dunbar** as CEO of *WIC Connexus*, a subsidiary of *WIC Western International Communications Ltd.* Watson was president of *Shaw FibreLink Ltd.*... **Tony Fredo**, VP Public Affairs at *Ford Motor Co. of Canada*, formally retires at the end of the year after a 30-year career with the automaker.

SIGN-OFF: Legendary BC broadcaster **Hal Davis** died in Vancouver Nov. 1 at 74. Davis began broadcasting in Edmonton in 1941, but spent most of his career at *CKNW Vancouver*, where he started in 1947 and read the news at 8 am for 35 years. His career at CKNW included stints as PD

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and GM and host of a Sunday evening music show. He retired in 1989, and was inducted into the *CAB's Broadcast Hall of Fame* in 1996... **Bob Trow**, who portrayed Robert Troll, Bob Dog and himself for some 30 years on *Mister Rogers' Neighbourhood*, died at 72 Monday of a heart attack at his home near Pittsburgh. He taped appearances for the show just last week. The episodes will air in February as part of a lesson on noisy and quiet.

LOOKING: *CKBD Vancouver* is looking for a Radio Representative. See the ad above... *Radio Nord* (Abitibi) is looking for a technical manager, fluent in French, for its three

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TV/FILM: **YTV** and **Annabel Slaight**, founder of **OWL/TV** and **Big Comfy Couch**, have been honored with special achievement awards from **The Alliance for Children and Television**... **Bob Homme**, better known as **The Friendly Giant**, was made a member of the **Order of Canada** in a small-town ceremony Monday before 100 friends and family in Grafton, ON, about an hour east of Toronto. Ill-health prevented his attendance at Rideau Hall ceremonies earlier in Ottawa... **CanWest Global Communications** has a new chief operating officer. **Leonard Asper**, the company's executive vice-president, is adding the CEO title and will be responsible for the **CanWest Entertainment** division and **TV-3 Ireland**... The **CRTC** has approved the **TVA** network going national. **TVA** is Canada's largest private-sector producer, broadcaster and distributor of French-language television entertainment, information and public affairs... Montreal-based **Radiomutuel** has expanded its TV offerings, signing an eight-year acquisition and distribution agreement with **Videotron Ltd.** for TV station **Tele-Annonces**. The channel runs static ads for new and used products for the consumer and commercial markets... **Cinar Films Inc.** plans to change its corporate name to **Cinar Corp.** to better reflect the diversification of its activities beyond the film industry. Shareholders will be asked to approve the name change at a special meeting Dec. 10... Top US TV stations began beaming digital signals for high-definition television Sunday, but few viewers even noticed. No HDTV sets. Stations in more than 30 US markets took part in the launch. Meanwhile, the US cable industry and TV set makers have agreed on technical standards that will let digital TV sets talk to digital cable TV boxes. Digital TV sets now can't receive any digital cable TV. But digital TV sets that go on sale late next year will be able to do so because of the agreement. Some 42 US TV stations begin digital broadcasts this month. All 1,600 American TV stations will have to convert to digital by 2006.

RADIO: Kevin Brown of **CKNX/CKNX-FM Wingham**

writes: "For future planning with our sales team here, we are looking into ways to further introduce the world of computerization. Currently all station departments use computers. The sales people use them for putting together presentations. However, we would also eventually like to use this technology in the field. Instead of re-inventing the wheel, I was hoping that you would put the message out to your subscriber base that I would like to make contact with any other station Sales Managers or General Managers as to whether they currently have a field system in place for their sales force, how they use it, how they like it, etc. My direct e-mail is kbrown@cknrxradio.com"... Vancouver has joined Toronto as the second Canadian city with Digital Radio broadcasting. **CBC Radio One** and **Radio Two** networks, along with its French-language **La Premiere Chaîne**, **CHUM Limited's CFUN** and **CHQM-FM** and **Fraser Valley Radio Group's STAR-FM** began regular Digital Radio broadcasting in Vancouver Tuesday. All six signals are being broadcast from two "pods" located at the CBC's transmission facilities on Mount Seymour. **Rogers Broadcasting Ltd.**, **Shaw Radio Ltd.** and **Westcom Radio Group Ltd.** are planning to file applications for six more Digital Radio Services in Vancouver, to operate from the Rogers Broadcasting transmitter site, also on Mount Seymour...

GENERAL: Broadcast News Ltd. is going digital next spring. CP-BN President **Eric Morrison** says BN has reached a new satellite delivery agreement with **Novanet Communications** of Ajax. It will mean faster transmission, more flexibility to configure channels, and will allow BN to handle distribution of video. Technical details will be announced closer to the launch date... **CBC Radio-Canada** will launch **CBC News Online** Nov. 16, producing original web content enhanced by audio and video created specifically for an Internet audience... The **CAB** has submitted its Phase II proposals to the **CRTC's Hearing on New Media**. The submission, which builds on issues dealt with in Phase I, lays out private broadcasters' recommendations for an incentive-based system that would support development of Canadian new media content. Included in the submission is a

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recommendation for a \$25-million annual equity investment program, tax credits, R&D support and advertising tax deductibility. It also calls for industry self-regulation to ensure community standards apply to new media.

SYNDICATION: Here's a thought-starter for spring planning... Baseball! **Blue Jays Baseball** may be available

in your market from **Headline Sports**. For info, contact **Frances Karaim** at 416/977-6787.

BUSINESS: **Alliance-Atlantis Communications Inc.** will pay a total of \$95-million in restructuring fees and eliminate 78 full-time jobs and 44 contract and part-time positions as a result of its merger. The company said it expects to save \$20-million in its first fiscal year after the merger... **Regional Cablesystems Inc.** has completed purchase of Northern Cable Holdings Ltd. from **Groupe Vidéotron Ltée.** and sold its Côte de Beaupré, Que., system to Vidéotron at the same time. Regional said it paid \$121-million to acquire Northern Cable, a 102,000-subscriber system serving more than 70 Northern Ontario communities. Vidéotron said it paid \$9-million to acquire the Quebec system from Regional... **Seagram Co.** has taken a \$233-million (US) writedown on its television assets as a result of the sale of its USA Networks production business, according to **Variety**, which stated Seagram's restated financial figures for the 1998 fiscal year... Members of **NABET** walked off the job at **ABC Inc.** Monday in what was to be a one-day protest related to contract talks only to have ABC respond by locking out the more than 2,200 technical and off-camera TV and radio staffers. ABC wants the union to guarantee it will provide advance notice of future job actions before permitting employees to return to work... **CBS** reported a record third quarter this year with revenues up 23 per cent from a year ago to nearly \$1.6-billion (US). CBS's television unit, led by its cable operations, reported a 15% increase while revenues at its radio and outdoor segment are up 42%.

BROADCASTING '98: Broadcasting '98, the joint convention of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters and the Western Association of Broadcast Engineers, drew a record 2,412 delegates... **Gold Ribbon** awards for exceptional programming, news coverage and community service were awarded to 17 private radio, TV stations and specialty services at the Canadian Association of Broadcasters annual convention in Vancouver Tuesday. Radio Community Service awards went to **CJJR-FM Vancouver**, **SILK-FM Kelowna**, **CHFM-FM Calgary** and **CFAM Altona/1250 Steinbach**. **CISA-TV Lethbridge** captured the TV Community Service Gold Ribbon; **CFTM-TV Montreal** won in the Multi-Market category and for best entertainment show; and **BCTV Vancouver** took home two TV promotion awards. **MuchMusic** emerged as a triple winner in the debut of the Specialty Services Category with two Promotion golds and a third in the Programming category, and was the first-ever Specialty Channel winner. Two of the three News Gold Ribbons were awarded for performances during Manitoba's devastating flood. **CJOB Winnipeg** captured radio honours while **CKY-TV Winnipeg** won in the News: Special/Series category. **CFCN-TV Calgary** won gold for the best news story in the Daily Newscast/Breaking News category and **Global Television Winnipeg** captured gold in the Documentaries & Public Affairs category. **CFTR Toronto** won best Information Program honours, **KIXX-FM/Q.93 St. John's** captured top honours for Canadian Talent Development while **CFMI-FM Vancouver**

won gold in the What Radio Does Best category. Best radio Promotion honours went to **CHUM-FM Toronto** (Image) and **CFOX-FM Vancouver** (Audience Building). **Moses Znaimer, CHUM Limited** VP development was awarded the Gold Ribbon for Broadcast Excellence while **Rick Arnish**, President of BC's **The Jim Pattison Broadcast Group**, won gold for Outstanding Community Service by an Individual Broadcaster for his service to Kamloops community groups, charities and businesses over nearly three decades... **CAB** President **Michael McCabe** told delegates that private broadcasters need modern and flexible policies to adapt to change, compete and grow as businesses. "Our future depends on our willingness to adapt and the willingness of policy makers and regulators to let us," he said. "Digital technology, new media, competition, and sharpened audience demands -- in the face of new choices --

CAB Specialty & Pay Board

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 Ex officio: **James Patterson**, Pres/CEO, **Television Bureau of Canada, Toronto**

are inexorably driving us from the regulatory onto the business agenda. Questions of structure and content can no longer be decided without regard for economics..."... **James B. Macdonald**, President/CEO of **WIC Television Ltd.**, is the new chair of the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters**. Formerly chair of the television board, his election was announced Tuesday. **Daniel Lamarre**, President/CEO, **Groupe TVA Inc.**, Montreal, succeeded Macdonald as television chair with **Beverley S. Oda**, Sr. VP, Industry Affairs, **Baton Broadcasting Inc.**, Toronto, as Television vice-chair. Returning for a second term as radio chair is **Claude Beaudoin**, President, Broadcasting Division, **Télémedia Communications Inc.**, Montreal. Joining him for a second term as radio vice-chair is **Jim MacLeod**, President/GM at **CKOC/CKLH-FM Hamilton**. Chair of the new specialty board is **Mark Rubinstein**, VP/GM at **CHUM Television Group**, Toronto; vice-chair is **Raynald Brière**, VP, Specialty Channels, **Groupe TVA Inc.**, Montreal. **Michel Carter**, VP/CEO, **Cogeco Radio-Television Inc.**, Laval, succeeds **Erin Petrie** as CAB treasurer. **Duff Roman**, VP, Industry Affairs, **CHUM Limited**, Toronto, is immediate past-chair. **Rick Arnish**, President, **The**

Jim Pattison Broadcast Group, Kamloops, is special delegate. **Michael McCabe** remains CAB President and CEO... Next year's annual convention of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters will be held in Montreal.

LETTER: "Today I attended the CAB luncheon featuring **LCRTC Chair Francoise Bertrand** as the guest speaker. Was it worth it? YES! Was I over my head? Most definitely. As I peered into the darkened room, I realized I didn't recognize a single face. After carefully scoping out the room, I found a table with some friendly looking faces and, after carefully eavesdropping, realized they were in radio as well. I politely inquired if I could take a seat, and presto! I had a place. Now the hard part (no, not eating without spilling something on my new shirt, which I did anyway), small talk. I introduced myself and everyone said hello, but no names. At this point I tried to peer at name tags without looking too ridiculous. Ahah! It seemed a couple of the gentlemen also worked for Rogers. A small conversation ensued, with me only placing my foot in my mouth a number of times. (Sorry, Tony, I know you are the president not VP). Then, the speakers began. Drat! I was sitting backwards to the head table. This meant I either spent the whole time in an odd twisted manner trying to watch or try to move my backpack subtly to turn around in my chair (note to self: get that briefcase you've been putting off buying, the bright red backpack doesn't cut it). I enjoyed the speakers and visualized the day that I might be at the head table. Was it worth going? Yup. Along with the feeling of satisfaction of doing something that made me shake in my new shoes, it fanned the flames of why I love this business. Listening to the "Big Shots" chat about radio with the same passion I feel made me very proud of the men and women whose footsteps I am following in. So listen up, Big Wigs. The next time a CAB event or something similar rolls around, keep your eyes open for the nervous looking person with a backpack and new shoes. Please say hello. At the very least, junior people like me will be very grateful for the attention and will probably remember you (and speak highly of you for years to come). For anyone who's in the biz and has thought "gee that might be kinda neat to go to" but then had second thoughts, go for it!! If you can't fund the whole thing, see if there is a lunch or dinner you can afford. Your boss might even surprise you and help foot the bill! (Every so often they are impressed with initiative, or so I'm told.) The experience, networking, and the pride that you did it are worth it." -- **Susan Knight, Mountain-FM Squamish**



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Page One of Three

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GENERAL: On roughly the same day **Torstar Corporation** made its hostile bid for **Sun Media Corporation**, the share prices of **Baton Broadcasting Inc.** began taking off. During last week, Baton stock zoomed to a high of \$20 (from \$15.15 the week before) before closing out the week at \$19. And, in that week, almost 4-million shares were traded, several times more than normal. **Electrohome Inc.** is Baton's single-largest shareholder with 20%. One analyst says he hasn't a clue about all the Baton action but suggests, with the volume, it could be someone building a position to make a bid. If true, three suitors have been mentioned: **Shaw Communications**, **Torstar** (because of its continuing interest in broadcasting), and **Onex Corp.** of Toronto... The **CRTC** has approved the split of **Shaw Communications** — cable TV and broadcasting — into two independent, publicly traded companies. Cable TV is based in Calgary and **Mediaco**, the broadcast arm, is based in Toronto. **John Cassaday** heads Mediaco. The reorganization is expected to take about six months and will leave Mediaco with 23 radio stations, plus other assets including specialty TV... Among winners of the **1998 Jack Webster Awards** (12th Annual Webster Foundation presentation) in BC were: Best Radio Reporting - **Greg Rasmussen, CBC Radio One**; Best TV Reporting - **Wayne Williams, CBC-TV Broadcast One**, Best Radio Feature - **David French, CBC Radio One**, and Best TV Feature - **George Browne and Elaine McKay - BCTV Vancouver**. The Jack Webster Foundation was established in

1986 to recognize and support outstanding journalism in BC... "If the telephone companies want to bundle against us, we'll show them what bundling is all about." So said **Ted Rogers** as he unveiled a new plan of **VIP Program** services. If Rogers cable subs take the top tier of specialty channels and have at least two cable outlets in their home, they earn an 8% discount on the cost of the cable package, free installation of up to four cable outlets, a free movie rental each month, 10% discounts on **Cantel AT&T's** voice and paging service, the **Rogers At Home** high-speed Internet connection service and Rogers Video products. Subs also would get 10% off **RadioShack** products, low rates on subscriptions to Maclean's and Chatelaine, and special offers from **The Shopping Channel**. The offer is the biggest bundling of services by any communications company in North America.

REVOLVING DOOR: **Jerry McIntosh** has been named Executive Producer of Documentaries for **CBC Newsworld**... **Tom Bedell**, ex MD at **Magic 97 Kentville**, goes to **Q104 Halifax** in PM drive. Bedell succeeds **JC Douglas**, who moves to co-host at **ATV/ASN's Breakfast Television**... **Mike Fabian** is new GSM at **CKY/QX104/ HOT 103/CITI-FM Winnipeg**... **Donna Schweitzer**, Marketing Manager at **Twentieth Century Fox/Motion Television**

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Distribution will move to Manager, Publicity & Promotion for **Columbia TriStar Media Group of Canada** Nov. 16... **Ingrid Nachtrieb** has joined the **Integrated Media Sales** Toronto office as an Analyst in its Marketing & Research department... New PD and Morning Show host at **CJCS Stratford** is **Eddie Matthews**, from **CJBK London**... **Marc Chambers**, ex of the **Pelmorex Radio Network**, is now doing evenings on both **CHUM Toronto** and **CKGM Montreal**, voice tracking shows for both stations... **Ray Walker** is new pm drive host at **Magic 99.9 Winnipeg**... **Leah Anderson** is new Promotion Manager at **CFMG-FM Edmonton**.

SIGN-OFF: **Mac Rymal** has died in Vancouver at 57. Rymal had been a journalist with **CBC-TV Vancouver** and **CBC-TV Ottawa** before moving to Vancouver's **Langara College** school of journalism.

TV/FILM: This afternoon in Toronto, film producer and executive **Robert Lantos** will receive the **Communicator of the Year Award**. The award, administered by **Ryerson University's School of Radio and Television Arts**, honours a special Canadian who has made a significant contribution to human values in the field of broadcasting and electronic media... **CBC-TV** senior news managers say **Terry Milewski's** coverage of APEC was not out of line and that he produced fair-minded reports. Those E-Mail exchanges Milewski had with a student protestor implying sympathy were nothing more, says CBC, than "standard journalist practice" of developing good sources of information. The **Prime Minister's Office**, which had complained about biased reporting, is appealing that decision. The PMO wants CBC Ombudsman **David Bazay** to investigate further. Meantime, Milewski, in an article appearing in the editorial section of Tuesday's **Globe & Mail**, asked "Who's next?" He says the strategy of the Prime Minister's Office -- if successful -- will tie the hands of other journalists. On Wednesday came word that Milewski has been suspended for three days without pay, shocking his colleagues in the news operation.... On Nov. 1, **Darrel Janz** of **CFCN-TV Calgary** celebrated 25 years since taking his place behind the anchor desk there... A US presidential commission --

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comprising broadcasters, scholars and advocates for children -- has been working to determine how much the "free" channels in the new world of digital television will cost in additional obligations. For example, one recommendation is that broadcasters, cable systems and satellite providers offer five minutes of free air time for political candidates in the 30 days leading up to each election. Another is that the **Federal Communications Commission** create a minimum set of mandatory public interest obligations for digital broadcasters, cable systems and satellite providers. The US broadcasting industry doesn't like voluntary or mandated free time. The cable networks also oppose both and satellite providers have no position. The panel will send a report with final recommendations to Vice President **Al Gore** by Dec. 18. Viewers, however, are not likely to see any changes for a long time, because any recommendation probably would require the FCC or Congress to act... **Panasonic** and **Compaq** launched the first digital television tuner-decoder for personal computers this week. The two-card device enables computers to receive, decode and display HDTV signals on the screen of a PC... Irvine, CA-based **Broadcom Corp.**, in what could be a big step forward for interactive TV, is expected to unveil a single computer chip that melds Web pages and television pictures on TV screens. A few systems, notably **Microsoft Corp.'s WebTV Networks Inc.**, already can show Internet material on TV screens instead of the more expensive computer monitor. Broadcom believes its chip to be a

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breakthrough, opening an era when an electronic box can seamlessly intermingle a dozen or more scenes from TV channels, Web sites, and even a videocassette or digital-video-disk movie on an ordinary television screen. The effect, much like Windows on a PC, can be sized and arranged as a user wants. Sports fans could watch several events and Web sites at once... A **Stanford University** study shows teenagers who watched more TV and music videos were more likely to start drinking alcohol, probably due to the influence

of frequent media portrayals of drinking. The study of 2,600 ninth graders, usually 14 or 15 years old, found for every extra hour per day spent watching music videos, they were 31% more likely to begin drinking alcohol during the following 18-month study period. Ninth graders who watched an extra hour of regular TV programming per day increased their chances of drinking by nearly 10% over the same time period.

RADIO: **SILK-FM Kelowna** gave away \$101-thousand dollars in its *Phrase That Pays* contest. The cash giveaway for the caller who said "*SILK is my station, now give me my money*" is believed to be a record-high amount for Canadian radio... **CFRB Toronto**, declaring "war" on Toronto's

There are a number of people from the US and Canadian supply sector looking at *Broadcast Dialogue* today. For them, these definitions:

APEC:	Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation summit
CAB:	Canadian Association of Broadcasters
CFL:	Canadian Football League
CRTC:	Canadian Radio-Television and Tele-Communications Commission
COO:	Chief Operating Officer
GM:	General Manager
GSM:	General Sales Manager
MD:	Music Director
ND:	News Director
PD:	Program Director

Canada about ignoring BC. In *Canada: Is Anyone Listening?*, Mair roundly criticizes the country's pre-occupation with Quebec and Ottawa politicians... **NewCap** has applied to the **CRTC** to flip **CJYQ St. John's** to FM. The Oldies station would be positioned at 101.1 at 100,000 watts if the Commission agrees to the entire application... Still in St. John's, the **Music Industry Association of Newfoundland and Labrador** has given **KIXX Country** its award for *Outstanding Company of the Year*. That award follows on

the heels of KIXX's win of the **CAB Gold Ribbon** a week earlier for *Canadian Talent Development*... The **Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada** (SOCAN) will honour the creators of outstanding Canadian music at the *9th Annual SOCAN Awards* Nov. 16 at Toronto's Ontario Place Atlantis Theatre. A second awards show, recognizing Quebec's outstanding music creators, will take place at Montreal's Westin Mont-Royal Hotel the next night, Tuesday, Nov. 17... Vancouver-based **Treasure Island Oldies Show** -- a weekly 4-hour program on the Internet -- is now heard via short wave in Europe. **SWRS** (Short Wave Radio Service) airs the program that features songs from the 50s, 60s and early 70s.

SYNDICATION: The **Grey Cup** game for radio is already one of the largest in recent **CFL** memory. There are 23 individual stations confirmed from Victoria to Montreal. The broadcast starts at 4 pm ET and winds up at 10 pm ET. It's available for a small production fee and will be delivered by **Broadcast News Satellite**. Contact **Ted Farr** at 403/233-0770 (**QR77/POWER 107 Calgary**).

EDITOR'S NOTE: **Broadcast Dialogue**, the magazine, is published 10 times a year. The magazine is doubled-up during the months of July/August and December/January. As was the case in our Summer edition, so too will the December/January magazine be delayed by a week or two. These delays occur only at double issue times. Otherwise we work our deadlines the same way you do. With punctuality. Thanks again to all the Broadcasters and Suppliers who, at **Broadcasting '98** in Vancouver last week, took the time to tell us how "right" **Broadcast Dialogue** magazine is for you and for the industry as a whole. Look for a large number of (captioned) photos from the Vancouver convention in our December/January publication.

homeless crisis, has made its mission the supplying of a blanket to every homeless man, woman and child in the city. There are more than 26,000 homeless in Toronto. Tomorrow (Friday), the **CFRB** bus will be collecting blankets and sleeping bags at four main locations throughout the city... **CJCS Stratford** celebrates 75 years of service in the new year. The commercial license was granted in 1924 when the station was known as **10AK**. Former **CJCS** staffers who have any memorabilia are asked to contact President/GM **Steve Rae** at 519/271-2450... **CKNW New Westminster** Talker **Rafe Mair** is about to head east to promote his new book warning the rest of

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Volume 6 Number 26

Page One of Three

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GENERAL: *Shaw Communications* is selling its stake in *Headline Sports*, operated by *Sportscope Television Network*. *Shaw Media* President **John Cassaday** says "We expect that there will be significant interest in assuming our position in this national television network." *Headline Sports* also operates a radio network and holds the rights to the *Toronto Blue Jays* radio broadcasts... Scientist **Dr. Ian Rowe**, with the Toronto-based *Centre for Research in Earth and Space Technology*, says while this year's Leonid meteor shower was a bust, the danger isn't over yet. Rowe says the fact Leonid fizzled likely means it'll be stronger next year. There were concerns that satellites providing a multitude of services would be damaged by fast-flying space debris... With the launch *CBC News Online* this week, CBC expanded its Web presence intent on becoming Canada's leading destination for news on the World Wide Web. CBC President **Perrin Beatty** says "the Internet augurs massive changes for broadcasters, and those broadcasters that live in the past will die. Our business is content, whether it's new media or traditional media." CBC is hiring print journalists to write for the Web site (www.cbc.ca), adding to content it already has from its TV and radio arms. Meantime, *CTV's* head of Strategic Planning and Business Development it won't be making any new investments in its site (www.ctv.ca) for the time being. **Henry Eaton** says "We refuse to just jump into this thing the

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same as everyone else has. We have to use the same kind of disciplines behind it as we would with the startup of a new station." *Canwest Global Communications* says it expected to have a Web site next month... *Cancom (Canadian Satellite Communications Inc.)* is acquiring *Star Choice Communications Inc.* But *Cancom* CEO **Duncan McEwan** is taking heat from some industry analysts. *Cancom* says the merged companies probably won't turn a profit until fiscal 2002-2003, assuming *Star Choice* continues to attract 100,000 new subscribers annually. Both companies are controlled by

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Calgary-based **Shaw Communications Inc.**... Meantime, **Cancon** says it has finalized agreements for purchase of four Ku-band transponders and lease of five C-band transponders on Anik F1 from **Telesat Canada**. Anik F1 is due for launch in mid-2000... Veteran broadcaster **Bill Brady**, Senior Vice-President and Corporate Secretary of **The Blackburn Group** (parent company of **CFPL Broadcasting**) has received the 1998 **Paul Mulvihill Heart Award**. The award is presented annually to an individual in the broadcasting or advertising industry selected by their peers for their selfless contribution to a national or local charity or for their community service. Brady has donated the \$5,000 which accompanied the award to the **John P. Robarts Research Institute** in London... It was a great 1998 for **CHUM Limited**. So great that both **Fred Sherratt**, Executive VP/COO, and **Moses Znaimer**, President of **Citytv Toronto** and CHUM VP of Corporate Development, earned \$1 million bonuses. CHUM Limited President **Allan Waters**' salary and bonus was a total \$925,000... **Shaw Communications Inc.** reported its 1998 profit was down 19% from fiscal 1997 and announced writedowns and provisions of \$62.8 million related to four small business segments. Shaw reported profit of \$13.5 million, or a loss of 1¢ a share, on revenue of \$783.8 million for the year ended Aug.31. The results compare with a profit of \$16.6 million or 24¢ a share on revenue of \$688.4 million for fiscal 1997. Despite one-time gains on the sale of investments and cable systems earlier in the year, the writedowns and provisions combined with significantly higher income taxes contributed to the year-end performance... The **North American National Broadcasters Association** has presented its **International Achievement Award** to the late **Rene Anselmo**, founder of **Pan American Satellite Corp.** Anselmo founded PanAmSat, a leading provider of satellite services, in 1986 after a long career with Mexico's **Televisa** network. He died in September, 1995... **Cogeco Cable** says it will be offering, by the end of 1999, a local and long-distance phone service to its Ontario and Quebec customers, thanks to its inter-city fibre optic network and its cable technological infrastructure that enable the use of the capabilities inherent to the Internet Protocol (IP). The service will gradually be offered to the approximately 800,000 customers mainly located in the Windsor, Ontario to Rimouski,

Quebec corridor... The 1999 **Broadcast Educators Association of Canada** (BEAC) National Conference will be held at **Humber College** in Toronto, June 17-20. For info, contact Conference Chair **Joe Andrews** at 519/942-2837... The Toronto Chapter of **Canadian Women in Communications** (CWC) is hosting its first annual "Holiday Season" cocktail party and silent auction Dec. 3.

REVOLVING DOOR: **Peter Miller** has been appointed to the newly-created position of Vice-President, Business and Regulatory Affairs at **CHUM Television**. Miller, the former Exec. VP and General Counsel at the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters**, steps into his new role January 4... **CBC** has created a new media unit and appointed **John Lewis** as Executive Director... New ND at **KX-96 Ajax** is **Adam Robinson**, ex of **Power 88 Newmarket**... **Darren McNaughton** has been appointed VP, Toronto Region for **Canadian Corporate News**... **Tim Kilpatrick**, formerly part of the **CKIS-FM Calgary** morning team, is the new sports director at **CFPL/The Hawk (CFHK-FM) London**. Still at The Hawk, PD **Chris Gordon** is leaving to take up a similar position at **KOOL-FM Ottawa**... The **Los Angeles Times** reports Chairman/CEO **Frank Biondi** at **Universal Studios** is about to be dropped by **Seagram** in a restructuring plan headed by his boss, **Edgar Bronfman, Jr.**... **Brad Edwards** ins new PD at **YL Country (CKYL) Peace River**, succeeding **Bruce MacDonald**... **Fox Broadcasting Co.** programming chief and Fox Entertainment Group President **Peter Roth**, who launched the hit show **Ally McBeal** but was unable to stop the network's ratings haemorrhage, has announced his resignation. His successor is 39-year-old **Doug Herzog**, President of US cable's **Comedy Central**... **Rick Sadler**, who had been part-time at **Power 107 Calgary**, is now doing afternoon drive at **KISS-FM Calgary**.

SIGN-OFF: One of the truly great bass singers of our time -- **J.D. Sumner** -- has died in Myrtle Beach at 73. Sumner, among other musical pursuits, performed and recorded with **Elvis Presley** from 1972-1977.

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TV/FILM: Michael MacMillan, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of **Alliance Atlantis Communications Inc.**, says that to ensure Canada has a choice of domestic Canadian programming, it "will continue to require ... specific intervention as a matter of public policy." In a Toronto speech Monday, MacMillan said: "Over the years, here in Canada we have done this through a remarkably effective system of incentives and rules, including the CRTC, the CBC and Telefilm Canada." He added: "We should not listen to the nay-sayers - those self-loathing cynics and defeatists who say that only Americans can make entertaining television and motion pictures and that we Canadians should just be content to sit back and watch. There are some things in the world that are not the natural results of market forces . . . Canada is a construct of will; it is certainly not the inevitable evolution of the marketplace." MacMillan also told his audience that "audience fragmentation changed the economics of television, and it's the reverberations from that which has driven, and will continue to drive, structural change throughout our industry. It now takes longer to squeeze the juice to extract the full economic value from a program. This means owners of content need deeper pockets in order to be able to afford the wait as a program's economic returns are strung out in a sequential series of users"... **BCTV Vancouver** is automating its signal delivery -- eliminating 12 Master Control positions. The BCTV signal will be routed through the automated system at sister station **CHEK-TV Victoria**. Affected employees will receive six months notice or pay in lieu, as well as four weeks severance per year of service and a retraining allowance. The switch is expected in February... The **Specialty and Premium Television Association** has urged the **CRTC** to respond to "strong consumer demand" by licencing more French-language specialty television services from among 18 applications which will be reviewed by the Commission at a hearing beginning Dec. in Montreal. Two applications vie for a history channel licence, two for a travel channel and two for a business service. Other proposed formats include family entertainment, science and technology, justice, comedy, and arts... **CanWest Global Communications Corp.** reports sharply higher profits for the year ended Aug. 31, but most came from the sale of part of its broadcasting business in Australia. CanWest said it earned \$200.1 million for the year, compared with \$141.9 million the previous year. Excluding the impact of the special gain from selling a 19% economic interest in Australia's **Network 10**, and some currency adjustments, CanWest's profits rose 6% to \$145.5 million for the year... **CFRN-TV Edmonton's Good Neighbour Fund** garnered some \$15,000 from the annual **Poor Boys' Lunch** earlier this week. Those on the "have" side of the equation laid out a small sum for a hot dog and beans lunch, so CFRN-TV's community fund can help those in need with special projects... The **Canadian Cable Television Association** has complained to the **CRTC** that broadcast signal distributor **Look Communications Inc.** is in breach of foreign ownership rules. The CCTA maintains that foreign control was pushed over the regulated limit when Look parent **Teleglobe Inc.** merged with US-based **Excel Communications Inc.** A Teleglobe spokesman said the firm hopes to spin control of Look into a Canadian holding company and has filed a proposal to the CRTC in an attempt to fix the

problem... **Peter Mansbridge**, chief anchor of **CBC-TV's The National**, and actress **Cynthia Dale** married Saturday in a private ceremony on Prince Edward Island. They are honeymooning in Rome... **CBS** is said to have given **CBS Evening News** anchor **Dan Rather** a contract that will keep him at the network at least until 2004. The 67-year-old Rather had signed a new pact early last year bumping his salary into the \$7 million range until 2002... **Hallmark** and the **Jim Henson Co.** have purchased stakes in the religion-oriented **Odyssey** cable channel and plan to make it a more general entertainment network next spring. The two companies paid a total \$100 million to evenly split a 45% share. **Liberty Media** and the **National Interfaith Cable Coalition** will keep a 55% share.

RADIO: **CBC** CEO **James McCoubrey** says a story that's been circulating about \$3 million having been restored to the radio service's 1998-99 budget is "a total fiction." The money, the story goes, was to compensate for the three-million dollars that executive producers were told to slash from their program budgets in June... **The Fan Toronto** morning co-host, **Pat Marsden**, is recovering from bypass surgery he had Monday. He's described as being in fair condition and is expected to be off work for about six weeks... **Peace River Broadcasting Corporation Limited** has been granted **CRTC** approval to establish a station at High Level, previously served by a repeater of **CKYL Peace River**, and switch from 530 AM to 102.1 FM. **CKHL High Level** is expected on the air in June, 1999, broadcasting from its own facilities for five hours each weekday morning with programming localized from the Peace River studios for the balance of the day. The CRTC also approved installation of a repeater at High Level for **KIX 106 Peace River**... **CBC Radio's** ground-breaking *As It Happens* celebrated its 30th anniversary Wednesday with a reunion at the **CBC Toronto** Broadcast Centre. The public affairs program signed on Nov. 18, 1968 with host **Phillip Forsyth**... On-Air talent, susceptible to the same sneezing and scratchy throats that the rest of us have, may take some comfort from broadcast voice specialist **Ann S. Utterback's** web site: www.AVoiceDoc.com. There's lots of info on taking care of your voice when you have a cold... **99.3 The Fox Vancouver** gave away \$10,000 cash and a 1999 VW Golf in its "Larry and Willy's Even Tougher Contest". The winner qualified by spending 61 hours in a 4' X 3' X 2' storage container.

SYNDICATION: The **CHUM Radio Network** is the Canadian radio link for a 24-hour live global broadcast that will welcome the new millennium in each of the world's 24 time zones. The radio and TV event begins in New Zealand at Midnight, December 31, 1999. Each hour will include music, interviews with celebrities and world leaders, live events and unique national and regional celebrations from around the world... Also from **CRN**, word that it has acquired Canadian rights for *Dick Clark's Rock, Roll and Remember* oldies show.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: Philip Shames, **Quantel Inc.**, Mississauga. Welcome!



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Page One of Two

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TV/FILM: Montreal-based **Cogeco Radio-Télévision inc.** has won **CRTC** approval to acquire **CFRS-TV(TQS)/CKRS-TV(SRC) Jonquière** from **Radio Saguenay Inc.** Purchase price was \$5,754,626... In its final written comments to the **CRTC** - as part of this fall's TV policy review - the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** advocates an approach that would make all players accountable for increasing audiences for quality Canadian programming. In future, suggests CAB, applications to the **CRTC** would have to demonstrate preparedness to increase viewership... That article Vancouver-based **CBC** Reporter **Terry Milewski** wrote for the **Globe & Mail** a couple of weeks back (*reported in BD Nov. 12*) earned him another suspension, this time 15-days without pay. In the article, Milewski accused the Prime Minister's Office of trying to intimidate journalists like him... **Brydson Media Sales** of New York now represents **Toronto Star Television** in the US... **Valerie Pringle**, Co-Host of **CTV's Canada AM**, is among the first 15 Ryerson graduates to be named to the Toronto university's alumni Wall of Recognition. Presenting the Alumni Award of Distinction to her yesterday was **CTV** Chief Anchor **Lloyd Robertson**... Alberta movie-goers who see **The Siege** may recognize the person on the monitors in scenes from the flick's "situation room." He's **CFRN/ITV** newscaster **Pat Kiernan** who now anchors **Time Warner's** 24-hour New York city news channel **NY1 News**. The movie borrowed some NY1 news segments, used on the monitors in those scenes... The Specialty Board of the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** has called on the **CRTC** to increase funding for Canadian programming by requiring all US and exempt services broadcast in Canada to contribute. The proposals would take effect as of January 1, 2000. The CAB wants adoption of a four-part framework that would 1) Withhold 30% of the wholesale fees paid to US services (such as **CNN**, **A&E**, **The Learning Channel**) by Canadian distributors to fund Canadian programming. 2) End perpetual access of US services. Institute a review every 5-7 years, as is the case for Canadian services and base renewal, in part, on how much money the US services are willing to set aside for Canadian programming. 3) Extend and expand the moratorium on cablecos adding any new US services to channel line ups until at least January 1, 2000. 4) Monitor rates charged by US services to Canadian cable operators to ensure they don't exceed the lowest rate charged in the United States. The CAB Specialty Board also advocates that exempt commercial programming undertakings such as **Toronto Star TV** (TSTV), be required to contribute a portion of their gross revenues to Canadian programming. Said CAB President **Michael McCabe**, "it's untenable that niche foreign services like **Speedvision** and **CNBC** are broadcast here, while our own services continue to wait for carriage"... **Polygram** could be close to selling the final pieces of its **PolyGram Filmed Entertainment** film library to Saudi Arabian **Prince Muhammad Bin Bandur Bin Abdul Aziz**. Seagram, owner of Polygram, is apparently in talks again with the Middle East player...

RADIO: **Jack Schoone's Radiocorp** has sold its stations in Hamilton and London to **Telemedia Communications**. The stations are **CKOC/CKLH-FM Hamilton** and **CJBK/CJBX-FM London**. Radiocorp President **Jim MacLeod**, based at the Hamilton stations, says, "I think it's a good balanced deal. It's good for Telemedia - they're determined to become even more of a major player - and I think it's good for the markets we're in, for the communities we serve, and terrific for our staff. All around, I think everybody wins"... The **CRTC** has

approved **Okanagan Skeena Group's** acquisition of **Nornet Broadcasting Ltd.** Nornet owns and operates fifteen stations in Alberta and BC. Purchase price is \$9.6 million comprised of \$3 million cash and 1,875,000 Class A common shares at a price of \$3.50 each. Closing date is expected by the end of January. On completion of the purchase, OSG will become the largest holder of radio broadcast licenses in Canada (with 31 stations)... **CKPR Thunder Bay** 30-year veteran and Open Line Host **Rick Smith's** show last Friday took a bit of a twist. The topic? The positive influence of local retailers on the Thunder Bay economy... **Newfoundland Capital Corporation** (NewCap) has applied to the **CRTC** to flip **CKXD Gander** and **CKXG Grand Falls** to FM... The **CRTC** has approved operation of transitional digital radio in Montréal. The transitional operations will simulcast existing programming, except for up to 14 hours a week of non-simulcast. Stations **are: CBF-FM, CBFX-FM, CBM-FM, CBME-FM, CKGM, CHOM-FM, CITÉ-FM, CKAC, CKMF-FM...** Community broadcaster **CKCU Ottawa** (Carleton University) says it will launch a digital radio signal within 18 months. The transmitter is being provided by **Rogers Broadcasting** (which is also donating this equipment to the other two non-commercial broadcasters in Ottawa - **CHUO** and **CKDJ**). CKCU will also develop digital datacast applications for use by other community radio broadcasters, partnered with Rogers and **Logonetics Inc...** **CJRW Summerside** is celebrating its 50th birthday this month... In Saskatoon, **Christina Cherneskey**, who had been host of **CJWW's Let's Talk Saskatchewan**, has gone across the street to **CKOM's News Talk Radio**. Problem is, word has it, that Cherneskey wants to use "Let's Talk Saskatchewan" at her new gig. She apparently registered the show's name to herself some time ago...

GENERAL: The **CRTC** began its New Media Hearing Monday in Hull. From the first day, it appeared broadcasters, Internet providers, and telecom companies were somewhat in agreement on how new media should be regulated: they want a "light hand". Many argued, especially in the case of the Internet, the industry is so new it should be allowed to develop before attempts are made to regulate it. The Commission wants to answer three basic questions: How do new media affect regulation of traditional broadcasting like radio, television and cable? To what extent do new media fall under existing definitions in the Broadcasting and Telecommunications Acts? What other recommendations should be made to government on other broader regulation issues?. Broadcasters, however, pointed out that teenagers are listening to radio less than they used to - 10.4 hours a week in 1997 compared to 12.2 hours in 1990 and that radio is on three hours less a week in homes hooked to the Internet. **CAB** President **Michael McCabe** told the hearing that broadcasters are competing with new media for people's time and that he expects direct competition not far down the road when technology will offer better audio and video quality on the net. The threat to TV is less immediate... Bill C-44, which would have given the federal government more control over **CBC's** board of directors and president, is being amended. In its original form, C-44 would have allowed the government to

terminate CBC board members or the president at the "pleasure" of cabinet rather than for cause. C-44 also affects about 150 other public agency boards... **Bell ExpressVu** wants the Federal Court of Canada to decide its dispute with **Rogers Cable** over the broadcast of NFL games. ExpressVu complained to the **CRTC** last spring after Rogers signed an exclusive deal to carry a package of Sunday games this season. The Commission dismissed the claim that the deal violated the Broadcast Act. No date has been set for the Federal Court case... Celebrating its 65th anniversary, the **Western Association of Broadcasters** is firming-up its convention highlights for June 4-6 at Kananaskis. On the docket now is **CBC Newsworld's Pamela Wallin**, herself a native of Saskatchewan...

LOOKING: **Rep-Pac Media Systems** in Toronto is looking for a Sales Rep. Contact VP **Gary Hernandez** at 416/221-9944...

REVOLVING DOOR: **WIC Radio** President **Ted Smith** is leaving that position at the end of December. **Doug Rutherford**, of the WIC Edmonton stations (**Power92/CHED**) and VP Programming for the WIC stations, will step in to manage the WIC Radio assets until the deal with **Shaw's Mediaco** is finalized... **Peter Jackman**, who many remember from his days at **CKCO-TV Kitchener**, is now GSM at **CKPC AM/FM Brantford**. He succeeded **Mike Smolders** returned to his home town of London in pursuit of other endeavours... **Robert Hurst** is new VP, **CTV News**, **Joanne MacDonald** becomes Director of News Administration and **Patricia Skinner** becomes Manager of News Production... New GM at **CKUA Alberta** is 12-year station veteran **Ken Regan**... **Terry Williams** is now at **CJRT-FM Toronto** in Sales & Marketing... **Glenn Davies** has joined **TQS Inc. Montreal** as Sales/Marketing VP/GM Toronto. He had been in a similar role, also in Toronto, for **TVA**... **Ken Trimble**, ex of **CIFX Winnipeg**, joins **BN Edmonton** as a Reporter/Editor... **Terri Theodore**, ex of **CKWX Vancouver**, joins **BN Vancouver** as a Reporter/Editor... **Joel Christie** is new MD at **820 CHAM Hamilton**, returning to the station after leaving in 1997... **Wendy Perch** moves from **CKDM Dauphin** to the morning newsroom run at **CKPG Prince George**... **Alan Pennylegion**, sales & marketing at the **Broadcast Dialogue** Calgary office, has left to pursue other interests. **Jane Inglis** succeeds him. She is based in Toronto and can be reached through her direct line, 416/493-1177.

SIGN OFF: **Bob Harris** of **Harris Media Systems** passed away in Toronto Sunday after a prolonged illness. The funeral service was held yesterday (Wednesday) at North Toronto's St. George's United Church. The family asks that donations in Bob Harris' name be made to **The Salvation Army**, **Sunnybrook Hospital Foundation**, or the charity of your choice.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: **Dari Gilham**, **Okanagan Skeena Group**, Vancouver.