

BROADCAST Dialogue

The Voice of Broadcasting in Canada

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CAB CONVENTION: Glenn O'Farrell is the new President/CEO of the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters**. O'Farrell, who had been Sr. VP, Specialty Services at the **Global Television Network**, takes on his new responsibilities Jan. 7/02... **General Motors of Canada** announced that it will become the first automaker to deliver factory installed DAB radios beginning with its 2003 models. Chevrolet Impalas and Monte Carlos, built in Oshawa, will be first... Also on the DAB front, **Squish** – a hand-held and portable unit – was introduced at the convention. The unit, from **Zoopad Inc.**, delivers CD quality and a multiple line data display for song titles and other broadcast info. It also comes with a docking unit for PC connectivity... **ABC** Anchor **Peter Jennings**, who had been scheduled to deliver a keynote address to **Broadcasting 2001**, was prevented from doing so because of the uncertainty of continuing news events, particularly as they relate to the terrorist threat. It was a management decision by ABC Television News... Heritage Minister **Sheila Copps** told delegates that she aims to close copyright loopholes, obtain permanent funding for Canadian TV programming, and lower regulatory fees. Copps said she'd be immediate approval from cabinet to introduce amendments to the Copyright Act before Christmas (to Internet companies from picking up Canadian programming, then retransmitting them without paying copyright fees). She also promised to write to Treasury Board to have the rules changed on how much the broadcasters must pay in regulatory fees. Broadcasters have been overpaying by about \$35 million a year compared with telecommunications companies... The **CRTC** released its **Broadcasting Policy Monitoring Report** which painted a rosy picture. But **Michael McCabe** dampened the good news somewhat. He says the report deals with the industry only up until August; that the uncertainty after Sept. 11 is of real concern. The Report says more money than ever is being made available for Canadian programming, that TV viewing is up, and that private radio is now a \$1 billion industry. However, McCabe pointed to a plunge in on-air advertising revenues in both Canada and the US as a result of the economic downturn generated by the terrorist attacks... Gold Ribbon winners were: **CTV Ottawa** Bureau Chief **Craig Oliver** – *Gold Ribbon for Broadcast Excellence*; **Gordon Lightfoot** – inducted into the Music Star Category of the *Canadian Broadcast Hall of Fame*; for *Community Service*, **CKFM-FM Toronto** (large market, **CFMC-FM Saskatoon**



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(small market); *For Breaking News, CKWX Vancouver; For Information Program, CKSR Chilliwack; For Promotion of Canadian Talent, CKQB-FM Ottawa; For What Radio Does Best, CKGL Kitchener; For Promotion - Image, CFTR Toronto; For Promotion - Audience Building, CKZZ-FM Richmond; For Humour - French, CKMF-FM Montréal; and, For Humour - English, CJFM-FM Montreal.* On the TV side, *For Community Service, CFTM-TV Montreal* (large market), *CHMI-TV Winnipeg* (medium market), and *RDTV Red Deer* (small market); *For News: Breaking News, RDTV Red Deer; For News: Special Series, BCTV Burnaby; For Documentaries & Public Affairs, CFAP-TV Quebec; For Drama Programming, CFTM-TV Montreal; For Entertainment Programming, CFTM-TV Montreal; For Promotion - Brand Image, CFJP-TV Montréal; and, For Promotion - Canadian Program/Series, Citytv Toronto.* Winners in the Specialty/Pay/PPV category were: *For Programming – Documentaries & Public Affairs, WTN; For Programming – Entertainment Special/Series, MuchMusic; For Programming – News & Information Special/Series, Discovery Channel; For Programming – Niche Market, YTV; For Promotion - Brand Image, Z Montréal; and, For Promotion - Canadian Program/Series, MuchMusic.* In All Sectors, *For On-Line Media, YTV...* And, *CJOH-TV Ottawa* VP/News Director/Anchor **Max Keeping** won a Gold Ribbon for *Outstanding Community Service by an Individual Broadcaster.*

TV/FILM: The **CRTC** is probing the **CTV** layoffs at its Northern Ontario stations (North Bay, Timmins and Sault Ste. Marie). Specifically, the Commission is looking at the news operations to see if CTV went against some licence conditions. The CRTC says it wants to ensure local programming and Canadian content requirements are met when CTV merges four local newscasts into a regional show from Sudbury with local feeds from the three other communities. Earlier, **CUPE** national President **Judy Darcy** had urged the Commission to intervene and to stop CTV from closing the stations. The union represents seven of the 40 news staff who lost their jobs last week... The federal government has upheld the **CRTC** decision to renew the network licences of **CTV** and **Global TV**. Heritage Minister **Sheila Copps** says the Commission did nothing wrong in granting the renewals. It was NDP MP **Wendy Lill** who filed a petition last month asking the government to refer the licensing decisions back to the CRTC

for reconsideration. She complained the renewals inhibited editorial diversity and independence... The sale of **CKVU-TV Vancouver** by **CanWest Global** to **CHUM** has closed. Cash price was \$125 million... **Corus Entertainment** has approval to acquire controlling interest in **Telelatino Network Inc.** Corus boosts its stake in the specialty service to 50.5% from 20% for \$11-million... A tentative agreement has been reached between Canadian actors and ACTRA, the association representing Canada's film and TV producers. Involved are the 17-thousand-member **Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists** and the **Canadian Film and Television Production Association** and their Quebec equivalent. The Independent production agreement covers all the terms and conditions of employment for TV and film production in every region except BC. It has a separate contract... **Torstar Media Group** President **Robert Prichard** says he wants to return to old-fashioned TV. At a Toronto business breakfast this week, Prichard outlined a convergence strategy hinging on licence approval for three TV stations in southern Ontario (Toronto, Hamilton and Kitchener). Also applying are **CTV** and **Rogers Communications** (for those three locations). There are other players looking at those individual markets). **CHUM** and **CanWest Global** are expected to oppose. Prichard says if Torstar wins approval, it will operate the stations as separate divisions with their own management teams... **Viacom** is cutting jobs within its **MTV Networks** unit. About 450 workers or about 9% of the workforce will be affected. The cuts affect all parts of the division, including **MTV**, **VH-One**, **Nickelodeon** and **TNN**. CEO **Tom Freston** says the reorganization reflects a need for changes in MTV Networks' structure as well as the weak ad market...

GENERAL: Acting **CRTC** Chairman **David Colville** says a permanent Chair will be named in a matter of weeks. Communications lawyer **Charles Dalfen** has been nominated to replace him... **Corus Entertainment** President/CEO **John Cassaday** says Corus will consider auctioning off any non-core properties that fail to meet an internal growth rate target of 8% to 10%, and begin laying off employees in the coming weeks. Cassaday says "there will be layoffs. We are looking at all areas of the organization to ensure that we operate as efficiently and as effectively as we can. We've communicated this to all of our employees over the past four or five weeks." The cuts were in the works before Sept. 11's events further dragged down the economy and squeezed the ad market. Word is that the company plans sell up to \$100-million in assets over the next year. Despite doubling sales in the fourth quarter, Corus posted a sharp decline in fourth-quarter profit, largely because of higher interest, depreciation and amortization costs... **CHUM Limited**, says its fourth-quarter profit fell by nearly half from the year-earlier period as operating and interest expenses rose. Earnings for the quarter ended Aug. 31 were \$1.6 million or 14 cents a share,

down from \$3.1 million, or 27 cents a share. Sales, however rose to \$103.8 million from \$93.4 million. For the full year, CHUM reported a 10% increase in sales to \$413 million from \$376 million while profit fell to \$17.5 million from \$25.9 million...

REVOLVING DOOR: Mark Jan Vrem, **ROBTV's** first employee and – until yesterday (Wednesday) – the specialty channel's GM, is no longer with the company. His departure is linked to the recent acquisition of ROBTv by **CTV/Bell Globemedia...** Melanie Kurzuk has been promoted to VP, Broadcast and Corporate Communications at **Canada NewsWire** in Toronto... **Errol Da-Ré** is new VP, English Advertising Sales, for **Alliance Atlantis**. He had been Group Director of national sales/Director of network sales at **CTV...** Also new to **Alliance Atlantis** is **Bryan Press** who becomes National Sales Manager for Lifestyle networks. He had been Director of Sales at **CanWest Interactive...**

SIGN-OFF: Betty Watson, after a three-year battle with cancer, in Owen Sound. She had worked right up to Sept. 7 and played a key role in **Bayshore Broadcasting's** application for the company's latest station, **Country 93 (CKYC-FM) Owen Sound**. Watson began at **CFOS Owen Sound** as a stenographer for then-owner **Bill Hawkins** in 1967. She and rose to CFO...

RADIO: After nearly 80 years as *Mighty Mike* and the *Voice of the Great Prairie West*, **620 CKCK Regina** is no more. To celebrate and commemorate eight decades of history-making radio, the "reunion of a lifetime" is planned for July 27-29 in Regina. To get on the

reunion mailing list, check www.mightymike.ca... **Hard Rock Café International** has joined forces with **Q107 (CILQ-FM) Toronto** to deliver broadcasting live-to-air from a street-level, storefront studio in the revamped Hard Rock Café overlooking Yonge Street and Dundas Square. The studio will rock live weekdays from 3:00 p.m. to midnight, Saturday nights from 6 p.m. to 3 a.m., and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m... The music store given credit for much of the success of Canadian talent has filed for bankruptcy. **Sam The Record Man** has been a Canadian household word for over 50 years. "Until very recently," said 81 year-old **Sam Sniderman**, "we believed that if we persevered, we could turn things around"... An inmate at an Ottawa jail is being blamed for a series of hoax calls to teenage girls in Atlantic Canada. The promise of free concert tickets and backstage passes has lured young people to take part in phone sex. Police are still trying to track down the man responsible. The man always uses a pay phone, and usually calls collect. RCMP estimate that about 250 calls have been made to children between eight and 14 in several small towns. He pretends to be a disc jockey at a radio station, and asks the child to answer some questions to win free concert tickets...

SUPPLYLINES: **Panasonic Canada** has won an Emmy for its pioneering efforts in the early 1980s that led to development of consumer camcorders. Technical Emmys are presented annually by the New York-based **National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences**. The award was the 14th for Panasonic, including 11 for achievements in digital video technology.

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(See the feature on Roger Ashby in this month's Broadcast Dialogue magazine)

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TV/FILM: The **CRTC** has signalled it will begin creating a policy framework for interactive TV services by launching fact-finding inquiry on the services. The inquiry idea came after the Commission denied an application by **The Weather Network** to have interactivity added to its licence conditions. While the CRTC praised The Weather Network's plans for interactive content, it ruled that altering the channel's licence would be premature "given the embryonic state of the technology and the numerous uncertainties pertaining to digital distribution." It said, though, that recent developments such as **Bell ExpressVu's** and **Rogers Cable's** plans to aim interactive services at its digital subscribers, have prompted it to begin gathering information to develop industry guidelines. Producers, broadcasters and programmers have been asked to share their interactive plans by Jan. 15... **CTV**, reacting to the **CRTC's** position that the changes to CTV stations at Timmins, North Bay and Sault Ste. Marie (known as **MCTV**) are consistent with licence requirements, says it wants these local stations to continue to exist. In a news release yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon, CTV said: "Our changes are designed to work to ensure that local stations continue to exist. On their own, these stations are not economically viable. CTV spends considerably more in each community than we earn. Our changes will lessen the loss." News jobs were lost in the three towns after CTV decided to centralize its Northern Ontario newscasts from the Sudbury station. The Commission, however, did say that one of the benefits of strong corporate ownership of local TV stations is that such owners should be able to adjust to a fluctuating economic environment and support local services that, on their own, may be not be profitable... While **VisionTV** President/CEO **Bill Roberts** says the specialty channel now exceeds its Canadian content programming requirements, the **CRTC** rapped the multifaceted broadcaster's knuckles over past performance. The Commission said VisionTV persistently failed to air a minimum of 60% CanCon and, consequently, it turned down a request for a seven-year licence renewal. A 33-month licence was issued so as to monitor compliance. Turned down was VisionTV's request to hike its monthly wholesale rate to cable distributors from 15 cents a subscriber from 8 cents... **ABC**, **CBS** and **NBC** suffered a collective record loss of \$880 million in ad revenues for the third quarter, down 28.6% from last year. The loss, buffeted by the Sept. 11 attacks, was the worst quarter-to-quarter loss ever recorded by the **Broadcast Cable Financial Management Association**. Also part of the equation was the **2000 Summer Olympics** which helped inflate numbers in some dayparts a year ago. Exceptions from red ink were prime-time, up 10.14%, and late night, up 9.94%... The **CBC** has signed a five-year deal with the **National Hockey League** for broadcast of games on **Hockey Night in Canada**. **The Sports Network** (TSN) won specialty channel rights, succeeding **Sportsnet** as the rights

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holder. The arrangement comes into effect next season. CBC and TSN will broadcast a minimum 112 regular season games, up from 94 this year... **CTV** has concluded the \$138-million sale of its 40% interest in **SportsNet** to **Rogers Communications**... The 52-year relationship between **KRON-TV San Francisco** and **NBC** comes to an end on New Year's Eve. The affiliation switch to **KNTV** is due for the start of *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno* on that Monday night. On Dec. 5, cableco **AT&T Broadband**, with 95% of the area's cable subscribers, will add KNTV to its systems in more than a dozen communities.

REVOLVING DOOR: **Matthew McBride**, ex of **RCS**, is new PD at **The Beat Vancouver**... **Bill Allen** is leaving the **Canadian Cable Television Association** at year's end. He's joining the **Media Awareness Network** in January and will be in charge of corporate communications... Long-time **Country 105 (CKRY-FM) Calgary** ND **Hal Gardner** is gone, as is Newsman **Dave Roe**... **Rob Malcolm**, who had been doing weekend sports at **The New VR (CKVR-TV) Barrie**, becomes a sports Reporter/Anchor at the Detroit **NBC** affiliate, **WDIV-TV**... After 38 years, in various positions, **Barry Norman** will retire from **CICX-FM Orillia** at year-end. Norman, now in sales, began with **CFOR-AM** (the calls before the flip to FM) on the Monday following **President John F. Kennedy's** assassination... **Robert Trempe** is new VP of Sales and Marketing at **Astral Radio**, succeeding **David Novek** in the position. Trempe arrives at the Montreal-based Astral from Internet publisher **Netraphe**... Word from Montreal suggests that controversial talk show host **Andre Arthur** has been handed his walking papers by **CJMF Quebec City**. Cited were personal differences between Arthur and colleague **Robert Gillet**.

LOOKING: Vancouver's newest radio station, **The Beat** at 94.5 FM, is set to launch sometime in the spring with an Urban format. The station is looking for applications and tapes... **News 1130 (CKWX) Vancouver** is looking for a ground Traffic Reporter.

SIGN-OFFS: **Jack Stark**, who was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease in late Summer. It was Stark who, along with partners, started **CHQM Vancouver** in the early 60s. He later became an owner and director of **CJVB Vancouver** with **Jan van Bruchem**. Even after that station was sold, he kept an office there. Stark was also on the **Silk-FM Kelowna** Board of Directors. The funeral was this past Monday in Vancouver... **G. W. 'Bud' Cruickshank**, 77, in the Wingham hospital. He was the son of **CKNX-AM/TV Wingham** founder **Doc Cruickshank** and worked for the stations until the business was sold, in the early 70s, to London's **Blackburn** family... **Don Insley**, a legend in **CFRB Toronto** operations, particularly during the 60s and 70s... **Solange Chaput-Rolland**, 82, a former broadcaster, Tory senator and author, of a heart ailment at her home in the

Laurentians, north of Montreal. Chaput-Rolland first gained fame in Quebec in the 1960s as a political columnist and host of numerous public-affairs programs on television and radio.

GENERAL: Foreign Affairs Minister **John Manley** didn't like *The West Wing* plot line about a suspected terrorist entering Vermont from Ontario, a geographical impossibility. More important for Manley, though, is that it perpetuates false assumptions. Contrary to widespread belief in the US, he said, none of the Sept. 11 hijackers came from Canada... **Torstar Corp.** CEO **David Galloway** says his company, parent of **The Toronto Star**, is interested in forming partnerships with the likes of **CanWest Global Communications** and **Rogers Communications**. "We'd explore anything," he said. Galloway's comments were made to reporters after he addressed the **Canadian Club** in Toronto on convergence. Torstar – applying for three analog TV licences in Southern Ontario – has been criticized for lagging in efforts to find partners or acquire companies that bring newspaper, broadcast and Internet assets together. TV is Torstar's most immediate focus for growth. If successful, Torstar's will hire 298 staff in Toronto, Hamilton and Kitchener. The company says it plans to spend \$74.2-million on local programming over the proposed seven-year licence term. Also applying in Toronto, Hamilton and Kitchener are **CanWest Global**, **CTV** and **Rogers Communications**. The bid is opposed by **CHUM Ltd.**... **Corus Entertainment** has sold one million class A shares of **Astral Media** for \$43.1-million. The sale accounts for roughly 4.4% of the common equity; half of its stake in the Montreal broadcaster. Corus will hold onto its remaining 4.5% stake in Astral. The sale is part of a plan to reduce Corus's heavy debt load. This was seen as the first step in what is expected to be a series of aggressive measures, including job cuts and asset sales, designed to cut Corus's debt by between \$100-million and \$150-million... The **CRTC** is about to give Canadians access to televised House of Commons proceedings in the official language of their choice. The Commission believes the programming is vital to the public interest and an important part of the Canadian broadcast system and will, by Sept. 1, 2002, require all large and mid-size cablecos to distribute the House of Commons proceedings in the language of the majority as part of their basic service. It will also be mandatory to offer these proceedings in the official language of the minority by using secondary audio program (SAP) technology, and, depending on their capacity and on the technology they use, on a separate video channel. DTH distributors will have to offer the service in both official languages using separate video channels. Cable companies serving smaller communities will face a more lax series of rules... **Shaw Communications Inc.**, which lost \$147.4-million in the year ended Aug. 31, gave Chairman **JR Shaw** a 22% raise over the previous year. He received \$5.6-million, including \$900,000 in salary, a \$4.6-million bonus and \$49,511 in other compensation. CEO **Jim Shaw's** income, on the other hand, took a 60% dive in the last fiscal because

of Shaw's investment in the **@At Home Corp.** For the year ended Aug. 31, Jim Shaw's compensation was \$1,827,309 compared with \$4,545,693 in fiscal 2000. The shortfall was because of a bonus tied to the performance of @Home shares. Shaw Communications says the **Globe & Mail**, in yesterday's (Wednesday), erroneously reported that JR Shaw sold company shares. Shaw says no such sale happened. On September 25, Shaw and his family sold approximately 22,500 deeply subordinated debentures issued with a face value of \$2,250,000. They were acquired in 1999 at a cost of \$0.9613 per debenture and recently sold at \$0.9455. The Shaw family, directly and indirectly, continue to hold 8,724,404 Class A Voting Shares representing 76.52% of the Class A shares and 8,711,120 Class B Shares representing 3.95% of the Class B shares... A gas main break led to the evacuation of more than 100 radio and TV employees at the **CBC Broadcast Centre** in Regina earlier this week. Construction workers struck the line while digging at the site of a new TV and film soundstage next door. CBC listeners may have been tipped off during a local news update when, as the news reader ended her 90-second newscast, the fire alarm was clearly audible over the air.

RADIO: DAB boomboxes, walkman-style devices and DAB computer attachments are bound for the Canadian consumer market, skedded for early in the new year. **RadioShack** says it will be the first retail chain to carry a DAB line for the home and portable markets... Beginning today (Thursday), Ontario stations will begin receiving simplified formats for **Environment Canada's** basic public and extended forecasts. The changes will go national but implementation will be staggered. Letters have gone out to all stations but more information may be had from **Dejan Ristic**, Manager, Meteorological Operations, **Meteorological Services of Canada/Ontario Region** at 416/739.4386... **Golden West Broadcasting's** newest station, **SUN 102.3 (CHSN-FM) Estevan**, is on the air. The music station launched on the weekend... Toronto-based **Iceberg Media.com's** loss for the third quarter was \$1,260,000 (\$0.05 per share), compared to a loss in the third quarter of last year of \$1,145,000 (\$0.08 per share)... The **CRTC** has approved a multilingual AM station for Montreal. **CPAM Radio Union.com Inc.** will aim programming at Haitian, Latin-American and African audiences and will operate at 1610 with 1,000 watts day and night... **Paul Harvey, Jr.**, joined his mother and father in the **Radio Hall of Fame** Saturday night for his 25-year career writing his father's show, **The Rest of the Story**. The popular radio feature continues to be one of the top-five rated programs in US network radio... He brought us **Chickenman** and the **Tooth Fairy** radio features, and now **Dick Orkin** will be inducted into the **National Association of Broadcasters' Hall of Fame**. The long-time radio Personality/Creative Producer will be honored at the Radio Luncheon during **NAB2002** in Las Vegas, April 9... **CJFX Antigonish** raised \$38 thousand during its eighth annual **St. Martha's Hospital**

Foundation Celebrity Raffle. The money will be used at the regional hospital for the purchase of new equipment. CJFX collected, as it does every year, prizes from celebrities with local connections. Listeners pay a dollar for a chance at the prize of their choosing. CJFX has raised more than \$250-thousand for the hospital since beginning the annual event... The 45 Edmonton billboards show a man and a woman. The woman is topless save for a face covering each breast. It's a campaign for **K-Rock (CIRK-FM) Edmonton's** morning show – **"Terry Evans & A Couple of Boobs in the Morning"** – which drew 16 consumer complaints. **Advertising Standards Canada**, however, says it can't find anything wrong with the content. It decided that while the billboard may be distasteful to some, it doesn't contravene Clause 14 of the Advertising Standards Code (Gender Portrayal Guidelines).

SUPPLYLINES: Kelly Ashton, the **CJCS Stratford** weekend overnight Announcer, didn't let blindness get in way of pursuing his chosen career. And neither did **Pippin Technical Services** of Saskatoon, which supplied CJCS with the **Scott Digital System**. Pippin's **Bruce Wilkinson** provided CJCS PD **Eddie Matthews** and Ashton with some ideas to make it easier, including a braille printer which kicks out the program log. Ashton, a **Fanshawe College** broadcast program graduate, landed the four-month contract job at CJCS with the help of **Human Resources Development Canada's** opportunities program. The contract, however, expires in mid-December so Ashton will be looking to land elsewhere in the job he loves, on-air radio work... **Incospec Communications Inc.** of Laval has acquired **Dynastie Inc.**, noted for the repair and modification of electronic equipment in the telecommunications industry. **Incospec** says the acquisition gives it access to a larger inventory, a larger base of test equipment and more technical personnel... **Leitch Technology** has secured a multi-million dollar deal to provide systems integration company, Professional & Broadcast Digital Systems (PBDS), with server and routing technology to support a fully integrated television newsroom in Moscow for **Center TV**. Leitch also won two Emmys: for **Pioneering Developments in Shared Video-Data Storage Technoloy** and for **Pioneering Development in Digital Upconversion**... New President of **Dielectric Communications** of Raymond, Maine, is **Greg Langston**. He succeeds **Lewis Kling**, who moves to the SPX technology businesses... Calgary has a new recording studio. **Twisted Pair Sound**, an audio post production and recording studio, will specialize in audio production for the film, ad and new media industries. The new company was formed after **PROTRAX Digital** and **New Music Productions** merged. **Patrick Butler** is President/CEO of the new company.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: Paul Sweeney, **Twentieth Century Fox/TVA Television Distribution, Inc.**, Toronto; Terry Leggett, **CKVU-TV Vancouver**. Welcome!

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REVOLVING DOOR: Former **CHUM-FM/1050 CHUM Toronto** GM **Brad Phillips** has been appointed GM of **CKVU-TV Vancouver**, **CHUM Television's** newly-acquired property... **Steve Wyatt**, former ND at **BCTV Vancouver**, has been appointed Manager of B.C. Operations for **Global Television**. Wyatt takes over responsibility for **Global BC**, **CHEK-TV Victoria** and **CHBC Kelowna** effective December 1, 2001. He succeeds **Jack Tomik**, recently appointed President of **CanWest Media Sales**... In as ND at **BCTV Vancouver** is **Ian Haysom**. For the past three years, he's been ND at **CHEK-TV Victoria**... **Pam Leyland** has been appointed President of **Rawlco Radio Ltd.** She's been with Rawlco in Saskatoon in various positions since 1967, most recently as VP/GM of the Saskatoon stations and will remain in that city. **Gord Rawlinson** will retain his CEO position and remains President of **Rawlco Capital**. Rawlco Radio also operates city transit advertising in Saskatoon and Regina, and the TV cable system listings channel in Regina and The Battlefords... **Ann Boden**, President/CEO of **OMD Canada** in Toronto, will retire from those positions Dec. 31 but will remain as Chairman. Boden is a Past President of the **Broadcast Executives Society**, a Past President of the **Canadian Media Directors' Council**, Chairman of the **Canadian Outdoor Association** and Vice-Chairman of

BBM... Three new appointments at **BBM Bureau of Measurement**. They are **Pasquale (Pat) A. Pellegrini, Ph.D.** as VP Research; **Catherine Kelly** as VP Western Region; and, **Mark L. Johnston, C.A.** as VP/CFO... **Alan Brooks** is leaving **CFRN-TV Edmonton** next month after almost eight years. He served as both Program Manager and, for the past four years, as Director of News and Public Affairs... At **Corus Entertainment's Nelvana**, **Patrick Loubert** – one of the founders – returns as the head of an independent production company that will develop and produce programming exclusively for Nelvana for the next two years. **Michael Hirsh** will continue as Nelvana CEO, leading Corus' Content Division. **Scott Dyer** has been appointed Sr. VP in charge of production... **Wayne Charman**, who spent more than 21 years with the **CRTC**, is filling-in for **Bev Kirshenblatt**. Charman will coordinate and lead the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters'** TV sector activities until Kirshenblatt is back from maternity leave (expected to be next spring)...

LOOKING: **Cariboo Radio** in Quesnel has an opening for a Morning Drive Announcer... **CKPC AM/FM Brantford** has an opening for a news Anchor/Reporter...

RADIO: **Christopher Grossman's The Haliburton Broadcasting Group** has **CRTC** approval to sell a Sudbury property and to acquire a Parry Sound station. **Bob Bowland's CKLP-FM Parry Sound** goes into the Haliburton stable at a cost to Grossman of \$2,025,000. Going to **NewCap** from Haliburton is **CHNO-FM Sudbury**. Purchase price was \$2,843,000... **CJIB AM 940 Vernon** is now **KISS-FM, Today's Best Music**. The station, which first went on the air in Sept/47, flipped to FM on Thursday. It will

CHUM Radio Network

WINTER GAMES 2002

Join sports reporter Steve Keating as he brings your station format exclusive radio reports from the 2002 Winter Games.

Reports are offered daily from
December 3rd through February 25, 2002.

For more information, contact Liz Zlabis at (416) 926-4075 or lizz@chumradionetwork.com.

simulcast on AM/FM for three months... The **Arbitron** diaries aren't very popular with US broadcasters at the moment. The *Arbitron Radio Advisory Council* has passed another resolution – the fourth in as many meetings – on response rates. It isn't happy with Arbitron's efforts to increase the number of diaries that are returned. The resolution ask Arbitron to immediately test the effects of including an additional \$5.00 cash incentive for all returned diaries within the top 25 markets, where response rates have been hardest hit... **CFRB Toronto's Go Shopping Now** campaign, launched Oct. 7, has generated \$5-million in retail receipts. The contest earns one listener per week a tropical getaway vacation...

TV/FILM: **CHUM Television** has told the **CRTC** that there's no room for three new analog TV stations as proposed by **Torstar Corp.** In its 60-page intervention, CHUM further told the Commission that new stations in Toronto, Hamilton and Kitchener would be "devastating"; that they would do irreparable harm to it and to the sector in general. Despite strong revenue gains, CHUM's six Ontario stations have lost \$46-million since 1997. If new stations are licensed, CHUM says, it may lose more than \$10-million annually. When the Commission adds up the interventions (deadline is tonight, Thursday), it expects to find more than 1,000 media companies, industry groups and individuals registering support or opposition for applications filed by **Alliance Atlantis, Craig Broadcast Systems, CTV, Global, Rogers** and **Torstar**. All want one or more of the three locations. Other interventions came from the **Telemedia, Standard Broadcasting** and CHUM radio groups, all saying that the ad market can't support another player. The hearings begin Dec. 3 in Hamilton... Heritage Minister **Sheila Copps** says **CBC-TV** needs to co-operate and to form business partnerships with private broadcasters to prevent the extinction of Canadian content. Calling it "the way of the future," Copps says the public-private partnerships, already cropping up in some parts of the country, are the only way to stop the erosion of regional TV programming. Citing an arrangement between Quebec-based Television Quatre Saisons (TQS) and CBC, she pointed to CBC reporters based at TQS regional stations and calls the move innovative, something the CBC will have to pursue with other private networks... Still with the Heritage Minister, **Ms. Copps** – the first witness in an 18-month study of the broadcasting system by the *House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage* – says she'd be willing to scrap Canadian ownership rules for broadcasters as long as there is a way to guarantee domestic content will continue to be featured. "The benefits of having a Canadian ownership system in broadcasting to date has been to ensure that when decisions are made around broadcasting investment . . . those are decisions made in Canada by Canadians," she said. The Standing Committee launched its major review of the *Broadcasting Act* Nov. 8. The **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** will make an appearance before it on Dec. 11 in Ottawa... **Jan Pachul** has been

ordered to cease broadcasting in the Beaches area of Toronto, effective today (Thursday). Pachul had applied for a low-power community-oriented TV station (Channel 15) which the **CRTC**, by majority vote, denied in August of last year. The Commission filed its Mandatory Order with the Federal Court where, according to the rules, anyone who disobeys its order may be found guilty of contempt of court... Nov. 21 is *World Television Day*. The **UN General Assembly** proclaimed the day five years ago to commemorate Nov. 21/96, the date of the first World Television Forum. Member States are invited to observe the day by encouraging global exchanges of TV programming that focuses on issues such as peace, security, economic and social development... **Rogers Communications Inc.** wants four new Category 2 digital TV channels: The Baseball Channel, The Fishing Network; music service Big Pop TV; and, the Canadian Science Channel. The **CRTC** will hold a hearing Jan. 14 to consider multiple broadcasting applications, including Rogers'... During licence renewals for **VisionTV** and **The Weather Network**, the **CRTC** outlined its expectations as they relate to cultural diversity, closed captioning, and descriptive video. The **CRTC** expects specialty and pay TV licensees to improve representation of Canada's cultural diversity; to caption a minimum 90% of all programming; and, to provide audio description where appropriate and to acquire and broadcast the described versions of a program where possible. Look for these conditions to be imposed on all specialty and pay services undergoing licence renewal... **PrideVision**, the gay digital specialty service, now has both **Shaw Cable** and **Star Choice** ready to offer the channel as a stand-alone. It will go for between \$5.95 and \$7.95 per month, after the preview period ends in January...

GENERAL: **Corus Entertainment** – which owns 52 radio stations, **Nelvana, YTV, CMT** and **Discovery Kids** – has laid off 100 staff. The attempt to shave about \$10 million in annual costs came at the expense of jobs in most departments and was spread out across the country. Corus has 3,500 employees and warns there may be more layoffs. The only area not affected so far is radio but a company spokesman says there may be restructuring there over the next few months. Corus says the layoffs have nothing to do with the economic downturn, rather that Corus has been growing quickly and "finding synergies within the company to find cost savings"... Meantime, **Corus Entertainment** President/CEO **John Cassaday** addresses the **Broadcast Executives Society** in Toronto next Thursday, Nov. 22. For tickets, contact 416/413-3870... **BCE** says subscribers to services such as **sympatico.ca** will pay more for online services, particularly those which are wrapped into broader ones. For example, **Globeinvestor-GOLD**, the first of BCE's new convergence products, will be available for a fee within two weeks. It will offer a live stock ticker, stock alerts, analysis and reports by business writers, as well as financial news from **ROBTV** and the **Globe and Mail**... The last US bomb to hit Kabul struck the offices of **al-Jazeera**, the Qatar-based satellite channel,

and damaged the offices of the **BBC** and **The Associated Press**. It collapsed the building, leaving a crushed jumble of studio equipment on the first floor... While **CanWest Global** doubled revenues in the fourth quarter, the corporation's losses were more than double what they were in the same period last year. Canada's largest newspaper publisher (*Ed's note: That's still hard for me to grasp!*) lost just over \$37 million, or 21 cents a share, in the quarter ended Aug. 31, compared with a loss of \$16.2 million, or 11 cents a share, in the same period last year. Quarterly revenues were \$576.1 million, up from \$269.9 million. For the year, CanWest's profits fell to \$46.6 million from \$177.6 million in 2000. Combined revenues more than doubled to \$2.2 billion from just under \$1.1 billion. The slumping economy affected ad revenues at **Global Television** and **Southam** newspapers... Outstanding tributes continue coming **Jim Munson's** way. Munson, you will recall, is the former **CTV News** Reporter based in Ottawa who was laid off a few weeks back after 21 years with the network. Friends, family, politicians, acquaintances and people he has never met hug him, phone, write letters, and send him e-mails – more than 300 so far – from the likes of the Prime Minister, Foreign Affairs Minister **John Manley**, **Pam Wallin**, **Lloyd Robertson**, and **Harvey Kirck**. But the messages he treasures most are from people he's worked with -- technicians, camera and sound people, editors, and secretaries. They were the first to call and write, he says, with notes such as *"We always did that little extra for you, Jim"* and *"What you did for CTV is important, but it's you we're calling. We're calling you because you're Jim."* It's

expected Munson will be landing on his feet shortly... The **Dick Smyth** Roast and Retirement Bash in Toronto last weekend was a hit. Organized by **Citytv Toronto** Anchor/Reporter/Booth Announcer **Mark Dailey** and **MOJO Radio (CFYI) Toronto** News Anchor **Evelyn Macko**, the event drew over 100 people from as far away as Washington, Ottawa, Calgary and Milwaukee. Roasters were **Jon Belmont**, **Fred Ennis**, **Al Gibson**, **Tom Rivers**, **Larry Silver**, and **Dave Taylor**...

EDITOR'S NOTE: **Broadcast Dialogue** is one of more than 422-thousand **Rogers Cable** Internet customers who will have to change their e-mail address from the old @home domain. For the time being, kindly address e-mail to us at publisher@broadcastdialogue.com. Technical and financial problems have long been apparent at **At Home**, which operates as **Excite-at-Home**. On top of several service outages, the Internet Service Provider has racked up a debt of more than \$1 billion. **Shaw** and **Cogeco** customers, who once used @home.com are either now @shaw or @cogeco. And so it will be with us (eventually); an @rogers.com address.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: **Ross McCreath**, **Canadian Communications Foundation**, Toronto, and **Brian McGlynn**, **ZyCast Inc.**, Toronto. Welcome!

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Wednesday, November 21, 2001

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EDITOR'S NOTE: *Broadcast Dialogue* is being sent a day early (Wednesday) because of family bereavement. Visitation is today and funeral services will be held Thursday morning in Toronto for **Mrs. Kirstine Christensen**, the publisher's mother. The office will be closed today (Wednesday) and tomorrow, and will re-open Friday. *Broadcast Dialogue's* weekly newsletter will resume its usual delivery schedule next week, November 29.

TV/FILM: **CTV**, while withdrawing its application for two of three potential new channels in southern Ontario, also urged the **CRTC** to refuse any new licences in markets it says are already saturated. The network says its initial applications would stretch resources at its existing stations, **CKCO-TV Kitchener** and **CFTO-TV Toronto**. Further, said CTV, the withdrawal reflects a worsening economic condition and predictions of a sharp decline in conventional TV revenue. Still in the competition for three licences – which include Hamilton – are **Craig Broadcasting**, **Alliance Atlantis Communications**, **Torstar**, **Rogers Communications** and **CanWest Global Communications**. Hearings begin in Hamilton Dec. 3... **Alliance Atlantis** will cut its TV drama spending to pay down its debt and invest in broadcasting, says CEO **Michael MacMillan**. Alliance Atlantis, one of Canada's largest film and

TV producers and distributors, posted weaker second-quarter profits as a result of increased interest costs. Equity accounting losses from the company's 33% interest in **Headline Media Group** also contributed to the drop in net earnings to \$6.6-million from \$9.6-million. Earnings per share fell to 17¢ from 30¢. The declining earnings came despite an 11.5% increase in revenue for the second quarter. Analysts said the decision to reduce spending on low-margin drama shows will free up about \$200-million a year for debt repayment and the funding of Alliance's money-losing startup specialty channels. MacMillan said he expects the company's startup specialty channels to lose \$19-million to \$20-million in fiscal 2002... **Tony Burman**, Executive Director - News and Current Affairs at **CBC-TV** – speaking in a debate about TV coverage of Sept. 11 at the *Newsworld* conference in Barcelona – said the US coverage of the crisis had failed to take account of the international perspective. “It's depressing,” he said, “to see the jingoism which is lamentably part of the culture and spirit of the coverage.” Burman also said US networks regarded the attacks on Afghanistan as a football match with Washington as the home team. Comparing **BBC World** coverage of the war with that of the US networks, he said they appeared to describe “two different wars”... **Corus Entertainment** has won **CRTC** approval to acquire **Lifestyle Television**-owned **WTN**, the Women's Television Network. It was back on March

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8 that **Moffat Communications** made the sale transaction with Corus. Value of the transaction is \$205 million... **Craig Broadcast Systems** has won approval for a Category 2 specialty service – **The Western Channel**... **CTV** also has approval for a Category 2 service. It will be called **Soap Opera TV**... The **Banff Television Festival** will present its **Global Television Outstanding Achievement Award** to **A&E Television Networks** at its 23rd annual event in Banff June 9-14. Launched in 1984, A&E Television Networks, which include **A&E**, **The History Channel**, **The Biography Channel** and **History International**, now reach more than 235 million homes in 60 countries and 20 languages... The **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** is urging TV members to write the **CRTC** regarding the impact of DTH. CAB is drafting its submission regarding carriage of local stations by DTH undertakings in smaller markets but solicits individual submissions so that the Commission is better informed about local broadcasters' particular situations/concerns. Local broadcasters should provide information on the impact of DTH in their markets, and how existing DTH policy has impeded their ability to meet local programming commitments and other regulatory requirements. CAB also asks local broadcasters outline what local and community services they provide. The deadline for filing comments is Nov. 30... The US **Federal Communications Commission** (FCC) has modified some of its DTV transition rules to enable more broadcasters to get on the air with digital and to help speed DTV transition. A more graduated approach is now in place. Broadcasters now need only send digital signals during prime time. Originally, they had to send a digital signal concurrently with analog. American broadcasters will also be allowed to build lower-powered, and therefore less expensive, DTV facilities. The FCC says the new rules may remain in effect until 85% of viewers can receive digital signals in their respective markets... **Star Ray TV**, the 1-kw east-end Toronto UHF pirate TV station ordered off the air, continues to defy the **CRTC**. Further, 47 year old **Ray Pachul**, the unlicensed community broadcaster, defends his access to the air. So far, Pachul's had two licence rejections since 1998 and subsequent cease-and-desist warnings from the Commission. Why is the CRTC opposed? Although he is content to be an over-the-air TV operation, CRTC rules require local channels get mandatory coverage on basic cable. Cable would cover the whole city. Pachul says he's an east-end broadcaster only. Beyond that, Pachul says, Commissioners are backing cronies who now have a licence to print money by simulcasting US programs. He says he doesn't think the authorities will actually try to physically shut him down but he is anticipating a court order accusing him of contempt (for refusing to obey the CRTC cease order). When it comes, he says, he'll stall it indefinitely with appeals.

RADIO: A **CRTC** public hearing in Montreal Monday and Tuesday heard, among other applications, **Astral Media's** request to acquire **Telemedia's** 17 stations in Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. **Astral Radio** President **Jacques Parisien** told the Commission that the deal must be approved for the good of the French radio

industry if hopes to compete with newly-converged TV and newspaper competitors. He's concerned about the current state of Quebec radio, particularly the ability of French AM stations to remain competitive. Astral already owns nine FM stations, including the eight-station **Radio Energie** network, and three AM stations. It also has a 50% stake in **Radiomédia**, which operates two Quebec AM stations and the province's leading radio news and sports networks... Also on the docket was an application for an English-language FM licence at Lac-Brome, Quebec, which would serve Sutton, Cowansville and Mansonville... The **Commission** has approved the sale of **Tri-Co Broadcasting** in Cornwall to **Corus Radio**. Purchase price for the stations – **CJUL (The Jewel)**, **CFLG-FM (Variety 104)** and **CJSS-FM (The Blaze)** -- was \$4,041,000... **CHUM Ltd.** is set to become a major shareholder of **Iceberg Media.com**. The deal involves Iceberg acquiring **Bonzaroo.com** and \$1.5-million of CHUM Radio advertising on CHUM's 28 stations. While the deal is subject to stock exchange approval, Iceberg intends to issue 5,250,000 common shares (16.5%) to CHUM. Bonzaroo.com is an Internet radio portal with over 300 Internet channels in all major music categories. **Standard Broadcasting** and **Newfoundland Capital** (NewCap) will also each own 5,250,000 common shares, or 16.5% of Iceberg. Bonzaroo.com has been under development by CHUM for the past two years and features proprietary technology... Many radio station operators want their signals to include RBDS data, particularly in light of new cars equipped with RBDS-capable FM receivers now being sold in Canada. **Industry Canada** is requiring stations to file applications to amend their Broadcasting Certificates to add the 57 kHz RBDS subcarrier, and the **CRTC** requires a notification letter to the Secretary-General if the station is only transmitting program-related data on its RBDS subcarrier. The process for filing your application with Industry Canada is the same as the one required for adding an SCMO subcarrier... There's a renewed spirituality for many Americans who are now seeking comfort in Christian music. **The Christian Music Trade Organization** says sales spiked in the week following Sept. 11, up 33% from the previous week, and remained an average of 23% higher in the three weeks. Christian music sales this year are 9% ahead of last year.

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REVOLVING DOOR: There have been a number of layoffs at **Corus Entertainment** radio and TV stations the past week, too many for Broadcast Dialogue to know about or to report. However, here are some of the changes: At **Energy Radio**

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(**C I N G**) **Hamilton/Burlington, Wayne Williams** (middays) and overnighter **Richard Correll** were let go. Hamilton GM **Dean Sinclair** has been re-posted to London while **Hal Blackadar** will take over GM duties at the **Y108/CHML/Energy** cluster. **Bob Fisher**, GM at the Oshawa Corus stations, is the new GSM in London. **Scott Armstrong** is PD in London and **Kent Guy** will lead the promotions department. At **Mojo Radio (CFYI) Toronto**, **Debbie Dixon**, **Evelyn Macko**, **Iain Grant**, **Rick Lyjak** and **Nicole Markowich** are gone. At **Edge 102 (CFNY-FM) Toronto**, **John Osborne** was released,

and gone at **FM96 (CFPL) London** are PD **Derek Aubrey**, GSM **Murray Armstrong**, **Brian Nuttall**, **Wayne McLean**, and Promotion Director **Tricia Freriks**. Corus's **CHEX-TV Peterborough** cut five jobs while its Oshawa operation – to be closed – laid off 18 employees (seven management and sales and 10 unionized jobs). The CHEX-TV Peterborough jobs lost include vacancies, one in production, and two in the news department, including Anchor **Rob Wozny**. CHEX-TV will run its late night news package from **CKWS-TV Kingston**. Meantime, at CKWS-TV, two people have been laid off and an unknown number have accepted buyout packages. At Corus's **CKGY Red Deer**, PD **Brent Brooks** has been let go. **Brent Young** will add PD duties of CKGY to his existing duties as PD of **CIZZ Red Deer**. It is important to note that the affected Corus people we've heard from say the lay-off news was broken to them by management with "class, graciousness, sensitivity, and integrity"... **Lynne Munro** has been appointed National VP, Promotion at Winnipeg-based **CanWest Global Communications**. Ms. **Munro** moves to CanWest from her similar duties with the **Southam** group of newspapers, now owned by CanWest... **Christian Hall** is new Assistant PD at **CFOX Vancouver**. He retains his MD/APD duties at **ROCK 101 Vancouver**.

LOOKING: **The Beat FM**, Vancouver's newest radio station, seeks staff in many areas of responsibility... Another Western Canadian radio station is also updating its files. See the ads in this edition. Also, be sure to check www.broadcastdialogue.com regularly for new job postings.

SIGN-OFFS: Broadcast pioneer **Joe Chesney**, 82, died Nov. 10 at Langley. He began in radio at **CFJC Kamloops** in 1946. Later it was a move to **CJAV Port Alberni**, then **CKNW New Westminster**. He founded **CJJC Langley** in 1963... **Roch Demers**, born in 1930 and who died Nov. 15, began in broadcasting in 1945 at **CKRN Rouyn**. By 1981, he was Vice-Chairman of the the Board of **Telemedia Communications**. Between CKRN and Telemedia, Demers was a technician at **CKOY Ottawa**, then Chief Engineer at **CKVM Ville Marie**. Some of his greatest accomplishments in engineering followed his appointment in 1952 as Chief Engineer in charge of construction at **CFCL Timmins**. Four years later, he built and launched **CFCL-TV Timmins**. A year later, it was **CFCL-TV1 Kapuskasing**, one of the first TV rebroadcasting stations. In 1989, Demers was inducted into the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters Broadcast Hall of Fame**.

GENERAL: Good retail news from south of the border. US retail sales soared 7.1% in October – a record. Consumers snapping up zero-interest car deals didn't hurt, particularly after the terrorist attacks stopped the economy cold. The **US Commerce Department** reported the gain was led by a record 26.4% surge in auto sales. The overall gain was almost triple what economists had been expecting... **CBC** Reporter **Neil MacDonald** and his Cameraman spent a few hours at a Tehran police station last week undergoing questioning after covering an anti-government demonstration at a football game. They were held for about four hours and their taped material was erased... The Canadian media strategy and negotiation company, **Media Experts iTV Lab**, has launched a Web site to familiarize the ad community with interactive TV space. It is www.itvlab.tv.

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Wednesday, November 29, 2001

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Page One of Three

REVOLVING DOOR: Toronto Communications lawyer **Charles Dalfen** has been named Chair of the **CRTC**. Dalfen, a Vice-Chair of the Commission during the 70s, has also been a Deputy Minister in the British Columbia government and a legal adviser to the federal government. **Prime Minister Chretien** made the announcement yesterday (Wednesday). The appointment has been heralded by the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters**. CAB President/CEO **Michael McCabe** says "... Dalfen comes to this position well-versed in the industry issues, challenges and trends"... **Trina McQueen**, CTV's President/COO, says she will step down from that position and take up new but short-term duties as Deputy Chair of the company. The new job – a six-month term – begins Jan. 7. McQueen, who says she's ready for less excitement in her life, plans on retirement by next summer. Her current job will be split into two: **NetStar** and CTV. NetStar, which includes specialty channels **TSN**, **RDS**, **OLN** and **Discovery**, **Dome Productions** and the digital channels, will be overseen by NetStar President **Rick Brace**. **Ivan Fecan** will serve as acting CTV President while a search is conducted for a successor to McQueen... **Donald Bastien** has been appointed Sr. VP and GM at **CFCF-TV Montreal**. Bastien had been Sr. VP of Sales for CTV... **Dennis Dunlop** has been appointed VP/GM of **CTV Saskatchewan**. He'll be responsible for **CFQC-TV Saskatoon**, **CKCK-TV Regina**, **CICC-TV/CKOS-TV Yorkton** and **CIPA-TV/CKBI-TV Prince Albert**, the first time the CTV stations in Saskatchewan have been brought under common management. Dunlop had been VP/GM of CKCK and CICC/CKOS. He retains his GSM responsibilities for CTV Saskatchewan... **Michael Prud'homme** returns to Sudbury as GM of **NewCap's** recently acquired **Z103 (CHNO-FM)**. He had been on sabbatical in Florida... **Drew Keith**, ex **CHFI/KISS 92 Toronto MD**, is new PD for **Haliburton Broadcasting's CHMS Bancroft/CKLP Parry Sound/CFBG Bracebridge**. He's based at Bracebridge... **Nikki O'Brien**, ex of **MediaGroup West**, is now a TV & radio AE at **BBM's** Vancouver office... **May Lam** has been appointed Marketing and Promotions Director for the **Rogers Greater Vancouver Radio Group (97 KISS-FM/104.9 XFM/News 1130)**. She will also be consulting for **Star-FM Fraser Valley** and **Mountain FM Squamish**... **Lisa Eaton** is new Client Service VP at Markham-based **Nielsen Media Research (Canada)**. Eaton previously worked at **BBM** and was most

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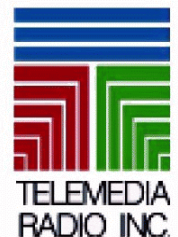
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recently VP/GM at **Jupiter Media Metrix...** **Connie Bernardi** is new MD at **Xfm (CIOX-FM) Ottawa/Smiths Falls**. Her most recent gig was as part of the morning show at **The Bear (CKQB-FM) Ottawa...** **680News (CFTR) Toronto** Legal Affairs Specialist **Rosalind Robertson** has left the station for a communications job at the Ontario Ministry of Community & Social Services... **John Wehrstein**, former Government Relations Officer for the **Ontario Dental Association** in Toronto – and who had worked in news at **CKDK Woodstock** and **CFOS Owen Sound** – has joined **CKPC AM/FM Brantford** as a broadcast journalist.

SIGN-OFF: **Wade Custer**, 26, in Saskatoon after a car crash. Custer was an Announcer at **CKOM Saskatoon**.

LOOKING: **The Beat FM Vancouver**, about to launch a new urban format, seeks all kinds of talent. See the ad in this edition... **The New VR (CKVR-TV) Barrie** is looking for an experienced director of news programming.

TV/FILM: **Corus Entertainment** CEO **John Cassaday**, in a letter to the **CRTC**, says 60 job cuts at the **Women's Television Network (WTN)** – 42 in Winnipeg and 18 jobs in Toronto – were unavoidable and part of a broader restructuring that could produce even more layoffs as Corus tries to become more efficient. The WTN cuts came shortly after 100 other job reductions, announced earlier this month. Corus closed WTN's office in Winnipeg and reduced the staff of 23 in Toronto to a handful of positions. Cassaday's letter to the Commission followed CRTC correspondence asking Corus how it could fulfil WTN's mandate to provide quality programming while cutting jobs. Further, the commission wanted to know why the company ignored its recommendation that WTN maintain a strong western presence... So far, only 2% of Canadian homes are accessing the new digital channels despite a 20% (2.2 million homes) penetration rate. Media and ad execs in Toronto got the news at a **Broadcast Research Council of Canada** luncheon. **Nielsen Media Research (Canada)** says an estimated 100,000 Canadians are now watching a digital channel during any given minute during the broadcast day. But, according to **BBM**, weekend viewing doubles. The long-term financial health of the new services is expected to become clear in February or March after the free preview period ends... The **CRTC** has accepted the **CTV NewsNet** and **Le Canal Nouvelles (LCN)** approaches to on-air news presentation, with some modifications. While the Commission says the two must air a minimum two-minute headline news segment every 15 minutes, both NewsNet and LCN will be allowed to broadcast for longer than fifteen minutes without airing the

two-minute update. This leaves the door open for them to, in the Commission's words, provide "... *them the programming flexibility they say they need to remain important news sources for Canadians*"... **CBC** Ombudsman **David Bazay** says the controversial **National Town Hall**, broadcast Sept. 19, was biased. There was an outpouring of audience fury in both Canada and the US over what they saw as a grossly one-sided show aired just eight days after the terrorist attacks. Bazay says the Town Hall didn't violate CBC journalism policy but that there were major weaknesses, e.g. "*There's no doubt that a strong current of anti-war, and at times anti-American sentiment ran through the studio audience...*" Further, Bazay said, angry viewer reaction raised legitimate questions including: "*How could CBC TV News describe a program built around comments and questions of a studio audience in downtown Toronto as national?*"... The **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council (CBSC)** says **CKCO-TV Kitchener** didn't breach any Codes when it broadcast a news item about a man's disappearance. The item followed a telecast of an earlier news piece that had reported charges laid against him for possession and distribution of child pornography. That same report had video of the man's pub as a scene-setter. A complainant alleged that CKCO shouldn't have ID'ed the pub because it wasn't relevant to the story. Details on this and other CBSC decisions may be found at www.cbcs.ca... **Cinar Corp.** has cuts 54 jobs in Montreal. The children's animation company saw the loss of 32 corporate and 22 studio/animation jobs... Britain has shut down foreign TV ownership, slamming the door on the likes of **Rupert Murdoch**. A ban on non-European ownership of its terrestrial broadcasters will remain in place, principally to stop US companies. British newspapers had recently reported that the government wanted to scrap Britain's law on foreign media ownership to allow the likes of **News Corp.** and **AOL Time Warner** to buy terrestrial TV stations... **Bell ExpressVu** celebrated the reaching of one-million new customers for its Direct-to-Home satellite service yesterday (Wednesday) in Toronto... The **Project for Excellence in Journalism**, a New York think tank, thinks US network morning have partly become "*a kind of sophisticated infomercial*." Its report is based on a study of **ABC**, **CBS** and **NBC** morning show content. The group says if one takes away the local news inserts and commercials, one-third of morning show content is selling something, be it a book, a compact disc, a movie or another TV show. Responding to the suggestion, folks at the morning shows say the study is simplistic and overlooks the advantages of corporate affiliations.

RADIO: **Howard Stern's** term at **Q107 (CILQ) Toronto** is up. The show was pulled last week, a decision taken by the Toronto **Corus Radio** operation. **JJ Johnson**, GM at **Corus's** Toronto

radio stations, said it was a restructuring issue, not ratings. He says Stern was dropped because Q107 is moving to a full classic rock format with a focus strictly on Toronto. Succeeding the Stern show will be PM Drive Announcer **John Derringer**... The **CRTC** has denied **Bill Evanov's** application to air more than 50% hits on **CKDX-FM Newmarket**. The request was based on Evanov's assertion that the station operates at a competitive disadvantage because of strong Toronto signals. To compete, said the application, the Dancing Oldies format – using 70s, 80s and 90s music – needed access to the large pool of disco hits... Boring callers to talk shows may be about to lose their thrill. A Canadian-designed phone exchange can identify repeat callers by their voices, and hang up on them. The **Mitel** software builds up a digital voiceprint of every caller. The person manning the phones can then decide whether to add callers to an exclusion list. One station says its producers have hundreds of people who they know never to let near the air... **CIKR-FM (K-Rock) Kingston** has **CRTC** approval to bump power to 24,000 watts from the current 4,200 watts. That means K-Rock's signal will get well into Brockville to the East and Belleville to the West... Also at Kingston, the Commission has also approved **Corus Radio's** application to reduce power at **CFMK-FM Kingston** from 50,000 to 14,000 watts... The **CRTC** has approved the **Telemedia Radio (West)** application to flip **CICF Vernon** to FM. It will get 105.7... **CJAY-FM Calgary** has been given **CRTC** approval to reduce power from 74,000 to 44,000 watts. The **Standard Radio** station will also increase the height of its transmitter by 13.5 meters... In Vancouver, **CHQM-FM** has approval to hike power from 49,000 watts to 53,000 watts. As with CJAY-FM Calgary, the **CHUM** station is also able to increase tower height by 13.6 meters... It's entirely possible that the **Juno Awards** may soon be re-named, though no one's talking about the reasoning. As the story goes, the name change would become effective in April... It was 30 years ago that **AccuWeather, Inc.** first came on the scene. The self-described "world's largest and best-known commercial weather forecasting company" had as its first client, **WARM-AM Wilkes-Barre, PA**. How appropriate are those call letters?

GENERAL: **Conrad Black**-owned **Hollinger** has sold all its shares in **CanWest Global Communications** for \$261 million to **RBC Capital Markets**... **CBC** Radio and TV Technicians have voted overwhelmingly in favour of a strike, setting the stage for a walkout – or a lockout – by as early as this week. Eighty-six per cent of the 16-hundred technicians who voted backed a strike... After years of losing thousands of customers to direct-to-home (DTH) satellite TV providers, cable companies will – beginning in the new year – be launching a major counteroffensive. The battleground is the launching of VOD (Video on demand). The technology lets a viewer order a movie at any time of day. The films are stored

digitally and are sent to TV screens through set-top boxes connected to high-speed Internet and cable lines. Viewers may stop, pause, rewind and fast-forward at will. DTH cannot provide the dedicated two-way lines for VOD... **Shaw Communications** aims to raise US\$800-million through debt securities and preferred shares, and has filed with US regulators. The money will be used for debt repayment, general corporate purposes and working capital. Meanwhile, **Moody's Investors Service** cautions that Shaw doesn't have the flexibility to take on more debt. New York-based Moody downgraded US\$2.1-billion of Shaw debt, amid concerns that Shaw has been unable to cut debt over the past 18 months... Tomorrow, Nov. 30, is the final day for nominations for one of four **Canadian Women in Communications (CWC)** Annual Awards: *Woman of the Year*, *Trailblazer Award*, *Mentor Award*; and, *Employer of the Year*. It's also the final day to apply for the *Jeanne Sauve Professional Development Program*. Electronic submission of nominations may be made through the CWC Web site: www.cwc-afc.com.

SUPPLYLINES: Montreal-based **Matrox Video Products Group** has released the **Matrox RTMac** with **Adobe® Premiere®** realtime editing bundle for Apple's Power Mac G4 line. The combination provides an array of professional realtime editing features. The Matrox Flex 3D architecture of RTMac exploits the graphics performance of Matrox accelerator technology to provide broadcast-quality effects and 32-bit, uncompressed, animated graphics in a dual-stream, native-DV editing environment.

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