

Dialogue BROADCAST

The Best Broadcast Briefing in Canada

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Phone: (705) 484-0752 * E-Mail: publisher@broadcastdialogue.com * Web site: www.broadcastdialogue.com

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Volume 12, Number 3

Page One of Three

TV/FILM: Actor **Paul Gross** lamented the “*unholy mess*” of Canadian TV during remarks to an **ACTRA** conference in Toronto Tuesday. He said Canada will never have a robust national culture on a purely volunteer basis and that candidates in the federal election campaign should be challenged on where they stand. But noting that the **Paul Martin** government had restored **Canadian Television Fund** levels and that the **CRTC** has agreed to review the decline in prime time drama content, he expressed some “*guarded optimism*.” He was also happy that the Commission had offered more ad minutes per hour to broadcasters that increase home-grown dramas in their schedules. However, Gross said domestic broadcasters and producers have benefitted greatly from tax-dollar subsidies and the right to simulcast US programs but that they've forgotten their civic responsibility, the obligation to tell Canadian stories too... **CTV** has launched **CTV HD West**, a new high-def feed broadcast across the country by **Bell ExpressVu** (channel 650). The new service is identical to the analog signal from **CTV British Columbia** (Vancouver) in that it presents HD content when available and digitally up-converted content for all other programming... The **CRTC** has approved the sale of **PrideVision** – owned by **Headline Media Group** – to a numbered company wholly-owned and controlled by **William Craig**. He'll own 80.2% of the voting shares while **PrideVision Inc.** will retain 9.9%. The balance of shares are held by a number of individuals. Sale price was \$1.5 million... The **Canadian Television Fund** (CTF) has \$11 million more for this year's English-language drama applications, up from the \$85.1 million announced early last month. on May 12. The funding came from two areas – reserves and an English-language drama special initiative.

RADIO: **Z103.5 (CIDC-FM)** **Toronto/Orangeville** has been presented with the **Toronto Crime Stoppers** President's Award for being the media sponsor for the School Crime Stoppers Program, the donation of PSAs, interviews on the morning show, and the sponsorship of a Crime Stoppers vehicle... The **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council** has found **CHOI-FM Sillery** violated Clause 9 (Radio Broadcasting) of the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters**



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Trumar Communications Inc. is looking for a Program Director for Classical 96.3 FM in Toronto. The position requires an individual with experience as a program director at a major market radio station. This person will lead an already successful programming and on-air team to even greater heights. The individual should be comfortable programming classical music and be computer literate. The position will also require working closely with the sales, marketing and promotions departments, creating new tactics for achieving revenue and rating objectives.

If you have the extensive radio experience, positive attitude and strong leadership skills required to join this successful team of broadcasters please contact, in confidence:

John van Driel
Classical 96.3 FM
550 Queen Street East - Suite 205
Toronto, ON M5A 1V2
Fax: 416-367-1742
E-mail: jvandriel@cfmx.com

Only those applications chosen for interviews will be contacted.

(CAB) *Code of Ethics*. That clause obligates broadcasters to ensure no unduly sexually explicit material is aired. Morning show Host **Jeff Fillion** got into a conversation with other members of the morning crew about misleading sex content in women's magazines – how they always have a “big sex teaser” on the cover which generally doesn't follow through in the article. To support his point, Fillion provided made-up headlines which were sexually explicit. A listener characterized it as “aural pornography”. For the full text, click [here](#) ... There's speculation that **Viacom's Infinity Radio** may be on the selling block after its President, **Mel Karmazin**, left the company this week. Chief Executive **Sumner Redstone** said he was considering various options for the big US radio player. Other insiders are guessing that Karmazin himself, with some help from private investors or even another media firm, may try to buy the No. 2 US radio (about 185 stations) company. Infinity Radio generates slightly more than \$1 billion in annual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization. Redstone said he would take a “hard look” at the radio assets and that: “*there is no sacred cow*” at Viacom.

GENERAL: A coalition of groups – which include **CanWest Global**, **CHUM**, **CTV**, the **Globe and Mail**, the **Canadian Newspaper Association**, **RTNDA Canada** and **RTNDA International** – is intervening in a case pending at the **Ontario Court of Appeal**. The **Washington Post** is appealing an initial judge's ruling that a plaintiff can bring a proceeding in the Ontario courts over an article published in the newspaper seven years ago and available only since then through the paper's fee-based electronic archives. At the time the original articles were published in January, 1997, the plaintiff was employed by the **UN** and lived in Africa. Three years later, he took up residence in Ontario... **Cossette Communication Group** has launched a new subsidiary to create TV shows, magazines and video games as platforms to showcase products. Cossette says **Ricochet Branded Content Inc.** will create the likes of a TV series that “*extols the virtues*” of a luxury car or a fashion magazine exclusively featuring products from a single retailer. Video games will be a key focus, too, because 15-25s are more likely to get consumer influences that way (as opposed to newspapers or TV). Cossette is Canada's largest marketing company, but isn't the first to establish a subsidiary to focus on branded content. Early last year, Toronto-based **Taxi** created a division called **chokolat**, but the company has yet to announce any branded content deals... Winners at the BC Regional **Radio-Television News Directors Association of Canada** convention held on the weekend at Prince George are, for **TELEVISION**: Bert Cannings Award (Best Newscast) **CFJC-TV7 Kamloops** (Small Market), **CHBC-TV Kelowna** (Medium Market), and **BCTV News Burnaby** (Large Market) – Charlie Edwards Award (Spot News) **CTV British Columbia**, Vancouver – Dan McArthur Award (In-depth/ Investigative) **Citytv Vancouver** – Dave Rogers (Feature) **CTV British Columbia, Vancouver** – Gord Sinclair (Special Events) **CHBC TV Kelowna** (Medium Market) and **BCTV News, Vancouver** (Large Market) – Ron Laidlaw (Continuing Coverage) **CHBC-TV Kelowna** – Sam Ross (Editorial) **Citytv Vancouver** – Web Site Award - **CBC Vancouver**. Winners for **RADIO** are: Byron MacGregor Award (Best Newscast) **CKBZ Kamloops** (Small Market), **CKOV Kelowna** (Medium Market), and **CBC Vancouver** (Large Market) – Charlie Edwards Award (Spot News) **CBC Vancouver** – Dan McArthur Award (In-depth/ Investigative) **CBC Vancouver** – Dave Rogers Award (Feature) **CBC Victoria** (Medium Market) and **CBC Vancouver** (Large

Want a Head Start on Seeing the Articles and the Features and the NAB Photo Spreads in the June Broadcast Dialogue?

Just click right [HERE](#) and you'll be taken to our Home Page!



Market) – Gord Sinclair Award (Special Events) **Standard Radio, Kelowna** (Medium Market) and **CKNW Vancouver** (Large Market) – Ron Laidlaw Award (Continuing Coverage) **CKOV Kelowna** – and, Sam Ross (Editorial) **CBC Victoria**.

REVOLVING DOOR: **Phil King**, until now the Sr. VP of Programming at **TSN**, has been appointed as President. He succeeds **Keith Pelley** who left the **CTV**-owned specialty channel last November.

SIGN-OFF: **John Osbourne Graham**, 78, in Goderich, Ontario. Osbourne co-founded Country music radio station **CFGM Richmond Hill** (now **MOJO Toronto**) and later, **Classic Communications Cable** also in Richmond Hill.

LOOKING: **Classical 96.3 Toronto** seeks a PD. See the ad on Page One, then click on the e-mail address to apply (or to seek clarification). Other jobs we've heard about this week include: **Family Channel Toronto** - Programming Assistant; **Astral Media Radio Montreal** - Technician; **Les Chaînes Télé Astral Montreal** - Coordonnateur(trice) acquisitions et doublage, Z; **Astral Television Networks Toronto** - Graphic Artist; **CTV Toronto** - Systems Administrator Intermediate; **MCTV Sault St. Marie** - Anchor Photojournalist; **CFTO News Toronto** - ENG Editor; **CTV Winnipeg** - Part-time VTR Operator; **CBC Montreal** - TV Producer News; **CBC Toronto** - Media Librarian and Announcer-Host-Anchor and Producer; **CBC Calgary** - ENG Editor; **Corus Entertainment Toronto** - Technical Support Specialist; **CKWS TV/OLDIES 960/963 JOE FM Kingston** - Junior Account Executive and a Senior Account Executive; **Y108/CING Hamilton** - Program Director; **Digital Adventure Calgary** - Director - Strategic Planning & Administration; and, **Rogers Media Winnipeg** - Promotions Director.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: **Bruce Davis, CKLZ-FM (Power 104)/CKOV Kelowna**. Welcome!

EDITOR'S NOTE: We've got most of the station logos now for the **Summer Broadcast Directory**. Many thanks for getting them to us. As we do our final checks, though – and you're one of the stragglers – don't be surprised if you get a panic call asking for them – **IMMEDIATELY!** Colour placement of your station's logo in the magazine directory is part of your annual subscription price for the newsletter. Non-subscribing stations still get a great deal, though. Just \$125 per colour logo. If you have affiliates who aren't getting the weekly Broadcast Dialogue but you want their listings given prominence, you may wish to give me a call at 705/484-0752.

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Thursday, June 10, 2004

Volume 12, Number 4

Page One of Four

GENERAL: The *Canadian Association of Broadcasters*, the *Canadian Cable Television Association*, the *Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association*, and the *Information Technology Association of Canada* got together in Ottawa late last week and took a hard look at the future of copyright reform in Canada. Joining the lobbyists were federal decision-makers from *Industry Canada*, *Canadian Heritage*, *International Trade*, the *CRTC* and the *Copyright Board*. Discussions included how best to craft legislation dealing with technological protection measures and digital rights management systems (in an online environment), and the scope and the practicality of new rights in the online and digital world. Issues included rights in broadcast signals, ownership of audiovisual works, Internet Service Provider liability, and the need for ephemeral and transfer of format exemptions for radio broadcasters...

Conservative candidate (Ontario riding of Vaughan) **Joe Spina** wants to scrap funding for the **CBC**, saying the "*Communist Broadcasting Corporation*" serves as a mouthpiece for the federal Liberals. Tory officials say they have no plans to cut CBC funding or terminate the bank-rolling of the public broadcaster. CBC, to the approval of polled Canadians, gets almost \$1 billion annually in taxpayer money... **Rogers Communications** says it will issue 9.5 million non-voting shares to raise about \$250 million in a bought deal with **RBC Capital Markets**. Rogers says proceeds from the offering of class-B shares, at \$26.20 apiece, will be used for general corporate purposes... In Saskatoon this weekend, the national convention of the **Radio-Television News Directors of Canada**. The President's Banquet Saturday night will honour **CBC's Tony Burman**, the recipient of the 2004 RTNDA President's Award... Winners at the **Western Association of Broadcasters** 70th Annual convention last weekend at Kananaskis were: Community Service Award for Radio – **CKBI Prince Albert**; The Community Service Award for Television – **Global TV Calgary**; Honourary Life Membership Award – **Richard "Red" Hughes**, former owner of **CFRY AM/FM Portage La Prairie**; and, Broadcaster of the Year Award – **Elaine Ali**, Senior Vice President of **CTV**



MANAGING DIRECTOR - VoicePrint
and
MANAGING DIRECTOR - AudioVision

NBRS is seeking TWO skilled Managing Directors to plan, lead and manage the activities of each operating division at the national office located in Toronto.

Qualifications: An awareness of the importance of audio services – Knowledge of production and direction of broadcast programming – A basic understanding of the radio/broadcast or film/television industries and the regulatory environment and a willingness to enhance that understanding – Understanding of and sensitivity to the accessibility needs of print-restricted Canadians – Highly developed negotiating skills – Superior marketing and promotion skills – Able to work effectively and within strict timelines.

This is an exceptional opportunity for an innovative, experienced and entrepreneurial leader with a proven record of developing community and business partnerships and generating and sustaining revenue growth. NBRS is an equal opportunity employer. We thank all applicants for their interest. However, only those applicants we plan to invite to a follow-up interview will be contacted.

We offer a competitive salary range and benefits package and an opportunity to make a difference! Send your resume and cover letter by email to: apatterson@nbrscanada.com.

For further information about VoicePrint Canada or AudioVision Canada visit our Web site at www.nbrscanada.com.



WAB President Don Kille presents CTV's Elaine Ali with the 2004 Broadcaster of the Year Award.

Stations Group... Photos from the recent **British Columbia Association of Broadcasters** convention at Penticton may be found at the Broadcast Dialogue Web site by clicking [here](#)... Ditto for photos from last weekend's **Western Association of Broadcasters** 70th convention at Kananaskis (click [here](#))... **June Callwood**, a lifelong writer and social activist, received a Lifetime Achievement Award Tuesday night at the seventh annual **Canadian Journalism Foundation** awards. Callwood called the honour, presented by **Gov. Gen. Adrienne Clarkson**, "*absolute bliss*." Gesturing to the crowd, she said, "*There is no honour to compare with the recognition of your peers*." Callwood, 80, a popular TV host who helped found shelters for women, AIDS victims and street kids, said having the "*respect of other writers was as good as it gets*." Other broadcast winners were **CBC News** – Excellence in Journalism for its coverage of the Iraq war; **Avril Benoit** of **CBC Radio Toronto**; and, **Marie-Reine Roy** of **Radio-Canada Winnipeg**... After years of planning, organizers are closer to flicking the switch on the **Museum of Canadian Broadcasting** celebrating the heritage of Canada's airwaves. The foundation brings together a Who's Who of broadcast industry players as well as government agencies including the Library and Archives of Canada. Each has contributed seed money to help sustain the venture, which currently has an annual budget of about

\$550,000. The museum plans to fan out to several locales, likely with a central gallery facility in Ottawa and satellite branches in Montreal and Toronto. The Toronto branch, to be housed at the **Hummingbird Centre**, could open as early as 2006. Though a pioneer in many aspects of broadcasting, Canada is among the few industrialized countries without a museum dedicated to the subject... And this quote which seems apropos: Journalists "*spend too much time in deep admiration for politicians who show particular skill in lying, so much so that they have now institutionalized the destruction of public ethics by elevating deceit to a statecraft called "spin."* It is no longer the lie that matters but the qualitative fashion in which it is told." – **Steve Martini** in his book, **'The Arraignment'**.

TV/FILM: **Pierre Morrisette**, owner of **The Weather Network**, has won a court injunction forcing **Shaw Communications** keep the specialty channel on the basic tier of the **Star Choice** satellite television service. Morrisette's **Pelmorex** got the temporary injunction in Ontario Superior Court just as the deadline loomed for Star Choice to pull the plug on its service. Morrisette said his firm got a notice "*out of the blue*" in April that the channel would be bumped from basic to a more expensive tier of the Star Choice service thus cutting Weather Network viewers on Star Choice from about 600,000 to 200,000 (who'd be charged \$6.99 a month). The injunction is in effect until June 16... Meantime, the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** has called on the **CRTC** to put an end to what it calls "*Star Choice's bullying tactics*". It asks the Commission to move "*without delay*" on its plan to ensure that negotiations between distributors and programmers are conducted in accordance with good commercial practices. **Star Choice**, says CAB, arbitrarily decided to change the packaging of specialty services **The Weather Network**, **Météomédia**, **The Sports Network**, **Le Réseau des sports**, and **Talk TV**. CAB President **Glenn O'Farrell** says such "*arbitrary decisions without advance consultations. . . threaten the revenue base of these specialty services and undermine the business plans they rely on to meet their CRTC-mandated programming commitments*." Last Friday, the CRTC declined to intervene to prevent the current situation, calling instead for negotiation between the parties... **Bell Canada** is asking the **CRTC** for approval to deliver TV over phone lines, allowing it to compete with cable operators. Bell has filed two applications for licences to serve 11 urban centres in Ontario and Quebec, including Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec City. Bell says it would be able to begin offering service almost immediately, if it wins Commission approval. Other Canadian phone companies -- **NBTel**, **SaskTel**, **Manitoba Telecom Services** and **Telus Corp.** -- have already been granted cable licences. The flip side to this is that Canada's largest cable operators -- **Rogers**, **Shaw**, **Videotron** and **Cogeco** -- have been gearing up to invade the phone companies' turf with voice-over-Internet services over their networks... Shares of **TiVo Inc.** dropped more than 14% on Wall Street Tuesday after **DirectTV** sold its entire stake in the digital video recorder pioneer, heightening concerns that the satellite TV company would end their relationship. The bulk of TiVo's new subscribers last quarter came through its partnership

with DirecTV, which offers TiVo service built into some of its set-top boxes. Though TiVo pioneered the digital video recorder market and has gained a cult-like following among its users, it has not yet reached sustained profitability. It hopes to do so by the end of 2005... The French arm of **CBC** is dropping **Montreal Canadiens** games on Saturday nights. **Radio-Canada** had been carrying those Habs games for 52 years. **RDS**, the French arm of **TSN**, acquired exclusive rights in 2002... When **ABC News** broke the news of **Ronald Reagan's** death Saturday afternoon, it sent competitors into a frenzy. The press corps traveling with US **President Bush** in Normandy first heard the news when ABC White House Reporter **Terry Moran** began doing a live report in their midst. The reaction, according to one eyewitness, was *"total chaos, people running everywhere, knocking into things."* **CNN's John King** yelled into his cellphone that CNN had been beaten and was so upset he threatened to quit. King ended his tantrum by throwing his cellphone to the ground. Bad move: his meltdown was captured on tape.

RADIO: Next Thursday in Toronto, in the heart of Little Italy, the unveiling of a bronze memorial and parkette – to be called **Piazza Johnny Lombardi** – dedicated to the late Founder and President of **CHIN Toronto**. Piazza Johnny Lombardi, says his son, **Lenny** (now President of **CHIN Radio/TV International**), will reflect his father's love and commitment to all ethnic communities... BC Supreme Court Judge **Marvyn Koenigsberg** has ruled that Talker **Rafe Mair** did not libel **Kari Simpson** -- an outspoken crusader against gay rights – in an Oct. 25/99 editorial on **CKNW Vancouver**. Judge Koenigsberg ruled, in fact, that Mair (now at **CKBD Vancouver**) was himself libelled by Simpson's group, the **Citizens Research Institute Society**, on its Web site. Mair won \$100 in the counter suit... **JACK FM Vancouver** took down its "Vote JACK" signs throughout the Lower BC Mainland at the request of the city. They were a spoof on the current federal election campaign... The **CRTC** says **MOJO (CHMJ) Vancouver** breached federal broadcast regulations Nov. 1/02 when it aired comments from a male caller describing how he *"raped his girlfriend who was passed out at the time."* A listener complained, saying the show's host – **Tom Leykis** – *"seemed to think this was very funny and made some comment on how the male caller must have enjoyed doing that."* After listening to the tape, the Commission said the US-syndicated Tom Leykis Show on MOJO Vancouver *"breached the prohibition against the broadcast of any abusive comment contained in the radio regulations."* Topping the initial infraction, the comments were repeated in a promotional message re-introducing the show after a spot break. The CRTC listened to the four-hour phone-in show and found it exposed women to contempt and hatred by condoning sexual violence. MOJO, which cancelled the show in June of last year, switched to all-sports four months ago... The **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council** in reviewing three separate complaints regarding **CJAY-FM Calgary** during 2003, found breaches in two of them. The segments, on the **Forbes and Friends** morning show relating to Chinese "translations" and to circumstances related to the **Kobe Bryant** rape case, were found to be in breach of the Code provisions that prohibit the broadcast of unduly coarse and offensive language, on the one hand, and unduly sexually explicit material, on the other. Complete decisions may be found at www.cbcs.ca... **Viacom** Chairman/CEO **Sumner Redstone** told a New York investment conference that he's about to sell off some underperforming US radio properties. *"Radio is growing,"* he said, *"but not as fast as we would like."* As for **Howard Stern**, Redstone said Viacom will support him and that he, Redstone, believes Stern will stay with the company... **The River (CFLZ-FM) Niagara Falls** has **CRTC** approval to bump power from 406 watts to 7,200 watts. It will mean a better signal over the US border, among other things... Among applications to be heard Aug. 9 by the **CRTC** is one from **Loyalist College Radio** to bump its **CJLX-FM Belleville** up to 3,400 watts from the current 50, to change frequency to 91.3 from the current 92.3, to increase its antenna height and to relocate it. If approved, CJLX-FM would move to a regular Class B1 FM station from a low-power unprotected service. Another application is from **Andy McNabb** to establish a Christian Music FM'er at Ontario's City of Kawartha Lakes. He wants the 96.7 frequency with an average effective radiated power of 14,500 watts (maximum effective radiated power to 50,000 watts/antenna height 128 metres)... The **CHUM** application to acquire **CFAX/CHBE-FM (B107) Victoria** from **Seacoast Communications** was on the agenda of the June 7 **CRTC** hearing in Gatineau. The non-appearing item still must work its way through the system... In two separate media partnering events this past week, **CKDR Dryden** helped raise over \$56,000. The first was the **Second Annual Canadian Cancer Society's 'Relay for Life'** for which CKDR broadcast throughout the event, 7 pm Friday night until 7 am Saturday morning. The goal was \$35,000, but \$46,000 was raised. And, the next day – at the **8th Annual RBC Financial Group Charity Golf Tournament**, a further \$10,000 was contributed, the funds going toward a Catscan unit for the Dryden Hospital.

REVOLVING DOOR: New GM for **CFFX/CFMK-FM/CKWS-TV Kingston** is **Mike Ferguson**, transferred by **Corus** from his previous position as Market Manager at the Corus stations in Peterborough. The former GM was **Tom Brennan**... **Stan Schmidt** moves from **Global Saskatchewan** to GM at **CKRD-TV (RDTV) Red Deer**, effective June 14... **Ross Porter**, ex of **CanWest's COOL-FM Winnipeg**, is new President/CEO of **CJRT-FM Toronto**, the jazz formatted station. He takes over in July. **David Asper** has taken over as the interim CEO of Cool-TV and Cool-FM... **Don Hewitt**, 81, stepped down this week as Executive Producer of the **CBS** news magazine show he started, **60 Minutes**. Hewitt will continue to work on special projects for CBS. **Mike Wallace**, with **60 Minutes** from the show's inception, described Hewitt as "a pain in the ass . . . but he's a genius for what he does."

SIGN-OFF: **Brian Linehan**, 59, in Toronto after a two-year battle with cancer. Linehan became famous for his in-depth celebrity interviews which originated at **Citytv Toronto** during the station's formative years. Later, those interviews were syndicated in the US. Linehan became a favorite of the show biz elite. He was sought by them because of his knowledgeable interview style.

LOOKING: The **National Broadcast Reading Service (NBRS)** seeks two Managing Directors, one for **VoicePrint** and one for **AudioVision**. See the details in the ad on Page 1... Other jobs we've heard about this week include: **The Flow Toronto** - a Traffic Accounts Receivable Coordinator and an Accounts Payable Clerk; **Corus Television Toronto** - Exec VP, Corus Television and a Director, Network Program Operations; **Corus Entertainment Toronto** - Bilingual Senior Manager, Publicity and Media Relations; **AM 770 CHQR Calgary** - Producer and an Operator; **Alliance Atlantis Toronto** - Traffic Coordinator, Broadcasting; **Canal D, Montreal** - Coordonnateur(trice), communications-marketing; **Astral Media Radio, Montreal** - Rédacteur(trice) à la créativité média; **Les Chaînes Télé Astral, Montreal** - adjoint(e) administratif(ve), services juridique, réglementaire et relations aux affiliés; **CTV Toronto** - On Air Promo Producers; **CTV Specialty Inc. Toronto** - Manager, Research and Revenue Management; **Global News Winnipeg** - Producer/Director; **CBC Regina** - Senior Technologist Maintenance; **CBC Edmonton** - Researcher; **CBC Vancouver** - Director Radio 3; **CBC Toronto** - Director Business Development; **CBC Ottawa** - Producer and Director, Public Relations and Operations and Senior Director Regulatory Affairs; **CBC Sudbury** - Senior Maintenance Technician; **CJDM-FM Drummondville** - Représentant(e) des ventes; **Y108 Hamilton** - Morning Show Producer; **CFMK-FM Kingston** - Morning Drive Announcer; **The Weather Network** - Web Systems Administrator; **Humber College** - Professor, Radio Broadcasting; and, **The Shopping Channel Mississauga** - Web Content & Graphics Coordinator.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: **Kevin Einarson, KBS Trail/Nelson**. Welcome!

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Thursday, June 17, 2004

Volume 12, Number 5

Page One of Three

GENERAL: A national study shows 76% of Canadians believe that the media is influenced by rich and powerful interests. Released Monday at the **Banff TV Festival**, the results are part of what's said to be the first independent national study of news credibility in Canada. Lead researcher **Donna Logan**, Director of the graduate school of journalism at the **University of British Columbia**, says "*Canadians . . . feel that reporters are influenced by government officials, by bureaucrats, by powerful groups and people with money.*" Forty-two per cent of respondents found news reporting to be fair and balanced "sometimes," while another 37% said it was "often" fair and balanced. Fifteen per cent said reporting was "seldom" fair and balanced, while 3% said "never." On the positive side, said Logan, Canadians aren't as pessimistic as Americans. They feel the media is doing a much better job in Canada than Americans feel their media is doing, she said. But one in three Canadians surveyed believes news reports are often inaccurate. Similar surveys in the US have found more than half of Americans question reported facts... Although eroding over the past decade, US local TV news leads all categories when it comes to regularly used news sources. The latest study by the **Pew Research Center for the People and the Press** reports 77% of Americans used TV regularly in 1993, now down to 59% in 2004. Newspapers at 42% dropped from 58% in 1994. Radio is pegged at 40%, down from 1994 numbers but not down as severely as newspapers (49% in 1994). Gainers are the Internet, a regular source for 29%, and US cable TV news. Current American rankings for regularly used news sources are: Local TV news (59%); Newspapers (42%); (3) Radio (40%); Cable TV news (38%); Nightly network news (34%); and, Online news (29%)... The federal Tories want to dramatically reduce the **CRTC's** power, stripping the Commission of its control over content. Quotas for Canadian and Quebec content could be dramatically reduced and the CRTC would not be allowed to remove programming it deemed to be hatred. Quebec Conservative candidate **Robert Gervais** says the CRTC is overly protective and "*ultimately, it does more harm than good.*" Tory strategist **Jim Armour** says the party supports the restructuring of the CRTC, reducing its mandate to registration, marketing of bandwidth, and dealing with international communications negotiations... A coalition claiming to represent the demands of more than 250,000 concerned Canadians says it's time for the federal political leaders to come clean on foreign ownership of Canada's communications and media industries; that Canadian cultural sovereignty is at stake. The coalition – **Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada, Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists (ACTRA), Friends of Canadian Broadcasting, the Writers Guild of Canada (WGC), the Directors Guild of Canada (DGC), Union des artistes (UDA)** – says lobbying has been underway for some time to have the government lift foreign ownership restrictions and that "*Canadians want no part of this sell-out and have a right to know before casting their ballots whether their political leaders are planning to sell off our airwaves, our jobs, our culture and ultimately our country*"... Meantime, in Toronto Wednesday, Canadian talent turned out to demand that the political leaders state their positions on preserving arts and culture. Actress **Sonja Smits** said there wasn't anything in the TV debate about it while Actor **Paul Gross** said the only reference to Canadian sovereignty focused on the military. The artistic community seems especially fearful of statements by Conservative candidates on the fate of **CBC, the CRTC, Telefilm Canada** and the **National Film Board**... **Jim Haskins**, VP/GM at **A-Channel Edmonton** was elected President of the **Western Association of Broadcasters** at their annual convention a week ago in Kananaskis... Winners at the national convention of the **Radio-Television News Directors Association of Canada** in Saskatoon last weekend are:

TELEVISION – Bert Cannings Award (Best Newscast), **ATV News Halifax** (Large Market); **The New VR Barrie** (Medium Market); and **CHAT-TV Medicine Hat** (Small Market) – Charlie Edwards Award (Spot News), **ATV News Halifax** – Dan McArthur Award (In-Depth/Investigative), **CBC Saskatchewan** – Dave

Rogers Award (Feature), **CTV British Columbia, Vancouver** (Large Market) and **The New VR Barrie** (Medium Market) – Gord Sinclair Award (Live Special Events), **Citytv/CablePulse 24 Toronto** (Large Market) and **The New VR Barrie** (Medium Market) – Ron Laidlaw Award (Continuing Coverage), **Global Television Toronto** – Sam Ross Award (Editorial), **Citytv Vancouver** – Web site Award, **CFCN Television Calgary**.

NETWORK TELEVISION – Bert Cannings Award (Best Newscast), **CTV News Toronto** – Charlie Edwards Award (Spot News), **Global National, Burnaby** – Dan McArthur Award (In-Depth/Investigative), **CBC Television Toronto** – Dave Rogers Award (Feature), **CTV Toronto** – Gord Sinclair Award (Live Special Events), **CBC News Toronto** – Ron Laidlaw Award (Continuing Coverage), **CBC Television, Toronto**.

RADIO – Byron MacGregor Award (Best Newscast), **CBC Radio Vancouver** (Large Market); **CKLW Windsor**, (Medium Market); and **CKNX-FM Wingham** (Small Market) – Charlie Edwards Award (Spot News), **CBC Radio Edmonton** – Dan McArthur Award (In-Depth/Investigative), **CHED Edmonton** – Dave Rogers Award (Feature), **CBC Radio Vancouver** (Large Market); **CBC Victoria** (Medium Market); and, **CBC Fredericton** (Small Market) – Gord Sinclair Award (Live Special Events), **CKNW Vancouver** (Large Market) and **Standard Radio Kelowna** (Medium Market) – Ron Laidlaw Award (Continuing Coverage), **CFRB Toronto** – Sam Ross Award (Editorial), **CFBG-FM Bracebridge**.

NETWORK RADIO – Byron MacGregor Award (Best Newscast), **CBC Toronto** – Charlie Edwards Award (Spot News), **Standard Radio Kelowna** – Dan McArthur Award (In-Depth/Investigative), **CBC Radio Calgary** – Dave Rogers Award (Feature), **CBC Radio One, Toronto** – Gord Sinclair Award (Live Special Events), **Broadcast News, Toronto** – Ron Laidlaw Award (Continuing Coverage), **CBC Toronto** – Web site Award, **CBC Radio – Web One, Toronto**...

The Prairie Regional **RTNDA** Award winners, announced before the National winners, were:

TELEVISION – Bert Cannings Award (Best Newscast) **CHAT-TV Medicine Hat** (Small Market); **CTV Regina**, (Medium Market), and **Global News Edmonton** (Large Market) – Charlie Edwards Award (Spot News), **CTV Regina** – Dan McArthur Award (In-depth/Investigate), **CBC Saskatchewan, Regina** – Dave Rogers Award (Feature), **CBC Saskatchewan, Regina** (Medium Market) and **A-Channel Manitoba, Winnipeg** (Large Market) – Gord Sinclair Award (Special Events), **CBC Saskatchewan, Regina** (Medium Market) – Ron Laidlaw Award (Continuing Coverage), **Global Calgary** – Sam Ross Award (Editorial), **Global News Edmonton** – Web Site Award, **CFCN-TV Calgary**.

RADIO – Byron MacGregor Award (Best Newscast), **CBC Radio Saskatchewan, Regina** (Medium Market) – Charlie Edwards Award (Spot News), **CBC Radio Edmonton** – Dan McArthur Award (In-depth/Investigative), **CHED Edmonton** – Dave Rogers Award (Feature), **CBC Radio Saskatchewan, Regina** – Ron Laidlaw Award (Continuing Coverage, **CBC Radio Edmonton** – Sam Ross Award (Editorial), **CBC Radio Edmonton** – Web site Award – **CBC Radio Saskatchewan, Regina**... Photos from the **RTNDA's** National Convention at Saskatoon last weekend may be seen by clicking [HERE](#).

T**V/FILM:** A new employment study of Canada's screen-based industries shows that while women have made tremendous advances in most areas of film and TV, they're still significantly under-represented in upper management and technical jobs. *Frame Work: Employment in Canadian Screen-Based Media* — A National Profile which was released at the **Banff Television Festival** also identifies sizeable shortages in business development, marketing and financial management skills... **Ron Johnston**, GM at **CHEX-TV Peterborough**, says the station's 50th anniversary is coming up in March, 2005, and he's asking that former employees get in touch via e-mail with their contact information: 50years@chextv.com... Specialty channel **techtv Canada**, owned by **Comcast, Rogers** and **Shaw**, has been renamed **G4techTV**... The **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council** released three decisions on three separate TQS broadcasts, concluding that while each of them conformed to all standards, TQS did breach provisions requiring "the provision of adequate information to enable audiences to make informed viewing choices". Check all CBSC decisions at www.cbsc.ca... The *Task Force for Cultural Diversity on Television* will file its report with the **CRTC** and make it available to various stakeholders, the media and the general public July 15, 2004. The report will be available on the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters'** Web site July 15.

R**ADIO:** **CHVN-FM Winnipeg**, formatting contemporary Christian music and kicking out 100,000 watts, is now owned by **Elmer Hildebrand's** Altona-based **Golden West Broadcasting**. The **CRTC** approved the sale late last week... At Fort St. John, four local radio (**Energy FM/CJDC/The Bear**) people shaved their heads at the annual **Bluey Day Celebration** – with funds headed toward a much-needed

laparoscope which can detect and treat cancer in the abdomen. From the left, the new baldies (*Ed's note: Welcome to the club!*) are: **Standard Radio's** BC Peace Engineer **Jamie McCormack**, General Manager **Tracey Gard**, Energy FM Morning Show Host **Adam Reaburn**, and ND **Brian Hill**. Between them, they raised \$2,500 plus another \$2,500 from their company in matching funds. Totals this year hit \$110,000 – doubling the \$50,000 goal... **KFWB Los Angeles** has moved the focus of reporting Southern California traffic conditions to the time it takes to drive between two points. Calculating traffic speeds, KFWB traffic Reporters are estimating driving times between benchmark locations. **David Hall**,



VP/AM Programming at **Infinity Radio LA** says “knowing that it will take about 30 minutes to get from Hollywood to downtown LA is more helpful to me than knowing that a stalled car is causing a backup.”

REVOLVING DOOR: **Raynald Briere** has resigned as President/CEO of **TVA Group**, citing health problems. TVA is Quebec's largest private TV broadcaster. **Serge Gouin**, President/CEO of **Quebecor Media**, will step in as Acting President while TVA Group searches for a successor... Changes at **Standard Radio** in BC: **Kevin Einarson**, who had been Acting GM/GSM, becomes RSM at the **KBS** stations (**CJAT Trail/CKKC Nelson**). **Ross Hawse** moves from GM/PD at **CJMG-FM/CKOR Penticton** to become the GM/GSM at KBS, and **Lee Sterry** moves from **Standard Winnipeg** to become VP/GM/GSM at Penticton and the Southern Okanagan. All changes come into play July 6... **Kathleen McNair** begins new duties within **Corus** July 5 when she becomes VP/GM of Corus radio stations (**CKRU/CKWF-FM**) in Peterborough and VP of **CHEX-TV Peterborough**. **Ron Johnston** remains as GM at CHEX-TV. McNair had been VP, Corporate & Regulatory Affairs/General Counsel in Toronto... **Laura Acton**, Director of Community Relations at **The New VI (CIVI-TV) Victoria**, retires from the four-year old **CHUM TV** station July 16... After 32 years with **CKNL Fort St. John**, Sales Rep **Paul Hawkes** moved across the road to **Moose FM (CKFU-FM) Fort St. John**.

LOOKING: **Nautel Halifax** - Software Developer; **NFB Montreal** - Marketing Manager and a Publicist; **Rogers Sportsnet** - Transmission Coordinator and VTR Operator; **CBC Sudbury** - Reporter/Editor; **JOE FM/CISN FM Edmonton** - FM Promotion Coordinator; **Corus Radio Toronto** - Director of Sports Marketing and Sales; **CFGL-FM/CJUL/CJSS-FM Cornwall** - Creative Director-Senior Writer with Production Skills; **CFPL-FM/CFHK/CKDK/CFPL London** - Director Creative & Client Services; **Alliance Atlantis Toronto** - Financial Reporting Coordinator; **Télétoon Montreal** - Relationniste de presse; **CTV Specialty Television Toronto** - Traffic Co-ordinator; **CTV Toronto** - Sales Coordinator and an Intermediate Software Developer; **CBC Edmonton** - Video Journalist; **CBC Calgary** - Researcher; **CBC Montreal** - Administration Officer and a Maintenance Technician; **CBC Winnipeg** - Managing Editor and a Communications Assistant; **CBC Toronto** - Finance Officer and an Associate Producer and a Producer; **CBC Ottawa** - Senior Systems Analyst and a Director, Pension Administration; and, **Ross Video Ottawa** - Demonstration Artists and Trainers.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: **Byron Garby**, **The Flow Toronto**. Welcome!