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Thursday, December 14, 2000

Volume 8, No. 28

Page One of Five

TV/FILM: **BCE Inc.** has won CRTC approval for its \$2.3 billion purchase of **CTV**, making it the largest communications company in Canada. The \$230-million public benefits package was rubber-stamped, and BCE wasn't forced to sell off **TSN** and the **Discovery Channel**. BCE Honcho **Jean Monty** says the decision paves the way for the launch of BCE's new Canadian media company in January. He says it will be "the premiere content company in Canada, combining the best known and most respected media brands in the business - **CTV**, **The Globe and Mail**, **Sympatico-Lycos** and **Globe Interactive**." Independent film and TV producers were big winners, too, in that they'll get a big chunk of the public-benefits package... The **CRTC** is seeking comment on its position regarding ownership of pay and specialty services by cable companies. Up until now, the Commission's position has been to limit and/or prohibit the participation of cablecos, or their affiliates, to hold equity interests in pay and specialty services. The rationale was the potential for undue preference in the analog distribution market. In the first phase, the CRTC will accept comments received on or before January 26. Then, a second written process follows to allow the filing of replies to comments filed during the first phase. Deadline for replies is Feb. 26... With CEO/President **John Cassaday** telling the first Annual General Meeting, "We expect a considerable softening of views by CRTC members to the notion of Corus controlling analogue channels...", **Corus Entertainment** will again apply for the 50% of the **Family Channel** it doesn't own. The **CRTC** had given Corus until next month to sell it. Family was acquired as part of the **WIC** deal. Corus is reapplying in light of the **BCE/CTV** deal and the review process in place over cablecos owning specialty channels. **Astral Media** owns the other 50%. Meantime, in its first full year, Corus's strategic acquisitions included **Power**

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Broadcasting's radio and TV assets, **WIC** radio and premium TV, **Metromedia Broadcasting**, and **Nelvana Inc.**... Outgoing **TVA** Chief Executive **Daniel**

Lamarre (see **REVOLVING DOOR**) says while future ownership of **TVA Group** isn't certain, it will only get bigger and stronger (the **CRTC** has yet to rule on the merger of TVA's controlling shareholder, **Videotron Group**, with **Quebecor**). He says there's no reason to read anything into his departure, as well as that of several other recent executive bailouts from TVA and Quebecor. "It's normal in a time of transition that individuals make personal decisions." TVA is Quebec's most-watched network, with revenues of \$290 million in the year ended Aug. 27, and earned \$40 million... Two new members on the **Television Bureau's** board: **Dwayne Dietrich** of **CHAT-TV Medicine Hat** and **Nigel Fuller** of **The New RO (CHRO-TV) Ottawa**. Leaving the TVB board were **John Tucker** of **CKWS-TV Kingston** and **Greg Mudry** of **The New PL (CFPL-TV) London**... **EDS NOTE: This won't be news to Westerners, but it tickled me. KING Seattle** has been a mainstay of local broadcasting for years but what I didn't know is that there's also an independent TV station there, **KONG!**).

REVOLVING DOOR: Daniel Lamarre, President of Montreal-based **TVA Group**, is leaving to become President of **Cirque du Soleil's** new ventures business unit. TVA says it hopes to appoint a successor by mid-January... **Christine McGinley** has been appointed GM for **Global Television, Alberta**. She has responsibility for Global's four TV stations in the province... **Jannat Hamid**, Director, Development & Communications at **Canadian Women in Communications**, has been promoted to Vice-President... At the **Cable Public Affairs Channel (CPAC)** in Ottawa, **Tasha Kheiridden**, ex of **CBC Newsworld's CounterSpin**, becomes a Producer as does **Glen McInnis**, former Chief Newswriter at **A-Channel Calgary**. **Jan Sims**, ex of **CFTO-TV Toronto**, becomes CPAC's Toronto Producer, and **Brian Naud** is the new CPAC Montreal producer... **Cal Johnstone** has moved up from Assignment Editor to Assistant News Director at **Global Television** in Toronto... In Washington, **XM Satellite Radio's** third round of hires includes **Bob Mackowycz**, ex of **CFRB Toronto**, as a PD. He was in a group of seven new PDs hired by XM which, it says, will offer up to 100 channels of digital quality sound in the US beginning next summer. Mackowycz will program the **USA TODAY** channel... **Dave Mayes**, morningman **Q92 Sudbury**, is no longer with the

Multiple Ownership has resulted in massive lay-offs ... With more to come!

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station... **ABC Radio Networks** News Anchor **Jon Belmont** (and former **CKLW Windsor** & **CHUM Toronto** staffer) has joined News-Talk **WTMJ Milwaukee** as morning host.

SIGN-OFFS: Long-time **CBC** radio personality **Allan McFee**, has died of cancer at 87. McFee made an impression on fans with his unique choices in music and his penchant for unusual stunts. His final appearance on CBC was in 1991... **Fred White**, 52, who labored at **CHUM Toronto** in sales during the 70s then formed his own agency, passed

from complications after surgery.

LOOKING: *Dufferin Communications (HITS 103.5/AM530/Dancin' Oldies 88.5)* is looking for all kinds of talent for its three Toronto-area stations... **BBM** is looking for an Account Exec... **CHEX-TV Peterborough** is looking for a GSM and a Retail Ad Rep... **Q92 Sudbury** is looking for a Morning Host... See the ads in this edition... Other jobs we've heard about include **CKCK/CFWF-FM/CKRM/CHMX-FM Regina** is looking for a producer and/or production manager... **Rock 106/The River Lethbridge** has an opening for a News Announcer/Reporter... **New Brunswick Broadcasting** is looking for News people for its new **The Tide** in St. Stephen... Check the **Broadcast Dialogue** Web site (www.broadcastdialogue.com) for job postings in the CLASSIFIED section.

GENERAL: *Shaw Communications* has bid to snap up *Moffat Communications* to the tune of \$1.2 billion. *Randy Moffat's* holding company controls 52% of Moffat's shares. Shaw already owns about 15%... *Rogers Cable* says it will spend \$90 million to upgrade its New Brunswick cable TV network. Rogers Cable President **John Tory** says the money will be spent to upgrade the existing network to digital operations and provide high-speed Internet access. The two-year project will create about 100 jobs... The **Atlantic Journalism Awards** is calling for entries for stories presented by Atlantic Canadian journalists and broadcast in Atlantic Canada during 2000. A description of award categories and application procedures are available through <http://aja.ukings.ns.ca>. Deadline is Jan. 15... The 10th annual **Canadian Women in Communications** gala is set for Feb. 19 at Ottawa's Westin Hotel. About 800 people take part each year during an evening which honours efforts in promoting and supporting the advancement of women within the communications industry. For tickets, contact **Pauline Michaud** at (819) 773-5212.

RADIO: US radio stations that broadcast on the Internet will have to pay fees to record companies. So says the **United States Copyright Office**. The ruling, however, doesn't specify how much the fees should be nor when stations must start paying. For years, the dispute has raged over US licensed stations programming on the

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BBM Bureau of Measurement
1500 Don Mills Road, 3rd Floor
Don Mills, Ontario M3B 3L7
Fax: (416) 445-8644
Email: staffing@bbm.ca

World Wide Web being subject, or not, to the same performance rights fees as Internet-only radio stations... **BBM** had to release the Fall 2000 survey a few days early last week after at least one BBM member may have cracked an access code early. BBM President **Owen Charlebois** says the likelihood is that the breach was more an administrative slip, e.g. e-mail gone astray, than someone actually hacking BBM. So, instead of results being released on Monday, they were made public on Friday. On the Fall survey itself, comparisons between BBM Radio Fall 1999, Spring 2000 and Fall 2000 surveys show, among other things, these trends: An overall drop in



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tcallaghan@on.tri.ca

the 25-34s, relative to other demos (as well, the overall population fell by about 500,000 compared to last year's population estimate); higher per cent of people working 30+ hours; higher per cent of people in high household-income categories—\$80K+; a continual upward trend of people listening to the radio on the internet, and from the satellite; and, unemployment has decreased... A study conducted for **Iceberg Media.com** by **Thompson**

programs taken from throughout CBC Radio's history, including dramas, musicals and historical news put out over the past 80 years. Iceberg President **Ted Boyd** says typical programming is aimed at 17-to-35s who are disgruntled with commercial radio... **Howard Stern's** been playing up his contract gripes with **Infinity Broadcasting** by airing a sappy promotion for what he says will be his last scheduled broadcast. "Howard says goodbye. Coming Dec. 15" is backed by sweet music. Stern and Infinity hadn't reached an agreement on a new contract and his current deal expires at year's end. His morning show, now heard only in Canada on **Q107 Toronto**, is scheduled for a regular vacation after tomorrow (Friday) anyway.

SYNDICATION: **CFRB Toronto** has signed with **Canada's Business Network** for the provision of 23 daily business reports, including market reviews, The Wall Street Journal Report, The Reuters Market Update and live hits with station anchors. CBN produces 51 business reports daily syndicated by **Sound Source Networks**.

Lightstone shows Streaming Audio users are now past the three-million mark in Canada (29% of Canadian Internet users). Fifteen per cent of all adult Canadians reported having listened to Streaming Audio or Internet Radio in the last four weeks. Those numbers compare to the US favorably in that an Edison Media Research project showed 7.9% of Americans reported having listened to Internet radio over a one-month period. The study also found that 50% of adult Canadians reported having been on the Internet in the last 4 weeks... Meantime, **Iceberg Media.com** has a deal with **CBC Radio** to stream

LETTERS: "As you no doubt are aware, the **CRTC** has approved the acquisition by **BCE** of **CTV**, and with that approval there is also a specific mention of our project. This funding for our **History of Canadian Broadcasting** over the next seven years will enhance our Web site and make sure that it reaches the goals we originally set out some five years ago. With the endorsement of our project by you and almost 50 others, we now have a base of funds to carry the project forward. On behalf of the Board, I would like to express our thanks for

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your support.” – **Ross McCreath**, *Canadian Communications Foundation*, Toronto

“Downloaded QuickTime and watched the CKWS piece on Laura. Very nice. Too bad they didn't have you on camera. Ahhh, on second thought, maybe it's just as well.” – **Terry Scott**, *Broadcast News*, Toronto.

(** Terry's referring to the QuickTime Movie at the *Broadcast Dialogue* home page (www.broadcastdialogue.com) of *CKWS-TV Kingston's* coverage of our “Hero of Broadcasting” award to *CJOJ-FM Belleville's Laura McGugan*. CKWS-TV Reporter **Janna Klemen** did a fantastic job. Our thanks to CKWS-TV GM **Tom Brennan** for his permission to use the clip.)

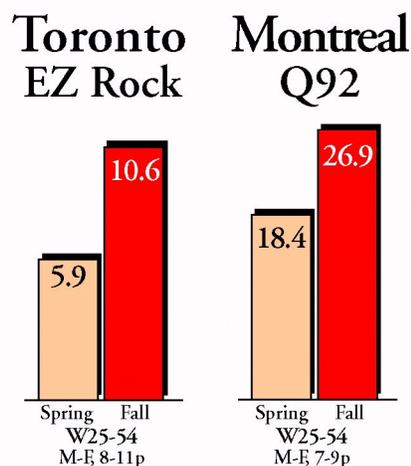
SUPPLYLINES: *PixStream Incorporated* of Waterloo has a collaboration with *DMX MUSIC* of Los Angeles to provide artist insertion software for its video networking systems. Artist insertion enables service providers to insert and display information about a song and artist on their customers' screens when the TV is tuned to audio-only channels.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: **J. Robert Wood**, *J. Robert Wood & Associates, Whitby*; **Kevin Bartus**, *Blue Spark, Toronto*; and, **Lorne Freed**, *CTS-TV Burlington*. Welcome!

EDITOR'S NOTES: *Broadcast Dialogue* (the newsletter) will publish next week – Dec. 21 – but will NOT be available Dec. 28 nor Jan. 4. We will be back Jan. 12. The newsletter publishes 48 times per annum and shuts down for two weeks at Christmas/New Year and for two weeks in the summer... If you haven't already used it, the *Broadcast Dialogue* Web site provides a wealth of information: A complete broadcast directory, back issues of the Broadcast Dialogue newsletter (to April of '98), and features from the current edition of the Broadcast Dialogue magazine. There are also Classified ads! Web site address is: www.broadcastdialogue.com... The remembrance by JJ Johnston, now of *Corus Radio*, of the late **Alden Diehl** continues to touch the hearts of those who knew him. If you haven't seen it yet, check the magazine section at the Broadcast Dialogue Web site.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the last *Broadcast Dialogue* newsletter for Year 2000. We'll be away for the next couple of weeks, returning with the edition of Jan. 11/01. All the best for the Christmas/New Year season!... If you are the subscriber to the newsletter and want access

to the most recent copies at our Internet site (www.broadcastdialogue.com), please make sure to register at the Newsletter page. If you had a Password and ID that has now expired, you **MUST** re-register.

RADIO: *Telemedia Radio* says it will launch an expanded *FAN Radio Network* – to include *FAN 1040 (CKST) Vancouver* – early in the new year.

The FAN 590 (CJCL) Toronto will continue to anchor the network in Eastern Canada... The *Radio Marketing Bureau's* 2001 Board of Directors comprises: **Mario Cecchini** of *Telemedia Radio* in Toronto is the new Chairman. **Rick Moss** of *Corus Entertainment*, London, steps down from that position but remains on the Board. Joining in 2001: **Michel J. Carter**, *Cogeco Radio-Television*, Laval; **Victor Dann**, *Rogers Media/Rogers Broadcasting*, Toronto; and, **Rick**

Meaney, *Corus Radio*, Calgary. Retiring are: **Hal Blackadar**, *Corus Entertainment*, Toronto; **Owen Charlebois**, *BBM*, Don Mills; **Trevlyn Gauthier**, *Corus Entertainment*, Montreal; **Joanne Leboeuf**, *BCRQ*, Montreal; and, **Gary Miles**, *Rogers Media/Rogers Broadcasting*, Toronto...

The first weekly ratings report by streaming media measurement service *MeasureCast* shows *WABC-AM/New York City* as the runaway winner with nearly 20,000 unique weekly listeners and 107,000 hours tuned through the seven day period. The Internet Radio Top 10 List survey rates 944 stations. *ABC Radio* took seven of the 10 slots with WABC more than doubling the listenership of the second

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highest-ranked station, **KKBT Los Angeles**. Only two of the Top 10 were Internet only broadcasters and only two were music-intensive outlets. The weekly streaming report for radio is based on Total Time Spent Listening. More men (71%) listened to Internet radio than did women (29%). Also, nearly 90% of all on-line listening took place on weekdays... **WSM Nashville**, which has maintained a well-staffed 24/7 newsroom for the better part of 75 years, has slashed all part-time (7) and three full time broadcast journalists. Word is that there will be no local newsroom staff between 6 p.m. and 4 a.m. weekdays, and none on weekends... New York-based **musicmusicmusic inc.**, the parent company of Canada's **The Record** (and the first interactive Internet radio station to be licensed by the **Recording Industry Association of America**), has an affiliate partnership with **Sesamestreet.com** to create and support **Sesame Radio**, a 24-hour station dedicated to playing kids' favorite Muppet tunes... Despite the hype, **Howard Stern** ended up signing another five-year contract with **Infinity Broadcasting**... and, on Nov. 15, **CKAT/CHUR-FM/CKFX-FM North Bay ND Clancy MacDonald** marked his 35th year at the operation. MacDonald began when it was known as **CFCH Radio and TV**, owned by **Lord Thomson of Fleet** (1965).

GENERAL: Dutch-based **VNU**, a publishing concern, has agreed to pay \$US2.3-billion for **ACNielsen**. The deal brings ACNielsen back together with its TV rating offshoot, **Nielsen Media Research** (VNU bought it in 1999 for \$US2.5-billion). The transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2001... The US **Federal Trade Commission** has unanimously approved the merger between **America Online** and **Time Warner** (the largest in US history) after the companies pledged to protect consumer choice for the next generation of Internet services and content. America Online paid \$US109-billion for Time Warner. The combined operations creates a vast company spanning TV programming, movies, magazines,




580 CKPR – Rock 94 Thunder Bay
is looking to fill a 10-month full-time maternity leave position in
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The job requires the successful candidate to be proficient in both reporting and on-air skills with previous radio news experience.

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Thunder Bay, ON P7A 5V6
Closing: January 26, 2001

and cyberspace. The deal, however, still needs **FCC** approval. It will be known as **AOL Time Warner** and could be in operation by as soon as the end of this month or in early January... Meantime, perhaps as a precursor to the deal's completion, **CNN** has been planning extensive streamlining of its business operations, plotting a new prime-time schedule. The new nighttime schedule will be much heavier in talking heads and much lighter in prepackaged, highly produced (and expensive) news segments... At **CHUM Ltd.'s** annual shareholders meeting last week, Executive VP **Ron Waters** didn't rule out the teaming with other medium-sized TV broadcasters to take on the national players. While speculation has been rampant about smaller companies, e.g. **CHUM**, **TVA Group** and **Craig Broadcast Systems** getting together to form a third national network, or be swallowed by larger players, Waters said there've been talks but nothing he cared to elaborate upon. While family patriarch **Allan Waters** told employees in September that the company isn't for sale, Ron Waters seemed to hedge his bets with this quote: *"I think it was a clear message from my father, at this point, that he's not interested in selling."* A management committee (**Allan**, **Ron** and **Jim Waters**, and **Jay Switzer** and **Moses Znaimer**) is in place to ensure



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Please submit applications for either position in confidence by Friday, January 5th to:

Milestone Radio Inc.
80 Richmond Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1P1
Attn: Michelle Price
Fax: (416) 214 0660
 or electronically to:

info@milestoneradio.com

CHUM remains strong even as competitors move to consolidate their resources... **Scotiabank** and **Rogers Cable** are teaming to offer Internet access to financial services. Scotiabank says it will be the first Canadian bank to give access to banking and brokerage information along with e-mail and online shopping, using Rogers' Interactive TV service.

REVOLVING DOOR: **Michael McEwen**, the current President of **Canadian Digital Television** and President of the **World Digital Audio Broadcast Forum**, has been appointed the **North American Broadcasters Association's** new Secretary-General. McEwen will divide his time between the Toronto office of

NABA and Ottawa, where he will continue his work with CDTV. He succeeds **Bill Roberts**, who went to **Vision TV** as President/CEO... New **EZ Rock (CJEZ-FM) Toronto** GSM is **Vince DeLilla**, promoted from within. He succeeds **Michael Mangliardo** who left the station a couple of months back... **Geoff Poulton**, GM at **CKGL Kitchener**, has been appointed GM, Internet Radio for **Rogers Radio**. Succeeding him in Kitchener is **Gavin Tucker** who will retain his GM/PD duties at **CHYM-FM**... Also at **CKGL Kitchener**, **Al Gibson** has been bumped up to Ops Mgr from PD. All appointments are effective Jan. 2... New PD at **Y95 Hamilton** is **Alan Cross**, succeeding **Dave Foreman**. Cross was the longtime PM drive Host at **The Edge (CFNY-FM) Toronto**... **Z95 (CKZZ-FM) Vancouver** PD **Eric Samuels** moves to sister **Standard Radio** station **The Mix (CKFM-FM) Toronto** early in the new year as PD.

LOOKING: **Milestone Communications** in Toronto is looking for both a Production Manager and an On-Air Announcers for its new FM station...

Broadcast News in Toronto is seeking News people... **CKPR/Rock 94 Thunder Bay** is looking for a Reporter/Anchor... **EZ Rock 100.5 North Bay** is looking for a morning Co-Host. See the ads in this edition. Other jobs we've heard about include **CTV** is looking for a Marketing Manager to be based at its Agincourt (Toronto) location... **The Comedy Network**, also at CTV Agincourt, is searching for a Director of Sales.

TV/FILM: The **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council** has come down hard on **Télévision**

Quatre Saisons (TQS) Montréal. There is a suggestion that TQS may find itself excluded from CBSC membership. The latest incident is a ruling that TQS broadcast erotic scenes – in two separate instances – before the 9 p.m. watershed thus violating the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters'** Violence Code. The erotic context of nudity presented in both programs, said the Quebec Regional Council, were clearly intended for an adult audience. Complicating matters for

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Enthusiastic, motivated individual with a passion for radio to co-host **EZ Rock 100.5 FM North Bay**. Successful candidate will be working within a soft AC format broadly targeting 25-54s, with a core demo of females 35-44. If you enjoy a fast-paced and dynamic environment and are interested in joining our team, please submit your resume in confidence to:

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Program Director
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North Bay ON
P1B 8K8
Fax: (705) 474-7761;
E-mail:
awilson@ezrock.com

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the CBSC is that it is "very troubled by the fact that, in its programming decisions, TQS pays absolutely no attention to the scheduling requirements of the Violence Code . . . This broadcaster has evidenced its desire to broadcast sexual content clearly intended for adult audiences in a pre-Watershed environment on an ongoing basis in disregard of the conclusions of this Council." CBSC says TQS must, within 30 days, provide it with concrete indications of measures it intends to put in place to avoid recurrences of airing inappropriate sexual content at early hours of the evening. The complete decision may be found at: www.cbsc.ca... **Molson Inc.** now says the sale of its **Montreal Canadiens** won't happen until some time in the new year. **BCE Inc.** is said to be a key player in a group negotiating to buy the team and the **Molson Centre**, but the company is refusing to identify potential buyers. BCE wants news, sports and entertainment content for its TV and specialty operations... CEO **Jim Shaw** of **Shaw Communications** says selling his company's Nova Scotia cable business and two TV outlets in Winnipeg could raise \$500 million. The TV businesses are **CKY-TV Winnipeg** and **WTN**, both owned by **Moffat** but which are in the process of being sold to Shaw... Halifax-based **Salter Street Films** (perhaps best known for 'This Hour Has 22 Minutes') saw a fourth quarter produce revenue results up 29% to \$22-million over the same period last year, with net income of \$2.2 million (up from \$1.8-million). Salter Chairman/CEO **Michael Donovan** says the recent award of a Category 1 specialty licence, along with a toehold in the US with four series on the air, "are significant accomplishments . . ." Salter won **CRTC** approval for **Film Channel Canada**. Donovan expects it to launch next September.

SUPPLYLINES: New COO at **Leitch Technology** in Toronto is **Margaret Craig**... **Light Management Group Inc.** has unwrapped what it calls "the world's first commercial fiber-optic switch based on acousto-optic technology." The device can form the basis of an optimal fiber-optical line communication network. The optical lines employing the commutator can carry 10 Gigabytes of information per second, in comparison to 50 Kbits over phone lines -- i.e., two million times as quickly... **John Roth**, CEO of **Nortel Networks** has been named **Time** magazine's Canadian Newsmaker of the Year. Time calls the 58-year-old "the most successful businessman in modern Canadian history".

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: **Doug Shaddock**, **Cabletel**, Markham. Welcome!

**Looking for a particular station?
Looking for a certain person?
Looking for your car keys?**

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