

# BROADCAST Dialogue

The Best Broadcast Briefing in Canada

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Phone: (416) 782-6482 \* E-Mail: [publisher@broadcastdialogue.com](mailto:publisher@broadcastdialogue.com) \* Web site: [www.broadcastdialogue.com](http://www.broadcastdialogue.com)

Thursday, April 3, 2003

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**R**EVLVING DOOR: Stephanie Smyth, who's been with **680News Toronto** since 1993 and worked her way up to News Director, is moving to **Global Television** in Toronto as ND. It's expected she'll be aboard at Global by month's end... **Vicki Dalziel** (ex VP/GM at **CMT** and who managed her own broadcast consulting company) and **Diane Johnson** (ex **LG73/CFOX Vancouver**, **Global TV Vancouver** and the **Walt Disney Company**) have joined forces in a new Vancouver-based company, **Descriptive Video Works**. For more info, click [here](#)... Bruce Davis, GM/GSM at **CKOV/CKLZ-FM Kelowna**, has been promoted – in addition to his duties at Kelowna – to VP of Sales for **The Jim Pattison Broadcast Group**. The appointment was effective April 1. Davis oversee all sales activities related the development and growth of the 23 Pattison radio and TV stations in Western Canada... **Michele Erskine** has joined **Solutions Research Group** in Toronto as VP. She had been Director of Research and Managing Partner at the **Youth Culture Group** and, before that, Director of Marketing for **Corus Radio**... New PD at **C103/XL96 Moncton** is **Andrew Stewart**. It is a promotion from within. Stewart, most recently the Promotions Manager, has been with the operation in Moncton since beginning as a part-time announcer in 1991... Meantime, Stewart's successor is in Promotions is **Paul (Thomas) Mulroy**, also an internal promotion.

**S**IGN-OFF: James Duncan Patterson, 80, in Victoria. He was with the **National Film Board**, the **CBC** (and launched **CBUT Vancouver**) before moving to Toronto where he was CBC Director of Planning.



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**L**OOKING: **680News Toronto** is looking for a News Director. Click [here](#) for details (and see the ad opposite)... Other jobs we've heard about include: **CHUB-FM/BIG 105 Red Deer** searching for a News Director; **Corus Entertainment** in Toronto looking for a Human Resources Generalist/Compensation Analyst; **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council** seeking a Broadcast Analyst; **Global BC (CHAN TV)** looking for a Producer in the newsroom; **CanWest Global Winnipeg** looking for a Payroll Supervisor; **Global TV Toronto** seeking a Programming Assistant; **Corus Radio Vancouver** is looking for an Engineer; **Nelvana** in Toronto looking for a Supervisor, Merchandising Operations; **Corus Radio Toronto** searching for an intermediate Accountant; **CHEX-TV Peterborough** seeking a part-time Videographer and a part-time general Operator and an Account Exec; **CKNW Vancouver** looking for a Newscaster; and **CTV Toronto** seeking a Traffic Coordinator.

**R**ADIO: **KISS 969 (CKIS-FM) Calgary**, a Hip Hop/R&B format, has re-launched as **96.9 JACK FM**. It's the same format and frequency another **CKLG-FM Vancouver** uses. The similarity goes further, the Rogers' stations even share the same frequency and the same Web site ([www.jackfm.com](http://www.jackfm.com))... Despite what you may have heard, **CHUM Toronto** hasn't banned any "war" songs. An item last week in some dailies claimed the AM Oldies station had. But PD **Brad Jones** says such a notion is ridiculous; that CHUM helped make those songs popular over its 40 years of airing them... The **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** says it is disappointed by the recent **Copyright Board of Canada** decision on royalties payable for the reproduction of musical works. This new payment by radio stations – amounting to \$6.5 million annually and retroactive to 2001 – requires payment for the likes of recording from a CD to the station computer system. CAB President/CEO **Glenn O'Farrell** says broadcasters shouldn't be penalized for using efficient technology, particularly when there's no economic value to stations. For details, click [here](#) ... An **Ontario Securities Commission** panel has questioned whether some of the sanctions proposed against financial guru and long-time radio money broadcaster **Brian Costello** are appropriate. They include having his Web site content, newsletters and seminars monitored; having him prohibited from acting as a director or officer of a securities issuer for three to five years; and requiring him to hire an expert to monitor his Web site, newsletters and seminars. It was in February that the OSC panel found that he violated securities rules by recommending investments although he wasn't registered as a financial adviser. That contravenes the Ontario Securities Act... Personalities at four of **Clear Channel's** five New York radio stations – Classic Rock **WAXQ**, CHR/Rhythmic **WKTU**, Mainstream AC **WLW** and Urban **WPPR** – have voted to seek a strike authorization from **AFTRA**. They've been in



## NEWS DIRECTOR

680News in Toronto seeks an experienced News Director who has a minimum of 5 years experience in a radio news department and who possesses a complementing education. The successful candidate will be detail-oriented, have excellent communications and interpersonal skills, has the ability to work in a busy environment and handle multiple priorities. Management experience will be an asset.

For complete information on this position – including the RESPONSIBILITIES – click [here](#) for detailed job requirements.

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**680News – Rogers Broadcasting Limited**  
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**Toronto, ON M4Y 3B7**  
**Attention: John Hinnen**

Email: [jhinnen@rci.rogers.com](mailto:jhinnen@rci.rogers.com)

negotiations for months, rejecting Clear Channel's plan for voice tracking... **Team 990 (CKGM) Montreal** has won English broadcast rights for **Montreal Expos** games this season. The Major League Baseball team is already on **CKAC** and **CJMS Montreal** in French... **Haliburton Broadcasting Group Inc.**, owner of nine Ontario radio licences, has bought **CJWL-FM Iroquois Falls** and the recently-licenced FM station in Cochrane, Ontario, from **Tri Tel Communications**. Both purchases are subject to **CRTC** approval.

**G****ENERAL:** The Minister of Industry, **Allan Rock**, says his department has appointed a National Antenna Tower Review Committee to "ensure that the voices of Canadians are heard" on the matter of procedures for placing towers. He says such procedures "must embrace community involvement and expand the economic and social benefits of wireless, broadcast and wireless broadband technologies across Canada." The demand for broadcast and wireless services has caused a jump in infrastructure, including the number of antennas being erected. For details, click [here](#)... The US **Federal Communications Commission** (FCC) will likely decide June 2 on reformulated ownership rules for the radio, TV and newspaper industries. Chairman **Michael Powell** says he expects existing rules to be liberalized and is calling for proposals to support media ownership rules thrown back at the FCC by a federal appeals court. Right now, rules limit how much of the US national TV audience one entity can reach (now 35%) as well as a ban on common ownership of a newspaper and a TV or radio station in a market... **Cogeco Cable** says Video on Demand (VOD) service has been deployed to 85% of households it serves, 92% in Ontario and 71% in Quebec. Among their digital cable customers who are aware of the new service, 53% have tried it in Ontario compared to 63% in Quebec. The VOD service enables digital customers to watch movies with the functionality of a videocassette recorder (pause, stop, rewind and fast forward). All commands are activated on the remote control of a digital box.

**T****V/FILM:** **Craig Media** has dropped **Airtime Sales**, the Toronto rep house, after six years. Instead, says Craig, national sales operations will go in-house beginning May 31. Click [here](#) for details... Still with **Craig Media**, its new **toronto|one** station finally has a home; 25 Ontario Street. **toronto|one** is scheduled to launch in September... Independent TV producer/reporter **Dale Drewery** and **CTV's Ed Watson** are the 2003 recipients of the *Jack Webster Foundation Standard Broadcasting Fellowship for Broadcast Journalists*. The annual award provides up to \$16-thousand for professional development. For more information on the fellowship program, e-mail at [infojackwebster.com](mailto:infojackwebster.com).

**N****EW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE:** Dan Williamson, **Williamson Voice Imaging**, Toronto and Matthew McBride, **Central Island Broadcasting Ltd.**, Nanaimo. Welcome!

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Thursday, April 10, 2003

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**RADIO:** A stand-alone Internet radio that Mom can set up in the kitchen is on its way, expected by as soon as June. Texas-based **Rochelle Communications** says their Internet radio will be priced at \$129, will support an Ethernet computer network connection, and have optional Wi-Fi capability... **CJTK-FM-1 North Bay**, a repeater of religious station **CJTK-FM Sudbury**, wants to up its power from 33 watts to 800 watts. It also wants to move from 89.5 to 99.3 MHz. That would raise the station's status from a low-power to a regular Class A FM'er. The **CRTC** has set an intervention deadline of May 9... Last Friday, the **National Post** reported that Canada's private broadcasters fear an expected CanCon hike. There's a possibility radio will be compelled to go from 35% to 40% at the end of a review expected this year.



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**G**ENERAL: The days of free online access to newspaper content – that cannibalizes circulation – are numbered, says **CanWest Global Communications** COO **Rick Camilleri**. Speaking at last week's annual conference of the **Canadian Media Directors' Council** in Toronto, he said CanWest plans to begin an electronic overhaul of its 11 dailies this summer. Offering a glimpse of the company's convergence future, Camilleri fused content that includes digital newspapers, video on demand and product placement in a new reality-TV series, saying that the "vision for us and the company is integration." Digital newspapers, he said, will include full-motion video promoting **Global Television** stations and advertisers... **Cogeco Inc.** reports a lower second-quarter profit based largely on seasonal factors at its French-language **TQS** television network. Profit totalled \$756,000 (or 5-cents a share), compared with a year-earlier profit of \$36.5-million (or \$2.24), which included a \$34-million dilution gain. For the second quarter, operating margin declined compared to the same period last year due to the TQS network acquisition... Total attendance at this year's **NAB** in Las Vegas was 89,000, down from last year's 92,000.

**T**V/FILM: While **CBC News** has seen a 50% jump in viewers, and **CTV News** is holding steady, **CNN** is the most popular in Canada since the Iraqi war began. *The National with Peter Mansbridge* has seen its "average minute audience" jump 36% to 884,000 viewers. Midway through last week, *The National's* AMA was up 50% over its regular season viewing. CTV's *National News with Lloyd Robertson*, on the other hand, has held steady with a 3-to-5% jump in its AMA to 928,000 since the war began. CNN, however, garnered a 12.2% viewing share among Canadians in the first week of the war. Before the war, CNN had a season-to-date average of 2.6% in Canada. In a "report card" compiled by **Comquest** - and commissioned by CBC - the question asked of those surveyed was: "Which network is doing the best job of covering the war?" Thirty-nine per cent chose CNN... **CHUM** has pulled the plug on

its licensing agreement with **Rainbow Media Holdings** for use of the **MuchMusic** brand and original programming on Rainbow's US channel. **MuchMusic USA** launched in 1994 as a partnership between CHUM and Rainbow. CHUM subsequently sold its 50% interest in the channel to Rainbow in March 2000 and entered into an agreement authorizing Rainbow to continue the use of the MuchMusic trademarks and programming. This agreement expires at the end of next month. **MuchMusic/MuchMoreMusic** VP/GM **David Kines** says CHUM will be looking for new opportunities in the American market... The **CRTC** has found that **CTV** did not breach either the Broadcasting Act or the Television Broadcasting Regulations by airing *The Sopranos*. A complainant alleged that the series presented a negative portrayal of Italians. After a **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council** (CBSC) ruling that the series was not in breach, the complainant went to the Commission... The **Canadian Society of Cinematographers** has presented its 2003 *Roy Tash Award for Spot News Reporting* to **CTV British Columbia's Shawn Foss** for his work at the *Guns N' Roses* riot at Vancouver's BC Place. The award is presented annually to one news photographer for exceptional work. The award is usually won by network photographers. This is the first time in a decade the award has been won by a local CTV station... As of next month, **CBOT-TV Ottawa** will be available to **Star Choice** satellite service subscribers... **CTV's** Sunday night broadcast of the 2003 *JUNO Awards* drew 2.2 million viewers (2+) – a 53% jump in viewership compared to last year's broadcast.

**R**EVOLVING DOOR: **Tracy Gard**, long-time GM at **CHAS/CJQM Sault Ste. Marie** is no longer with the **Rogers** operation. New GM/PD is **Scott Sexsmith**, formerly the Ops Manager... **Bob Dearborn** is new morning host at **AM740 (CHWO) Toronto**. Dearborn, a Canadian, became famous on Chicago radio, notably **WCFL**. Dearborn succeeds the late **Tom Fulton**... **Peter Garland**, the morning show Host at **CFPL London** – after 22 years in that position – will sign off May 30. Garland, 62, spent nine years doing the morning show at **CKSL London** before “going across the street” in 1981... **CBC Prince Edward Island** morning Host **Wayne Collins** is retiring after two decades in that post... **Tom Rivers** is back at **CHUM Toronto**, effective last Saturday. Rivers, who most Torontonians remember from his CHUM morning show in the 70s and his long-time morning show stint at **CFTR Toronto**, is host of weekend daytime programming. He's still doing his **AM740 (CHWO) Toronto** Saturday night oldies show, staying with the station through the end of ratings... **Jason Moore** is new ND at **CKLW Windsor**, returning to the **CHUM** station after a couple of years as ND at **CHYR Leamington**. Current ND **Rob Shervill** becomes Ass't ND and continues to anchor the morning news run.

**L**OOKING: **CKPG Prince George** seeks a hockey play-by-play announcer; **Corus Entertainment** in Kingston is looking for a GSM for its radio and TV properties; **Alliance Atlantis Toronto** is looking for a Festivals Manager, a Human Resources Coordinator, and a Graphic Designer; **Global Television Vancouver** is looking for a Producer and Traffic Coordinator; **CJOB Winnipeg** seeks a Producer/Researcher; **Corus Radio Vancouver** is looking for an Engineer; **CTV Toronto** seeks a Market Research Analyst; **CHUB-FM/BIG 105 Red Deer** is searching for a ND; **CTV Winnipeg** is looking for a VTR Operator; and, **MCTV Sudbury** is looking for an Account Executive.

**S**UPPLYLINES: **Bell ExpressVu** has purchased a **Panasonic DVCPRO HD** camera to begin producing its own programming in high definition. The camera will be recording all of Bell ExpressVu's in-house promotional spots for movies, sporting events and other pay-per-view specials. Most spots are two to three minutes in length and will run multiple times each day on the 60 pay-per-view channels. The DVCPRO HD camera (AJ-HDC27FP) is available at a suggested retail price of \$100,000 (without lens)... **Leitch Technology** says it has partnered with **Craig Media** in the construction of a dual-format broadcast facility at **toronto/one**, Craig's new Toronto licence. In support of the station's launch, Craig is installing Leitch VR400 series multi-format servers; Opus(TM) SD/HD master control; NEO(TM) and 6800+ SD/HD modular infrastructure products; the new LogoMotion II SD/HD branding system; the Juno(TM) upconverter; Panacea(TM) routers; the dpsVelocityQ(TM) non-linear editor and DPS-575 digital processing synchronizers.

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Thursday, April 17, 2003

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**E**DITOR'S NOTE: Trying to get the newsletter delivered last week from the **NAB** convention in Las Vegas was a horror show. Nothing seemed to work. As it turned out, an abridged version had to be prepared for delivery last Thursday morning. Things now, however, are back to normal... Photos taken at **NAB2003** are posted at the **Broadcast Dialogue** Web site. Click [here](#) to see if you or your staff or your friends managed to get in the way of our lens... Newsletter subscribers are entitled to **FREE** logo placement in The Directory section of the new **Broadcast Dialogue** Web site. If you haven't sent us your logos yet, please do so. This free offer is only for stations and companies where this newsletter is delivered.

**T**V/FILM: Beginning the year with \$30 million less than anticipated, the **Canadian Television Fund** is now offering \$75 million to 73 productions. But CTF – the Department of Heritage's main avenue for distributing public funds to the country's TV industry – had to turn away 64% of the applications. The 73 productions represent about 960 new hours of Canadian TV programming – 129 productions will remain unfunded for lack of money. CTF President/CEO **Sandra Macdonald** said this was a year "where funding requests far surpassed the money we had available." Meantime, shows such as *The Eleventh Hour*, *The Red Green Show* and *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* may be doomed. But programs without funding now may still get something from the CTF's Equity Investment Program. That funding will be announced next month. **Bill Mustos**, **CTV** Sr. VP of dramatic programming and **Slawko Klymkiw**, Exec. Director of



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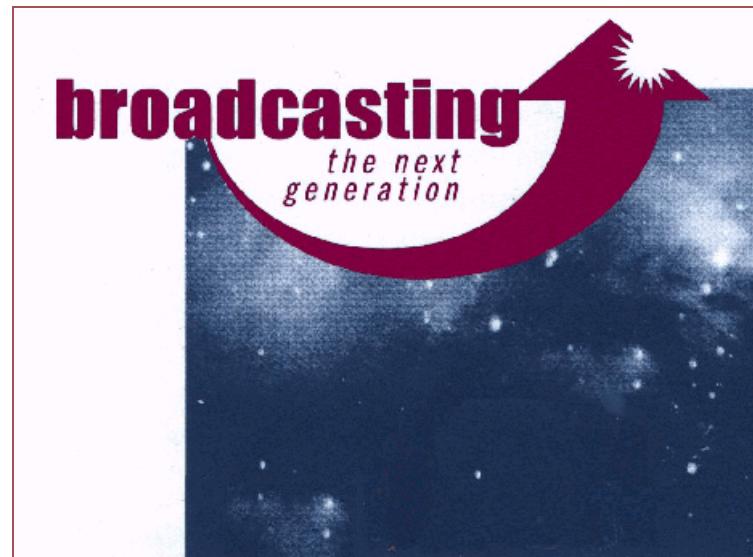
**Successful candidate must possess:**

1. a post secondary degree or diploma in administrative studies or public policy or an equivalent combination of education and experience
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3. experience and/or knowledge in regulatory matters relating to the telecommunications industry
4. advanced written communication skills
5. analytical style and approach with experience in strategic development and planning
6. experience in developing, maintaining and enhancing internal and external client relationships

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programming at **CBC**, agree that the priority system used by CTF "is broken". **CRTC** Chairman **Charles Dalfen** wants to see Canadian dramas and comedies rival those from the US. He's appointed **Trina McQueen**, the exCTV President, to study the issue. Her report is expected this spring. Meantime, the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** is calling on the **Departments of Finance** and **Canadian Heritage** to take immediate action. CAB wants them to work with the broadcasting industry to address the consequences of the CTF reduction. Association President **Glenn O'Farrell** says "*the Fund was created to support the production and broadcast of high quality, distinctively Canadian television programs. The fact that so many projects are not being funded, in an environment where the Government and the CRTC are emphasizing the need to produce high quality Canadian programming, demonstrates a serious disconnect.*" The **Canadian Film & Television Production Association** and a host of representatives from Canada's film and TV production industries let loose at a Tuesday news conference in Toronto, criticizing the federal government's funding cuts. During a question period, **Alliance Atlantis** partner **Seaton Maclean** said bluntly that "*The system is f\*\*\*ed!*" CFTPA intends to fight to restore the \$25 million funding cut. **Astral Media**, **TQS** and **TVA** – Quebec's three largest private French-language broadcasters – say they're convinced that the financing decisions for Canadian programming will have negative consequences and thus cannot be considered final. Corrective measures, they say, are unavoidable, and that they must be taken in the coming weeks. If a better balance in the financing of public and private sector programming isn't achieved, they say, the momentum and success of the private French-language TV industry, which took years to build, will be compromised. The three are proposing a special budget of at least \$8 million be allocated to finance the private French-language programs that were refused funding... **CHUM Limited** has provided details of its applications for new independent stations at Calgary, Edmonton and a re-broad at Red Deer. The CHUM news release may be found [here](#). At the same time, **Global Television** wants to revitalize **CKRD Red Deer**, disaffiliating from **CBC** and instead introducing the **CH (CHEK Victoria and CHCH Hamilton)** program schedule. The Global news release may be found [here](#). The **CRTC** will hear the rival applications at a June 16 hearing in Edmonton. But many industry observers already see the CHUM applications as a done deal. There's also much agreement that the Commission will endorse CHUM Ltd. President/CEO **Jay Switzer's** bid for CHUM Television to become Canada's third private network... **Torstar Media Group Television** (TMG TV) has changed the name of its 24 hour infomercial channel from **Toronto Star TV** to **SHOPTV Canada**. VP/GM **Don Shafer** says the change "reflects what we do as well as creates more opportunities for us in Direct Response Television." For details, click [here](#)... Canadian digital TV subscribers increased by 21% in 2002, according to a new **Decima** report. That's 600,000 new Canadian homes with digital TV penetration via satellite, cable, wireless cable, and phone companies. While new DTV viewers are still coming, the 2002 figures are down sharply from 2001. For the complete news release, click [here](#)... A US government-backed TV service to be launched in Iraq will air American news programming with



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Arabic-language captioning, reports **Crain Communications**. Programming includes unedited repeats of *ABC World News Tonight*, *CBS Evening News*, *The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer*, *NBC Nightly News* and *Fox News Special Report With Brit Hume*. **CNN**, however, has refused to provide content, saying: "We didn't think that as an independent, global news organization it was appropriate to participate in a United States government video transmission"... **Astral Television Networks'** M2, M3 and M4 pay-channels – part of the **Movie Network**

– will be renamed **MFun** (general audience), **Mexcess** (young audience), and **MEscape** (mature audience). The new branding takes effect May 1... **CHUM Television** and the **National Film Board of Canada**, have announced the *Expression Awards / Les Prix Expression*, sponsored by the **Department of Canadian Heritage**. They'll be held in Ottawa next Tuesday (April 22) as part of the *Minister's Forum on Diversity and Culture*. The Expression Awards were created to celebrate diversity in the arts and media, across Canada. For more info, click [here](#).

**RADIO:** The **CRTC** will hold hearings June 16 on – among other things – licences for Edmonton and Red Deer. Applicants for FM frequencies in Edmonton include: **O.K. Radio Group Ltd.** for 102.9 MHz (64,000 watts) with a Modern Rock format; **CHUM Limited/Milestone Media Broadcasting Ltd.** for 91.7 MHz (100,000 watts) with an Urban music format (click [here](#) for their news release); **Harvard Broadcasting Inc.** for 91.7 MHz (100,000 watts) with a Progressive Modern and Urban format; **Edmonton Radio Ltd.** for 91.7 MHz (100,000 watts) with an Easy Listening format; **Rogers Broadcasting Limited** for 91.7 (100,000 watts) with a Modern Rock format; **CKMW Radio Ltd.** for 91.7 MHz (100,000 watts) with a format drawing from hip hop, rap, dance and rhythm & blues; **Global Communications** for 99.5 MHz (100,000 watts) with an Easy Listening format; **Rawlco (Edmonton) Ltd.** for 89.3 MHz (100,000 watts) with a Smooth Jazz format; and, **Aboriginal Voices Radio Inc.** for 89.3 MHz (100,000 watts) would operate as part of the AVR Radio Network and originate 9 hours per week of local programming. Those seeking new FM licences in Red Deer are: **Jim Pattison Industries Ltd.** for 99.9 MHz (100,000 watts) with a Classic Rock format; **CBC** amend the licence of **CBR-FM Calgary** so as to add an FM re-broad at 99.9 (100,000 watts); **Rogers Broadcasting Limited** for 104.5 MHz (95,000 watts) with a Classic Hits format; and, **Newcap Inc.** for 104.3 MHz (100,000 watts) with a Classic Hits format. The intervention cut-off for all of the above applications is May 22... A new format, called **Blink 102.7**, has launched at **WNEW-FM New York**. Infinity, owner or the station, says it offers "Contemporary music mixed with Hollywood news, celebrity gossip and features on trends, fashion and pop culture" in a format aimed at young women"... Last week's deal that saw **Rupert Murdoch's News Corp.** acquire control of **Hughes Electronics** and its **DirecTV** subsidiary for \$6.6 billion also included Murdoch's company becoming the second-largest shareholder of **XM Satellite Radio** (behind only **American Honda**). News Corp. will have roughly 14.4% while American Honda holds 18.5%... **CHTM Thompson** aired a 20-hour radiothon over April 11-12, raising almost \$16,000 towards the purchase of a *Baby Pod* for transporting very young sick children from the northern Manitoba community to the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg. Funds remaining will go toward research for children's diseases. This was the first time a radiothon attempt had ever been made in the community... **CKLC Kingston** will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in November. GM/GSM **Gary Perrin** is trying to contact the many people who have passed through those halls during their careers, hoping to get some bits to use on-air. Old photos, too, would be most welcome, he says. Perrin gives the example of **John Bermingham**, who started with CKLC 50 years ago. Today, at 72, he's still in the same building with CKLC and running his own company, **Bermingham Marketing**. Gary Perrin may be contacted at (613) 544-1380 ext. 236 or by e-mail at [gperrin@kos.net](mailto:gperrin@kos.net).



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**S YNDICATION:** **Pierre Bourque**, of the Bourque Web site ([www.bourque.com](http://www.bourque.com)) and who has often filled-in as a talk show host at **CFRA Ottawa**, and **CJOB Winnipeg's Charles Adler** are developing a new weekend talk show. Stations are being signed across Canada. For information, send Bourque a note at [pierre@achilles.net](mailto:pierre@achilles.net).

**R EVOLVING DOOR:** **Laura McGugan**, morning co-Host, then morning Host alone, at **CIOJ-FM Belleville** the last five years – and **Broadcast Dialogue** magazine's first '*Hero of Broadcasting*' – has moved to **CKWS-TV Kingston** as a Reporter. She will remain in Belleville as the Kingston station's regional correspondent... **Keith Soper**, who many know from his years at **OZ-FM/CJON-TV St. John's**, is back in broadcasting. He's signed-on as afternoon Host at **K-Rock (VOCM-FM) St. John's** and will also continue his real estate business... **David Jones** has become Ops. Mgr. of the **Standard Radio** Hamilton Cluster (**102.9 K-Lite (CKLH-FM)/Oldies 1150 (CKOC)/CHAM**). He had been PD at K-Lite... **Rene Huebner**, after 18 years with **CHUM Radio** – the most recent as Creative Director at the Winnipeg stations – officially leaves that post at month's end.

**S IGN-OFFS:** **Bob Hosie**, 89, the founder of **CKOM Saskatoon** in 1951. He sold the station to Elmer Hildebrand in 1985. Hosie died in late January... **Andy Philip**, 86, in Calgary. He began his career at **CFGP Grande Prairie** and retired from his News Director's position at **CHQR Calgary** in the early 80s... News announcer **Fred Goders**, 56, died Monday in Edmonton after a heart attack. He'd been part of Edmonton radio since the mid-'70s, with the old talk radio **CJCA**, and then with **K97 (CIRK-FM)**. After a first heart attack in the early '90s, Goders cut back to part-time news reading at **CHQT** and **CISN-FM**. He'd been off air since the **Corus Radio Group** amalgamation.

**L OOKING:** **Manitoba Telecom Services** is looking for a Regulatory Consultant - Broadcasting. See the ad on Page 1. More details may be found [here](#)... Other jobs we've heard about include **Astral Media** seeking an Affiliate Trade Marketing Manager in Toronto; **Alliance Atlantis** in Toronto looking for a Production Executive; **TVA** in Montreal seeking for a Web Master; **Corus Kingston** looking for a General Sales Manager; **CKDK Woodstock/London** looking for a Promotions Coordinator; **Corus London** seeking a Producer; **CFPL London** looking for a Morning Show Host; **CHED/CKNG/CISN/CHQT Edmonton** seeking a Production Assistant; the **NFB** in Montreal looking for an Advisor, Employment Equity Program; **The Comedy Network** in Toronto wanting an Associate Marketing Manager; **CFTO News** in Toronto looking for a Business Manager; **CTV** in Toronto seeking an Account Executive-Network Sales; and, **Corus Entertainment Toronto** looking for a VP/GM for its **Digital Adventure** and **Max Trax**.

**G ENERAL:** **Rogers Cable** employees either aren't very effective or don't care about a new campaign by incoming CEO **Edward Rogers** to attract 3000 new cable subs. Just 30 new customers have come aboard since he launched a promotion last month that would have paid employees \$100 for each new hook-up. The hope had been to attract new or return customers, particularly those who have gone to satellite. A source was quoted as saying Rogers will have to add about 375 new customers each week until the end of May to achieve the target... **Telesat** has cleared *Nimiq 2* for its full projected life span. There had been an anomaly but a manufacturer's investigation cleared the problem. The Nimiq 2 satellite provides direct-to-home TV services for Canadians as does *Nimiq 1*, Telesat's other DTH satellite. Read the news release [here](#)... Montreal-based **Reporters Without Borders** has voiced concern that a **CNN** crew's security escort returned fire with an automatic weapon when the crew, traveling in several vehicles, came under fire at the entrance to the northern Iraqi town of Tikrit. The use of firearms is a practice contrary to all the rules of the profession, the organization said. Click [here](#) for more... At the **Broadcast Executives Society** Luncheon in Toronto today (Thursday), **CanWest Media Sales** President **Jack Tomik's** address centres on his experience as a buyer – "Confessions of an ex Media Buyer." Tickets are still available at 416/413-3870.

**S UPPLYLINES:** New CEO at Stamford, CT-based **OmniBus Systems** is **Mike Oldham**, an ex COO at **Encoda Systems**.

# BROADCAST Dialogue

*The Best Broadcast Briefing in Canada*

**Not for Distribution Beyond Your Reception Point**

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**S**IGN-OFFS: **J. Conrad Lavigne**, 86, who - in 1950 - began the pursuit of opening the first French language radio station outside of Quebec.

It took a year of fighting red tape and non-believers but **CFCL Timmins** went to air in 1951. A TV station followed which than begat the largest privately-owned broadcast system in the world. **CFCL-TV Timmins** began broadcasting in 1956 and over the next 24 years, Lavigne – a member of the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters' Hall of Fame** – acquired three more stations and built a dozen rebroadcasting towers linked by a private microwave system. His English-language TV network reached Rouyn-Noranda, Val d'Or and other Quebec communities, helping bridge the gap between the French and English cultural groups... **Frederick William (Fred) Arenburg**, 79, at Bridgewater, Nova Scotia's South Shore Regional Hospital on Monday. Fred Arenburg's broadcast career began in 1948 at **CKBW Bridgewater**. In 1954, he joined the sales department at **CHNS Halifax**, later becoming PD in 1959 and GM in 1960. Under his direction, Talk Radio began in Nova Scotia. In 1970, he became GM at **CKDH Amherst**. Ten years later, he was majority shareholder and president of CKDH's parent company, **Tantramar Broadcasting**. In 1989, he sold his interests to **Maritime Broadcasting**. In 1975, the station won the **Canadian Association of Broadcaster's Station of the Year Award** and its news department won a **Dan McArthur Award** for Excellence in Radio News from the **Radio and Television News Directors Association of Canada**...

**Charlie Douglass**, 93, the inventor of TVs canned laughter and other sounds, of pneumonia. His *Laff Box* has been supplying taped audience reactions since the 1950s. He said he got the idea when he was working as a Technical Director on many of the live shows during TVs early days. In 1992, recognition came in the form of a *Lifetime Achievement Emmy* in 1992.

**RADIO:** The **CRTC** has approved **Durham Radio's** acquisition of **Corus** stations **CKGE-FM (Magic)** and **CKDO Oshawa**. Durham Radio also owns **CJKX (KX96) Ajax** and **CJWV (Smooth Jazz Wave 94.7) Hamilton**. Magic is an AC format stressing public affairs while CKDO is Oldies featuring local



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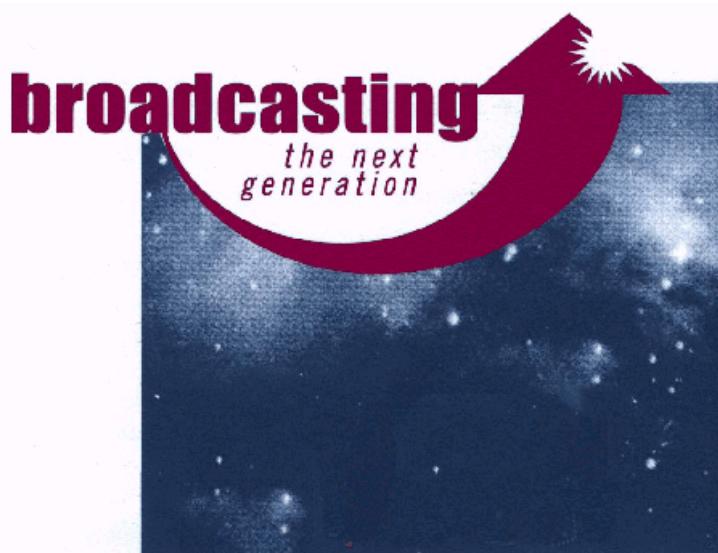
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news and sports. Durham Radio says it will keep the formats but, through pooled efforts between its stations, will broadcast more local news, sports and promotion of local entertainment and community events relevant to the Oshawa community. New sister station KX96 Ajax is only about 10 km. away from Oshawa and, says the CRTC, are considered to operate in the same market. Durham paid \$3.9 million for the two Oshawa stations...The **CRTC** has approved four new Toronto stations, each of which have up to two years to begin operating. They are: **Canadian Multicultural Radio** (CMR) (101.3 FM), an ethnic service directed mainly at South Asian communities; **La Coopérative radiophonique de Toronto inc.** (105.1 FM), a community station which will be the first French-language station in the Toronto area to be added to those provided by **Société Radio-Canada** (SRC); **San Lorenzo Latin American Community Centre** (1610 AM), a not-for-profit ethnic community station primarily programming to Toronto's Spanish-speaking cultural groups; and, **Sur Sagar Radio Inc.** (Transitional Digital Radio, Channel 2), the first stand-alone transitional digital radio service. It will offer at least 80% of its programming to at least five different cultural groups in five different languages (Punjabi, Hindi, Urdu and Gujarati, as well as English)... **Medianet Communications** in Toronto has signed an agreement with **Aboriginal Voices Radio** to provide administration and production facilities and support. Programming content will be produced in the Medianet studios for distribution to AVR stations licenced in future. Click [here](#) for the **Nielsen Media Research** in the US for a commercial back-up plan. But if there's no deal, Arbitron says it would measure multi-media and product usage targeting and marketing Return On Investment and a tower on its studio roof. This week, vandals got a community station's new tower was toppled and



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**G**ENERAL: **Astral Media** says net profit for the fiscal second quarter ended Feb. 28 jumped 42% to \$13.8 million (25-cents a share). That compared with earnings of \$9.8 million (20-cents) in the second quarter of last year. Revenue rose 21% to \$113.1 million from \$93.2 million, the increase due in part to the radio stations acquired from **Telemedia** late last summer. Meantime, Astral Chairman **André Bureau** says the recent **Canadian Television Fund** cuts shouldn't have a big impact on Astral's **Movie Network**, **Family** and **Teletoon** – all of which purchase Canadian programming. In its last fiscal year, Astral spent close to \$90 million to buy Canadian films and other content for its specialty, pay-TV and radio stations... The **Ontario Association of Broadcasters** has an agreement with the **Ontario Provincial Police** to implement the *Amber Alert* program on radio and TV stations across the province. OAB has established a committee of

News Directors from large and small market stations to establish the parameters of its operation... **Rogers Communications** reports a \$23.7 million profit in the first quarter; 14% growth. The quarter ended March 31 saw net income hit six cents a share, reversing last year's loss of \$97.56 million dollars (53 cents per share)... Seattle-based **RealNetworks Inc.** will acquire **Listen.com** and its *Rhapsody* digital music subscription business for about \$US36 million in cash and stock. The deal is expected to close in about 90 days... Tomorrow (Friday) at London's **University of Western Ontario**, **Corus Entertainment** will announce a donation to the **Richard Ivey School of Business** to establish the Corus Entertainment Chair in Women in Management. Corus, in a news release, says "the Chair has been established to develop innovative research, teaching materials, and outreach programs on Women in Management and to broaden the impact of the School's unique teaching and research programs"... Coming up next Thursday-Friday (May 1-2) is the BC Regional **RTNDA** meeting in Kamloops. Part of the events include the presentation to **Warren Barker** of the inaugural **RTNDA Lifetime Achievement Award**. Barker was the long-time ND at **CKNW Vancouver**.

**R**EVOLVING DOOR: Long-time **OZ-FM (CHOZ-FM) St. John's** morning Host **Randy Snow** has resigned.

**L**OOKING: Jobs we've heard about this week include: **Metro Radio Group** in Halifax looking for a Research Analyst; **CHBC-TV Kelowna** seeking a Marketing Consultant; **Global Maritimes** in Halifax looking for an Executive Producer; **CKNW/AM980 Vancouver** in search of a Producer; **Rogers Media (Television) Toronto** looking for a News Writer; **Sony Music Canada** seeking a Sr. Business Development Manager; and, **MCTV (CTV) Sault Ste. Marie** is in search of a Creative Writer/Videographer.

**T**V/FILM: The **Alliance for Children and Television** (ACT) will honour Canada's top English-language children's programs at the 2003 Awards of Excellence Gala June 2 at **CBC's Glenn Gould Theatre** in Toronto. The awards recognize quality and excellence of productions for young audiences. Nominee and further information may be found [here](#)... The **Manchester Film Festival** in Vermont is inviting individuals and companies involved in the Canadian entertainment industry to attend June 21-22. Details may be found [here](#)... Ad buyers are telling Hollywood that the last thing they want are more reality shows, including content such as *The Osbournes*, has-been stars toughing it out in the boonies, or silly singles shows. US network execs say that few - if any - reality shows will be on the fall schedules. **ABC** says it will roll out as many as 10 new comedies, while **NBC**, **CBS** and **Fox** also promise a heavy fall slate of scripted shows... **Canadian Cable Television Association** President/CEO **Janet Yale** will address the **National Press Club's** Newsmaker Breakfast in Ottawa May 13. Her presentation will focus on the "View on the Viewer", highlighting the findings of a public opinion survey undertaken jointly by CCTA, the **Strategic Counsel** and **Maclean's** magazine... US cable news viewing continued its steady decline last week, with the combined audience for **Fox**, **CNN** and **MSNBC** slipping over 30% from the previous week. Fading interest in war coverage is blamed. Last week's most-watched single program on cable, at just over 5 million viewers, was Fox News' Friday coverage relating to slain Modesto woman **Laci Peterson**, the kind of sensational domestic story shelved during the Iraq invasion... The **National Film Board of Canada** and the **Aboriginal Peoples Television Network** have an agreement to work together in telling stories of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada. The deal will allow the NFB's expertise to join forces with APTN to develop opportunities in areas of mutual interest... **The New VI (CIVI-TV)** **Victoria's** newsroom has an unusual set of circumstances going on with two Anchors. They're both pregnant. **Tasha Larson**, Anchor for the 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. news, is due in early July while **Susan Edgell**, the 11 p.m. Anchor, is due in September... **TNN** is changing its name to **Spike TV**, beginning June 16. When TNN changed format from country a while back, it had trouble convincing viewers and advertisers that it became **The National Network**, not **The Nashville Network**. Spike TV is being billed as "the first network for men."

**S**UPPLYLINES: **FastChannel Network, Inc.**, operated in Canada by **Broadcast News**, was awarded one of the first **NAB** awards for *Innovation in Media* (AIMs) at **NAB 2003** in Las Vegas. Details may be found [here](#)... **David Peterson**, the former Ontario Premier, has resigned as Chairman of Markham-based **Cabletel Communications Corp.** No successor has been named.