

January 12, 1996

Betty MacPhee
Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator
Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission

Sent via fax to (819) 994-0218

Dear Ms. MacPhee:

I hope that the holidays were good to you and that you are ready for a busy year at the CRTC in 1996.

I am speaking at a conference on January 30, 1996, sponsored by The Globe and Mail and Insight Conferences. The topic of the conference is one dear to my heart, The Changing Role of the CRTC.

Unfortunately, with the closure of the Toronto regional office, I have not been able to gain access to some information to effectively discuss matters in the public interest concerning the CRTC. I have asked around with various contacts in the Toronto media if anybody already has the information that I need, but to no avail.

I have neither the time, nor the disposable financial resources, to make the journey to CRTC headquarters in Quebec to sift through the public files in your possession, so I hope that you are willing and able to provide a little information to me by January 19, 1996 in the pursuit a healthy debate in the name of democracy.

Please provide me with the following information:

- current staff levels in Halifax, Montreal, Winnipeg & Vancouver regional offices
- former levels of staff in these offices when CRTC announced Toronto office closure
- Toronto staff level prior to closure
- CRTC announcement of Toronto closure
- Will the present Toronto office for Commissioner Scott remain open in the future? Is this office now available for the public to discuss issues with the Commissioner?
- the names of commissioners who voted for subsection 18 (6.3) re: CRTC Public Notice 1993-74; and the names of any commissioners who abstained (I already have the dissenting commissioners)

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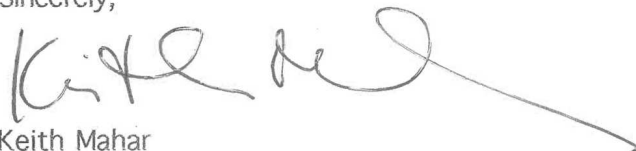
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- confirmation of the maximum regulated basic cable rate for Newmarket, Ontario, for January 1996 if;
 - i) Rogers contributes to the Cable Production Fund in accordance with s. 18 (6.3)
 - ii) Rogers does not contribute anything to the Cable Production Fund
- Did the CRTC have a public opinion poll (survey) conducted regarding the popularity of the proposed specialty services in the last round, prior to selecting the services in 1994? If the answer is yes, please send a copy of that survey to my attention, along with any other survey (and what parties involved in the process provided the evidence to the CRTC): If the answer is no, please send copies of all the surveys (and what parties involved in the process provided the evidence to the CRTC)
- how much commissioners are paid, Chairmans, if exact figures of how much the public is paying to these individuals, a range of ten or twenty thousand is acceptable, but the more precise the better.
- a list of all the commissioners that have served Canada in the past, as complete as possible.

Please fax this public information to my attention c/o C. Leafloor @ (416) 368-8206 as soon as possible. Please send the information that cannot be faxed to Box 399, Station K, 2384 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M4P 2G7.

I really appreciate your assistance, but to be very honest, the closure of the Toronto office has made it extremely difficult for myself, and members of the media in Toronto, to keep on top of this exciting time in the evolution of fair and sustainable competition in the state-controlled marketplace.

Sincerely,



Keith Mahar