

*Member of Parliament for
Coast of Bays-Central-Notre Dame*



*Député de
Coast of Bays-Central-Notre Dame*

HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Scott Simms, M.P.

Mr. Scott Hutton
Secretary General (Acting)
Canadian Radio-television and
Telecommunications Commission
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N2

Thursday, November 16th, 2017

Dear Mr. Hutton,

Re: Broadcasting Notice of Consultation CRTC 2017-365; CRTC Application #2017-0586-5 by Pelmorex Weather Networks (Television) Inc.

I am writing to day to indicate my support for the application of Pelmorex for the continued and permanent distribution of The Weather Network and MétéoMédia on the basic TV service. As the Member of Parliament for Coast of Bays-Central-Notre Dame, I firmly believe that The Weather Network is an essential public service for the many communities in my riding.

Removing The Weather Network from the basic TV and satellite services would move it into the pick and pay and television channel packages offered by cable and satellite distributors. This would lump The Weather Network in with specialty channels such as the Food Network, MTV, MuchMusic, etc. and would force seniors and fixed/low-income constituents to pay. These stations do not provide my constituents with information that keeps them safe and informed, they are not an essential public service—The Weather Network, however, is.

Many of my constituents must drive long distances for travel, work, shopping, attending community events, accessing Government services, and much more. The Weather Network provides them with weather reports and road conditions that make these things and their day-to-day lives both easier and safer. It also operates and funds the National Alert Aggregation and Dissemination System, the backbone infrastructure of Canada's national emergency alerting system, a vital contribution to the public safety of Canadians.

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As a former broadcast journalist on The Weather Network, I am very aware of the vital service that it provides to not only my constituents, but to all Canadians. I also know that The Weather Network offers unique Canadian content not seen on other channels.

Please allow Pelmorex to permanently distribute The Weather Network and MétéoMédia on the basic TV service. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Simms", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Simms, M.P.
Coast of Bays-Central-Notre Dame

Cc: Pelmorex Communications