

FAX TRANSMITTAL

To: Canadian Radio-television & Telecommunications Commission

From: Whirligig & Weathervane Festival Committee

Date: November 16, 2017

Re: letter of Support - The Weather Network

Application # 2017-0586-5

Consultation # 2017-365

Fax: (819)-994-0218

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Please find attached letter of Support for the above.

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November 15, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

**Re: The Weather Network – Letter of Support**

The Whirligig & Weathervane Festival Committee is very pleased to provide this letter of support for The Weather Network to remain on basic television service, available to all subscribers.

The Whirligig & Weathervane Festival is a two-day, annual festival that is held completely outside on the Town of Shelburne's beautiful waterfront during the third week in September. Although our fall weather is usually quite enjoyable, there have been a number of years when the weather hasn't co-operated. During those times, based on the local forecast received from The Weather Network, we have made the decision to move the festival inside, for both the comfort and safety of our participants and visitors. This has always been shown to be the right choice to make.

On a more personal note for Committee Members, Shelburne and area is a rural location approximately two hours from the capital city of Halifax, Nova Scotia. As you may be aware, broadband internet service is essentially non-existent in some parts of the Province; which is mostly the case here. Because of this, many residents rely on watching The Weather Network on television for timely, accurate weather information. It is used when planning for festivals such as this, but also for travelling to work, medical appointments, etc., especially during the winter months. As you know, weather conditions may be completely different a half hour from home.

Having access to accurate weather forecasts should be a basic service that is provided to all residents, regardless of financial circumstances or other means of access. People need services to help keep them safe. The Weather Network provides one of these services. As a Committee and individuals, we are grateful for it being readily available and support it remaining obtainable for all subscribers.

Sincerely,

Whirligig & Weathervane Festival Committee