



December 1, 2017

Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada, K1A 0N2

Re: Application Number 2017-0586-5 – Pelmorex Weather Networks (Television) Inc.;
Consultation Number 2017-365

To Whom It May Concern,

The Ontario School Bus Association (OSBA) is a not-for-profit association providing advocacy, education and legislative consultation services to the owners of school bus fleets, school boards/transportation consortia and supplier/manufacture members across Ontario for over 60 years. OSBA fosters unique partnerships with provincial and federal governments, school boards and transportation consortia, manufacturers, distributors and other industry related organizations, to resolve important industry issues and ensure students are transported to school safely, securely, on-time and ready to learn.

Every school day in Ontario, over 825,000 children are safely and reliably transported to and from school in approximately 20,000 school buses and school purpose vehicles. Collectively, this means more than two million kilometres driven every school day and 300 million safe rides each school year. As such, Ontario's student transportation industry safely delivers in excess of 42.5% of the two million elementary and secondary school students enrolled in Ontario's educational institutions.

OSBA continues to support school bus safety as a priority and is proud of the safety record demonstrated by the student transportation industry. There have been no school age child fatalities on a school bus in Canada since 2008 and Transport Canada states that statistics show that children are 16 times more likely to be killed walking to school when compared to taking a school bus.

A contributing factor to this impressive safety record is access to relevant data and information, such as weather forecasts and current conditions, which may impact home-to-school transportation services at any given time. Student transportation managers and parents rely on easy access to information sources such as the televised broadcasts found on *The Weather Network* to enable them to make informed, real-time decisions regarding the safety of students, professional school bus drivers and the general public. OSBA believes that removing *The Weather Network* from the basic television service may create unnecessary barriers for parents to easily obtain important information to help ensure the safety of their children. As such, OSBA believes *The Weather Network* should remain part of the basic cable television service.

Should you wish to discuss these matters further, please feel free to contact Alex Bugeya – OSBA Safety and Legislative Consultant – abugeya@osba.on.ca or 416.695.9965 Ext. 4.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michele O'Bright", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michele O'Bright, C.A.E.
Association Director
Ontario School Bus Association (OSBA)
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