



Yukon Legislative Assembly

Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

December 7, 2017

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

Re: Letter of Support for Application Number: 2017-0586-5

On behalf of the Yukon Party Caucus in the Yukon Legislative Assembly, I want to express support for the Weather Network's new Northern Programming Initiative.

Due to the unique circumstances of living in the North, it is extremely valuable to have content that accurately reflects life in northern rural communities and showcases Indigenous or northern-focused topics. Northerners face challenges, such as major gaps in infrastructure and higher cost of living, which do not receive enough attention.

Having a northern specific programming will help educate Canadians about these challenges while showing them how weather and climate change impacts our day-to-day lives in the North. Daily programming with an emphasis on the North will help bring the awareness needed to encourage concrete support from the federal government to help Northerners address our challenges.

As well, northern-focused programming that is broadcast across Canada allows more Canadians to see the beauty of the Yukon and the rest of the North. This will in turn offer economic benefits from the tourism sector, because as more people learn about the North, more people will want to travel here.

It is our view that more diverse and northern-specific content is a benefit not only for those who live here, but also those looking to learn more about our incredible territories. We thank you for the opportunity to offer support for this great initiative.

Sincerely,

Stacey Hassard
Leader of the Yukon Party Official Opposition