



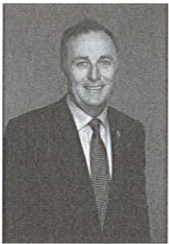
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Re: Broadcasting Notice of Consultation CRTC 2017-365; CRTC Application #2017-0586-5 by Pelmorex Weather Networks (Television) Inc.

Dear Mr. Hutton,

In my capacity as Member of Parliament for the Bay of Quinte, I am writing to indicate my support for the application by Pelmorex for the continued and permanent distribution of The Weather Network and MétéoMédia on the basic TV service.

As you may be aware, the Bay of Quinte is a predominantly rural riding whose economy is inextricably linked to agricultural enterprises and tourism. I'm certain you've seen those bumper-stickers touting the phrase, 'Farmers Feed Cities.' They do, but their ability to produce and provide essential foodstuffs is dependent on their access to high quality information regarding weather patterns. This is especially true as we see ever more dramatic climate change altering the seasonal weather patterns; a severe challenge which our farming community members must respond to, accordingly, if they are to be successful. The better their access to weather information, the better their chance is of delivering the best quality produce and livestock to the tables of Canadian families.

Furthermore, I would ask you to also consider the demographic trends in my riding; proportionally, we have a very high older demographic in the riding who live on fixed incomes and may require family support for the providence of care. These constituents truly require being able to continue to access The Weather Network, in an affordable and convenient manner as part of the basic cable and satellite service, because this can help them retain access to the information they most need when scheduling to connect with family members who may live long distances away from them.

It's also important to note that most of my constituents must travel extensively to reach their workplaces, shopping, community events, in addition to their family members. Constituents are very reliant on weather reports and road conditions provided by The Weather Network in their day-to-day lives to accomplish reaching these destinations, safely.

It's an understatement to say that weather awareness is important to our region; it's vital for the livelihoods, travel planning, and overall sustainment of many Bay of Quinte residents. I know that the Weather Network's distribution of local Environment Canada warnings, air quality indicators and road conditions are vital aspects of information needed across all sectors. Many of the communities in my riding have no local broadcasters serving them, certainly none who provide local weather and public safety information on a continuous basis. It is critical that the CRTC ensure that The Weather Network remains on the basic TV service for those constituents who would be, otherwise, under-served for this type of information.

For this reason, I do support The Weather Network application because it is an essential public service to the Bay of Quinte. I would encourage the Commission to ensure this vital service remains part of the basic TV service on a permanent basis, so that all our community members are able to have access, going forward. Thank you for your consideration.

Warmest regards,

Mr. Neil R. Ellis
M.P. Bay of Quinte