



ROYAL
ASTRONOMICAL
SOCIETY
OF CANADA

Halifax Centre

Metro Media/The Weather Network

Application Number: 2017-0586-5 Consultation Number: 2017-365

November 15, 2017

To The CRTC,

My Name is Paul Heath and I am past President and present Outreach Chair for the Halifax Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

We have had a close working relationship with The Weather Network through the efforts of Videographer Nathan Coleman. He has done various pieces on our Halifax Centre activities, but more importantly he has made the general public aware of many Astronomical events over the last few years.

Most recently, the Solar Eclipse event this past summer. Nathans promotion of the event on the Weather Network made many Nova Scotian's aware of both the event and how to observe it safely. Our main public event at the Halifax Discovery Centre had over 1000 in attendance. I would estimate that over half the people in attendance heard of the event first on the Weather Network.

The wide viewing audience of the Weather Network has allowed our Centre to promote Astronomical events, with Nathan Coleman's enthusiastic support, to a much larger audience than our own web site could. Even with Nova Scotia's hard to predict weather, The Weather Network has been able to let the public know about various events and their chances of observing them.

The Halifax Centre of The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada strongly supports the licence renewal application of the Weather Network. Without the broad public access to the Weather Network, it would be much harder to let the public know about major astronomical events and of course if the weather will be good for viewing these events.

On a personal note, as a school bus driver, I rely on the Weather Network to let me know what the driving conditions I will face each day on the road, taking children to school.

Sincerely,

Paul Heath
Past President, Outreach Chair
Halifax Centre, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

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