

ni? ct xaʔəmətəʔ, tə ʔniməʔ, tə təməxʷ ʔi? tə kʷaʔkʷə 1 *

We watch over the land and sea and in turn they watch over us.

February 27, 2014

John Traversy
Secretary General
Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N2

Dear Mr. Traversy:

Re: Application by Rogers Media Inc. on behalf of Rogers Broadcasting Limited to renew the broadcasting licence of the OMNI multilingual ethnic television station:

2013-1770-2 (CHNM - OMNI Vancouver)

As the Mayor of Vancouver, I am writing to express my concerns regarding the future of ethnic and third-language programming provided by OMNI Vancouver in relation to the application by Rogers Media Inc. to renew the broadcasting licence 2013-1770-2 (CHNM - OMNI Vancouver).

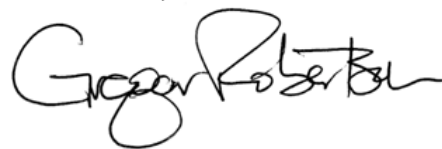
I would like to reiterate the motion which was passed unanimously on July 29th, 2013 by Vancouver City Council to express its strong concerns to Rogers Television and the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission and to ask that they consider reinstating programming and employment levels to better serve Vancouver's current and growing multicultural population.

That motion was forwarded to you by the Vancouver City Clerk's Office in a letter dated July 31st, 2013, and it is enclosed again for your reference.

I thank the Commission for the opportunity once again to express our concerns.

Many thanks and best regards.

Yours sincerely,



Gregor Robertson
MAYOR



VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20

July 31, 2013

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

Dear Sir/Madame:

RE: Reductions to Local Omni Multicultural and Multilingual Programing

Vancouver City Council, at its meeting on Monday, July 29, 2013, approved the following:

WHEREAS

1. Rogers Television executives made commitments to Canadians to maintain local multicultural programming levels and even modestly increase employment when they appeared in front of the CRTC during their successful purchase of Channel M in 2008;
2. Multicultural programming is an important bridge between new Canadians and their country of origin and is supported by Canada's multicultural policies, upon which OMNI's broadcast license is based;
3. OMNI television is Canada's only free over-the-air multicultural national broadcaster;
4. Over 50% of Vancouver residents identify themselves as multicultural and local news coverage not only provides our Vancouver residents with the up-to-date news in our city but also serves as a conduit to empower new immigrants to engage with and become a more active part of our local community; and
5. Channel M has previously provided a full range of multicultural programming employing up to 100 creative people and cuts to programming since the station first signed in 2003, and cuts to field reporters, writers, camera operators and editors in OMNI's Cantonese and Mandarin news casts in 2013 have reduced employment levels by over 66%.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council express its strong concerns to Rogers Television and the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission and ask that they consider reinstating programming and employment levels to better serve Vancouver's current and growing multicultural population.

Yours truly,

Laura Kazakoff
Meeting Coordinator

tel: 604.871.6353

City Clerk's Office e-mail: info@vancouver.ca