



# VANCOUVER and DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

February 24, 2014

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

Dear CRTC:

**Subject: Broadcast Application 2014-26 by Rogers**

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The Vancouver and District Labour Council represents over 100 unions with approximately 60,000 members in the Vancouver region. This is a very diverse community where many citizens rely on ethnic community and third-language programming.

With their needs in mind, we write to express our opposition to Rogers' broadcast application 2014-26, which will soon be considered by the CRTC.

We understand that Rogers is seeking approval to:

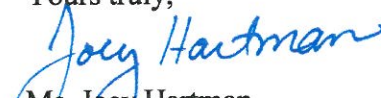
- Cut back on foreign-language programming in favour of U.S. comedy and entertainment shows, in addition to NHL hockey;
- Eliminate requirements for stations to broadcast a diverse range of third-language programming;
- Amend their license to reduce broadcasts aimed at distinct ethnic groups from 20 to as few as 10; and
- Lower minimums for community content.

In our view, any of these changes would be to the detriment of our community and others across the country. They also run contrary to the provisions of the *Canada Broadcasting Act*, which requires community ethnic programming.

Further, we believe Rogers has a privileged position that comes with responsibilities to the public. They are sheltered from intense U.S. competition in order that they deliver programs that matter to a diverse Canadian population. That is why it is so important that the CRTC insist that Rogers provide Canadian content, local programming and ethnic broadcasting.

We look forward to hearing that the CRTC has declined approval for this regressive application.

Yours truly,

  
Ms. Joey Hartman  
President

cc: VDLC Executive

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