



PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE
LE CENTRE POUR LA DÉFENSE DE L'INTÉRÊT PUBLIC

19 June 2015

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

VIA GCKEY

Dear Mr. Traversy,

Re: Unifor Local 723M Application 2015-0576-0
Complaint from Unifor Local 723M against Rogers Media Inc.
regarding OMNI Television
Procedural Letter

1. The Public Interest Advocacy Centre (**PIAC**) has reviewed the above-noted application filed by Unifor Local 723M (**Unifor**), as well as Application 2015-0560-4 filed by the Urban Alliance on Race Relations and other signatory parties.
2. In a procedural request dated 11 June 2015, Unifor requested that the Commission immediately issue a notice of consultation for an expedited public hearing regarding a Rogers Media Inc. (**Rogers**) decision to cancel all local newscasts on its five OMNI over-the-air ethnic television stations.
3. The effect of the notice of consultation would also be to combine the current public processes governing two separate complaints launched by Unifor and by Urban Alliance.
4. PIAC supports Unifor's request, pursuant to section 12(1) of the *Broadcasting Act*¹ (**Act**), for the Commission to inquire into, hear and determine the issue of whether Rogers' decision to eliminate the OMNI newscasts contravenes the *Act* or any regulation, licence, decision or order made by the Commission. In particular, PIAC

¹ SC 1991, c 11.

submits that, pursuant to section 12(1)(b) of the *Act*, Rogers' unannounced but sudden elimination of the OMNI news programs in May created the pressing circumstances in which a Commission hearing into the matter would be appropriate.

Yours truly,
[original signed]

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