



September 27, 2013

Filed Electronically

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

Dear Mr. Traversy:

Re: Broadcasting Notice of Consultation CRTC 2013-448, Item #3: Application by Corus Entertainment Inc. (Corus) for authority to acquire the broadcasting undertakings Historia and Séries+ through a multi-step transaction (Applications 2013-0597-0, 2013-0600-4, and 2013-0611-8)

1. The Writers Guild of Canada (WGC) is the national association representing more than 2,200 professional screenwriters working in English-language film, television, radio, and digital media production in Canada. The WGC is actively involved in advocating for a strong and vibrant Canadian broadcasting system containing high-quality Canadian programming. While the WGC's mandate is to represent our members, in advocating a strong Canadian broadcasting system that offers Canadians a variety of programming, we also play a role in balancing competing interests in the broadcasting system.
2. The WGC would not normally submit comments to the CRTC related to the acquisition of French-language television undertakings. We are deeply concerned, however, that determinations made with respect to Corus' position that tangible public benefits are required for only a portion of the total purchase price paid to acquire Historia and Séries+ could set a precedent with respect to the applicability of the Commission's tangible benefits policy to any future application regarding a possible merger of Shaw Media Inc.'s and Corus' television undertakings.
3. We have reviewed the intervention of the Canadian Media Production Association (CMPA) filed with the CRTC on this date commenting on this specific issue. The WGC wishes to state for the public record that we agree with and support the CMPA's comments. In short, we believe that the Commission should base the size of the tangible benefits package in these circumstances on the full value of the transaction, and not just on the value of Bell Media Inc.'s ownership of the two undertakings, as Corus proposes.

A Member of the International Affiliation of Writers Guilds

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4. We thank the Commission for the opportunity to provide our comments related to these Applications. The WGC does not wish to appear at the public hearing scheduled to commence on November 5, 2013 in Gatineau, Quebec to address these specific Applications.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maureen Parker', with a stylized, cursive script.

Maureen Parker
Executive Director

c.c.: National Council, WGC
Sylvie Courtemanche, Vice President, Government Relations, Corus Entertainment Inc.
(sylvie.courtemanche@corusent.com)

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