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CRTC
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N2

September 30, 2010

Attn: Secretary General of the CRTC

Re: Broadcasting Notice of Consultation CRTC 2010-623

- 1 I do not want to appear at the oral hearing.
- 2 I am writing on behalf of regarding CRTC public notice of consultation 2010-623.
3. OpenMedia.ca is a national network of organizations that represent nearly 700,000 people across Canada who want a diverse and democratic media system.
- 4 We support the renewed proposal by the Canadian Association of Community Television Users and Stations (CACTUS) to use the 0.5% of cable gross revenues that would become available under the CRTC's proposal in 2010-623 to establish a Community-Access Media Fund (CAMF) to which independent non-profit community-run access channels could apply.
- 5 The CAMF would be administered and operated as an independent funding body much like the Canadian Media Fund but on a much smaller scale and for the community sector.
- 6 The cable-run community channels that remain in operation today are mainly located in larger towns and cities across Canada. Compounding this problem are the closures of commercial newspapers and television stations across Canada in smaller communities as the media industry has struggled with restructuring and changes. The new community channel policy does not address the acute lack of opportunity for rural populations across Canada to bring their voices into the diversity of voices that make up the Canadian Broadcasting System.
- 7 The community sector is uniquely able to facilitate programming on modest budgets in just such small communities.
- 8 Although the proposed 0.5% is one quarter of the amount required to create a healthy country-wide community TV sector (according to research presented by CACTUS at the community television hearings) it could be used to set up community media centre's in select cities.
- 9 Thank you for the opportunity to comment in this proceeding.

Sincerely yours,

Steve Anderson
OpenMedia.ca

