



February 20, 2020

Filed via Intervention/Comment Form

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

Dear Mr. Doucet:

Re: Broadcasting Notice of Consultation CRTC 2019-379, *Applications for the renewal of licence for English-language audio-visual services for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (2019-0285-5)*

Eagle Vision is pleased to provide the following comments with respect to CRTC 2019-379 the application submitted by The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) to renew its broadcasting licence relating to English-language audio-visual services (Application no. 2019-0282-5).

Eagle Vision requests to appear at the public hearing scheduled to commence on May 25, 2020, to expand upon the comments expressed in this submission.

Eagle Vision is Canada's leading Indigenous owned production company, having produced more than two hundred and twenty hours of content over two decades, including in partnership with CBC some very important stories. Eagle Vision's work with CBC includes: the scripted drama series BURDEN OF TRUTH, the true crime documentary series TAKEN and the feature film NIGHT RAIDERS.

Eagle Vision supports CBC's application to renew the broadcasting licence relating to English-language audio-visual services (Application no. 2019-0282-5) subject to the following comments.

CBC's role in the future of the Canadian broadcasting system and our nation has never been more important. It is particularly critical at this important time in history for Indigenous storytellers. The CBC is mandated to be distinctively Canadian, reflective of Canada and its regions, actively contributing to the flow and exchange of cultural expression and being reflective of the multicultural and multiracial nature of Canada.

Some of Canada's best stories and story tellers are only now emerging and we need the CBC, now more than ever, to help fulfill this commitment to Canadians with more unprecedented, innovative, and revolutionary original content created and owned by Canadians.

Eagle Vision agrees with the Commission that the CBC licence renewal should ensure its programming "reflects and meets the needs and interests of Canadians"; "is of high quality and supports Canadian producers and content creators"; and "is accessible and discoverable across Canada and abroad".

Eagle Vision supports CBC's proposal of COL to hold formal consultations once every two years with Indigenous communities and parallel meetings with Indigenous producers in each of Atlantic Canada, Québec, Ontario, Western Canada and the North.

Eagle Vision agrees with the Canada Media Producers Association (CMPA) and other interveners that the CRTC can and should put in place COL that consider both conventional and online platforms and services. We believe that the Commission should regulate CBC on all of its platforms and services.

There continues to be an ongoing deficit of Indigenous voices in the Canadian broadcast system. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (TRC) "Calls to Action" included: #84 "We call upon the federal government to restore and increase funding to the CBC/Radio-Canada, to enable Canada's national public broadcaster to support reconciliation, and be properly reflective of the diverse cultures, languages, and perspectives of Aboriginal peoples, including, but not limited to:

- i. Increasing Aboriginal programming, including Aboriginal-language speakers.
- ii. Increasing equitable access for Aboriginal peoples to jobs, leadership positions, and professional development opportunities within the organization.
- iii. Continuing to provide dedicated news coverage and online public information resources on issues of concern to Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians,

While we know the CRTC cannot control the amount of funding the GOC provides to the CBC, Eagle Vision believes the CRTC should put in place COL that will ensure the fulfillment of these Calls to Action. CBC is mandated to have meaningful programming: "reflective of the multicultural and multiracial nature of Canada". Therefore we believe the CRTC can and should put in place COL that will require an equitable portion of CBC's expenditures and programming be dedicated to the stories of Canada's First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, owned, controlled and told by Canada's First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

Eagle Vision applauds CBC's efforts relating to the TRC Call to Action in providing equitable access for Aboriginal peoples to jobs, leadership positions, and professional development opportunities within the organization. However, we believe the CRTC should put in place COL that will ensure that this equitable access is not only available but yields results.

Eagle Vision supports maintaining CBC's current COL to broadcast a minimum of one Canadian feature film drawn from category 7(d) theatrical feature films aired on TV. We agree with the CMPA that an annual report on Canadian feature films broadcast on both linear and digital platforms is required to measure this COL.

Eagle Vision applauds CBC / SRC's pledge to increase investment in independent Canadian production.

Finally, in order to ensure that the independent production community can effectively work with CBC to achieve its mandate to provide Canadians with high quality original independent programming that is discoverable in Canada and abroad, we request that the Commission maintain the COL, which requires CBC to enter into a Terms of Trade agreement with the CMPA. There is no more important or reasonable thing to require than fair and equitable Terms of Trade between CBC and independent producers.

Eagle Vision is grateful for the opportunity to provide our comments to the commission and hopeful that we can appear and share them in greater detail in person.

Eagle Vision is a member of the Canadian Media Producers Association (CMPA), whose role is to represent the Canadian independent production industry and its members on matters of national interest. The CMPA will be intervening in response to the renewal. Therefore, Eagle Vision's comments herein are submitted subject to the positions that CMPA will advance on our behalf in its intervention(s) in this process.

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