



NCRA/ANREC
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March 31, 2017

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

Secretary General,

Re: Broadcasting Applications 2016-0897-8 and 2016-0716-0 (Renewal of broadcasting licences for campus and community radio programming undertakings expiring 31 August 2017)

- 1. CKXU Radio Society ("CKXU-FM")**
- 2. Radio communautaire Missisquoi ("CIDI-FM")**

1. I am writing on behalf of the National Campus and Community Radio Association/ *l'Association nationale des radios étudiantes et communautaires* ("NCRA/ANREC") in support of the applications by CKXU-FM and CIDI-FM to renew their broadcasting licenses. These stations have been found in compliance. We note that the Commission intends to renew them for a full seven-year term, subject to interventions.

2. The NCRA/ANREC is a not-for-profit national association working to recognize, support, and encourage volunteer-based, non-profit, public-access campus and community-based broadcasters in Canada. We provide advice and advocacy for individual campus/community stations, and conduct lobbying and policy development initiatives with a view to advancing the role and increasing the effectiveness of our sector. Our goals are to ensure stability and support for individual stations, and to promote the long-term growth and effectiveness of the sector. We currently represent 99 not-for-profit member radio stations, including CKXU-FM and CIDI-FM.

3. CKXU-FM began as CKUL at the University of Lethbridge in 1972, and now broadcasts to the wider Lethbridge community. We are told that CKXU-FM's regular programming is produced by a team of approximately 115 volunteers, 5 staff and 14 students hired through university grants to produce live audio recordings on campus. It was one of the first stations in our sector to adopt an emergency broadcasting alerting system, in 2012.

4. We are told that CKXU-FM has formed relationships with more than 50 community partners, some of which produce specialized programming about the experiences of micro-communities in the region, including marginalized and disadvantaged people. For example, a series called "True Contact Voices," centered on Indigenous ideas and perspectives, which received an NCRA/ANREC documentary award in 2014. The same producer also collaborated with other CKXU-FM volunteers to produce "This Is Blackfoot Territory," which explores topics from a Blackfoot perspective. Other community partners offer services or discounts to supporters of the radio station.

5. CKXU-FM has also partnered with the Lethbridge Public Library including donating 70% of their vinyl record catalogue to the library, which can be signed out or listened to at the library using headphone listening stations. Library staff host a weekly program about local events and favourite books called "LPL on Air."

6. CKXU-FM presents the annual Love & Records Festival, the largest outdoor music festival in Western Canada. Last year it drew over 6,000 visitors and saw performances by over 20 bands that were broadcast on the radio.

7. We are also told that CKXU-FM is committed to making the station an equitable and accessible space where volunteers from different backgrounds can feel welcome, and it has a Social Justice and Advocacy committee that meets to discuss these issues.

8. CIDI-FM, Radio Communautaire Missisquoi, is a English-licensed station located in Lac-Brome, PQ, a municipality of approximately 5,000 people in the Eastern Townships region southeast of Montréal. CIDI-FM broadcasts in English approximately 80% of the time, serving about 2,500 anglophones as their only source of locally-focused English language news. The station features local music content, as well as local spoken word produced by 15-20 regular volunteers. CIDI-FM also recently hired a full-time administrative assistant.

9. The station's Official Language Minority content includes the program Townshippers, hosted by the Townshippers Association, which is dedicated to the advancement of the English speaking community in the Eastern Townships area. For instance, the program has interviewed local guests about the mental health services available to the English speaking community in the region and provided information about a rehabilitation centre that is being established for English speakers. The station also runs a daily bulletin board program for local non-profits and arts groups to promote their events. Its program "The Alternatives" discusses the unique

characteristics of the people in the township, particularly those who have relocated from other areas and have become part of the local network.

10. To increase its connection with the local community, the station recently acquired new equipment for remote broadcasting, and plans to air programming from community events this year like the Canada Day festivities and the Brome County Fair.

11. In conclusion, we believe that CKXU-FM and CIDI-FM have accomplished a great deal during their current licence terms, and we are pleased to share some of their successes with the Commission. We encourage the Commission to approve these applications and grant full-term renewals, allowing these stations to continue to serve their communities in furtherance of the objectives of the Broadcasting Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Rooke', with the year '2017' written below it.

Barry Rooke
NCRA/ANREC Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ophira Horwitz', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ophira Horwitz
NCRA/ANREC External Policy Committee

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