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Attention:
Secretary General
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February 4, 2004

RE: Application 2003-11329-0 Acadia Broadcasting Limited.

With this letter, the National Campus and Community Radio Association (NCRA/ANREC) is filing an intervention opposing the application of Acadia Broadcasting Limited (Application 2003-1139-0). In addition, the NCRA/ANREC wishes to be an appearing intervener at the hearing of 2003-1139-0.

The NCRA/ANREC represents campus and community radio stations across Canada. The organization works to recognize, support, and encourage non-profit campus and community-based broadcasters in Canada.

We have been approached by one of our member stations, CFMH 92.5 FM in Saint John New Brunswick, who are very concerned that, because of tower placement, the application for 92.3 FM in Fredericton by Acadia Broadcasting Limited, as well as the application for this frequency by Newcap Inc. (2003 1744-7), may potentially affect their FM coverage and limit their ability to serve the community of Saint John.

As an unprotected station according to Industry Canada's regulations, lacking the financial means for a costly upgrade to Class A, CFMH has no recourse in this situation. The NCRA/ANREC is concerned and is filing this intervention against 2003-1139-0 (and separately against 2003-1744-7).

This case illustrates the need for the CRTC to protect small and non-profit stations that do not have the financial resources necessary for a protected Class A license. The successful application of Acadia Broadcasting Limited would represent a continuing danger for our member stations. It also has the potential to be deleterious to the community currently served by CFMH. CFMH is a relatively new station (launched in January 2001) that has found

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great success while facing continuous challenges common to small non-profit stations. Despite this CFMH has made an impact in its community and was awarded the 2002 Standard Radio Award of Excellence for Best Small Station. CFMH is a grassroots, alternative voice for the community of Saint John. CFMH features a wealth of music and discussion and offers access and programming time to local ethnic communities as well as seniors and youth, all groups that are not commonly serviced by commercial broadcasters.

CFMH offers programming for seniors 7 days a week, Monday to Friday 9am to 12 pm and Saturday to Sunday 7am to 10 am. The impact will be on those seniors without digital tuners and who have difficulty tuning on older analog units. These seniors will no longer be able to hear information on social issues, political debates, and community events of interest to seniors.

We know that the CRTC has a commitment to public access community radio and on-air diversity and the NCRA/ANREC feels very strongly that small stations that offer this access and create diversity (especially those incorporated as non-profit) need to be protected by the CRTC especially if they cannot afford to become licensed as Class A stations.

Thank you for your attention. If you have any questions or wish to arrange an appointment for the NCRA at the hearing associated with Application 2003-1139-0, please call me at (204) 786-9782.

Sincerely,

Robert Schmidt, President

National Campus and Community Radio Association

Signed on behalf of Rob Schmidt,

Melissa Kaestner

NCRA/ANREC National Coordinator