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(filed electronically)

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Re: Application # 2006-0808-6
Kamloops Campus/Community Radio Society CFBX-FM

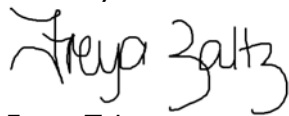
Dear Secretary General,

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 an application by The Kamloops Campus/Community Radio Society CFBX-FM ("CFBX") to make technical amendments to their license. CFBX currently operates on a low power unprotected FM frequency, 92.5fm, in the city of Kamloops, B.C. and intends to make changes consistent with obtaining Class A protected status.
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 stations, and conduct lobbying and policy development initiatives for the sector as a whole with a view to advancing the role and increasing the effectiveness of our sector.
3. Since its inception, the NCRA/ANREC has provided regular submissions to the CRTC in support of campus and community radio stations. These include letters of support for individual stations applying for licenses or renewals, submissions to the CRTC policy development process as it pertains to campus and community stations, and letters expressing concern about actions taken or contemplated by the Commission that may be detrimental to the campus-community broadcasting sector.
4. Our goals are to ensure stability and support for individual stations, and to promote the long-term growth and effectiveness of the sector. We believe that the CRTC has a commitment to public access community radio that supports these goals.
5. We have long been concerned about vulnerable community stations with unprotected low power frequencies, and the potential consequences to them if their frequencies are appropriated by larger commercial broadcasters. We believe that consideration should be given to the important role small, non-profit stations play in serving community needs and fulfilling the mandates of the *Broadcasting Act*, and that this role should be given formal protection by the Commission without requiring costly licence amendments and technical upgrades.

The National Campus and Community Radio Association
l'Association nationale des radios étudiantes et communautaires

6. CFBX is a community-based campus radio station located at Thompson Rivers University. It provides a wide range of programming and contributes to local talent development, as well as providing locally relevant content and access to the airwaves not provided by any other local broadcaster.
7. Over its short history, this low-power (4.9 watts) radio station has built a strong and dedicated audience. CFBX received the first campus developmental licence in Canada in 2001 after years of planning and preparation, having successfully revived itself since ceasing services as a closed-circuit broadcaster many years earlier. It has proven both that community-based programming has strong support in the Kamloops area, and that providing a community voice in rural/small town B.C. is a necessary and important service that aids in sustainable community development.
8. In its most recent *Community Radio Policy* review, the Commission identified the important role community-based radio stations play in bringing local content and voices to Canadian airwaves and contributing to community development. CFBX has aptly demonstrated that it fulfills this role in Kamloops.
9. The NCRA/ANREC supports CFBX's request to operate on a protected frequency in order to ensure an improved quality signal, the opportunity to reach more local listeners, and continued presence on the Kamloops radio dial. Its unprotected status leaves the station vulnerable to the loss of its current frequency pursuant to the Commission's *Low-Power Policy*.
10. CFBX has put considerable effort towards securing a stronger, protected frequency for the station, including obtaining sustained community support, conducting financial analysis, forming partnerships with local businesses and organizations, and commissioning technical reports. It has been a goal of the station almost since its inception to protect its frequency and increase its power. It has taken the station and its supporters considerable effort to raise the necessary funds and complete the required research to pursue this technical amendment. Their determination to reach this important milestone independently is inspiring, and their efforts should be rewarded.
11. The NCRA/ANREC respectfully requests the Commission approves CFBX's request to amend its licence by increasing its Effective Radiated Power from 4.9 watts to 420 watts, decreasing its antenna height and relocating the transmitter. The approval of these amendments would result in better service to listeners and ensure that CFBX enhances its service to the local Kamloops community.

Sincerely,



Freya Zaltz
Vice President, NCRA/ANREC

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