

MELISSA KAESTNER

258 Bruyere #3, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 5E6 ♦ Phone: 613-276-7440 ♦ E-mail: melissa.kaestner@gmail.com

March 31, 2010

NCRA/ANREC
325 Dalhousie, Suite 230
Ottawa ON K1N 7G2

To the Community Radio Awards Jury:

My name is Melissa Kaestner and I would like to support the recommendation of Magnus Thyvold for the NCRA Lifetime Achievement Award.

I've been in campus and community radio since 1995. I've worked and volunteered at CHSR in Fredericton, CHRY in Toronto, and CHUO in Ottawa. I was the National Coordinator for the NCRA from 2002-2008. Since then, I have worked with the Community Radio Fund of Canada, where I am currently the executive director.

When I began volunteering at CHSR in 1995, I learned briefly about the NCRA. I knew it was a national association of stations and that it held an annual national conference. I started to hear Magnus' name back then, but it wasn't until my first conference in 1999 in Halifax that I first met him. He was a calm and even-keeled member of the board during my first AGM, even when the membership was asking hard questions about finances and frustrations mounted from the floor and on the board. Combined with his seemingly vast knowledge and wisdom of the history and current state of campus and community radio, I came to think of him as a fixture in the sector.

In 2002, I was hired to establish an NCRA national office as well as create and produce its nation-wide music project, "Dig Your Roots." At the time, Magnus was a member of NCRA board, publisher of *learshot*, and webmaster extraordinaire. He was instrumental in helping me get the Dig Your Roots project off the ground in the areas of web design and figuring out how to coordinate and produce live-to-air concerts from anywhere in Canada. As well, I had to learn a lot about the c/c radio sector and the history of the NCRA and its membership in order to foster the growth and development of the NCRA, and again, Magnus was an invaluable resource, whether I needed help on specific tasks, information and advice, or morale support.

Magnus Thyvold as played an active role in the NCRA and campus and community radio sector in Canada for almost 20 years. He has played a huge part in the growth, successes, and survival of the NCRA, and it is my honour and privilege to be recommending him for this award.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at melissa.kaestner@gmail.com or at 613-321-3513.

Sincerely,



Melissa Kaestner