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William J. Closs
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KINGSTON POLICE

February 21, 2007

VIA FACSIMILE 819-994-0218

Ms Diane Rhéaume
Secretary General
Corporate and Operations
Canadian Radio-television
and Telecommunications Commission
Ottawa ON K1A 0N2

Dear Ms Rhéaume:

Re: Article 7 of CRTC 2007-1, Applications 2006-0508-2 and 2006-0509-0

It has come to my attention that the subject applications with respect to Avis de recherche and All Points Bulletin television will be considered on March 26, 2007. It is our opinion that they both should be recognized as a national public interest service, in light of their overall mission to provide law enforcement agencies across Canada with a dedicated media tool for disseminating information to the public. Television viewers have access to many programmes with a policing theme; however, scenarios that can be resolved within a one-hour fictional show are often not indicative of day-to-day police operations. It would be helpful to have a medium for Canadian police agencies to reach the public with respect to genuine unsolved cases and topical safety concerns.

Last September, we posted rewards for nine unsolved cases. Although our local media have been very helpful in publicizing information in this respect and we have posted the information on our web site, it would be our preference to have the ability to reach citizens across the country. Some of these cases date back to the 1970s, and three cases involve a search for remains. One case was recently solved, and the resultant comfort that came to the victim's family was immeasurable. We would like to bring this sense of closure to the families of all of the involved victims, but, as an agency funded by local taxpayers, we have limited resources for reaching a wide expanse of the population. We understand from the Montréal Police Service that the Avis de recherche service has been an invaluable tool for disseminating information on public safety, missing persons, and criminal investigations. We look forward to seeing this French language service continue and to having a similar resource available by way of the All Points Bulletin television service.

Yours truly,

W.J. Closs
Chief of Police

cc: Mr Vincent Géracitano
President and Founder
Avis de recherche TV / All Points Bulletin TV

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