



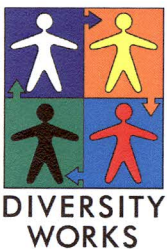
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*Leading and Partnering
in our Community
to Serve and Protect*

31 January 2013

John Traversy
Secretary General CRTC
CRTC
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N2

Dear Mr. Traversy:

Re: CRTC 2013-19; 2012-0689-7 “All Points Bulletin”; 2012-1051-7 “Avis de Recherche”

As Chief of Police for the Halifax Regional Police Department, I would like to express support to the proposal by Mr. G racitano to provide the All Points Bulletin TV channel in concert with Avis de Recherche TV as public safety programming in support of police and government initiatives.

Halifax Regional Police prides itself on open, timely and transparent communications with the citizens whom we serve. We strive to advise our citizens about incidents in our community, educate them on the measures Halifax Regional Police is undertaking to ensure public safety, and invite them to take an active role in the fight against crime. Many people rely on traditional news media as a way of keeping informed about what is happening in our community, resulting in police having little or no editorial control over the content and the way in which it is positioned. We prefer to communicate directly with the public and currently employ a robust social media strategy to do so.

When investigators have exhausted all investigative avenues within their means, our Strategic Communications Unit issues media releases and posts information to our social media sites about the crime, and includes photos of suspects where applicable, to engage the public in solving crimes. The response and support from the public is generally overwhelming, and more often than not, this process results in positive identification of the individuals responsible. It would be even more effective if police had editorial control of such messages to the public through our own television network dedicated to police across Canada. This television network would augment our social media strategy in that it, too, would target citizens directly.

This tool would also be of exceptional importance in educating citizens about potential emergency situations. The proposed television network would assist municipal government departments, including police, to advise citizens about the impending emergency situation and convey to them effective ways to manage in the aftermath.

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It is our understanding that "Avis de Recherche (ADR)" has been embraced by our colleagues in the province of Quebec and that the service has surpassed their initial expectations. Not only has ADR contributed in locating wanted suspects and missing persons, but it has also assisted law enforcement agencies and other public safety bodies in informing and educating Quebecers in all matters pertaining to public safety. It has been used as a vehicle by all public safety bodies to reach out to the community with informative programming aimed at improving the safety and well-being of the community. As such, we join in support of ADR's application to retain its status as a "Public Interest" service.

More importantly, we would equally like to benefit from the availability of a similar English language service in the rest of Canada. As such, we respectfully request that the CRTC approve the application by "All Points Bulletin (APB)" and grant it the same status as ADR in accordance with Article 9(1)(h) of the Broadcast Act.

Ultimately, this proposal supports our crime reduction and public safety strategies which strive to put police in closer contact with the community we serve to enhance community safety and ensure public confidence in Halifax Regional Police.

Yours truly,



Jean-Michel Blais
Chief of Police

c: Mayor Mike Savage, Mayor of Halifax Regional Municipality
Theresa Rath, Strategic Communications, Halifax Regional Police