Gold Ribbon Award winners at the Canadian Association of Broadcasters annual convention in Ottawa this week were:

**RADIO FINALISTS**

**Breaking News:**
- CHSU-FM/CKFR Kelowna

**Local Community Service:**
- Large Market – CHFM-FM Calgary
- Medium Market – CKTF-FM Gatineau
- Small Market – CJEL-FM Winkler

**Humour:**
- English - CHOM Montreal
- French - CKMF-FM Montréal

**Information Program:**
- CHED Edmonton

**Promotion (Audience Building):**
- CFNY-FM Toronto

**Promotion (Image):**
- CKDV-FM Prince George

**Promotion of Canadian Talent:**
- CJKR-FM Winnipeg

**What Radio Does Best:**
- CISN-FM Edmonton

**TELEVISION FINALISTS**

**Local Community Service:**
- Large Market -- CHAN-TV Burnaby
- Med. Market – CHLT-TV Sherbrooke
- Small Market – CKWS-TV Kingston

**Documentaries:**
- CHBC-TV Kelowna

**Drama Programming:**
- CFTM-TV Montréal

**Entertainment Programming:**
- CFTM-TV Montréal

**Magazine Programming:**
- CITY-TV Toronto

**News:**
- Breaking News: CHAN-TV Burnaby

**News:**
- Special Series: CKVU-TV Vancouver

**Promotion:**
- Brand Image: CFCN-TV Calgary

**Promotion:**
- Canadian Program/Series: CFCN-TV Calgary

**Public Affairs:**
- CCF-TV Montréal

**SPECIALTY/PAY/PPV FINALISTS**

**Programming:**
- Documentaries: CBC Newsworld Toronto

**Programming:**
- Entertainment: Séries+ Montréal

**Magazine Programming:**
- Canal Vie Montréal

**Programming:**
- News Special/Series: Discovery Channel Scarborough

**Programming:**
- Niche Market: Z Montréal

**Public Affairs:**
- CBC Newsworld Toronto

**Public Service:**
- Family Channel Toronto

**Promotion:**
- Brand Image: Vrak.tv Montréal

**Promotion:**
- Canadian Program/Series: MuchMusic Toronto

**ALL SECTORS FINALISTS**

**New Media:**
- The Family Channel Toronto

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**RADIO:** Twenty-five applicants were before the CRTC seeking FM licences in Halifax, Saint John, and Fredericton. When the dust settled, four new FM’ers in Halifax; three new FM’ers in Moncton (including a low-power tourist information service); two new FM stations in Saint John; and, three new FM stations in Fredericton (including a low-power tourist information service). Winners in **Halifax** are: Rogers Broadcasting for a News/Talker at 95.7; CKMW Ltd for a Youth Contemporary format at 103.5; CanWest Global for an Easy Listening FM’er (but Global must find a frequency within three months); and, International Harvesters for Christ won 93.9 for a Christian music format. New FM stations in **Moncton** are: Rogers for News/Talk at 91.9 and Radio Beauséjour for a Community station at 90.7. Winners in **Saint John** are: Rogers for a News/Talk format at 88.9 MHz and Coopérative radiophonique - La Brise de la Baie Itée for a Community station. And, in **Fredericton**, winners are: NewCap at 92.3 with a Classic Rock
format and Ross Ingram for a Christian Music format at 94.7... The CRTC has approved an application by Dekkerco Holdings, Rawlco Radio and a numbered company for an FM station at North Battleford. It'll operate at 93.3 with power of 100,000 watts programming Rock and Rock-oriented music, as well as youth-oriented news, sports and information programming. At the same time, the Commission also granted the partnership – known as Northwestern Radio Partnership – approval to flip CJNS Meadow Lake to FM. The station will operate at 102.3 MHz with power of 45,000 watts. The new station will keep the Country format and air 30 hours of weekly local programming; the balance originating from CJNB North Battleford... A new Decima poll shows that more than half of Canadian adults are not aware of satellite radio, and only one in five has heard that it might be offered in Canada. The research company placed a number of questions about satellite radio on its weekly national telephone omnibus. In a nutshell, results were: Between 1% and 2% report that they subscribe to a U.S.-based satellite radio service; 44% said they were aware of satellite radio; 20% were aware that the service might be made available in Canada; and, 33% expressed a level of interest in becoming subscribers to such a service... In a related story, The Howard Stern/Mel Karmazin reunion at Sirius Satellite Radio has many investors thinking that this is the endorsement satellite radio needed to become a mainstream media category, not just a successful niche. Sirius's shares rose by one-third on news of Karmazin's appointment. The subscriber jump from 662,289 at the end of September to over 800,000 last week helped. XM Satellite Radio had 2.5 million subscribers at the end of September and expectations are now sky-high for the two companies. Sirius expects to have one million customers by the end of 2004. XM Radio says it will have 20 million by 2010... There are 258 new FM'ers numbered company for an FM... V/FLiM: The CRTC has announced an incentive program intended to encourage TV broadcasters to make and air more original English-language dramas. Depending on what they produce, broadcast organizations will get from 30-seconds to eight minutes of extra advertising time for each hour of original Canadian drama. The extra ad time can be placed anywhere in the daily schedule. If audience share (for the drama) is increased by a pre-set amount, broadcasters will be able to hike extra ad time by up to 25%. Increased spending would earn the same 25% bonus. Largest bonusing will go to those TV outlets which don't receive monies from the Canadian Television Fund. Upper limits for spots will be 14 minutes per hour rather than the current 12... But the Coalition of Canadian Audio-Visual Unions wants more. CCAU is calling on the Federal Cabinet to issue an Order in Council directing the Commission to enact even stronger broadcasting regulations to solve what it calls "the crisis in English-Canadian drama production." While applauding the CRTC's incentives announcement, it cautions that incentives can only be
useful if implemented as part of a regulatory package that includes requirements for conventional television broadcasters to air dramas written, directed and performed by Canadians. Maureen Parker, the Executive Director of the Writers Guild of Canada, says "While these incentives may entice the broadcasters into making more drama, only actual regulatory change will ensure that broadcasters offer our own drama to Canadians"... Ontario’s Training, Universities and Colleges Minister, Mary Anne Chambers, calls it “speculation” that the provincial government is looking for a private broadcaster to invest in TVOntario. It is Chambers’ department that funds the provincially-owned TV outlet. The government, however, has warned TVO that its budget next year could be cut by $3 million and has asked the educational broadcaster to find other revenue sources to make up the difference. Speculation has abounded for years that Ontario will privatize TVO... CTV has been ordered to pay the legal costs of a Halifax man its ATV Halifax wrongly painted as a terrorist five days after the September 2001 attacks. The Nova Scotia Supreme Court awarded costs to Rasim Karela of $27,516. Karela was arrested in North Sydney five days after the terrorist attacks. A CTV news clip showed the arrest, but didn't name individuals. The arresting police officers - now-retired - collared the Karela and a friend on the grounds of possible involvement in the attacks, but released the two a short time later when they realized they were innocent... Veteran CBC-TV Reporter Brian Stewart is scheduled to appear on Oprah today (Thursday), reunited with a young Ethiopian girl he found near death in 1984 and in whom he took a personal interest over the years. Stewart, who helped draw the world's attention to the Ethiopian famine two decades ago, was reunited with the girl, Birhan, for the taped appearance... A new Islamic television cable channel, called Bridges TV, debuted Tuesday – offering such fare as a Muslim newspaper reporter named Jinnah who solves whodunits, a soap opera exploring the melodrama of a Muslim father confronted with his daughter's desire to marry a non-Muslim, and a Muslim comedy tour called, “Allah Made Me Funny.” Bridges TV originates in Buffalo, New York, and is aiming for PBS-style programming to appeal to a variety of viewers.

GENERAL: Funded by the Government of Ontario, Canadians now have a new tool for addressing violence in the media. The Action Agenda: A Strategic Blueprint for Reducing Exposure to Media Violence in Canada, written by media activist Valerie Smith, is a compendium of information: political history, research, legislation/regulation, Supreme Court of Canada decisions, industry self-regulation/classification, media consumption statistics, information on filing civil lawsuits and so on. It includes 42 recommendations for action specifically tailored to the Canadian situation. It may be downloaded by clicking: www.fradical.com...

REVOLVING DOOR: CFRN-TV Calgary VP/GM Fred Filthaut has announced his plan to retire at the end of January. He has been with the now-CTV station the past 12 years. Filthaut began in Lethbridge, then worked for Global in Saskatchewan. He leaves broadcasting with 40 years of service under his belt... QRF7 Calgary Talk Show Host Dave Taylor has been elected to the provincial government. Taylor is now a new Liberal MLA (Calgary-Currie)... Tom Brokaw’s NBC Nightly News job came to an end last night (Wednesday). He signed off after more than 20 years in the Anchor’s chair, retiring from the position. He is succeeded by Brian Williams...
SIGN-OFFS: Pierre Berton, 84, in Toronto of heart failure. Berton, the Author and Broadcaster, was one of Canada’s most recognizable and beloved media personalities. His career included the publication of more than 40 books, radio commentator (CKEY Toronto and CFRB Toronto), newspaper columnist, panelist on CBC-TV’s Front Page Challenge, and Maclean’s magazine Editor. His trademark humour and eccentric take on the world was evident – as was his trademark bow tie, bushy white sideburns and dramatic cloaks...

Pierre McNicoll, age unknown, of a heart attack in Ottawa. For 20 years, McNicoll worked in the Ottawa area and in western Quebec for Radio-Canada. He was well known for his work on radio and as an actor in theatre and the popular French-language TV hockey soap opera, Lance et compte (“He Shoots, He Scores” in English). McNicoll was to have been the Master of Ceremonies at the Ottawa dinner Monday for President George Bush. Prime Minister Martin began the dinner with the announcement and asked for a moment of silence in his honour.

LOOKING: PGTV Prince George seeks a Production Switcher/Director. See the ad on Page Two. Other jobs we’ve heard about this week include:
- Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) – Video Journalist for Vancouver;
- CJME Regina - Anchor/Reporter;
- Alliance Atlantis Toronto – Director-Taxation and a Client Services Producer;
- CTV Toronto - Sales and Project Manager (TSN Events);
- CKDK-FM Woodstock/London - Account Executive;
- CHQR Calgary - Afternoon Talk Show Host;
- CING-FM Hamilton/Toronto - Afternoon Drive Show Host and a Sales Assistant;
- 640Toronto - Account Manager;
- CKNW Vancouver - Senior Reporter;
- Corus Radio Vancouver - Account Manager;
- Torstar Media Group Toronto - Account Executive;
- JACK-FM Toronto - Account Executive;
- CFMM-FM Prince Albert – Drive Show/Music Director;
- CPAC Ottawa - Master Control Operator;
- CBC Ottawa – Manager, Corporate Research;
- CBC Winnipeg - Assignment Producer-Radio News & Current Affairs;
- CBC Kelowna – Video Journalist;
- CBC Vancouver - Reporter/Editor;
- CBC Toronto - Senior Producer;
- CBC Fredericton - Reporter/Editor;
- CJDJ-FM Drummondville - Animateur de l’émission du matin;
- CBC Montreal - Manager of Operations (Mobile Division) and a Human Resources Consultant; and,
- Astral Télé Réseaux Montreal - Préposé(e), service à la clientèle.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Photos from the Western Association of Broadcast Engineers annual convention in Vancouver are on the Broadcast Dialogue Web site. Click HERE to see them. The same holds true for the Canadian Association of Broadcasters convention at Ottawa. Click HERE to see the pics.
TV/FILM: The CRTC says it is bringing its regulations up to date by opening the door to more foreign-language TV. New policies will make it easier for broadcasters from other countries to offer their programming to digital subscribers here in languages other than French and English.... Ontario has proposed $48 million in increases to two tax credits in an effort to boost the province's TV and film industry. If passed, the credits would go into effect Jan. 1. The Ontario Film and Television Tax Credit for domestic productions would increase from 20% to 30% for five years, and the 10% regional bonus credit would remain. The Ontario Production Services Tax Credit for foreign productions would increase from 11% to 18%, both subject to performance reviews. Considered a huge win for the industry is the fact that there will be no caps on labour costs. Canadian Film and Television Production Association President/CEO Guy Mayson says CFTPA is "thrilled that the McGuinty government has kept its election promise to give a boost to the film and television production industry"... The next big thing being predicted for newspaper Web sites is TV-style video news reports. Publishers, hoping to take advantage of the exploding popularity of broadband Internet access, say they're looking to add video clips, video reports, and even online TV newscasts to their sites. The prediction comes from USA Today.com Editor-in-Chief Kinsey Wilson. He says "continued, expanded use of video, and real experimentation around how video is best deployed on the Internet" is the top trend to watch on newspaper Web sites in 2005. This isn't new, however. For the past three years, The News Journal in Wilmington, Del., has been running a three-minute newscast, produced by the newspaper and featuring an anchorwoman on the paper's staff, twice each day... CHUM Television has signed an exclusive content sponsorship with OneStop Toronto, the company in the process of installing platform display units in Toronto subway stations. Citytv Toronto will provide news, sports and weather updates for the units, which will also carry transit information and other material for riders. The first of the 40-inch digital displays will go into service next month.... Television Bureau of Canada (TVB) members' have elected a new Board. CTV's Elaine Ali retired and was succeeded by CKY-TV Winnipeg's Bill Hanson. Dwaine Dietrich (CHAT-TV Medicine Hat), Brad Alles (Alliance Atlantis, Toronto) and Guy Meunier (TQS Montreal) were elected for another term, joining continuing directors Rita
Fabian (CTV Toronto), Ken Johnson (Global Television Toronto), Jim Haskins (A-Channel Edmonton), David Kirkwood (CHUM Television, Toronto), Nigel Fuller (The New RO Ottawa), Brett Manlove (Global Television, BC) and John Tucker (CKWS-TV Kingston/CHEX-TV Peterborough). The 2005 Executive Committee will be Rita Fabian as Chair, Ken Johnson as Vice-Chair, Jim Haskins as Treasurer, Guy Meunier as Secretary and Jim Patterson, President... The Canadian Broadcast Standards Council has found CHEK-TV (CH) Victoria in breach of the RTNDA Code of Ethics over the airing of an interview in which the interviewee was adamant that he not be videotaped. In this case, a landlord-tenant dispute in which the landlord admitted to petty behavior but was still interviewed with a camera rolling – despite his saying that he did not wish to be “put on the air.” The BC Regional Panel of CBSC determined that it was an invasion of privacy. Details may be found by clicking www.cbsc.ca... In another CBSC decision, CHAN-TV (BCTV) Vancouver was not in breach of any codes by using the term, “deadbeat dads.” The BC Regional Panel concluded that the introductory use of the term was more than balanced by the actual news story. It was, says CBSC, scrupulously correct in using the expression “deadbeat parents” or its genderless equivalent on several occasions. Details of this complaint may also be found at www.cbsc.ca.

Radio: Radio Revolution: The Rise and Fall of the Big 8 – the 2004 Best History Documentary Program Gemini Award winner – has been scheduled for a repeat broadcast on Monday, January 3, at 9:00 pm on History Television Canada... In the US, broadcast Execs from Bonneville, Clear Channel, Cox, Entercom and Radio One will unveil their accelerated HD radio rollout plans during a news conference Jan. 5 at the International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas... Announcer Frankie Ross, fired from Stevie Wonder’s KJLH Los Angeles, is suing Wonder alleging payola at KJLH. In the suit, Ross says he was fired after he blew the whistle on the alleged payola scheme. He also claims he discovered payola was happening when a record producer for Earth Wind and Fire called him to complain that a song wasn't being played enough after he'd paid a station employee $3,500 in cash. For its part, CJLH says the suit doesn’t hold water, that Ross was fired for cause. Further, says the station, the only reason he names Stevie Wonder as a defendant is to get a financial settlement.

General: The CRTC has approved NewCap’s application to purchase CILR-FM/CKSA-FM/CITL-TV/CKSA-TV Lloydminster. Sale price was $12,550,000 – $6,246,000 for the radio stations and $6,304,000 for the TV stations (twin sticks, CBC and CTV)... Guy Cloutier, one of Quebec's best-known TV and music producers, has been sentenced to three and a half years in prison for sexually abusing two children. Cloutier pleaded guilty to five sexual assault charges for offences that took place over a number of years... In Vancouver Feb. 28, the CRTC will hold a public hearing (Fairmont Hotel) to consider these and other applications: Rogers Broadcasting and Radio 1540 (in partnership) for an FM licence to operate an ethnic format in Vancouver at 93.1 MHz with 2,800 watts; CHUM Limited for an FM licence to operate an FM’er at 93.1 MHz in Vancouver with 1,780 watts for a youth-oriented music format called Modern Global; Standard Radio for an FM licence in Kamloops at 95.9 MHz and 5,000 watts. Format would be New Country; NewCap for an FM’er in Kamloops at 106.9 MHz and 5,000 watts. Format would be Country; The Evanov Radio Group for FM at 92.5 MHz and 1,860 watts, programming “a broad range of musical styles including crooners, standards, ballads, love songs and contemporary hits drawn from both current and past musical eras”; NL Broadcasting for FM at 103.1 MHz with power of 5,000 watts and programming Country; and, Rogers Broadcasting to acquire CHNU-TV Fraser Valley from NOWTV British Columbia and CIIT-TV Winnipeg from NOWTV Manitoba. The Winnipeg station isn’t yet in operation. The value of the transaction is estimated at $13 million... In the US, Nielsen Media Research says it has until the end of the 2005 second quarter to decide whether or not to form a joint venture with Arbitron to roll out a TV and radio audience measurement service based on Arbitron’s portable people meter system... Drug company Pfizer...
of New York has pulled all TV, radio and print advertising for its drug Celebrex, an arthritis and pain relief drug. A long-term cancer prevention trial showed that high doses of Celebrex could lead to an increased risk of heart disease. Medicines & Proprietary Remedies in the US are one of the top ten US national ad dollars in the TV business and Pfizer alone was estimated to be spending $88 million last year on Celebrex... The FCC has, in 2004, received more than a million complaints about radio and TV programming, a record. Also a record is the close to $8 million in fines levied, half of them against Clear Channel Communications and Viacom. As reported last week, just about 100% of the complaints filed in 2003 and 2004 were filed by the Parents Television Council, a 10-year-old group boasting more than a million members. The Council’s self-described goal is “to restore television to its roots as an independent and socially responsible entertainment medium”... The RTNDA Lifetime Achievement Award, one of the highest honours bestowed by the Radio-Television News Directors Association of Canada, is presented to individuals who have distinguished themselves through outstanding service and continued excellence during the course of their career in broadcast journalism (rather than for a single contribution). This is the last chance for nominations! Submissions close Dec. 31. Nominees should have a minimum of 30 years of distinguished service to broadcast journalism. A letter of nomination should be forwarded to the RTNDA Canada office either by mail or email: 2175 Sheppard Ave. E., Suite 310, Toronto, ON, M2J 1W8 or to info@rtndacanada.com.

EVOLVING DOOR: The Rogers Communications Board of Directors has extended the contract of President/CEO Ted Rogers. Unanimously approved, the extension runs from Dec. 31, 2006 to June 30, 2008... James Stuart is the first GM of the new CHUM/Milestone Urban FM’er soon to be launched in Edmonton. Stuart had been PD at Corus Edmonton... Robert Gillet, attempting a comeback at CJMF-FM Quebec City after being convicted of paying a 17-year-old girl for sex, has been let go after BBM ratings showed him trailing behind his chief rival. CJMF-FM dropped 19% of its audience after he was hired. Gillet returned to the station's morning program in September, almost two years after his arrest in a prostitution ring in 2002... Claude Deraiche is the new Director, Public Relations and Communications at TQS Montréal. Deraiche begins Jan. 31... James M. Robinson has been promoted to President of the ABC Radio Networks. He was most recently GM of ABC Radio’s WRQX-FM/WJZW-FM Washington.

LOOKING: Jobs we’ve heard about this week include: The RTNDA (see the ad on Page 1); CFUN/QMFM/TEAM 1040 Vancouver – Creative Writer; CHAT-TV Medicine Hat – News Anchor /Producer; Alliance Atlantis Toronto – Director, Finance and a Distribution/Deliveries Coordinator and a Digital Librarian; TSN Toronto – Director of Finance; CTV Toronto – Graphic Web Artist; CBC Thunder Bay – Producer; CBC Ottawa – Human Resources Assistant and a Senior Clerk Payroll Services; CBC Calgary – Partnership Manager; CHAY FM/CIQB FM Barrie – Promotions Coordinator; Corus Radio Edmonton - Promotions Assistant; CHQR Calgary -- Traffic Reporter; Q107 Calgary -- Announcer; Corus Children’s Television Toronto - Production Executive; and, CHET/CHAD Radio & TV Chetwynd - Assistant Sales/Promotions Manager.

SUPPLYLINES: Toronto-based Leitch Technology will pay $18 million for Inscriber Technology Corp. of Waterloo. Inscriber is a video software company that develops SD (standard definition) and HDTV graphics and digital products. Inscriber President/Founder Dan Mance will become Leitch's Chief Technical Officer while Inscriber COO Randy Fowle will run the broadcast graphics product line at Leitch... Yamaha Corp. has reached an agreement with Steinberg Media Technologies GmbH to acquire 100% of its common stock. Steinberg Media, a division of Pinnacle Systems, is a California-based maker and seller of video editing systems.