Radio: Industry Canada has approved the name of the new national radio broadcast association formed to succeed the now defunct Canadian Association of Broadcasters, at least, from radio’s perspective. It is the Canadian Association of Radio Broadcasters - Association de la radio canadienne. The majors are all in. Discussions on the mandate and various other necessities are ongoing, but the new Board made the decision not to sell the rights for any Radio Marketing Bureau properties. The broadcaster who took the lead in creating the new association, Golden West Broadcasting Chairman Elmer Hildebrand, provided some seed money to get CARB incorporated... Corus Radio will now sell Vinyl 95.3 (CING-FM) Hamilton as a Toronto station. Further, the station will originate most programming from Toronto although a studio will be maintained in Hamilton. Staff learned about the move in a meeting this week.... The CRTC has denied the renewal of CHSC St. Catharines citing continued non-compliance with Commission rulings. The station’s owner, Pellpropco Inc., has been ordered to take the station off air effective Aug. 31, the licence expiration date... The River (CKRI-FM) Red Deer launched Aug. 3 with I got a Feeling by Black Eyed Peas and an AC format. The River is Red Deer’s seventh radio station and is owned by Harvard Broadcasting. The morning show is handled by Vinnie Taylor and Whitney Graves. GM/PD is Harvard veteran Daryl Holien, promoted from his PD gig in Regina. The Sales Manager is (Ms.) Kim Fjellner, ex Sales Supervisor at now defunct CHCA-TV Red Deer... CHAM Hamilton has gone back to Country – Today’s country 820 CHAM. After 25 years with that format, the Astral station attempted the switch to Talk. But, after two years, Brand Director (PD) Drew Keith was quoted as saying, “Our clients and listeners now have what they’ve been telling us they want...” Corus Entertainment’s ExploreMusic, says Corus, has become one of the first podcasts on BlackBerry podcasts. The service allows smartphone users to download ExploreMusic's audio content... Newcap’s The FOX Radio Group in Western Alberta has been superseded by The EAGLE. The stations with studios are in Edson and Hinton and re-broadcasts are in Jasper and Grande Cache. The Edson office remains the hub for all of Newcap Radio’s North West Division stations: The RIG Whitecourt, LAKE-FM Slave Lake, The RIVER Athabasca, CFOK Westlock and CKVH High Prairie... Houssen Broadcasting, owner of 50-watt CKOE-FM Moncton, has once
again been stymied by the CRTC in its quest to bump power, this time to 3,700 watts. The Commission, however, made no reference to that. Instead, it denied the application and ordered Houssen to pay all outstanding contributions to the development of Canadian content and talent by Aug. 31...

Corus Quebec sold CKRS 98.3 FM Saguenay to a group of six local business people, among them Guy Carbonneau, a former captain and coach of the Montreal Canadiens. The station was the lone exception in the sale of the company’s Quebec stations to COGECO... COGECO, in connection with the Corus Quebec radio acquisition has, among other things, asked the CRTC for an exception to the common ownership policy in the Montreal market. It wants to own three FMs and one AM station. In the words of Astral Media Radio Group President Jacques Parisien at the recent BCAB convention in Victoria: “…it’ll be interesting to see how the Commission deals with that. Will it be a transaction hearing or will it be a policy hearing or a mix of?” Further, Parisien said, the one thing broadcasters expect of the CRTC is the upholding of the regulations; that there is clarity and that there is “no improvisation as we go along”.

GENERAL: The CRTC’s Communications Monitoring Report shows that broadcasting industry ad revenues in 2009 were down 7.4% for radio and 5.2% for over-the-air (OTA) TV. Conversely, revenues for BDUs and the specialty/pay TV sector rose by 7.4% and 5.8%, respectively. Other highlights from 2009 include: 1,221 radio services, including 41 digital (910 English, 265 French and 46 in other languages); and Canadians had access 704 TV services (459 English, 111 French and 134 in other languages)... Applications to be heard at a CRTC hearing in Saskatoon Oct. 6 include Fabmar and Golden West competing for a new FM (at 107.5) in Humboldt and the Corus application for a new Category 2 regional specialty service to be known as LOCAL 1 in B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba that would provide local information customized for each community it would reach. In Humboldt, Golden West proposes a Variety Hits format with power of 59,000 watts while Fabmar wants 100,000 watts for a Classic Rock music format. Also on the agenda, though non-appearing, are radio applications for an FM’er (7253231 Canada) in Prince Edward County, Ont., at 89.5 with power of 5,000 watts for an Adult Album Alternative format; a French-language FM (Paul Lebevbvre) in Nipissing (Ont.) formatted Adult Pop at 97.1 with power of 90,000 watts; an AC FM at Barry’s Bay, Ont., (Haliburton Broadcasting) at 12,000 watts; a Golden West application for 106.1 in Estevan for Classic and New Rock. If approved, the station would be a sister to CJSJ and CHSN-FM; and, there are two applications for the 99.1 frequency in Prince Rupert – one from Astral Media and one from Barry Alan Wall. Wall wants 99.1 at 1,700 watts for a Classic Hits format while Astral wants to flip CHTK-AM to FM on 99.1... Jim Pattison Broadcast Group (CHAT-TV/CHAT 94.5fm/MY96fm Medicine Hat) and the Medicine Hat Exhibition and Stampede worked in concert to support those affected by recent flooding in Southern Alberta. They put together a concert that helped raise $70,000 – all donated to the Red Cross 2010 Flood Relief Fund.

TV/FILM: Rogers Communications lowered the usage limits on some of its Ontario Internet plans, two days after Netflix, a U.S. service announced plans to enter Canada this fall. Netflix provides unlimited movies and TV shows to American subs at $8.99 monthly. Videos can be streamed to the subs' TVs through a choice of Internet-connected devices. It’s estimated that a two-hour movie from Netflix uses about 1.8 GB of data, while
a high-def version would use about 3 GB. With Rogers’ lowered limit, subscribers to its Lite plan could see about 10 hours of HD video a month if they didn’t use their Internet connection for anything else. Extreme subscribers could view about 53 hours from Netflix a month. A lawyer with the Public Interest Advocacy Centre consumer watchdog, John Lawford, said the move is both a defensive measure to protect its video services and a cash grab… A restructuring plan at ZoomerMedia, connected to the recent acquisition of Vision TV, ONE: The Body, Mind & Spirit Channel, Joytv 10 Vancouver and Joytv 11 Winnipeg, has resulted in the loss of 25 positions in Toronto and Vancouver. Division President Bill Roberts says personnel losses result from redundancy in marketing and sales within ZoomerMedia. The restructuring is expected to result in annual cost savings of about $1.5 million… Some technical positions at CTV Atlantic will be affected come September as a result of centralization of control work, a similar situation at other CTV locations. The job categories include master control operators and videotape operators. It’s not certain how many will lose their jobs but a source at CTV in Halifax says it will likely not exceed single digits… The Official Languages Commission is taking the CBC to court over a decision to cancel all CBC French-language programs produced in Windsor. Commissioner Graham Fraser wants the Federal Court to confirm his authority to investigate language complaints filed against CBC and Radio-Canada. He’s also looking for confirmation from the court that CBC is obligated to consider the impact of its decisions on the “development and vitality” of affected Anglophone and Francophone minority communities. Fraser’s office received 876 complaints after Radio-Canada decided to cancel all local programming at CBEF-TV Windsor… Rogers Sportsnet will launch a new 24-hour national sports channel specialty channel this Saturday (Aug. 14). Called Rogers Sportsnet One, it will primarily broadcast in high def… Comcast Corporation, which is in the process of buying NBC Universal, and CBS have an agreement covering a new 10-year re-transmission consent agreement. Comcast cable systems will carry the 29 owned and operated CBS stations… CTV’s new specialty channel, Comedy Gold, launched Aug. 2, succeeding the former TV Land Canada channel. It features the sitcoms from the ‘70s, ‘80s and ‘90s… On Sept. 22, there’ll be a PromaxBD A Creative Clinic in Toronto. The half-day session is geared toward broadcast creative and promotion professionals to stay relevant, be successful and further their careers. To register, click http://prod.promaxbda.org/c4/register.aspx… Over the Labour Day Weekend, OMNI BC will move from 88 East Pender St. to join Citytv at 180 West 2nd Avenue Vancouver.

EVOLVING DOOR: Richard Stursberg’s official last day as head of CBC’s English services is tomorrow (Friday). But he was gone last week after serving six years with the Corporation. He began as Executive VP of CBC Television. His interim successor is CBC Television GM Kirstine Stewart… Jim Junkin, after 41 years with CTV (CFTO-TV) Toronto – and 25 years on the police beat – will file his last story tomorrow (Friday). Junkin won several awards in the Greater Toronto Area and, in 2005, was presented with the RTNDA Lifetime Achievement Award… CTV Calgary news Anchor Barb Higgins is running to become Calgary’s next mayor. As a result, she had to resign from CTV… Dianne Collins, ND at OMNI TV Vancouver, has been let go. Her last day is Aug. 31. Collins had been with the station (Channel m first) for almost six years… Trevor Pilling is the new Executive Producer of CBC’s Hockey Night in Canada, succeeding Sherali Najak. Najak becomes Sr. Producer responsible for live production. Pilling most recently served as Exec Producer for the CBC’s coverage of the World Cup in South Africa and the 2008 Beijing Olympics… Stu Ferguson is now Brand Director at AM 650 CISL Vancouver. Brand Director is Astral nomenclature for PD. He had been Director of Talk Programming. Former PD Gerry O’Day continues as Breakfast Show Host/Music Director at AM 650… JC Coutts has been looking for a new job in broadcasting?
promoted to PD at 101.7 The ONE Wingham. He retains his morning show duties... Northwoods Broadcasting Thunder Bay PD Sandra Dolynchuk, who recently resigned that position, is now PD at Newcap’s HANK (CHNK-FM) Winnipeg. Stepping into the job is Jim Hamm, ex of at Rogers Radio Sudbury. He’ll oversee both Magic 99.9 FM and 105.3 The Giant... Nicole Beetstra is the new GM/GSM at Astral Radio Trail, beginning next week. She had been with Vista Radio Castlegar... Karen Gurma is the new Marketing/Promotions Director for 790 CFCW Camrose/Edmonton. She arrived from outside the industry.

IGN-OFFS: Bruce Garvey, 70, of throat cancer at his home near Kingston. Garvey’s career highlights are primarily associated with his work for the Toronto Star. He made the leap to TV reporting in 1977, first with CBC and later with Global, until he suffered a heart attack in the early ’80s... Robert Park Malcolm, 69, in Vancouver’s Royal Columbian Hospital of a heart attack. Malcolm had been with CFUN and CKNW Vancouver, and had anchored the late news at BCTV for over 19 years.

LOOKING: Astral Radio Fort St. John - Brand Director - BC Peace Region; CKTB St. Catharines – News Director/Assistant Brand Director; CBC Toronto – Business Manager Radio Music and Radio Arts & Entertainment; Jim Pattison Broadcast Group Prince George – Broadcast Technician; Big Dog 92.7 Regina – Music Director/Afternoon Drive Host; EZ Rock North Bay - Morning Show Co-Host, Morning Show Co -Host/News Anchor; 105.7 EZ ROCK St. Catharines – Morning News Anchor; Astral Radio Ottawa - Digital Content Producer; Harvard Broadcasting Edmonton – Account Executive; CHUM Radio Toronto - Web Content Producer; Corus Radio Cornwall – Midday Host; Newcap Radio Edmonton – Creative Writer; Shine FM Edmonton – Sales Manager and PD; Corus Interactive and Integrated Solutions, Toronto – Advertising Operations Manager; CTV Toronto – Director, Client Solutions and Technology; CTV Toronto - Manager, Public Relations, Much MTV Group, a Program Development Manager and a Media Analyst, Advertising; CBC Edmonton - Promo Producer-Director; CBC Vancouver – Executive Producer Radio 3; BNN Toronto – Chase Producer; OMNI-TV Vancouver - News Manager; and CBC Edmonton - Account Executive. Be sure to regularly check the CAREERS section at broadcastdialogue.com.
SIGN-OFF: Mel Sprackman, 71, suddenly at home in Vancouver of a heart attack. Sprackman, well-known to Western Canadian broadcasters, had been an Exec. VP at Canadian Broadcast Sales before his retirement. In 2008, the British Columbia Association of Broadcasters presented him with its Friend of the Industry Award. For the past two years, he’d been operating his own consultancy, working regularly with Vista Broadcast Group. Mel Sprackman’s funeral was held yesterday (Wednesday) in Vancouver.

TV/FILM: While Shaw Communications still needs CRTC approval for its $2 billion purchase of Canwest Global’s TV assets – Global Television and Canwest’s specialty channels – another hurdle is out of the way. The Competition Bureau has given its approval to the transaction, satisfied that the deal won’t lessen nor prevent competition under the Competition Act... The 50+ demo, once residing in the “who cares” world of American network TV, is now, as was predictable for so long, getting far more attention. Maybe that’s because the median age of CBS viewers is now 55 and ABC is 51. The concern for Fox, ABC, NBC and CBS is that they’re at risk of becoming less relevant to advertisers. In 1991, ABC’s median age was 37. NBC’s was 42, Fox’s was 29 and CBS’ was 45... While the CRTC turned down Glenn O’Farrell’s Média de Novo application, he says there’s still hope to move forward with his plans to work with BDUs on a plan to sell spots during local avail. Those availabilities are, by regulation, available only to the BDU to promote their own offerings, nothing else... The Canadian Broadcast Standards Council says Superjail! needed viewer advisories aired at the beginning in both audio and video. Further, it said, the advisories should have been more specific regarding the violent and sexual content. The complete decision may be found by clicking www.cbsc.ca.

EVOLVING DOOR: Keith Pelley will succeed Tony Viner as President of Rogers Media,
effective Sept. 7. Viner announced his plan to retire back in May. Pelley, 46, will have overall responsibility for Rogers Broadcasting, Rogers Publishing, Rogers Digital Media, Rogers Sportsnet, The Shopping Channel, the Toronto Blue Jays and Rogers Centre. Most recently, he was Executive Vice President of Strategic Planning at CTV and President of Canada's Olympic Broadcast Media Consortium... CTV Ottawa News Director Scott Hannant has announced he will be leaving that job effective Aug. 27. Hannant was promoted to ND at CJOH-TV in Oct./02 after serving as Executive Producer since 1994 and, before that, as Senior Producer of Sunday Edition with Mike Duffy... Mike Leclair has been promoted to Market Sales Manager for CJRQ/CJMX Sudbury. He had been the Sales Supervisor. Leclair is a Sudbury native and has over 15 years of radio experience in the market... Gordon Klassen, VP of Corporate Affairs at Miracle Channel Lethbridge is no longer with the company... Stephen Tapp, who founded Hercules Media Group, was the founding President/COO of XM Satellite Radio Canada and was Exec VP at CHUM Television, has become CEO of Mash Media Solutions in Toronto... Christy Mitchell has been promoted to News Director at 102.1 The Lounge Medicine Hat. She had been an Anchor/Reporter.

RADIO: Corus Entertainment, citing the limited reach of the AM signal and the operating expense, pulled the plug on CJUL (AM 1220) Cornwall yesterday (Wednesday). Three jobs were lost, two on-air and one administrative. Corus has two FM stations in the market: Variety 104 (CFLG) and Rock 101.9 (CJSS). Local news coverage has been increased on the FM’ers... CHUM Radio Calgary has modified CKCE-FM, playing “Hits From Today & Back In The Day” on rebranded Kool 101.5. It had been ENERGY 101.5 FM with a Hot AC format targeting females 25-44. Station personalities remain unchanged. So, too, is the target audience... Dr. Laura Schlessinger, who apologized for saying the N-word 11 times to a caller on the air, says she plans to give up her radio show and move to Internet radio when her contract is up the end of this year. Schlessinger said she’s not retiring or quitting. Instead, she said wants to “regain her First Amendment rights” and be able to say what she believes needs to be said... The CRTA has ordered new media firms whose owners are also broadcasters to begin reporting their revenues to the Commission next year. Rogers Communications is the first such company that springs to mind. Duncan McKie, the President of the Canadian Independent Music Association, says tracking Canadian content and revenues from Internet broadcasting is needed to ensure that artists are compensated. The CRTA would, it said, keep individual company information confidential but would publish aggregate data, though it didn’t have any suggestions for how to define nor collect the information... The Co-Chairs for Canadian Music Week 2011, from broadcast, recording and live performances, are: SONY Music Canada Director of National Promotion Radio/Video, Warren Copnick; Astral Radio Executive VP, Content Rob Farina; Senior VP of S.L. Feldman and Associates, Jeff Craib; and Senior VP, Tour Marketing and Promotion for Live Nation, Joey Scoleri (Joey Vendetta during his broadcast career)... Gary Greer, the former PD at Newcap’s KOOL-FM and CFDR-AM Halifax and who had to leave the job two years ago because of Multiple Sclerosis, will be travelling to Mexico next month to get a controversial new treatment. He is now confined to a wheelchair. In addition to personal donations from staff at the radio stations and Newcap’s head office, Q104 and KOOL are holding a Rock & Roll Garage Sale August 21,
clearing out the record library and selling off the old vinyl. Proceeds of the event will go towards the cost of Greer’s trip for treatment in Mexico. The majority of people who have received the treatment show moderate to significant improvement in their mobility and quality of life. Many are able to get out of their wheelchairs and resume a semi-normal life.

LOOKING: New Country 93.7 JRFM and 100.5 The PEAK Vancouver has a rare opening for an experienced Traffic Reporter. See the display ad on Page 2... Other jobs we’ve heard about include: CTS Burlington - Sponsorship and New Media Sales specialist; CTV Ottawa - News Director; iV Victoria - Videographer; CTV Toronto - Information Architect, CTV Digital Media; CTV Calgary – News Anchor; CTV Toronto – Information Architect, CTV Digital Media; CTV Calgary – News Anchor; CTV reef Toronto – Strategic Reporting Officer; Astral Dawson Creek - TV Anchor/Reporter; CTV Toronto – Information Architect, CTV Digital Media; CTV Calgary – News Anchor; CTV Toronto – Strategic Reporting Officer; CTV reef Calgary – News Writer/Producer; Astral Fort St. John – Broadcast Engineer; Astral Radio Toronto - Digital Content Producer; JOE FM Edmonton – Midday Show Host/Assistant Music Director; News1130 Vancouver – News Anchor/Reporter; Newcap Radio Halifax – Regional Account Manager; and CFA X Victoria - News Reporter/Announcer.

SUPPLYLINES: Ross Video of Iroquois, Ont., has an agreement to acquire Norpak Corporation, majority owned by Rovi Corporation, with the sale scheduled to close Sept. 17. Norpak manufactures Nielsen encoders and Closed Captioning Inserters as well as VBI, VANC and transport stream data insertion products.
TV/FILM: Telus has asked the CRTC to keep a sharp eye on what Shaw does with its $2-billion purchase of Canwest’s broadcasting assets. The western-based Telus wants the Commission to scrutinize the moves Shaw makes with the Canwest content properties, particularly as they relate to deeper integration with distribution networks such as cable and wireless. Telus submitted that “... the CRTC must adopt ... safeguards to limit any abuse of market power and anti-competitive behaviour...” The hearing into the purchase is skedded for Sept. 20... The Canadian Broadcast Standards Council has found a violation in TV journalism involving a videographer’s creative work lifted from YouTube. An anchor was televised interviewing an APTN reporter who wove the YouTube clip into his story. The complainant, the person who shot the video, said she denied use of the clip when asked for permission by the reporter. APTN argued that the clip was “public domain” and that it identified the source as YouTube when it aired. But CBSC, referring to the RTNDA Code of (Journalistic) Ethics, said that wasn’t good enough, that the Code spells out that “broadcast journalists will strive to honour the intellectual property of others”. Read the complete decision at www.cbsc.ca... TV Watch, a U.S. organization that promotes parental controls and individual choices as an alternative to increased government regulation of TV content, says the Parents Television Council (PTC) “continues to root for government over parents when it comes to deciding what is appropriate for children to see on television.” And TV Watch Exec Director Jim Dyke warned that because an organization includes the word ‘parents’ doesn’t mean that it necessarily represents parents’ beliefs. Studies which began at the turn of the century, he said, have shown that parents want to be in charge of what their families watch and that they believe ratings and blocking tools are effective. Dyke says further that the PTC has been responsible for the overwhelming majority of complaints to the U.S. Federal Communications Commission... TVA Group specialty channel mystère became addikTV this past Monday. With the new name came six new series and a new website. The brand, addikTV, is supposed to express an attitude of not taking itself too seriously.
Radio: 

Lite 104.3 (CFFX-FM) Kingston has switched back to its original call letters, CKWS. CKWS-AM was on the air from 1942 through 1987. ID’ed now as “The station you grew up with”, the CKWS-FM 104.3 sell line is “Playing the greatest Hits of All Time”. Tonight (Thursday) on CBC Television, This Beat Goes On – the chronicling of Canadian content e.g. Gordon Lightfoot’s Sundown and Trooper’s Raise a Little Hell. The documentary combines archival footage and interview clips with the likes of Randy Bachman and Danny Marks. It begins on a controversial note with the federal government ruling that forced radio stations to play 30% Canadian content.

Evolving Door: Phil King, the former President of TSN, has been appointed President of Sports/Exec VP of Programming at CTV. He’s now responsible for all CTV sports interests: TSN, RDS, TSN2, RIS Info Sports, NHL Network and ESPN Classic. Rick Brace will realign his focus and concentrate exclusively on the company’s revenue as President of Revenue and Business Planning, CTV. He remains Chairman of the Board of CTV Specialty Television and will stay involved with the Olympic Games as a Senior Advisor. Alon Marcovici has been promoted to Exec VP, Digital Media, responsible for CTV’s overall digital media strategy. Canada’s Olympic Broadcast Media Consortium has promoted former Marketing VP Adam Ashton to President and Dan Cimoroni as Sr. VP of Sales and Marketing. Previously he’d been VP of Business Development. Stewart Johnston, the former VP Programming at TSN, has been promoted to President. Also at TSN, Mark Milliere – a 23-year veteran of the company – has been promoted to Sr. VP of Production. He had been VP of News and NHL. Shawn Redmond takes Johnston’s old job as VP of Programming. He had been VP of Marketing... Former CHCH-TV Hamilton News Anchor Dan McLean has become a radio Morningman. McLean, the 37-year CHCH stalwart – 28 years as the Senior Anchor – is now co-hosting Mix 106.5 Owen Sound working alongside Barb Jelly, ex of Astral’s Boom-FM and EZ-Rock Toronto. McLean had worked radio in the Regina, Saskatoon and Kitchener-Waterloo markets before moving to television. The former Mix 106.5 morning show moved across the street to the new Larche Communications station, 92.3 The Dock... CHED Edmonton morningman Gord Whitehead will retire Sept. 1. Succeeding him is Bruce Bowie of sister Corus station CISN Edmonton. Succeeding Bowie at CISN is Chris Scheetz, the afternoon Driver. Whitehead and Bowie have been on Edmonton radio for 30 years or more, Bowie with CHED, King-FM then CISN and Whitehead with CJCA and CHED. Whitehead, however, is a 40-year radio veteran who did stints at CFRB Toronto and CJOB Winnipeg... Tony Grace moves from /AI Ottawa where he was National Reporter to /AI Barrie Sept. 20 as Senior Anchor, partnering with co-Anchor Jayne Pritchard. Grace succeeds longtime Anchor Lance Chilton who left broadcasting... Janine Kraft has been promoted to PD/Radio Ops Manager at Astral Radio BC Northwest in Terrace. She’s held the interim position for the past eight months and officially begins Sept. 1. Also at Astral Terrace, Engineer Brian Sayewich has resigned effective Sept. 10... Steve Bethge, ND at Newcap Edson has resigned to join the Town of Edson as Communications Officer.
SIGN-OFFS: Peter Cotter, 61, after a fall down his basement stairs in Sydney, N.S. Cotter had a news career in Maritimes radio (CIGO Port Hawkesbury, CFCY Charlottetown, CJCB Sydney and CHER Sydney) that spanned the ‘70s, ’80s and ’90s. He’d spent the last 15 years with the Cape Breton Post. A colleague there said of Cotter: “His first calling was radio and I think he missed its frantic pace after he left it. He had a great voice and delivery”... Dick Maloney, 77, at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Ottawa following a 2006 fall on a sidewalk that broke his neck and left him a paraplegic. While in the hospital, Maloney did a regular Sunday morning show on Oldies 1310 Ottawa at first called Sentimental Journey then more aptly, The Dick Maloney Show. The singer, songwriter and perennia Ottawa media personality began his broadcast career in Ottawa during the early ‘60s... Harold Dow, 62, in New Jersey. The Emmy-winning CBS News correspondent, during nearly 40 years with the U.S. network, covered stories that included the kidnapping of Patricia Hearst and the September 11 attacks. He was perhaps best known for helping shape the weekly documentary program 48 Hours... Ron Carabine, 86, in North Vancouver after a long illness. Carabine was a former CFUN Vancouver GM, at that post when it changed call letters in 1969 to CKVN – the VN signifying The Voice of News.

GENERAL: Corus Custom Networks will close its offices in Calgary, Vancouver and will terminate representation in the Toronto office of Corus Entertainment effective at month’s end. The company’s TV Listings format will remain on air until August 31 as will EyesOn TV. At that time, both will be cancelled. In a note to customers, VP/GM Tyler Alton thanked them for the 19+ years of Custom Networks service in Western Canada. Shaw Communications, he wrote, “will be taking over the service for a period of time”... The CRTC’s Vancouver office moves Aug. 30 to Suite 290, 858 Beatty Street (V6B 1C1). Phone numbers stay the same... For the first time in U.S. history, BDU subscriptions have dropped. The SNL Kagan analysis points to the 216,000 subscriber loss in the second quarter being caused by economic factors such as high unemployment and the weak housing market. At the same time last year, subscriptions to cable, DBS and telco video were up 378,000... Shaw Communications and Rogers Sportsnet have so far been unable to come to an agreement for Shaw’s airing of the new specialty channel, Sportsnet One. The channel was supposed start airing via Shaw Cable Aug. 14 in Western Canada with a six-month free trial period. Price is the sticking point, says Shaw VP Jay Mehr, but he said the two are in talks to try to resolve the impasse... A five-hour stand-off at CBC Calgary ended with a 74-year-old man apprehended under the Mental Health Act. He was charged with weapons offences after a man with a handgun entered the CBC Calgary broadcast centre. He apparently wanted to publicize a dispute he’d had with a former employer...

SUPPLYLINES: Iroquois, Ont.-based Ross Video has moved from being a family-owned company, adding 71 new employee shareholders. The company created an Employee Stock Ownership Plan in which all Ross employees may buy stock.

LOOKING: FACTOR in Toronto seeks a new President. See the ad on Page 1... Other jobs we’ve heard about include: Astral Terrace - Broadcast Engineer; APTN Yellowknife - Videojournalist; APTN Halifax - Reporter/Correspondent, an Online Producer and a Camera/Editor; Newcap Radio Edson - News Director; Rogers Broadcasting Vancouver - OMNI News Manager; Astral Radio Toronto - Digital Account Manager; Corus Entertainment Toronto – Manager of Financial Reporting, Corporate; Corus Radio Cornwall – Midday Host; CKWS-FM/CFMK-FM Kingston – Morning Drive Announcer, an Afternoon Announcer, and an Announcer; CTV Toronto – Senior Assignment Editor TSN; and CBC Toronto – Senior Broadcast Technologist.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: Art Pultz, Rogers Radio Timmins and John Tucker Broadcast Sales and Management, Kingston. Welcome!