

BROADCAST Dialogue

Essential Reading

Christensen Communications Ltd. • 18 Turtle Path, Lagoon City ON • LOK 1B0 • howard@broadcastdialogue.com

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Volume 23, Number 35

REVOLVING DOOR:

As part of the *Rogers Media* restructuring last week, cluster managers' responsibilities have changed so that each of them is now a national format director. **Danny Kingsbury** in Ottawa will be responsible for all 10 Rogers stations that program *Rock*. **Wendy Duff** in Toronto is responsible for the AC format. **Al Ford** in Vancouver takes oversight on the Jack format and *Sonic 102.9*. **Treena Wood** in Vancouver heads up the News format on six stations. **Peter McKeown**, who moves to Kitchener from Sudbury at the end of this month, becomes responsible for the Country format (seven stations). Who will head the CHR format has yet to be announced. Local PDs are still in place. The role of general manager has been eliminated country-wide with most individuals holding the position now tasked



Danny Kingsbury



Al Ford



Treena Wood

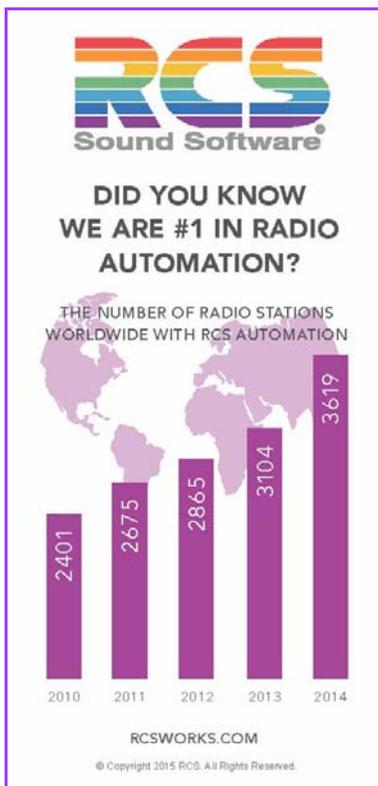
with other responsibilities. Exceptions include **Art Pultz**, the GM/PD at *Rogers Radio Timmins*, who's taking retirement Feb. 25. Pultz, 57, began his broadcast career in 1978 at *CKOB Renfrew*, then moved to *CKX Brandon*. In 1983, he landed at *CFTI-FM/CKGB Timmins* which was then owned by *Telemédia*. He remained with the stations through the purchase by Rogers and gradually moved up the career ladder to overall local responsibility for the stations. And **Holly Cangiano** is no longer the GM at *Rogers North Bay*. She'd been with the company for 22 years...



Peter McKeown



Art Pultz



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Guy Gendron, the chief editor of *Le téléjournal 22h* and *Les coulisses du pouvoir* has been appointed *CBC/Radio-Canada's* French Services ombudsman, effective March 8. Over his 30-year career, Gendron has been a local and national

reporter, foreign correspondent, parliamentary correspondent, investigative reporter, interviewer, anchor, and chief editor. He succeeds Pierre Tourangeau who will stay on until March 31...

The new afternoon show of **Janice (Ungaro)** and **Cory (Ashworth)** began Feb. 1 at *Roundhouse Radio Vancouver*. The two had been doing a weekly LGBTQ entertainment show Sunday evenings. Ungaro's background includes 14 years in Los Angeles radio production and, before that, co-host of *Z105.3 Vancouver* mornings. Ashworth had been an announcer at *The Peak Vancouver*. Earlier in his career, he launched China's first national radio Rock show...



Cory Ashworth

Janice Ungaro



Ron Funnell

Ron Funnell is the new general sales manager at *The Grand at 101 Centre Wellington* (Elora). His background includes radio management and sales stints with radio stations in Ontario owned by *Bell Media*, *Rogers Radio*, *Bayshore Broadcasting* and *Larche Communications*...

At *Newcap Fredericton*, **Jay McNeil**, the former co-host of *New Country 92.3* mornings, has moved back to full-time sales. He'd been seconded to help launch 92.3 last July and had been doing on-air and sales since then. The arrangement had always been regarded as temporary. Succeeding him in mornings is his brother, **John McNeil**, who moves across the hall from mornings at *UP! 93.1*, the other *Newcap* station. Succeeding him in UP! mornings is **Dave Lawrence**, moving from PM drive. And moving into UP! PM drive is **Sheumas Campbell**, ex of *Newcap Sydney*...



John McNeil



Dave Lawrence



Sheumas Campbell

Alex Martin becomes PD/morning show host at *The Goat Castlegar* Feb. 15, moving within *Vista Radio* from afternoon host/reporter at *Country 840 100 Mile House*. He'll also assume PD responsibilities for *1035 Juice FM Nelson* and *94.1 Juice FM Creston*...



Alex Martin



Robin Batchelor



Emad Agahi

Two new reporters have joined *Bell Media* at stations in Terrace and Prince Rupert. They are **Robin Batchelor** (Terrace/Kitimat) and **Emad Agahi** (Prince Rupert). Batchelor worked as a reporter at *Vista Radio Prince George* while Agahi was a video journalist and radio reporter in Vancouver...

Ann Luu, the *CTV Morning Live* traffic specialist in Vancouver, has been promoted. She's now the weathercaster for local CTV News at Noon, 5 and 6.

RADIO/AUDIO:

FM 93 Quebec City, its owner (*Cogéco*), and two executives have been sued for \$1-million by the city of Quebec for what it describes as “*false, inaccurate, malicious and defamatory comments*” made on FM 93 by morning host **Sylvain Bouchard**. The city argues that Bouchard falsely reported the content of a newspaper article and the *Report of the Charbonneau Commission* “*in a spirit of sensationalism, by leading the public to believe that the city had been facing corruption [charges], an extremely severe criminal act necessarily involving a municipal official or elected official, while neither the Report nor the article were addressing any corruption issue with regards to the City of Québec*”...



Allan Slaight

Ryerson University in Toronto has opened the new *Allan Slaight Radio Institute* at the *RTA School of Media* in its *Faculty of Communication and Design*. The new facility was created through a \$3 million gift from *The Slaight Family Foundation* to support the next generation of radio innovators and entrepreneurs. **Alan Cross**, a program director, on-air host and musicologist, has been appointed as broadcaster in residence. And **Lori Beckstead** is director of the Allan Slaight Radio Institute...

KiSS 92.5 Toronto, owned by *Rogers Radio*, and *Seneca College* have begun this year’s program of giving interns in their final year of the college’s radio program real work experience on-air. At the same time, they earn a course credit. Three students began doing overnights on KiSS 92.5 this past Monday, and will do so for the next 12 weeks...

CHPN 89.9 La Loche carried out an on-air auction to raise money for the families affected by the Jan. 22 shooting that left four people dead and seven others wounded in the town of about 3,000 people. Between Country and Christian Pop, amateur auctioneers described items donated by local residents and businesses while



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volunteers took bids over the phone for everything from boxes of cereal and big screen TVs and an all-terrain vehicle...

The Net neutrality fight continues as it relates to *Videotron's Unlimited Music* program which offers some subscribers *Spotify*, *Rdio* and *Google Music* on their mobile devices without data bandwidth charges. Videotron says it doesn't violate the principle of Net neutrality while groups and individuals who are opposed took the fight to the *CRTC*. Critics say the music service runs contradictory to the *Telecommunications Act* because it discriminates against customers of cheaper cellphone plans who must pay. Videotron argues for the offer's legitimacy, calling it an effort to stand out from its competitors...

The *Jim Pattison Broadcast Group* in Lethbridge has launched its new digital news portal, called *LethbridgeNewsNow.com*. The *Country 95 Lethbridge* news team handles the content. The portal is provided at no charge and includes free local classifieds...

Q99 Grande Prairie, purchased last year by the *Jim Pattison Broadcast Group*, is set to move this weekend to JPBG's existing location at *Big Country 93.1 XX FM*. A team of Pattison engineers has been busy this week taking care of the nuts and bolts of the move...

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Community station *CIBL Montreal* appears ready to pull the plug and go dark, suffocating under a debt load said to be over \$200,000...

Edison Research says radio broadcasters have a unique ability to capitalize on their listeners' "fear of missing out". Edison says it will reveal more during its *Ear Wars* presentation at the *2016 Country Radio Show* Feb. 9 in Nashville...

CJOB Winnipeg, with a goal of raising \$100,000 for the city's *Health Sciences Centre Foundation*, broadcast through to 6 p.m. Friday from the Centre. After the funds and pledges were totaled, the goal for 'Bringing Hope to Life' was over the mark, to \$104,639. Donations enable the Foundation to help Manitoba families through research, education and patient care...

Corus Radio Ottawa has renewed its radio sponsorship agreement with *RBC Bluesfest*, the annual outdoor music festival. The five-year agreement will run until 2021. The event is ranked by *Billboard Magazine* as one of the top-10 most successful music festivals in the world. The festival has grown from a one-stage, three-day event with a budget of \$100,000 in 1994 to a multi-staged, two-week event with a budget of more than \$15 million. This year's RBC Bluesfest runs July 7 to 17...



'Lock' Loughrin, ZED 98.9 Mornings, Red Deer Public Works Manager Greg Sikora, GM Hilary Montbourquette and Tony Sowen, ZED 98.9 Mornings

ZED 98.9 Red Deer is taking added satisfaction from its own *Snow Zone* designation as recognized by the city's public works manager. He noted Red Deer's appreciation for the "partnership established through great communication". The added satisfaction? The street in front of ZED 98.9 is clear.

SIGN-OFF:
Jack "J.J." Cannon, 93, in Prince Albert. The well-known *CKBI Prince Albert* host began his career in 1936 at *CFQC Saskatoon*. In 1941, he began service in the Second World War. Upon return to civilian life, Cannon moved to Prince Albert and became the host of the *CKBI Wake Up, Shake Up* show, a gig he would hold for 40 years...

TELEVISION/VIDEO:
An in-depth look at major trends affecting the audiovisual industry in Canada and around the world, called the *2016 Keytrends Report: Entering the Age of Experience*, has been published by the *Canada Media Fund* (CMF). The report also analyses their potential impact on the Canadian television and digital media industry. Key trends include: The next phase of hyperconnectivity will see creators having to adapt to a connected world where devices, users and the Cloud continually interact; The Canadian market is 'mobile-first' for online consumption with video on smartphones and tablets increasingly popular; While the monetization of digital content continues to mature, the idea of online advertising as the dominant model has been seriously challenged, so much so that the result is more exploration and still greater fragmentation of revenue models; and digital niches are proving to be a viable business model that smaller players are mining effectively. Click to read the [2016 Keytrends Report: Entering the Age of Experience](#)...

At the local and community television news hearing, *Dougall Media* VP/GM Don Caron said Dougall's two Thunder Bay TV stations may have to shut down by Sept. 1 because of dire financial straits. Right now, he said, *CTV* affiliate *CKPR-TV* and *Global* affiliate *CHFD-TV* are being run on the key man insurance money from recently deceased station owner Fraser Dougall and former GM Tony Seuret. Both died in 2015...

The *Media Technology Monitor* (MTM) reports that more than half of Canadians (55%) binge-view television. Other findings in its most recent research indicate that OTT services have taken off in Canada, with 45% of all TV viewers now using an OTT service such as *Netflix*, *shomi*, *Crave TV* or *Club Illico*. It also found that more than 10% of Canadians have adopted a wearable device, the most popular being *Fitbit*...

The *CRTC* has issued a call for comments about next year's *Super Bowl* game and the matter of simultaneous substitution. Earlier, a policy decision was taken that would have put a stop to the practice effective with next year's game. Interventions will be received up to March 4...

A *Canadian Broadcast Standards Council* panel decision found no breach of codes related to *Global Television* and *CTV* (in separate broadcasts) reporting stories of public interest simply because the subjects might be related to their parent companies. CBSC received two complaints alleging conflict of interest in reports aired about the streaming service *shomi* and *CTV News Channel* reporting about Bell's new faster Internet service in Toronto. For details, click www.cbsc.ca.

GENERAL:
The *Conference Board of Canada's* Telecommunications Industry Outlook predicts limited growth this year for the country's telecommunication industry. It points to high debt levels combined with constrained job prospects that will make it harder for Canadians to spend more on their telecom packages, thus limiting industry growth. Kristelle Audet, senior economist, *Canadian Industrial Outlook*, says lower Canadian consumption combined with sharp telecom price hikes over the past couple of years will likely prompt subscribers to review their telecom services and eliminate unnecessary options. Telecommunications industry growth is expected to rise 1.4% in 2016, lagging behind the overall Canadian economy. It has slowed considerably



since 2010 when it was 4% to 0.4% in 2015. Despite these statistics, pre-tax profits are expected to rise to \$7.9 billion this year, with profit margins forecasted to remain above 10% over the next five years...

Corus Entertainment is launching what it hopes will be a new source of revenue; live events. The first *Corus Live* effort is a two-day country music festival in Kitchener July 8-9 that's associated with its *CMT* specialty channel. Future events, says Corus, will be built around its kids, families and women TV brands as well as those of its radio stations...

CBC Radio and current affairs show *The Current* have begun a pilot project to improve the accessibility of public radio for the deaf or hearing impaired. Transcripts are posted daily and CBC says it will video one American Sign Language-interpreted documentary each month for posting online. A grant from the *Broadcasting Accessibility Fund* is helping to finance the project...

The *Actors' Fund of Canada* has changed branding to simply *The AFC*. Its mandate is to provide compassionate aid to Canadian entertainment professionals; helping them maintain their health, dignity and ability to work. The AFC has provided financial assistance to over 12,000 professionals across Canada since it was founded in 1958. Key goals of the rebranding are 1) To increase awareness of their mandate, and 2) To encourage support from industry members and from arts audiences across the country...

The annual *Ontario Association of Broadcasters' CAREER DAY* is set for March 7 at the Toronto head office of *Corus Entertainment*. The event, now heading into year 11, gives soon-to-be graduating students the opportunity to speak with experienced broadcasters from all sectors of the broadcasting business.

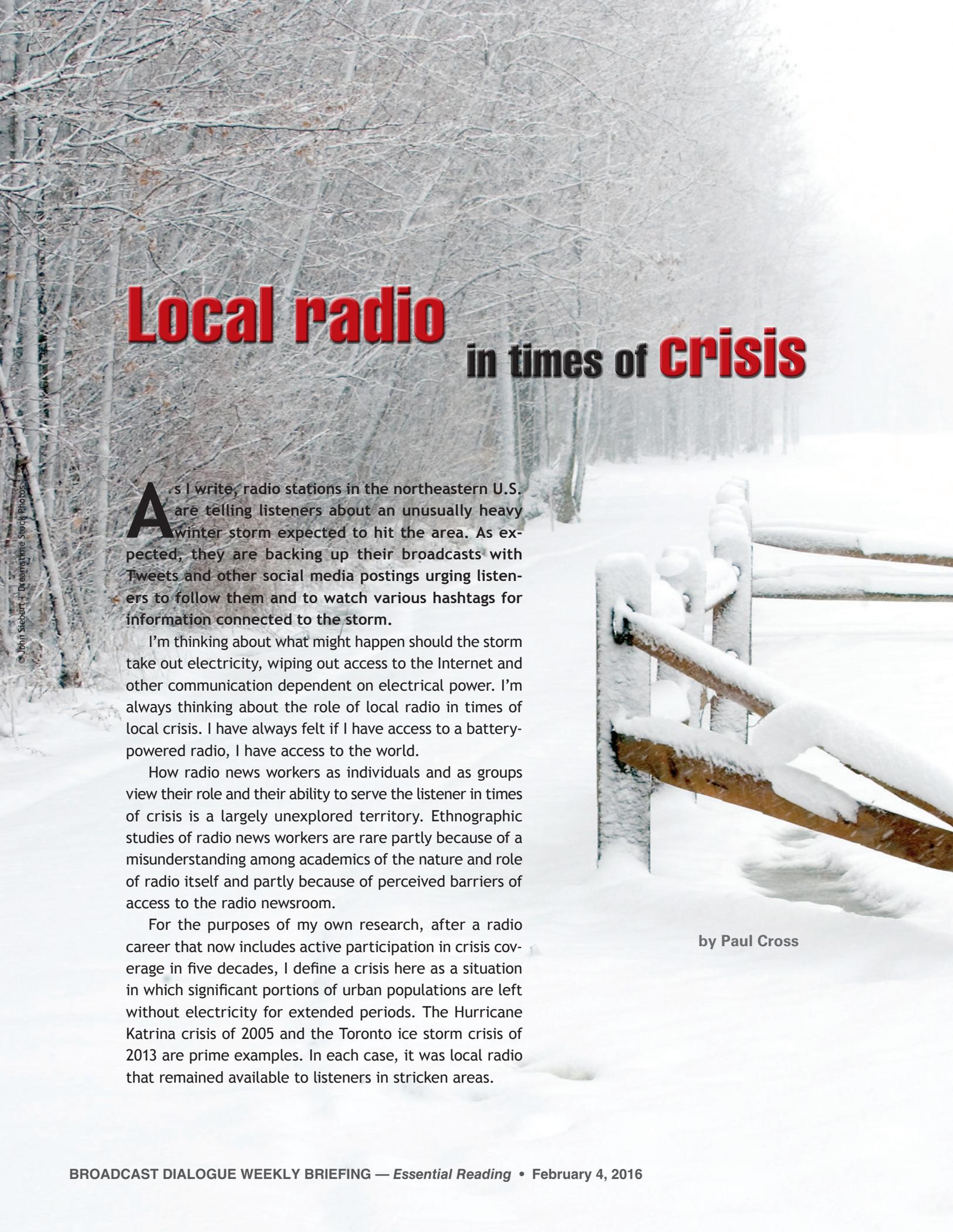


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The image is a promotional graphic for the 82nd Annual Conference of the Western Association of Broadcasters (WAB). It features a background photograph of the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel in Banff, Alberta, with a blue sky and green trees. A white line graph is overlaid on the image. The text is in white and green, and the WAB logo is in the bottom left corner.



Local radio

in times of **crisis**

As I write, radio stations in the northeastern U.S. are telling listeners about an unusually heavy winter storm expected to hit the area. As expected, they are backing up their broadcasts with Tweets and other social media postings urging listeners to follow them and to watch various hashtags for information connected to the storm.

I'm thinking about what might happen should the storm take out electricity, wiping out access to the Internet and other communication dependent on electrical power. I'm always thinking about the role of local radio in times of local crisis. I have always felt if I have access to a battery-powered radio, I have access to the world.

How radio news workers as individuals and as groups view their role and their ability to serve the listener in times of crisis is a largely unexplored territory. Ethnographic studies of radio news workers are rare partly because of a misunderstanding among academics of the nature and role of radio itself and partly because of perceived barriers of access to the radio newsroom.

For the purposes of my own research, after a radio career that now includes active participation in crisis coverage in five decades, I define a crisis here as a situation in which significant portions of urban populations are left without electricity for extended periods. The Hurricane Katrina crisis of 2005 and the Toronto ice storm crisis of 2013 are prime examples. In each case, it was local radio that remained available to listeners in stricken areas.

by Paul Cross

Everyone in radio has a story about the lengths they have gone to get information and get it on the air during a widespread local emergency but almost no one outside industry award gatherings ever asks about what's involved.

In my latest round of research in 2015, I asked working radio news professionals across Canada to tell me about their experiences in covering local crises, and about their feelings about their ongoing ability to respond in times of need in order to serve their listeners. The data gathered is both qualitative and quantitative.

Surveys and interviews were conducted between April and June of 2015.

Across Canada, radio news workers surveyed were unanimous: regardless of market size, radio station format, newsroom resources available or formal training, 100% of participants felt they had a civic duty to provide coverage of a local disaster as a public service to their listeners. While very few of the respondents—only 17%—had received any training in disaster or crisis coverage during their broadcast or journalism education, 56% reported their training had come through experience on the job. Thirty per cent said they had never had any kind of training about covering any type of disaster. Regardless of training, though, most participants were confident they could cover a wide range of emergencies that might occur in their community.

In keeping with my theme of weather-related disaster and populations left without electricity, 76% said they were knowledgeable or experienced in covering flooding; 71% would be confident covering an ice storm; 70% felt they were able to cover an extended power failure; and 65% felt their experience equipped them to cover other types of severe weather.

The majority, however, felt unprepared and ill-equipped to cover emergencies involving toxic chemical contamination of the environment or a mass evacuation.

Overall, just two-thirds of the radio news workers surveyed said the radio station where they work had a plan for news coverage of a local disaster or crisis such as a natural disaster. Thirteen per cent said the station had no plan, while 17% did not know. In the online survey, every participant whose radio station had a disaster coverage plan said their station had a culture that regarded coverage of a local disaster as a public service to the listener.

Sixty per cent of those whose stations did not have a plan said their radio station didn't seem to view such coverage as a necessary public service.

Radio news professionals expressed little fear of changes in technology or media consumption as a barrier or threat to their



continued ability to provide disaster coverage. Rather, they saw management and corporate decisions as greater threats.

More than 80% reported recent reductions in newsroom staffing and resources threatening their ability to cover a local crisis. Thirty-eight per cent felt the level of commitment to local news coverage by the corporation that owned the radio station was a threat to their ability. The same percentage expected their remaining radio news resources to be downsized. Some respondents admitted they already felt they no longer had the staff to adequately cover a local crisis.

Radio news workers were unanimous again in expressing their view of the importance of broadcast radio to the listener in a time of crisis, particularly when the electricity was out. They felt strongly about the need to provide coverage. Regardless of station size, training or formal preparedness, 96% felt their personal contributions to crisis coverage had been successful.

Their experiences and responses pointed to several areas of need for improvement by radio managers and executives.

Many radio reporters found civic and local emergency management professionals unaware of the significance of radio and the importance of being heard on the radio in a time of crisis when other means of access to information such as the Internet and television are down.

Stations with no emergency plans also seemed to lack plans for how to keep themselves on the air, and may not have agreements on access to an alternative broadcast location. One radio station actually ran spots for a corporately-connected television station advertising its news service to hundreds of thousands of listeners with no electricity!

Another Tweeted a third-party document about citizen preparation for a weather and electricity emergency, with no reference whatsoever to the role of radio or the suggestion of having a battery-powered radio ready at all times.

Paul Cross is the Coordinator, Broadcasting—Radio graduate certificate program at Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning in Toronto. His article centred on original research; an ethnographic study of Canadian radio news workers. His ongoing research continues to focus on radio in times of crisis, disaster and emergency communication, the need to know and concepts of media literacy. He can be found @paulcrosstoront or at Paul.Cross@humber.ca.

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Thursday, February 11, 2016

Volume 23, Number 36

RADIO/AUDIO:

RBMW's decision to ditch AM radio from its *i3* electric vehicles isn't sitting well with owners loyal to stations on that band. BMW says it dropped AM because of interference from the car's electric drive train. Owners and BMW are said to be looking for a way to reduce and eliminate the interference. *Tesla* did the same with its *Model S* sedan...



FAB 94.3 (CHIQ-FM) Winnipeg has become *94.3 The Drive* and, appropriately, the first song played under the new ID was *Drive My Car* by the *Beatles*. Format is Greatest Hits from the '70s and '80s, and includes a new morning show duo, Kerri Salki and Trevor Gowen. Alix Michaels is in middays and PM drive host is Kelly Parker...

AM900 (CHML) Hamilton is now available to listeners who have HD technology. It's is carried via the *95.3 Fresh Radio Hamilton* signal on sub channel 95.3 (HD3)...

At *Corus Calgary*, *Country 105 (CKRY-FM)* and *News Talk 770 (CHQR)* are both now broadcasting in HD, CKRY at 105.1 (HD1) while CHQR-AM is (HD2) at 105.1 Mhz...



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A number of stations up for renewal of licences which expire Aug. 31 are in apparent repeated non-compliance, e.g. annual returns, submission of radio monitoring material, response to requests for information and Canadian content. Further, they've been on short-term renewals for similar transgressions of *CRTC* policy. They are *CKDG-FM Montreal*, *CHMZ-FM Tofino*, *CIMM-FM Ucluelet*, *CINU-FM Truro*, *CIAU-FM Radisson*, *CFDM-FM Meadow Lake* and *CHRO-FM Restigouche*...

The syndicated *Bubba the Love Sponge Show* begins in mornings Feb. 22 on *talkSPORTS Radio EXTRA 90.5 FM Peterborough*...

The *Country 105 Calgary Caring for Kids* radiothon for the *Alberta Children's Hospital* raised \$1.67 million. Now, after its 13th year, Country 105 has raised \$20.9 million...

The 14th annual *Children's Hospital Radiothon* on at *Saskatoon Media Group's CJWW, 92.9 The Bull* and *98 Cool* has raised \$604,587.56. It will all go toward funding urgent pediatric equipment, including a new ambulance, and the new *Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan*. Part of the radiothon included the sacrifice of host Pat Dubois's do, 11 inches long before the hair hit the blade.

REVOLVING DOOR:
R Steve Colwill will retire Feb. 26 from *CHEZ 106 Ottawa*, after more than 39 years with the station. He began there in early 1977 as music director. Since then, he's acted in almost every capacity including programming and news. As he winds down, Colwill is responsible for executing day-to-day strategy as well as doing on-air shifts...



Steve Colwill



Jon Erlichman



Nathalie Cook

Jon Erlichman joins *Business News Network (BNN)* in Toronto next month as an anchor/reporter. His background includes *Bloomberg Television*, *ABC News* and *Headline News*...

Nathalie Cook, the former VP of brand partnerships for *Bell Media* and VP, sales and brand partnerships for *TSN*, has been appointed president of *Cimoroni & Company* in Toronto. It does media consulting, business development, content business and talent representation, among other endeavours...

Alex Johnston is the new VP of strategy and public affairs at *CBC/Radio-Canada*. She begins Feb. 29 in Toronto. Johnston had been executive director of continued growth and membership engagement at *Catalyst Canada*...

Sumner Redstone, the long-time *CBS* executive chairman, has resigned. Stakeholders pressured that action over an upcoming lawsuit. Succeeding him as CBS chairman is CEO Leslie Moonves. At *Viacom*, the owner of CBS, CEO Philippe Dauman succeeds Redstone as executive chairman...



Host **Scott Nicholls** is no longer with *Rawlco Radio Saskatoon*. In a *Facebook* posting, he said that as a result of his relatively short time at *Rock 102* and as host of *TalksShots* on *650 CKOM Saskatoon* and *980 CJME Regina* his life had been made richer...

Lauren McNabb and **Heather Steele** will become the *Global News Winnipeg* anchor duo early next month. McNabb's background includes being host of *Global Winnipeg's* weekly public affairs program and as a *Jerusalem* correspondent. Steele anchored the station's late evening package and, since September, has been anchoring the 6:00 p.m. package...



Lauren McNabb



Heather Steele



Amanda Korenowski

Amanda Korenowski will become the news director for both radio and television March 1 at the *BC Peace Group* of stations, based at *CJDC-TV/AM Dawson Creek*. She worked at *CJDC* a few years ago before moving to a sales position at *Rogers Communications* in Toronto...

Lawrence White has been promoted to *CJDC-TV Dawson Creek* master control supervisor. The 10-year station veteran will be a part of the lead on transitioning from being a *CBC* affiliate to becoming a *CTV 2* affiliate later this month...

Bill Carroll's last day as afternoon talk host at *AM640 Toronto* was Feb. 5. He'd been doing the show from *KFI Los Angeles*...

J Stevens, the PD at *Cool FM Chatham/Windsor*, takes on added duties as morning host beginning Feb. 22. And **Dave Lockbaum** moves from sister Chatham station *CFCO* to succeed Stevens as host of *Cool* afternoons...



Tona Aboaba is the new afternoon host at *AM 590 EZ Rock Terrace*. He's also host of evenings at *CJFW-FM Terrace*...

Terry Reid, most recently of *103.5 QM/FM Vancouver*, has signed on to become the 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. host at the soon to launch *107.7 Pulse FM Surrey*. Reid has over 40 years in radio, 23 of them as a morning host...

Tona Aboaba

Doug Cheng, ex of *OMNI BC* where he'd been managing producer/editor, has become the communications officer at the *BC Lottery Corporation*.



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SIGN-OFF:

James R. Grisenthwaite, 88, in a Toronto hospital (Bridgepoint). He joined *CKCK Regina* in 1946 as an announcer and became the station's manager in 1964. Grisenthwaite later managed *CKRC Winnipeg* and *CKOC Hamilton*. He was appointed as VP at *Armada Communications* in 1970.

TELEVISION/VIDEO:

CTV News Halifax has pleaded guilty to violating the Youth Criminal Justice Act by showing the faces of two convicted young people during a broadcast last August. Doing so was in contravention of the Act. A sentencing hearing is set for March 21 in Halifax...

The *CRTC* has issued a call for renewals of television licenses held by large English- and French-language ownership groups that will expire Aug 31, 2017. While there is no licence renewal application form for large ownership groups, the Commission sent customized letters to each, with questions. The answers provided will comprise the application. Responses must be submitted no later than April 4, 2016. An exception is *Rogers Media*. The Commission, looking at *OMNI* stations' local third language programming, expects the Rogers response a few days earlier. For the moment, the *Shaw Media* application is still in the works until a decision is reached on the *Corus* application to acquire the company...

The Canadian Media Producers Association is the new name of the *Canadian Media Production Association* (CMPA). CMPA says the new brand's slight alteration "more accurately" reflects its membership. *Profile 2015: An Economic Report on the Screen-Based Media Production Industry in Canada* is available [HERE](#). Profile 2015 marks the 19th edition of the annual economic report published by CMPA in collaboration with the *Association québécoise de la production médiatique* (AQPM), *Telefilm Canada* and the *Department of Canadian Heritage*.

GENERAL:

BCE's severance costs dragged down its fourth quarter profit by \$120 million. Net income in the quarter was \$496 million; down 8.5% from \$542 million in the same quarter last year, 58 cents per common share, down from 64 cents. Revenue was \$5.6 billion, up 1.4%...

The *Competition Bureau* has decided not to challenge the *Shaw Communications* acquisition of *WIND Mobile*.



Canadian Media Leaders

— A Look
Ahead



Left:
Heather Conway,
CBC's executive
vice-president,
English services

Right:
Steven DeNure,
president/COO of DHX



Left:
Tracey Pearce,
senior VP, specialty
and pay, Bell Media

Right:
Barbara Williams,
executive vice
president,
broadcasting and
president, Shaw Media

At the Canadian Media Producers Association's annual conference—called *Prime Time in Ottawa*—Canadian media leaders Heather Conway, CBC's executive vice-president, English services; Steven DeNure, president/COO of DHX; Tracey Pearce, senior VP, specialty and pay at Bell Media; and Barbara Williams, executive vice president, broadcasting and president, Shaw Media were at the centre of a discussion regarding television's future. The session's moderator was Kaan Yigit, the president and founder of Solutions Research Group Consultants.



Kaan Yigit,
president and
founder of
Solutions
Research Group
Consultants

Tracey Pearce said there was no question that the industry is experiencing a fundamental transformation. Of greatest importance to her are elements within three prime themes: TV is alive and well; Pick and pay is top of mind; and Canadian content continues to be important.

Traditional TV continues to deliver massive audiences, she said, and advertising on it continues to be the most efficient advertising platform. There were over 100 occasions last year when two million Canadians were watching the same show at the same time, she said.

Canadian advertisers and broadcasters are bombarded with tons of statistics about what's happening with Millennials, how they are moving away from television to consuming content on other platforms. Nevertheless, said Pearce, Millennials continue to watch three times more television than Facebook, Instagram and Twitter combined, seven times more television than YouTube and 17 times more television than Netflix. That's the reality. Television, she asserted, continues to be the platform to deliver massive engaged audiences.

On pick and pay, Pearce predicted choppy waters ahead. But doubling down on brands is critical as well as sharpening the channels. Bell Media sees Canadian content-creating as a key to doing that. Cancon is critical and Bell Media is leaning into it, not backing away from it.

Heather Conway said leaning into Canadian content is all CBC does. The content CBC seeks is that which can compete with premium cable, e.g. edgy comedies, single camera or dramas, or content one would not necessarily think of as being traditional. But Conway noted that the challenge all companies face is the business model for conventional television being under severe pressure, and not being made up by digital options.

The price per hour broadcasters are getting for very expensive content on any of their other platforms—even after generating huge volumes—is nowhere near what the cost is. Finding a way to ensure payment for content is critical. Conway referred to an analysis of various distribution systems quoting the average payment per hour of premium television content: It's three cents on YouTube, it's about 11 cents on Netflix and it's about 25 cents on conventional television. And the challenge to be faced going forward is maintaining a dual stream of revenue. A dual stream of revenue was kind of the saviour for conventional television, she said, but digital migration is undermining that model to such a degree that it's a race to the bottom in paying for content. Conway said a way has to be found to ensure that content creators and the people who commission, curate and distribute content get paid.

Moderator Yigit noted that Jeff Zucker said in 2008 that media companies were in danger of trading analog dollars for digital pennies. Eight years later, is it more or less the same thing? Has it improved or hasn't it changed since then?

Conway said it's worse. More people are coming into the market who are not actually causing original content to be created but are simply buying up already created content and trying to monetize that through advertising. "I don't think people have understood that when Apple said it's going to allow ad blockers, all those Internet companies that are just relying on ad revenue will be in the dark. When that happens, watch the bubble burst. It won't be pretty."

Steven DeNure noted that DHX is relatively new to the broadcast business having been content creators. Back then, he said, the idea was that content would end up being re-valued on a worldwide basis. "What we have really been focused on has been using the Canadian system and the Canadian model to create content that sells everywhere."

Williams expressed the thought that on some days she feels Shaw Media has tremendous brands and terrific content and then, in the middle of the night, she goes "Oh my God, the traditional global model is a tough one and getting tougher".

Her company's three guiding principles are: The customer is in charge; Industry solutions partner-led, i.e you can't do everything yourself, you've got to get out there and do stuff with people; and, the future is not ad free.

The subscription model alone, she said, will not sustain the industry. People can't afford to pay for all the content. "Our challenge and our opportunity we think is being able to monetize audiences. We believe there's a lot of power in merging the intelligence of data with the power of television."

Yigit, noting that Netflix will spend five billion dollars on content, acquisition and original programming, and that it also launched in 130 countries, asked what those moves mean to the panellists' organizations.

DeNure said Netflix is just one example of key players putting a stake in the ground and creating a different kind of content than television had been creating for a long time. Netflix is one of the key disruptive forces when you talk about measurement, he said. "It famously does not share any of its statistics so even the producers who are selling content to them don't really know how those shows are doing."

On the matter of how premium OTT is evolving globally and in Canada, Conway said getting 200 channels for the price she's paying now is a good deal; that in five years she's going to wish this day was back. "I'm also going to have Netflix, probably going to be paying for shomi, Crave and all the rest of it to get all the pieces that I want and I am probably going to end up paying more. I think the consumer may not realize that the deal right now actually isn't bad."

Scale as it relates to the Canadian market and what's going on globally is of great concern. Williams said scale matters in everything. The consolidation of the ad agencies worldwide has led

to commoditization of the 30-second spot in that a central procurement office has to decide how those budgets are going to be rolled-out around the world. When it comes to Canada and the dollar's value on world markets, the Canadian arms of our ad agencies are struggling.

Tracey Pearce agreed. "Scale is absolutely critical. It's not new, you know when we sort of went God, how are we going to continue to ensure that CTV is a vibrant conventional network. We better go get these specialty channels so we can spread out the cost and leverage our abilities and we have continued to do that."

On the matter of measurement, Williams and Pearce agreed that measurement is a blunt instrument. They're not capturing the full universe of people who are watching the shows. "That," said Pearce "is crazy".

An idea was floated of shomi and Crave ever getting to critical mass as separate plays. Pearce said she thought both companies should be applauded for their willingness to go and disrupt themselves and not be sitting and moaning about how Netflix is taking over. But, on the point, she said there may be consolidation and change in the OTT space.

DeNure wondered why it took so long when it was happening in the rest of the world.

—BD

BROADCAST Dialogue

Essential Reading

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Thursday, February 18, 2016

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REVOLVING DOOR:

Errol Da-Ré has been named to head up the Rio Summer Olympics sales efforts at *CBC/Radio Canada*. Da-Ré, who until recently was SVP of sales at *Shaw Media*, reports in to Jim Kozak, senior director, marketing and Olympic Games...



Errol Da-Ré



Kath Thompson

Mark Sutcliffe, morning talk show host on *Ottawa's 580 CFRA*, is gone from the station. Sutcliffe worked at CFRA for two decades, including the past five years in a full-time capacity. He took over the morning show when Steve Madely signed off after 51 years last November. Bill Carroll, the former *KFI-AM 640 Los Angeles* and *AM640 Toronto* Talk veteran, will succeed Sutcliffe at CFRA. *The Morning Rush with Bill Carroll* will begin March 7. Other hosts no longer with CFRA include John Counsell, Nick Vandergragt and Ron Corbett. And Brian Lilley is a new evening host, also beginning March 7, with *Beyond the News with Brian Lilley*...

Kath Thompson has moved to Surrey to start her new position as PD at the yet to be launched *107.7 Pulse FM*. Thompson was previously PD with *95.3 The Peak Calgary*. Meanwhile, Jeremy Paige has been named sales manager at Pulse FM. Before joining the *South Fraser Broadcasting* station, Paige was senior account manager with the now defunct *L.A. Radio Group*, PD at *Bell Media Terrace* and GM/GSM at *Q 91 Drumheller*. Don Lehn is Pulse FM's afternoon news anchor. He has worked in markets across the country and at a number of locations in Vancouver, including *News1130*, *Jack FM*, *VoicePrint*, *Z95* and *CISL*. Lehn continues his role as managing editor/ND of news website *FVN Fraser Valley News Sports and Entertainment*...

The Start, with Vicki Shae is the new morning show on *Fresh Radio 99.1 Winnipeg*. Shae had been a co-host



Sales Manager - Thunder Bay

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on Fresh mornings and is now lead host. She is joined by **Ally Reid**, who worked weekends and in promotions at the station, and **Sean Dilworth**, who worked evenings...

Jennifer Schleuter, formerly middays at *101.3 The River Prince George*, is off to Red Deer and sister **Jim Pattison Broadcast Group** station *BIG105* to co-host the *Big Breakfast Show* with **Jamie Worthington**. She succeeds **Bec Dent** who returned to her family in Australia...



Jennifer Schleuter

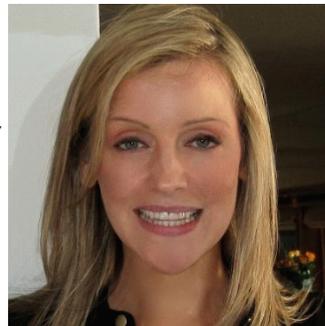


Matt Geddes

Matt (The News) Geddes has crossed the street and joined the new morning show of *Matt, Ryan & Leanne* on *106.7 The Drive Red Deer*. Geddes, previously part of *KRAZE 101.3*, succeeds **Grant Belous**...

Jef Dueck has been appointed retail sales supervisor at *My Broadcasting Corporation's EXTRA 90.5* and *Oldies 96.7* in Peterborough. Dueck has more than ten years' experience, including most recently as a senior sales rep at Peterborough This Week. He also worked at *Bell Media Peterborough/Lindsay*, *Pineridge Broadcasting* and the *Jim Pattison Broadcast Group Lethbridge*...

Monika Coen has been appointed marketing manager at *Global BC*. Coen entered the broadcasting industry in 1998 at *VTV Vancouver* as promotions & marketing coordinator and was promoted at *CTV Vancouver* to senior sponsorships & events planner. In 2008 Coen was a recipient of an award for special projects at *PROMAX* and twice received the *BCAB Community Services Award*, Large Market.



Monika Coen



Shanelle Kaul & Dan Grummett

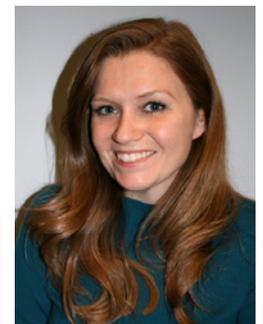
Reporter **Dan Grummett** and **Shanelle Kaul** are the new co-anchors of the weekend edition of *CTV NEWS AT SIX* at *CTV Edmonton*. Grummett expands upon his current duties as reporter with this appointment. Kaul, who most recently anchored *Global Regina's* Morning News, also takes on reporting duties...

Jake Mossop made his *Entertainment Tonight Canada* debut last week as the show's new on-air and digital entertainment reporter. He'll be covering the latest entertainment news and events from ET Canada's Toronto-based studios.

Nam Kiwanuka has joined *TVO* as alternate host for the current affairs program *The Agenda with Steve Paikin*. He previously worked with *CNN*, *BET*, *NBA TV*, *Sportsnet*, *ET Canada* and *Much/MTV Canada*. Kiwanuka will primarily host the program during the summer...



Nam Kiwanuka



Karen Steele

Long-time industry veteran **Karen Steele** is no longer PD at *KiSS 92.5 Toronto*. Steele had been promoted from promotions director to PD in April 2010. Steele has won numerous awards during her career, including



Broadcast Engineer - Yorkton

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CMW's Station of the Year award for three successive years.

Mornings with Terry and Mell on *Q92 Sudbury* has lost Terry Callaghan, who had been at the Rogers station 19 years. Mell Dahl continues as "Mell in the Morning". Mid-day host Lyndsay Moggy, who joined the station less than a year ago, reporter Angela Gemmill and receptionist and promotions rep Hanneli Maki were also cut. In Timmins, Steve Cool, a weekend host on Q92 and news anchor for *KISS 99.3*, is no longer with Rogers.

Other Rogers layoffs include Megan Milne, afternoon drive at *Star FM Chilliwack/Hope* and 12-year veteran Mike Hellinger, ND.

SIGN-OFF:

Ann Biscaye, 61, a former broadcaster for *CBC North*, while recovering from hip surgery. Biscaye left the CBC to study language and translation, becoming an advocate for the Chipewyan language. While working for the N.W.T. government's language bureau, she helped develop new Chipewyan terminology.

TELEVISION/VIDEO:

CRTC chair Jean-Pierre Blais, downplaying the notion that the regulator will approve new funding to support struggling local TV newsrooms, maintains there's more than enough money in the broadcasting system to support local television. Speaking to a Canadian Club audience that included a handful of senior broadcast execs, Blais said television news is as relevant and valued today than at any point in its history, but has been harmed by managers who had lost touch with audiences. While acknowledging the shift in advertising dollars to digital, Blais said broadcasters hadn't done enough to explain to advertisers how that marketing approach is "misguided." Blais, without naming names, also slammed "corporate executives who own luxury yachts and private helicopters (who) came looking for subsidies" at the CRTC's recent hearing into the future of local and community TV. He warned the commission will closely watch how media companies respond to current pressures and stated "we will not hesitate to take action" if news reporting and analysis is not performed to a high standard.

Corus Entertainment will hold a special meeting of shareholders Mar. 9 to consider its proposed acquisition of *Shaw Media*. In addition to approval from more than 50 per cent of minority shareholders, the \$2.65 billion acquisition also requires a thumbs up from the *CRTC*.

The 50th annual *Variety Show of Hearts* telethon raised \$6,811,736 to help support sick or special needs children in B.C. Once again, the telethon was broadcast live across the province on *Global BC*.

DHX Media has been experiencing strong revenue growth but its second-quarter profit margin came in at the lower end of management expectations. DHX says its revenue was \$81.5 million, up 27 per cent from a year earlier. Gross margin increased by 18 per cent to \$44 million, or 54 per cent of revenue. Net income for the

second quarter ended Dec. 31 doubled to \$11.7 million or nine cents per share from \$5.5 million or five cents per share a year earlier.

In the coming weeks, *TELUS* will roll out its free Stingray Music Videos TV app for Optik TV subscribers in British Columbia, Alberta and Quebec. The app provides free access to 225 themed compilations curated by Stingray's music experts as well as a selection of 10,000 music videos.

VICELAND, the new premium culture and lifestyle specialty channel, launches Feb. 29 with a three-month free preview.

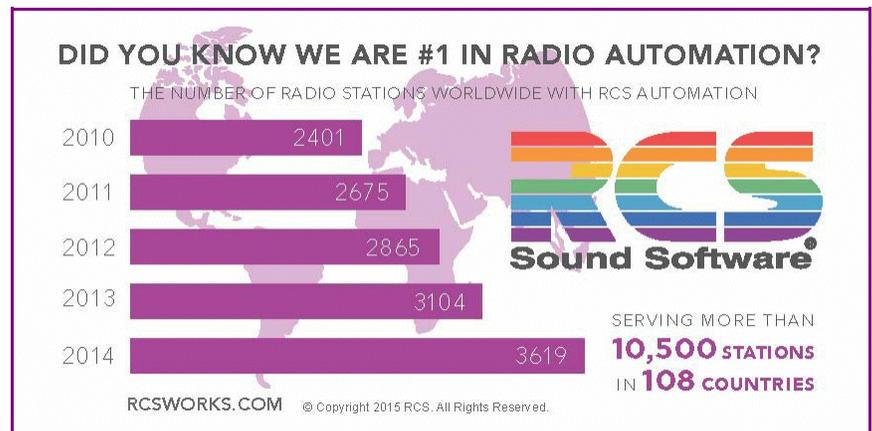
Canada's cable and satellite providers are due to launch their so-called "Skinny Basic" packages Mar. 1. The *CRTC* issued an information bulletin to remind BDU's of their obligation to both offer and promote the packages.

Gordon Craig, founder of *TSN*, *RDS* and *Discovery Canada* was invested into the Order of Canada Feb. 12 along with 46 other Canadians. Craig had a vision to create Canada's first 24-hour all-sports television network. *TSN* debuted Sept. 1, 1984. Réseau des sports (*RDS*) and Discovery Channel Canada followed.



Gordon Craig

RADIO/AUDIO:
Sirius XM Canada Holdings Inc., parent of *Sirius XM Canada*, confirms a major corporate deal is in the works, although discussions are still in the early stage. The *Globe and Mail* reports the company's top shareholders plan to take the satellite provider private, in a deal valued at \$750 million or \$4.25 per share.



MAJIC 100 Ottawa morning show co-host Stuntman Stu Schwartz announced in a Facebook video post that he has leukemia. "I'm sharing this information with you because I tell you guys everything," he says. "I don't know if the hair is gonna stay or what, but I'm gonna be connected and I will try to get back to everybody, so I'll keep you guys posted." Further he says, "We're gonna beat this. Other people have in the past and other people will in the future and I'm going to do it, too."

The *Community Radio Fund of Canada (CRFC)* will this year award close to \$3 million to 69 campus and community radio stations under its Radiometres program. Funding for Radiometres is provided by Canada's private radio broadcasters.

Six local radio stations broadcast live for 11 hours from the atrium of the Chinook Regional Hospital in Lethbridge on Feb. 11, encouraging listeners to make a donation. *Rogers' 107.7 The River* and *Rock 106, Jim Pattison Group's Country 95.5* and *B93*, and *Clear Sky Radio's 94.1 CJOC* and *98.1 The Bridge* all participated in the Care From the Heart annual radiothon which raised \$246,419 for equipment, programming and special projects.



Account Manager - Vancouver

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At last count, the 13th annual Have A Heart radiothon by *99.9 Sun FM*, *101.5 EZ Rock* and *AM 1150* in Kelowna had raised \$106,721 for Kelowna General Hospital's new Perinatal Unit. Funds were raised through phone pledges, an online auction and \$5 text messages, which were bumped up to \$7.50 each by a local philanthropist.

On Feb. 11, *101.5 The Bear* held its Have A Heart radiothon to benefit the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation. In six hours, the station raised \$15,000 for pediatric care. The same day, sister station *890 CJDC* held its own Have A Heart radiothon, pulling in more than \$8,000 for the Dawson Creek & District Hospital Foundation.

GENERAL:

G *Statistics Canada* has released a report (key findings below) outlining how the consumption of news by Canadians has changed over the past decade. Fewer people say they follow the news every day, and the proportion of young people who say they rarely follow the news has increased.

The use of media to follow news and current affairs, 2003 to 2013	2013	2003
The proportion of Canadians who said they followed the news and current affairs every day	60%	68%
The proportion of Canadians who said they rarely or never followed the news and current affairs	13%	7%
The proportion of young people aged 15 to 34 who said they rarely or never followed the news and current affairs	21%	11%
The proportion of Canadians aged 55 and older who said they rarely or never followed the news and current affairs	6%	4%
Types of media used to follow the news and current affairs	2013	2003
The proportion of those who said they followed the news and current affairs on television	78%	90%
The proportion of people who followed the news and current affairs at least several times per month by reading newspapers	51%	69%
Use of the Internet to follow the news and current affairs	59%	30%

A House of Commons committee plans to investigate the state of Canada's news industry to ensure Canadians will continue to have access to Canadian content. MPs on the *Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage* plan to hear experts from the print, broadcast and digital media worlds and from key cultural groups. The committee will also delve into media concentration in Canada and its impact on local news reporting.

Shaw Communications has awarded inaugural scholarships of \$2,500 to 512 children of Shaw employees in

honour of **Paul Robertson**, the late President of Shaw Media. In total, Shaw will distribute \$1.28 million in scholarships this year. Children of full-time Shaw employees who are enrolled in a diploma, degree or trade program are eligible to apply.

Rogers Communications Inc. has filed its 2015 annual report to shareholders, including the latest company financials along with management's discussion and analysis. The full report can be found at rogers.com/2015annualreport.

The British Broadcasting Corporation, in what's being billed as the largest overhaul in the BBC's 93-year history, is axing its traditional radio and television divisions, replacing them with content and audience-led divisions. The BBC's director-general says boundaries between television, radio and online are blurring and the organization's management structure needs to be flattened.

Women in Communications and Technology (WCT) has announced the winners of 12 Leadership Excellence Awards, praising recipients for their efforts to advance and inspire women across Canada. The 2016 award winners are:

Woman of the Year: Monique Mercier, Executive Vice-President, Corporate Affairs, Chief Legal Office and Corporate Secretary, TELUS

Company of the Year: Accenture

Leadership Excellence Awards:

Paul Vallee, CEO and Founder, Pythian as **Diversity Champion of the Year**

Serda Evren, Vice President, North American Communications, MasterCard for **Empowerment**

Shahzad Rafati, Founder & CEO, BroadbandTV for **Entrepreneur of the Year**

Julie Kumaria, VP, Marketing & Content Distribution at Hollywood Suite for **Mentor of the Year**

Susan Ibach, Technology Evangelist, Windows, Microsoft Canada as **Technology Innovator of the Year**

Nanci MacLean, Vice-President, Bell Media Production, Bell Media as **Trailblazer of the Year**

Michelle Goldson, Director, Organizational Readiness, Cogeco Connexion for **Innovator of the Year**

Kate Arthur, Executive Director and Co-founder, Kids Code Jeunesse as **Emerging Leader of the Year**

Nilufer Erdebil, Founder and CEO, Spring2 Innovation, **WCT Leader of the Year**

Janice McDonald, President, The Beacon Agency, **Chair's Award of Distinction**

The awards will be presented at a WCT gala in Ottawa April 27.

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RADIO/AUDIO:

A May 16 Vancouver *CRTC* hearing will look into nine applications for radio licenses in that city or in the surrounding area. They are: *Sher-E-Punjab Radio Broadcasting* for 600 AM in Vancouver; *Spice Media Group* for either 900 AM or 106.9 FM Surrey; *South Fraser Broadcasting* for 91.5 FM in Surrey; *South Asian Broadcasting* to amend *CKYE-FM Vancouver's* licence by adding an FM transmitter at 89.1 in Surrey to rebroadcast *CKYE-FM*; *Radio India* for 89.3 FM in Surrey; *Ethnic Channels Group* for 89.3 in Surrey; *Akash Broadcasting* for 89.3 in Surrey; *Ravinder Singh Pannu* for 106.9 in Vancouver; and *Radio India*, also for 106.9 in Vancouver. The deadline for interventions is March 21...

Other applications to be heard May 16 in Vancouver include *Durham Radio's* request to acquire *CKJN-FM Haldimand* from *Vista Radio* for \$400,000. Among other requests, Durham wants the Cancon requirement reduced from 60% to 35% and, further, technical changes that would boost current population served from 14,734 to 28,173...

The *CRTC* has received 12 applications for radio stations serving indigenous Canadians in major markets. The frequencies are *Aboriginal Voices Radio's* licenses, revoked in June of last year after "serious and repeated instances of non-compliance with the regulations and the broadcaster's conditions of licence". But the *Federal Court of Appeal* stayed the revocation, ordering that AVR licenses remain in effect until the appeal is determined. The new applications are from five organizations to serve Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Toronto and Ottawa. The Commission says that, if appropriate, it will announce a public process to consider these applications at a later date...



Q93.3 (CKSQ) Stettler, which began operations as *CHOA-AM*, celebrated its 40th anniversary this month with a concert featuring Jamie Woodfin, *Domino* and Bobby Wills...

Arcade Fire (Win Butler, Régine Chassagne, Will Butler, Richard Reed Parry, Tim Kingsbury and Jeremy Gara) is the recipient of the *2016 Allan Waters Humanitarian Award*. It will be presented at the *2016 JUNO Gala Dinner & Awards* on Saturday, April 2 during the *45th Annual JUNO Awards and JUNO Week* in Calgary...

A concert featuring *Simple Plan* and organized by *Blackburn Radio's Mix 96.7 Windsor* to assist patients and families dealing with life-altering illnesses, raised \$14,103. The funds go to *Transition to Betterness*, a local charitable organization. The concert also honoured the late *Richard Costley-White*, the 48-year-old chairman of Blackburn Radio, who died of cancer last June...

The call for nominations for this year's *Rosalie Award* – including the nomination form – is available at <http://radiotrailblazers.ca/rosalie-award/nominate/>. Rosalie Award recipients are women who have had successful careers in radio and are seen as leaders, mentors and people making a difference in the business. It will be presented during *Canadian Music Week* in Toronto...

Among stations carrying *Blue Jays Baseball* this year is *AM980 London*. It has just signed a three-year deal through the 2018 season.

TELEVISION/VIDEO:

Just days before service providers must begin offering a new affordable (skinny) TV package priced no higher than \$25 a month, not including rental equipment, the *CRTC* launched its new *Communication Service Providers in Canada* online tool to help subscribers find phone, mobile, Internet and TV services. Details about where service providers operate, their technologies and practical information such as facts about switching service providers are also available [HERE](#)...

Shaw was the first company to offer the skinny TV package ahead of the *CRTC's* mandated March 1 deadline. Shaw's limited TV packages include between 40 and 50 channels, depending on regions of the country...

The *Aboriginal Peoples Television Network* (APTN) says it will launch *All Nations Network* (ANN) with *Castalia Communications* in the U.S. The 24-hour network, to be headquartered in New Mexico, will offer "native news, sports, scripted, lifestyle,

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feature-length movies and children's programming written, produced, and directed by Native Americans"...

Blue Skye Entertainment, the joint venture between *Blue Ant Media* and *Smithsonian Networks*, has launched its direct-to-consumer *Love Nature 4K* SVOD service in 32 countries. The ad-free app, priced at £3.99 or its equivalent monthly, is available on Amazon Appstore, Google Play, Roku's Channel Store and LoveNature.com...

Bloomberg TV Canada, operated by *Channel Zero*, has launched *Bloomberg North*, a 30-minute show airing twice each evening and delivering analysis on local and global business. Anchors are **Amanda Lang**, **Pat Kiernan** and **Rudyard Griffiths**...

Bell Media has received Commission approval to disaffiliate from the *CBC-TV* network at its *CFTK-TV Terrace* and *CFTK-TV-1 Prince Rupert*. Succeeding CBC on the CFTKs is Bell Media-owned *CTV 2*... The same situation holds true for *CJDC-TV Dawson Creek*, although the transition has already been completed. The *Bell Media*-owned station and its transmitter, *CJDC-TV-2 Bullhead Mountain*, became *CTV 2* affiliates Feb. 22.

GENERAL:
The expected no-brainer approval process for the *Corus Entertainment* purchase of *Shaw Media* hasn't turned out that way. The *CRTC* approval process for the \$2.65B purchase was seen as a simple administrative process at first. But then the Commission issued a call for comments which resulted in 46 responses. Many of the respondents called for a public hearing because of the deal's size. Others mentioned tangible benefits. Earlier this week, Corus put out a news release announcing that independent proxy advisory research firm, *Institutional Shareholder Services* (ISS), had recommended that Corus shareholders vote in favour during a special meeting of shareholders to be held March 9. The ISS reported cautioned, however, that Corus is taking on "a substantially greater amount of debt than it has maintained in the past," pushing its leverage ratio beyond its target range. *Catalyst Capital*, a Corus investor, says its concerns are that:

- The Shaw family stands to gain between \$50 million to \$62 million from the transaction.
- Internal calculations of the fair market value for Shaw Media appear to be flawed; that Corus was overpaying by \$150-\$200 million.
- A reverse break fee is in place (a penalty payable to Shaw if the deal doesn't go through).

Corus denies all of the allegations, calling its transaction governance process "careful, diligent and thorough" during the four-month negotiation process. Further, says Corus, an independent formal valuation and two fairness opinions were obtained from leading financial institutions in support of a fair acquisition. Each supported the terms of the acquisition. Because of the related-party nature of the transaction, a majority of Corus's minority shareholders must sign off...

Broadcasters among B.C.'s 35 most influential women, as determined by *BCBusiness*, are: **Jill Krop**, station manager/news director, *Global BC*; **Karen Burgess**, executive producer, *CBC Vancouver* news; **Shahzad Rafati**, founder/CEO, *BroadbandTV Corp.*; and **Nanon de Gaspé Beaubien-Matrick**, founder/president, *Beehive Holdings*. (Her career included a decade as senior VP at *Telemedia*.)

REVOLVING DOOR:

John Pollard, most recently a sales and marketing executive at *OCEAN 98.5/KISS 103.1 Victoria*, is now the marketing director for *Victoria HarbourCats*. Before joining the Rogers radio stations, Pollard was president of *CHEK TV Victoria*, and led that station through its transition into an employee-owned company...



John Pollard

Laura Baziuk, after over four years as a *CKNW Vancouver* news reporter, has departed. She's now with *Black Press Media* as its digital reporter...

Joe Otoo, formerly the morning host at *103.9 Juice FM Kelowna*, has moved to *99.9 BOB FM Winnipeg* in middays. His background also includes *Vista Radio Smithers* where he did afternoons and, for six years, called local play-by-play hockey...



Brian Mack and Christy Farrell



Ari Daniel

A couple of on-air shift changes at *99.9 Sun FM Kelowna*. **Brian Mack** moved from PM drive to co-host the morning show with **Christy Farrell**. And **Ari Daniel** moved from the evening show to afternoon drive...

Rick Campanelli of *Entertainment Tonight Canada* will become a morning co-host at the *Edge Toronto* June 27, with **Fred Kennedy** and **Mel Mariani**. Campanelli will continue to co-host ET Canada on *Global*...



Rick Campanelli



Zach Bedford

Zach Bedford becomes the new PD at *90.3 AMP Calgary* April 4. Bedford moves to the *Newcap* station from an 11-year career at *Bell Media Halifax* where he is the APD at *C100* and *101.3 the Bounce* as well as mid-day announcer/MD at C100...

Bryan Ford will become GSM at *KISS FM Vernon* March 1, moving from *Jim Pattison Broadcast Group Prince Albert*. He'd been with the *Rawlco*-owned Prince Albert stations since 2005 when he began as a PT board operator. Later, Ford did afternoon news on *CKBI Prince Albert*. Most recently, he was sales manager at *MIX 101 (CHQX) Prince Albert*, staying with the stations through their purchase by JPBG...

TSN 1050 (CHUM) Toronto's new line-up includes **Michael Landsberg** having joined **Dave Naylor** in mornings, **Andi Petrillo** becoming Canada's first female daily sports radio host on the daily *Leafs Lunch*, **Mike Richards** now doing 1-4, and **Bryan Hayes**, **Jamie 'Noodles' McLennan**, and **Jeff 'The O'Dog' O'Neill** in afternoon drive...

Zuraidah Alman is the new anchor of *CTV Toronto*'s late-night newscast. She's been with the station as a reporter/fill-in anchor since 2008. Before that, she anchored the morning and Noon news at *Global TV*. She also worked at *Citytv Toronto* as a reporter and at *CP24* as an anchor.

SIGN-OFF:

Ken Trew, 68, at Barrie's *Royal Victoria Hospital*. Trew had been PD and morning show host in the '70s at *CKBB Barrie* and, later, the morning host at *CHAY-FM Barrie*. He was at CHAY for about 15 years before leaving in 2000. His signature show-closer each day was "Mornin', mornin', everybody". Later, Trew worked at *CICX Orillia*, then called *EZ Rock*, as a fill-in host. A celebration of life will be held tomorrow (Friday) from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion in Barrie.



Ken Trew

