

draft - VIP

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August 1, 2008

The Honourable Jim Prentice PC, MP
Minister of Industry
C.D. Howe Building, 235 Queen Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H5

Re: *Canada Gazette, Part I, June 14, 2008, Telecommunications Act, Notice No. DGTP-002-2008 — Petition to the Governor in Council concerning Telecom Decision CRTC 2008-6, Vol. 142, No. 24.*

Dear Mr. Minister:

I am writing on behalf of Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada regarding the above-referenced *Petition to Cabinet regarding the impact of the above-noted CRTC decision on Canada's charities.*

Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada is a registered charity and the only national organization that focuses our charitable gifts on supporting patients and families making the journey with a brain tumour. Our vision is to find the cause of and cure for brain tumours while improving the quality of life for those we serve. Our mission is to reach every Canadian affected by a brain tumour through support, education, information and research.

Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada appreciates having access to this right to appeal to Cabinet, and we wish to sincerely thank Cabinet for its consideration of our serious concerns about this decision. We appreciate that our elected officials have ultimate authority over public-policy making in Canada, and we strongly believe that this ruling by the CRTC erodes important long-standing public policy principles that have underscored the relationship between governments and charities since Confederation. We urge you to rescind the CRTC's ruling insofar as it applies to charities.

We understand that it is an exceptional request to ask Cabinet to intervene in a decision of a regulatory body. However, there is a long history of federal, provincial and municipal "forbearance" and exemption of charities from fees and regulations that are burdensome and undermine our charitable missions. In the telemarketing arena, charities secured an express statutory exemption to the national DNCL, to avoid

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placing new constraints on the ability of charities to raise charitable donations and fund our work in our communities. Our fundraising activities result in 22.2 million Canadians choosing to make donations to charities each year. The CRA data base demonstrates that Canadians claim \$9B/ year in receipted donations to charities.

For these reasons, we urge you to rescind the CRTC ruling insofar as it applies to charities. Thank you for your consideration of our strongly-felt concerns and your support of Canada's charities.

Yours very truly,



Susan Relecom

Director of Development