

THE J.W. McCONNELL FAMILY FOUNDATION

LA FONDATION DE LA FAMILLE J.W. McCONNELL

July 14, 2008

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Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet
Langevin Block
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A3

The Honourable Jim Prentice P.C., M.P.
Minister of Industry
C.D. Howe Building
235 Queen Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H5
Prentice.J@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Gordon O'Connor P.C., M.P.
Minister of National Revenue
7th Floor
555 MacKenzie Avenue
Ottawa ON K1A 0L5
OConnor.G@parl.gc.ca

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LEAD OFFICE:	IRMS-SPSU
ACTION:	DRAFT
SIGN:	
B.F.:	2008-08-15
CC:	
ISSUE:	TELECOM-POLICY-GEN
FILE #	DA-45000-1-1
7/D:	2008-07-14

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

I am writing on behalf of the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation regarding the above-referenced Petition to Cabinet regarding the impact of the CRTC decision on Canada's charities.

The J. W. McConnell Family Foundation is a registered charity that has the mission of engaging Canadians in building communities that are resilient, inclusive and sustainable. We do this principally by making grants to registered Canadian charities, and occasionally by implementing programs on our own behalf.

We appreciate having access to this right to appeal to Cabinet. We believe that this ruling by the CRTC erodes important long-standing public policy principles and we urge you to rescind the CRTC's ruling insofar as it applies to charities.

As a private foundation we do not solicit the public for donations, and it could be argued that this decision by the CRTC will not affect us. However we are well aware that

1002 Sherbrooke Street West, Suite 1800, Montréal, Québec H3A 3L6

Tel: 514.288.2133 • Fax: 514.288.1479

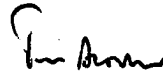
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most of the charities to which we make grants are small and chronically under-funded. Compliance with the T3010 regime at CRA is already quite challenging for many charities.

We believe Canada's charities should not be subjected to unnecessary fees, which serve as a *de facto* tax on charities, particularly since they are legally required to apply their funding and resources to charitable objectives. Financing a new enforcement body at the CRTC is unlikely to be considered a charitable objective. Further, unlike commercial organizations, charities are not able to pass such fees on to customers.

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

Sincerely,



Tim Brodhead
President and CEO

cc. The Honourable Diane Ablonczy P.C., M.P.
Secretary of State (Small Business and Tourism)
C.D. Howe Building
235 Queen Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H5
ablond@parl.gc.ca

Director General, Telecommunications Policy Branch
300 Slater Street, 16th Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0C8
telecom@ic.gc.ca