



**MIKE BRADLEY
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April 14th, 2009

VIA FAX: 613 - 941 - 6900

Right Hon. Stephen Harper
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Harper:

RE: CUTS TO THE CBC

It was a pleasure to meet with you at the round table discussion on March 20th, 2009 hosted by Ms. Pat Davidson, MP during your visit to Sarnia Lambton. The common theme during that meeting was the united effort by this community of business, labour and First Nations along with governments at all three levels in Canada to work together to revise, re-build and re-invent the local economy that is a positive direction for this community and the entire region and ultimately Canada.

The round table meeting, by a few days, pre-dated the announcement by CBC of the 800 jobs that would be lost and the reduction of services and programming at CBC and Radio Canada otherwise I would have voiced these concerns directly to you at that time.

At a time in Southwestern Ontario when the CRTC's policies are resulting in the closures of stations in Wingham and Windsor for the "A" Channel and the ending of split service to Sarnia Lambton by CTV in Kitchener the last thing that is needed is cuts to the CBC which is only adding to further diminishing of Canadian content.

The CBC's role in both television and radio is critically important, particularly in the case of communities like Sarnia and Windsor which are border cities who are continually trying to fight off the heavy impact of the American media from the State of Michigan and beyond. Further cuts, in both radio and television, which have already been targeted for this region within the CBC family, will deal a great blow to Canadian sovereignty and to the interest of ordinary Canadians

who rely on the CBC as a vital part of the national fabric of the Canadian mosaic.

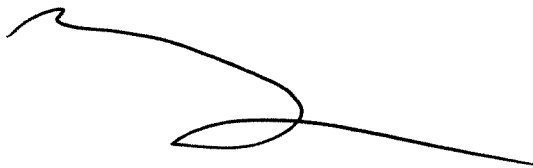
There are steps that could be taken, including increasing the CBC's annual parliamentary allocation by \$7.00 per Canadian by the end of this year; developing a long-term contract with the CBC outlining expectations and guaranteeing funding indexed to inflation; and most importantly, at this point in time, immediately providing bridge funding to reduce the cuts announced this Spring. At a time of great national anxiety and distress about the economy it is important that the CBC, which plays such a vital role in keeping Canada together as a cherished national cultural institution, be utilized to help build Canada, not to help in diminishing it.

I would urge you to immediately act on these suggestions because the presence of the CBC in Southwestern Ontario and across Canada is vital to the national interest, morale and the country's future.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Bradley
Mayor of Sarnia



Copy: Mr. Michael Ignatieff, (Acting) Leader of the Opposition
Hon. Jack Layton, Leader, New Democratic Party
Ms. Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada
CTVglobemedia
Attention:
Mr. Dennis Watson, Vice-President &
General Manager, CTV Southwestern Ontario
Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco-Best, City of London
Mayor Eddie Francis, City of Windsor
Mayor Michael Harding, City of Woodstock
Mayor Mike Hancock, City of Brantford
Ms. Patricia Davidson, MP, Sarnia Lambton
Members of Sarnia City Council