

The 1968 Broadcasting Act stated that the Canadian broadcasting system must safeguard, enrich and strengthen the cultural, political, social and economic fabric of Canada. Under CRTC regulations dealing with program content, broadcast time devoted to non-Canadian programming by television stations and networks is not to exceed 40% between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and midnight. In AM broadcasting, 30% of the musical compositions presented by stations and networks between 6:00 a.m. and midnight are to be Canadian. Individual FM radio station or network operator commitments as to Canadian content are conditions of their licences.

In 1969, the CRTC considered the capability of cable television technology to enlarge the coverage areas of United States stations and networks in Canada and concluded that the rapid acceleration of such a process would represent the most serious threat to Canadian broadcasting since 1932 before Parliament decided to vote the first Broadcasting Act. The regulations for cable television issued in 1975 reflect this concern. Local and regional stations are given precedence over distant stations in the order which cable operators must use in assigning distribution channels available on any cable television system. There is also provision for the substitution of the signals of a Canadian station for the signals of an American station when an identical program is being transmitted during the same period.

Pay television is technologically possible in Canada. Under such a system, viewers would pay for a channel or program carried by their local cable-TV system. The CRTC policy on cable television issued in December 1975 said that it was premature to introduce a comprehensive pay television service in Canada. In June 1976 the commission invited submissions on pay television about the form and function of an organization, institution or agency to assemble, produce and acquire programming for distribution to licensed broadcasting undertakings for pay television on a national or regional basis in English and in French.

In May 1977, the CRTC held public hearings to examine and discuss material received in more than 100 briefs about pay television. In March 1978, the CRTC rejected these proposals because Canadian programming on such systems was merely tolerated and as proposed would not have received adequate financial support. In March 1979, the CRTC commented that, in these proposals, Canadian programming appeared to be considered as more a cost of doing business than as a valid objective of the Canadian broadcasting system.

The CRTC issues broadcasting licences under the Broadcasting Act once the communications minister certifies that the applicant has satisfied the technical requirements of the Radio Act and regulations. The minister must have certified that

Licences for citizen's band radios are being issued to an average of 20,000 Canadians a month. There has been a levelling off from the peak of 53,000 in April 1977, but DOC predicts there may be 1.5 million units in service by 1983.

the applicant has been or will be issued a technical construction and operating certificate. Availability of technical facilities for broadcasting is also subject to terms of Canada-US agreements covering television and FM.

**Licensing and regulating radiocommunications.** Radiocommunications, except for matters covered by the Broadcasting Act, are regulated under the Radio Act and regulations and the Canada Shipping Act and ship station regulations. The Radio Act and regulations provide for licensing radio stations performing terrestrial radio services, earth and space stations engaged in space radiocommunication services.

Licensing is the federal government's method of maintaining control over radiocommunications. Under the Radio Act, radio stations (other than those used in broadcasting undertakings) using any form of Hertzian wave transmission, including television and radar, must be licensed by the communications department unless exempted by regulation. General radio regulations provide for six classes of radio station