

Dialogue BROADCAST

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REVOLVING DOOR: Andree Noel will become the new National Chair of the *Canadian Broadcast Standards Council* Jan. 1, succeeding **Ron Cohen**, who held the post for 18 years and retires at month's end. Noel, for more than nine years, was the **CRTC's** Regional Commissioner for Quebec... **Marci Ien** is **Seamus O'Regan's** successor on *Canada AM*, taking on her new role Jan. 9. Ien has been with the **CTV** morning show the past eight years and is now on maternity leave. Friday, Nov. 24 was O'Regan's last day at *Canada AM*... New ND at *Newstalk 1010 (CFRB) Toronto* is **Kym Geddes**. She is the afternoon news Anchor at **CHUM-FM & TSN Radio** Toronto and a member of the faculty at **Seneca's School of Communication Arts**. Geddes begins at CFRB Dec. 14... **Ross MacLeod**, in from sister **Astral** station, *The Team 1260 Edmonton*, is **CJAY 92 Calgary's** new Brand Director (BD). Succeeding him in Edmonton is **Rob Vavrek** who adds Team 1260 programming duties to his BD role at *The Bear Edmonton*... **Rock 107 Belleville-Trenton** morning show Host **Tommy James**, after 20 years in broadcasting, is leaving the industry. Succeeding him is **Max Major**, moving from morning show Host at **Rock 92 Timmins**... **TJ Connors** is the new PD at **Mountain FM Castlegar** and Senior PD for the **Vista Group**. He'll also do the morning show on Mountain FM. Connors moved from mornings at **The Wolf Peterborough** and, prior to that, **BOB FM Lindsay**... **Josh Miller** is now Chief Engineer/Director of IT at **Starboard Communications (CJOJ/CHCQ) Belleville**. He had been with the **Evanov Broadcast Group** in Toronto.

GENERAL: Heritage Minister **James Moore** delivered a staunch defence of the **CBC** amid calls by some caucus colleagues to end federal support for the 75-year-old public broadcaster. While CBC won't be immune from government-wide budget cuts, Moore said that it plays an important role that private broadcasters do not or cannot fill. He said one essential role is reaching Canadians in both official languages in the eight aboriginal languages in the North. That's a role, he's quoted as saying, "that the CBC plays that the private sector does not because if they did, they'd be there"... **Konrad von Finckenstein**, who once clashed with the Conservative government over usage-based billing says he thinks cabinet directives help the **CRTC** make difficult policy decisions. The outgoing Commission Chairman told an international audience in Ottawa this week that the directives help the CRTC members understand which kind of telecommunications and broadcast policies the government wants... Media conglomerate **Quebecor** – owner of **Sun Media, TVA Group, Videotron** cable, the **Canoe** website and other properties – is eliminating 400 jobs. The cuts follow a round of buyouts at the **Toronto Sun** last week. A union source says roughly half of the 400 jobs will be eliminated through buyouts, about 100 employees will be laid off and another 100 or so positions will be lost through attrition. Quebecor launched the **Sun News** 24-hour news channel last year... **Corus Entertainment** expects to grow its profitability and raise its dividend in the coming financial year. CEO **John Cassaday** says one of the positive trends Corus is expecting is growth in advertising sales at its specialty TV channels, based on early results for the fiscal first quarter ending Nov. 30. "We saw continued momentum on our specialty ad sales in Q1, despite what you read and heard and maybe suspected given the economic conditions that we're in"... **BCE's** and **Rogers'** plan to go "halvsies" on buying **Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment** went south when the two couldn't divide, to the other's satisfaction, the broadcast and Internet rights they both sought. The two were prepared to pay between \$1.3-billion and \$1.4-billion for the **Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan's** 79.5% stake in MLSE... **Astral** has begun a new national advertising campaign intended to increase consumer awareness of its multi-platform entertainment brands and diverse programming. There are two English-language and three French language 30-second TV spots on Astral channels, as well as radio, out-of-home and online advertising. The creative uses the tagline "Switch off the ordinary"... With **Rogers Communications** having launched **RDeals**, which many bloggers and media companies describe as a **Groupon** clone, the originator may now have a serious and competent competitor on its hands. With

no proprietary tech stuff in the mix but instead a database of customers and merchants, Rogers is well-placed to be successful. Rogers' strength is in its stable of magazines, the relationship with **Shopping Channel** clients, their radio and TV advertisers and their huge database of cable subscribers, profits stay in the building... **Whiteoaks Communications** President/CEO **Michael Caine** says his radio stations will host a "Celebration for the life of **Harry McDonald**" next Saturday, Dec. 10 between 1 and 4 p.m. at the **Harbour Banquet and Conference Centre**, 2340 Ontario St., in the downtown Bronte area of Oakville. All who knew him or worked with him are invited. Harry McDonald died suddenly last week in Israel of a suspected heart attack... The 75th anniversary of the **Empty Stocking Fund** broadcast, which took place in Saint John over eight hours on the weekend, aired on both **Rogers TV** and on **News88.9 Saint John**. By 8 p.m. Saturday, \$148,329 had been raised. The tradition of the Empty Stocking Fund dates back nearly 100 years when, in 1912, Saint John newspaper reporter **Harry (Dutch) Ervin** raised \$700 to buy gifts for needy children. Over the years since then, millions of dollars have been raised to buy Christmas gifts for thousands of children who might otherwise not get any presents.



RADIO: The **Evanov Radio Group**, with the acquisitions of **Newcap's HANK-FM** and **CKJS-AM**, is now operating a three-station cluster in Winnipeg. HANK (CHNK) 100.7 is now **CFJL-FM** and is programming Christmas music. CKJS-AM Winnipeg's multilingual service will be maintained and **Energy 106 (CHWE FM)**

Winnipeg, launched Sept.1/11 will maintain its Top 40/CHR format. With the ownership change, GM/GSM **Randy Skulsky**, PD **Sandra Dolynchuk** and Promotion Director **Ami Freeman** have departed. **Mike Fabian**, who recently joined Evanov as GSM for Energy 106, heads up the station cluster. ERG retained long-time staffers **Gido Gigliotti** as PD at CKJS and **Nadya Garces** as Administration/Accounting Manager. CFJL FM 100.7 will be branded **The Lounge 100.7**, "Music with style", after Christmas... **Corus-owned 99.1 Groove FM (CJGV-FM) Winnipeg** has had its licence renewed with approval to delete conditions of licence related to its operation as a specialty format station. Corus won relief in the area of its Jazz and blues format and the airing of a 70% minimum of those genres' content. It also contended that the Smooth Jazz format is no longer viable in Winnipeg and instead proposed to provide a Mix AC format – a variety of today's pop and rock hits mixed with songs from the '80s and '90s. The station is now airing Christmas music and promises a new launch in January... **Gary Slaight** is the recipient of the **2012 Walt Grealis Special Achievement Award**, recognizing individuals who have made an impact in the Canadian music industry. The **Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences** (CARAS) says Slaight will be honoured at the 2012 JUNO Gala Dinner & Awards Sat., March 31 in Ottawa... **Shore 104.3 FM Vancouver's** third video – **Music Saves III** – has been posted, the latest to highlight music's power to change lives. It features some of Vancouver's amazing musical talents, including members of the **Vancouver Adapted Music Society** (VAMS) who have overcome their disabilities to embrace their passion to create music. Watch the video in support of VAMS and the continued efforts of **The Canadian Music Therapy Trust Fund** at www.shore104.com... Starting at 6 a.m. today (Thursday), **Harvard Broadcasting's X92.9 Calgary** will air only Christmas music in efforts to raise funds for their new charity of choice - **The Canadian Music Therapy Trust Fund**. Once \$5,000 has been raised the station will return to regular programming... Meantime, in Windsor, several of the city's best known musicians were involved in the making of a CD – **A Time For Joy** – which is raising funds for **St. Clair College's Centre for Applied Health Sciences** and **The Hospice of Windsor**. It was recorded at Windsor's **SLR Studios** under producer **Martin Bak**. **St. Clair**

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College and **Blackburn Radio** financed the project... **Cogeco** has sold two Quebec FM stations to **Leclerc Communication** as part of a divestiture following the company's acquisition of a number of Quebec Corus stations last year. **CJEC-FM Quebec City** and **CFEL-FM Levis** went for an undisclosed amount. Cogeco says it is still working on the sale of **CJTS-FM Sherbrooke** that it also pledged to divest.... The **CRTC** has cracked down on the use of English-language pop music montages on French-language radio stations **CKTF-FM Gatineau (Astral)** and **CKOI-FM Montreal (Cogeco)**. It made limits on such use a condition of licence renewal of the two stations and warned it could take similar measures with others. The Commission was acting on complaints by three Quebec associations representing composers, promoters and the music and video industries about the montages broadcast by the Quebec stations. The three said the succession of English-language songs that were broadcast almost in their entirety shouldn't be counted as a single selection. In the case of CKOI-FM, 101 montages were broadcast in one particular week and all counted as English-language selections – 17.9% of the 126 hours of programming. The CRTC said French language stations must limit their broadcasting of montages to no more than 10% of total programming for the week and made it a condition of their licence... **Fairchild Radio Vancouver's** annual *Winter Warm Wave Clothing Drive* to benefit the **Salvation Army** – in just four hours – collected 2,031 pounds of used clothing and blankets. On Sunday, the station set up a booth outside its office to collect the warm items. Hundreds of listeners showed up, breaking last year's record of 1,212 pounds during the same time frame... **CFMB 1280AM Montreal** raised \$85,000 for underprivileged during a four-hour marathon. CFMB, which bills itself as Canada's first multicultural radio station, and its Italian programming section in association with 10 Montreal Catholic churches, will use the funds to help underprivileged families of each parish... **Mix FM Kenora's** annual *Miracle Marathon*, with contributions of roughly \$35,000, has helped the **Salvation Army's Christmas Hamper** program. The two-day broadcast of Christmas seasonal giving messages encouraged area residents to respond with donations of cash, food and toys... **The Jewel92/Country 1380 Brantford's** *Radiothon for a day to give back in support of the Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation* raised \$100,814 in 12 hours. Donations support the purchase of medical equipment, maintenance of compassionate patient care and investment in new technology... **KICX-FM Sudbury's** first *Great Movember Shave-off* saw \$3,000 raised in the fight to raise awareness of men's health, specifically prostate cancer. Listeners bid on the privilege of using an electric razor

to shave off the moustaches of Sudbury Region police force members, including Chief **Frank Elsner**... Two Edmonton stations have been in full Christmas programming mode for a few weeks – **Lite 95.7 FM** and **Up! 99.3 FM**. One warned listeners ahead of time while one surprised them. The holiday programming is a first for both stations. When **EZ Rock** rebranded as top-40 station **Virgin** in February, it ended its Christmas music marathon, leaving the holiday music market wide open.

T**V:** **CHCH-TV Hamilton**, on VHF channel 11 its 1954 sign-on, has applied for a licence to broadcast on UHF channel 15. Owner **Channel Zero's** President, **Cal Millar**, says there are many in the Hamilton area who began having trouble after CHCH shut off its analog transmitter August 15. Up to that point, CHCH was also transmitting a high-def digital signal on UHF channel 18, as assigned under the digital transition plan. But when CHCH moved its digital transmissions to channel 11, the coverage area was found to be significantly smaller than the analog and transitional digital footprints. Under the application, power would go from 6.1 kilowatts effective radiated power on channel 11 to 132 kilowatts on channel 15... A **CBC/Radio-Canada** study performed by **Nordicity Group** concludes that advertising does not detract from the public broadcaster's mandate and that there is no good public policy reason to eliminate ads from its TV services. Removing such ads reduce Canadian content and have consequences for the independent production sector and advertisers... **Shaw Media** and **Rogers Communications** have signed a long-term deal for the continued distribution of all Shaw Media services on Canada's largest cable TV system. The services include such channels as **History Television**, **HGTV Canada**, **Showcase**, as well as on-demand rights to **Global TV** content. Rogers cable subs will continue to have access to Shaw's lifestyle and drama programming through the Rogers Digital VIP package and RogersOnDemand.com.

S**IGN-OFF:** **Andy Stephen**, 84, in the palliative care unit of **Saanich Peninsula Hospital** on Vancouver Island. The TV news pioneer was **CHEK-TV Victoria's** first Anchor. A graduate of the **Lorne Greene** broadcasting school in Toronto, Stephen began his broadcast career after the end of the Second World War at **CFRA Ottawa**. In 1953, he moved to **CKDA Victoria**. When that station's owner, **Dave Armstrong**, set up CHEK TV in 1956, Stephen added TV news to his duties. He did CKDA news in the mornings and CHEK-TV news in the evening, plus reporting from the B.C. legislature and hosting the **Capital Comment** public affairs show for 20 years...

L**OOKING:** **Astral Television Networks Toronto** - Interstitial Programmer; **Bell Media Toronto** - Director, The Marilyn Denis Show and Manager, Brand Partnerships, Retail Sales; **TVO Toronto** - Production Manager; **Newcap Television Lloydminster** - Sports Director; **CBC Yellowknife** - Manager, Media Operations and Technology; **CBC Moncton** - Assignment Editor; **CBC Toronto** - Manager, Digital Programming and a Communications Officer, In-House Publicity; **CBC Regina** - Regional Web Developer; **B 101/PEAK FM Collingwood** - Morning News/Co-Host; **CFLG/CJSS/TheCornwallDaily.com** - News Director; **94X Prince George** - Program Director/Mornings; **Q101 Merritt** - Program Manager/Morning Show Host/Copywriting/Production; and **Newcap Radio Lloydminster** - Marketing Consultant.

S**UPPLYLINES:** The **Evanov Radio Group** has updated its advertising sales, traffic, revenue management and billing software with **WideOrbit's** **WO Traffic**. Evanov now has 13 stations in Central and Atlantic Canada... **Diana Cantuu** has joined Montreal-based **SENSIO Technologies** as VP, Business Development, Live 3D. Cantuu moves from **International Datacasting** (IDC) where she was Exec Director, Business Development.