

Cameron Stobbe

August 5, 2014

House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance  
finapbc-cpb@parl.gc.ca

I applaud the Committee for inviting Canadians to participate in the pre-budget consultation. This document is my submission to the pre-budget consultation. I trust that it will be reviewed and considered in the seriousness that it was written.

My submission concerns the government funding given to the CBC. I submit that the CBC receives much more money than it needs and its funding should be greatly reduced.

Part of the motivation for establishing the CBC in the 1920s and 1930s was to combat the increasing influence of American radio. This is no longer needed as every major Canadian market, especially those closer to the US border, has an abundance of private radio and television stations. The content of these broadcasts is not an issue because the CRTC mandates a certain level of Canadian content.

It is my understanding that the historical role of CBC has been to provide news, information, culture and entertainment to residents of remote regions of Canada. I understand that it may not be viable for private broadcasters to broadcast to remote regions, so I would support continued funding for this purpose. However, in markets where private broadcasters already support themselves, the CBC should be expected to do the same.

CBC Television already contains as much advertising as its private counterparts and could probably be self-sufficient.

CBC Radio One does not play any advertising at all. In my opinion, there is no reason why it can't start advertising to support itself.

Thank you for receiving my contribution. I will look forward to hearing about the Committee's report later this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Stobbe