The Canadian Telecommunications: **Industry Regulation and Policy**

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The Canada Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) is a federal regulatory system that is responsible for regulating Canadas telecommunications and broadcasting sector. The CRTC was created in 1968 as an independent public authority, where the organization has made multiple judgments awolving regulation and serves to address the effects that technology has on society.

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Contemporary Legal Situation

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The Broadcasting Act

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intent to benefit the general public. appropriate measures to modify the law with the opportunity to act in favour of the law, or take the Canadians of these events, society may have the events or issues present in society. By informing accessible method to remain aware of the current the CRTC provides Canadians with an easily Through broadcasting and telecommunications,

How the CRTC Influences Law Today

broadcasting and a fervent promoter of Canadian content." mentioned that "Plene Juneau was a passionate defender of public Upon his death in 2012, the current CBC president Hubert Lacroix and hear Canadian creations broadcast from coast to coast to coast." aas pinow aw painsse seus suosenegas Buidoravap ui resuausnussui in 1970. Liberal Leader Bob Rae stated that Pierre Juneau was regulations, the Canadian "Juno" music awards were named after him Because of Pierre Juneau had put into effect the Canadian content



The Juno Awards



Pierre Juneau, born at Verdun, Quebec on October 17 1922, is recognized to be the first chairman of the CRTC as appointed by Pierre Elliot Trudeau in 1968. Juneau is responsible for creating the first minimum standards for local fare on radio and television programs Juneau believed that "Canadian broadcasting should be Canadian" Juneau's CRTC regulations, also known as "Cancon" would later assist both music and television industries in Canada.

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Initially, the organization's duty was to ensure that all aspects of the Broadcasting Act had been met. Later in 1976, the Board of Broadcast Governors became the Canadian Radio-television and telecommunications Commission. Since the creation of the CRTC, the organization's responsibilities have developed to include telecommunications carriers and service providers that are in federal jurisdiction. Additionally, the CRTC is responsible for overseeing new developments in telecommunications technology, such as the Internet, Voiceover, and cellular phones.

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The Broadcasting Act

Created in 1968 and later modified in 1991, the Broadcasting Act was put in place to ensure that the following requirements are fulfilled by the CRTC:

- Canadians must control and operate the Canadian broadcasting system.
- All broadcasting services must be available primarily in English and French.
- The Canadian broadcasting system must operate to defend, strengthen and enhance the economic, social, political and cultural foundations of Canada.
- Every aspect of the Canadian broadcasting system should operate in an appropriate manner.
- All broadcasted selections are to be developed with a high standard of programming.
- There is to be a variety of television programs to select from, such as educational and cultural programs.
- As stated in section 3 of the act, radio waves are considered to be public property and should be treated as such.

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Both broadcasting and telecommunications are managed by the CRTC, although some aspects of either division are directed by various federal government departments. These departments include: Heritage Canada, Industry Canada, the Copyright Board, Competition Bureau, and broadcasting standards organizations. However, the CRTC's function as regulator is more sophisticated than the agencies that supervise the other divisions, since the CRTC is expected to use a reasonable amount of discretion when interpreting and applying its mandating legislation (The authority to carry out certain laws).

Contemporary Legal Situation

On November 14 2013, Shelly Glover, the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, stated that the Government of Canada had requested that the CRTC is to report on television channel choice in regards to Section 15 of the Broadcasting Act. Section 15 of the Broadcasting Act allows the government of Canada, through the Governor in council, to request that the CRTC is to form reports or hold hearings regarding any circumstance that is within the jurisdiction of the organization. This request was initiated to ensure that Canadian consumers can have more flexibility in their choice of their television services. As a result, the CRTC has been issued to unbundle their television channels, were the organization must submit a report stating how they intend to act in favour of Canadian consumers by April 30 2014.

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