

13-575 Thornton Road North, Oshawa, ON L1J 8L5

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Lisa McClean Stellick  
Rogers TV Durham  
301 Marwood Drive  
Oshawa, ON  
L1H 1J4

January 21, 2011

Dear Ms. McClean Stellick,

**Re: Captioning for Televised Council Meetings in Durham**

The Durham Deaf Accessibility Committee had been established a few years ago with our main focus being advocacy for improved accessibility for the Deaf community in the Durham Region. One of our priorities is to ensure that there are captioning available for televised local city and town hall meetings in the Durham Region.

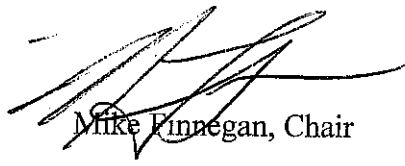
It is our understanding that there is no captioning provided for televised council meetings for the municipalities of Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa and Clarington as well as the Region of Durham. Deaf and hard-of-hearing residents of Durham Region have the right to equal access to information as any other residents in the area.

As part of your license renewal with Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Corporation (CRTC) to provide local broadcasting to the Greater Toronto Area, including the Region of Durham, it is our understanding that you are obligated to provide complete captioning, as per the CRTC policy of May 2007 (Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2007-54). We also note that the CRTC intends to impose conditions of licence requiring licensees to caption at a minimum 100% of original licensee-produced programming by the end of their next licence term (Community Television Policy CRTC 2010-622). Licensed Broadcasting Distribution Undertakings will be expected to ensure that 100% of original access programming is captioned by the end of the next licence term.

We would like to have some clarification on whether there is any upcoming plan to provide complete captioning for televised council meetings being held in the Durham Region.

Thanks and we hope to hear from you in the near future.

Sincerely,



Mike Finnegan, Chair

cc: Durham Deaf Accessibility Committee – Don Kinsley, Veronica Bickle,  
Gordon Ryall, Beverley Dooley, Kim Reid, Mirek Swiecicki, Erika  
Stebbins, Sonia Prusin  
and Behishta Mushtaq

cc: Maggie Doherty-Gilbert, Regional Director, The Canadian Hearing Society,  
Peterborough, Durham and City of Kawartha Lakes Regions