



November 15, 2011

Mr. John Traversy  
Secretary General  
CRTC  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N2

Dear Mr. Traversy,

**RE: MAC and the Broadcasting Accessibility Fund**

The Sir Arthur Pearson Association of War Blinded, SAPA, established in 1922 by First World War Blinded Veterans, continues to represent the needs and interests of all War Blinded Veterans to this day. SAPA has made many appearances before Parliamentary Committees on matters related to blindness resulting from military service, and has worked diligently on behalf of Canadian veterans in general. The association is active in formulating the policies and procedures of Veterans Affairs. SAPA is a member of the National Council of Veterans Associations.

We are writing to you today in support of Media Access Canada's filing in response to the CRTC call for comments, BNOC 2011-523. We support their filing for the following reasons:

- It asks the Commission to recognize who is really driving the accessibility agenda – the Accessibility Community.
- MAC's governing principles and mandate align with the Commission's objectives for the fund.
- It will continue to unite disability organizations across the country in a one-voice strategy for platform neutral distribution of accessible content through empowering the Access 2020 Coalition to choose six of the nine board members.
- As a project based fund, MAC has demonstrated its ability to administer project based funds.
- MAC is independent and objective.

Administered by:

. . . 2



Mr. John Traversy  
Secretary General  
CRTC  
Page 2

Having waited well over 50 years to have access to television, on behalf of blinded veterans across Canada, SAPA encourages the Commission to choose MAC thereby tangibly supporting Canadians with disabilities in removing barriers to Canada's broadcasting system today and in future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Sanders". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

James Sanders, C.M.  
Executive Director  
The Sir Arthur Pearson Association of War Blinded