



**CKGI.ca** Gabriola Co-op Radio

Host Station - National Campus Community Radio Conference - NCRC2010

Robert A. Morin  
Secretary General  
Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0N2

via: epass

September 30, 2010

Subject: Application for a New Community radio station on Gabriola Island

Dear Secretary General,

1. Please find the attached application by Gabriola Radio Society (GRS), for a broadcasting licence to operate an English-language, community FM radio programming undertaking on Gabriola Island, British Columbia.
2. The station will operate at 98.7 MHz (channel 254A1) with an effective radiated power of 80 watts (non-directional antenna with an effective height of antenna above average terrain of 178 metres).
3. The station will broadcast 101 hours of programming per broadcast week, 95% of which will be locally produced. Local programming will include the promotion of local activities and festivals, local news, sports and weather. The applicant would also broadcast programming directed to the Francophone population in the area. The station will also offer a range of musical selections, including Folk, Pop, Rock, Dance, Jazz and Blues.
4. Community access to the station will be encouraged through presentations to the local service

**CKGI** Gabriola Co-op Radio 'Your Community Station'

9 - 575 North Road  
Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0  
Email : [stnmgr@ckgi.ca](mailto:stnmgr@ckgi.ca)

Phone: 250-247-9891  
Fax : 250-247-9852  
Website: <http://www.ckgi.ca/>

**Board of Directors**  
Ken Zakreski    Kathy Ramsey  
Gerry Mountain    John Hague

groups and schools inviting them to participate in the station's operation, including opportunities to produce programming. GRS will provide training to interested parties.

5. As a community radio station we would provide a local programming service that differs in style and substance from that provided by campus radio, commercial stations and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The primary focus of this community radio station is to provide community access to the airwaves and to offer diverse programming that reflects the needs and interests of the community that the station is licensed to serve, including:

- music of new and emerging artists and opportunities for other talent;
- music not generally broadcast by commercial stations;
- spoken word programming; and
- local information.

6. The GRS application is consistent with the provisions for community radio stations set out in Campus and Community radio policy, Public Notice CRTC 2010-499 22 July 2010 (the Campus and Community Radio Policy). GRS proposes community radio programming undertakings and will devote, a minimum of 15% of the programming broadcast in each broadcast week to the broadcast of locally produced spoken word programming. GRS can devote 14% of our programming to news (9% to local news and 5% to regional news). Our goal, demonstrated from our application, is 25% spoken word content. The improved funding for community stations, as described in the Campus and Community Radio Policy, could make our goal sustainable. GRS agrees to devote at least 12% of its category 3 (Special Interest Music) selections in each broadcast week to Canadian selections.

**CKGI Gabriola Co-op Radio** 'Your Community Station'

9 - 575 North Road  
Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0  
Email : [stnmgr@ckgi.ca](mailto:stnmgr@ckgi.ca)

Phone: 250-247-9891  
Fax : 250-247-9852  
Website: <http://www.CKGI.ca/>

**Board of Directors**  
Ken Zakreski    Kathy Ramsey  
Gerry Mountain    John Hague

7. As a community radio station we would not increase or decrease the amount of programming we broadcast in each broadcast week by more than 20% without the Commission's prior approval.

### **Performance update since 2008**

8. GRS has a new website <http://www.ckgi.ca> which features a replaying pre recorded audio stream that includes new and emerging artists that have provided us with royalty free play on our website. Our spoken word podcast pilot project, "Voices From the Salish Sea" is also introduced. The website is an ongoing productive group effort that demonstrates a commitment to a comprehensive audio service. <http://www.ckgi.ca> presents postings of our regular public board meeting minutes, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to public participation with this proposed station.
9. GRS hosted the NCRC 2010 on Gabriola and during that event broadcast on 98.7 FM under an Industry Canada Special Event Limited Duration Licence which was exempted from the CRTC under policy 2000-10. The event drew some 30 stations and over 100 staff, speakers, local volunteers and performers from all across Canada. GRS again demonstrated its organizational and financial management capability and made a significant contribution to Community and Campus Radio in Canada.
10. GRS intervened and Rogers was denied their application (CRTC decision 2010 - 180) for the CIOC expansion which now permits Gabriola Radio Society to apply for 98.7FM.

## **CKGI Gabriola Co-op Radio 'Your Community Station'**

9 - 575 North Road  
Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0  
Email : [stnmgr@ckgi.ca](mailto:stnmgr@ckgi.ca)

Phone: 250-247-9891  
Fax : 250-247-9852  
Website: <http://www.ckgi.ca/>

**Board of Directors**  
Ken Zakreski    Kathy Ramsey  
Gerry Mountain    John Hague

11. Rogers has applied again to expand CIOC (CRTC application 2010-1180-0) Rogers has not confirmed with GRS that this new application will permit CKGI to operate at its proposed 80 watts erp (178 metres ehaat). We will ask the commission to deny the Rogers newest application and will forward an intervention. We have communicated with Rogers personnel and offered to help find a mutually acceptable solution to their perceived signal quality issues.
12. We have made significant progress with regard to our transmission tower site and are now in a position to make a contract for rights of way that will enable construction. We are planning upon a partnership relationship with emergency service responders who will share the tower resources and compliment our “24/7 Emergency FM Broadcast” function.
13. Studio design is currently at the concept stage but is now in the hands of an architect whom we would engage to complete the plan.

**Performance, 2002 to 2008 ( as previously reported in our Application CRTC 2008-1533-4 )**

14. Since 2002 Gabriola Radio Society has been working hard to fundraise, create organizational structures and policies, and determine an appropriate set of broadcast parameters.
15. It is with a great sense of accomplishment that The Gabriola Radio Society has submitted its application for a community FM broadcasting license. The residents of Gabriola Island and surrounding areas have told us both in words and in deeds that they will work diligently and with passion to voice our community’s unique sound. We urge you to consider the value our dialogue of diverse locality will bring to the Canadian radio network.

**CKGI Gabriola Co-op Radio** ‘Your Community Station’

9 - 575 North Road  
Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0  
Email : stnmgr@ckgi.ca

Phone: 250-247-9891  
Fax : 250-247-9852  
Website: <http://www.CKGI.ca/>

**Board of Directors**  
Ken Zakreski    Kathy Ramsey  
Gerry Mountain    John Hague

16. In a recent report funded by the Canada Council of the Arts, Gabriola is currently ranked 6th nation-wide for its high concentration of artists as members of the community. Home to the 2007 Governor General award-winning author Iain Lawrence, BC Book Prize recipient Katherine Gordon, Juno award-winning singer/songwriter Gary Fjellgaard and BC Lifetime Achievement recipient actor Antony Holland, these artists alone have enough material to fill the airwaves just as full as the three recent Gabriola Radio Society fundraising concerts. With senior artists of this calibre working alongside the island's junior artists to benefit the Gabriola Radio Society, one can easily see the mentoring role of a full-time community radio station. The three CDs released from these sold-out concerts are a tribute to the eagerness of the community's artists to work together for a common goal. And the eagerness of the public to attend these events is both a touching measure of support for the society itself and a testimony to the appetite for local content in this community. The community has donated over \$17,000 in cash and thousands of dollars more in the form of donated labour and expertise.

17. Another unique aspect of our application is our relatively isolated position in the event of an emergency. While we live just a short distance from Vancouver Island, in the case of a forest fire, for example, we are extremely vulnerable and our population would need real-time information issued quickly and island-wide by someone on the ground. In keeping with our coverage objectives "to establish an ongoing community radio station that can broadcast during an extended period of declared emergency to the region under the authority of the Emergency Coordinator." we have received significant support from both our local volunteer fire department and other emergency services in the area. Indeed, the local fire trustees are the largest single supporters of the radio project, donating over \$1200 to date.

**CKGI Gabriola Co-op Radio** 'Your Community Station'

9 - 575 North Road  
Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0  
Email : [stnmgr@ckgi.ca](mailto:stnmgr@ckgi.ca)

Phone: 250-247-9891  
Fax : 250-247-9852  
Website: <http://www.CKGI.ca/>

**Board of Directors**  
Ken Zakreski    Kathy Ramsey  
Gerry Mountain    John Hague

18. We are pursuing a funding model that will reduce the need for on-air advertising opportunities, supported by signed petitions from community members for a referendum to publicly fund the radio station, we have also received financial support from numerous local businesses, the Mid-Island Credit Union and the local weekly newspaper, the Gabriola Sounder. We have written letters of support from Islands Trust, our MLA and our MP and a letter of support signed by the local rate payers association. The regional library branch on Gabriola has been keen to offer assistance along with the local elementary school, the co-operative pre-school, the local senior's society, the Gathering Place Youth Centre, the island's Chamber of Commerce and the Gabriola Arts Council.

We hope that the Commission will support our efforts to service our community.

Peace,

Gabriola Radio Society

kz/kr/jh

\*\*\*end of Cover Letter\*\*\*

**CKGI** Gabriola Co-op Radio 'Your Community Station'

9 - 575 North Road  
Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0  
Email : stnmgr@ckgi.ca

Phone: 250-247-9891  
Fax : 250-247-9852  
Website: <http://www.ckgi.ca/>

**Board of Directors**  
Ken Zakreski    Kathy Ramsey  
Gerry Mountain    John Hague