



Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2005-514

Ottawa, 21 October 2005

MediaNet Canada Ltd.
Across Canada

Application 2004-1387-3
Public Hearing in the National Capital Region
15 August 2005

The Cricket Channel – Category 2 specialty service

*In this decision, the Commission **approves** an application for a broadcasting licence to operate a new Category 2 specialty programming undertaking.*

The application

1. The Commission received an application by MediaNet Canada Ltd. (MediaNet) for a broadcasting licence to operate a national, English-language Category 2¹ specialty programming undertaking to be known as The Cricket Channel.
2. The applicant proposed to offer a service that would consist of professional and amateur cricket games and cricket-related programming originating from within Canada as well as around the world. Much of the programming would be obtained through other existing cricket networks in Europe and Asia. The proposed service would offer programming from the following categories, as set out in Schedule 1 of the *Specialty Services Regulations, 1990*: 1 News; 2(a) Analysis and interpretation; 2(b) Long-form documentary; 3 Reporting and actualities; 6(a) Professional sports; 6(b) Amateur sports; 11 General entertainment and human interest; and 13 Public service announcements.

Interventions

3. The Commission received an intervention in support of this application, and a comment by Mr. Harold Wignarajah. Mr. Wignarajah expressed concern about MediaNet's viability as a corporation.
4. The applicant did not reply to Mr. Wignarajah's comments.

¹ The Category 2 services are defined in *Introductory statement – Licensing of new digital pay and specialty services*, Public Notice CRTC 2000-171, 14 December 2000.

Commission's analysis and determination

5. The Commission notes that MediaNet is a qualified corporation pursuant to the CRTC's eligibility requirements as set out in *Direction to the CRTC (Ineligibility of Non-Canadians)*, P.C. 1997-486, 8 April 1997 as amended by P.C. 1998-1268, 15 July 1998.
6. The Commission is satisfied that the application is in conformity with all applicable terms and conditions announced in *Introductory statement – Licensing of new digital pay and specialty services – Corrected Appendix 2*, Public Notice CRTC 2000-171-1, 6 March 2001 (Public Notice 2000-171-1). Accordingly, the Commission **approves** the application by MediaNet Canada Ltd. for a broadcasting licence to operate the national, English-language Category 2 specialty programming undertaking, The Cricket Channel.
7. The licence will expire 31 August 2012, and will be subject to the **conditions** set out in Public Notice 2000-171-1, as well as to the **conditions** set out in the appendix to this decision.

Issuance of the licence

8. A licence will be issued once the applicant has satisfied the Commission, with supporting documentation, that the following requirements have been met:
 - the applicant has entered into a distribution agreement with at least one licensed distributor; and
 - the applicant has informed the Commission in writing that it is prepared to commence operations. The undertaking must be operational at the earliest possible date and in any event no later than 36 months from the date of this decision, unless a request for an extension of time is approved by the Commission before 21 October 2008. In order to ensure that such a request is processed in a timely manner, it should be submitted at least 60 days before that date.

Secretary General

This decision is to be appended to the licence. It is available in alternative format upon request, and may also be examined in PDF format or in HTML at the following Internet site: <http://www.crtc.gc.ca>

Appendix to Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2005-514

Conditions of licence

1. The licence will be subject to the conditions set out in *Introductory statement – Licensing of new digital pay and specialty services – Corrected Appendix 2*, Public Notice CRTC 2000-171-1, 6 March 2001.
2. The licensee shall provide a national, English-language Category 2 specialty programming undertaking devoted to professional and amateur cricket games and cricket-related programming originating from within Canada as well as around the world.
3. The programming shall be drawn exclusively from the following categories, as set out in Schedule I to the *Specialty Services Regulations, 1990*, as amended from time to time:
 - 1 News
 - 2 (a) Analysis and interpretation
 - (b) Long-form documentary
 - 3 Reporting and actualities
 - 6 (a) Professional sports
 - (b) Amateur sports
 - 11 General entertainment and human interest
 - 13 Public service announcements

For the purposes of the conditions of this licence, including condition of licence no. 1, *broadcast day* means the period of up to 18 consecutive hours, beginning each day not earlier than six o'clock in the morning and ending not later than one o'clock in the morning of the following day, as selected by the licensee, or any other period approved by the Commission.