China Insight Research Society
P.O Box 75007
3625 Riverside Way
Ottawa, Ontario
K1V 1B0
Feb 27, 2006

PAP

Secretary General
Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)
Ottawa, Ontario K1A ON2

Dear Secretary General:

Re: Public Hearing on Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2005-124

I, on behalf of *China Insight Research Society*, strongly urge the CRTC to **hold a public hearing** on CCTA (ceased to operation on February 10)'s application to add the proposed nine Mainland Chinese TV services to the list of satellite services eligible for digital distribution in Canada.

Due to the complexities of the Communist-nature of the 9 TV channels and the short time CRTC had opened for public comment, which fell during the Federal Election on the Christmas and New Year holidays, we think that it is CRTC's responsibility to deliberate the possible outcomes of granting the TV channels from Communist China and to have prolonged time to listen to the public, and thus, to make a decision that really benefit both Canadians and Canada.

In addition, we found that the replies from CCTA and CITVC trivialized the human rights violations in China and the roles the TV services played in these violations. They also avoided key issues such as the evidences showing the use of abusive and hate inciting language in their programs. Therefore, we strongly propose that CRTC hold a public hearing that would help to clarify the facts.

The concerns raised by the interveners are serious. The Canadian broadcast system "*make(s) use of radio frequencies that are public property and provides, through its programming, a public service essential to the maintenance and enhancement of national identity and cultural sovereignty;* (Broadcasting Act 3(1)(b)). At risk here is Canadian national identity and cultural sovereignty, as well as the safety of Canadians and/or organizations who may be found in contrast to the advancement of the communist mandate here in Canada. We suggest that CRTC take all the concerns in the submissions seriously and further consult the public with a public hearing.

Sincerely,

Jing Zhi

Jing Zhi, Ph.D

President, China Insight Research Society
china_insight@sympatico.ca

CRTC AM 8:18 02MAR'06

China Insight Research Society
P.O Box 75007
3625 Riverside Way
Ottawa, Ontario
K1V 1B0
February 24, 2006

Secretary General
Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commissions (CRTC)
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N2

Re: Communist Torture Song "The Same Song", sung in Toronto

Dear Secretary General:

On Monday January 16, ***China Insight Research Society*** submitted the reasons for our **opposition to** the application by CCTA to add the nine mainland Chinese TV services to the list of satellite services eligible for digital distribution in Canada.

We wrote: In 1971, Canada passed the Human Rights Act, making it illegal to publicly incite hatred or contempt against an identifiable group, defined by race, religion, gender, or ethnic origin.

Hatred and denunciation of specific groups has always been at the foundation of the Communist regime in China.

Currently the latest targeted groups include members of the spiritual group Falun Gong. Hate has always been used by the Communist regime as a weapon as it has carried out its repression, terror, murderous purges and genocide.

A perfect example of this is the so-called musical show produced by the CCTV and performed in the Rogers Center in Toronto that promoted communist ideology and hatred, the day before we filed or submission. We have learned it was later being performed in New York, and Los Angeles in the following fortnight.

"The Communist regime-run China Central TV (CCTV), which for the last several decades has been a main mouthpiece and collaborator in the CCP's persecution of the Chinese people, has formed a performance troupe called 'The Same Song'—named after a song used at forced labor camps to deprive people of their spirit and dignity in mainland China— to put on a musical show in several North American cities around the Chinese New Year."

We described in our submission that CCTV is "one of China's most important news outlets. It is the important mouthpiece of the Chinese Communist Party. It is an important battlefield for ideological works."

As you will read in the referenced news articles: "Since the CCP started its nationwide persecution on Falun Gong in July, 1999, 'The Same Song' has played an important role in the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners, as well as a symbol of accomplishment and celebration by CCP officials and police in the brainwashing and transformation of Falun Gong practitioners. According to information provided by practitioners who have suffered brainwashing in the forced labor camps, as well as the testimony from practitioners who have left Mainland China, this song was an

indispensable part both in the process and completion of the brainwashing process to force practitioners renouncing their belief. The flaunting statement from CCP's propaganda office on the effectiveness of brainwashing has validated the affidavits of the victims."

The Background of the Theme Song in the "The Same Song" and the Performance

The "The Same Song" was created in 1990, lyrics by Chen Zhe and Ying Jie, music by Meng Weidong. In 2000, CCTV, the mouthpiece of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) made a musical program with the same title which it still continues to broadcast regularly. The theme song of the program is none other than "The Same Song".

"The Same Song" is a Tool for the CCP's Ideological Indoctrination and this show promoted communist ideology,

"The Same Song" is a Chinese pop song employed in the slave labor camps to break the will of prisoners and mark their renouncing their beliefs. Prisoners are subjected to repeated recordings of the song, and are forced to sing the song together with their torturers and prison guards after they have signed a renunciation statement.

This is a perfect example of the type of "communist culture" one can expect the Communist Chinese TV channels to broadcast into Canada if the CRTC mistakenly granted them licenses.

We encourage you to read the articles below:

(1) Investigative Report on CCTV's Performance Tour "The Same Song" in North America

http://english.epochtimes.com/news/6-1-16/37036.html

(2) Victims Want Torture Theme Song Stopped

"Same Song" brings back excruciating memories for survivors of torture by Chinese communist regime

http://english.epochtimes.com/news/6-1-18/37098.html

(3) Urgent Notice Regarding CCP's "The Same Song"

http://english.epochtimes.com/news/6-1-15/37038.html

(4) FBI Investigates Organizers of the Same Song Show

http://www.theepochtimes.com/news/6-1-20/37189.html

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jing Zhi

Jing Zhi, Ph.D

President, China Insight Research Society

Friday » February 24 » 2006

Rogers to offer China's propaganda package

Joel Chipkar
Special to the Financial Post

Friday, February 24, 2006

Rogers Cable is sponsoring nine Chinese-language TV channels to broadcast in Canada, without warning its customers that the Chinese government will be using these channels to incite hatred and instill fanatic communist patriotism. A decision from the CRTC (Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission) on whether the channels should be allowed to broadcast unedited is pending.

The fundamental news source for these nine channels is the Xinhua News Agency, dubbed "the World's Biggest Propaganda Agency" by Reporters Without Borders (RSF).

According to a recent RSF investigation report, "The general public receives only superficial and distorted news ... as far as Chinese media goes, nothing is said, nothing is listened to and nothing is seen in China without the prior agreement of Xinhua.... At Xinhua, the administration and the CCP [Chinese Communist Party] are so alike that they are hard to separate."

The contempt for the truth and for human life surfaced in Chinese TV programs glorifying the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Beijing Television made a documentary called Attack America, proclaiming it to be an "educational film" that shows "America repaying its blood debts with blood."

Witness how China's state media deals with such issues as the 1999 student democracy massacre in Tiananmen Square. According to Chinese TV, the massacre didn't happen and the students were to blame for attacking the soldiers first. Imagine what that has done to the families of the dead. Imagine if your evening news blamed innocent Jews for provoking Nazi soldiers into gassing them.

When a Canadian Chinese-language broadcaster aired a news story produced by CCTV, one of the nine channels, that tried to frame Falun Gong for motivating a man to kill his wife, the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council (CBSC) ruled that it was "unfair and improper in its method of linking the murderer to Falun Gong." CBSC further stated that it was "not journalism" but "nothing more or less than a biased attack on Falun Gong by the producer of that news item."

Such "news items" have run rampant in China and have resulted in widespread hatred, torture and death of men women and children who practice Falun Gong. An Amnesty International report titled The Crackdown on Heretical Organizations states how these types of "massive propaganda campaigns" have been used in many CCP attacks throughout history.

Unfortunately, Westerners, even many Canadian intellectuals, appear to have very little awareness of the destructive nature of CCP propaganda, whose ultimate purpose is to maintain power by controlling what Chinese people see and hear. The government's desire for control is further witnessed in its attempt to control the Internet through what has become known as the Great Firewall of China.

Rogers Cable, which stands to make money selling Chinese propaganda in the Canadian market, may deny that it is peddling lies. Rogers also seeks to justify propaganda profits by saying that "engagement" and "openness" have a positive

effect on the Chinese situation. However, when discussing foreign propaganda mandates with CCP comrades, these initiatives are not spoken of in terms of sharing China's culture or in terms of prospective business ventures. They are regarded as classic communist "struggles" or "battles" to attain victories in its foreign propaganda initiatives. As the head of the foreign propaganda office of the CCP, Zhao Qizheng, states, "During this struggle, [we] need to make best use of the favorable opportunities ... and try to dominate the overseas media. Our goal is to have the overseas media follow our propaganda."

Westerners would be naive to think the world exists on a level playing field under the presumption that everyone behaves as we do, or that everyone's voice should be given an equal and valid perspective. It is simply not true.

The CCP is a totalitarian regime with absolute power that is accustomed to doing as it pleases. It is responsible for the estimated killings of more than 80 million of its own people during its 60-year rule. It has blocked all uncensored media from entering China. It has through its own media rallied hyper-nationalism and allegiance to the CCP. And it is under no obligation to answer for its actions. Now it is looking outward.

Rogers Cable is planning to bring this propaganda package to Canada. Mixed into the Chinese TV channels sports, entertainment and news will be programming designed to "guide public opinion" of Chinese Canadians living here. Neither the CRTC nor Rogers will be able to monitor or regulate the nine channels to uphold Canadian laws and industry standards.

This mouthpiece for everything Canadians abhor does not deserve the endorsement of the CRTC.

Joel Chipkar is a Toronto writer and a spokesperson for the Falun Dafa Association of Canada.

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The Epoch Times
Epoch Times International

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Controversial Chinese TV Seeks Spot in Canada

By Jason Loftus

Epoch Times Toronto Staff

Feb 23, 2006

The Canadian cable and media giant Rogers Communication is facing growing criticism over its efforts to bring to Canada nine Chinese-language television networks from mainland China, dubbed the "Great Wall" package.

Critics say the channels, all state-run by the Chinese communist regime, are simply propaganda organs of the ruling communist party and would drown out home-grown and independent Chinese TV. Rogers, on the other hand, has lauded the stations for their entertainment and cultural programming, downplaying the propaganda element and saying the stations will offer Chinese-Canadians more choice.

Trying to Follow Phoenix

In its application to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), the now-defunct Canadian Cable Telecommunications Association (of which Rogers was a key player) said the channels offer everything from culture, fashion, and travel to Chinese opera and chess. A spokeswoman for the CCTA says the application was market-driven. There is no mention of political content or editorial policy.

And with good reason.

Rogers was successful in November in bringing another Chinese-language network, the Hong Kong-based Phoenix TV, to Canada with a similar approach. Phoenix is 9% owned by the Chinese government. But the station stressed in its application that it is independent from China's communist regime and simply wants to serve local Chinese viewers.

It was a line that the CRTC appears to have bought, as Phoenix gained its license and was on the air by the end of 2005. However, a feature article in last Saturday's Toronto Star tells a different story.

Phoenix head Liu Changle, the newspaper reported, is a former People's Liberation Army colonel and manager at the Communist Party's official radio station. His success, The Star said, has depended on the Chinese government.

"Let's face it, what he's showing are programs approved by the state," Leslie Chan, a professor of new media studies at the University of Toronto, was quoted by the paper.

"I think the Chinese government would like to show to the outside world that there is some opening up, that citizens may be allowed to some extent to question freely, but really this is an adjunct of the state machinery."

And now, with the Great Wall channels, the CRTC is faced with the state machinery itself.

While Rogers seems to be hoping the CRTC will accept these stations as entertainment- and culture-driven, the stations describe themselves differently.

Loyal Mouthpieces

The China Radio Film and Television Group, which oversees all nine of the applicant channels, describes itself as "an important mouthpiece of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Central Committee, an important cultural battlefield for the CCP and our country."

China Central Television, which is among the nine channels, also describes itself as a mouthpiece of the communist

party.

The application by China Central Television and the others to broadcast on Canada's airwaves is in line, then, with orders Chinese chairman Hu Jintao gave to a conference on Party propaganda and ideology in December 2003.

"You should continue to see the strengthening and improving of our propaganda exports as a strategic mission, one wed to the battle of propaganda and ideology," he said.

Other officials have echoed Hu's statements in speeches to China's media brass.

"Radio, film, and television propaganda overseas is an essential and critical part of our Party's foreign propaganda," Tian Jin, deputy director of the State Administration for Radio Film and Television, told a conference on overseas media strategy. "It is a global and strategic undertaking in service of the Party and the nation."

But in gaining access to foreign airwaves, the communist party seems to have learned overt propaganda won't work. That's why culture has become a cornerstone of the propaganda effort.

And it's not only with media.

Political Agenda Cloaked in Culture

The Chinese communist regime has organized a slew of high-profile cultural events in western countries over the last couple of years, including in Canada, with the propaganda agenda never far behind.

At first, culture and communism might seem like strange companions. After all, those familiar with China's Cultural Revolution of the '60s and '70s know that the communist party sought to destroy all vestiges of China's traditional culture. Religious believers, artists, scholars, and others were persecuted severely, millions were killed, and cultural relics were destroyed.

In recent times, though, the party has allowed a revival of Chinese culture—in form, that is. However, its tight grip on ideology has not loosened.

Former Canadian heritage minister Shelia Copps summarized the communist party's approach to culture at a forum at the University of Toronto last August.

"By replacing the ancient Chinese folk songs with odes to socialism, the CCP has cleverly built upon the history of Chinese culture only to promote a political agenda," Copps said.

"By creating a political climate which stifles creativity and discourages pluralism, the CCP has attempted to replace the 4,000 years of Chinese history with a 50-year history of political culture."

And recently, the CCP has been making big investments in promoting that culture overseas.

Culture Shock

A state-organized "China-France Culture Year" that ended in July 2004 included over 300 Chinese cultural events in France, according to state-run Chinese media. That included a parade in early 2004 in which 800 performers and reportedly many of the 7500 participants were flown in from mainland China.

Later that year, Chen Weiyuan, the editor of a government publication on foreign relations strategy wrote about the success of the activities in France.

"The success of the Chinese-French Cultural Year is quite an inspiration for our overseas propaganda work," Chen wrote.

"Taking the approach of cultural exchange in overseas propaganda will have a far-reaching and lasting effect and will be well received by the target nation [...] Culture is a 'soft' component of our nation's power. Cultural diplomacy is a 'soft' dissemination of our nation's will. Compared with economical diplomacy and political diplomacy, cultural diplomacy is able to have our target audience unknowingly accept [our propaganda]. Such cultural infiltration through subtle influence cannot be underestimated."

And so the regime has tried to repeat its success.

A delegation of 500 Chinese performers was sent to tour Australia in the first few months of 2006 in what it billed as the "Greatest Chinese Culture Show in Australia's History."

A former diplomat in the Chinese Consulate in Sydney critical of the tour told The Epoch Times the event would likely cost 100 million Chinese yuan (about $US 12.5 million), adding that 150 million Chinese earn less than $US 1 per day. Chen Yonglin, who was the First Secretary at the Chinese consulate in Sydney until his defection in May 2004, said the event was actually the greatest propaganda event in Australia's history.

Rogers a Partner?

Back in Canada, the Chinese culture pitch seems to have gained Rogers's attention. The CCTA says Rogers has been the leading supporter of the Great Wall television package bid with CRTC. Rogers also sponsored a large concert organized by China Central Television at the Rogers Centre in January and has announced it will sponsor a large Chinese Lantern Festival at Ontario Place this summer.

The "Same Song" concert on Jan. 15 featured big name performers from mainland China. The main song in the concert, called the "Same Song," was included in a concert called "Ode to the Party" in June 2001 and is among 100 songs selected by the communist party for "patriotism education" among Chinese youth. It has also been a theme song in China's labour-through re-education camps to symbolize the successful "transformation" of Falun Gong practitioners—a process that is most often accompanied by extreme torture.

Four Toronto-area Falun Gong adherents said the song brought back painful memories of torture and abuse. They say they were forced to sing the song before receiving any meals and, when tortured into renouncing their beliefs, the song was sung by labour camp guards as a sign of victory.

An inside source told The Epoch Times that the concert was ordered by the 610-office, the communist party agency in China responsible for implementing the persecution of Falun Gong, who called on the Toronto Chinese consulate to make it happen.

A research group within the state-run news agency that provides content to the Great Wall networks and other state-run Chinese broadcasters, Xinhua, recently instructed its staff: "We should make friends with the dignitaries of foreign media. We should have intimate relationships with them, and execute well our foreign propaganda with their help."

Perhaps the communist authorities feel they have found a willing partner in Rogers.

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Thursday » February 23 » 2006

CRTC should avoid trap set by China

The Ottawa Citizen

Thursday, February 23, 2006

Re: The Great Wall goes high-tech, Feb. 18.

I applaud the Citizen for this editorial, which pointed out what Canadians have known for some time.

Canadians, like people in other western countries, have a love-hate relationship with China.

On the one hand, we appreciate ancient Chinese culture and arts, and we desire to have a share of the huge economic market that is opening up.

On the other hand, we find the lack of freedom under a communist regime and its abhorrent practices to be unacceptable. Add to this the price of doing business in China: when dealing with the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) regime, businesses are required to compromise their western values and ethics.

Selling technology that helps the CCP control and persecute its own citizens is a prime example of how far companies will go to make a profit. By ignoring ethical concerns, businesses have lowered their standards and become parties to subterfuge and control that allows people to be sent to prison for long terms for "revealing state secrets" -- just because they dared to post an article on the Internet that is critical of CCP activities.

It seems the CCP is not limiting itself to just controlling the information available to residents of mainland China, it also wants to control its expatriates right here in Canada. The CCP has applied to the CRTC to license nine TV stations that can be used to spread propaganda and misinformation. The application is supported by Rogers Communications.

Of the more than one million Chinese people living in Canada, there are many who don't speak English. These people would welcome Chinese-language programming. However, I wonder if they want such programming to be laced with CCP ideology?

Your editorial stated, "It's time companies in free countries stood up for the citizens of China, who are so valiantly standing up for themselves." There is no better example of Chinese citizens standing up for themselves than the practitioners of Falun Gong, who are not even allowed to follow their own beliefs.

I hope that the CRTC will not fall into the trap of doing business with China at any cost and end up aiding and abetting the spread of poisonous communist propaganda.

Pam McLennan,

Ottawa

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TORONTO STAR
www.thestar.com

Phoenix Television not what it says

Feb. 20, 2006. 01:00 AM

Letters to the editor

We welcome your contributions.

Letters must include full name, address, and phone numbers of sender. Street names and phone numbers will not be published.

Send your contributions to Letters to the Editor via email to lettertoed@thestar.ca; via fax to 416 869-4322; or by mail to One Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5E 1E6.

We reserve the right to edit letters, which typically run 50-300 words. Photos are welcome.

Phoenix Television rises

Feb. 18.

On Oct. 28, 2005, Tai Wang Mak, Phoenix's broadcast and engineering director in Los Angeles, one of the four top executives in the North American division of Phoenix Television, was arrested in his L.A. home for smuggling secret military technology to China.

The news was not that surprising due to the network's strong ties to the Chinese Communist Party and its consistent echoing of propaganda from the communist regime.

What surprised me is Phoenix eventually obtained a licence to broadcast in Canada and Liu Chang Le (of Phoenix), still portrays it as an independent television station, saying, "We run a very objective service, we are not slanted or attempt to denounce or hurt anyone. We are only here to serve the Chinese community."

One should not forget, in 2003, the Chinese government's efforts to push through the "Article 23" legislation in Hong Kong to restrict freedoms initiated a protest taken to the streets by 500,000 Hong Kong residents on July 1.

The *Star* and many other newspapers reported it as top news.

However, the Hong Kong-based Phoenix, instead of reporting on the protest, broadcast a small gathering that supported the mainland government's stance. No wonder the Phoenix staff themselves also said that at critical times and on critical issues, Phoenix Television played a role that CCTV could not.

Elaine Xie, Toronto

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TORONTO STAR
www.thestar.com

Chinese channels will poison minds

Feb. 16, 2006. 01:00 AM

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Full speed on `Great Wall': Rogers

Feb. 13.

I find it's very hard for Westerners to really comprehend how effectively and deeply the Chinese Communist regime controls the media to change or distort Chinese people's minds.

I was one of the university students on Tiananmen Square during the 1989 pro-democracy movement. I witnessed the goodwill of the students and civilians for democracy. Yet, right after the peaceful movement was relentlessly suppressed, all the TV channels in China aired program day and night that labelled students and civilians as mobs that were directed by Western powers and the army fixed the problem without firing a single gun. A week later civilians and students began to praise on TV the government's wise and far-reaching decision to suppress the movement.

If people at that time had no choice but to make such remarks against their conscience, then many years later, I found that shockingly many, if not most, people, who then were students in Tiananmen agreed in their hearts with the bloody suppression.

It's not that they lost the ability to judge right from wrong; it's the information from the media in China they base judgments on which is so smartly designed, staged or crafted that it seeps into the mind day after day until it's distorted. Yes, it's all about choice. But if the nine channels come here, people have no choice but to be poisoned.

Michael Cui, Mississauga

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Free speech and Chinese propaganda: Beijing wants to beam government-controlled TV broadcasts into Canada

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The Chinese government wants to beam its propaganda into Canada on nine digital channels.

All nine -- seven Mandarin channels, some of which would have limited English-language news programming, one Fujianese and one Cantonese -- would be operated by China International Television Corporation, which is controlled by the government.

Carefully packaged with soap operas, dramas, sitcoms and fashion shows, the Chinese government wants its message to be allowed unedited into Canada.

Some of the people who wrote to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission before last Monday's deadline for public comment urged it to approve the application because they simply want to watch familiar programs from home. Others said it would encourage Canada-China trade.

Among the powerful backers of the application are the traditionally pro-China, Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver, which claims to have 85 member organizations representing 50,000 people, and the National Congress of Chinese Canadians, which claims to represent 280 Chinese-Canadian organizations, including the Vancouver benevolent association and to speak for more than 300,000 people.

The NCCC is closely allied with the Liberal government. In November, it agreed to a $12.5-million package aimed at redressing the harm done by the head tax and a nearly 30-year ban on Chinese immigration. But because that package did not include an apology or individual compensation, both the NCCC and the Liberals have been under attack by head-tax payers and their descendants.

In a letter to the CRTC written in French, NCCC's Quebec region co-chairman Jack Lee says the nine channels are needed to better serve Canadian society, of which the Chinese make up an important part.

Yet Lee and the NCCC opposed New Tang Dynasty Television's successful application last year for a cable licence for a Chinese-language station.

"According to our knowledge this group is involved with the Falun Gong group," said the letter written by executive co-chairman Pin Tang and signed by the nine regional co-chairmen.

"The television will become a political propaganda tool for a small group of anti-China activists and will create conflict in the Chinese-Canadian community. This is not for the well-being of the Canadian public. Therefore we are strongly opposed to granting a licence."

It's hard to see from how anything could be more divisive in the Chinese diaspora than the long arm of China reaching into Canada.

That division is certainly reflected by the 290 public responses to the CRTC.

Philip Lau wrote simply but eloquently in his adopted language. "All these 9 channels are [the] tongue of [the] Chinese communist party. They are evils who never telling the truth."

But at least some of the opposing letters resulted from a call to action from the Falun Gong, a spiritual movement that has been banned by China.

Falun Gong official Lucy Zhou's letter to the CRTC pointing out that China television broadcast programs celebrating the 9/11 terrorist attack on the United States and failed to report on the SARS epidemic is echoed by others.

Yung Quon Yu of the Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver argued in his letter that "additional Chinese-language programming will help promote and preserve Chinese culture as part of Canada's diverse multicultural landscape.

But modern mainland Chinese culture is what is approved by the Communist party, which during the Cultural Revolution destroyed priceless art and ancient artifacts, banned music and imprisoned intellectuals.

Its popular culture is heavily circumscribed. The Internet is censored -- as much as any government can censor it.

In December, security police arrested online journalist Yang Tianshui without a warrant. Accused of "divulging state secrets", he has not been heard from since.

Just this week, three Chinese journalists were given prison sentences ranging from one to 10 years for reporting on clashes in Lishui last May involving peasants who were protesting confiscation of their land. They had been charged with "illegal commercial activity, fraud and extortion."

For all of us who value free speech, a free press and freedom of expression, how can we argue for banning any information, even if it is propaganda?

There are parallels between this application and that of al-Jazeera, the infamous Arabic-language network. When the CRTC finally approved its application in 2003, it made the distributors responsible for monitoring and editing out any inappropriate programs or statements that might contravene Canada's hate laws.

In the case of Chinese television, the problem is different. It is not so much what China's government-controlled television reports, it's what it does not report that is the problem. And there's no easy fix for that.

But here's a thought:

A couple of the China TV supporters told the CRTC that approval would be good for trade relations. So, let's tell the Chinese government that we'll take their channels, if CTV, CBC and Global can operate unfettered in China. We'll even translate them.

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