Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2004-407

Ottawa, 10 September 2004

LU Campus Radio Inc.

Thunder Bay, Ontario

Application 2003-1802-3
Public Hearing in the National Capital Region
7 June 2004

Community-based campus FM radio station in Thunder Bay

The Commission approves the application by LU Campus Radio Inc. to operate a new English-language community-based campus FM radio station at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay.

The application

- 1. The Commission received an application by LU Campus Radio Inc. (LU Campus Radio) for a broadcasting licence to operate an English-language community-based campus FM radio programming undertaking at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay. The proposed station would operate at 102.7 MHz (channel 274A1) with an effective radiated power (ERP) of 134 watts.¹
- 2. The applicant stated that the proposed station would broadcast 126 hours of programming during each broadcast week, four and a half hours of which would be in French, Spanish and languages of Aboriginal Canadians. The applicant stated that it would promote all genres of music and give priority to the development of local artists. In order to achieve this goal, LU Campus Radio would offer wide exposure to local artists through sponsorship of local music shows and concerts and would produce a compilation CD comprised of live in-studio acoustic performances by local talent.
- 3. The applicant stated that the station would be operated by students and community volunteers under the guidance of the board of directors, the station manager and the program director. Volunteers would be recruited from Lakehead University as well as from the community at large through poster campaigns, newspaper ads and e-mails to prospective volunteers. A committee of community volunteers would oversee all the programming proposals submitted by community members. The applicant submitted that the proposed station would provide opportunities for students and other members of the local community to develop on-air broadcasting skills.

¹ Broadcasting Notice of Public Hearing CRTC 2004-3, 7 April 2004, stated that the proposed station would operate with an average ERP of 112 watts (maximum ERP of 134 watts). However, the Department of Industry has advised that the station will operate with an ERP of 134 watts using an omnidirectional antenna.



4. The Commission did not receive any interventions in connection with this application.

The Commission's analysis and determination

5. In *Campus Radio Policy*, Public Notice CRTC 2000-12, 28 January 2000 (the Campus Radio Policy), the Commission stated that the primary objective for the campus radio stations is to:

...provide programming differing in style and substance from that provided by other elements of the broadcasting system, particularly commercial stations and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). The Commission considers that campus stations should add diversity to the broadcasting system by providing alternative programming in both music and spoken word.

6. The Commission defined two types of campus stations, namely community-based campus stations and instructional campus stations. Of the former, the Commission stated:

The primary role of [community-based campus] stations is to provide alternative programming such as music, especially Canadian music, not generally heard on commercial stations (including special interest music as well as styles of popular music seldom broadcast), in-depth spoken word programming, and programming targeted to specific groups within the community.

- 7. In the Campus Radio Policy, the Commission further stated that campus radio stations should rely on volunteers from the campus and from the community at large for their programming and operation.
- 8. The Commission is satisfied that the application complies with all the applicable terms and conditions for community-based campus radio stations set out in the Campus Radio Policy. The Commission also notes that local and Canadian artists will occupy a prominent position within the programming offered by the station. Accordingly, the Commission **approves** the application by LU Campus Radio Inc. for a broadcasting licence to operate an English-language community-based campus FM radio programming undertaking in Thunder Bay, Ontario at 102.7 MHz (channel 274A1) with an ERP of 134 watts.
- 9. In accordance with the Campus Radio Policy, the Commission expects the applicant to take all the necessary steps to ensure that the board of directors includes balanced representation from among the student body, the associated college or university (for example, faculty or administration), station volunteers, and from the community at large. To ensure continuity of direction, the Commission also expects the applicant to establish positions on its board of directors with terms of more than one year.

10. The licence will expire 31 August 2011 and will be subject to the **conditions** specified in *New licence form for campus radio stations*, Public Notice CRTC 2000-156, 16 November 2000.

Issuance of the licence

- 11. The Department of Industry (the Department) has advised the Commission that, while this application is conditionally technically acceptable, it will only issue a broadcasting certificate when it has determined that the proposed technical parameters will not create any unacceptable interference with aeronautical NAV/COM services.
- 12. The Commission reminds the applicant that, pursuant to section 22(1) of the *Broadcasting Act*, no licence may be issued until the Department notifies the Commission that its technical requirements have been met, and that a broadcasting certificate will be issued.
- 13. Furthermore, the licence for this undertaking will be issued once 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 24 months from the date of this decision, unless a request for an extension of time is approved by the Commission before 10 September 2006. In order to ensure that such a request is processed in a timely manner, it should be submitted at least 60 days before this date.

Employment equity

14. The Commission considers that campus radio stations should be particularly sensitive to employment equity issues in order to reflect fully the communities they serve. It encourages the applicant to consider these issues in its hiring practices and in all other aspects of its management of human resources.

Secretary General

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