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Affordability of local TV

The CRTC is looking at whether it should provide the television industry with more flexibility so that it can adapt to changes in the communications environment. The ultimate goal is to ensure that Canadians can benefit from the broadcasting system.

One option we are studying is whether local TV stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs. Cable and satellite companies do not currently pay a fee for local TV signals and must distribute them as part of their basic service.

Your opinion matters to us. You are invited to share your views on the following discussion questions.

Discussion Question:

1. Thinking about the importance of local TV to you, how would you react, and why, if you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services?
2. In your view, what measures, if any, could be taken to support local television?

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1. I would cancel my cable service completely.
2. Local Advertisers.

Canadians are charged more for their cable and internet than any other country - I believe we have you to thank for that. It may take us a while, but we do get fed up, and when we do.....you all better have a plan B

[Flag](#)[Like](#)▶ [BOB](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to susan D](#) 243 people liked this.

Agree with you totally. Cable bills are far to high right now. CRTC should force them to lower their fees. I will not pay to watch the local TV stations. Watch them for nothing without cable. Gouging the consumer. Poorly run businesses the local TV stations if they need money from the public. Tell the management to take a pay cut or close some stations down. CRTC should allow more competition in the cable business also.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 [marc_p_b](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to BOB](#) 105 people liked this.

I agree we are already paying too much for all TV services being it cable or Dish. Quit paying CEO'S astronomical bonuses and there will be lots of money to operate TV stations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Sallie Brown](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to marc_p_b](#) 65 people liked this.

very well said Marc. Severance packages for CEOs are out of this world. Rich get richer phenomenon. Spread some of that around to the little people and the world would be much better off.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [mvanlamz](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Sallie Brown](#) 74 people liked this.

There is one thing that CEOs understand about the business that everyone needs to think about. For a TV station, what is the product, and who are the customers? You are not the customer, the advertisers are the customers. The product is not the television programming -- the product is you. TV stations sell commercial time to advertisers, and in return for that money, deliver you and your eyeballs to the advertisers.

Which makes it sick and weird that they want us, the product, to pay them!

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Like

 [annie](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to mvanlamz](#) 19 people liked this.

I am going to turn off the tv now and go play some ball!!! I will never pay for this bull s*#t

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Like

 [D. Shields](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to mvanlamz](#) 14 people liked this.

Good Observations!

(Can this be Why every time edgy intelligent programming rears it's head in the U.S., the advertisers have a fit or 2 & take the program off the air? A few of the inbred & unread call Proctor & Gamble, (for example) to complain about content that they don't understand to start with & awaaaay goes a program with something to say?) : (

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 [John](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to mvanlamz](#) 3 people liked this.

Bang on!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [TiGz](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to mvanlamz](#) 2 people liked this.

Well said and well thought my man! I like your way of thinking.....looking for a job in television???.....lol.

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Like



[MoB](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to mvanlamz](#) 1 person liked this.

What an insight! I wrote it down and will place it on top to my television.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[rdmotti](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Sallie Brown](#) 29 people liked this.

Yes, am in total agreement with you Sallie; the greed has to stop! Let's start to share the wealth, or, if this goes through, am pulling my cable, simple as that!

[Flag](#)

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[Rod](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to BOB](#) 82 people liked this.

I totally agree with Susan and Bob, I will cancel too, I hate to say it but we have mediocre programming on cable as it is, we are paying far too much as it is for the lack of good programming. If the broadcasters can't make it in business, then maybe its time for them to do some trimming or get out completely. I don't want to subsidize companies that can't operate a business successfully. Nobody subsidized me when I was in business.

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[Like](#)



[Frazer Kon](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Rod](#) 58 people liked this.

My plan is to order a free-to-air satellite dish, it works similar to a set of "Rabbit ears" except it provides better signal more like a cable or dish signal when compared to the standard "airwaves" transition.

What cable companies should be required to do is break up their bundles and let people choose exactly which channels we want! For example all I really watch is CHCH News, The CBC news and OLN. I shouldn't have to pay for the current 20 stations in my cable package when I don't want them.

However it will never happen because it will ruin the massive profits of the cable companies.

[Flag](#)

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[Sydney](#) ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Frazer Kon](#) 4 people liked this.

Absolutely agree!

I'd have CBC, and PBS. Not much else I watch to tell you the truth - I am NOT interested in American commercial-vision.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[nowoolinis](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to BOB](#) 65 people liked this.

I don't think forcing a profitable corporation to reduce their fees is a viable solution to this problem. If the broadcasters in question were "local" at the same level as say "Shaw's community programming channel" then they might have a valid argument for fee for carriage. Unfortunately they really only provide at the most a few hours of local news mixed in with hollywood movies and reality shows created in america and a whole bunch of corporate advertising. This is not "local" and is not worth paying for so i opt out of the fee for carriage business and i believe the Cable companies should be freed of their obligation to carry them as mandated by the CRTC. Let those that cannot survive in the current climate "Fall" We pay for CBC in our taxes already and they could become the flagship broadcaster for "local" and Canadian content.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Knut41](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to nowoolinis](#) 29 people liked this.

Do you want to have all of your TV news come from the CBC?? and permit the other privat stations not to provide any news?? Does this provide a diversified news report?? I think it would be dangerous to have one exclusive source of news.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Tim](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Knut41](#) 48 people liked this.

You need not have all your news come from the CBC, turn on the radio, read a newspaper. The local television stations are just as biased as any other news source. Heck I turned on my local news last night and the lead story was Tiger Woods affair. Local television news is a joke as are the stations that produce it. Find some good Canadian content and people will watch local channels and advertisers will pay for the service instead of asking us to do it.

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Like

 [Patricia](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Tim](#) 20 people liked this.

CBC is paid for through our taxes because it was meant to be the station where we could count on getting direction from our federal government in cases of attacks, natural disasters, etc. A few local stations is alright but there is too much overlap right now. I do not want to see all American broadcasting disappear since I want to know what is going on in the rest of the world not just in Canada. Some Canadian broadcasting i.e. movies, are just awful.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Loren](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Patricia](#) 29 people liked this.

Agreed.

And the reason so much of Canadian content is awful is exactly because this material is so heavily subsidized.

Take a look at the ending credits of the next boring Canadian thing you see on TV.

The screen will scroll by with name after name of crew, suppliers, property management companies, and lawyers.

And after that, the logos of the government agency funders will show up, television fund, provincial programs, federal programs, you name it.

Ask yourself if any 45 minute (commercials don't count) second-rate show really needs over 400 involved in its production.

Can-Con has become one of the biggest gravy-trains in Canada's economy, grandfathered protectionism under the mantle of "culture", subsidized by taxpayers and viewers of actually interesting programming.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Anon](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Patricia](#) 16 people liked this.

You will never see all American broadcasting disappear, but you might

lose your Canadian views.

some Canadian broadcasting is awful - MOST American broadcasting is worse than awful.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [john d](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Patricia](#) 16 people liked this.

Your right, but i would keep as much of the local stations and get rid of the CBC. Why should our taxes go to CBC? no way. out!!!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [faithstewart](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to john d](#) 21 people liked this.

Over one billion a year in tax dollars, And now they want more. The only way we can stop this is to put pressure on our MP's to end this madness.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [georgedyson](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to john d](#) 14 people liked this.

Many of us do not like the commercial products on stations like CTV which pander to populism. If everything had to be commercially viable we would end up with mindless trash such as reality shows. What an brain dead environment that would be! Only public radio and tv can provide programming for those of us with a bit of a brain

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Like

 [Brian_M](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to georgedyson](#) 7 people liked this.

I agree. I forced myself twice to watch "Two and a Half Men", I can't believe that people actually get paid to write such drivel. As for "reality shows"...well let's not even go there, let's just say I'm glad I have other interests outside of TV watching.

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Like

 [Liz Watson](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Tim](#) 16 people liked this.

You're right. We are already aware of the news via newspaper before we see it on local TV so why should we pay extra for something we already know.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [johnd](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Tim](#) 14 people liked this.

I agree with you on everything you have written , except about watching tv on CBC. I have not for years nor will i watch anything on that station. If it was up to me, i would keep all local stations but get rid of the CBC.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Canuck100](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Knut41](#) 15 people liked this.

Well fortunately we have other sources for news, such as newspapers, the internet and other tv stations that are not asking us to subsidize there businesses. As others have said we pay more than enough for cable or satellite

services, if you can't run a business properly then get out of the business.

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Like



[Ray B](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Knut41](#) 14 people liked this.

I don't like being black mailed by big business. I get most of my news from my local radio stations

[Flag](#)

Like



[Mike C](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Knut41](#) 9 people liked this.

You want excellent, unbiased news? Turn off your TV and go online:

<http://news.google.com>

Mike

[Flag](#)

Like



[JOe](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mike C](#) 4 people liked this.

I think you are wrong. All news is biased by the presenter. The media no longer "report" the news they "create" it by embellishing and distorting it according to their views. When you watch TV in Europe or other places that are not controlled by North American bias you get a totally different slant on what is going on in the world

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Like



[deniseblakebrough](#) ★ [4 weeks ago in reply to JOe](#) 4 people liked this.

I agree about the news, we watch the BBC news when we want to get the "truth" and a different outlook

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Like



[Brian_M](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mike C](#) 4 people liked this.

Does Google pay anyone for this content or is it gleaned from other sources that had to lay out money (wages/operating overhead) to gather this news?

You pay your ISP money so you can access Google. Does your ISP hand money over to Google so Google can in turn pay for it's content?

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Like



[faithstewart](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mike C](#) 3 people liked this.

Until the CRCT gets online with all these regulations telling us what we can and can't do.

[Flag](#)

Like



[andycap](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mike C](#) 1 person liked this.

ok now you all get me upset I cannot afford to pay for tv. cable, satellite, so I have to have local, also cbc who send canadian stuff not only hollywood stuff.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [JG](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to andycap](#) 13 people liked this.

Seems to me that it is taken for granted that everyone can afford satellite or cable. Not true! What happens to those who depend on the good old antenna for their television reception???

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Spook](#) ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to JG](#) 4 people liked this.

I have a small antenna. I live outside the city. I get 8 local channels and I'm happy with that. There is only so many hours a week that is practical for viewing television. I see no value at \$40+ dollars per month for tv signal. If I lose my local channels I will have no tv. If the CRTC forces cable and Sat companies to have "Canadian Content", which I agree with, then local channels thru air MUST survive and if the CRTC has to force cable/sat operators to pay the locals for their content, then so be it. I would like to see the cable/sat companies be forced to pay without any increase in rates to their subscribers.

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 [Guest](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to JG](#)

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Like

 [hobro](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mike C](#) 1 person liked this.

ok now you all get me upset I cannot afford to pay for tv. cable, satellite, so I have to have local, also cbc who send can. stuff not only hollywood stuff.

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Like

 [dandavedan](#) ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Mike C](#)

If you wonder where Google gets their news, it's local stations. Google uses the independent stations to get their news. All of these big faceless web sites will lose a lot of their sources for content if local news disappears. And do you really think they will go out of their way to tell any story where you're living.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Peter Tattersall](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Knut41](#) 7 people liked this.

The only value in local news is timeliness. "News" from my local services has very little value otherwise, and . For world news I turn to - world or at least national - services, and for commentary on both local and world news I read local newspapers and magazines. Television news is generally superficial and not particularly diversified.

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Like

 [Vetheuil](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Knut41](#) 5 people liked this.

Especially as the CBC is a government organization, unlike CTV and the rest.

[Flag](#)

Like

-  [GeoSv](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Vetheuil](#) 3 people liked this.
 The CBC is controlled by the usual socialist establishment. If only the "government" could control it. It really should have some power over it.
[Flag](#)
-  [Eric](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to GeoSv](#) 7 people liked this.
 oh, ok so you want the government to give you the news?
 isn't that a communist idea? sounds like big brother to me
 have the regime spoon-feed you what's right and what's wrong?
 can you imagine that?
 you say that the cbc is 'socialist' because it may offer different ideas
 from the conservative 'minority' government that has been trying to
 undercut it?
 right...
[Flag](#)
-  [GeoSv](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Eric](#) 1 person liked this.
 You say control by a minority socialist elite is democracy? It may be
 what YOU want. The parliament is what democracy is supposed to
 be.
[Flag](#)
-  [rr1](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to GeoSv](#) 1 person liked this.
 Communism is government for the people by the people it is
 participatory government not like we have now-representative and the
 only ones getting represented are the coupon class that collects shares
 in corporations while they work us to the bone and indenture us with
 debt just to live a life of subservience.
[Flag](#)
-  [Barb](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to GeoSv](#) 1 person liked this.
 So you are in favor of a dictatorship, government controlled media...
 maybe like China?
[Flag](#)
-  [nerky](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to GeoSv](#)
 Hmm, socialist establishment?
[Flag](#)
-  [JOe](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to nowoolinis](#) 4 people liked this.
 That is the scariest thing I have ever heard. The CBC is on a par with 3rd world
 countries(of which I have visited many). If you want to talk about lousy programing
 look no further than the CBC
[Flag](#)
-  [Debra](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to nowoolinis](#) 3 people liked this.

nowoolinis that's what I was trying to say in my badly worded post ..thank you :-)

Flag

Like

 *ron* ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to BOB](#) 14 people liked this.

Totally agree with you. CRTC should force the cable companies to lower their fees and allow more competition in the cable business. Why does CRTC allow companies like Rogers and Shaw to have monopoly in this business. I am stuck with rogers, every three months they increase the price and I cannot do anything about it. It is very frustrating. Further more, I should pay only for the channels I want to see, not the pre packaged bundle. I believe CRTC is responsible for all this. CRTC broke the monopoly of Bell in home telephone business, what is stoping them to do the same with cable companies. Cable companies probably lobby hard to maintain their monopoly. It is so sad in this age and time CRTC allows all this to go on. Another example system access fee, no where in the world, but in Canada. All in coming calls are free in the rest of the world but in Canada CRTC allows the mobile companies to charge at both ends.

Flag

Like

 *DaveA* ★ [1 month ago in reply to BOB](#) 18 people liked this.

Can be summed up as a lack of real competition, now they are fat and lazy looking for the up and coming fad of taxing consumers for corporations.

Flag

Like

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago in reply to BOB](#) 9 people liked this.

People keep saying cable bills are high, but TV channels don't get any of the money and losing money instead. A for shaw community channel that nobody watches cause the programming is a waste of time to produce. the rent of the studio is more than the cost of volunteer writers and cameraman. What is needed is more 'quality' Canadian content in books, movies, and shows not Candian talk shows or newss that nobody cares to watch and the only way to get tha is if broadcasters are making money. I mean my internet bill is like \$45/month for cable connection. TV is the best entertainment value since it's all supported by advertising. but even advertising and cancon restrictions makes unprofitable.

Flag

Like

 *Peter Tattersall* ★ [1 month ago in reply to bill](#) 50 people liked this.

Canadian content should stand on its own. If we cannot produce interesting content on our own, so be it. As a country we have both talent and facilities required to produce quality content and should be able to sell it both here and abroad. A minimal level of protection might be acceptable in order to get an industry started, but we have had that (and more!) for many years now. It is time for the Canadian industry to stand on its own merits. Mediocre content does not deserve protection, and quality content can stand on its own.

Flag

Like

 *eric* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Peter Tattersall](#) 6 people liked this.

canadian content cannot compete on its own against the huge us market because of the smaller size of our own market. we're only 1/10th the size of the us and we're spread out over a much larger surface area. what mediocre content anyway? the tudors? that's an amazing production. have you seen flashpoint on ctv? fantastic show. corner gas? little mosque on the prairie?

Flag

 Like

Anon ★ [1 month ago in reply to Peter Tattersall](#) 7 people liked this.

You assume that Canadians would know good programming when they see it. But all they see is American garbage and compare on that basis. It can't stand on its own when it's up against HUGE \$\$\$ that pander to the intellectually challenged.

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 Like

Carol T ★ [1 month ago in reply to Anon](#) 1 person liked this.

Right you are, and someone else said, "we have to pay extra for all that mediocre programming?" I agree with all of you!

[Flag](#)

 Like

digi_girl ★ [1 month ago in reply to Peter Tattersall](#) 1 person liked this.

Gee Peter that's really insightful... but seriously, don't you think that if we were capable of producing quality content we would be doing it. Do you really think broadcasters are going out saying "hmmm... I think I'll produce and air some mediocre content so I can sell minimal advertising and not make a profit"? Really?!?

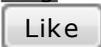
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 Like

begander ★ [1 month ago in reply to bill](#) 28 people liked this.

CTV and Global make money. They don't lose money. Maybe they make less than they used to, but they still make money. They would make even more if they stopped blowing their brains out buying up US shows we can all watch on their websites, on US stations, on syndication, on DVDs. That's the real issue.

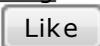
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 Like

rr1 ★ [1 month ago in reply to begander](#) 1 person liked this.

we can't watch full episodes on tv as they are blocked by the isp. no american shows over the net. that is my experience

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 Like

Noorgi ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to rr1](#)

Proxy it up to get Hulu.com streaming to you!

[Flag](#)

 Like

Johnnymarin ★ [4 weeks ago in reply to bill](#) 11 people liked this.

What is local for me? I live in Kitchener-Waterloo and my nearest local station is Hamilton. Because I subscribe to satellite service the local CTV station is not on the 500+ channel lineup. But guess what? For my 82\$ per month (yes that is how much I pay!) I get approximately a dozen "local" channels each of CBC, CTV, and Global all across Canada, except my area. Isn't that great! So now they want me to pay extra for the pleasure of having soooo many local channels (but not mine!) all spewing the same shows on a 500 channel lineup of stations. Why can't I just subscribe to the channels I want to watch? Is it too much to ask? I thought technology advancement would allow me to have this! There is a thing called a PVR (which I have) that allows me to record the shows I want and watch them when I

want to. I don't need all these local channels taking up bandwidth and not allowing my local station access. But, as with any other government organization trying to regulate business, the CRTC is doing a lousy job at providing me, the customer, what I want. They are doing a great job at providing broadcasters and signal distribution corporations the regulated increases in rates to make them profitable for their shareholders! And yet the politicians refuse to listen!

Don't worry though. There is another business model called the internet which is slowly replacing the regular TV broadcast model. Here you can also PVR any show and watch it when you want. This is why the broadcasters are looking for more money. They don't understand how to make money in the new broadcast world and will continue to ask for more fee for carriage (don't worry they WILL ask for increases in the future!) as their present business model continues to lose market share to the internet.

[Flag](#)

Like



Darren ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Johnnymarin](#) 7 people liked this.

Right on. LET US PICK AND PAY FOR WHAT WE WANT. Enough of the CAB, CRTC, and all the regulations. I could care LESS for French programming, multicultural, etc yet am FORCED to take all this garbage on the lowest tier of 'basic' broadcasting for the lowest price (which is STILL too high in my opinion.).

[Flag](#)

Like



murraypinsky ★ [1 month ago in reply to bill](#) 8 people liked this.

Quality does not need subsidies, because people like the shows and the talent. Little mosque on the prairie and corner gas are examples. This is an effort to increase profits of people who knew the rules of the game fully well when they invested. It is not the responsibility of Canadians to subsidize poor broadcasters who make their money showing US programs and blocking Super Bowl commercials.

[Flag](#)

Like



stevekaran ★ [1 month ago in reply to BOB](#) 6 people liked this.

Bob, what I think you don't realize is that the programming that the cable/satellite companies show costs money.

- * 40% for programming content
- * 10% to CRTC to pay local programmers and CRTC salaries
- * Over \$7/month per sub in call centre/billing costs
- * It costs \$250M to put a single satellite in the air

In 12 years of Bell TV existence it has yet to turn a positive FCF... So, before you say "money hungry executives", please take a moment to realize that the bill you pay doesn't go directly into the profit line for the cable/satellite providers.

On the other hand, the local programmers have turned a profit of over \$400M last year - why do they need more to provide the content that you want to see. I say fix your business model and stop begging.

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Like



john rathwell ★ [1 month ago in reply to BOB](#) 7 people liked this.

the cables company get to much right now rogers charge to much now

[Flag](#)

Like

 [jpfirminer](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 128 people liked this.

Great Stuff Susan.

I to will cancel my Shaw Direct service, and re-commission my US Sat service that offers 10X more sports, and over a 100 HD channels. We rae geeting ripped off up here and the CRTC better wake up to real life. We don't have a bottomless pit.

If the local TV station can't cut, than they should just go dark. we have all been asked to tighten our belts and now its their turn. Suck it up

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Carol T.](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to jpfirminer](#) 2 people liked this.

Suck it up I say too!

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[Like](#)

 [Frank](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 121 people liked this.

Dido to Susan's comment... the only difference Is that I'm already fed up with it all and canceled all my subscription tv and I'm happy with the rabbit ears, but at this rate it doesn't look like it's going to last as well.

Stop forcing Cable/Satellite companies to carry the local channels and allow local broadcasters to charge for their channels AND ALLOW THE CONSUMER TO PICK WHICH CHANNELS THEY WANT.

[Flag](#)

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 [Jeff](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Frank](#) 31 people liked this.

I agree with your solution -"Stop forcing Cable/Satellite companies to carry the local channels and allow local broadcasters to charge for their channels AND ALLOW THE CONSUMER TO PICK WHICH CHANNELS THEY WANT." I rarely watch the local channels so I am not interested in paying more for something I don't use.

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[Like](#)

 [jds06](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Jeff](#) 20 people liked this.

I agree with Jeff , why do we not have option of picking chanel from satelite companys instead of being forced to pick packages that that include stations we don't use or want

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [begander](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Jeff](#) 7 people liked this.

Jeff, your solution could work except that the broadcasters wouldn't allow it from what I've read. They insist they HAVE to be carried. They insist they HAVE to be paid even more even though they already gets loads of \$\$ and they insist that if they aren't carried, then US stations MUST be dropped. So forget about having access to TV which is actually good. You wouldn't be able to watch whatever show you like unless you paid, or unless of course you went onto CTV's internet site and watched the show for free anyway.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Jeff](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Frank](#) 25 people liked this.

I agree with your solution -"Stop forcing Cable/Satellite companies to carry the local channels and allow local broadcasters to charge for their channels AND ALLOW THE

CONSUMER TO PICK WHICH CHANNELS THEY WANT." I rarely watch the local channels so I am not interested in paying more for something I don't use.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Mandy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Jeff](#) 9 people liked this.

I completely agree with Jeff. I do not really watch local channels--if at all--so why should I pay for it? As it stands, we pay way too much for tv. My brother gets free cable in Japan (inc. all HD sports, nature channels, etc.) so all he had to do was buy a tv!! If this tv tax is imposed, not only should I cancel my satellite, I should give some serious thought to moving out of the country! We pay more for Internet, for tv...for just way too much!!

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Like

 [cyberlots](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Jeff](#) 1 person liked this.

I watch CHBC local news half scrambled because the signal doesn't come in very clear using rabbit ears, but it would probably come in better if I put an antenna up on teh roof of my house. I watch CHBC news everyday and sometimes twice a day. They won't put CHBC on satellite though ... they should!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Tim](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Frank](#) 15 people liked this.

totally correct. Let the consumer decide if they want these channels. I will opt out personally but those that want them can pay for them. The reason this will not happen is that the powers that the majority of us would not pay for the local channels and they would collapse (as they should if they cant operate within their budgets.)

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Willie](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Frank](#) 3 people liked this.

We look forward to hearing local news. Why should we as consumers be charged more to become informed as to what is taking place in our own community. I could care less what the movie stars are up to'

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Rox](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Frank](#) 2 people liked this.

Haha, you do pick the channels.

Shaw offers... these channels.

Cogeco offers... these channels.

Rogers offers... these channels.

Buy picking an offer you are choosing those channels. If you don't like those channels, don't accept the offer. That's pretty simple. They might all be the same, but those are the current offers. You can't force someone to offer a product just because you want to.

If you don't like the offers, don't accept any. That's your choice!

Note: Of course, if you can't live without TV , then that's a whole other issue. There are places to help with addiction.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [annie](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Rox](#) 1 person liked this.

Funny but your not getting the point!!!!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Bill Truscott](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 84 people liked this.

I dont disagree that we pay too much for what we get especially internet. The quality of net access is horrible we are one of the worst in the world and we pay more for it. I dont mind paying for a decent service but we are not getting decent service for internet.

As to the fee for local access its really quite different. Right now they charge us a fee for the basic service which includes a bundle of products that they dont pay for namely the networks, cbc, ctv etc. We are already being charged for it but they are setting up a deal with the advertising where they will charge more and pocket the \$\$ they are making now.

Its like I come to your house take a picture of your spouse put it on the web for 5 bucks and then when you come after me I raise the price to 10 bucks and give you 5. You dont even have the or control over who sees the picture because the judge said your spouse was on a public beach and its in the public domain its free.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Evelyn](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Bill Truscott](#) 14 people liked this.

I totally agree with you Bill. If you listen to the TV commercials right now from Bell, Shaw, etc, they make it sound like I get my local channels (A, CTV, CBC, etc) for free, but in truth, I am paying way too much for all of the channels whether they are from the US, are Speciality channels or my local channels.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [briadugg](#) ★ [4 weeks ago in reply to Evelyn](#)

You aren't only paying for those channels in the basic packages. You are first paying for the service to get to your residence. There is a whole network that needs to be built and maintained to get the signal to you. It's a bonus that you get the local channels.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [deanpm](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 53 people liked this.

Local television is important to me because I'm a bit of a news junkie, and I think the cable and satalitte companies should carry it for free. I also subscribe to a major newspaper, but the news is a day behind.

I am very upset that Bell Expressview has already started charging me a monthly fee to support local television. Nothing hsa been resolved and this is just outright theft!

It is also ridiculous that I have to pay Shaw for a basic cable TV package, when all I want is a internet hookup! I had my Bell in the country where I couldn't get cable and now am being screwed by two large companies! It's time to deregulate and open up the air waves to American providers and get some actual competition where there is none right now!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Ken](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to deanpm](#) 19 people liked this.

I agree, the first thing we should do is get rid of the CRTC, I believe it is the main reason for high fees. Cell phones, internet, cable, print, the whole works. There is really nothing wrong with Canadian competitiveness, just the regulations that they are bing forced to comply with. Maybe take the CRTC budget and give it to local broadcasters

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 [faithstewart](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Ken](#) 9 people liked this.

Lets all write to our members of parliment get rid of the CRTC then sell the CBC.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 [Tish](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to faithstewart](#) 10 people liked this.

Yes... right. Let's sell the CBC like we've sold all other great Canadian institutions and resources. All if not most of our rail lines are owned by international players - we can't get local transport train schedules improved without a fight because their corporate profits must come first. Most of our oil developments are being developed by internal conglomerates because we sold them. Almost all of our metal processors and mines are owned by internal companies, too. On the retail side, our nation icon of over 250 years - HBC - is majority owned by an American. Walmart and their cheap, toxic import products are shutting out the local providers. Most of our tv programs are bulk produced by the US.

As a small country, we just don't have the scale to produce on a competitive basis. So yes. Let's just give up and sell off another company that provides a Canadian perspective, has Canadian interests at heart, and provides Canadian jobs.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 [Ruth](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Tish](#) 11 people liked this.

I totally agree with Trish. We've sold off nearly everything that is or was Canadian owned and operated. The CBC is something to be proud of. I watch the CBC and local news every day sometimes more than once. I listen to CBC radio nearly every day. Where else are you going to hear Stewart McLean and the Vinyl Cafe or see our Canadian figure skaters with famous Canadian hockey players. I like the discussion shows and seeing current authors and other people of note on George Strom.... and so on. I love our Canadian comedians like Ron James and the Winnipeg Comedy Festival. Where are we going to hear about the up and coming Canadian musical talents but on our CBC radio? I like watching the local CTV news but that is all that is local now. It has been reduced to old time movies to save money. I read a local newspaper every day and the front section is the one I want first to gather more details on something from the day prior. CBC used to have small local substations, such as in Windsor where I grew up. It was the only thing Canadian on the air waves.

I need the CBC first for national content and I need the local station for local content. They are not the same nor do they give the same information. As far as paying for it - remove some of the satellite stations the subscribers don't want and include the local one and we're fine.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 [Sandy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Ruth](#) 2 people liked this.

I completely agree with your comments. Could not have said it better myself

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 [Ruth](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Tish](#) 7 people liked this.

I totally agree with Trish. We've sold off nearly everything that is or was Canadian owned and operated. The CBC is something to be proud of. I watch the CBC and local news every day sometimes more than once. I listen to CBC radio nearly every day. Where else are you going to hear Stewart McLean and the Vinyl Cafe or see our Canadian figure skaters with famous Canadian hockey players. I like the discussion shows and seeing current authors and other people of note on George Ström.... and so on. I love our Canadian comedians like Ron James and the Winnipeg Comedy Festival. Where are we going to hear about the up and coming Canadian musical talents but on our CBC radio? I like watching the local CTV news but that is all that is local now. It has been reduced to old time movies to save money. I read a local newspaper every day and the front section is the one I want first to gather more details on something from the day prior. CBC used to have small local substations, such as in Windsor where I grew up. It was the only thing Canadian on the air waves.

I need the CBC first for national content and I need the local station for local content. They are not the same nor do they give the same information. As far as paying for it - remove some of the satellite stations the subscribers don't want and include the local one and we're fine.

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[Like](#)

 [eric](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Tish](#) 1 person liked this.

hear hear!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [BOB](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to faithstewart](#) 4 people liked this.

YES DUMP THE CRTC! BUT FIRST SELL CBC TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, AND GET RID OF THE CBC STAFF (IGNOREANT ARROGANT AND PAID TO MUCH! (BY THE CANADIAN PUBLIC.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [geraldtestar](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to faithstewart](#) 1 person liked this.

When are you leaving for the US?

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [NecessaryEvil](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to deanpm](#) 18 people liked this.

Whoa man, hold on. Deregulation has lead to super high prices over the last while. I'm not sure that's the answer we're looking for. I'm getting angry just reading what Bell and Shaw are making you pay, but letting them run free probably isn't a good idea.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Patricia](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to NecessaryEvil](#) 6 people liked this.

You may be right - I think th best thing is to get rid of Bell whatever way we can - I dumped them long ago - they should be charged with theft.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Bruce](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Patricia](#) 11 people liked this.

There is NO-WAY that Bell would get away with what they`ve done in Canada in there own country.Makes me think about being a Canadian,we have the right to choose,don`t we?The Canadian BANKS didn`t give us a choice.They charge YOU

to take YOUR money, & now it`s your TV.Is this a democracy,or another form of a dictator[s].It is theft,not just Bell,there`s Shaw & Rogers too.Maybe some American competition would do them right....@ American prices.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Bruce](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Patricia](#) 2 people liked this.

There is NO-WAY that Bell would get away with what they`ve done in Canada in there own country.Makes me think about being a Canadian,we have the right to choose,don`t we?The Canadian BANKS didn`t give us a choice.They charge YOU to take YOUR money, & now it`s your TV.Is this a democracy,or another form of a dictator[s].It is theft,not just Bell,there`s Shaw,& Rogers too.Maybe some American competition would do them right

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Like



[John A](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to deanpm](#) 5 people liked this.

Actually deanpm if you check I think you will find that the new fee is the CRTC that is charging the fee, which as I understand is to go to the local stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



[vicshaw](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to deanpm](#) 4 people liked this.

I've never heard of anyone having to pay for basic cable just to get internet access. I've had just internet from Shaw in the past no problem. I think you should contact them and find out what's going on!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Patricia](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to deanpm](#) 1 person liked this.

deanpm - I really really like this.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Noel J](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 52 people liked this.

I agree that Canadians as asked to pay too much but disagree that local TV can or should float their boats on ad money alone.

Canadian networks / local stations pay for the licenses for TV programming that Canadians watch. They pay to produce and air local programming that is required of them under CRTC condition of license. They contend with a multi-channel reality that divides ad revenue among hundreds of stations. They pay for the programming that attracts Canadians to Cable and Satellite who pay nothing.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Vance](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Noel J](#) 44 people liked this.

I totally agree with Bill and Noel J. Yes we pay too much but we are paying the cable companies who are charging a fee for services (basic cable) they get for free. If it is to carry on like that, the networks deserve a cut that can be used for local programming.

[Flag](#)

Like



[rehfer](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Vance](#) 47 people liked this.

The Rogers, or Videotron or Shaw or Bell Television funds contribute to most of the Canadian produced variety drama etc television. The local TV stations already get a

subsidy from Cable and Satellite network providers and I as a cable customer am already paying a 1.5% levee on my cable bill to the local programming improvement fund which goes to networks like CTV and Global. On top of all of that my income taxes go to fund the CBC and for every cell phone I have (2) a portion of my monthly bill goes to a fund which is used by Bell Alliant and TELUS to reduce the cost of local telephone in remote areas of Canada. There are already tons of CRTC mandated hidden levees and socialist redistribution of consumer fees to the latest special needs group. CTV and Global don't need more money to produce there local news which isn't by the way very local if you don't live in Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver, Montreal, Halifax, Edmonton, Calgary or Vancouver. The give their signals away over the air for free and hope to make a profit selling advertising. THAT is their business model and the basis upon which their annual license is renewed and has been for 60 years. Now that advertising sales are down and bay street and Goldman Sachs who own a big piece of Global are still demanding good returns on investment CTV and Global want to take money from Cable and Satellites operating income to pad their returns. Cable and Satellite uptake was not greatly improved by the local channels. Cable and Satellite uptake was driven by the channels you can not get off air. I mounted an digital antenna in west Toronto last month. Global and CTV are giving me their news and American programming for free. And on top of that I can watch all of their expensive American episodic television for free over the internet from ANYWHERE in the world because they give that away for free too. Curiously they hold back their news broadcasts from the web... This is a money grab by the TV stations PURE AND SIMPLE.

Flag

Like

 [jwholmes](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 18 people liked this.

You obviously do not work in the small local television business, otherwise you would realize that there is no local television production other than news. There is no money coming from cable stations into the bank account of the local stations to produce sports, comedy or drama programming. All of that money goes to independant producers and production companies that creat those programs to air on the mostly networks. As for the 1.5% LPIF that is only a temporary band aid that is to stop this August, it should also be noted that Rogers et al were told by the CRTC to not pass this cost along to the subscribers and they ingorned that and as always stuck it to the people that have help build their empire.

Flag

Like

 [rehfer](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to jwholmes](#) 13 people liked this.

Mmm no I don't work for a local TV station but I bet you do. Have you declared your vested interest in this matter. I do not beleive that Cable and Satellite companies were told not to pass the LPIF on to the customers. The CRTC website says in their FAQ section that they beleived that the Cable and Satellite companies could absorb this cost. The CRTC website did not say that the Cable and Satellite companies must absorb the cost. Regardless if it is shown on the invoice or not the Cable and Satellite subscriber is paying that fee. It comes out of the money the consumer spends or does a magic fairy give the Cable and Sat companies money to pay the LPIF. The nuts and bolts of this discussion is that the holder of a license to provide a service given away for free over the air for free whose business model is to sell advertising to pay for the prodcution and transmission of television programming wants companies who give that same license holder broader audience and substitute signals over competing US signals to pay for transmitting and improving that signal to a large audience? AS for local news please poll the people of New Brunswick and PEI about their local news on CTV. It's broadcast from Halifax is all about Halifax and pays little attention to anything outside of Halifax. If they want local news they have to get the provincial news from the CBC in Fredericton paid for by tax dollars because it is a social benefit I assume.

Even right here in the GTA we get no local news from any of the media outlets unless its a murder or major care accident. It's all about Toronto. I get my local news from my community newspaper website because we don't even have a local radio station to get local news from. 700,000 people in my city and I already don't get local news even off air. The local news arguement is a ruse designed to support this arguement. CityTV owned by Rogers is not asking for more money because it needs to produce the news.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Tim](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to jwholmes](#) 8 people liked this.

Bottom line, let the consumers choose whether they want the local channels or not. People that do can go ahead and pay for them. I don't so I will not pay. 680news is 10x more reliable and up to the minute and other than news the local channels have nothing I need or can't get elsewhere.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Peter Tattersall](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to jwholmes](#) 7 people liked this.

I doubt very much that _small_ local stations will ever provide much in the way of locally produced content beyond news whether or not a local levy were to be imposed.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Evelyn Tattersall](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Peter Tattersall](#) 9 people liked this.

The local A Channel here in London went from having a News program at noon and a morning News/Info program every day to having no news in the morning or at noon. That means that the first time they have up-to-date news is at 6 pm. This is just wrong and it is due to the fact that they can't afford to provide this service. This is what is they are fighting for. We have already lost some of the local TV stations and I for one don't want my local news from Kitchener or worse, Toronto!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [jwholmes](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Peter Tattersall](#) 6 people liked this.

Peter: I'm not saying that smaller local station will produce much content beyond news anymore. There was a time when it was part of the licence requirement that they produce 14 hours a year on top of news, but in 1990 the CRTC caved to broadcaster and CAB (Canadian Association of Broadcasters) lobbying and dropped the need to produce local programs. At the station I work at it happened immediately all shows wer cancelled and the hosts and tech staff were moved into the news operation. Yet the CRTC did nothing and continue to do nothing , why, because the people that sit on the CRTC are all former managers and all they care about is the bottom line and not the product of local television.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [shirleydye](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 15 people liked this.

that is all great but we need local TV too, it is good for the community. And xable & satilite should carry local small stations FREE on in every community. I have satilite and could not get my local TV station. I hated it. Then our local station shut down.

Half of the TV viewers could not get it and it affects their ability to sell

advertising.

[Flag](#)

 [rehfer](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to shirleydye](#) 13 people liked this.

Another thought the Cable companies, not sure about satellite since I've never subscribrd, provide more relevant local news to Canadians that CTV and Global do. In the suburbs around Toronto approximately 2 million people have to get local TV news from Rogers Cable because CTV and GLOBAL are fixated on David Miller and the TTC, If you want to know what is happening in Brampton (11th largest city in Canada) you have to turn to commercial free or almost commercial free Rogers Community Channel for first local news. Rogers provides that out of the fees the already collect because it is mandated in their CRTC license just as it is mandated in Globals license and CTVs license to provide local news from the fees they collect from advertising sales. CTV and Global took the licenses but now they want the cake too. Give me a system where I pay a flat rate for network access and they pay per channel for every channel I want. Let the public have their free choice instead of ramming social decisions down our throats.

[Flag](#)

 [Peter Tattersall](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 5 people liked this.

Major stories in outlying areas will be covered, but it's hard to provide news about small segments of the market when the news content is restricted to 30 minutes. In any case, neither local nor national news is presented in any depth - again, due to the 30, or occasionally 60, minute time limit. Support your local print media if you want to get detailed news about local events.

[Flag](#)

 [rehfer](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Peter Tattersall](#) 4 people liked this.

I agree Peter CTV and Global chose to make this fight about local TV, but CTV and Global are after money for every subscriber Cab and Sats have. Doesn't matter if the sub actually gets a local newscast or not so in reality somebody in Sudbury and someone in Barrie would be paying for 'local' news in Toronto, Vancouver, Halifax, etc and crappy once in a blue moon regional coverage in Barrie or Sudbury or even Peel region. We already pay for local news provided by Rogers it's included in our basic cable fees as is CPAC and any other CRTC welfare scheme that's been dreamed up in the last 60 years.

[Flag](#)

 [Carl B](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 2 people liked this.

Indeed. If money from cable subscribers in my region is to go to local stations, that should be limited to stations with actual broadcast TV studios in my region. Those stations would be WPBS-TV, WWNY, WWTI and the local CBC affiliate. Nothing on CTV nor Global is locally produced. Give the money to WPBS, at least (unlike Global) they put out a watchable OTA signal in this neck of the woods.

[Flag](#)



Andrew ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Carl B](#)

Carl, I hate to say that what you are asking for...give the money to WPBS, or WWNY, or WWTI...is to give money to American broadcasters. Any station with call letters starting with a "W" is coming out of the States.

[Flag](#)

Like



terrymckinney ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Peter Tattersall](#)

The MSM does a terrible job of delivering the news, be it local or national or world wide. It is all delivered from a specific viewpoint that is dictated by a select few people with their own personal view which they demand be followed by their employees. Have you heard a single story from a palestinian or muslim perspective, for example? I get more news from the Georgia Straight once a week than from the MSM daily. Television news is just Olympic sales pitching for the last 6 months.

[Flag](#)

Like



Carl B ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 5 people liked this.

I'm in Kingston. There isn't a Global or CTV studio within a hundred mile radius. Closest are Toronto or Ottawa, respectively. CBS and ABC stations are more local than this.

[Flag](#)

Like



rehfer ★ [1 month ago in reply to Carl B](#) 12 people liked this.

That's exactly what I said in another post. Local news in Canada means local news for Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax and St. John's. There may be a few more smaller cities that have local news like London Kitchener-Waterloo and Regina but the vast majority of cities and towns never get local news from CTV or Global. Carl I am sure you appreciate that once a year Global sends the weatherman to Kingston to do his spots. Now that's local news. 1.2 million people in Canada's sixth (Mississauga, On) and 11th (Brampton) largest cities. Add them together and their population rivals Vancouver. On tonight's news in Toronto no mention of either city. Another 900,000 people in the region above Toronto called York. Nothing in tonight's news from there. No local commercial tv stations, no local commercial radio stations - no local commercial news. We have to get local news from our community cable channels and community newspapers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bob ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 8 people liked this.

I have to agree with 'rehfer's' train of thought throughout this discussion. I live in North Bay and think that 'local TV' is a myth. CTV took over the old local station, closed it and now all broadcasting for our area comes from CTV in Sudbury and cover all North Eastern Ontario. I live closer to Toronto or Ottawa than I do to the outer edges of the broadcast area as it is now. And, neither Global nor the CBC have any broadcast facilities in the North. If the Canadian networks want us to pay for "local" coverage, they might want to re-open "local" stations, sell some advertising and give us some service. The CRTC might also

consider dropping the requirement that I pay for stations that I don't watch (ie) perpetual CTV news, perpetual parliament, etc etc. I think the major networks make a healthy profit as do Rogers/Shaw/Cogeco and the last thing we need are more fees for the meager service we get now.

[Flag](#)

Like



terrymckinney ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Bob](#)

With all media in Canada owned by the same people there is no room for any station to deliver a really free discussion of any issues. Perhaps if they'd done a better job they wouldn't be out with their collective hats in their hands. If Izzy Asper doesn't sign off on it it ain't news.

[Flag](#)

Like



rehfer ★ [1 month ago in reply to shirleydye](#) 4 people liked this.

Was the local TV station available on antenna? If it wasn't the local TV station never had an interest in selling to those viewers in the first place. Their broadcast license was for an Over the Air station. Not a Cable/Sat Specialty license.

As for local news please poll the people of New Brunswick and PEI about their local news on CTV. It's broadcast from Halifax is all about Halifax and pays little attention to anything outside of Halifax. The local CTV affiliates in Moncton and Sydney NS etc were shutdown 30 years ago. If they want local news they have to get the provincial news from the CBC in Fredericton paid for by tax dollars because it is a social benefit I assume. Even right here in the Greater Toronto Area we get no local news from any of the media outlets unless it's a murder or major car accident. It's all about Toronto. I get my local news from my community newspaper website because we don't even have a local radio station to get local news from. 700,000 people in my city and I already don't get local news even off air. The local news argument is a ruse designed to support this argument. CityTV owned by Rogers is not asking for more money because it needs to produce the news.

[Flag](#)

Like



Andrew ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 11 people liked this.

rehfer; I live in one of those small cities you just mentioned that receive programming from Halifax 250 miles away. Not one minute of local programming because the station was shut down 30 years ago! You certainly know what you are talking about! The irony in Sydney N.S. is that CTV takes 10 Million dollars a year in local advertising without any local programming for the last 30 years. I thought the CRTC had a policy that was supposed to prevent this from happening?

[Flag](#)

Like



rehfer ★ [1 month ago in reply to Andrew](#) 12 people liked this.

CKCW shutdown when I was a kid and that was the end of local news from a source other than the CBC for us Monctonians. Everything came from Halifax and ATV now CTV Atlantic. I remember a cousin from Halifax was shocked when he learned our 'local' news in Moncton was his local news in Halifax. And CTV and Global have huge cajones trying to play this grab for Rogers and Shaw operating profits off as a stab to save local television. CTV

and Global easily each doubled Rogers on their spending for foreign produced American television this year. If I remember correctly last year Rogers reported a \$250 million loss in their media division which they presumably paid for with the operating profits of Rogers Cable and Rogers Wireless. Let Ken Thompson pay for the losses at CTV and Asper's kids pay for the losses at Global. Either that or stop buying every flavour of CSI and "Law and Order" under the sun to run on your primetime lineup. Spend that money on local TV if "LOCAL TV MATTERS".

Flag

Like

 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago in reply to](#) [rehfer](#) 14 people liked this.

That is the best answer I have read yet rehfer. Ken Thompson and Izzy Asper created this mess with the blessing of the CRTC. Now they want the CRTC to help their financial situation by imposing a fee for carriage tv tax on cable and satellite consumers. This is simply a bailout and will solve nothing except give CTV, Global and the CBC \$450 million in revenue.

If the CRTC wants to solve this "emotional crisis" local tv matters issue, they could A.

Tell the Broadcasters to solve their own mess by cutting down on the purchasing of every American tv show that exists. B Take a percentage of money from the huge profits their specialty channels make and transfer it to the affiliate local tv stations. C. Live within their means like every other Canadian business or shut down. D. Get the CRTC to lobby Parliament to change the Broadcasting Act and put these "ocal channels" on cable/satellite as specialty channels.

NO to a carte blanc tv tax on consumers!

Flag

Like

 *fordomatic69* ★ [1 month ago in reply to](#) [Guest](#) 6 people liked this.

Absolutely could not have said it any better. I don't think the CRTC is going to get very many people agreeing with fee for carriage... this is just a time and money wasting effort because they do not want to make this decision in the first place.

Flag

Like

 *rehfer* ★ [1 month ago in reply to](#) [fordomatic69](#) 3 people liked this.

And they are not ultimately going to make this decision. For the first time in a very long time the Cabinet has told the CRTC to present their findings to cabinet who will make the final decision. CRTC is a directorate of the minister for Heritage. A business decision making body is reporting to the minister of Heritage? That should tell everyone what the CRTC is about. If it was about consumers or business this commission would report to the Industry minister.

Flag

Like

 *Carl B* ★ [1 month ago in reply to](#) [rehfer](#) 4 people liked this.

There used to be a ministry of consumer and corporate affairs; it no longer exists. There is a need to separate the task of consumer protection from any ministry which advocates for industry (mostly large, well-heeled, well-connected corporate Bay Street) or for anything other than the interest of consumers - anything less is a clear conflict of interest. The political patronage appointments to organisations like Competition Bureau or CRTC also need to stop.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [geraldtestar](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to fordomatic69](#)

Just think. We are going to have to pay someone at the CRTC to read all of this stuff!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [P Wilson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to geraldtestar](#)

Do you seriously think the CRTC cares what we all think? This is just lip service to give the appearance they care what we think. They made their decision months ago... the people don't factor into their decision whatsoever...

[Flag](#)

Like



[terrymckinney](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) [in reply to rehfer](#)

Well said. CBC had one decent show, Intelligence, and they sold it to the states. The fact that there are two people making the decisions for the whole country puts the lie to their whole collective scam. CBC gets our money whether we like it or not and if your not into Rita McNeil and the Nova Scotia miners choir there's nothing there. CTV and Global are as similar as spam and more spam.

[Flag](#)

Like



[rehfer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Andrew](#) 4 people liked this.

Andrew the reason why the CRTC did not stop ATV from shutting down their regional local news operations? Liberals appointed by liberals running the CRTC making deals with connected folks who run private media outlets. I am quite sure the public in Moncton were not consulted before the CRTC allowed the shutdown to happen. Same reason why Ted Rogers and the Shaw families got Cable licenses to begin with. Well actually Ted Rogers bought his first system according to the bio that was on TV tonight.

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Like



[Andrew](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to rehfer](#)

8 people liked this.

rehfer;

Again i have to agree with you as to why the Canadian conventional television service is in such bad shape. The CRTC created this mess by catering to their friends CTV and Global; not to mention their friends in government!

Local interests were ignored at the expense of corporate greed.

[Flag](#)

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vicshaw ★ [1 month ago in reply to shirleydye](#) 2 people liked this.

Well, if half of the tv viewers wanted that station, then they shouldn't have been subscribing to satellite, shows how much they really care about local tv doesn't it, so much so that they subscribed to satellite for other channels instead of supporting the local ota channel.

[Flag](#)

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Jennifer K ★ [1 month ago in reply to vicshaw](#) 1 person liked this.

Well, I am not disagreeing that if you want your local station to survive, you need to support it. However, I live in the country and have all my life and we had what was called "country cable". All we had was Global, CBC, CHRO, TVO and TVA. CHRO was our local station as it came out of Pembroke and I am in Renfrew. We subscribe to satellite because we were tired of getting these channels only and the reception was not always reliable with rabbit ears. care about local tv and I supported A when it was CHRO, The New RO, A Channel and then A. A moved from Pembroke shortly after it became the New RO. I miss this channel as it covered Ottawa and The Ottawa Valley too and had a newsroom that still operated in Pembroke. Now, A has no 6pm, 11pm and weekend news, has little news from the valley and cut back the operations in Pembroke I think to 1 or 2 staff members. Satellite gives the viewer more choices of what channels to watch but they cannot support their local channel if 1) they can't get it on conventional tv and 2) if the channel is not operational.

[Flag](#)

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Carl B ★ [1 month ago in reply to Jennifer K](#)

I think CHRO still has two staff members in Pembroke only because it must in order to keep the license. For all intents and purposes, it originates in Ottawa's Byward Market or out-of-region entirely. So much for "saving local TV".

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Louise ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 4 people liked this.

I agree with rehfer. We are already paying for local television. Why should I pay for the bonuses (big ones) of the executives of Global and CTV? I know that they want to look good to their shareholders too. Again, why at my expense? Why should I support these? They don't make my stations any better. I don't get better service. So, why should I pay for it?

[Flag](#)

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digi_girl ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 2 people liked this.

Rehfer - you say "CTV and Global don't need more money to produce there local news which isn't by the way very local if you don't live in Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver, Montreal, Halifax, Edmonton, Calgary or Vancouver". Global has stations in those markets so of course the news is going to be local TO THOSE MARKETS! That's what the CRTC mandates! They are not going to air local news from Perteborough, Kingston, or Brockville because they don't have stations in

those markets!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Knut41](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to rehfer](#) 2 people liked this.

There is nothing free about TV particularly news! You want to be informed from different sources you need to pay the folks that provide news services. The pie has become too small by all the cable / satellite channels so that the private broadcaster you must provide news by regulations cant give this service away for free for the cable / satellite companies to make a porofit.

[Flag](#)

Like



[rehfer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Knut41](#) 14 people liked this.

Fact: CTV and Global are must carry channels for Cable and Satellite under CRTC rules.

Fact: CTV and Global licenses are for over the air broadcasting not Specialty Channel licenses.

Fact: the business model for the licenses that CTV and Global have is to give the product away for free in hopes of selling advertising to cover the costs. Ad \$ are down now because of the recession but this recession will not last forever. When it ends will CTV and Global give back money. NO they'll pad their profits. If they want to be paid for their signal they should apply for sepcialty licenses, give up their OTA broadcast licenses, give up their must carry status and operate like their very own very successful specialty channels (TSN, History) i.e. if there is demand Cable and Satellite will distribute the signals on the networks that Cable and Satellite built. If there is no demand then they won't be carried. Given that they spend so much on US TV I am sure most people will be so enthralled they will choose to pay to have them.

Fact: local news from CTV and Global is only local news for a very few large cities in Canada. - Certainly isn't local in Peel Region Ontario. Our local news is on Cable Community channel. Certainly isn't local anywhere in New Brunswick, PEI or most of Nova Scotia. It's all about Halifax there. Where is local news for Kingston Ontario or Manitoba outside Winnipeg or BC outside Vancouver. No local news from CTV for Sherbrooke it comes from Montreal. There isn't any the local broadcasts in these areas they disappeared decades ago.

Fact CTV and Global easily each doubled Rogers on their spending for foreign produced American television this year.

I beleive CTV and Global both had an operating profit last year.

If I remember correctly last year Rogers reported a \$250 million loss in their media division which they presumably paid for with the operating profits of Rogers Cable and Rogers Wireless.

If Rogers can pay their Media losses from the profits of their other divisions then;

Let Ken Thompson pay for the losses at CTV and Izzy Asper's kids pay for the losses at Global.

Either that or stop buying every flavour of CSI and "Law and Order" under the sun to run on your primetime lineup.

Thompson's and Asper's should spend that money on local TV if "LOCAL TV

MATTERS".

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [C. David Tupper](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to](#) [rehfer](#) 7 people liked this.

Fact CTV owns a whole bunch of specialty channels. They bought out the former CHUM-CITY channels like Space, Bravo, Much, etc. Global also owns a bunch.

CTV is owned by Bell and which is owned by a teachers pension plan, BC I think..

Global is owned by a company that owns a bunch of local newspapers. The papers are losing money.

Local news is expensive to produce because of the unions. One city I know, not Toronto, it costs them a million or more for their news anchor. That's his salary plus expenses, like a chauffeur.

It costs you \$50K a year just to get a guy who lays out the cable for the camera.

He does only the camera cable. Lights and sound are other guys. You have one guy who just changes light bulbs.

Look at CBC, etc when they do an interview on the street for the news. They have 4-6 people. CITY has 1 maybe 2, 3 if a live feed. Different union rules.

Global was never designed as a local station it was an Ontario regional network.

US shows are cheap as they are dumped outside the US. ie they charge a cheaper rate to show it in Toronto than they do for Buffalo. Toronto is much larger.

As for local news. The burbs like Brampton and Mississauga will never get local news, Nothing happens there. They probably don't even have a local paper, except some rag handed out free.

How can places like Sydney NS have \$10 milion in local advertising. The economy couldn't support it. Local stations don't have much local ads as the small stores can't afford the ad rates.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [rehfer](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to C. David Tupper](#) 8 people liked this.

Global is owned by CanWest Communications which has one losing newspaper The National Post which has been losing money since it was created 7 years ago. It tried to move the money losing Post into the company under which it holds it's specialty TV channels and many city papers across the country. Goldman Sachs which owns a large debt stake in CanWest's specialty TV and local Newspaper division is trying to stop that because the specialty TV and local newspaper company is making money and Goldman Sachs does not want the National Post debt.

The reason why Globemedia is called CTVglobemedia now and not Bell Globemedia is because 4 years ago Bell sold its controlling stake in the company to Torstar (owners of Toronto Star) 20%, Ontario Teachers Pension plan 20% and Ken Thompson 40%. Bell as of Dec 2005 held 20%.

Records in media publishing and investor news rags will show that

CTV Globemedia spent more than double what CityTV did for fall American programming. CityTV spend was about \$88million and CTV and Global each were over \$150million for American prime time programming. Now that's cheap. That money would pay for local news a 100 fold.

If the burbs and the far flung regional centers will never get local news coverage then there is no way CTV and Global should ever be allowed to rape Cab and Sat's coffers (from regional centers and the burbs) to pay for a service they have no intention of providing.

Global may have been a regional Ontario network at one time but now. They like to think of themselves as Canada's second largest private media network with local stations across the country just like CTV. They are not regional any more.

[Flag](#)

Like



philip ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 4 people liked this.

Hey Rehfer, You sound like you know too much to not be a Rogers employee. I think you have been planted to taint the discussions. I am in London On. and in this area we have lost CKNX Wingham and A channel London has scaled down way too much.

I do not want to lose our Kitchener station but Hamilton has already been scaled down.

When I lived in Rivers Manitoba we were 30 miles west of our local TV station in Brandon Manitoba which has recently closed down.

You should come clean with who you work for Rogers, Bell, Cogeco?

[Flag](#)

Like



rehfer ★ [1 month ago in reply to philip](#) 6 people liked this.

Independant Process Consultant currently looking for a gig. Know of any openings?

Avid follower of <http://www.digitalhome.ca/forum/index.php>, Investor (hold shares of most utilities and media outlets in Canada though my RSPs), living on finite income, fiscal conservative and liberatarian.

I propped "Give me a system where I pay a flat rate for network access and then pay per channel for every channel I want. Let the public have their free choice instead of ramming social decisions down our throats."

CRTC won't like my plan because then why do we need the CRTC.

Cable won't like my plan and neither will media because it would prevent bundling one good channel with 10 other crappy channels and selling all of them in a bundle that can't be broken. My plan would reduce Cable and Satellite bills and Cable, Satellite and Media revenues. Not good for the businesses but good for the consumer.

I like local news and I get it on Rogers Cable 10 community channel and pay for it every month with my subsription to Rogers Cable. The 'local' news from CTV Global and CITYTV in Toronto has very little to do with my life. All they talk about is the TTC or David Miller or the Toronto garbage strike or the Leaside Girls Hockey Assoc. Why do I care about that? I don't live in Toronto and have not even been in Toronto for over a year. I live in Peel Region. We have our own local

issues that never get covered on CTV Global or CITYTV.

I am foremost a libertarian and with the exception of essential services like (health care, oil, gas, electricity, gasoline, water, sewer, primary education) I detest government/industry appointed boards that ram social decisions down our throats and severely limit the free choice of the consumer. Worse I have consumption taxes like the GST, PST and the Dalton Sucks Tax - HST. We should have a flat income tax and no other taxes period.

I fear no matter what happens the CRTC will not have the power to prevent Rogers, Bell, Shaw (cable or direct to home satellite), Videotron, Eastlink or Cogeco from passing any charges for "LOCAL TV" on to the consumer. If the CRTC does not have the power to prevent the downloading then I end up paying for a service I never receive and ultimately I end up paying for your LOCAL TV.

If you want to see your LOCAL TV on your TV then you pay for it. Don't force me to pay for yours because I am already paying for mine.

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Like



Wayne B ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 3 people liked this.

I agree with rehfer -- Give me a system where I pay a flat rate for network access and then pay per channel for every channel I want. Let the public have their free choice instead of ramming social decisions down our throats.

The CRTC's primary task to make services available to all Canadians. For many people there is no wireline or wireless telephone service available and therefore no Internet service -- these people can't even call 911!

Many others have basic telephone service but no high speed Internet service available.

[Flag](#)

Like



rr1 ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 1 person liked this.

What type of antennaa did you use? and they work for hd too!
Thanks in Advance

[Flag](#)

Like



Andrew ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Vance](#)

Vance, I think that Bill and Noel J are a little naive in their thinking. When you pay a cable company for basic tv, you are receiving a mix of broadcast and specialty channels. The fee you pay goes to pay for the network bringing you your channels, fee for carriage of the specialty channels, and yes...some profit. Without making money, there would be no cable companies. The real issue is the CRTC. They set what channels MUST be carried in a basic package, thus driving up the price.

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Gerry ★ [1 month ago in reply to Noel J](#) 3 people liked this.

I think that cable and satellite companies should pay their own share. We already pay enough. I refuse to pay more that I already do.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Geoff* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Noel J](#) 2 people liked this.

I would like to see CTV and Global open their books. This is nothing more than a bandage solution and in a year from now, the CRTC will be summoning the broadcasters and cable companies back to Ottawa for another round of "Save Local Tv tax!"

And, in the infinite wisdom of Konrad and the gang, charging consumers more to give to Ken Thompson at CTV and the Asper boys at Global will bite everyone in the derriere as consumers like me who never watch sniff, sniff(local tv)will cancel everything and stick with the Internet for all my activities!

If local tv can not survive it is going to die in the end unless consumers keep feeding \$ into CRTC "tv taxes"!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *digi_girl* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Geoff](#) 1 person liked this.

Geoff - the aggregate financial data is available on the CRTC website - it was released on Tuesday. Basically it shows that conventional broadcasters's losses have increased while cable companies' profits have soared.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Frank* ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 26 people liked this.

Dido to Susan's comment... the only difference is that I'm already fed up with it all and canceled all my subscription tv and I'm happy with the rabbit ears, but at this rate it doesn't look like it's going to last as well.

Stop forcing Cable/Satellite companies to carry the local channels and allow local broadcasters to charge for their channels AND ALLOW THE CONSUMER TO PICK WHICH CHANNELS THEY WANT.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *rehfer* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Frank](#) 5 people liked this.

Frank if your on an analog antenna yes it will end in 2013 but if you on a digital antenna with digital receivers connected to or built into your TVs your good as long as CTV and Global do not abandon their over the air licenses. I live in Peel Region, Ontario and have a digital antenna as do more and more of my neighbours. Regardless of our source for 'other channels' we can get all of the major American networks as well as all of the Canadian Networks without Satellite or Cable. Now if one were to get a free to air dish and a cracked receiver you might be able to get hundreds of channels from the US too. Now I hear the cracked satellite systems can automatically download new descrambler codes from the internet if they get hit by the satellite network. \$500 for a cracked satellite setup is cheaper than what I pay Rogers for one year.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jennifer K* ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#)

I at one time had Starchoice and traded it in for Bell just so I would be able to watch ppv's for free every month and got a card that I could program from my computer. It was great in the beginning until the codes came and my card had to be programmed more frequently. It got so bad that during a 3 hour ppv, I had to re-program the card 30 times just to see it and I ended up seeing 45 minutes of the 3 hour ppv. I finally gave up and went back to Starchoice which is now Shaw Direct. Yes, there are new cards available for \$200 and up but what kind of deal is that if eventually, they jam the signal up so badly that this card becomes

unusable? TV antenna tv will become a thing of the past in 3 years and we will be forced to get a tv top box for cable viewing or going to satellite. Whatever way you view tv, how can you view your local tv station if it does not exist because it has closed down and you are forced to watch another station in another town, hoping to get some for of local news.

Flag

Like

 *rehfer* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Jennifer K](#) 2 people liked this.

I read in another of your posts that you gave up on your rabbit ear years ago but that does not mean that over the air digital TV and use of antenna will end in 3 years. All local Toronto Over the Air stations including CTV, Global, CBC, Sun, City, OMNI1 and OMNI2 and all American OTA broadcasters from Buffalo can be received in Toronto with a \$20 digital antenna and a \$35 preamp. Of course your TVs have to have a digital tuner built in (most HD tvs have a digital tuner) or a digital converter \$99 for every TV that does not have a digital tuner.

I am sure your options in Renfrew will be much less but whatever you have on analog now should be available on digital soon if not already.

Conversion from analog to digital transmissions has already begun in Ontario and unless the OTA channels want to abandon their licenses to convert to on 'distribution network' specialty channels your local OTA channels will be available for the foreseeable future.

Search the web for Free to Air satellite in Ottawa and you will likely find shops that sell digital antennae.

Also switch to the local tv in a digital age discussion. Looks like CRTC is looking for input on a scheme to rebroad casat CTV Global and CBC on a satellite network perpetuating the same error they made 60 years ago with cable and the same broadcasters.

AS for FTA satellite schemes, I have never owned one but I know people who have the newer systems that reauthorize immediately though the internet and they claim they work flawlessly. I can not vouch for their honesty though.

Flag

Like

 *Matthew* ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 23 people liked this.

I agree totally as well! It's ridiculous what we have to pay - it's the same with cell phones. You don't see the same outrageous fees for either in the US - why? Because they don't have the monopolies that we have to deal with where they feel they can force us to accept whatever they decide to do because we don't have a choice. I'm coming very close to canceling TV completely.

I support local television charging cable providers - but as we're already being charged for them it shouldn't affect us at all.

Flag

Like

 *Ernie* ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 16 people liked this.

1. The local TV stations get a lot more exposure from cable and satellite providers than off air broadcasting which should mean that their advertisers get more exposure. This should lead to more revenue if they have the right contracts with their advertisers which I doubt that they do. Local TV stations are basically lazy - their newscasts sometimes appear that they get the content from the newspapers.

2. All the local TV stations, via their network affiliation, get to simulcast any programs from the US which provides them with further exposure for their advertisers which should lead to more revenue.

3. If cable and satellite companies have to pay for local TV coverage we, the customers, should have the option of whether we want the service and pay for it. Added to this the local TV stations and their respective networks should not be allowed to simulcast US programs. I get very tired of seeing the same commercials from Leons Furniture and the Brick, etc.
4. I find that our TV industry just likes to take the easiest way out of their problems. There does not seem to be any move on their part to be inovative.

[Flag](#)

Like



[walther](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Ernie](#) 14 people liked this.

Local TV Stations were here first. The cable companies stole their signal to get their busineses started years ago and now still try to get their signal for nothing.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Bryan](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to walther](#) 10 people liked this.

If I remember right, when cable distribution went into an area they were obliged by the CRTC to carry local TV channels as a license condition.

[Flag](#)

Like



[exsudburyguy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to walther](#) 9 people liked this.

Walther. Cable Companies didn't steal their signal. They were had to carry it, after CTV and Global lobbied the CRTC to force the cable companies to carry the signals on the basic package, in the low numbers. The networks wanted the exposure and the simulcasting. Now they whine. Give me a break.

[Flag](#)

Like



[walther](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to exsudburyguy](#) 3 people liked this.

Before Canadian Cable Television Service became available across the entire country, areas without such cable service ,viewers obtained their broadcast signals through TV mounted antennae.

If better service was needed, roof mounted antennae were available and used. Dish type satelite signal receivers became available and were used in outlying areas.

Viewers close to the border were fortunate to get clear FREE signals. Such signals were sometimes shared through cable connections with nearby homes, or in apartment buildings with other tennants.

To receive free signals became illegal and viewers were forced to subscribe to the Cable Service.

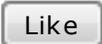
These Cable Service Providers became more powerful, more political astute, lobbying became better organized. Viewers paying rent in apartment were paying about \$10.00 extra per month for cable service .

Because there was only one cable connection into the master panel in the building.

Tennants now pay the full monthly fee, just like a homeowner.

However, CRTC decisions allowed viewers to receive free signals from Canadian Broadcasters either through their own rabbit ears or roof mounted antennae. All other means of signal reception was strictly controlled or made illegal.

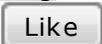
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 Like

walther ★ [1 month ago in reply to exsudburyguy](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable television service started years ago when US Television broadcasting signals were picked up by Canadians living close to the border. They got reception by using their rabbit ears or roof mounted antennaes. Enterprising Canadians living further from the border but close to higher elevations, for instance mountains in BC, installed antennaes on the mountains and ran cable directly into homes nearby and charged homeowners a small fee if they wanted stolen signals of US Stations. Before that time Canadian television viewers had only local TV station signals..This has now evolved over more than 30 years into a huge monster business.

[Flag](#)

 Like

rehfer ★ [1 month ago in reply to walther](#) 8 people liked this.

Cable companies were FORCED by the CRTC to carry local television stations for free in fear Candadian's would abandon local stations to watch US stations. Cable never stole the signals. Eventually even making the Canadian stations must carry was not enough and the CRTC forced cable to simulcast Canadian broadcasts over American if two stations were showing the same show at the same time. Because of this I have not seen a Bud Super Bowl Commercial live for a decade. I will this year though beause now I have a HD over the air Antenna. Global can sell all the Pizza Pizza ads they want I won't be watching them.

If the signals were stolen don't you think CTV would have made a move before 60 years had passed to stop the theft and don't you think they would have stopped Satellite companies Bell and Starchoice from doing the same?

The only theft going on here is CTV and Global trying to steal from the operating profits of Satellite and Cable.

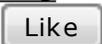
[Flag](#)

 Like

Carl B ★ [1 month ago in reply to rehfer](#) 2 people liked this.

Global? Global who? I have a digital TV on an antenna in Kingston, and I find no station by that name anywhere in Watertown.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Guest ★ [1 month ago in reply to walther](#) 4 people liked this.

Posted By TOM MILLS, The Sault Star

On our "local" CTV news the other night, a parent was holding a gun to a child's head, threatening to pull the trigger unless certain demands were met.

Was it a hostage-taking? Well, sort of. It was yet another "news" item about CTV's Help Save Local Television campaign.

The parent, CTV, wants cable and satellite companies to pay fees to the network for carrying its stations. It's threatening to execute some local stations - and Sudbury CTV seems to feel it could be among their number - if it doesn't get what it wants.

Such is the ethical bankruptcy of television news that CTV Sudbury has enthusiastically presented a number of "news" stories on the Help Save Local Television without once, to my knowledge, balancing a story with any opinion other than that of CTV management.

These stories have been extremely short on fact and long on emotion and self-congratulation. They have skipped over so many central facts that I'm not sure I can present them all in one column. But I'll try to cover the main ones.

First, there has been no sudden change in policy or huge external threat (except, perhaps, the financial recession that affects most industries) that endangers "local" television. Rather, the stimulus is CTV's (and CBC's and Global's) repeated failure to convince the Canadian radio-television telecommunications commission (CRTC), the independent body that regulates broadcasting, to order cable and satellite companies to pay fees for carrying CTV stations.

Thus thwarted, CTV is trying an end run around the CRTC by mounting a campaign to have viewers pressure politicians to overrule the regulator. And it might just succeed. Some northern Ontario mayors and Members of Parliament, for example, have tripped all over themselves to support the network-enriching crusade, apparently not doing the sort of homework that might convince them that the guy holding the gun to the head of local television is CTV.

These politicians don't seem to remember how CTV axed local news shows in Sault Ste. Marie and other non-Sudbury locations. Those news shows covered their communities and generated original stories, not just duplicated items that could already be found in the daily newspaper or online.

And CTV eviscerated local television news long before the recession made conventional television temporarily unprofitable. (Go to CTV's save local TV website, click on the Sault Ste. Marie dot and you'll get exactly the same result as you get clicking on Sudbury. Ah, that's "local.")

But back to the CRTC. CTV laments that cable pays a fee to those specialty channels it carries, but no fee to conventional TV. That's true. CTV should know, since it owns a bunch of specialty channels and is essentially competing against itself for scarce advertising dollars.

But specialty channels don't get certain regulatory advantages, courtesy the CRTC, that CTV enjoys.

Cable must carry CTV and must give it a prime position on the station hierarchy. And when U.S. stations are carrying the same program as CTV, their signals are replaced by the CTV program and by the advertisements CTV has sold.

Imagine if CTV was paid the same carriage fee as a specialty channel, but was buried up in the high numbers with the legislature and parliamentary channels. Imagine if viewers could watch American commercials with all of their American schlock, on an American station instead of on CTV.

Cable privileges are vital to CTV, since only about eight per cent of Canadians still get TV signals over the air. (Soon to be fewer, because CTV is threatening not to convert many analog transmissions to digital.)

CTV also gets to dip into a Canadian Television Fund to which cable companies are required to donate five per cent of their gross revenues. According to the Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists (ACTRA), that fund supports more than 500 productions, more than 2,000 hours of TV and about 40 per cent of the English-language priority programs required by the CRTC. That includes many of the Canadian programs CTV brags about in its latest submission to the regulatory agency.

So what will happen to local television if our politicians keep their heads and let the experts at the CRTC handle the job of broadcast regulation? We already have a hint

of that.

About a month ago, CTV sold two smaller stations in southwestern Ontario, including Windsor, and one in Manitoba for a loonie each. The buyer? Cable giant Shaw Communications.

Even if conventional TV were to die, Shaw already runs its own community information stations on cable in each local centre and could expand those to include full-fledged news programs.

But I suspect other interests would buy CTV stations, which have generally been profitable, especially if they can get them for a buck.

After all, CTV journalists and their gullible political friends keep insisting that "local" TV is the lifeblood of a community. Where there's a demand that strong, there's money to be made supplying it.

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Like

▶  [rehfer](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Guest](#) 3 people liked this.

Nail on head. Thanks GUEST

[Flag](#)

Like

▶  [gary](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Ernie](#) 8 people liked this.

simulcast sucks

[Flag](#)

Like

▶  [Rob](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 13 people liked this.

I too will cancel my cable service and just download the shows I want. Rogers and Bell are crooks and we should get Directv and other American ones up here or I will just go and get an illegal satellite

[Flag](#)

Like

▶  [isaiahkyler](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 11 people liked this.

Amen to susan D's comment I agree with everything she said!

[Flag](#)

Like

▶  [peter333](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 6 people liked this.

I agree with Susan. NO NEW TAXES OR FEES FOR CANADIANS! We are taxed to the max!

[Flag](#)

Like

▶  [AlexL](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 6 people liked this.

agreed completely, i will certainly cancel my cable if i am forced to pay more for so called local tv, which is mainly american programming with commercials funded by american companies

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▶  [Dabber](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 4 people liked this.

Agreed... I would cancel my cable too... I say, let some external competitors come in... I

think some American companies would get the prices down.

Flag

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vjt ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 3 people liked this.

Agree with Susan, we pay the most for cable and cellular service and both are substandard. Need to get more competition for both and if that means from sources outside of Canada - so be it. The world is Vanilla thanks to the internet now anyway

Flag

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Claire ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 3 people liked this.

I agree with you. I would definitely cancel my cable service, it cost too much to me already. I'll go with the free chanel. CRTC should allow more competition, it would be better for the customers.

Flag

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GeoSv ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 2 people liked this.

It is a travesty if the CRTC/govt does not regulate basic cable rates. That's because the GOVT created the MONOPOLIES, so it is their business to control them. How can you miss the point about MONOPOLIES?

There should be basic cable for no more than \$8, with basic Can and US channels, no extras. That is to serve every citizen.

But just watch them blow it.

Flag

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Helga ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 2 people liked this.

I will not Pay to watch the local TV station the all have the same GARBAGE every Night , this makes me sick

Flag

Like



ericd2 ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 2 people liked this.

Why should cable companies be allowed to generate obscene profits off the back of local programming.

If we want a world view served up to us by a few head offices in the United States via the internet, by all means, bankrupt local TV stations. If you want a strong community you need to be prepared to pay of it.

MOST OTHER DEVELOPED NATIONS ALREADY DO THIS (including our neighbours to the south). It's time we got on board and ensured a viable local TV industry.

Flag

Like



emadramzy ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#) 1 person liked this.

I completely agree and support this opinion

Flag

Like



annie ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#)

I agree!!

Flag

 Like *StanF* ★ [1 month ago in reply to susan D](#)

Why would susan D and all the rest of us respond to a web site hosted by an American company located in Texas? It is not in Canada.

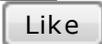
When the CRTC begins using Canadian companies and resources to deal directly with matters they have been directed to sort out for the Canadian Government the CRTC might again become relevant. For the moment, the best they can claim is they don't care and hope for a healthy Christmas bonus. Even Minister Moore doesn't seem to know or care what the CRTC does although he is their overseer. Maybe this will qualify him to replace our Minister of National Defence.

[Flag](#) Like *steve_montreal* ★ [1 month ago](#) 139 people liked this.

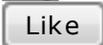
TV broadcasting, like anything else in our economy, should be based on supply and demand. Namely, if local programming is not competitive, then why should the citizens have to pay? The fact that local programming is not demanded by locals means it doesn't add value to most people. Then how would it make sense to ask the people to pay for something they do not value?

People should be given choice. Much like other channels available with cable or satellite, if someone wants the local channels, then they can opt to pay for it. But to have everyone pay regardless of their choice, is absolutely absurd.

It's like walking into a restaurant, and instead of being able to choose what items you want, you are forced to buy a combo, at a higher price, even though it comes with things you don't want to eat in the first place.

[Flag](#) Like *heather2223* ★ [1 month ago in reply to steve_montreal](#) 38 people liked this.

The problem with your argument is that you are failing to take the social benefit of local tv into account. Local content and local news is important in maintaining a Canadian identity, an informed public, and a healthy democracy. You cannot make an economic argument and only use half of economic theory to do so. For other goods and services, I would agree with your argument. But economic analysis tells us that for goods and services that provide social benefits, the market does not allocate consumption of these goods efficiently. Goods are underconsumed as a result of this market failure. It is at this point that the government is required to step in and help ensure that a socially optimal level of the good or service is consumed.

[Flag](#) Like *ericsoulliere* ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 52 people liked this.

I personally don't value local tv, I almost never watch it, I get my news for free on google, i check the weather online if I need it and I mostly watch my shows on the american channels which come in HD. The local Canadian channels are not in HD and quite frankly the programming sucks for the most part. I would not agree to pay extra money for something that I don't value. You can analyze the economics as much as you want, but perhaps as someone else here pointed out, the fact that they are struggling is a sign that their service is not very valued by the consumers - aka, me.

[Flag](#) Like *timw* ★ [1 month ago in reply to ericsoulliere](#) 10 people liked this.

You don't like it now because the few cable and television companies that Canada has spend very little of the time and effort figuring out how to create quality programming and lots of time and effort figuring out how to buy cheap imported programming and then use their oligopolies to wring out as much money from hapless consumers as possible. Maybe if we mandated tv and cable companies to have a minimum amount of local programming the quality would improve and we would actually choose to watch local tv.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mike W. ★ [1 month ago in reply to timw](#) 8 people liked this.

▶ that's like saying company X makes crappy televisions and no one wants to buy them. so now the government steps in and says oh wait you can't go out of business, we will support you. stop blaming everyone else for your crappy products. improve or close down. fact is Americans have better tv. better movies.

The whole cbc/local tv thing is just corporate welfare. something Canadians have grown to be accustomed to. the socialist agendas need to be flushed.

i watch close to ZERO Canadian channels. yet i pay for pretty much all of them in one form or another through cable. on top of that i have to pay for dozens of other channels i never watch because of cable packages. on top of that we have ZERO competition. Bell and Rogers are in a stalemate and they know it. so they browbeat the customers and it goes back and forth. in the end no one gets better service and the rates keep going up.

on a side note...what the hell is with Rogers now charging uncapped overage fees on internet usage??? this is theivery.

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digi_girl ★ [1 month ago in reply to timw](#)

▶ timw - just to set the record straight, television stations ARE already required to air a minimum amount of local programming. Let me explain how this works... Broadcasters buy US programming - it is not cheap, but it is what Canadians want to watch. Check the ratings. So, broadcasters sell advertising in programming that Canadians want to watch to make money. A significant amount of this money is required by the CRTC to be put back into the creation of local/Canadian programming, which Canadians don't watch and thus loses money.

Do you really think broadcasters want to air poor quality programming? What is the incentive in that? If they had money then Canadian programming would be better. See how this works now?

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mike ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 51 people liked this.

▶ How is this a social benefit for the Canadian companies to buy American programming so they can charge me to pay for it and call it a Canadian social benefit.

[Flag](#)

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wilbrich ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 50 people liked this.

▶ Local TV a "social benefit"? That's more than a bit of a stretch. The issue for me, as has been described by others, is one of choice. If I have to pay for something, I want to be able to choose not to by not using the product or service. Is that asking too much?

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 [Blake Morrow](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to wilbrich](#) 6 people liked this.

This isn't a stretch at all. I turn on a local morning program every morning while getting ready for work. I like knowing what is going on in my city and I find the internet impersonal. Much of the local tv programing is absolutely a social benefit.

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 [mj25](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Blake Morrow](#) 6 people liked this.

So because you prefer television as your outlet of local news, then the rest of us should be forced to pay for it? Come on now.

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Like

 [Kent also](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 39 people liked this.

Heather, apparently, you seem to forget that for most of Canada's history that local did not exist (remember 1867). I am sure our democracy and canadian identity will survive fine without the local news. Let me talk about your social content argument. Have you watched local content, for the most part its terrible. Who are you kidding, we all watch american TV because its way better. At least I am not hypocrite like you, I admit it. Finally, let's talk about local news, you make the comment that local news is the best part of the local channels. You must live in the city because if you lived in the rural areas, there is no such thing as local tv. Where is your social benefit for them or are you do you want to provide massive subsidies out to the rural areas. Maybe we should close some hospitals so we can support local TV out in the rural areas. I am pretty sure there is a better social benefit to hospitals than creating a local tv channel. The point is that for millions of Canadians of who currently don't have local tv, its not the end of our Canadian democracy and identity. It will survive fine without local tv, after all there is little invention maybe you have heard of, its called the radio. Oh wait, there's also internet, the newspaper, and yes, who can forget about Canada Post.

[Flag](#)

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 [ericsoulliere](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Kent also](#) 30 people liked this.

I totally agree, most Canadians watch American TV, the idea of "local TV" is becoming very quickly outdated. I'd be happy with one national station. Why are there 10 different CTV's? The only local content is basically news and weather - who cares, a quick look at google or even cbc's website, search your local area and bingo! informed, and in much less time than it takes to watch the news.

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 [Eva](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to ericsoulliere](#) 6 people liked this.

Your assumption that everyone has Internet is wrong.

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Like

 [mj25](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Eva](#) 1 person liked this.

So have newspapers disappeared in your area too?

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Eva](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Kent also](#) 27 people liked this.

I watch local TV news that is inserted into my CBC programing. I learn about my neighbouring northern communities. I think it is valuable. But I get it for free through my rabbits ears.

I won't pay for cable because it is poor value - over \$60 for a lot of channels I won't watch and only a few I will.

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[robhaze](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Eva](#) 10 people liked this.

local info is a must but we dont need to pay more for it then we do. the tv companies are making enough money to pay for broadcasting local info.. u pay for basic cable that includes local tv why does that not pay for local tv. its stupid bell rogers and shaw make you pay for basic cable to get local tv then they want you to pay more for it, SCREW THEM TV TAX IS A JOKE, and should not even be an issue..... CRTIC IS A JOKE AS WELL.

[Flag](#)

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[dgusset](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Eva](#) 4 people liked this.

I wish I didn't have to pay for satellite or cable, but I have to, if I want to receive a signal (not even rabbit ears work where I live, and I'm not that remote at 25 km from downtown). Except for HD documentary channels, all I watch is local and Canadian programming, for the news and the Canadian content. I wish I could pay only for what I watch.

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[marklenn](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 36 people liked this.

What great social benefit does local tv provide? Most Canadians pay for local tv by force and CHOOSE not to watch it, so in essence it is a tv tax as the average Canadian get no value for it. I do not think most will lose their Canadian identity if a local channel goes off the air because most do not even watch local channels despite having them available to them. If the public does not watch the channel then they are not informed of the issue anyways which clearly no one here does except maybe you

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[Kent](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 30 people liked this.

It is completely ridiculous to apply that argument here. Are you actually suggesting that the government is going to step in and ensure that a socially optimal level of local television will be viewed by "saving" local TV? Wake up!

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[ericsoulliere](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Kent](#) 22 people liked this.

Ya, really, the rest of the world, or Americans at least already think Canadians are socialists, while I don't agree with that, the idea of TV as a social benefit is ridiculous.

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[Tim W](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to ericsoulliere](#) 11 people liked this.

Television absolutely provides a social benefit or it can create social dysfunction for the benefit of the rich. If mass communication is forced to follow the same rules of supply and demand as other markets, you will simply create a system where the richest people in the world get to influence what everyone else in the world thinks - kind of like the system the US has now - and kind of like Canada has become. Television and internet are not like most other products - their content has huge social implications.

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 [Rick G](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to timw](#) 20 people liked this.

But the key here is 'Choice'.

Canadians should be given the choice to subscribe to local programming. If there is no choice whether the Cable / Satellite companies pay for it or not is a mute point.

I'd gladly pay for what I want to watch and dump the rest.

With this market model only the most desirable stations will survive.

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 [ericsoulliere](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Rick G](#) 5 people liked this.

Well i agree with you here, i don't watch those Canadian channels anyway, if I had the choice, I wouldn't pay for them or watch them.

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 [M.A](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to timw](#) 11 people liked this.

Are you honestly naive enough to think the media isn't already controlled by the rich and powerful. If it weren't, maybe we would have a truly objective view delivered to us.

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 [robhaze](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to ericsoulliere](#) 2 people liked this.

really you don't think us Canadians are socialist, well you are wrong we are. and have been for a long time. as for tv i won't pay a tv tax... tv is not a right it's a choice..i choose not to pay the tv tax. screw the crooks

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 [MrGoodWrench](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 22 people liked this.

I don't believe for a minute that Local TV serves any purpose in maintaining a Canadian Identity. I mean, when I think about Local Programming that's important to me, the only thing that comes to mind is the Local News. As far as a Healthy Democracy is concerned, I can't see how that applies considering I'm not given the choice of whether or not to pay for Local Programming.

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 [Brad J BARCLAY, M.Sc.](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 17 people liked this.

The problem with your argument is that you are failing to recognize that the social benefit derived from local TV can also be derived via other media, such as print, radio, and the Internet, any/all of which could easily pick up the slack in what little vacuum would be left by local TV stations shutting down.

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 [vassellebarber](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Brad J BARCLAY, M.Sc.](#) 8 people liked this.

Yes, you are right Brad, but you fail to recognize that the Government/CRTC also regulates how much Canadian content is provided in those mediums. So why not in television? If the CRTC didn't regulate how much Canadian content we received, we

would be the 52nd state (after Puerto Rico). People say we must compete with the Americans for better content on our own airwaves, but remember that we are 1/10th their size, so we have a tougher road to travel to compete.

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▶  [Mike W.](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to vassellebarber](#) 7 people liked this.

and anyone that thinks that we can actually compete on any recognizable level has sadly go their head jammed up their rear-end. one of the biggest problems IS the fact that the CRTC regulates so much canadian content. we already are another "state" as entertainment goes. no amount of canadian subsidies is going to help crappy programming as long as they keep going about things the same way. the cbc gets boatloads of money every year and still spews out useless crap.

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▶  [vicshaw](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mike W.](#)

Just because it is useless to you, doesn't mean it is useless to others. They may not have a lot of great programming, but they have improved somewhat over the last few years, at least I think. At least they don't have On The Road Again anymore! But many people will disagree that their new skating show, forget the name, was useless crap.

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▶  [heather2223](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Brad J BARCLAY,](#) 2 people liked this.
[M.Sc.](#)

The problem with your argument is that you are failing to recognize that newspapers are in financial turmoil because nobody reads them, not everyone has the internet (tv's with basic cable are more common in low income households), and I find it hard to believe that more people listen to local radio than watch local tv!

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▶  [dishguy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 1 person liked this.

But everyone has access to the internet.
Most low income families also have it or have access to it daily as well.

There would be no issue here if the model was not failing.
I refuse to throw more money at a failing system unless we know what is causing the failure and the situation is righted.

The job issue is not reasonable.
They are laying off constantly and sourcing programming that is made south of the border with what they bring in.

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▶  [ray_s](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#)

I don't find it hard to believe at all. If you had said all TV vs. all radio I could agree. But almost all radio listening IS local; remember to include what you listen to on your car radio. Contrariwise what most of us watch on TV is anything but local.

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 [Paul](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 16 people liked this.

A very weak position Heather. Firstly, the allocation of value to a "social benefit" is predicated by the assumption that the consumer is one homogenous body that as a group equally benefits from consumption of such a benefit and the benefit could therefore be assigned, let's say 1 unit of value. But as we know, the composition of contemporary Canadian society is not homogenous, (i.e. language barriers, availability of cable, etc.) so even if the govt used all of our resources, efficiency could never be gained. In your scenario, govt would have to own all the signal providers, give out TV's, broadcast in every language and furthermore, make everyone watch the content - this kind of approach doesn't work out so good as history proves. Secondly, what does local TV have to do with identity, public engagement and democracy? I would suggest that those who are most informed and engaged in democracy probably watch very little TV of any kind. Furthermore, local TV's agenda isn't really all that lofty as you suggest. Canadian identity, well I don't think this even fits into the debate. Thirdly, your mention of democracy and "govt required to" in the same argument completely negates the fundamental democratic principal of Individual choice. It is the Individual that is paramount in a democracy and the Individual does not need a paternalistic govt to even be involved in something as stupid as what they watch on TV - perhaps this is the unfortunate nature of your Canadian Identity, not mine. Finally, and this is completely gratuitous on my part, everything that you've suggested is personified by the CBC; state run media: inefficient, out of touch, costly and with it's own political agenda. The CBC has been around a long time (too long!) and I don't know about you, but it sure doesn't make me feel more Canadian or want vote more. How's about the govt sticks to Weights & Measures and border patrol and you and I decide what we want to pay for on TV.

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 [heather2223](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Paul](#) 4 people liked this.

Have you ever watched CBC on election night? That's the most trivial example of it's importance in our democracy.

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 [Paul](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 9 people liked this.

If there was no such thing as the CBC, would I have missed media coverage of election night? In other words, tax-payers do not have to subsidize the source of my info, there are plenty of other outlets available to me. (The other outlets, by the way, have the unfair disadvantage of competing with a govt funded media body who don't have to worry about real world market concerns, they get a gift that keeps on giving)

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 [heather2223](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Paul](#) 1 person liked this.

You're knowledge of the election is important for your participation in our democracy - that's my point. And what other outlets do you suggest? Internet? Less low income families have computers with internet than have tv. Or Newspaper? They are going out of business because fewer and fewer people are reading them, so it's not reasonable to suggest they replace local tv. Or perhaps you are suggesting we all get our local information from the radio? For this to be reasonable, more people would have to listen to local radio than watch local tv, which is an absurd suggestion!

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[mj25](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 1 person liked this.

So newspapers are going out of business? Kind of like Local TV channels because no one is watching them.

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[heather2223](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Paul](#) 3 people liked this.

Job creation would be another social benefit of local tv. I think it's absurd to deny the benefits to Canadian society of local tv.

Second, you misunderstand economics if you think efficiency only exists if we all consume the same amount. All I'm suggesting is that the social benefit of local tv is larger than the sum of the personal benefits. This should be reflected in the price of local tv. In an efficient outcome, those who do not value local tv at all, will not consume any. However, if local tv stations go out of business, those who do value local tv will not be able to watch it. And considering local tv does get advertising revenue, some people do value it. Whether or not you fall into this category is irrelevant.

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[Loren](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 3 people liked this.

heather2223, I don't know about your area, but "local TV" here in Ottawa-Carleton isn't very local, and doesn't create jobs.

For example, one station called "A Ottawa" is the transmitter CHRO.

CHRO has been run into the ground over the years by a toxic blend of excessive and mercurial CRTC regulation and conglomerated media incompetence.

The station's master control is in Toronto, programming is scheduled from London, and the only shows produced there are the ratings-toppers "A Morning", "Bob TV", and the "Majic 100 Top 20 Countdown".

The first is an inane fluffy morning chat show, and the others are one hour music video compilations put out by affiliated radio stations and aired on Saturday and Sunday, respectively.

If we want real local TV and jobs, further subsidies to the national media chains is not the way to do it.

IMO, we should be opening up licensing to micro-broadcasters of digital TV, funded by advertising and/or subscription, and operated either by small entities, either private or non-profit.

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[Mike W.](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 3 people liked this.

if the local tv had content that attracted viewers this is a valid point. but in fact it does not. the fact that the local stations are begging for funds now proves this. cable providers already collect funds for local stations as they charge us for basic cable. these are the funds that would be going to the local stations. and your argument for tv can be applied to the papers. they cover local issues as does tv. papers are much cheaper to produce than tv programs. they also provide local jobs. this argument can be extended to any industry that produces a locally needed product and employs locally. fact is we cannot subsidise everyone. what you are asking is for the public to subsidise local stations even if they are not being watched. we already have the cbc. axe that whole ball of

crap and we could fund the local tv stations and still have a reserve fund.

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Like

 [mj25](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mike W.](#) 1 person liked this.

I've been 100% in agreement with your posts so far, but there is one clarification that should be made here for Cable companies anyway. Most of the fund that is collected go to producing the Cable companies local channel such as Rogers 22 in Ottawa.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [vicshaw](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to mj25](#)

The LPIF is not for the cable companies community channel the last time I checked, LPIF is for smaller market local channels, cities with less than 300,000 I believe, not cable company channels. Correct me if i'm wrong though. But I don't agree with a fund that feeds channels that are created by volunteers through large cable companies. If it is used by smaller cable companies in small markets, fine, but Rogers? Give me a break.

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 [C. David Tupper](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to vicshaw](#)

Cable fees also let CTV etc produce the network shows with the Canadian content at a much cheaper price. That money goes to the producers so they can sell Little house on the prairie or Corner gas to the networks at half price. Of course the producers also have to pay all the big union rates to people who do little if anything and supply them with food, etc. Then they have to pay the actors, writers, directors, etc for each sale and each time it is shown ie on the internet.

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 [Paul](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 2 people liked this.

No not consume equal amounts, your premise of social good assumes that you can treat society as one body - there's a problem with composition in this assumption, actually logically quite fallacious.

In an efficient outcome, local TV could keep supplying their product at a least-lost point without govt intervention. So is your argument this in summary? *I don't value local TV, even though it can not survive on it's own, I should be mandated to pay for it because it's good for a notion of social benefit. (and my being in the category of not valuing local TV is irrelevant).*

Fascinating.

[Flag](#)

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 [heather2223](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Paul](#) 7 people liked this.

No, you still aren't understanding the theory behind my argument. No, I'm just suggesting that you shouldn't take your position and assume it is the position of the society as a whole. If noone in society valued local tv, then your argument would be reasonable. But some people do value local tv. Perhaps, not enough to pay \$10 a month, but perhaps enough to pay some money each month to get it. I'm suggesting that you pay some of the monthly cost of local tv through your taxes because, like health care or public education, there is a social benefit. But I'm also suggesting that those who

value it more than you should have to pay more than you do to watch it. This could be achieved by an option of subscribing to local tv stations. But here another problem arises because of the package pricing of major cable providers. Cable costs as much as it does right now because viewers have minimal choices. For example, Rogers has 4-tiered pricing. Each tier has a whole group of channels most people will never watch and a few that they would watch. Local tv stations are included in this bundle just like many other tv stations. I just think we have to recognize that part of this debate is actually about the problems and costs created by cable companies' package pricing.

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 *Mike W.* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to heather2223](#)

3 people liked this.

the cable companies already collect money through their basic cable services which all cable subscribers pay for. those are the funds that should be allocated to the local stations. we do not need nor want to pay more for products that the majority of people do not want nor watch. this includes local stations as well as any other candian content mandated package channels, as well as "alternative" language channels (oui oui). let me pick what i want and pay for what i get. nothing more nothing less.

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 *vicshaw* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Mike W.](#) 1 person liked this.

I agree, we should pay for what we want, but there should still be a few CRTC mandated basic channels free for everyone, including local CBC & SRC, CPAC, Weather Network, CBC News Network, RDI, APTN, and of course Shaw TV/Rogers TV community channels. Why those channels, because they are all important and informative and people shouldn't have to pay for publicly funded channels like CBC/SRC or CPAC which is a product of the cable companies themselves. Also, getting Weather information is extremely important I think as well as getting news programming, local and non local and in both official languages. Every other channel should be discretionary in my opinion, whether its CTV, Global, YTV, CTV News, etc.

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 *Paul* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to heather2223](#) 2 people liked this.

However . . . for your argument to be valid, you would have to make a reasonable case that local TV is in fact a social benefit, not merely assert it. Secondly, if you do apply an economical model to this case, then there would really be little debate; i.e. local TV can operate as long as they meet their fixed costs and have some hope of meeting variable costs, if they can not meet their fixed costs, then they are done - end of debate.

A potential solution for local TV would be to go on strike! They should withdraw their signal from cable providers and demand payment for their content. There would be a huge public backlash, Canadians would expressly display their willingness to pay for the service, cable companies could charge for it and then give the revenues to local TV. Democracy and economics can prevail: consumers vote on the product and then pay for it and we have a new model! How about this idea Heather, a local TV strike may make your case? Those who care about it for the good of their country, enlightened as you suggest, will surely line up to pay for it for the good of their common brethren.

Hint: look up the case of CHCH Hamilton - there's the solution.

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[darylberry](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 15 people liked this.

You work at a TV station don't you. My bills are high enough. Please stay out of my wallet and earn your money the proper way - through advertising!!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

[heather2223](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to darylberry](#) 6 people liked this.

No, I don't work at a tv station, and I'm not suggesting that your monthly bill be increased. But, do you think the cable providers make money from supplying local tv? If they do, they should compensate local tv stations. The issue is not whether you should pay more, but whether cable should pay local tv stations. The reason cable companies have said they would pass the entire cost on to consumers is because there is not enough competition in the cable market and they have significant market power, as can be evidenced by their profits and by the amount Canadian cable costs compared to cable in other countries. I'm suggesting that local tv should not have to bear the burden of cable companies already high prices.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

[dishguy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 2 people liked this.

They already offer compensation for carriage in the form of my eyes that they can sell to advertisers.

They don't get to sell my eyes and then ask me to look in my wallet for more.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

[TW](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 1 person liked this.

If the real issue is that we do not have enough competition in the cable (TV) market, then CRTC should put in regulations to allow more cable operators to enter the market to make it more competitive. By forcing anyone to pay for a badly managed and operated local content (TV) provider is only to make the situation worse. There are free local contents (e.g. Metro free newspaper) that has a money earning business model that is successful. No one should be forced to subsidize a badly managed and run corporation with a failing business model.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

[André B](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#)

Without cable/satellite providers these stations would not get as much of an audience. Maybe the network should be asked to compensate cable/satellite provider for delivering there weak product to millions of home instead if an antenna was used they would get a whole lot less exposure. Just making the point that both are being childish & can't exist without each other. Networks need to realize that its there product is not in demand because of poor programming. For the amount I watch network tv I can live without & when it comes to news I get it online.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

[scott1515](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 12 people liked this.

"Local news" has been dumbed down to Storm Watch and other focus grouped

nonsense. Local newspapers provide the sense of identity and information of which you speak, but "local news" is largely infotainment based on geography. And don't think for a minute the broadcasters wouldn't cut it even further if they could find a way.

Flag

Like

 [georgepapadapolis](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 8 people liked this.

yes there is an important benefit to 'local' tv. but local tv is not purely local. break down the 6pm evening news. 10 minutes on weather and 10 minutes on sports. both available on national specialty channels. 10 minutes on entertainment (movies & hollywood starlets) and another 10 on international news. after commercials, this leaves 10 minutes of true local content. the networks have to recognize this & change there tactics accordingly. cut the local broadcast to what is truly local. using my logic, I have chopped there local news costs to a 1/5th.

Flag

Like

 [rehfer](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 3 people liked this.

Heather if there is true social benefit to the programming some entrepreneur will put it on air and people will pay if they want to watch it. People pay \$15 or more a month to watch multicultural programming. Unelected government appointed special interest industry boards like the CRTC have been spending far too much time dictating what is good for Canadians. Let Canadians decide with their money. I'm tired of the government and their agents taking my money to give to someone. There already is the Local Programming Improvement Fund levee to pay for local news. i pay it every month on my Cable bill. Heather 2223 what is a Canadian identity? There isn't one other than we are not Americans because we don't shoot each other (not so much any more) and we have universal health care (we almost just don't need expensive cancer drugs or you'll go broke). Beyond that there is little identity to distinguish us from Americans.

Flag

Like

 [NecessaryEvil](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 2 people liked this.

Sounds like a bunch of communist BS to me. If they can't keep their heads above water, let them drown. I don't see local TV as a social benefit at all. If you're relying on TV to stay in touch with your community, then doesn't that mean your spending too much time at home anyway? To avoid that, I take my dog out for a long walk every day, sometimes to the dog park, where I've met lots of different people in my neighbourhood. You should try to get out more.

Flag

Like

 [Sean M](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 2 people liked this.

There is no benefit to people if they are not watching it, and the majority aren't according to TV ratings nationwide. Are you honestly trying to say that if the government forces it on us we'll start to watch it? If so that is non sensical. We aren't rated on our patriotism by how much Canadian programming we watch, and it shouldn't be forced on us by the Government.

Flag

Like

 [delerious1](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 2 people liked this.

Heather, you have to be kidding. You are spouting pseudo-intellectual nonsense. There is no social benefit to tv. It is simply entertainment. There are many different ways to get Canadian news without watching tv. The news on tv is simply the dumbed down video version of the news. Why should government step in and tell us what is

good for us or "socially optimal". We should reduce the size and complexity of government and in particular get rid of the CBC that simply gobbles tax dollars. If you would like to spend more money, why don't you make a donation to the charity of your choice, perhaps a mental health institution.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [digi_girl](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to delerious1](#)

Delerious1, Heather 2223 is correct - there is social benefit to TV. local television stations become part of the community, they host events, send their anchors and reporters to community events, and how many millions of dollars each year do you think they donate in on-air time to public service announcements to promote fundraisers, charity events, awareness of local groups... do you think the breast cancer run would do as well without local television?

[Flag](#)

Like

 [bill](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 1 person liked this.

what? If "local" TV goes down there are other outlets to provide local news...

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Mike W.](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 1 person liked this.

so because the majority of people do not want something its up the the government to impose its hammer and force us to pay for it anyway? honestly if they did way with 90% of the cbc and all its garbage they would have plenty of money to overfund all local tv stations and increase the quality of the canadian tv.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Sean M](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#) 1 person liked this.

This makes no sense considering the vast majority are not watching local television. Canadian television has nothing to do with Canadian identity otherwise 90% of the most watched shows wouldn't be American. Stop making this a Social issue and look at it for what it is: A product that should be based on supply and demand. If there is little demand, then the product either needs to be changed or discontinued. Forcing people to pay to prop up private broadcasters/local programming in the belief more people will then watch it is non sensical.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [darrellforbes](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#)

so wrong.....government or public support isnt needed....you can see now some channels are converting to speacillytly format therefore should receive payment if people like to pay by adding single channel.....supporting local with just be the start of less from them because they would have not need for more because receiving a free ride....I assure you this will not work without the choice per channel

[Flag](#)

Like

 [dishguy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to heather2223](#)

Where is the content heather???

News can be sourced from many sources and while Television is convenient it is by no means an efficient or the most effective medium for sourcing current news with multiple takes on given situation/stories.

With the Internet we no longer need our news content boxed up so neatly for

consumption by television.

My "Local" station(Kenora")has a horrible variety style show that is less informative than most Roger's/Shaw community channels could produce.

That is the only local content that airs weekly.

If I am forced to pay a premium for this when in fact I would not watch it if it was the only thing on, how does this tell the broadcasters to improve?

I suggest to you that we are mandating mediocrity through these subsidies.

More money for doing what nobody wants. (except those that are on the payroll that is)

[Flag](#)

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 [Catherine Leitch](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to dishguy](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV sucks, but, for those of us who are shut-ins who cannot afford cable's high rates and have no other forms of entertainment, when it's a choice of food over cable, local TV makes a difference in their lives. Local TV that can be received WITHOUT CABLE. Sure, this is an increasingly selfish and me-me-I-I society incapable of understanding that anyone can be rendered to poverty, illness, and an old TV set. But it happens. Cable sucks because it's too expensive. End of story. I get 5 lousy channels with my rabbit ears but all that is going to change. Still, it's something. While others have 54" TVs and every channel in the universe, there are people starving in other countries around the world. Piggish, myopic, disturbingly selfish and shallow. That's North Americans in a nutshell!

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 [mj25](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to heather2223](#)

Do you get you Canadian identity from TV?

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 [ann](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to mj25](#)

I feel that I get a lot of Canadian identity from TV. Watching channels like APTN and SCN give me entirely different perspectives from my own white, southern Ontario one and serve to educate me about issues in other provinces. Perhaps if more Canadians spent time watching channels from other areas of the country then they would also find that. Recently, I have started to watch some of the ethnic stations which have also educated me and opened my mind. CTV and CBC channels from other provinces/areas provide me with with more detail about their local issues than do the stations from T.O. I absolutely love to watch Canadian programs such as Heartland, Flashpoint etc. and it gives me great pride to see how far Canadian programing has come.

I do feel that all Canadians should be able to receive those channels that we pay for with our taxes free of charge. If we only paid for other channels that we watch instead of paying for a package of channels (as we do now with cable), I think that the cable companies would use this as reason to increase the cost to us citing administration fees as the reason. If I could get channels from other provinces without going through the cable companies, then I would no longer subscribe to cable. Their fees are too high.

[Flag](#)

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 [bas](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to heather2223](#)

we have the cbc for that[local tv] and other so called essential programing,ILord knows we pay dearly for it with out tax dallars. why would we want to pay even more?

[Flag](#)

Like



[derekkoch](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to steve_montreal](#) 18 people liked this.

Steve, you have a great point. Supply and demand should rule. So if the cable companies don't want to carry the local television station, they should remove it. They're not legally obligated to carry it. So why do they carry it? Because customers WANT it. If customers want it, then cable companies should PAY for it, not get it for free and charge customers for distributing a product they pay nothing for.

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[Wilson](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to derekkoch](#) 14 people liked this.

They are legally obligated to carry it. That's the point. If local television was its own package that I didn't have to pay for, there wouldn't be a problem. Unfortunately, it must be carried on the Basic Package, by law and as a result, by law, I would be required to pay for it

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[Roger BC](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to derekkoch](#) 9 people liked this.

Except for CBC, CTV ,PBS Knowledge there would not be a channel worth watching.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Chris](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to steve_montreal](#) 3 people liked this.

If it was a real supply and demand situation, we wouldn't have to pay for bundles and packages in which they throw in all kinds of stuff we don't want. I could just subscribe to my TVO, PBS, CBC local, MTV and the Beeb, and should not have to pay \$50 a month for all the other stuff I never watch.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[mj25](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Chris](#)

At the same token, your demand for the stuff you do watch seems to be trumping the fact that there is a bunch of stuff in your cable/satellite package that you don't care for. Otherwise, you wouldn't be paying the \$50.

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[harlie](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to steve_montreal](#)

I would like to pay for what I watch and watch it when I want to.

My preference would be pay for local programming on demand or as used.

The means of delivery and programs should be separated and priced based on competitive demand.

We have moved to this model with many utilities. Local programming has a value and I should pay for what it costs beyond what they can raise with advertising.

Cable, satellite, Internet and mobile should be able to offer programming bundles at attractive prices as long as they provide an option for delivery of 1 chosen channel at the cost of delivery.

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[jeff d](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to steve_montreal](#)

i love how people are saying the us pays less for service than Canadians do if you go to comcast and enter a us address(i used their head office address) and actually look at

pricing digital cable is 63.95 a mth us where as its 63.90 with a rental cable box on shaw and internet is 42.95 a mth us and shaw is 43.95 a mth before a 5 dollar discount for mdm rnt or owned only major price diff is phone at 39.95 a mth for same thing as shaw but thats with out any us to cdn conversion look at what we would pay in usd for our services using shaw prices

cable would be 60.76 us(3 dollars less) internet would be 39.99(3 dollars less) and phone is only major diff at 52.30 us vs there 39.95 so we pay less for inet and cable im not complaining just trying to let people see that we pay about the same as our neighbours south of the border

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Like



Alex ★ [1 month ago](#) 92 people liked this.

The CRTC should deregulate all forms of telecommunication in this Country. Dont stop at a pay-for-service, and unbundle all channels. We need more competition in this country in all forms. People should have the option to pay for what they want, and not be forced to pay for "local tv" that they dont watch. If "local TV" wants to survive, they should update their business models and make a product that people want to watch, then advertisers would pay to advertise on their channels. This issues is a joke as both Rogers, and Bell have subsidiary channels that are fighting to get money from their head company. One subsidiary is going after the other in order to exploit more money from the consumer. Cable TV is already too expensive to begin with and there are too many useless channels that shouldnt be included. Deregulate all forms of cable, media and telecommunications. Dont stop at this issue, we need more competition in terms of a Cell Phone Market, Cable, Phone, and Media Companies. Do not allow these costs to be passed along to the consumer.

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Like



johncurrie ★ [1 month ago in reply to Alex](#) 34 people liked this.

i agree with 100% - the crtc is suppose to protect canadian content but what does bell do with our money - they out source their tech support off shore with people you can't understand if you need help .

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christopherbeauvais ★ [1 month ago in reply to johncurrie](#) 7 people liked this.

Hell Ya ..Tell them because I hate those calls that you have to make

[Flag](#)

Like



Greg Marshall ★ [1 month ago in reply to Alex](#) 21 people liked this.

Competition? Right! We've just watched the big cable companies absorb smaller ones for years. There are fewer players each year. In most cities, people who don't own a home have a choice of ONE provider or over-the-air. In most rural locations, there is a choice of two satellite providers, both bandits.

The barriers to entry in the market are so high, and the market so small, that increased competition in Canada is a faint hope. Sorry.

[Flag](#)

Like



delerious1 ★ [1 month ago in reply to Greg Marshall](#) 8 people liked this.

There is a very simple way to increase competition. Eliminate the CRTC and open our borders to American competition. TV has nothing to do with Canadian culture and identity. It is simply entertainment. Anyone that thinks otherwise should get out of the house more.

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Like



Dare Balogun ★ [1 month ago in reply to Alex](#) 20 people liked this.

I agree 100% with Alex. The entire media industry should be completely deregulated. The issue is not only economically practical, it is also moral. It is the moral right of each individual or institution to be able to offer and/or receive an economic good or service without government interference. The mixed economy is the immoral attempt to combine degrees of freedom with degrees of slavery. It hasn't - and won't - work.

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Denis ★ [1 month ago in reply to Alex](#) 7 people liked this.

Agree 100%

[Flag](#)

Like



deepthought_42 ★ [1 month ago in reply to Alex](#) 6 people liked this.

Wow Alex... Well put. Healthy competition is what the media industry needs. Bell/Rogers customer service sucks, there selection and pricing due to CRTC regulations is terrible, and the quality of programming and service would improve with competition. I truly hope "HEATHER2223" takes the time to read your response. I'm tired of paying to see the same show on 15 of my 50 channels. Local TV spends most of their money on foreign content. Why should we support their greedy enterprise.

[Flag](#)

Like



Denis ★ [1 month ago in reply to Alex](#) 5 people liked this.

Agree 100%

[Flag](#)

Like



Muzadi Kharem ★ [1 month ago](#) 72 people liked this.

I have had it with the costs for television in this country! Allow more competition. I am sick and tired of paying astronomical costs for this service. When I used to live in Albany, New York, I paid \$65 for internet, cable and telephone! I pay \$70 a month for only television now in Ottawa! It's not fair. Every country on the face of the Earth enjoys cheaper television costs yet we have to take this kind of treatment from the big television companies in this country. WHY? WHY? WHY?

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Like



YVR ★ [1 month ago in reply to Muzadi Kharem](#) 3 people liked this.

My best guess at an answer to "WHY" is the density of population compared to other countries. Canada is at a disadvantage because of it size and population. There are probably more people in Albany then there is in all of Canada thus the infrastructure costs per person are far higher in Canada and we have to make up the difference in potential revenue.

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Joe ★ [1 month ago in reply to YVR](#) 29 people liked this.

The CRTC is to blame they have created greedy monsters, and made a monopoly for the cable company's!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *EdB* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Joe](#) 29 people liked this.

I wonder who the CRTC is working for????
NOT FOR US!!!
It is time they allow Dishnet and Directtv into this country!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Alderman* ★ [1 month ago in reply to EdB](#) 20 people liked this.

I agree with you EdB. Dismantle the CRTC and do away with censorship in Canada. We are adult enough to watch American TV. Let the US Sat/Cable co. into our country and provide competition. It may lower rates.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mark* ★ [1 month ago in reply to YVR](#) 3 people liked this.

I doubt that there are 33 million people in Albany, but your point is valid.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *christopherbeauvais* ★ [1 month ago in reply to YVR](#) 2 people liked this.

ya you said it revenue because making billions instead of millions and have happier customers makes no sense..

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Like

 *Frank* ★ [1 month ago](#) 67 people liked this.

On the first question, while I value the relevance of material (news, events, etc.) that local TV brings, I am not willing to pay higher fees on my cable bill for them. Frankly, I would expect the cable companies to carry these signals at no additional cost. This makes sense to me since Cable companies have much higher margins than ILECs.

On the second question, I am strongly against additional subsidy for local televisions. There are new business models that Internet based content providers are utilizing which are profitable and not taxing to the rest of us. I would suggest exploring those options.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Carl B* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Frank](#) 4 people liked this.

Newspaper publishers are forced to sink or swim, at the mercy of free markets. Radio broadcasters are forced to justify their continued existence to advertisers or go silent. Why should TV be any different.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#) 59 people liked this.

Canadians are not being fooled by the TV station's rhetoric; what is being discussed here is, plain and simple, a TV tax.

Worse, it's a TV tax they want applied not to all Canadians but only to those who elect to use cable or satellite (in many case because they cannot receive the free off-air signals directly as can the majority of Canadians who choose to live in metropolitan areas).

It seems obvious to me the that cable and satellite companies are "stealing" nothing from the TV companies (as they would have us believe). Quite the opposite in fact, by extending the TV companies (free, off-air) signals to a much broader audience, the TV companies ad revenues

are higher. Without the cable companies and satellite companies, the TV companies audiences (and ad revenues) would go down!

Perhaps the CRTC's decision should be then, that since the cable and satellite companies are responsible for a portion of the TV companies ad revenues, the TV companies should pay part of those revenues back to the cable and satellite companies? That way, we could lower cable and satellite bills making them more affordable to Canadians rather than less affordable?

I'm one of the fortunate people who lives close enough to the US border the I can now receive free off-air digital signals (both SD and HD). Like many other Canadians, although I do have cable TV, I've recently put up a TV antenna for the first time in over 30 years! For less than \$100 in parts, I now receive 8 Buffalo NY stations. 6 of these are HD and all 8 are crystal clear - all thanks to their recent digital conversion!

Even now, I'm debating if I even need cable TV still with its high prices, forced signal substitutions, extra boxes for HD, one TV set per cable box etc etc. My little \$100 antenna gives me HD signals to all my TV's, no box to add, no monthly fees, no forcing me to watch Canadian ads on US networks!

Implement this TV tax and, like many other Canadians, we'll happily get rid of those already-too-expensive cable and satellite bills and be content returning to a simpler time with our little HDTV antennas where we can watch all the major US networks and those fun US commercials that come with them!

So, local TV companies, do your damndest but be prepared to live with the consequences!

As for my local news, I go here: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/Flag>

Like



Mark ★ [1 month ago in reply to John](#) 16 people liked this.

Right on John!

The TV stations should be paying the cable/satelite companies for the increased market.

Flag

Like



darrenwood ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mark](#) 2 people liked this.

do you think telling HBO that they should pay cable and satellite for the increased viewing of their commercials will get them to come on board for free????

It doesnt work like that except in the minds of cable and satellite companies looking to cash in on the free ride of which they have made millions of dollars on so far by charging the end user for content that has been carried free by the pay tv service industry.

Flag

Like



Carl B ★ [1 month ago in reply to darrenwood](#) 4 people liked this.

HBO does not carry commercials. CTV does. Key distinction.

Flag

Like



Sean M ★ [1 month ago in reply to darrenwood](#)

The difference is HBO is something people would pay for. Their content is valued. CTV and Global spend a fortune on programming we can watch elsewhere on the dial because all they are doing is rebroadcasting American programming. They spend millions on this which is why they are in financial trouble. Times have changed. You can get Satellite and Cable pretty much anywhere in the country. People don't need Canadian broadcasters to buy American programming in order to

watch it anymore. If anything most would prefer they stop sim subbing due to the annoying problems that go with it.

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[heather2223](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to John](#) 4 people liked this.

No, the Canadian people are not getting fooled by the TV Station's rhetoric, but you are being fooled by the cable companies' rhetoric.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[John](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to heather2223](#)

Which TV station do you work for heather2223?

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Chip Hicks](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 58 people liked this.

Like any other business, local TV should sink or swim on their own merits. If it wasn't for cable and satellite, local TV broadcasters wouldn't have the audiences that they currently enjoy. Less audience means considerable less advertising revenue. So, in my opinion, cable and satellite companies are already doing their part in giving broadcasters an avenue to sell their air time advertisements. IF the cable/satellite companies had a choice about carrying these Canadian broadcasters, then it would be somewhat of a different story. BUT, the CRTC makes them carry the local signals, taking up valuable bandwidth that the distributors could use for channels that are much more in demand by the general public. It's bad enough that the cable/satellite providers are forced to carry the local channels, but to force them to pay for them as well is about the same as extortion, in my opinion. For example "I'll protect your convenience store from bad guys, but you have to pay me big bucks. If you don't, I'll rob you myself." Does that make sense to anyone? In any other business, this type of thing would probably be against the law, but when the government does it.....

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[project_x](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 57 people liked this.

Local TV is and has always been funded by the commercials they sell. Every local channel is available over the air (OTA), the cable and satellite companies are doing local TV a favour by providing access to local shows and their commercials. Just because the local stations have a flawed business model, they shouldn't be getting a bail out, routed through the cable and satellite providers.

I am opposed to paying extra for any local stations, unless they chose to remove commercials from their broadcasts, why pay twice, I'm already paying for the programming by watching the commercials

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[Scott](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 55 people liked this.

I do not support extra costs on my bill to support local tv. Just because the conventional tv stations business plan is flawed that should not translate into higher fees for cable users. If you want to support local television I would suggest they provide programming that will attract a larger audience. Deregulation seems to be a good idea.

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[Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Scott](#) 2 people liked this.

cancell your cable and you wouldn't have to pay anything if you are that broke, you don't

need Television do you.

[Flag](#)



KK ★ [1 month ago](#) 53 people liked this.

I am absolutely against increasing my cable fees under this (or any other) guise. Why isn't there the option to pay for only the channels I want to watch? Canadian consumers have been pushed to the brink with yearly increases, \$10 a month add up to \$120 a year before tax, for which I'm paying with my after tax income. If it comes down to choosing between groceries, utilities, and channels that I don't want to watch, TV will be the first to go. It will make my decision of buying a \$50 antenna that much easier.

[Flag](#)



Larry ★ [1 month ago](#) 48 people liked this.

The current programming sucks!

Most packages are a form of negative billing, forcing you to subscribe to mindless crap like reality shows, Canadian content, or numerous repeats, instead of A la carte, where you have some choice as to what you watch.

I would cancel my TV cable service than pay more for substandard service.

[Flag](#)



jimcassidy ★ [1 month ago](#) 39 people liked this.

Not in favour of paying extra for "local tv" which is only a few minutes of local news on the six o'clock newscast which is often repeated verbatim on the 11 o'clock newscast. Local news is available in several other forms particularly through the internet.

[Flag](#)



chris ★ [1 month ago](#) 38 people liked this.

1. i would cancel basic cable. It is \$40 a month, has almost doubled since 2004, and the quality has not improved at all.

[Flag](#)



George Serillo ★ [1 month ago](#) 38 people liked this.

I don't care about so-called "local" television... if I want local I have the internet and newspapers... I watch TV for good entertainment, which ISN'T LOCAL... wave your canadian flag all you want --- then look at what people actually watch, and what they actually buy... don't you tax canadians enough already in the spirit of your canadian protectionism???

[Flag](#)



Tim W ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to George Serillo](#) 8 people liked this.

If given the right backing, Canadian television can be good. Evidence of this is in CTV's "Comer Gas," CBC's Mercer Report, Battle of the Blades, and Erica. I can't say that I am personally a fan of all of these shows, but millions of Canadians are. If Global and CTV spent half as much money on local programming they would learn how to create quality. And if both Cable companies AND local television stations were required to have a minimum of 30% canadian content on during prime time, you'd start to see much better local television in a matter of only a couple of years.

[Flag](#)



Murray ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Tim W](#)

You have a point Tim but lets face it Canadian produced shows just can't compete with the American ones mainly because we are a small country...10 % of the size of the U.S.A.....its a guarantee that if Canada had the same population that everything would be better here...from lower taxes to better TV etc...but we have to face reality and have more American shows because of this!!!

[Flag](#)

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Fred ★ [1 month ago](#) 38 people liked this.

I am not prepared to pay any more for my television service. I should be able to pay for just the channels I want and not be forced to pay to support channels that only a few want. There should be no cable bundles of use less channels and no support for local television either a channel can stand on it's own or it should die.

[Flag](#)

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Cheryl H. ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 20 people liked this.

I have had satellite TV for ten years + now, and have been paying Bell monthly all the fees- not realizing that the local channels do not receive any of this. My monies paid add up to thousands of dollars over the years- of which I pay \$36 per month for local programming- that the local stations get nothing of! What a big rip off. It's time the CRTC got off their butts and did something about the greed of the large cable and satellite service companies. I fully support the local TV stations charging the cable companies but in turn the CRTC needs to assure the public that they will not increase their fees to the already over-gouged public.

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Wayne in AB ★ [1 month ago](#) 36 people liked this.

I was under the (mistaken) impression that cable & satellites companies were paying for network TV signals as I was being charged for these as part of an "essential" services package. If they get them for free then why am I charged for them, I don't have a choice if I want them or not. The easy solution is to make the cable & satellite service pay say \$1 per month per subscriber to Global & CTV out of what I am already paying Shaw Direct. I exclude CBC from this as they are already subsidized by the taxpayer at about 1 billion per year. There is no need to charge anyone more, the network should be made to sit down & work out this issue between themselves. The only other option I see is to do away with the "essentials" and let me pick what I want to pay for.

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Roger BC ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Wayne in AB](#) 4 people liked this.

If we were allowed to pick the channels we want the hole works would have to do a better job or they would not get picked. Maybe a buck a channel with a min fee for the service

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



PG ★ [1 month ago](#) 36 people liked this.

The unfortunate part of the issue surrounding this supposed "tv tax" (a title given by the cable companies..so it must be taken with a rather large grain of salt) is that the local broadcasters are finding themselves in their current predicament, not only because of the change in the media landscape brought on by changes in technology - but also by the predatory practices of cable operators who act as if they are doing consumers a favour by carrying CTV, CityTV, Global and other local broadcasters.

Local media is very necessary to ensure the oversight of local governments by a responsible

and mindful element of the fifth estate. Those of you who will forward the idea that the internet will do this in the future have not grasped the fact that internet news sources normally pickup on the ground broken by local (nee: traditional) media. Internet news agencies, by and large, do not have the money to hire a team of investigative reporters to review news stories breaking in each person's city, town or district. To believe otherwise is naive.

So while local stations struggle to compete against all of the new players in the technology race to deliver news, cable companies remain looming overhead. These are corporations that lost touch with their customers and sustainable business practices a long time ago. Their only solution to economic difficulty is to raise rates while rejigging their channel package lineups to ensure consumers are FORCED to pay for channels they would not otherwise be interested in paying to watch.

So to hear cable operators telling ME that it's unfair for someone else to ask me for more money to pay for local TV, the very same operators have absolutely no moral qualms in raising my cable rates by 10%.

Dare I ask - what is the difference?

Now, cable operators like to convince people (and frankly, the CRTC) that they are selling a 'lifestyle technology' by creating and carrying new channels that only revolve around lifestyle topics. Television, to their mindset is no longer a carrier of news and truly valuable information - but only a vehicle of mindless self indulgence..and so their mindset is "Well, if someone wants to pay to watch this - what business is it of the CRTC's?"

The fundamental problem is - cable bills are no longer in touch with the product they deliver. The relativity of cost to consumer vs. product delivered to consumer has never been more out of whack.

It is time for the CRTC to represent Canadians - because if you don't - then perhaps yours is the next organization to be deemed "useless" by cable operators.

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 [davetrautman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to PG 2](#) people liked this.

Isn't it time to stop mixing up the difference between a carrier of the signal and a creator of the content?

The "basic" cable service (without specialty channels) is delivering mostly local signals with more clarity and over more distance and to a wider viewer market than over the air FREE TV. That's about it. Above Channel 13 we're into the extra channels delivered from a farther distance (usually American local TV affiliates of U.S. networks) and then further up the dial the panorama of niche market channels catering to people who want to watch some specific genre.

Local TV is a creator of content. In my city the cable operator is a creator of content for just one community-based channel. And they have a little advertising on it to offset the cost of operating a tiny studio. Local TV has to fill up the entire broadcast day with stuff. But they also operate a broadcast antenna and try to distribute their signal over the air for free. Advertising pays for Local TV.

When much of what passes for good entertainment moves off the local channel and slides up into the higher band - then advertising can try to follow. But it costs a lot more to advertise in those specialty channels. Walt's Clothes store used to advertise on local TV when it covered local sports LIVE. They aren't interested in serving a national audience. And they can't afford it anyway. What's left for them to sponsor which would draw as large an audience "locally" as the professional hockey team? Nothing.

Cable TV charges me to provide a clear signal created by Local TV in my city and in nearby U.S. cities. That's what I pay for. If I want more I pay more for those other higher numbers. This is all quite clearly understood.

My cable operator also provides me with internet service. It carries other people's content all

the time. And it's carrying MY content right now.

I see where cable operators would like to provide cell phone service too.

I don't see the Canadian networks diversifying out of old and established media (papers, radio, TV) in any meaningful way. They know if people had to pay for the news on the web they would likely look elsewhere. They are creators of content.

I see a lot of remarks suggesting it is time to break the obligation for basic cable and let people pick their favourite Local TV sources; and leave the others out. I think it just might be time to allow that. Technically it's not that much more difficult for cable operators than it once was.

Why is my Local TV news not available for download to watch when I'm ready for it? That would be too innovative for CTV, Global, or others to implement. But the downloading of serialized TV content is growing and iTunes is just the beginning.

The CRTC regulates ALL communications in Canada (to some extent less so with the Phone people). Even internet providers. They are NOT the problem. In fact there is not really a problem in terms of 'carrier' issues.

Maybe the whole model of a Network Affiliate is dead? If the CRTC felt it was time to allow viewers to choose their Local TV through the cable operator those other affiliates might regret bringing this whole issue up in the first place.

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Like



AT ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 18 people liked this.

Listen, I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate. I also didn't know that none of my money goes to local TV stations. Cable companies should start paying for the local TV they charge me for. I shouldn't have to pay more for local TV. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living. Local TV used to be free. Not everyone can even afford cable. I find cable companies greedy. Local TV should be free to local residents. The solution is simple: Cable companies want to distribute local TV signals and get paid, then they should pay the local TV stations.

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Like



Steve Hayward ★ [1 month ago](#) 34 people liked this.

I am thoroughly sick of poor television programs, excessive cost, and advertising which I find largely offensive to both taste and intelligence. There are too many idiot specialty channels on top of legitimate channels, the whole chasing too few advertising dollars. Something has to give and it won't be me. I have just cancelled tv service altogether and will be very slow to return to it. I believe the CRTC is largely responsible for this mess and ought to let most of those involved go bankrupt before subscription fees are allowed to increase.

[Flag](#)

Like



steve -oakville ★ [1 month ago](#) 33 people liked this.

1) I would cancel or reduce my subscription with my satellite provider. I already pay a fee to the satellite provider for local TV stations.
2) offer subscribers more choice (including local channels) instead of bundling.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sonja ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 17 people liked this.

I can't believe that nothing has been done all these years concerning cable companies. For the many who can't afford to get cable what are they to do? Why is it we must pay for local television, then pay the cable company again for something they get for free. In my opinion,

these cable companies are all crooks. It's all about the profit and almighty buck! Why does the CRTC continue to allow it to happen? If local TV disappears how many jobs will be lost? Then this brings the economy down more so. It's time for the fat cats who line their pockets with profits at the cable companies to be forced to give back all they've taken. Make the cable companies pay back local TV! Cable companies would never let you get away with not paying their bill, so why is it they are allowed to get away with not paying theirs. What's fair is fair and it time the CRTC step up and make cable companies pay their fair share. Enough is Enough!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *gerry Companion* ★ [1 month ago](#) 32 people liked this.

I am already paying too much for the basic Satellite package I receive. I want to see more for the \$\$\$ I am paying now I feel we are getting ripped of as it is. How or why did TV stations wait 40 plus years to bring up this topic. I would go back to the old antennae before I pay another \$. All I see now is repeat,repeat,repeat and not much Canadian content,without American channels we would be up the creek. It's time the CRTC investigate why we are getting ripped with such few programs. As Bruce Springsteen sang "57 channels and nothing On" .

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dizgruntledyathink?* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [gerry Companion](#) 3 people liked this.

Great Gerry my sentiments precisely. Think about the former Yugoslavia where all the different cultures lived together for decades, happily or not, and suddenly begin fighting with each other. In this instance it is bottom line greeeed!!! As with our government spending thinking the taxpayer is bottomless pit of tapable dollars. Enough taxes, enough advertising, enough bullying of the pions. CRTC should begin listening. Enough of the pushing around of consumers. Enough of the delusional sentiment that these services are providing "value for \$!" What a joke. The sad reality is that if these essential packages are dismantled it will only be a matter of time until the pay for usage fees will reach the package fees level or exceed. So essentially, we will be paying more for less. Yes we r Canadian ... give it to us a little more, more, more... we'll take it because what are we going to do fight back? You mean CRTC body will actually listen to us? Negative billing? Yes, we should pay more for local because the CEO's need new office furniture every quarter, a new float plane to fly into the company's wilderness resort, and don't forget we must support all the conferences at luxurious spas whereby high training is provided to enable the employees to add value to the consumers of their service. Legalized robbery is what it is all about. Value!...hmmmffff! Why work? Obtain a license and make money for free courtesy of your own taxdollar.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *David Holmes* ★ [1 month ago](#) 29 people liked this.

I find that my cable bill is already quite high enough. I would look for ways to cut back on what I subscribe to if obliged to pay more for basic cable.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Roland* ★ [1 month ago](#) 29 people liked this.

I am opposed to supporting local TV stations with an extra fee collected by the cable company from it's customers. These TV stations are businesses. If they can't make money with their present business models they need to change their models so they are profitable.

Collecting a fee from customers, administered by the cable companies, is wrong on many levels. First, why should I pay if I don't watch those channels? How do you collect from customers who watch those channels over the air, and hence are not customers of cable companies? Technology is going to change and we will soon watch "TV" over the internet. How will the local channels collect from those viewers then?

Changes in technology put virtually 100% of the businesses that made wooden wagon wheels out of business. The ones that adapted to the new technology of automobiles from horse and buggies survived and those that refused to change with the new technology failed.

If the local TV stations can not make money in the face of change they should be allowed to fail and should not be saved by what amounts to a tax on consumers to prop up an antiquated industry unwilling to adapt.

[Flag](#)

Like



Julie ★ [1 month ago](#) 29 people liked this.

I would NOT pay for local TV. The internet has made it obsolete for me and I should not be FORCED to pay for it.

[Flag](#)

Like



canadianmeathead ★ [1 month ago](#) 28 people liked this.

I will be canceling my cable Subscription if asked to pay more to these outrageous thieves, that is the Cable Companies as well as the TV Stations and Networks. Cable companies are not providing services equal to the monies they charge and TV does not provide many programs worth watching. The numbers and length of commercials is unbearable.

I would like to see an open market without Government protection for cable provider. We need more competition not more regulations and fees. The CRTC should be eliminated.

[Flag](#)

Like



Robert Gaal ★ [1 month ago](#) 28 people liked this.

Thank you for asking for grass roots input on the proposed changes vis-a-vis paying for local T.V. It is to the point in my relationship with television that I have come to re-think the need for so much media choice and the necessity to support even higher fees to prop up local television. The unfortunate part of local t.v is that it seems to be a receding and un-affordable outlet for information. With the internet filled with information that is more and more reliable I think local television is going to experience the realities of cost effective programming provided through other sources.

The notion of endlessly billing end users for whatever the reason has worn very thin and my next decision will be to remove television entirely from my home.

Thank you.

[Flag](#)

Like



jw ★ [1 month ago](#) 27 people liked this.

Local TV is history, let it die the death it deserves. I don't want to pay extra to support in on its deathbed. Let consumers buy individual channels of their choice, not the choice imposed on them cable companies. CRTC should go the way of the dinosaur, it's protecting no one but itself and big business. By way of proof, check out www.hulu.com, Canadians cannot receive the product because of CRTC. Same with www.skype.com. We, the end users, are getting screwed by CRTC, all in the name of protecting profits for telecommunication companies.

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Like



dc ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [jw](#) 4 people liked this.

The CRTC has always been about protecting the telecommunications companies' bottom line rather than the hapless user. It is good to see Chairman Konrad squirm as he tries to reach a decision that he knows will offend his good buddies in one boardroom or another.

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Like

 *oilers84* ★ [1 month ago](#) 26 people liked this.

1. I'd cancel my cable & put up an antenna. That way I get the local signals for free & also get to pull in US stations without the hassle of simulcasting.

2. Eliminate 90% of the specialty channels.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Yak* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to oilers84](#) 3 people liked this.

That's a great idea if you live in a big city where you can get local over the air broadcasts and if there are local broadcasts to receive. If the local/network stations go broke you won't be watching too much.

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Like

 *Brian* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Yak](#) 3 people liked this.

You have to define your terms. The TV networks are NOT saying that you won't get TV, merely that not every small centre can afford to have its own local news programming. You'll still get the news from the nearest major centre that CAN afford to sell ad-space. The broadcasters have done everybody a disservice by coining the term "Local TV" and then letting all the fearmongers make hay with it. They point to Brandon Manitoba where a local channel could not support itself.... Gues what, Brandon will now get its news from a Winnepeg station with and expanded veiwership. Is that so terrible?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *stephjohn* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Yak](#) 2 people liked this.

even in a big city you may not be able to recieve any over the air broadcasts. My mom lives in SW ont in a city, in a large apt building and is unable to pick up anything but static. The only way she can watch tv is to pay for cable.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *FatherH* ★ [1 month ago](#) 25 people liked this.

When cable TV first came on the market, in the early 1970's, cable companies offered only local programming (i.e., channels that could be picked up via an antenna). They made money. The customer was happy because they got a good, clear picture and no longer needed a pole on their roof. The TV stations were pleased because people were watching their programs (and advertising), and were making money.

Today, cable and satellite companies offer far too many channels - most as part of "packages" which contain more channels than the subscriber wants in order to get the one or two that are really important to them. At the end of the day, our "entertainment" bill is far too excessive because we're forced to pay for something we don't want.

The cable and satellite companies are happy because they're making lots of money. The local TV stations (which, like the non-over the air channels, now, it seems, offer more advertising per hour than programming), are happy because people are watching their channels (both their over the air channels and their own cable "specialty" stations), and they're making money. The consumer, most of whom never experienced TV from an antenna, are not happy because they're forced (by CRTC regulations??), to buy/pay for programs they don't want in order to watch a limited number of local and specialty channels.

Do we want to pay more?? No.

Do we want more choice?? Yes.

A few years ago there was a company who created quite a stir in the industry by offering a basic package, which included all the local channels, along with an opportunity to select each and every individual channel a customer wanted, in groups of 5 selections (as opposed to a package of channels which only contained one or two of their choices), at a reasonable and affordable price.

Unfortunately, they were eventually forced out of business by the big companies who objected to their "customer friendly" way of approaching the business of providing TV service to Canadians.

It would be great if the CRTC would mandate a similar way of providing service. I realize that many of the specialty channels, and maybe a few of the local channels, would be forced out of business for lack of demand, however, I believe that fewer choices, coupled with \$1.00 or even \$1.50 per channel per month (with a reasonable minimum channels being required - {15?}), would reduce costs to both the cable/satellite companies and to the consumer.

I also believe if this type of mandate was put in place in Canada, each and every customer could decide which local channels they wanted (another words, instead of the cable/satellite companies providing a basic package which included the stations which have caused this current discussion, the customers would decided which ones they wanted), the people would eventually get what they want and the local channels that survive would get their fee from the cable and satellite companies as a percentage of the fees paid for the channel by only those customers who have chosen/paid for it/them (and the same fee schedule should apply to all non-over the air channels).

Then, and only then, would Canadians stop complaining about how much cheaper our Americans get their cable/Satellite services for and how much more they're offered.

Flag

Like



Joe ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to FatherH](#) 4 people liked this.

>>> coupled with \$1.00 or even \$1.50 per channel per month (with a reasonable minimum channels being required - {15?}), would reduce costs to both the cable/satellite companies and to the consumer. <<<

I think that a \$1, or more is way to high. Have this price put into effect and you will see every channel under the sun available. There are way to many channels now to price at at buck a channel!!!

Flag

Like



Joel ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Joe](#)

It would only hurt the cable providers bottome line. They dont send each individual signal to your house, they all go to your house. It actually cost them more money if you don't want those additional channels, since they need to create a special filter for you. The bundles you get are actually special filters that remove the rest of the signals outside that spectrum.

Flag

Like



RH ★ [1 month ago](#) 24 people liked this.

I pay almost \$100 to Rogers every month for cable television. (Far too much for the service provided, I think, but I haven't found another option - they have a monopoly). I would say about one quarter of what I watch is local television; CBC, Global, CityTV, CTV.

I would be happy to see Rogers pay some of their exorbitant fees to local broadcasters. And If they choose to raise rates any more I will cancel my cable and buy an HD antenna.

Flag

Like



brian ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to RH](#) 2 people liked this.

There's really two issues here.... One - Should we support local tv stations with an additional levy on cable viewers and Two - should we decide to regulate the profits or revenues of cable companies. The second issue can and should be addressed independantly of the first. If we decide that the cable companies have a monopoly against the public good then yes we should regulate the high fees they charge us. However, in doing so and presuming it would call for a reduction in the revenues available to the cable companies, it is the consumer that should benefit from the decreased fee base and not the broadcasters through an invisible tax.

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Like



Brian ★ [1 month ago](#) 24 people liked this.

1. I do not support a local TV fee on top of cable fees, the fees are too high already.
2. No measures need to be taken to support local TV. The industry will find equilibrium in due course without the need for any subsidy.

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Like



hollybare12 ★ [1 month ago](#) 24 people liked this.

What about all the pensioners who are on a very limited income. You are going to force them to pay more for what little enjoyment they get from watching tv. In answer to your question I would have to cancel my cable tv because I would not be able to afford it. As it is we are paying far to much in cable charges for what we receive.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kyle ★ [1 month ago](#) 24 people liked this.

Local tv needs to supoprt its self. If it cant find funding without being subsidized then its programming lacks demand and should be shut down. I dont want to pay for local tv that nobody (including myself) wants to watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



Intelligent Correspondent ★ [1 month ago](#) 23 people liked this.

First, I commend you for the clarity of this question. The CRTC in other releases used the term "the possibility of negotiations between local stations and cable and satellite companies to determine the value of signals", which is just bureacratic bafflegab meant to disguise what this ais all about, ie, increases to by cable bill to pay for something that I don't want. To answer your questions:

1. I first would be angry at the CRTC and the government fo allowing this to happen. Then I would drop the services responsible for the fee increases. If I cannot drop them, I will drop others. Ultimately, I will use the internet more and TV less.
2. Nothing. They already get too much financial support. The buggy whip factories went out of business, why can't they?

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Like



Paul ★ [1 month ago](#) 23 people liked this.

There is a presupposition here that if local TV was to become a pay service, that it would not be one of my choice, i.e. "how would I react . . . if asked?". My position is this: local TV should be a service option, if I find value in it, then I would be willing to pay for it - if I do not find value in it, then I would not be willing to pay for it and would be quite angry if I was "asked" to do so. I was never asked to pay for the CBC, and would not if asked since I place no value on it. My fear is that state intervention would create a similar model with local TV, i.e. a bunch of inefficient, non-viable, little state run media outlets - essentially this is what they are asking for, a forced

subsidy to maintain an unviable media business; much like the CBC.

To support local TV, signal providers could make a "local package" available to consumers. Consumers could then decide if they wish to purchase it. If consumers wish to pay for it, then all revenues collected for the package would go to local TV. In other words, a fairly standard business model should apply to local TV - why would they be exempt from the basic supply and demand premise that a shoe store is subject to? The CBC has already cornered the market on "cultural" sentiment, don't compound it!

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Like



Kevin ★ [1 month ago](#) 21 people liked this.

The local TV stations do not need anymore money. Why would I want to pay more to support local TV when I only watch one third of their programming. Prices need to come down not go up. These signals are available for free if you have an antenna why am I going to be penalized because I subscribe to cable or satellite. The LPIF charge I am already paying for is quite enough. Why is it that I cannot pay for the channels I want?

[Flag](#)

Like



Yak ★ [1 month ago](#) 20 people liked this.

Right now the only local content I watch is the news between 5 and 7pm. Pretty much everything else I watch TV wise is American programming rebroadcast on Canadian stations because of simsubbing or downloaded from internet torrent sites - such as HBO programming that we are not allowed to have access to in Canada.

Not sure how Canadian broadcasters can sleep at night whining about the cable companies using their product for free when they don't even have much Canadian content on their stations, it's mostly regurgitated American programming. If they didn't have the cable companies with the current antiquated model of program delivery that they currently employ, they might all be broke.

My answer is NO, I would not pay additional fees for local TV. I will gather my news from other sources and if my roommate would let me I would cancel cable TV and get all my entertainment and news programming from the internet which is the wave of the future anyway.

Check out hulu.com to see the future. TVs will eventually come with a built in computer to access a worldwide menu of HD programs that you stream for free or pay for on an individual basis. It will be on demand programming available 24/7 so no expensive external set top boxes or PVRs will be required either. Built in flash memory drives will capture content if desired.

I think the broadcasters and cable companies are all a bunch of spoiled rich babies and I'm tired of overpaying them for the crap we are "allowed" to watch. Their current antiquated business model will soon be dead. Good riddance. I will be paying a company for a high speed fibre connection to the internet and that's it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Franko ★ [1 month ago](#) 20 people liked this.

I am not willing to pay extra for local tv stations. As most of the other comments read, the local stations need to change their business model and adapt to the new technologies available to consumers. I agree that the CRTC should force unbundling of current service offerings by the cable providers.

What next, will we need to pay for local radio as well?

[Flag](#)

Like



DC ★ [1 month ago](#) 20 people liked this.

I would not want and refuse to pay for local TV via cable services. If local TV can't be

competitive, then they need to re-invent the business or go out of business.

[Flag](#)

Like



fidel_castro ★ [1 month ago](#) 20 people liked this.

My perception and assumption is that I am paying for these channels already in my basic cable package. For \$30/month I get TV. period. For \$60/month I get more TV. The distribution of funds should be transparent to me. Any rise in cost would make me upset regardless of the two parties reasoning why.

[Flag](#)

Like



Craig Mac ★ [1 month ago](#) 16 people liked this.

Cable costs are already through the roof! I do not support any further rate increases for television regardless of the outcome of this debate. Only selected local television is important to me. I do not speak Italian, Portuguese, Chinese, French or languages other than English. I propose that the consumer have the choice to select their own local channels for viewing without extra charges being implemented. Basic cable packages that are offered currently are atrocious! I cannot or choose not to watch 1/2 the channels that are currently offered in a basic package. Essentially, I already pay far too much for what I am receiving. Give the consumer the choice for which local television they wish to pay for on a channel by channel basis without additional costs and get rid of these packaged channel offers. With this option, local television charges can be directly absorbed by the cable companys. Currently, the consumer is held hostage by the cable companys and it's about time someone put a stop to it!

[Flag](#)

Like



rgb66 ★ [1 month ago](#) 16 people liked this.

1) I would immediately cancel my satelite subscription and move to over-the-air HD antenna reception.

2) Fine if you want to make cable/satelite providers pay; just enact regulation that such a cost can NEVER be passed to the consumer. The cablecos etc. were founded on over-the-air programming; now make them (not the user) pay for having well over 30 years of this free service.

[Flag](#)

Like



Saeed ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 8 people liked this.

I can not understand why the cable and sat companies think they are entitled to charge people for somebody else's content, and not pay the content-producers their due fees. Cable fees have risen quickly in the past few years (unlike other services offered to the public) so they should pay the TV stations for their content, and should not be allowed to overcharge customers for this.

I wouldn't pay Rogers or Bell a penny for their "signal", it's the "content" produced by CBC or CTV that I am paying and part of that money SHOULD go to the CBC and CTV.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave ★ [1 month ago](#) 15 people liked this.

I would cut back on other packages i have. Its time for companies in canada to stop looking for bail outs. Local channels need to find other forms of income or cost reductions. I am tired of the government telling me what i can and cant watch. if i have to pay for local stations i best be able to opt out of the channels i dont want.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bakerboy* ★ [1 month ago](#) 15 people liked this.

The only way to resolve this ,is to set a basic package & the rest a la carte.My cable bill is too high as it is now . To get some of the channels I like,I also have to pay for "crappy" channels I never watch .

Open it up ,let the customers decide for themselves !!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Paul* ★ [1 month ago](#) 15 people liked this.

1. I will not pay for local TV on top of what I am paying now to my cable serives.

2. Should we support local television? It seems to me that some people working for "local TV" is asking for a public bailout. If they can produce an attractive, interesting program, of course more people will watch and more advertising money will come. Some people out there have no talent at all, instead of self-developing, they use "local" as an excuse asking everyone else to pay them. I will pay to go to a movie, a show, but will not pay for a local tv as I don't watch them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Paul* ★ [1 month ago](#) 15 people liked this.

I am not willing to pay extra for local TV. If the television companies are unable to run local TV profitably, then it either indicates a lack of demand, or programming that does not interest a viable audience. In either case it is better to lose local TV than have it subsidized by levying another fee onto already high cable bills.

Additionally I would ask that the CRTC insist that cable firms introduce menu pricing for consumers so that we only pay for the channels we choose to receive. Current packages are bloated with channels that are rarely watched and yet increase the cost of cable to customers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *The_Greg* ★ [1 month ago](#) 14 people liked this.

While just about everything I watch on TV is local stations I have a hard time buying in to the broadcasters emotional support 'local tv' campaign.

Television stations and networks make their money from advertisers. By having their stations available over cable their reach is greatly increased thereby increasing the advertising pool.

How much are the local stations paying the cable companies for this increased exposure? That's right nothing.

While I have some sympathy that the local TV stations are that badly run, it's not up to me to prop up a failed business model.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *douginpa* ★ [1 month ago](#) 14 people liked this.

I am currently paying enough for television service (BEV Satellite). I am becoming increasingly annoyed with the endless commercials in while paying over \$70 per month for the priviledge. If my provider wants to raise fees they can go ahead, I'll be cancelling the whole thing. I can get the news, weather etc in a more efficient fashion on the internet anyway, and am turning more often to the net for entertainment as well, so I can live without the expense of Satellite TV.

The notion of local TV has become a joke, the local networks have a minimal local newscast, everything else is from national HQ, with a bunch of American programming thrown in as filler.

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Like

 *jonmarvin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 14 people liked this.

Local TV, in my opinion, doesn't have nearly as much impact on a community as it used to. With the proliferation of channels to the home via cable and satellite, people are not that concerned with which CTV channel they watch their programs on. I won't pay extra for this. I will, in fact, cancel my service rather than accept the extra cost.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [angry3](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 14 people liked this.

I would NOT pay for local TV. The internet has made it obsolete for me and I should not be FORCED to pay for it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [paultk](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 14 people liked this.

1. Local TV is less and less important with the emergence of the Internet to get local news. News is the primary reason I care about local television at all. If I am asked to pay for local TV, then I must be given the option to opt out of local television. If I am not given this option, I will simply cancel my cable TV as this is incredibly stupid, especially since I can get local stations in HD free over the air.

2. I don't believe anything can be done to improve local television at this point. TV in general is becoming less and less important to me. I don't see our current market sustaining the current players. We already pay to have the CBC and I think that is the direction we should continue in. The governments job is not to support outdated business models.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [tim_yyc](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 6 people liked this.

In Canada we already pay for CBC - Quote from their 2008/09 Annual report "Total funds available to CBC | Radio-Canada for operations in 2008-2009 amounted to \$1.7 billion, of which \$1.1 billion came from the Parliamentary operating appropriation."

I never watch CBC (except Dragon's Den) so I wouldn't miss it if they take some of that money and give it to the local TV stations.

I will NOT PAY MORE for local TV!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [thedrone](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 11 people liked this.

If I was forced to pay any more than I already to do subsidize local programming, I would cancel my satellite subscription without hesitation. It would be enough incentive to put up an aerial antenna and combine this with programming already available on the internet. I am sorry but we have a market economy. Its sink or swim. If the current local programming model does not support a viable tv station then the station should be sold or closed down. Canadian produced programming, other than the news (until recently), is unwatchable. If these means that the only available channel with local programming is the CBC then I'm fine with that. As a Toronto resident, I've already had to absorb additional municipal levies and now face another big tax hit via the proposed HST. Enough is enough.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [sjoyce](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 11 people liked this.

I would be willing to pay an extra \$2-3 per month if it was to secure canadian content and local TV. Along with any such fees, I would expect the option to choose which local station(s) I receive and pay for. A higher fee would be unacceptable to me.

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Like



Mike ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to sjoyce](#) 4 people liked this.

except that money would go to buy american programing.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jean ★ [1 month ago](#) 11 people liked this.

Why am I paying any additional fees on top of what I'm paying now for basic cable, While I'm already paying way too much? Why and whyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyy?

I could just buy a dish and have access to way more chanel

[Flag](#)

Like



lady_1 ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

Television is supposed to be a conduit for the people, local TV supports that. When the money hungry executives forget that and puts more strain on individuals budgets to afford a "staple" that is a shame. Media is there for the people, not the people there for media to exploit. Integrate the services to reflect our hard earned money and stop all this selfishness that can only lead to a financial disaster. Haven't they learned through the recent financial meltdown that people are sick and tired of corporations being so greedy? We pay enough to have all services brought to our homes.

[Flag](#)

Like



nick1946 ★ [1 month ago](#) 10 people liked this.

There should be no extra charges for local TV. We already pay too much and why should I as a cable subscriber pay for something that I would not pay for if I took the signal over the air. Plus except for maybe 1 hour a day local TV is not local at all. We should also be able to pick and choose which channels we want to buy instead of having to pay for channels that I never watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



True Blue ★ [1 month ago](#) 10 people liked this.

My right testicle has more Canadian content than CTV and Global combined.

[Flag](#)

Like



brian_in_kelowna ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to True Blue](#) 1 person liked this.

LOL....so true too!

[Flag](#)

Like



Donn ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

I am so tired of large corporations, companies looking for more money from the consumers/tax payers because they are not making quite enough money this year. Guess what? Neither is the average tax payer! Our basic living costs have gone up - our taxes have gone up and we are looking at even more taxation come summer of 2010. Where is our bailout? Our top up? We are working even harder now just to keep our jobs at the same pay, and sometimes with a pay cut.

Take responsibility for your own woes as we have to and stop looking for everyone else to bail you out - or ensure you enjoy the same profits you are so used to. As citizens we have to grind it out with a smile on our face - try doing the same. We have no pity for the companies who have exploited us to make huge profits, and now what us to pony up so they don't have to feel

the same brunt the rest of us have to endure.

[Flag](#)

Like



Clayton Desjarlais ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 5 people liked this.

I am a subscriber to Bell Expressvu, and as a subscriber to this service, I accept that it is going to be an expensive proposition to get the TV that I want. I am willing to pay these expensive monthly Satellite bills, but what I am unwilling to do is pay even more each month so that local TV can charge the Satellite company for carrying their stations. The Satellite companies - and the cable companies for that matter - can absolutely afford to pay for the local TV that they carry without raising what are already exorbitant monthly service bills.

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Like



Diane ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 5 people liked this.

I think it's ridiculous that I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations. Cable networks need to take their "fingers out of the pot" and start paying for the local TV they charge me for, which I have paid in good faith while thinking that local TV was getting their share. I refuse to pay more when the money I have already paid is not being delivered to the local stations I subscribe to and watch regularly. My cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service. Stop the greed and do what you are supposed to do without any increases to my fees.

I fully support my local TV stations in this matter.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bonnie D ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 5 people liked this.

I believe that what we are currently paying for cable/satellite TV is more than enough. The cable/satellite companies are picking up the local station signal and charging us for it now in our basic packages. They should NOT be allowed to charge or tax us when they have been picking it up for free for many years. It is time that they start to pay for it out of what we are already paying. Do NOT allow the cable/satellite companies to increase our bills. Make them pay for the local programming out of their profits - mind you not all of what you get on a local station is local programming - much of it is American. I would definitely miss my local News, Sports and Weather reports if the local stations here had to shut down.

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Like



knocker123 ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I'll probably stop watching tv. learn to sail maybe.
it's just ridiculous.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sam ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 4 people liked this.

1. Basic package should be free (or almost)
2. Local TV should be supported by the gov for local programming (not imported stuff)
3. If cable companies insist on charging users for basic packages then they must pay Local channels.
4. Cable companies should offer customers far more flexibility in choice than they do now.

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Like



miltonaupperle ★ [1 month ago](#) 9 people liked this.

I will not want to pay more for "local" TV. I will cut services or outright cancel the whole thing. Every sunday night I see the Canadian channels have "buddied" with an American channel and are broadcasting the exact same programs for hours at time. So where is this "local" content that the CDN networks say they are delivering, other than the 1 hour of news they run at 5 pm.

[Flag](#)

Like



Donald F Ward ★ [1 month ago](#) 9 people liked this.

ROGERS HAS BEEN STEADILY PUTTING UP LOCAL CABLE CHARGES, SO I'M AGAINST ANYMORE. TV STATIONS SHOULD GET THEIR SHARE OF REVENUE IF USED FROM THEIR SOURCE.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jeff Power ★ [1 month ago](#) 9 people liked this.

About a year ago with my Cable Bill seeming to rise every 3-6 months, I already set a budget for Cable. If Cable goes up I reduce service to stay within my budget. If local TV stations want to negotiate a charge let them do so in an open market environment, where the Cable company can refuse to pay and the TV station could refuse service. Thats the only way to determine true value.

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facebook-800445251 ★ [1 month ago](#) 8 people liked this.

Most broadcasters are providing no local TV other than a half hour of news, what exactly are we trying to protect here?

If broadcasters want fee-for-carriage they should be required to spend it on Canadian programming.

Currently, the major broadcasters are nothing more than affiliates for American TV, why should Canadians support this with their money?

I noticed that the new plan put forward by the broadcasters would require cable and satellite companies to black out U.S. programs on U.S. channels, doesn't this simply reinforce the idea that they provide nothing of value to Canadians.

If the broadcasters want protection from the forces of competition they should be required to provide Canadians with something of value, not rebroadcasted U.S. programming.

Fee-for-carriage should only be allowed if:

- the money is guaranteed to go to Canadian programming
- a cap is put on the amount of money broadcasters can direct to buying U.S. programs
- preferential channel placement and mandatory carriage by BDUs are dropped
- the practice of "bundling" is eliminated, allowing Canadians to choose, a la carte, what channel they want to pay for.

Giving in to the broadcasters' demands is nothing more than a handout to a dying business model.

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kevinhalfpenny ★ [1 month ago](#) 8 people liked this.

My biggest problem is really with the distributors (rogers, cogeco, bell), it is so expensive for cable as it is right now. Analog cable approx 45 mth for really nothing. If you want this in HD you are looking at anywhere from 80 - 120 mth depending on 1 or 2 tvs. I don't think as consumers we should have to pay for bundle packages that we don't want. I watch 3 channels and it costs me 45 mth for this convience to watch sports in my living room, that is crazy. I have recently just cancelled my cable due to these fees going up more. I think we should be able to pay for what we want to watch A la Carte. I'll pay 3 bucks a channel per mnth. This will also

make all tv channels make sure their programming is worth the money as people could drop them if their programming wasn't worth it.

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Like

 *Simon* ★ [1 month ago](#) 8 people liked this.

If I were asked to pay for local tv I would choose not to. I believe cable charges are already far too high in Canada, especially vs. the USA (alongside with the mobile phone/internet charges) where you get FAR more for less. If I really want to get local news, which is the only real reason I watch "local" tv, I can turn to the internet. I think that if it were decided that local tv can charge the cable companies to carry their signals, then the customer should be able to opt out of the channels they do not wish to view, as it is HIGHLY unlikely that Rogers/Bell will absorb the additional costs and not pass them on to the consumer. Since, in my view, Rogers/Bell are already making a fortune charging for a product they don't pay for (i.e. local tv included in their "basic" packages), the consumer should not be forced to pay even more for it.

In terms of what they can do to support local television? Make it more viable to support itself through advertising. If the demand isn't there, they can't charge as much for advertising. What would any normal business have to do? They would have to increase their demand, not cry to the government for more money. They went a long way to put themselves in this position years ago when they ignored where the medium was going. They forced "specialty" channels into the position they are now in; facing more of a challenge to get viewership. Now the specialty channels they first outcast, and later had to buy as they were making more money than they were, are still making more money as people are WILLING to pay extra for them. If their other programming was as in demand, they wouldn't have this problem, and from what I read/hear, it is not. Instead of trying to change that, they are asking for more money just to keep the same product. What happens when that fails?

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Like

 *jamesyakimovich* ★ [1 month ago](#) 8 people liked this.

REAL local TV in Toronto currently includes stations owned by cable and networks - so there is a balance in relation to true local stations and they are usually ethnic in nature.

When I look at the programming carried by the networks such as Global and CTV, so much of it is not local, but is American programming, especially when considering that the news is only a small portion of the total day. Paying a charge for local TV would be acceptable if it was ONLY for a local station providing local content all day long - not 2 hours of local content and 22 hours of bought programming from the United States or elsewhere.

In Toronto, even City TV, which is viewed as a local station, has a lot of United States programming and cannot be earmarked as a local station...so what is the true definition of a local tv station. Channel 9 and channel 3 are not - they may as well be located in Buffalo with a cut in at 6 and 11 for some local news.

In conclusion, the REAL issues is that network stations are not really local stations in view of the small amount of true local content - so if they want to increase profits, let them pay less for American programming, charge advertisers more, or by reducing executive and on air personality pay - how is that Mulroneu worth a 1/4 Million a year, or Lloyd etc etc.

I would pay a small amount for a true local station that is not loaded with american programming, but is that not what the CBC is - so that means I already pay for a public local tv station by supporting CBC through taxes - so NO MONEY FOR THE NETWORK's false-local station.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Phil* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I can't believe that this has gone though. I got a notice today from my cable company telling me that, starting in January; my bill will include 1.5% (+ tax) for the LPIF (Local Programming

Improvement Fund) I'm on a disability and can't afford an increase in my already high cable bill. Add the other increases that will come when the HST passes and something in going to have to go. I'm thinking that it's gonna be cable. I think that local stations should be properly compensated for the their signal that the cable/satellite are rebroadcasting and charging for. And because they are already charging for those channels in their lineup, there should not be any extra charges to the consumer. In the past they have been given the freedom to change their packages as they see fit and then increase the costs without the customer having any options other than to drop to a lower package. In my city there in only one cable provider and they do what they want. NO MORE FEES!!!

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Like

 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

We already pay too much for satellite and cable; so-called "local stations" should find other ways to increase revenue. You run a business, if it's more money you want...adapt, don't come running to Canadians/Government for money. I think this is pathetic and I'm disappointed the CRTC let this drag out so long... instead of the stations airing pro tv-tax advertisements they could have been making money with real advertisements.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Patricia Conroy, Toronto, ON* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Guest](#) 2 people liked this.

I will probably cancel Rogers cable since they charge \$65.00/month, can't even get what I want. Just want channels 2 to 31, but NO have to get the SUPREME PACKAGE, why don't we have any choices in what we want anymore?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Handy Andy* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Both Cable and TV broadcasters are whining about money and using disinformation to support their causes.

Force Cable to Arbitration to pay fee sfor carriage negotiations and eat the cost. Consumers are already paying too much for cable.

The Cable companies are already working as regional monopolies - we have no choice about which one we want.

We have limited choice of services. If I need snow tires I don't have to buy summer tires to buy winter tires. To get Digital cable, I have to 'take' Standard Definition (SD); to get High Definition (HD) Digital, I have to 'take' SD and 'Basic' Digital and pay for them. The Cable systems need to be restructured, by force if necessary, to protect consumers from the greed and profiteering that pervades the market right now. A person can only watch 1 channel regardless if they have the choice of 10 or 1000. Viewers with 4 PVRs, connections and users can only record and watch 8 channels at once. The cost scales are based on the choices, not the services used.

We are being forced to pay for HD downscaling to SD on networks that are HD digital at their source. Programming is spread across multiple networks with the same shows in parallel time regions. We get the downscaled version for 'free' and have to pay more to get the original source.

The delay of the Digital transition allows the cable and satellite companies to profit from access to HD networks, most of which originate in the US.

Consumers should be allowed to choose service that reflects their needs.

Basic SD Local/Regional
Digital SD Local/Regional
HD Local/Regional

plus/or custom choices for each range and not have to 'take' lesser or OTHER services by default or force

Internet Service is sold by bandwidth POTENTIAL, not actual throughput. Imagine a freeway, multiple lanes that are used at different speeds/user fees. Now imagine a traffic jam, how fast is traffic moving compared to POTENTIAL speed (as advertised or payed for)? The potential to speed is irrelevant when nobody can move. It it 50% faster (than what) when everyone is stopped?

What happens when TV hits the internet real-time mainstream?
Or HD upscales or 3D TV becomes a reality.

Canadian Content rules should be dropped in favour of Canadian production investment percentages. Consumers will choose whatever they like, regardless of the source (ie. Canadian, US or...).

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Jim W ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

I'm not only concerned, I'm outraged that cable companies are threatening to charge more for the same services while they continue to earn record profits. I repeat, cable companies are ripping people off."

[Flag](#)

Like



Vcity ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

1. Local television is valueless in the internet age. I do not watch it, and will not watch it, whatever the arrangements made between CRTC and Canada's uncompetitive, protected, screw-the-consumer cable and TV companies. I am already being forced to pay for dozens of channels which I never watch. Any cost increases and I'm quitting watching TV entirely: movies and internet streaming will do just fine for entertainment and keeping me fully informed about what's happening in the world.

2. Why support it? If people don't want the product being provided, why should they be expected to pay for it?

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Like



Jerome G ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

1. How would I react? I would be angry that Cable and Satellite providers were allowed to pass the buck again! Businesses around the world invest in various aspects of the local economies that they function in and do not expect a whole lot in return. Cable and Satellite companies continue to be driven by greed and the need to fund their overwhelming size and inefficiency.

2) The measures that could be taken to support local television are to go through the balance sheets of the Cable Companies and Satellite providers, and I'm sure more than enough cash to help support local TV will be found. Case in point... Bell just changed their "bundle" package such that you have to have an HD Satellite receiver in order to get a bundle credit of \$5.00 . Nothing in the service I receive from Bell has changed, but because I do not want to change my receiver from a regular one to an HD one, I now need to pay an additional \$5.00 per month (\$60 a year)... perhaps that \$5 from me and all the other subscribers can go towards local TV each month? Just imagine...

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Like



gurdev ★ [1 month ago](#) 6 people liked this.

I just cancelled my basic cable today, because I can't afford it anymore, if the price goes up more it will make other people to make same decision as I did. On the other hand it takes two to tango.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 [steve_v](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

My current cable company is Cogeco. I enjoy their service, but find it odd that their basic tv package (comprised mainly of local tv) starts at \$28.99 + tax. Where does this money go now? I want a real breakdown because something tells me most of it goes directly into Cogeco's pockets. I know we need local tv, and I don't mind paying for it, but the problem is my current cable bill is upwards of \$80 a month (and I don't even have TMN or use PayPerView). Cable/Satellite providers seem to have a great cashcow on their hands that only helps themselves. Here is what I think:

- 1) If you repeat a signal you should pay for it (at a negotiated price)
- 2) Stop forcing Cable/Satellite to carry local tv. Forcing them to carry it, and then charging them seems wrong.
- 3) Local tv (and ANY other channel for that matter) should be offered a la carte with the CRTC making sure that the big providers (ie. Bell, Rogers, Cogeco) don't fix prices.

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 [Ron C](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

I think this cash cow is going to run dry and if the crtc does not do they right thing then I will voice my Dicpleaure when I vote to fire them

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 [Bryn Taylor](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

"If I were asked to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for cable", well I'm sure I speak for many Canadians who thought we already paid for local TV on our cable. In fact, the local TV stations have cable TV ads dubbed in to make it look like the cable company is buying time on the local TV channels.

As far as I'm concerned, I think the cable company should be absorbing these costs, because they've obviously been getting a free ride for all this time. Any recording artist, news writer, or fictional writer charges for their content to be aired or printed. Why shouldn't the TV stations be given the same consideration for selling their product to the cable companies?

I'm sure they have to pay to air other stations. I'm sure that they pay to have Detroit Public TV. I elect to watch some of the local stations for their content, and was under the impression that they were paid for their product as well. It's a big surprise to find that they haven't been getting paid for it.

If the cable companies are to pass on the charges (inflated, I'm sure) to Canadians, I'd like to see the CRTC allow a competitive cable company to offer local stations. I don't believe that a monopoly in each area is the best deal for Canadians.

Let's have some competition and allow more cable companies to provide service, bid on stations competitively, and supply a service based on "market conditions", rather than dictating to consumers.

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 [Ian005](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

The issue is less one of "changes in the communications environment" and more one of poor management by television operators of their semi-monopoly. There has been a significant downturn in the economy, with a concomitant decrease in advertising revenue. An interesting question to posit, is what is the value (from the perspective of the television station operator; cost from the perspective of an advertiser), of advertising space on (for example) CBC or CTV, if cable DID NOT carry their signal. In other words - if they weren't being carried and offered as part of Cable's "basic" package, and had to rely on their own signal feed, I suspect their

situation would go from bad to unsustainable. In fact, by being included in the basic package, the "free to air" stations are able to increase the amount that they charge for their advertising.

I would recommend strongly against allowing the television companies to take advantage of a short term economic downturn to permanently alter the landscape of cable and add to the costs for consumers. If this IS going to be done, then they should be single channel options - you can pick the station or stations you want from the list, with the amount per month added to the bill. They should not be "shoehorned" into the basic package.

I suspect that latter option would be totally unpalatable to the TV station operators - since their ad revenue is driven by numbers, and their numbers are a function of them being in the basic cable package. I think they would be rather shocked to find how few people are prepared to pay an extra \$2.00 a month for the "privilege" of watching their stations.

With respect to the two questions:

1. I would not pay extra for carriage of CBC or CTV (or other free to air services) or their local stations.
2. I think that the measures which could be taken could include relaxing certain of the rigid rules surrounding content and advertising time. That approach would enable the free to air broadcasters more latitude in offering programming that people will watch.

Indeed, it is perhaps time that we revisited the channels that cable operators ARE forced to carry (and me to pay for). If CPAC is important then it should be coming out of the government's "general revenue" to cover its operation. It shouldn't be the case that I have to get it as part of my cable. There are cheaper cures for insomnia available.

One other issue has not been clear in any of the discussions or press releases (or the tit-for-tat advertising that has been going on). How much are they expecting to be paid, and what does this translate into for each cable subscriber? They (the TV station operators) have that number to hand - they need to disclose it so that we can properly understand the impact of any proposed change. (If it has been disclosed, my apologies for missing it; if it is available it should be posted as part of the introduction to this set of topics.)

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Like



Kevin ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

1. I do not support having to pay extra for local stations I can already receive over the air if I wish. I never watch them, like most specialty channels I already have to pay for due to packaging requirements.
2. They should be self supporting

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Like



Dan ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

I believe the real issue at hand here lies in an antiquated system that allows the cable and satellite oligopoly to bundle channels into various packages and does not allow the consumer the ability to pick and choose channels individually. Consumers should have the ability to choose channels they want to view, local TV or otherwise.

In order to properly assess the viability of any single channel as a business, revenues generated directly by that channel, whether it be through advertising or fees to watch, must first be known and then compared to channel program costs. The current system of bundling does not permit this and as a result some channels subsidize others in a sort of welfare state.

While local TV is important to me, my interest is confined to local news. Local TV should have to run its business like any other business, revenues must exceed expenses or else you are out of business before too long. I would be interested in paying for local TV, but only in an unbundled environment as I expressed in the opening paragraph. I DO NOT WANT TO PAY AN ADDITIONAL FEE FOR LOCAL TV ON TOP OF WHAT I ALREADY PAY FOR CABLE TV SERVICES.

I believe unbundling channels and allowing the consumer more choice ultimately will determine which channels survive and which channels don't. Local TV and other cable channels should be subjected to the realities of an open market. At the end of the day, the consumer is better served and you end up with a healthier industry.

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Corey Beazer ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

I would not want to pay for local TV, they should make their money from the cable networks who carry their signals.

[Flag](#)

Like



Peter ★ [1 month ago](#) 7 people liked this.

A tax for local TV sorry no thanks, I would be happy to support my local station as a pay service but please dont force me to take other stations that are not relevant to me

[Flag](#)

Like



Davin ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 3 people liked this.

If i have to pay one penny towards this I will cancel my cable, I already don't watch much TV, this is the nudge I need to cancel.

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul M ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 4 people liked this.

1- Specialty channels that run advertising (History, Discovery, TSN,) receive fee for carriage.

2- American channels receive fee for carriage.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Retransmission_con...

3- Google "retransmission consent" and you will see that the American conventional channels all have a right to fee for carriage. In fact, both FOX and NBC are at the moment negotiating new fee for carriage contracts with the cable companies.

Google

"fox retransmission consent"

And

"NBC retransmission consent"

And you shall see lots of hits.

It's only in CANADA, the Cable/Sat companies RIP OFF conventional TV.

Remember, the Canadian consumer already pays the cable/sat companies - fees for receiving every channel - it's the cable/sat companies that refuse to pay some of the money back to conventional TV stations. AKA "stealing"

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Like



klme ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 3 people liked this.

My impression is that Local TV, such as CTV, Global and CBC, have been doing quite well all these years since their existence without a "TV Tax". Why now that they want/need a "TV Tax" all of a sudden in these past few years? I can only think of 2 possible reasons: (1) they have poorly run their businesses (2) they are greedy. Seem to me that they don't really want to change the ways how they run their businesses or how they spend money, so they have to ask for more money to continue how they like to continue their operations. This is not right.

Local TV has always been free for anybody in Canada to view and enjoy as long as you have a television. And their existences are due to the support of all the Canadians who views them. I think Local TV no longer wants to be "Local TV" again, but to be the same as the other pay-to-view TV stations. But I thought their original existences or missions is to provide news and entertainments to all the local Canadians, with or without cable, and that is why there have been funding from the Governments.

What needs to change is not adding the "TV Tax", but how Local TV run their stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave D ★ [1 month ago](#) 6 people liked this.

Local TV should fund itself from advertising included in it's broadcasts.

Cable subscribers should not be forced to pay for local broadcasts.

Cable companies should not be able to compete for local advertisers by inserting commercials for local advertizers.

Cable companies should buy and offer local TV broadcasts as an option in their packages. The exception here is that they should be required to provide CBC free to all Cable users and CBC should not receive additional funds from the Cable companies as we are already paying excessive taxes for this.

Local broadcasters are buisnesses that based their buisness models on providing entertainment to its consumers with funding coming from advertisers. The fact this model no longer works all that well does not justify taxing the consumer for the change. I don't know if local broadcasting can survive but if not that is just business. Local viewers (no cable) in Calgary were unable to see the Grey Cup game as it was carried only on TSN. Why would I want to pay for local stations if they do not provide the entertainment I want.

I suspect that cable companies, that currently charge excessive fees for their service, are going to face their own problems as the entertainment world changes to more on-demand and interactive choices. Paying for stuff we don't want or need is no longer acceptable and we are looking for more value for our dollar, than we are getting.

[Flag](#)

Like



Josh O. ★ [1 month ago](#) 6 people liked this.

I would not be okay with paying (more?) for local television. Either they can find a way to be profitable on their own by putting on tv shows that draw viewers and then charging advertisers for the audience they are able to draw or they cant and they will go out of business. That's it. It's a free market society and having the government legislate fees to support them is ridiculous.

Regarding what measures, if any, could be taken: Honestly, they either learn how to be competitive and survive or they don't and they won't. By the way: I mostly get my Canadian news off the web at this point. I stopped sitting and watching Canadian news (or any news) on tv 5+ years ago so if the argument is that we'll be losing local news coverage if they go out of business is false -- I'd continue to get my news online anyhow from local papers that have good online presence.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ian Robbins ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 3 people liked this.

we have all watched CBC and CTV for as long as I can remember. I couldn't believe that Bell was showing them and others without compensation for airing the shows. CBC is an icon and the news is one of the best programs on tv...AND ITS CANADIAN!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Do I have to be any clearer? I would pay more for these programs too but I would like to see some of these channels axed as well..Why should I pay for punjabi hockey when I'm a canadian, and english speaking? I thought we only had two official languages? CRTC get a grip..this is CANADA!! english and french only with a hight canadian content than the radio..We have to start somewhere. I'd rather see stations/providers build up canadian tv than watch the americanization of canadian culture...maybe the government should start their own satellite

service. If I could just pay a fee for individual channels I'd jump at that...mostly canadian, or at least shows that with substance..no realities thanks..unlike americans I have a life..Thankyou..and get Bell and the rest of them to pay up or get out..Ian

[Flag](#)

Like



[Gordon A](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 3 people liked this.

One only needs to look at the US to see that cable companies are buying major mainstream TV companies like NBC to know who makes the most money from the consumer. All of us are overcharged for cable with limited ability to make our own choices about what our "packages" should include. Its time to stop the cable from getting bigger and refinance CBC and even private broadcasters so they can produce and show more Canadian and local tv.

[Flag](#)

Like



[SAYNOTOTVTAX](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

There should be NO FEE on local TV. They are a for-profit organization and the majority of progamming on local TV is from the United Sates. They rarely show local programming, the only local programming I can think of is the News which is only on for a couple hours a day at best. The vast majority of what they play isn't even Canadian! SAY NO TO LOCAL TV TAX!!!!!!!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to SAYNOTOTVTAX](#)

free cable, free internet, don't pay anything, why pay for it when you don't have to steal, just steal it! satelliet theft is only thing left. cable theft and pay-tv theft is over! dude went to prison for pay-tv theft and satellite theft!

[Flag](#)

Like



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to SAYNOTOTVTAX](#)

are you brainwashed by the advertising on TV about this as a tax...people don't want to pay tax either..HST protest etc. every tax increase by the gov't nobody wants to pay for it if it was free before..it's called resistance to CHANGES.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Ivan Fecan](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Hi Guys,

It's Ivan Fecan here of CTV.

Please give us more money, as airing 99.99 percent American content on our station isn't enough... we need to get more money to get that other 0.01 percent American content we're missing to truly make our station complete.

Thanks suckers.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Jim Shaw](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) [in reply to Ivan Fecan](#) 3 people liked this.

Jim Shaw here.

Make sure to tell the CRTC that's it's OK for us to rip-off, re-transmit and re-sell local signals back to you.

You suckers just keep payin' your 4X inflation cable increase to us without any complaints!

Flag

Like

 *Ivan Fecan* ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Jim Shaw](#) 3 people liked this.

Jim,

You along with Rogers, Bell and the other BDUs are my saviour. You give my useless network exposure across the country, and provide me valuable simsubs, because we can't come up with anything of our own.

We're grateful that you are able to slap our useless network overtop of NBC, CBS, ABC and FOX every hour on the hour to let us have even more viewers than otherwise imaginable. This let's us sit on our ass and buy even more US programs, and this new tax will ensure the customers pay us to air even more episodes of American Idol.

Flag

Like

 *Jim Shaw* ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Ivan Fecan](#) 3 people liked this.

Well Ivan, Canada is good to my family aw well.

Daddy (J.R Shaw) founded Chorus Entrainment, bought the rights to most first run US movies and slapped it on our monopoly cable system. We at Shaw know all about buying US programming

<http://www.corusent.com/home/Corporate/AboutCor...>

We at Shaw paid close to half a billion dollars, that's half a billion with a "B" last year for the rights to re-transmit US networks. Good thing Ivan, that all these years we just take your CTV signals for nothin' and re-transmit re-sell them for BIG bucks back to the Canadian-sucker public. Did I mention that we raised our rates at 4 times the cost of inflation? LOL!

OH, we at Shaw, Bell Rogers, also sim-sub the US nets with our SPAM!!! Our cable subscribers are BOMBARDED with our spam for u to buy our phone and internet services.

Good thing we're not like the USA because down south cable/sat companies MUST PAY retransmission consent to ALL LOCAL STATIONS that ask for it. Down south cable rates are regulated! Down south the cable companies are not allowed to even take a long distance network signal to re-sell, retransmit unless the cable co has written permission from the local affiliate.

Oh Canada, we cable companies stand on guard to RIPP U OFF - LOL.

Flag

Like

 *Ivan Fecan* ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Jim Shaw](#) 3 people liked this.

Well, down south, they produce all their own content.

Maybe we both suck and we should both shut down and let everyone have DirectTV, then they can watch programs the way they were meant to means, sans simsubs, and with the real specialty channels, and not the watered down crapola.

Plus the rates are much lower.

Flag

Like

 *cqq* ★ [1 month ago](#) 5 people liked this.

1) Our family canceled Rogers cable services almost 2 years ago, as there was little to no value for the money paid. We are better off paying \$60 per year for VPN which allows us to access internet television feeds from the US and Britain. (iplayer, comedy channel, hulu, etc). Certainly a higher price, would only decrease what we already perceive as a poor value for the money.

2) A) The CRTC and local stations need to encourage an "over the air" option. Provide local television with funding for over-the air transmission and have the cable/satellite industry pay for this. The encouragement would take the form of information, free or reduced cost antennas or installation, better reception through adding transmission towers in harder to reach areas. Consumers then have an option, and this option is likely to increase local television viewership, which is exactly what I understood the CRTC's mandate was.

B) In addition, require that cable stations be required to pay an amount equivalent to that which specialty channels now receive for local channels.

The logic is that we need competitive factors to set pricing, but only once the playing field has been leveled. Also, as the cable/satellite delivery system uses specialty channels to retain/attract consumers (I get cable because I want some special channel) this needs to be offset by payment to the local channels on the same basis as current funding for specialty channels. BOTH measures need to be used, together.

Permit and help local television to compete on a level playing field and increase their local audience (and hence their advertising rates), provides some limited funding, and provides COMPETITION TO THE CRTC CREATED DUOPOLIES.

This mess has been caused by a lack of competition within the cable/satellite delivery systems (and I'll lay that directly at the CRTC's doorstep). If there is a real and viable local audience, then building an audience for free tv options (instead of \$1,000+ per year for cable/sat)

[Flag](#)

Like



[Boges7](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 5 people liked this.

If local stations what to charge cable companies to carry their signal than the solution is simple. Give the consumer an option to opt out of paying for the channels.

You pay say \$30 for basic cable, that included the local over-the-air stations.

If I don't want to watch Global I shouldn't be forced to pay to watch.

You should have an option to buy a local TV package. With my cable provider (Cogeco) I can buy a news package, a sports package, a movie package or I can pick an a la cart of several specialty channels. So why not ad a local TV package?

I venture to say most people won't choose to buy the package though because I can get local news from cable stations like CNN, CP24, CBC Newsworld etc. Which are all channels I do pay for through my cable bill.

I also get most of the shows offered on Canadian broadcasters through American Networks: CSI, House, Hells Kitche, Glee etc. Which I also pay for through my HD Bill.

If the Canadian stations choose to not allow people who don't subscribe to the Canadian feed of these channels because I watch it on American broadcasters I can easily download the American channels, so it's a idle threat.

But I still pay my cable company to watch those programs in HD, so why should I be charged twice?

Local Networks are a minimal part of my TV viewing. Why should I pay an extra \$10 a month just to keep them a float?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Geoff Craig* ★ [1 month ago](#) 5 people liked this.

Forget the idea of charging more for cable. NO MORE taxpayer subsidy for businesses that cannot compete in the modern world.

There is no need for local television if it cannot make money on it's own.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *R Morrison* ★ [1 month ago](#) 5 people liked this.

The costs of TV programming are already too high and if I had to choose whether to support local programming at additional costs, I would likely review what they would offer in content and determine based on my overall package whether they would be added and replace something else but I would not be willing to just add the extra cost on top of what I am already paying. Local news and content may determine if this should replace a channel I am already paying for....

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 *PV* ★ [1 month ago](#) 5 people liked this.

I already overpay for cable services since there are many bundled channels I don't care for, but am forced to pay for. The cable company will get less revenue from me by downloading a fee for local TV. This will be the last straw and I will withdraw my subscription to cable altogether.

[Flag](#)

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 *Aimee* ★ [1 month ago](#) 5 people liked this.

I do not support extra costs on my bill to support local tv. I would expect the cable companies to carry these signals at no additional cost.

They have not been paying for local TV but charging us for it all this time. It's time they pay just like we have already done.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Ray* ★ [1 month ago](#) 5 people liked this.

I refuse to pay for "local TV" on top of what I already pay for cable. The "local TV networks" do not need my support. They make enough profits already and if they were to start charging the cable company for their signals, they will just pocket the money or use it to to buy more American TV show. I'm a soccer fan and my cable provider (Rogers) has more local sports programming (on channel 10) than all these so called "local TV" stations combined.

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 *Amy Gruber* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 3 people liked this.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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[Like](#)

 *Chris* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I strongly disagree with this proposed "Local TV Tax". I personally think that it's deplorable that the television networks within Canada are asking it's already overly taxed populous to hand out

even more money to them. What's even worse is that they are doing this during a recession. What I would like to know is what the broadcasters intend to do with the new revenue they would generate if this went through. When they post a profit margin of \$400 million plus last year, it seems a little odd that they would be screaming poor now.

Furthermore, on a note that they have not mentioned anywhere as of yet.....why have they been shutting down local stations for the better part of a year BEFORE they started to say that they did not have any money to fund them? Better than that, there is one broadcaster who decided to close a station because neither the cable or satellite providers could access it. It was only for the people in the surrounding area, but this was before they proposed the new tax idea.....so are they really looking out for local TV?

This should be an old, dead issue. If the broadcasters had a problem with the funding they were receiving from service providers, it should have been addressed when cable was introduced to Canada in the late 1960's. But they did nothing about it, and instead have relied on their revenue stream from American broadcasts to fill their coffers. If the broadcasters truly were concerned about "Local TV", then they would have been funding them properly from the get go and utilizing the local stations to create new, watchable, 100% Canadian shows.

I do work in the Television industry and I find it discouraging that over the past 30 years or so, we Canadians have only had a handful of programs created by us for us. Why is the number so low? Well, it costs money to create a new program and the broadcasters can instead use a small portion of that revenue to buy programming from the U.S. and send it up here, while generating a HUGE profit for them without the burden of creating and funding the idea themselves.

So you tell me, does it sound as though the Broadcasters in Canada are really looking out for "Local TV"?

STOP THIS TAX!!! Canadians don't want it and the Broadcasters should be ashamed for asking for it.

Flag

Like



Lindy ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Chris](#)

I hear you. I wish there was more Canadian programming on the air, too. But if we want to keep what we have now, the cable companies -- not us -- are going to have to pay for those local signals. Cable companies are making doing very well too.

Flag

Like



johnkz ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I would cancel my legal TV & get a U.S. based technology solution & install it @ my home in Canada, which as I understand is a federal crime.

For example, one of the things I currently choose to pay for is 1 non-HD TV channel, Deutsche Welle, & pay \$5 a month before taxes. Notwithstanding the price, I have no complaint because the channel I want is available individually & I am not forced to buy a package of channels to get what I want. I have 2 TV's both HD & watch almost always HD channels. The only time I ever watch a non-HD channel is when it does not exist in the service that I am a customer of (Bell TV). All Canadians should be allowed the democratic right to choose on an individual channel by channel basis their programming. TV channels that cannot exist in the capitalistic society of Canada should be allowed to die. No community, no matter how small or large should be guaranteed or expect to be guaranteed a local TV station. This is the real world! The businesses that own these local stations across this country are "for profit" companies as are the BDUs. They should be expected to exist in the real world without additional financial handouts (the LPIF takes care of that).

I already pay \$35 before taxes for a basic package of channels that include both HD & non-HD versions of the same channels. I never watch these non-HD channels where a HD version exists but I am forced to pay for. This package of channels is a forced requirement for me to pay for before I am allowed the freedom of choice to pay for any additional channels that I might want to subscribe to & even then, I am forced to buy these additional channels in packages that I

wouldn't choose if I were given the freedom of choice that I am denied. I am also being forced to pay for channels in a language that I don't speak or write. If given the choice people will gladly choose to support channels that matter to them. That is the way it should be!

I however should not be forced to pay for the 6 other non-HD affiliates that Global has & Bell TV forces me to pay for in the mandated basic package that I must order before being allowed to order any other channels, including HD, which I want to choose.

If individuals want to save local TV because "local TV matters" then they should have the choice how they spend their money. The government should not be forcing citizens to pay for channels that they don't watch either because of what content the channel offers or because the channel transmits in a soon to be obsolete technology (non-HD) format that they don't want to view.

"What measures, if any, could be taken to support local television?" - Well the federal government could give \$10,000,000,000.00 to these "for profit" companies. What SHOULD be done? Nothing!! They already have the CRTC created LPIF that they don't deserve. Don't make another mistake!

Pierre Elliott Trudeau, considered by many to be 1 of, if not the greatest Prime Minister Canada has ever had, once said "The state has no business in the bedrooms of the nation." Although he was referring to sexual activity between consenting adults, this quote is just as relevant here. Well I have a TV in my bedroom & I want the Government, including the CRTC, to get the heck (just being polite, not my true feelings) out of my bedroom!!

The CRTC has already said no 2 times already to this proposal of "fee-for-carriage" and now it's the 3rd time for the CRTC to make the correct decision.

Flag

Like

 *billavery* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I have no local tv in my area and would NOT pay extra even if there was. I would probably take the 200\$ disconnect fee and cancel.

Flag

Like

 *Mike* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I would have to cancel my satellite if I had to pay any more for it. The only way I could see this possibly working is if the cable/satellite companies could choose to offer packages which didn't include paying for local television channels. Then I could truly use my power as a consumer & save money by paying only for those channels which I actually watch.

Flag

Like

 *patbowie* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1) Re cost: The CRTC lets cable companies like Rogers in my area run a monopoly -- deregulation meant big phone companies like Bell were forced to share infrastructure with many others, whereas cable runs a monopoly -- and charges excessive amounts. No wonder the cable companies make such gigantic profits.

2) re programming -- yes, cable provides great inspiring programs like "Weeds" and uncensored nudity, violence and profanity, or pseudo-American pap.

3) re community and canadian content -- Canada needs local TV programs to help maintain a sense of community, and keep people informed about what is going on locally.

Flag

Like

 *Duncan* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Instead of a tax on local TV perhaps those channels should be optional at an extra cost for those who choose to subscribe to them via cable. Frankly, most local TV in my area (NS) isn't worth the price to watch it. Further, it is well known that those local stations (and their network

masters) are making huge profits yearly - why should the taxpayer be forced to increase the incomes of businesses that are clearly viable and showing record profits. There has to be some end to the forced transfer of individual dollars to the big corporations. This is, after all, a "free market economy" (or at least it pretends to be). Government need to cease interfering on the side of big business over the taxpayer.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Marc* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I grew up without tv. I was actually going to get cable for my new apartment but hey; ive lived this long without it, i will Definitely live a lot longer without it now. I find it expensive already as it is. Maybe (just a thought), try stealing a little less money from us!

How to support local tv?! Easy! STOP SUPPORTING AMERICAN TV! even the canadien channels, all they play are american shows! How about putting a little of our money into canadien shows, and more canadiens networks. That might make more people interested! We are our own country, stop feeding off they U.S.
Good luck! (you'll need it).

P.s. Quit being greedy and think of us.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Marc MacDonald* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I have cancelled my cable and my wife and I are happy with four national channels we receive free over the airwaves. However, we would condider getting cable again if the CRTC implemented the 'skinny cable' package as proposed by CBC that would allow Canadians to choose a very limited and small package.

A few weeks ago on CBC Sunday night the primetime line-up was Heartland, Skating with the Stars, The Nature of Things' look at Charles Darwin and the National. This was an amazingly eclectic line-up. I don't like Heartland but I appreciate that there is an audience out here on the Parries where I now live. I also don't care much for Skating with the Stars, but I understand the high critical appraisal of it. Because I was waiting to watch the second part on Darwin I caught the last few exciting minutes of the hockey player and figure skater mash-ups and enjoyed what I saw.

I began thinking about and how this is what is missing on the specialty channels: The cross-over and exposure. If other Canadians were tuning in early for the National that night they may have learned new things about Charles Darwin they did not consider before. Equally sports fans might have stayed tuned after the figure-skating and learned about evolution or Evolutionist might have caught some exciting sports coverage. Watching only sports, or anything else, is not going help create active and aware citizens.

Specialty channels don't offer more choice, but really I think they limit choice as well as exposure to other ideas and crossover. What else is culture but exposure to new ideas and a shared sense of ideas with a wider group of people? That is why I love the 'skinny-cable' idea advocated by CBC at the CRTC hearings and why I am completely on the side of the broadcasters. The cable channels are charging Canadians for something they themselves get for free now and plan to charge more if carrying fees are enacted. They contribute almost nothing to our collective culture. If we don't have a collective culture then we don't have a culture or a country and it is part of the CBC's and the CRTC's mandates to protect our culture. Therefore, the federal regulator has a responsibility to insure that Canadians have local programming and National Canadian content on our airwaves.

I think a ominous indicator of the greater societal damage such insular practices have created is evident in recent political happenings. Both Obama and Ignatieff have been attacked for being cosmopolitan and 'un-American/Canadian'. Whereas, the pathetic fact that neither George W. Bush nor Stephen Harper owned passports before taking office was not seriously discussed in the media. Since when has cosmopolitanism and a cultural appreciation of the wider world become a bad thing? By looking at our current world or history it is evident that the people with narrow worldviews and insular thinking are the most likely to support military actions and attach

themselves to violent cultural practices.

Please perform your appointed task and protect Canadian culture and content by implementing a 'skinny cable' option so Canadians can have the choice to pay for a small number of local/national stations that are digital, come in clear and are affordable.

Thank you.

[Flag](#)

Like



[patrickwchessman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

We refuse to pay any more for our cable bills in this fight between millionaires and other millionaires. The public is the only one going to lose in this fight, by one side winning and extracting more money from consumers.

What should be done is that we as consumers should be offered to select the channels we want, and pay a fee for them individually whereby a portion of those fees goes to the cable/satellite company, instead of packages or groups. Support for local television would be revealed in the the amount of subscribers each channel has for its services. This would essentially operate them as separate businesses through a carrier providing the signal to the public, and they would sink or float on their own.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Lee](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to patrickwchessman](#)

I agree with you. I, for one, am getting a little tired of it all. The so called "local" news I get is from Vancouver, more than 500 km away. It is of such poor quality that it is pretty well useless. I really don't care about Tiger Woods. A great deal of the "news" is little more than idle gossip. Rabbit ears don't work in my area-we can only get one station, the CBC. Reading some of the comments on this site has me considering other options. I refuse to pay more. I get stuck with packages that I do not use but have to take to get the 3 stations I watch the most. I am going to research watching programs on my internet service.

[Flag](#)

Like



[André B](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I would not pay for local tv & if ask would cancel my satellite subscription immediately. Local tv as I see it does not exist in Niagara. Hamilton & Toronto stations are not local no matter what they claim & I'm not supporting other city or town stations. Also when it comes to network tv in particular CTV & Global put the majority of there money into US programming & want us to pay for it, so don't be fooled by there claims that local tv is the problem with there revenues. Government & the CRTC that has allowed these group to buy up all the competition then use this to destroy real competition then as they trying now is to hold everyone hostage by making the false claim the we are hearing today. Maybe it would be time that they put out a product that people want to watch instead of all this reality tv garbage from the states. Maybe it is time the we have the option to opt out of or choose the network stations that we want if any. Truth be told is that he product is what is the problem in the lack of revenues. It's time to sink with a bad product or swim with a quality product. I see them sinking. Remember these same networks that cry poverty are spending millions on advertising there poverty of there local station over the past months. I can go on & on on the subject but hopefully what I have said helps. Thank you.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Matt Theal](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

This is just a cash grab for the networks who over pay for American programming and run the same shows on all there LOCAL affiliates. The Networks DON'T care about local TV! If they did they would have put some effort into supplying more of it and they don't. Local TV will be replaced by the internet and communities that care about covering local events, issues and culture. The Networks have always let us down and we shouldn't have to pay for the ever-growing appetites!

The CRTC should investigate a system that delivers content that is created by communities for communities which is local free to air broadcast not just available via television set but also a local IP network that will stream to personal computing devices. If TV is essential because it's a communication device for communities the system this tax protects is too old and doesn't provide any community much hope.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tracey Bates ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

The amount of "local" content is minimal at best. If I want to see whats happening locally, I check the internet. Being forced to pay for something, or channels, we don't want seems to be par for the course with television in Canada. We, as consumers, should have the right to say no, we do not want this. With the full understanding these channels may no longer be available locally.

I can count the number of channels I regularly watch on one hand, and yet each of these channels is only available in a "package" full of others I just don't want!!

[Flag](#)

Like



josie2050 ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Tracey Bates](#) 1 person liked this.

I am in the same boat. there are a handful of channels I watch and I have to pay for entire packages to get them. I would like to see the monopoly on cable end and each person be given the choice of channels you wish to have. I am livid about this tax , it must be stopped . Better yet the whole system should be changed on how we receive our tv viewing.

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Tracey Bates](#)

Consumers never want to pay for anything if they can get it for free. Advertisers have been paying for the US programs and broadcasters subsidizing local content and paying CRTC fees etc. There would be no CBC or any Canadian program in free market. it's just more profitable for broadcasters to buy American shows that Canadians want to watch and have no Canadian content

[Flag](#)

Like



Yvon La Croix ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I categorically and vehemently OPPOSE the Big Networks' proposal to impose a TV Tax of up to \$10 per month on our cable or satellite bill. If the "Big Networks" need the extra funds, they should raise their advertising rates. Why hit the population all the time, we are already over taxed. The big industries, the ones that use television to convey their messages to the consumers, should be the ones to pay. They have the big budgets, we don't.

[Flag](#)

Like



Patti Simser ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I just want to say that I cannot afford another fee on my cable bill. I am a widow, unemployed at the moment and my rent is going to increase in March. I don't have much of a social life and I enjoy my TV as my only entertainment. I have had to scale that back as it is. If this fee proposal goes through, I will have to cancel my cable and internet service. I am sure many Canadians are in the same place. Please don't take my only source of entertainment away from me. Thank you in advance.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *larry_andrews* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Cable companies in Canada have a monopoly for providing cable in every market in Canada. They can easily afford to use some of their profits to pay the TV companies for the programming that they send over their network.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *larry_andrews* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

We need local TV. the cable and satellite companies can afford to use some of their very large profits to pay the money that the TV companies without adding a "tax".

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Roman Pearce* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I think in question 2 ought to read "should be taken". I do not see any reason to grant Canwest or CTV, two of the most horribly run companies in the country, direct access to my wallet through cable subscription fees. Unless we have a marketplace where we can select and pay for only the channels that we want, this is grossly unfair. Why should anyone be forced to subsidize them?

If this "local TV" is supposed to be a public service, it's horrible. About half their "newscasts" are just weather and traffic, bookended by inane banter. There's hardly anything of value. The rest is mostly low-grade propaganda, which does have value but not to the people watching it.

If you want to support local television then add fees to support the CBC. They actually try to do journalism in this country in between the budget cuts. Or if you don't feel comfortable making that type of judgement, then don't add any fees at all.

Just please don't add fees for CTV or Global. They're horrible, because they have no financial incentive to produce anything of quality.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Robert S. Sciuk* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Firstly, the transition to Digital OTA broadcasting is an underutilized service, and Canadians are unaware of the option in many cases ... this should be better promoted by government agencies like the CRTC, so that cable and satellite are *NOT* the first choice of Canadians who are in viewing regions with high content. Also, border regions offer a great deal of free OTA sources, and the CRTC should not shy away from advising Canadians about this.

Secondly ... cable and satellite rebroadcasters frequently step on the commercials of the OTA signals that they are allowed to steal, and replace them with their own. This REDUCES the value of commercial time for the local networks, as not only do the cable companies get the content for free, and charge customers for it, but they get revenue opportunities by reselling commercial air time which was originally purchased from the source broadcaster.

The CRTC has lately shown themselves to be out of step with Canadians in disallowing new wireless startups owing to ownership issues, when the true issue is competition ... I suspect that the CRTC will ALSO be out of step on the local tv industry, when simple fixes could apply ...

- 1.) IF the cable/satellite vendors are allowed to obtain and rebroadcast the signal for free, they should NOT be allowed to charge customers, and therefore should be forced to add digital high def signals to the basic cable without additional charges.
- 2.) IF the cable/satellite vendors rebroadcast a signal, they should not be allowed to hi-jack commercials, and thereby increase the value of the commercial time (and distribution range) of the commercial air-time for the source networks. This goes DIRECTLY to their bottom line.
- 3.) Networks should be encouraged to broadcast specialty content OTA, and in particular things like educational tv and news programs which are offered by a number of networks, but only for

re-distribution by cable/satellite vendors. (eg: Discovery).

4.) OTA ATSC information should be made available on government web sites where people are encouraged to look. I mean really, who looks at the industry canada web site unless you're looking for something, like grants etc. etc.

Letting local broadcasters languish on the vine is to relegate the content which is freely available to be only those whose origin is the US at the border regions. If the CRTC is to prove relevant in any way shape or form, it should come down squarely on the local broadcasters, and prevent the cable/satellite vendors from profiting on signals which they do not pay for.

Flag

Like

 *phw* ★ 1 month ago in reply to Robert S. Sciuk 1 person liked this.

Your first point I agree with.

Dead wrong on the second point. Cable companies do not steal local OTA -- CRTC regulations require that they be carried. Cable/satellite do not "step on" or steal local OTA ad time or re-sell advertising time or devalue local OTA signal. CRTC regulations require cable/satellite to substitute the SIGNAL of the local OTA on the cable/satellite channel of a distant broadcaster (usually, but not always, a US station) when the distant broadcaster is airing the same program at the same time as the local OTA. This so-called simultaneous substitution therefore protects the local OTA's exclusive rights in its market to all of its programs. It allows the local OTA station to capture the entire viewing audience, including cable and satellite viewers, for any of its programs that are being aired by a distant broadcaster at the same time and whose signal is distributed by cable/satellite into the local OTA's market. The distant station would otherwise deprive the local OTA of audience and thereby, of ad revenue. Simulsub puts something like an extra \$300M of ad revenue into OTA coffers annually that they would otherwise not get.

Flag

Like

 *S. Edwards* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

In my view, we already pay for local TV as it is part of the basic package. The issue is, then, the sharing of the existing profit between the cable companies and the local station(s). All stations being broadcast on cable should receive compensation for their services.

On a related note, the technology to sell channels individually has been in existence for decades. I would prefer to have the choice to purchase those channels in which I am interested and forego the "opportunity" to buy bundles composed of one or two channels of interest combined with channels I never watch - even if the individual channels cost slightly more on their own than if they are bundled. (I recognize that, under such a system, some channels of limited appeal could disappear. This would not necessarily be a "bad thing" as it would reflect the true viability of channels of marginal, if any, interest. If subscribers want to support special interest channels, a system of "tiered pricing" could be introduced wherein popular channels, including local, would be priced lower than more specialized channels.0

Flag

Like

 *ML* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

I think local stations are very important. We already pay taxes more than many other countries, taking away our local stations or asking to pay more is being unfair to the tax payers.

The burden of expense should be taken by the service providers and not the local stations or the customers.

Flag

Like

 *ML* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

Local stations are very important the expenses should be picked by the service providers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Michel* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Local TV is NOT important to me. I can get local news, weather and sports (HA), from any number of sources. If it were TRULY locally produced and focused content, MAYBE I would be interested.

Local TV today is a joke. 6 hours of "local" news, filled with US news stories. The rest is US programming, with commercial substitution and a few awful CanCon shows tossed in.

If you want LOCAL, then start LOCAL. Use the BBC model, produce high quality shows (100% UK content, or CANADIAN content in our case). Reduce NEWS programming to no more than 3 hours per day, and allow more diversity.

Local TV should be based on the BBC model. I don't care if the TV program is produced in my city, but it should at least be Canadian content. Commercial substitution does not create Canadian Content.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *C. Grenier* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The cable & satellite companies already make plenty of profit to pay for local TV. I am very angry that they want to take that away from us after charging so much for the services we get.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *abdonaguirre* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Dear CRTC,

We know that Canadian broadcasters, namely CTV, Global and the CBC have converged to petition the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) to tax cable and satellite providers and their customers.

Canadians have always been able to receive CTV, Global and CBC's over-the-air signals for free, and CRTC regulations require cable and satellite providers to distribute broadcasters' signals in preferential dial positions guaranteeing that their signals – and their ads – are delivered directly to 90% of Canadian consumers, and now in full high definition. The broadcasters pay nothing under this system – they get the service for free.

CTV, Global and CBC would like us (consumers) to believe that they receive nothing from cable and satellite providers. What they neglect to tell us (the consumer), is that under the current arrangement they make billions in revenue from exclusive TV advertising rights.

The current broadcasting model is one that benefits broadcasters immensely, but after making a series of bad decisions, they want to change it – and make us pay a monthly TV tax of \$6 to \$10 for a service that we can receive for free.

Broadcasters brazenly challenge that cable and satellite companies don't contribute to the system, but CTV, Global and CBC are wrong.

Cable and satellite providers have collectively paid broadcasters more than \$1.5 billion in financial support from 1997 to 2008. Cable companies already contribute more than \$250 million annually to support the production of Canadian television programming. I know that my cable provider alone (Shaw) funds broadcasters to the tune of \$2.5 million every week. We say enough already – the TV tax is unjustified and won't fix the broadcasters' incompetence.

My cable provider's (Shaw) commitment to local programming extends far beyond the balance sheet; They are local television.

My final question is should we (the consumers) pay for broadcasters' incompetence?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Paul H* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

1) Pay more for something we currently get for a given price already (and is of questionable

value as it is)? Gee, CRTC, how do you think we'd react?

Let's just be clear on one thing: I, in fact, would be WILLING to pay for "local TV" (whatever that is) and pay a little bit more than what I do already for some of the Canadian networks/broadcasters... BUT - and this is the important part - *if and only if* I can pick individual channels at will. So sure - I'll pay a little bit more for CTV... if I can pick up and/or dump that one single channel whenever I want. Because that's the only way this is going to work.

I'm not interested in paying a TV tax - and if I'm forced to pay the fee-for-carriage, then it's a tax (not "fair compensation"). If I can fully choose whether or not to receive that individual channel, *then* it's "fair compensation". I'll compensate them *if* I want their product.

So, to reiterate: I'll pay a little more for CBC/Global/CTV et al... if I can choose to dump that individual channel at will. And if that means I end up subscribing to the US's CBS instead of Canada's Global, then so be it. Such is the consequence of the Canadian broadcaster's request.

Giving the consumers full choice as to how and even whether they pay is the only reasonable option.

2) Consumers pay for individual channels - and can pick and choose individual channels. And/or, broadcasters go out and get advertising. If consumers see value in those channels, they'll pay for them and "support local television". If they don't, then local television *shouldn't* be supported.

It's all about consumer choice. Period, full stop.

Flag

Like



Bill ★ 1 month ago 4 people liked this.

Those of us who live above the 60th parallel are already being robbed blind by utilities companies like Northwestel (a Bell Canada subsidiary), Latitude (a Northwestel Subsidiary), Bell Canada, Shaw Direct and Yukon Electrical (an Atco subsidiary). This is due to government regulations which guarantee that these companies make a profit, while making competition nearly impossible. Now, the CBC, CTV and Global TV want to rape us, without maintaining even the pretense of a presence here. Seriously, we are barely mentioned even in weather forecasts. 99% of the time we don't exist for Southern Canadians, let alone the CBC, CTV, or Global TV. About the only time we get on the news is when we commit acts of barbarism like protecting one species of wildlife from another, or protecting children from dangerous animals.

When cable networks first started in Canada, we in the North got programming that was a week old, and payed the highest prices in Canada for cable. We did not even get a "live Local" signal until 1969, and then only four hours a day from CBC. The "Local" TV stations of the day demanded to have a presence on Cable, and the government said "We must have Canadian Content." So the "Local" broadcasters of the day were guaranteed fora place on cable and satellite. It was the government and "local tv who forced themselves down the throats of cable subscribers. Now, the three "local TV" networks want ALL Canadians to pay for something the cable and satellite providers are required BY LAW to carry. Seems to me that the "Local Networks" are looking for a bail-out, just like all these other failing companies that feel that its up to the taxpayers to foot the bill for their mistakes.

As far as I am concerned, the CBC, CTV and Global TV are victims of their own short-sightedness. Rather than making it possible for ALL Canadians to receive their signals, they left it to the cable companies and later, the satellite companies to provide that service. Now, they want the taxpayers of Canada to pick up the tab for their lack of foresight.

I would be willing to pay for CBC, CTV and Global when I am given the choice of whether or not I want to pay for them. Until then, NO. It was bad enough to have to bail out the auto manufacturers. Now, the three "live" broadcasters want the same thing. CBC is already paid for out of the public coffers. The other two have programming that is so bad that they have to resort to advertising from phone sex operators. As far as I am concerned, they have dug their own graves.

And Hey, where were they at Grey Cup time? The only All-Canadian professional sports trophy on the planet? The Eastern and Western finals and the Grey Cup game were carried by TSN. The CBC aired a meaningless NBA game and reruns of figure skating. The CTV aired an NFL game, and Global brought us reruns of the Simpsons and Family Guy.

[Flag](#)

Like



DAN ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I RESENT HAVING TO PAY IN ORDER TO WATCH COMMERCIALS. I ALSO RESENT HAVING FORCED ON ME BUNDLES OF CHANNELS ALL OF WHICH I PAY FOR IN ORDER TO SEE THE ONE OR TWO THAT MATTER TO ME. AS TO SUPPORTING "LOCAL TELEVISION", IT IS AN ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY LIKE ANY OTHER AND SHOULD RECEIVE NO PUBLIC SUPPORT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY THROUGH THESE PRICING AND LICENSING SCHEMES.

[Flag](#)

Like



roncad ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

1. It's ridiculous. In a market where we are forced to pay for a bunch of extra bundled channels for one single channel - we are already paying way too much! I want ONLY the channels I want. I would estimate about 80% of the channels I am forced to pay for through bundling I have never watched and never will.

2. If local television cannot survive with ad revenue and local programming - then there is nothing to do but let the market decide its fate. We should not be forced to bail them out.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bo ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I feel that the cable companies and satellite providers do NOT need to pay the local TV stations. They don't spend their money wisely, but instead purchase American programming.

As with other businesses, I feel if they can not compete then get out of the business. Spend local money raised through advertising doing local programming.

The Canadian view of getting the government to step in when a business fails, needs to be changed. If the local stations can't compete, get out of the business. I don't want to pay for their incompetence.

[Flag](#)

Like



torky ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Here is a simple solution, Get rid of the providers. It's the way everything will be in the future anyway. All content will be available over the internet. Just look at BNN. I do not have to pay a cent to watch the programming they put out. I would pay a subscription if it were reasonable, say something like a buck a month or something like that, all video on demand.

Another option would be to allow us to choose each channel individually. No bundling, no packages. If I want Global but not CBC or CTV let me pay for Global. I can buy channels like MTV and the Fishing Channel individually why not all of them this way the strong will truly survive.

As it is right now if I could find a way to get my live sporting events (CFL, NFL, UFC) without a television provider I would cancel my television service all together. Stop protecting garbage like the CBC! Stop treating the Canadian citizen like children! Let the system evolve into what the people want! Video on demand and freedom of choice is the only way to go.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ryan D ★ 1 month ago 4 people liked this.

1) Local TV in general and local news in particular is vital to adequately informing the residents of that city about the issues affecting them. I don't care what happened in Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver today I want to know what happened in my community and I want local perspectives on larger issues. I would immediately cancel my cable subscription if they tried to raise rates to pay for something they should have been paying for years. Not that it would matter much to the cable companies since the CRTC has allowed what is essentially a duopoly to exist for so long that there's no real competition anymore.

2) Cable and satellite packages should be a la carte where I can pick and chose specific stations, not ridiculous packages where I have to order 5 channels I never watch in order to get the 1 or 2 that I do. With an a la carte system the providers would get a clear view of individual station's popularity in different regions and adjust their lineups accordingly (not to mention the data could be sold to advertisers for further income) while also giving the consumer a clearer picture of where their TV dollars are going.

The CRTC needs to start acting like a regulatory agency and actually regulate the industry not act as a yes-man to the telecom industry which has been fleecing Canadians for years. You dropped the ball with the internet hearings, don't make the same mistake again!

[Flag](#)

Like



godelri ★ 1 month ago 4 people liked this.

I am sick and tired of Big Networks constantly complaining about needing more money. In my television universe (Satellite), I currently receive 681 channels. Of those channels 30 are CBC, 23 CTV, 13 GLOBAL and 8 CITY -- for a total of 74 that I must take because of decisions made by the CRTC! Each and every one of these broadcast the same shows at the same time -- I can only watch one at a time, therefore the rest do not get viewed (EVER). If Big Networks want to charge me to watch my local channel, then let me choose which ones of the these 74 that I want and I'll gladly pay for them, but to be forced to pay for all 74 is stupid.

Give Canadians the choice of which channels are worthy of surviving (based on sign-ups) and the whole matter will resolve itself in a short time.

We live in a democracy where choice is the lynchpin of our society....just apparently not when it comes to our television viewing.

Big Networks are working as Monopolists not Capitalists.

I can assure you that I will reduce my monthly bill (cancelling some services) by the same amount that is chosen as the levy.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave ★ 1 month ago 4 people liked this.

I am in favour of cable companies paying a fee to broadcast local television.

[Flag](#)

Like



bruceray ★ 1 month ago 4 people liked this.

As far as I am concerned I already pay for local TV in my basic Bell TV rate. In Ottawa we have already seen reductions in Local News. With the move to digital signals the off air service will be cut and make cable the only solution. The times have changed and the cable providers need to pay for what they have previously received for free. The CRTC needs to regulate basic service to ensure affordability for Canadians and viability of local TV stations. Any move by Bell TV to increase cost and we will cut back on service. We are retired and are taxed to the max and with HST, Gas prices and Property taxes there is just no more room in our back pockets for increases in Bell TV rates.

[Flag](#)

 Like *ksquared68* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

If we got rid of the CRTC we would not be having this debate.

The CRTC is the root cause of this issue allowing the specialty channels to startup in the first place with their charges.

Why should we have to pay for anything that is available with an antennae, other than just basic delivery fees perhaps. There should be not additional charges for specialty channels, and if these stations do not broadcast a signal, allowing access with an antenna, then they should not have been granted a license.

[Flag](#) Like *Frank Elgar* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Cable companies have Canadians over a barrel (thanks CRTC). A lack of choice and competition is a far greater threat than a 'local tv tax.' I feel the networks are entitled to a share of the revenue that flows into cable companies. What's surprising is that up to now cable companies haven't payed for this content.

An alternative is to charge an annual tv licensing fee directly to the consumer as they do in Britain and much of Europe (but I'm not sure that would work in Canada). Personally I choose not to subscribe to cable and instead get local stations (some in HD) through an aerial antenna. I'd happily pay a licensing fee if it helped CBC, CTV, Global, etc to send HD content over the air and through the Internet.

[Flag](#) Like *henrymcrandall* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

1. I would be extremely upset. My own experience has been that the quality of local programming on TV across Canada is very poor. Only the CBC provides fair and balanced coverage of news and public affairs. If there is to be a subsidy for local television, it should only go to CBC/Radio-Canada. Moreover, the public should not be asked to subsidize private broadcasters in any way, shape or form. If they're willing to lose their local advertising revenue streams by closing station, let it be their loss and their loss alone.

2. The only measures that should be taken would be to compel the cable and satellite providers to pay a fee for carriage of local CBC/Radio-Canada programming and this cost should not and must not be passed on to consumers. It would be a case of one wealthy industry (TV) being subsidized by another, much wealthier, related private industry (cable and satellite providers). Maybe there should be a Private-Private-Partnership between local TV on the one hand and cable and satellite providers on the other. And what's wrong with one part of an industrial sector sacrificing a small part of its enormous profits in order that another vital part of the sector can survive? They need each other.

[Flag](#) Like *davetrautman* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I would like the CRTC to know my opinion on this issue between the networks and cable companies.

In my city, Edmonton, I cannot adequately receive TV signals from local stations over the air. In order for me to enjoy the content from my local stations I pay for a "community antenna" which is provided through my cable company. I pay for them to get a good signal for me and send it to my TV from their distribution network.

When Movie Channels and other "premium" content began being offered on the higher band on the cable this additional content came at a tiered price and often in a "package" of featured

channels. I might be interested in one all-sports channel but I would have to have YTV along with it. I weighed the benefits against the cost and found it economical to have additional channels of content aimed at specific areas of my interest. The CRTC should be commended for handling this transition over the last few decades allowing a steady growth in this area which continues to benefit both viewers and producers together.

What I find difficult to understand about the position taken by network companies about local TV is that these same companies own and operate specialty channels which, by some newspaper reports I've read, continue to be profitable for them. I also recognize cable companies across Canada have made their own investments in specialty channels and own a number of them too.

I keep coming back to why the broadcasters feel the cable operators are getting away with something. Why do they think I'm paying for local TV to the cable company? I fully recognize that I pay my cable bill to get a clear signal on the local channels as well as other premium content on the upper Tiers. I'm not yet a Digital Cable subscriber but I am weighing the costs and benefits these days.

When did the rule change? I don't pay for local TV - even through my cable service. If I did not have cable TV I would get FREE TV over the air with whatever success my antenna investment provided me.

Advertising pays for local TV. I don't remember hearing anything about that rule changing. Advertising used to pay more for local TV when it was the prime reason for people watching TV. I see a whole lot less "local" TV these days because the local channel is filled up with content from syndicated programs and daytime talk shows from network centres. I'm seeing no locally produced items about my city except as features on the evening and night time news. I'm not seeing sports feature shows or local entertainment shows, local children's programming, or locally produced films. There is no local TV channel any more. But there is local TV news.

I've watched TV news turn from a public service (presumably in appreciation for the privilege of being awarded a broadcast license) created by dedicated reporters who knew something about the city I grew up in - into a pre-packaged promotion driven advertising vehicle featuring helicopter footage from cities no where near me. And don't get me started on the use of internet clips as a substitute for reporting. I've also watched local news departments shrink until it seems they can't cover even half of what I know is happening in my city. I'm not interested in the promotion of non-profit organizations or which news reporter got to run for a while with the Olympic Torch. I would like to know more about those people who held a parade on the main street last Friday and what they were celebrating.

The investment in local TV by the broadcast networks has been sorely lacking for a very long time. It is no wonder to me why advertising has moved on. So have the audiences (and the BBM book clearly shows where young people have tuned local TV out entirely). If revenue from local TV has dried up it can be directly attributed to the neglect and lack of investment by the network into the affiliate stations. When there is no local TV content to watch there is no reason to advertise.

But wait. If the broadcast networks can convince Canadians someone is stealing from them perhaps they can have their cake and eat it. I'm sorry to say but the networks have eaten the local TV cake. There is no more.

My cable provider also connects me to the internet; through which I am sending my remarks. When has my local TV station provided me with augmented services? My cable provider gets money from me for a consistent and reliable delivery network service. And, they answer my phone calls.

This debate is, in my humble view, nonsense. Given the profits redirected from local news revenue toward the network and the replacement of locally produced content with 'purchased' syndicated programming through most of the broadcast day I see no reason to reward past "plundering" of local TV audiences while these same broadcast networks operate profitable premium channels on the cable.

If I ran a cable TV service I might petition for the right to refuse to carry local TV signals if I felt they did not serve "my customers" well. I don't believe those rules have been changed either. If

I'm not mistaken the cable TV operators are still required to carry local signals in each service area. This goes back to the community antenna idea.

In my part of the country the local affiliates of the network used to have repeater transmitters in remote areas of the province to provide distant coverage for viewers outside major cities. These distant rebroadcast stations must have been costly to build and maintain. But they widened the available viewership for a local TV affiliate.

One might argue that - with cable TV penetration at much higher levels than possible with rebroadcast stations could possibly deliver - cable TV should be acknowledged as having expanded the audience for local TV into all areas of their market segment with a clear and reliable signal. This should have provided most affiliate stations with increased potential revenue from advertising drawn from these smaller centers (which current substitution technology could allow them to tailor local commercial messages to various smaller segments of the Cable audience in their broadcast/market area).

Broadcast affiliates could profitably collaborate with cable TV operators in their regions by providing commercial content to them for insertion and substitution into popular programming aimed at those regional audiences. But this would represent the kind of creative thinking which has long disappeared from local broadcasting. Everything must come from "The Center". And I'm sure you at the CRTC are keenly aware of plans by networks to centralize their news services to reduce costs. Local affiliates may soon be originating their anchors and taking feeds from the broadcast center for the entire network as if they were part of a local newscast.

In my city there are three professional sports franchises. Only one local TV outlet provides LIVE coverage or produces a LIVE sporting event. I recognize this is an expensive proposition for a local channel but in the past many of them generated significant revenue from their broadcasts. Today these events are provided LIVE through specialty Sports channels owned by these same networks and they have taken away the revenue opportunity along with it. Local advertising cannot afford the higher specialty channel rates. They lose the opportunity to align themselves with a local sports franchise; except when they are direct sponsors of the teams themselves.

Both cable operators and broadcast networks have occasionally needed to borrow large amounts of money to expand their services, upgrade signals, serve expanding markets or even create new special interest channels. The networks appear to have made poor choices regarding those investments and the cable operators seem to have made better choices. But no one who believes in fairness and open competition should mix the revenue apples of cable operators with the revenue oranges of the broadcast networks.

I believe I am a well-informed and level-headed consumer of both broadcast local TV and other special interest channels. I will not be fooled by vague suggestions someone is getting a free ride off Local TV. The CRTC has demonstrated excellent stewardship of both over-the-air broadcasting as well as through-the-wire cable services for many decades. I truly believe the CRTC will see through this foolishness and insist on hard facts. You - more than any other body in the debate - have your hands on the numbers. You can ask what kind of investment each has been making and come to a fair and reasonable judgment about the future of "local TV" in this country.

With an ever growing set of technology options available there may no longer be a place at the TV table for a local affiliate of a national network. The business model being used by broadcasters seems to ensure the centralizing of revenue streams away from local advertising and toward more lucrative national sponsorships.

Thank you for your consideration of my remarks.

Flag

Like

 Navman ★ 1 month ago 4 people liked this.

Local TV is very important, it's how I keep in touch what's happening in my city via the local new stations of CBC, CTV, CityTV etc.

Rogers Cable in Ontario already charges \$29.99 for a Basic package of channels, Which include Global, CTV, CBC, CityTV. Rogers and the other cable companies do not pay for these channels.

They fee they are charging customers is going right into cable companies pocket.

I believe a fee should be charged to the cable companies and the fee should be (mandated) used to support local programming/news.

If that fee charged was going to increase my cable bill I would cancel my cable and get a Free-to-Air antennae installed and get my local programming that way.

[Flag](#)

Like



Robert Perchie ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Living in the Interior of B.C (West Kootenay), I don't believe that we receive local tv. The broadcasters out of Vancouver advertise themselves as local but they are not. We receive no local news; the wx forecast is really a hit and miss thing. I believe that you have large conglomerates that should be allowed to collapse. Out of the carnage will emerge, smaller, local Vancouver stations that are independently owned and operated by people that live in the area - very good for tv in Canada.

In the morning, I tend to watch either the Vancouver or Edmonton "local" channel broadcast over Shaw cable and than watch one of the Spokane stations for "local" wx and international news. Other than CBC news, I find the private networks in Canada tend to push their view on issues as they deliver the news (I seldom watch cbc although I do listen to cbc radio a great deal).

We have no choice in Cable subscription, but are happy with the product, but think it is about \$20.00/month to much. Delivery of tv and internet should be wide open - we know a number of people that pull in American tv with no subscription fees. We will look at alternatives if there is added fees beyond what we pay now.

When we watch tv, it tends to be American shows on American channels (or Canadian feed of the same).

I don't believe - nor believe in multi-media communication companies; they maximize the profit with foreign content or copy catting programs and do nothing to create a product of their own - They live off the back of Americans, they don't put enough effort (or interest) to producing Canadian shows utilizing Canadians. I mean why should we be asked to pay the Canadian TV companies anything when most of their programming is American - drop out the middle person - all of Canada can now receive American tv stations and we won't be paying twice to watch the same program.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kevin Brown ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

1. We should not have to pay for a failed business model - no extra fees to prop up another industry.
2. None, if it is viable it will continue to operate.

[Flag](#)

Like



djmurray ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Somehow we either need to allow more competition into the marketplace, or we need to let customers pick the channels they wish to pay for as they see fit, not as packages and bundles as decided in an office in Calgary or Toronto. Local and Canadian channels will need to be "protected" in some manner, with attractive pricing and subsidized by the more expensive foreign offerings. Canadian programming content should determine just how "Canadian" a channel might be. CBC obviously carries a large amount of Canadian content, while CTV and Global are primarily clones of American networks. We shouldn't have to pay for a duplication of signals just to reward the so called Canadian channel owners with their all important "commercial substitution."

[Flag](#)

Like



Neil ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

If "local" TV stations (I put local in quotes because stations like Global Edmonton or CTV Vancouver are not local, they are syndicates of national companies) can't afford to pay for their own programming they need to cut costs on their own, not demand that Canadians pay more! Instead of sending millions of dollars to American networks for the right to air American shows in Canada (see: The Simpsons, The Office, How I Met Your Mother, Survivor, basically all of CTV/Global/A-Channel's shows!) they should reallocate their money somewhere more efficient, like a real company has to!

[Flag](#)

Like



Jon McBride ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

The cable companies are doing these useless Canadian broadcasters a favour by delivering their signals across the land. Plus they have to carry out simsubs for them because the likes of CTV and Global can't come up with their own shows. They don't deserve a penny more for thier mismanaged ways!

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Like



Rob W. ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Canadians seem to be over charged for cable, satellite, internet and cell services. Here is another example of that. Big business crying to the Government and trying to sting us with a so called 'tax'. I pay far to much now for my Television and internet service now, ANY increase no matter how large or small is not acceptable. I always thought that 'local' television once it left the broadcast tower was part of the public domain. I have an over the air antenna, how will CTV ,CBC, GLOBAL CITY and so on charge me for watching or will they disadvantage the 10 percent of the population who still get there TV this way and disable the broadcast towers? Don't the cable companies and Satellite companies just redistribute something that is already free to us over the air anyway.

Maybe Canada should adopt the US policy of only offering Designated Market Areas (DMA) Example: If you live in the Toronto area you only get Toronto locals, no east coast ,west coast and all the other locals from various cities across the country. This way your locals get the full viewership from within your DMA . Advertising dollars may be worth more for the local station, increasing there profit and help there bottom line. If they know you are watching their ads here rather then ads from say Vancouver or Calgary.

I would agree with establishing DMA'S along with the total elimination of simultaneous substitution (simsub) of US channels. (this is why I have a OTA antenna that compliments my paid services to get around Simsubbing that is forced on Canadians by the CRTC.

I think it would be a travesty to be forced to pay for something that some people may not even watch (local tv) .If CTV and the likes of others want to charge, then the CRTC has an obligation to allow cable/satellite customers to pick a programming package that doesn't have locals in it if they don't want to pay for them.

What this country needs is MORE competition in the Television, internet, telecommunications industry. Canadians pay some of the highest fees in the world for substandard products and services. Canadians use to be the leader in high speed internet. We have fallen way behind Europe and the USA now in both service and price.

It's time for a big shake up in this industry. Time to let Canadians pick what they want to watch and who and where they get it from. Not to be dictated to by a quasi monopoly business or a Government body who thinks they know what Canadian culture is. It's also time to break up Television providers who also own local and pay channels. It's a huge conflict of interest to be a service provider and a channel owner to make valid arguments over price increases yet still looking out for us the consumer of these services.

Maybe the CRTC needs to offer a free and open border on channels and services and open up competition from foreign companies to give Canadians real choice and better prices in the TV,

internet, phone and cell phone industries.

I hate it when Canadian communication companies like to whine to the regulator to protect there quasi monopolies. Here is one more example of that. Canadian companies like CTV, Global Bell, Rogers always seem terrified to be exposed to real and true open markets. The CRTC should show some true grit. If they allow a fee to be charged for locals then open up the communication industry for competition from outsiders. With increased and true competition then rates for TV, internet and phone would hopefully fall and offset any increases from our current providers.

I always found it very distasteful that companies have to run to the Government to be 'protected' Let the market decide ! If Local channels are important to people they will watch them. When CTV, CBC, Global, City can pay hundreds of millions for US shows then locals must be doing ok. If they were not then we would have a lot of paid advertisements or reruns of the beachcombers.....

Flag

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mike smith ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

if the tv stations broadcast their signal OTA, then there should be no charge for cable rebroadcasting. if they want to be a pay tv channel, then follow the HBO business model -a real subscription service, that is entirely optional.

frankly, this whole "local tv matters" sounds like a load of crap to me. they're going to close local stations anyway, and i don't think many people will miss them.

cable isn't blameless in this either - we should be able to pick and choose individual stations, not bundled packages.

bottom line - don't give in to the tv stations - the economic realities of broadcasting are changing, and forcing consumers to subsidize broadcasters against their won't solve anything.

Flag

Like



John Winsor ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I am tired of the Canadian gov. interfering with radio and television. I am not willing to pay extra for substandard programming. If a station provides what customers want it will be profitable if it does not or cannot then let someone else fill the void who can.

Flag

Like



KWM649 ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

There are times, on a daily basis, where we would appreciate true local content, particularly news. The so called Local Programming by the Cable companies are, generally speaking, a joke. Attempts to contact our local Cable broadcast office are futile, even the Cable company local front office don't know how to contact it!

Secondly, as cable subscribers we are forced (by CRTC?) to pay for "packages" that provide very few channels we have any interest in.

Please consider allowing us to buy just those channels we have an interest in and at a reasonable price. Those broadcasters that can't make it probably shouldn't exist.

Flag

Like



RMAN ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

My god have we lost all sense of what is value and the marketed garbage we are all paying for . Local or major TV suppliers have managed to have us all comment on a product and supply that should in all financial measurements be self sufficient on the revenues they produce from advertizing. A 30 minute program is actually 18 minutes less the adds and we are discussing

what value we attribute to having it served to us. We pay for bottled water, satellite radio and television along with the internet. Have we lost all perspective.

I see it as simple supply and demand those who want local TV pay for it. Those who want specific channels should have the right and support of the regulators to choose as fee for service. Products and services that can't survive in a free democratic market will perish. Any mass tax or mandated federal support for a luxury like TV should be abolished.

CRTC do your job. Stop defending a dying industry and defend all Canadians against the corporate greed with ever increasing expense for access most of which we don't want.

No I do not support additional fees for local programming

Flag

Like



Mike in Vancouver ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

TV stations must be allowed to fail.

We have too many stations for the size of the market. If we have enough advertising to support one station, then we should have one station.

The economy is not good at the moment. What were these media moguls doing with all their money during the good times? Oh, that's right, they were buying up everything in sight. Now they don't have money to get them through the lean times. TOO BAD. YOUR POOR PLANNING IS NOT MY PROBLEM, OR THE CABLE COMPANY'S PROBLEM. Sink or swim.

Flag

Like



John G. ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

1. Why would I pay for something I can get for free now? Let me be clear about my position: I will not pay anything for local TV. Local TV is advertiser supported. Local is making a positive operating profit, I am taking paying for their capital structure. By the way, have you seen local TV, its terrible, and it has been for as long as I can remember. Why would you pay money for the same or more crap? Have you watched TV Sunday morning, nothing but infomercials. Why would I want to pay for that crap. The cable companies are right in saying that paying a fee won't improve local tv. Finally, I want to point out that I grew up in the rural area and we did not have local tv. If you wanted to get the local news, listen to the radio. Local TV can go bankrupt for all I care. Its overrated.

Flag

Like



Bill Truscott ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to John G.](#)

The argument about ad revenue is lame as the cable networks also have ads and derive revenue from both sources. What you would do is limit local TV to only the one source and give networks like playboy and hustler greater rights. Sorry thats simply discrimination. Networks like CBC and CTV paved the way and because they have been around for awhile you wont let them evolve to the new environment? Local TV without the other revenue source will never be able to compete. How about I cut your income in half and you go out and compete with me for products or services. Bet I out bid you every time. Or even better you make a product I will sell it and keep all the money but I will let you put ads on the bottom for your efforts. But I will keep all of the money form the sale of your product.

Flag

Like



R Morrison ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

The costs of TV programming are already too high and if I had to choose whether to support local programming at additional costs, I would likely review what they would offer in content and determine based on my overall package whether they would be added and replace something

else but I would not be willing to just add the extra cost on top of what I am already paying. Local news and content may determine if this should replace a channel I am already paying for....

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Robert* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Local TV is not part of my regular TV watching habits. I pay for cable for non local programming, specifically specialty channels. If i was forced to pay a subsidy to keep local programming i would more than likely cancel my cable TV and rely on internet based entertainment.

If local TV is not able to sustain itself on its own then it should not survive.

Cable companies should have the right to let customers choose if they want local TV and let those that want it, pay for it and let those that don't have a break on the already high cost of cable TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ed* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

I would not want to pay more for local TV. This issue has only come to a head recently because advertising revenues have declined. The TV companies in the news recently expanded too quickly and spent money on programming like drunken sailors. There was no thought to the economic climate or how it would affect their income stream. Because they screwed up we are being asked to pay more for a product we likely don't want. I think that in the end the public will end up paying for this regardless of how we feel about it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Craig Mac* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Cable costs are already through the roof! I do not support any further rate increases for television regardless of the outcome of this debate. Only selected local television is important to me. I do not speak Italian, Portuguese, Chinese, French or languages other than English. I propose that the consumer have the choice to select their own local channels for viewing without extra charges being implemented. Basic cable packages that are offered currently are atrocious! I cannot or choose not to watch 1/2 the channels that are currently offered in a basic package. Essentially, I already pay far too much for what I am receiving. Give the consumer the choice for which local television they wish to pay for on a channel by channel basis without additional costs and get rid of these packaged channel offers. With this option, local television charges can be directly absorbed by the cable companys. Currently, the consumer is held hostage by the cable companys and it's about time someone put a stop to it!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Prudence* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Craig Mac](#)

Craig Mac,

You are 100% correct - basic packages are a high way robbery!! CRTC is to be blamed!! The gall of of it - asking for public input!! CRTC is responsible for this mess. CRTC had better clean up the mess that it makes before we all fall into a pit.

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Like

 *Kevin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 4 people liked this.

Question 1. No Thanks. For me "National" TV... is... "Local TV". The internet has made our world a much smaller place and as such has broadened the range of "Local" to mean "National" anyway. If someone wants to keep close tabs on what is happening in their City or community

they can subscribe to the local newspaper, join community Blogs, or get involved in local clubs etc... Besides, the cable company already gives me a local channel if I want to watch that.

Question 2. Most Towns and Communities now have their own websites that could include video "News and Community Interest" stories that could be funded either on a subscription basis or through advertising revenues from local businesses.

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L Katz ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

it should be the cable companies that pay from their profits. the users should not have to pay more than they already do.

[Flag](#)

Like



Frederick Hines ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

GLOBAL THANKS CTV

TORONTO, December 18, 2009 - Even in the ultra competitive TV business, the holiday season seems to bring out the best in people.

Global Television wishes to thank CTV for its recent press release recapping the fall television season – a release that generously reminded readers of the dramatic shift occurring in the TV landscape.

In its release, CTV graciously included the following list of Canada's Top 10 programs among Adults 25-54. This list indicates that Global now has 4 of the Top 10 shows in the country, including Canada's #1 show.

Canada's Top 10 Television Programs, Fall 2009 - Adults 25-54

- #1. HOUSE
2. GREY'S ANATOMY
3. SURVIVOR
4. CRIMINAL MINDS
5. THE AMAZING RACE
6. CSI NEW YORK
7. CSI
8. CSI MIAMI
9. NCIS
10. LIE TO ME

These clowns at CTV and Global are releasing press releases about who hijacked the most American shows and which US shows did the best on their so-called network. That's it. It's utterly sad that they are releasing press releases like this.

It's like a student bragging in school that they copied homework off the smarter kid and did better than another kid who copied off a dumber kid.

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J.Nolan ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

We already pay for Local TV with our satellite costs, therefore, if the satellite companies haven't been paying for Local TV, and yet have been charging us for it, then (it isn't rocket science) to say the Satellite Co's should be paying Local TV for putting it on their airwaves. However, they shouldn't ever ask me for more money, since they have been collecting this from me since I bought the satellite many years ago. So CRTC, stand up for the people and insist that the satellite companies pay for the local TV which they've been given the money for all these yrs. For once, do something for the people whom you are supposed to represent. Do the right thing and make the satellite companies pay Local TV for putting it out on their airwaves while collecting

money from us for that purpose. You have been given your high powered job, so stand up and do the right thing!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *marilynvrbensky* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV. they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

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Like

 *Sharon Millie* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I think that local TV is important to the community. I think that the cable companies should pay their fair share especially if they are not contributing anything at the moment. I do not think that consumers should be obliged to pay more for local TV. The cable companies should be more interested in the communities they are supposed to be serving and be prepared to pay a fair share of the price for local TV.

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Like

 *jeremyawesome* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I believe that using the product of another person or company for profit, and not compensating them at all is a very disturbing act.

I'd rather buy DVD copies of television shows I enjoy and stick to an antennae signal, than to watch stolen programming.

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Like

 *Bruce Gardner* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Canadians are already overcharged for cable TV services.

TV sets are no longer supplied with antennas as standard equipment. Cable is required in order to get any reception including local stations.

Don't let the cable providers burden the viewers with additional fees. Let them share some of their huge profits with struggling local TV stations.

It is imperative that the CRTC ensure that viewers are not burdened with additional charges.

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Like

 *James* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I've been reading the commentary on this site with some interest, the debate between the cable companies and the broadcasters seems to be at least getting people talking about the future of television in this country- I'd say that's a good thing.

After listening for months- here's my two cents.

I think that Canadian content matters. We see and hear so much American content these days, it chokes our airwaves, it pours out of our radios and it's near impossible to get away from- unless you turn on the CBC.

Sure, not every Canadian show they put on the air is perfect, but, if the CBC doesn't do it...who will? They're the only one putting Canadian content on the airwaves in any quantity that

matters.

I support the broadcaster's position for a couple of reasons, first and foremost it helps the CBC continue to do what it does (and maybe do more in the future) and second, it's the only fair thing to do

I've seen a few people say here that the CBC should be shut out of any negotiation on the value of their signal because they already receive "a billion dollars" from the Canadian government (meaning you and I, from our taxes) This argument makes no sense to me.

Many other federal crown corporations, both past and present, like Air Canada, Canada Post, and CN Rail, received a lot of money from the federal government, yet they have been required, and were allowed, to sell their services in order to help fully fund what they do.

Look at Via Rail for example. It gets a lot of money from the government but that makes up only a portion of their entire budget. It makes up the rest by selling their service to the public and to private companies.

Do you have to pay to get on to a train? Yes. If a private tour operator wants to use Via Rail do they have to pay for the service? Yes.

Neither the general public, nor private companies, can take Via Rail's service for free, even though Via Rail's services are heavily funded by your tax dollars.

Yet, giving its services away for free to the private sector is exactly what happens to the CBC now (which doesn't make any sense because the cable companies pay money to the US networks and specialty channels) and what will still happen if CBC/Radio-Canada was shut out of negotiations with the cable and satellite companies.

A lot of people are stuck on this "one billion dollars" number, thinking that it's more than enough to fund CBC Television.

If I read CBC/Radio-Canada's annual report correctly (<http://www.cbc.radio-canada.ca/annualreports/20...>), that one billion doesn't even come close to paying for all it does. And the one billion doesn't just go to CBC TV, it funds EVERYTHING they do and everything Radio-Canada does too - TV, Radio, Online, across all of the country, every province, territory, time zone and in a number of languages- when you look at it that way, that one billion figure looks a lot smaller compared, I think to the value we receive.

The CRTC has even told the CBC to look for money from other places (ads) in order to help finance all that it does- but, the ad market has been drying up for at least a decade now, even for the private broadcasters.

If the CBC isn't allowed to get some more money through this "value for signal", you can probably imagine that things will change- either less Canadian programming on their network, or less local programming, that would be a big problem because they're the only broadcaster out there who is really committed to telling Canadian stories, relative to the other networks.

It will also mean that, unlike Via Rail a federally-funded crown corporation will continue to give its services away for free to private sector companies -the cable and satellite companies - so that they can re-sell them for a substantial profit. That's not fair.

Would you want the CEO of TD Bank travelling across the country every day for free in a luxury Via One car, a car that was partially built by your tax dollars? I don't think so- there's enough of that kind of stuff going on in the world today and I think it's time for a little fairness in our system.

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Like

 Earl  [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Must cable clients I have spoken with recently (friends) had no clue that the local programming they have been charged for enriches only the cable companies. This seems very wrong!

[Flag](#)

 Like

James ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

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Kordella Jenson ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to James](#) 2 people liked this.

The CBC does produce a lot of Canadian content, but so do other Canadian networks like CTV and Global. Check out some of these great Canadian shows that air on these other stations:

All My Children
 30 Rock
 Jimmy Kimmel
 America's Got Talent
 Kilmora: Life in the Fab Lane
 America's Toughest Jobs
 Cold Case
 Grey's Anatomy
 Supernanny
 Eli Stone
 Parks and Recreation
 Gossip Girl
 Battlestar Galactica
 Dirty Sexy Money
 High School Musical
 Fringe
 The Simpsons
 Tonight Show with Conan O'Brien
 Jimmy Fallon
 60 Minutes
 Mad Men
 Missing
 One Life to Live
 America's Next Top Model
 Private Practice
 Pushing Daisies
 Samantha Who?
 Supernanny
 Terminator: Sarah Conner Chronicles
 The Big Bang Theory
 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
 The Mentalist
 The Jay Leno Show
 TMZ
 TMZ Weekend
 Two and a Half Men
 Whose Line is it Anyways
 Who Wants to be a Millionaire
 Wife Swap
 Live with Regis and Kelly
 The View
 The NFL
 The PGA

America's Funniest Home Videos
Bold and the Beautiful
Oprah
General Hospital
Dr. Phil
Access Hollywood
The Amazing Race
Law and Order
Law and Order: CI
Law and Order: SVU
CSI
CSI: New York
CSI: Miami
Don't Forget the Lyrics
NCIS
NCIS: Los Angeles
The Daily Show
The Colbert Report
So You Think You Can Dance
American Idol
Ghost Whisperer
Hole in the Wall
Numbers
Prison Break
Heroes
My Own Worst Enemy
House
90210
Kitchen Nightmares
Bones
Survivor
The Office
Kath and Kim
Life on Mars
Life
The Ex-List
King of the Hill
Family Guy
American Dad
Brothers and Sisters
'Til Death
How I Met Your Mother
Do Not Disturb
Worst Week
Boston Legal
Knight Rider
Deal or No Deal
E! Ture Hollywood Story
My Name is Earl
Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?
Dateline NBC
Eleventh Hour
20/20
Snoop Dogg's Father Hood
Forbes Specials
Extreme Makeover: Home Edition
The Real Housewives of Orange County
Cougar Town
Modern Family
Curb Your Enthusiasm
The Biggest Loser
Judge Judy
Flag

Like

*Danny* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

cable companies should pay an if the the money for my cable is not beimg payed i will be very upset thanks danny

[Flag](#)

Like

*rick60* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

I feel that the cable networks are getting enough money from the consumer and it is time to share with local tv, without penalizing the consume. One only has to look at Shaw's recent executive pay/bonus announcements to realize that they have been and are being fairly compensated as it is. This year I have had two increases in cable service fees but have lost a total of three stations from my top tier package(analogue) service. Local tv should be paid for their programming and it should come from the profits of the cable companies, not the consumers. The local programming offered by cable here in Calgary is somewhat good, but it is terribly repetitious with the same WHL game shown more than three times,etc. The CRTC has to recognize the value of locally produced television and act to prevent what will become a monopolistic, cable dominated medium.

[Flag](#)

Like

*Brian G* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV ? my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service

At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right to me

[Flag](#)

Like

*C. MacGillivray* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

Local TV should be supported by the cable companies that provide access. It doesn't appear that they are suffering financially and if it can be proven that they are then I would be willing to pay to support local television. Local TV is an important source of information and a unifying agent for our area.

[Flag](#)

Like

*sheilaosmond* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

FAIR IS FAIR!! Cable companies have raised their rates and profit margins at will while paying nothing for local tv since they began - at the same time as they DID pay for specialty channels and American channels. True, the advertising revenues used to be enough to carry the Canadian tv companies so this was not as much of an issue. Times have changed and advertising revenues have dropped dramatically for the TV companies but profits continue to soar for the cable companies who continue to raise their rates and still get the local channels for free.

The CRTC needs the COURAGE TO ACT. I remember when Canadian content was legislated in the music industry to assist Canadian talent getting exposure in our own country while the airwaves were dominated by American content. This bold move by the Commission was criticized then and yet how many talented Canadian artists today would be unknowns if that trend had continued. Bravo to the commission courage at that time for acting in the interests of Canadian

artists. I enjoy visiting other countries but am always surprised how glad I am to get back to the Canadian news, journalists, analysis and programming on CBC radio and Canadian TV. Imagine if it were not there and our TV companies were sold to foreign interests or we had to depend on American channels for our information and culture.

The CRTC must act to insist that the cable and satellite companies be responsible, and pay for local TV out of their huge profits. They must not be allowed to pass it on to their subscribers by calling it a tax as they did with the LPIF. How disingenuous to call paying for something you receive for free, a tax. Perhaps the amount could be based on the amount of Canadian content in the TV station's programming. The Commission is the watchdog for communications in this country which is in a crisis. The CRTC need to act. FAIR IS FAIR.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Richard* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV is very important to all Canadians. I don't care about the cable and satellite companies; for them it's all about profit.

We need to ensure that Canadian local TV and the average Canadian benefit from this decision. NOT THE CABLE COMPANIES

[Flag](#)

Like

 *stanleyd* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

1. This is a cash grab; enforced by the CRTC. I would try to minimize my costs by eliminating local programming (If we get that option) from the cable bill.
2. We should not support local TV if it cannot compete in the open market. The best thing the CRTC can do to support local TV is to eliminate Canadian-Content Restrictions. Content should be determined by viewers not by Government.

The real reason local TV is losing viewer-share (although they are still profitable and don't need our money) is because they don't give viewers what they want to watch. They have operated with a monopoly far too long, and don't know how to compete. We should not be saving bad companies. By letting them fail, new better stations with better programming will emerge. The CRTC can help local TV by eliminating Canadian-Content Restrictions that produce bad programming that no one watches.

The best Solution to the TV programming dilemma is for the CRTC to get out of the way, except to ensure competition; American TV has very strict censorship restrictions on programming; especially on Adult fare and language. Canadian TV is allowed a lot more by our CRTC; thus Canadian TV can exploit this advantage to produce more Adult and Mature audience fare:

During Late-Night. What the CRTC can do to help is force all TV including Cable TV to obtain all their programming from independent producers and freelancers: This will give Canadians a true competitive market and eliminate insipid programs that nobody wants to watch; but are forced to pay for. The most important thing the CRTC can do is forcefully break up the Monopoly a few companies enjoy in the broadcast industry: CTV, GlobeMedia, Global, Rogers, & CBC. The only just way to do this is to have the distribution Networks (The Stations and The Cable Lines) be run on a non-profit basis; so that they have to accept programming by independent producers solely based on viewership and quality. This whole discussion is based on greed by the monopoly TV industry & their henchmen the CRTC; when it should be about producing better programming that we the people will watch.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *D. Wagner* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I support the idea of allowing local television stations to charge cable companies for their content. Local television is important and it is important to ensure that the local stations survive. TV will lose much of its relevance to people if it does not reflect the local community. Watching all American content will eventually turn us into Americans. Cable companies can afford to pay for the content that consumers are already paying for through their basic cable rate.

[Flag](#)

 *John Ridge* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

What I can't understand is if Canadian cable companies pay American broadcasters for their signals then why are they not paying Canadian broadcasters the same fee's? After all, any of the self generated content of the broadcasters programing is copyrighted and not for re-broadcast just like a DVD or movie. So why are the cable companies allowed to ignore that law, yet we the citizens are expected to pick up the tab for local broadcasting while they pay nothing from the 2.3 billion dollars they reap in profit each year. I used to work for Rogers Cable in the Ontario region and I know for a fact that Rogers cable deliberately waste profit to avoid paying taxes on that money. I personally think it is about time for the politicians to stop putting the weight on the citizens, who are over taxed enough and start making the corporations pay their fair share from their outrageous 'profits'.

[Flag](#) *Nancy Burke* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV and Radio is a lifeline - the glue that keeps the community a community. I believe 'cable greed' has created a huge threat. Joe public, including me, has already reached the end of being able to stretch the dollar any further so don't throw out the baby with the bath water. Do not entities like the CRTC have a mission to protect the foundation of our nation, our communities?

[Flag](#) *rick74304* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Cable companies study their market closely before deciding how to best fracture the line up they carry into "specialty packages" and maximize profit from consumers.

As publicly traded corporations, their profits are public knowledge. Face facts cable, we all know you can afford to pay for the programming you've been profiting from for years. Now that the proverbial shoe is on the other foot, and cable finds itself losing something it values (like a free product it can re-sell for pure profit) they attempt to whine to us, the consumer with whom they've been toying with for years, and warn of impending rate hikes should this come to pass? Balderdash ! What drivel is this?

Cable can no longer be allowed to enjoy pure profit off the backs of local t.v., and should not, under any circumstances, be allowed to charge any type of rate hike to the consumer, or cut their employee base to compensate.

Yes, local t.v should be allowed to charge cable for their programs, and cable needs to absorb it as the cost of doing business in Canada. If they can't stomach that, well, the border is straight south of here.

[Flag](#) *William R.* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I do not agree to the cable companies charging the consumer. Cable companies should pay from their own profits. Please stop this rip-off. Cable companies keep increasing their rates every year. Enough is enough.

[Flag](#) *bettygodmaire* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I believe that local tv needs to stay afloat, without local television people in small towns have no way to fundraise for local charities, or to stay intouch with our community events and hazards. I have satelite and i still see my local news, to me every time i pay my bill, the cost covers this channel, when the company gets my money part of it should be sent to the local channel, it is only fair, satelite companies charge me then local channels should be able to charge the satelite companies.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Brad* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

- It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

- We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV – my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service

- At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right to me

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*johnshannon* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I have been a Rogers subscriber almost since their inception. Over the last number of years they have been increasing the subscription cost and reducing their content.

I am a strong advocate for local TV station services and it would appear that Rogers is shortchanging the local networks by downloading their signals for free.

If I can figure out a way to receive the channels I want to see, other than subscribing to Rogers, then that's my out.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Hilary* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I am a student and Rogers is a company I do not do business with but unfortunately they are the only provider in my area. Every month I pay them a ridiculous amount of money. It makes me even more upset that none of my money is supporting local tv which I rely on! I cannot afford and will not spend more money, these companies need to stop being greedy, the CRTC needs to ensure the public that they will not need to spend more money to save local tv!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*loranb* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Got my satellite tv bill from bell today and guess what. As of january 1st, the basic digital package is going up another by another \$2.00. I wonder how much money these companies need. It's purely another money grab by these companies that have the entire industry tied up amongst themselves. There is no where else to go for these types of services. If all the rate increases and fighting over the who gets how much money is to continue, then the CRTC has no other choice but to put regulation back in place, or open up the skies for the US markets to compete. After all, have we not been fed this load of malarky about the free trade agreement and how we must allow competition from the US. What happened to broadcasting? Is it exempt? Our health care system isn't so why should broadcasting be any different. As a result of this incoming increase, I am cutting back on the number of packages I now have. I will continue to cut back everytime there is an increase until I am no longer able to because of the constraints the CRTC allows these companies to impose on the consumers. At that point, I will drop TV altogether. By the way, if anyone out there believes that there will not be an imposition of a TV tax, you better give yourself a reality check. This is nothing more then an exercise in publicity by the CRTC to make it appear that the CRTC is attempting to come up with some solution. This exercise need not happen. All the CRTC has to do exercise it's authority and make these companies toe the line. The CRTC should be doing what it was bought in to being for....PROTECT THE CONSUMER!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *J. Carriere* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

Local TV is very important to me. The local news, programming and events keeps me connected with my community. Many Canadian TV shows are excellent quality and even valued by Americans! Yes, I support the cable companies paying for local TV. I do not like the how the cable companies currently dictate what channels I receive in my cable package. I don't understand why we can not pay for just the channels that we want to receive. Why must Canadians pay for the bundled pkgs of channels that we do not want nor watch. Would I pay for local programming? Yes. And when can I pay for just the channels I want and not for the channels forced on me by cable companies?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mulwara Haasan* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

I think my right testicle has more Canadian content than CTV and Global combined.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *michaelforeman* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

I feel that local TV, should be paid fairly by cable and satellite companies for their signal.

I would be willing to pay for local TV but feel that the cable and satellite companies should not allow to charge me extra for the local TV I am already paying for monthly. They should NOT be allowed to charge or tax us when they have been picking it up for free for many years. The local TV station is VERY important for local news weather and happenings in the Simcoe County and Georgian bay Triangle area.

Michael Foreman

Wasaga Beach, Ont. L9z2n9

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Lucy* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

As I stated yesterday, I have cancelled my cable, effective Dec 26. Right now, I have basic cable. & I only speak English. I have how many French channels? Plus at least 2 other channels of different languages. 2 weather channels. 2 parliament channels. Plus 2 or 3 channels that run duplicate programming. plus other channels that I would never pick for myself. If this increase included the option of choosing my channels, maybe I'd give it consideration. My rates have gone up 2X in the last 6 mos., \$1 or \$2 here, \$1 or \$2 there. When does this rip-off stop? It won't, unless we stop it by cancelling our services. It usually only hurts when it hits the pocketbook, as we all know. So lets allow the cable cos., & the "local channels" feel the same pain they're dishing out.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Lisa* ★ 3 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

Support our local tv but not from our pockets please!! If this impacts me and i have to pay anymore a month for cable i will just cancel, i can watch most shows free on the internet anyways. Just another money grab like the HST. Make sure you all sign that petition too!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Donna* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and

not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell. If this tax is implemented, I will cut my TV package down to basis in protest. This is not a threat, it's a promise

[Flag](#)

Like

 *truffles* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

- We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV – my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service

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Like

 *Neil* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

It seems odd to me that a carrier as I see the cable company to be should pay for the product they transport. Like a trucking co. having to buy freight from a consigner and sell it to the consignee.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *William* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Enough already. The cable companies have devised all sorts of outlandish schemes to up their monthly profits. Is operating as a near monopoly not enough?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *N, Siewert* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Naturally I\ think we already pay enough. The local TV station is VERY important for local news and happenings in our area (London and S/W Ontario) I would wish to have the early morning news returned and not just a rerun of night before.

Also, In all TV I think we should be able to select which chanel we would like to receive. We only speak English in our house so no other language is necessary. We do not watch sports, so that could go to someone else. We like mystery, drama, musicals and English comedy.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *T. Brown* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I think this is ridiculous. I would cancel my services just to prove that I am not an idiot. I already pay huge costs for Television due to CRTC mandates, and now you want to add a tax? This tax may "save local TV", but it will definitely impact other Canadian companies that provide television services. That's revenue cuts and loss of Canadian jobs. This is just stupid! There is a ripple effect to this dumb seemingly short term solution. The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S.

programming. They have never committed to spending ANY of the new tax money on local TV. The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money a year. Why do they need even more from Canadians? For local TV? Give me a break!

Instead of forcing a buy-out onto the Canadian viewing public, force these broadcasters to manage their money better. Other companies have been forced to do the same without imposing a stupid and unjustified tax on Canadians.

Canadians already pay huge costs for Television/Satellite services. Adding this tax is an awful idea and very backwards way of thinking this day in age. I strongly feel the outcome will be disastrous.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Randy Jacobs* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Cable should be paying for local TV as they make money selling it in their basic package

Flag

Like



Lynne Jeffreys ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I thought I was already paying for local Tv like I pay for other channels on my satellite provider. Prices are already out of hand and I don't feel we should pay anymore for services. Cable and satellite make millions already and maybe paying \$10 dollars to local TV companies for this service won't hurt their greed.(\$10 was the figure being used by the cable companies as a tax) Who ever set up this current system years ago has created this mess. I think alot of people assumed that local TV was being paid for their services. I don't we the public now should have to pay for this error that was created. I do watch local TV and Canadian content as much as possible. Money begets money so we'll all probably end up paying in the long run. It would be nice if the Government and the CRTC would stand up for the little(and poorer) guy for a change and make the cable and satellite pay for this service.

Flag

Like



Guest ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Lynne Jeffreys](#) 1 person liked this.

"Money begets money so we'll all probably end up paying in the long run. It would be nice if the Government and the CRTC would stand up for the little(and poorer) guy for a change and make the cable and satellite pay for this service."

So so true. The CRTC is a waste of money anyway. And if the Senate and other greedy politicians didn't get such a huge salary the government could afford to bailout whomever they wanted without needed to consult with the people.

Flag

Like



Zedman2 ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

CTV, Global, CBC executive are liars and deserve to shut down if they can't make it in the market place. Canadian are not allowed an open tv market, stations simulcast their tv signals, blocking out US signals every chance.

Flag

Like



Paul ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Zedman2](#) 1 person liked this.

Speaking of liars, what about the cable companies billing us for local TV on our basic service, keeping the money and not giving any back to the stations and then threatening to nail us if the CRTC orders an end to this practice and calling it a 'tax?'

Flag

Like



stormintv ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

when I look at my poor Little Red Riding Hood local CTV station here in Sudbury wanting more money and probably will getting it, then she sheds her suit to realize that it's the Big Bad Bell wolf . CTVGlobe Media = Bell Globe Media

Flag

Like



Paul Sidoo ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I am totally against paying for local TV. In fact, I believe we pay too much as it is and we (my family) are considering cancelling cable. The only reason for TV in our home is sports, discovery, and HGTV. We do watch other programs but if we have to pay more, we won't miss it. If any company is having problems, they need to restructure instead of begging for bailouts to pay for the dead weight in there companies. Look what Campbell (premier of BC) has done to our

educational system and health care... it was harsh at first but it did eliminate alot of overpaid positions. I am a school teacher and these are tough times...I am overworked and stressed, but I hope by sucking it up during this time, better days lay ahead. It is a bail out, I am against bail outs. I know jobs will be lost, but why not save health care and education with a \$10.00 tax instead of generally poor TV programs.

[Flag](#)

Like



[AGlazer](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Paul Sidoo](#)

Times are tough and I don't want to pay another \$10 either. But the cable and satellite companies should have to pay for the local channels, not us.

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Like



[Lionel](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Dear CRTC,

There is only one solution for improving the quality of TV channels in Canada: Resign!

[Flag](#)

Like



[donallison](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

1. You, the CRTC, should have regulated this long before now. The regulation should be that Cable pays Broadcasters for what they supply to their network. How can there be any question on this? It's immoral to even pose the question and it is immoral to demand that I pay more because they pay more. OF COURSE CABLE SHOULD PAY a fee for local channels. If they pass that cost on to me, I will cancel my subscription and revert to old fashioned antennae.
 2. (A) A portion of cable profits and broadcaster profits should be pooled in a Canadian Production Fund which should be dispensed back to Canadian producers and broadcasters for the production of CANADIAN PROGRAMS.
 2. (B) Charge a tariff on the purchase of broadcast licenses of any foreign programs to any company, whether Cable or Broadcast: deposit that fee to the Canadian Production Fund and dispense it to Canadian Producers and Broadcasters.
 2. (C) Foreign Networks carried on Cable or Satellite should also pay a fee for the privilege of receiving Canadian broadcast and that fee should also be deposited to the Canadian Production Fund. Scramble the signal of any company that does not comply.
 3. Canadian producers who sell their products to other countries should be required to pay a portion of profit to the Canadian Production Fund.
- The CRTC is not doing its job. Instead, it seems to have sold out to influences from lobbies that are only interested in products from foreigners. You seem to be a sham. This whole 'consultation' seems to be a sham. PLEASE prove me wrong by supporting Canadian programming by creating policy which states clearly that the majority of programming, including prime time, is to be CANADIAN PRODUCTION.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Derek D](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to donallison](#) 2 people liked this.

What other business would allow you to charge money for selling somebody's product, but you don't pay the other person? The cable companies have had it too good for too long.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Lionel](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to donallison](#) 1 person liked this.

You sir, are not making any sense.

1. Do you realize that ALL costs of the cable companies are passed on to customers: their electrical bills, their office space, their employees, their taxes, everything!. They are only here to provide a service to consumer and make a profit on it. Therefore they must earn

more than their expenses. Add expenses to them and they have to raise the prices. Asking them not to pass on the expense is the same as asking your neighbour to pay for your cable TV.

2 A. That kind of "nation wide fund" only results in poor quality and high costs. Just take a look at CBC if you need an example of it! Let the viewers pay for what they watch, don't charge everybody. Why should I pay for local TV if I am not watching it?

2 B, C. This will only result in mediocre quality. Again, look at CBC.

I would rather watch good foreign channels than crappy canadian one. The only way Canadian channel will raise the quality of their content is that they compete with the world's best channels for viewers!

3. Unfortunately, the CRTC is doing its job of over-regulating TV, and it is why we are spending our time arguing over it. Free market should rule local TV and any other TV channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Randy Hume ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Cable TV costs way too much now. The cable companies are making billions. And the TV networks are crying poor with millions. Local TV is crucial, but only if it is done properly and not slapped together. The cable companies are not paying their share obviously. But the TV networks are reluctant to part with their millions also.

The cable companies must pay more for local content, but they better not dare to pass it on to the viewers. Also the TV networks must learn that they are privileged to work in broadcasting, and profit is secondary. They must learn to put more back into the business.

I am paying \$70 a month for cable and I am ashamed that I am forced to reward millionaires and billionaires for providing essential services.

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Randy Hume](#) 1 person liked this.

basic cable is \$30/month \$60/month is full movie package.

and if you want to watch more you pay more...you don't have watch all the channels nor does anyone have the time to watch 100 channels

[Flag](#)

Like



derek d ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to bill](#)

Yeah, but you shouldn't have to get 50 channels at a minimum. If you don't watch that much TV, but may want to watch the Oscars or have a news channel in case of a major event you don't need a basic service that has that many channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Harry Paplinkov ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

So with this new fee, will Canadian networks be spending over \$1 billion on American programming? They already spend over \$750 million!

It must be nice to run a Canadian network. All you have to do is sit on your arse, buy US shows that are already premade, insert a few Tim Horton's commercials in here and there, and voila, you've got yourself a network to make yourself some easy money.

It can't get much easier than that.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *janehouse* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I Absolutely do not support a tax for TV. It is up to local broadcasters to use their funds wisely and not throw it away on American programming.

Cable is WAY TOO high. NO TV TAX!! We are not the UK.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jane* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I Absolutely do not support a tax for TV. It is up to local broadcasters to use their funds wisely and not throw it away on American programming.

Cable is WAY TOO high. NO TV TAX!! We are not the UK.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *janehouse* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I refuse to pay extra for local TV!!Let me pick and choose what I want.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Don Copping* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Subject: Fee for Carriage and other arguments and matters arising at the Commission hearing underway

We respectfully submit a number of concerns for your consideration.

1. Fee for carriage: This is a ploy to obtain additional funding from viewers who already pay for the TV options they currently have. I have not seen any argument that the CRTC which originally mandated the cable/satellite carriers carry, at regulated rates, the "local stations" in their service areas. How is it that this CRTC policy benefit is no longer valid?
2. As a direct result of that CRTC mandate, the reach of these "local" stations increased by hundreds of thousands or even millions of potential viewers that could not otherwise reasonably view that channel(s) over the air due to distortion, distance, noise, interference, etc.
3. These same stations should have adjusted their advertising rates and operating costs to reflect the increased potential audience at NO COST to them. That is what a strong business case would have dictated, rather than the argument for fee-for-carriage before you today.
4. Alternately, the cable/satellite carriers should indeed be paid for carrying these same "local" signals to increase the reach of those same stations. Why did that not happen? How can such improvements in audience reach, at no cost to the stations, not be paid for by them? They could not increase their audience reach without substantially increased operating costs such as repeater signals, taller and more antennae, converting to digital signal processing, etc.
5. Also, the "local" stations are now asking for a 4 year deferment of digital signal to allow them to spread the cost of digital broadcasting to be spread out, yet the carriers already offer that distribution service at no cost to the stations today. How can the "local stations" have it both ways? Also, it may mean the broadcasters may never convert to digital for the smaller "local" stations.
6. Granting a "stay of digital operations" will mean a reduction in new services over the available bandwidth airways simply to allow for poor operating/broadcasting practices by the "local" stations. This would appear to be contra to initiatives being proposed by the CRTC for new cost effective options for consumers. Why would you even consider such actions? The poor budgeting and operating practices of the "local" stations should not be a reason to increase consumer costs at all. This smacks of the same invalid proposals the "auto companies" used to garner themselves billions of operating loans at preferable rates, why should such a poor business situation be promoted by the CRTC?

Why would a government body even consider such subsidies for any business that created the very conditions they are using to ask for increased funding WITHOUT any apparent benefit to the consumer? Where are the guarantees of new programming? Where are the new options in

the airwaves for the consumers? If the owners of the "local" station networks hadn't imprudently been paying exorbitant prices for changing ownership of many stations, they wouldn't even be in the position of seeking such subsidies in their operations.

In summary, there are some alternatives for you to consider;

1: do not consider further burdening the consumer with operating costs incurred willingly by the station owners. The bottomless pool of funds they seek aren't in the consumers' pockets nor should you consider such funding.

2: If the cable/satellite carriers proposed such action, your Department would have no recourse but to hold hearings on their management practices and revise their request downwards, as you have done in the past.

3: Finally, if you should for whatever reason consider some subsidy, consider the following;

A: the "local" stations would become a new "tier" and be optional for each viewer to choose whether or not they wish to watch these stations, i.e. option out of the "locals", that way only the consumers who wish to pay additional fees would watch, the rest of us can go elsewhere for telecommunications, i.e. the web broadcasts, downloads offered by the more modern stations and networks etc.

B: Stop the practice of signal replacement for Canadian stations that use your past policies to obtain new audience (versus the USA broadcaster) and even replace their commercials with "local" advertisers. In this way the original broadcaster is giving up audience and advertising reach due to your policies. It is about time these signals stood on their own values, why coddle this industry further? How do these stations deserve such favourable protection? If the programmes can't be self-supporting without this replacement policy, why should the consumer pay more money for its broadcast?

In this case, I noticed a USA commercial offering an Ontario built Chevrolet Camaro for \$22,250, 000's of dollars below the in Ontario price for the same vehicle, despite transportation/currency differences. The consumer should not be precluded from seeing additional advertising that may be of benefit to us, this is only a recent example.

Respectfully submitted

Donald and Carolyn Copping

63 Maria St.,

Penetanguishene ON

L9M 2G7

705-549-0366

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Guy Smith](#) ★ 4 weeks ago in reply to [Don Copping](#) 1 person liked this.

1) "...from viewers who already pay for the TV options they currently have."

Exactly, viewers already pay the cable company to receive conventional TV. Now its up to the cable company to pass some of that money back to the conventional channels, just like they pass some of the money to CNN amd ALL other non conventional channels. Channels that carry advertisements.

2) "...the reach of these "local" stations increased by hundreds of thousands or even millions of potential viewers that could not otherwise reasonably view that channel(s)...

That can be said for ALL other non conventional channels as well. Yet ALL other channels do negotiate a fee for carriage. Many of them (CNN, History, CNN) negotiate for a very high fee. They also run advertisements.

3) "These same stations should have adjusted their advertising rates and operating costs to reflect the increased potential audience at NO COST to them..."

The same could be said for TSN, History, CNN and all other non conventional channels that run advertising AND negotiate a fee fro carriage. The conventional channels only ask for a level playing field. With all the channel fragmentation, PVR use and the Internet AD ALONE no longer cover the high cost of production.

4) "Alternately, the cable/satellite carriers should indeed be paid for carrying these same "local" signals to increase the reach of those same stations..."

With all due respect but this is the stupidest comment made within these 5,000 comments.

Again this comment could be applied to the non-conventional channels as well, doesn't cable increase the reach of History, TSN, CNN and all other non-conventional channels??? Yet these channels do indeed receive a hefty fee for carriage and they also run advertising. It should also be noted that running a local ad for a local bookstore in Vancouver will not fetch any extra money to the broadcaster if cable steals the Vancouver signal and re-broadcasts it in Toronto. If anything it will cheapen the ad due to fragmentation. BTW, cable does indeed steal the local signal and re-sells it in another market. Anyone else would go to prmsin for doing this.

5 and 5) "Also, the "local" stations are now asking for a 4 year deferment of digital signal to allow them to spread the cost of digital broadcasting to be spread out.."

This is off topic but did you know it is estimated to cost the broadcasters over 460 million to convert their OTA infrastructure to digital? Just how are they supposed to do this in such a short time? All other countries got extensions why shouldn't Canada, especially since only a fraction of folks use their ATSC tuners at the moment? The better question is why does cable not allow tru2way technology as mandated in the states? Instead in Canada cable is forcing consumers to lock into outdated propriety gear at x10 inflated prices thus rendering customer's brand new QAM tuners useless. Again only in Canada are such ourages practices allowed by cable companies.

Flag

Like

 [jesshuffman](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I believe that subscribers already pay cable companies for local TV, since local channels are provided by the cable company in the "basic cable package" for which the Cable companies collect a fee. Cable Companies charge subscribers for access to the Local stations signal, but do not pay for the programming they receive. This amounts to piracy (for lack of a better term) of the local broadcaster's programming.

Flag

Like

 [Ren](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

My concern is how cable and satellite companies can resell a free service and profit from it? I thought it was illegal to sell or profit from something that is free. If a person downloads a free program or video (legally) from the Internet and then sells it, this violates copyright laws. Why are cable and satellite companies not held to the same laws the rest of the country must abide by?

One commercial on the TV states "all" local TV stations combined made a profit of 400 million last year. Considering the hundreds of TV stations across Canada, this is not very big. If all of these local stations must upgrade their systems to accommodate the new digital signals, where are they going to get the money? I would really like to see the profit the cable and satellite companies made. After all, they are selling a free service and profiting from it. I realize there are service expenses but I highly doubt it comes even close to what they are making.

The cable and satellite companies should be allowed to have local stations but they should not be making any profit at all from the service. Since they have all the other pay stations, it would be impossible to differentiate between pay station income, local station reselling income and what they spend for services. In basic terms, they should not be allowed to profit and sell local station signals. It should be illegal to sell or make profit from them.

Local stations are a necessity to our society. Loosing them would be a big blow to our communities. I think the cable and satellite companies should be paying the local stations and not pass any of this to their customers. They are profiting from the local stations and therefore, they should be paying.

Flag

Like

 [Ivan G](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

This is not a tax. All channels except the conventional local channels receive a fee for carriage. Yet cable/satellite providers charge their customers a fee for local channels. This is nothing short of theft by the cable monopolies.

Now the cable companies are threatening a \$10 dollar a month increase for something they already charge us for.
Comer cable, pass what you owe the stations and don't double dip the customer.

Cable rates jumped 4 times the inflation rate. Its time for the CRTC to regulate cable rates and perhaps open the doors to Dish Network and Direct TV.

In the United States the conventional local channels do receive a fee for carriage (look up retransmission consent) yet in the States the cable companies give better service for a lower cost. (Look it up)

Flag

Like



StanF ★ [4 weeks ago in reply to Ivan G](#) 1 person liked this.

Sorry Ivan

<http://television.askingcanadians.com/welcome/> is actually an American web site.

2. The cable companies are NOT threatening you with any increase in fees. They are quite happy with the way the CRTC has allowed them to structure their tariffs.

3. The NETWORKS (CTV, GLOBAL, etc) want to be paid for signals they now broadcast for free. What is the matter with that???????

4. The CRTC just wants you to be able to buy what they consider "balanced" TV. This means their idea of English, French, Canadian and International TV offerings.

5. The CRTC wants to give cable and satellite service providers more flexibility so that it can adapt to changes in the communications environment.

6. Changes in the communications environment doesn't include any requirement to listen to your views. Sorry

7. You might better correspond with the Minister of Heritage than vent on this American web site.

Flag

Like



Mary Dusmuir ★ [4 weeks ago in reply to StanF](#)

I watch local news everyday. I had no idea that all channels except the ones that carry local news get paid a fee for carriage. Shaw until now has always led me to believe that I pay for EVERY channel I receive/

The CRTC needs to regulate cablevision. 4X the increase of inflation is robbery.

Plus I don't need all the junk channels rammed down my throat. (they receive a fee for carriage yet almost no one watches them)

The locals deserve a fee for carriage just like all other channels already get. The cable company must not be allowed to double dip/raise their rates.

Flag

Like



Bill DeVries ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

My basic package costs about 50/month, Shaw's idea of local television is from Toronto, some 900 Km away or Sudbury, some 500Km away. We can in fact get better local reception with a pair of rabbit ears, and cheaper. We don't pay for over the air reception, it is covered by

advertising, why should we pay for the same signal on cable, especially as the signal is of lower quality.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Brenda R.* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I don't think the cost should be passed on to the consumer, the local tv stations are providing a free service to the big rich cable companies (ie Rogers), and we should not have to pay extra for this. I strongly support funding for local tv, coming from the cable companies not consumers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Justin VanDyk* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I would cancel my sat as well. I pay almost \$70/month to access great channels and programming, these companies are public companies who must adapt themselves to the changing environment, for us to have to pay over \$2B dollars to bail them out so they can fatten their coffers more, I don't think so and if I have to pay to make sure their shareholders and executives make more money, they can forget it!! I already pay almost 2/month for the stupid LPIF that CRTC imposed - that is quite enough already!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *tonyguy* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

1. I would take all possible steps to avoid paying including if necessary canceling my cable and moving to currently illegal distribution systems.

2. None. If local television is unable to sustain itself it is due to the lack of audience.

[Flag](#)

Like



toryryan ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to tonyguy](#)

Right on....high five!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *eric53* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I think this tax is just a money grab and should not be allowed whatsoever. We already pay enough in cable tv bills.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *HP* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. I will not be able to afford it, hence, I will have no choice but to cancel my cable/sattelite; that's less funding from my pocket to poorly run TV stations. I will resort to antenna if I really need to watch TV.

2. I am already paying for my signal subscription to be bombarded with commercials. TV should be free of charge and funding for local TV should come from commercials. I am sure if the tv stations revisit their business operations, they could save a lot of money. Start by making it thin management, less bonuses for senior management, run your business more efficiently and have more attractive local programming so more people would want to watch local tv.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Johnniejet* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

This whole issue is absurd. Should cable and satellite services charge more just so I can watch

local TV? No. Cable services need rethink their packaging. I pay way too much now for bundles of channels half of which I dont want, but in order to watch the one channel I want I have to pick up all of these other bundled stations, which I am paying for. If current trends are looked at in terms of broadcasting, soon cable companies will find themselves out of business as everything is shifting to the internet. The ones who will survive will be the broadcasters, specifically, local stations that provide local TV. I say that local TV is important and I totally support it and I believe that the broadcasters should be paid for their signals by cable, but I do not think it would be wise to turn around and charge consumers more on our cable bills. I say, lets go back to over the air and erect antenna's and cut cable totally. If there is a show I want to see, and my local station doesnt carry it I will just go to the internet. Who needs cable anyhow?

Flag

Like

 *bryanz* ★ 4 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

When I pay my cable bill, local channels are included in my basic package. I pay a fee for this service. Whether the cable company passes any of my money on to the local channels, seems to be the issue. Telling me that for the cable companies to have to pay for free signals is the same as a tax is silly. They either pay for the signal or they steal it. I suspect I am charged for the signal and the money just doesn't get passed on.

I think local news and sports in the community helps keep it alive. Citizens require information to be involved in what happens. I suggest that is worth preserving.

Flag

Like

 *Paul M* ★ 4 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

1- Specialty channels that run advertising (History, Discovery, TSN,) receive fee for carriage.

2- American channels receive fee for carriage.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Retransmission_con...

3- Google "retransmission consent" and you will see that the American conventional channels all have a right to fee for carriage. In fact, both FOX and NBC are at the moment negotiating new fee for carriage contracts with the cable companies.

Google

"fox retransmission consent"

And

"NBC retransmission consent"

And you shall see lots of hits.

It's only in CANADA, the Cable/Sat companies RIP OFF conventional TV.

Remember, the Canadian consumer already pays the cable/sat companies - fees for receiving every channel - it's the cable/sat companies that refuse to pay some of the money back to conventional TV stations. AKA "stealing"

Flag

Like

 *Thomas Doudlas* ★ 4 weeks ago in reply to Paul M 1 person liked this.

Wow, pretty sad on the cable companies part - sinse 40 percent of all cable viewing is due to Canadian convenmtianla channels. The cable giants should be ashamed of themselves. Geedy monopolies they are in deed.

Flag

Like

 *suecanada1* ★ 4 weeks ago 2 people liked this.

Local news matters. "Big box" broadcasting doesn't focus on the things that matter to smaller urban and/or rural communities. We are a diverse country and our broadcasting should represent, reflect, inform and inspire this diversity. If the cable/satellite companies are not

willing to financially support local TV, perhaps they can find another country to operate (and profit) in.

[Flag](#)

Like



[1960john](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) [in reply to suecanada1](#)

the cable/satellite companies already apply a tax(our money) that gets given to these media companies that want more.

i guess you're a rich elitist, an employee of one of these companies, or ill informed.

[Flag](#)

Like



[bas](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) [in reply to suecanada1](#)

ok. the cable companies go,now what?

[Flag](#)

Like



[Carlos Costa](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) [2 people liked this.](#)

I hate to break this to all of you but I have worked for local TV an now for a large country wide broadcaster. You want to know why local TV is poor? It's because their parent companies CBC, Global, CityTV, give less then 10% of what they should to their satellite companies (your local TV stations)

You already pay a fee that is equal to 1.5%ish of your monthly bill that goes to the parent companies to then be given to local stations to support them. This money doesn't go to them instead it gets labeled as over head profit.

So if you want to save local TV, force their parent companies to start properly funding their own satellite companies.

Remember BELL, Rogers and the other will not being adding that 5-10 dollars as part of your services (those costs stay the same) that fee is a strait to parent company fee so Roger and Bell and the others don't even see that money.

So stop bitching at your local provider and go pitch fork the people who want this tax which are the major broadcaster like Global and CBC and CityTV

[Flag](#)

Like



[michellecholette](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) [2 people liked this.](#)

This is ridiculous. Why should I pay more for a service that up until now has always been provided, besides your not talking about a buck or two, 5 to 10 sorry the value just isn't there. Why now, if they were loosing money before then why didn't they ask for this before, come on, I'm tired and exhausted to pay for other peoples mistakes and misjudgements. I have to budget my household spending, don't they, why do I have to bail them out.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Linda Trewin](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) [2 people liked this.](#)

I think the cable television companies should be paying the local stations to stay on air and i happen to know that the cable stations make a pile of money as i worked for Shaw Cable for over 9 years. Even back then they were making money hand over foot. Mr JR Shaw is a wonderful man and always treated his employees well. But i have heard nothing but bad things about the son Jim he always was nasty. But back to the question - 15 years ago we were depositing millions a week for shaw cable and i got free cable then but knew if i didn't work there i would not have it. I think the packages they offer now are to expensive but my husband likes TV and i like the internet. I think we need to have local television for the things happening

in our communities i really don't care about the states channels i just want news regarding Alberta or once in awhile the rest of Canada. Make the television stations and the cable companies work together to bring all of this to Canadians. Cable companies pay royalties for bringing us out of country channels so why not pay local as well?

Another idea would be to package all canadian channels together and seperate them from cable companies and allow them to sell their services like a cable company! Do you know Shaw is now charging customers up front \$200.00 for the hd upgrade box how many people in this day have that kind of money right off hand? Shaw is getting to big for his britches and thinks he can have his own way no matter what. If consumers really had a choice in the matter we would be able to shop around more. After all Brad Shaw owns the satellite company so that is still filling the same family pockets in Alberta and the consumers have no say, we may as well live in Russia! In my opinion the CRTC is who destroyed our viewing preferences years ago by letting the cable companies acquire whole cities. That was a huge mistake on your part so please start making them all sit up and take notice and stop charging so much. If it wasn't for my husband i would just have Edmonton channels not the rest of the garbage.

[Flag](#)

Like



A 'GUEST' ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

At one time, TV was 'free'. Now Cable cost is running head to head with Hydro/Gas monthly bills with an H.E. Furnace, being energy consious/effecient/aware! We work hard, and we pay and pay x's????!! to survive. The Wealthy, I doubt, spend their evenings (or days) sitting a home recuperating from a hard physical day/s of work. The working person/working poor, look forward to coming home to enjoy a watching tv for entertainment. We do not jaunt around town, dine in expensive resturants, we barely can afford to buy food to cook healthy dinners nightly, buy clothing, school suppies (you can fill in the rest etc.) So, raise the rates of Cable? Guess the more people of wealth can begin to stay home and watch "YOUR SECOND CHANCE TO WATCH!" I know many people who have already cut cable out including basic, completely. I'm next. I have books, I have hobbies. Books will get read. Watch out though...mentioning you can watch some things on the computer~ someone will attact that, and then we'll have to pay higher internet services fees. Do you doubt it? I don't. IMHO. So, good bye TV, loved having you for the years that I did, but, just like Mr. Katz's Water Park he wants to build (for the wealthy in their area), the watching of TV will be for them too. How ever will they decide which to do??? Either you're of wealth and don't worry about cost (not "ALL"!!), or you're on assistance and have it all anyway. Either way, it's the always the low-middle class that suffers. Even people on Assistance have it all, but we pay for it through our property taxes, income taxes, what the hell!!!?

[Flag](#)

Like



Uwe Kroll ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

If local broadcasters can't run a business then get out. If I had run my buisness the some broadcaster are I would have gone broke. Would you like to send me some cash please!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



whatsonyourmind ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

1. If I'm expected to pay for local television, I also expect it to be optional. In such a case, I would NOT subscribe to local television. Failing this, I would consider cancelling my cable altogether and rely on services like iTunes instead where I only pay for what I want to watch.

2. If local television is having difficulty being financially viable then it's likely because they're no longer necessary. I assume that many people watch local television for their local news. There is no reason that an entire broadcast network is required for this as internet distribution and "on demand" services replace broadcast television.

[Flag](#)

Like



Leo ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Local broadcasters have a lot of nerve asking to be paid by the cable companies. They should pay the cable companies for carrying their abysmal programming. People vote with their remote controls. I spend very little time watching local programming and would be happy to have it totally removed from my package.

no to fee for carriage!!!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Jeff ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Under no circumstances would I tolerate TV companies receiving compensation via my family and I. It is my belief that the CRTC is having immense difficulty policing the industry as it is. Irrespective of the fact you are directly asking me about my compensating TV stations carried by cable there is a much bigger issue at stake - policing cable and satellite companies for the manner in which they structure their packages so that if I want one particular channel in any particular package, I am forced to take them all. -- CRTC ...listen to me ...I'm begging you I don't want over half the channels I am forced to purchase because of monopolistic conniving marketing. I live in southwestern Ontario. I have asked Bell to make Detroit channels available as per their competition. But nooooooo.....I have to watch Boston channels. Then of course there are the multitude of Canadian channels I never watch because they are not relevant. I pay in the vicinity of \$140 a month for crapor as many of my fellow Canadians are now calling it shit TV. Pardon my language but let's call it what it is. The King is in his underwear and you folks at the CRTC are afraid to admit it because someone in the Government might take offense. Bottom line: While many honest Canadians like my family and I continue to pay through the nose and are forced to watch "certain programs at certain times", there are many others (fast approaching a majority) who watch programming dishonestly. Let me pay for what I want not for what you want. It's simple supply and demand. If you don't supply my needs, the answer is simple. We will all find an alternate means to achieve an end.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Joe ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I will NOT pay another fee for local programming. Our local CTV & CBC stations are pathetic at best & run by the same media company in Thunder Bay. If they want to compete they need to provide programming the viewer will watch. Our local CBC & CTV provider is concerned about nothing but profits & no longer offers a local news broadcast on weekends. The one during the week is simply put "amateur" hour. We should be allowed to pick & choose what channels we watch & not have them forced down our throats. If my local stations disappeared completely I would not miss them in the least.

Of all the hundreds of current channels available on cable the majority are absolute crap & would not survive in a market place where the consumer was able to pick & choose. Cable rates are ridiculously high already & I'm at the point of getting ready to drop a big chunk of my package. If the left wing, Liberal party hacks at CTV & CBC force me to pay more I'm dumping everything. Enough is enough.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Sensea ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I read about this regulated skinny basic package. So does this mean we'll have the option to drop these channels and not pay extra? Oh, but wait, that means we'll get simultaneous blackouts on the US networks because CTV and Global own the "EXCLUSIVE BROADCAST RIGHTS!!!" (they can't produce anything of their own). Basically CTV and Global will be charging us for something we'd get at no extra cost if it weren't for their existence!!! Worthless, absolutely worthless these two so-called Canadian networks are!!!

CBC should still exist and community stations offered by cable companies would still be there too. I think things would be better if CTV & Global no longer existed, the community stations would fill the void by providing better and more relevant local content than CTV & Global ever will. They already air more local programming than the conglomerates do on their networks. The CRTC actually held a hearing about Community TV recently, they are looking at allowing these

channels to be made available OTA, which I think is an excellent idea! The only network worth saving (like it or hate it) is CBC because its the only network that is TRULY CANADIAN!!!

Flag

Like

 *gdlong* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Answer to Question 1 is;

Local TV broadcasting is Very important.

The Consumer/ Subscriber of Cable or Satellite services does not want to Pay any additional charges, fees, levy, or User fee for Local TV.

To clarify, the Consumer/Subscriber, already "Pay" a fee for Local Canadian Broadcasting, It is presented as the "Basic" starter package or the Minimum Service Package available from Cable or Satellite Companies. (50.00/month)

This Basic Package allows for some, but not all Local TV broadcasting.

The Cable and Satellite Companies "Select" local TV content to meet CRTC requirements.

The Subscriber / Comsumer has no direct input to what "Local TV" he or she would like to watch.

Answer to Question No.2;

The Cable and Satellite Companies should be required to "SHARE" from their Profits associated with the Monthly Programming fees charged to Subscriber with participating Local TV Broadcasters.

The Cable and Satellite Companies should be required to carry "ALL" local Canadian TV broadcasters both independant and regional by Province. Consumer polls be introduced to insure Subscribers are getting was they wish to pay for.

But any kind of "Pass Through " fee of any kind to the Subscriber should not be allowed.

Discussion;

There is an enormous difference in availability of economic (profit) returns between a Local market TV Station and a Cable or Satellite Company.

Local Market TV derives most of it's revenue from local advertising and promotion. There is no monthly guarantee of funds. Revenue is based on preformance of advertising through the advertiser's increased profit and expansion.

Cable or Satellite TV Companies have the advantage of collecting revenue from many sources such as:

1) Direct to Subscriber; Program packages (monthly), proprietary equipment sales, proprietary equipment rentals (monthly), Exclusive Installation services, On-line exclusive Accessory sales.

2) Development, or purchase, and re-sale of Programming (\$\$\$ per episode), profit sharing either Directly or indirectly with national or international addvertising with third party networks, stations, .

3) Ability to control advertizing of other Company owned or affilitated products EG; Land Phone services, Cell Phone services, Internet services, infosystems,

Yup A little like comparing Apples & Coconuts not very fair.

Let the cable & satellite company Pay.... not me.....

Flag

Like



Matt ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I have already cancelled my cable service in expectation that the local TV levy will be put in place. I do not believe it is the role of a handful of Governor-in-Council appointees to levy a fee (which is more appropriately a tax) on Canadians who may want what they are being asked to subsidize.

I do not believe that local television should be supported by a mandatory levy. It is a business model whereby local television content producers would be compensated regardless of whether their content is viewed or valued. The survivability of local television should lay in its ability to be relevant to its viewership and its advertising clients, not financial solvency predicated mandatory levies.

The question shouldn't be whether a fee should be instituted so that local television can be funded like pay-per-bundle channels, but rather whether such bundles should be done away with so that consumers can pay for the channels they want, be it local television, network television or specialty channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



mojomaa ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I do believe in paying for TV service if i want to watch the shows on any given network. I always wonder why i have to receive the basic locals when i dont really use them. I just assumed them as apart of the fee. But as i get older i see the bigger picture of its a way to ensure we have canadian content versus larger influencing american content. If the local TV networks want / need more money then they need to re-evaluate what consumers want to watch and create demand.

if we charge for local tv, i would hope then that i would have a choice in keeping it or not. I would of course cancel it. I say charge and let people have the option of keeping it. Local stations can only blame themselves when people aren't watching them.

[Flag](#)

Like



Michael Thompson ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

The main problem is "GREED" .The cable and satellite providers do not want to share any profit with local TV . We customers pay on average allot more than reported by Tv providers.I personally pay over \$60.00 a month for Tv.I was paying over \$80.00 with Bell and now I'm with MTS.Plus the service they both provide is less than what is paid for.As in automated services that often do not solve any problems and when you do get to talk to a real service person they are of little help and if you get in home service they take days to get there.I have gone for days without service and they do not even offer a rebate or even a sorry! This all boils down to money.One side wants it the other not willing to give it up!If it were up to me I would make them split the difference and suck it up and improve their service with no extra charges as they both get to much as it is.

[Flag](#)

Like



R.J. Levesque ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I have not had cable TV since 1990. I get 8 channels in Calgary "over the air" and am perfectly happy with this. The only way to prevent the cable and satellite providers from charging as much as they possibly can and continue to make huge profits is by having an alternative. You can see how they have treated the networks and the consumer will be next. If the CRTC allows them to become a total monopoly, I guess I'll be listening to a lot of radio. As far as local TV goes, I am happy with national news and programming and would happily accept it if it means I would not be forced to pay for a TV signal.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *D L MACMILLAN* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

THE CABLE COMPANIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN CHARGING FOR LOCAL TV FOR YEARS. THEY SHOULD PAY TO SUPPORT LOCAL TV , BUT SHOULD NOT BE RAISING CUSTOMERS BILLS FOR SOMETHING THEY ALREADY CHARGE FOR ,JUST BECAUSE NOW THE FREE RIDE IS OVER. I HAVE BELL SATELLITE BECAUSE CABLE IS NOT AVAILABLE IN MY AREA AND THEY CHARGE ALOT OF MONEY FOR TERRIBLE SERVICE (EVERY TIME IT RAINS A LITTLE BIT I LOSE THE SIGNAL , ALWAYS RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PROGRAM YOU WANT TO SEE) INSTEAD OF FORCING TV STATIONS TO PRODUCE PROGRAMS I DON'T WATCH (I DO WATCH LOCAL NEWS ,WEATHER ETC.) WHY DON'T YOU MAKE SATELLITE COMPANIES STRENGTHEN THEY SIGNAL SO A LITTLE RAIN DOES NOT INTERRUPT IT? ONE OTHER COMPLAINT IS THE COMMERCIALS ARE TWICE AS LOUD AS THE PROGRAMS . THE CRTC SHOULD BE PROTECTING THE CUSTOMERS FROM THESE PRACTICES

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Doug* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable service.
2. Consumers should not have to pay. Television is going downhill as it is. Most people who I know only have internet service, increasing the cost of cable will only further the deterioration of television. Entertainment is available online. It is important for people to have their local stations, support their community and stay informed. If the broadcasters, and cable companies want people to keep watching and subscribing they should split the cost. A regulation should be put in place that each television broadcaster will need to put in "x" amount of dollars specifically towards local channels would keep their costs heading in the right direction. The CRTC regulates content, so why not also make sure that a certain cost is met in order to suport that content. Why spend so much on purchasing shows from the USA? Why not take that money and put it back to local channels and local Canadian productions? Cable service providers should share in that cost to carry & support those local channels. It's a team effort because in the end, both will suffer as more and more Canadians decide not to watch or subscribe to television. Maybe both sides should take a look at the bigger picture.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Kevin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

If i were asked to pay for Local TV on top of what I already pay for cable service with Rogers, I would cancel my cable service with Rogers immediately. I'm already paying for stations that I never watch. On whole, I watch 3-4 stations which include CTV, CityTV, Global and CBC; the rest of the stations included in my basic channel line-up are a complete waste of my money.

Thinking upon what television has come to, it's nothing more than reality shows, soap operas, talk shows, and repeats upon endless repeats. And yet, I'm forced to pay for channels I never watch. Cable and satellite companies are making record-breaking profits all at the expense of the consumer's. Yearly, like clock work, Rogers raises their prices for conventional television and does not provide quality programming worth watching. The airwaves are already filled with "unlimited" advertisements to programming hour; thanks to the CRTC's ruling on this issue.

This website: Online Consultation of Television Service is nothing more than for the CRTC to make themselves look good in the eyes of the consumer. When has the CRTC ever listened and followed through on feedback from the Consumer's? Think back a few weeks where the CRTC's ruling allowed Bell Canada to continue to throttle wholesale customer's, including their own subscriber's, of which I am a subscriber of Bell Internet, despite the plea from the CRTC for consumer's feedback. In the end, the CRTC will rule in favor of Fee-for-Carriage and the plea for consumer's feed back will have been all in vain.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *robster77* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Answers to Questions:

1. I echo the majority of the other posters' comments. I wouldn't pay more for cable, not under

the current model anyway. Consumers should have choice of what they want to pay for. In this digital age, there is no rationale for bundling channels. If CTV, Global, etc. want a carriage fee for their signal, I will be all for it. However, in doing so the CRTC MUST require that the cable and satellite companies "de-bundle" and offer all channels "a la carte". Right now, I pay close to \$70 a month for Rogers for a bunch of channels. I probably watch CNN, TSN, CTV and CBC regularly. I cannot get CNN or TSN at a lower priced package. This is simply wrong. I should have the ability to pick and choose channels and pay \$2 or whatever for each that I pick. So if I want 50 channels, I pay \$100 for example. How hard is this? The CRTC should be looking out for consumers on this, not the corporate interests. In a long-winded answer...no, I would not pay for more on my already high cable bill. I'm thinking of cancelling my cable as it is and buying an antenna or buying a black market dish...or buying books. There's progress for ya.

2. We already support local television through the 1.5% LPIF fund.

Flag

Like

 *georgekamps* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

1. I feel local tv is important, but I do not want to pay extra to support the stations.

2. I suggest moving to a system similar to that in place in the US - not only force local cable companies to carry all local stations, but force them to do it for free, over unencrypted QAM, and do not institute fee-for-carriage. As an apartment resident, it is very difficult for me to get local tv over the air, and I would be very happy with basic local tv service provided through cable.

Flag

Like

 *frozenanuck* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

dissolve the crtc - it is corrupt and useless!

<http://dissolvethecrtc.ca>

Flag

Like

 *Murray A.Gifford* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

I have read most of the emails below and have to agree with 95% of them....Television in Canada is a disgrace!!!!...CRTC has to make major changes as recommended in 95% of the emails below!!!!....

One practical suggestion to get rid of the monopoly on Cable would be for the CRTC to force Shaw in Calgary (population 1,000,000 people),for example, to sell off the monopoly they have now and have say 4 companies (naturally they should be one of them) given the right to supply cable service so that the system would be more open and competitive as to price, selection of programs etc...

I have Internet and the complete package of TV and it's about \$ 1,500/yr....the Value is not there!!!

The 4 top executives at Shaw made \$ 40,000,000 this year ...This is a horrendous amount of money given to just 4 people considering the fact that Cable is a monopoly and the end product produced is pricey and low in entertainment value!!!

Thank goodness the Federal Government has entered the fray as they can see the CRTC is not doing a good job and is continuing to be swayed by the greedy Cable and TV industry moguls in the country....

Hopefully something good will come out of these hearings in favor of the Canadian consumer...for a change!!!!

Flag

Like

 *peekabo0* ★ 1 month ago in reply to Murray A.Gifford

I too hope something good will come out of this for the consumer, but I feel that we will continue to be ignored so that the cable monopolies can continue thrive at the consumers expense. I can only dream of the day when we have more than ONE cable option in most parts, if not all, of Canada.

Flag

Like

*mamia* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to Murray A.Gifford

I agree but one thing I have not seen mentioned is that shaw charges in advance for services they have not yet provided to the customer; and they will add late payment fees to that. What other company says you owe them for services they may be able to supply; if you don't cancel them. Fees are ridiculously high now and one more increase and I will terminate my use of them. And why do we have to pay for phone companies expansion plans as part of our billings, that should come out of the company's profits and lord knows they have enough

Flag

Like

*Jason* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

These discussion questions neglect to address key issues. Why should we have to pay more for cable while supporting local TV? I'd rather have an a la carte option to my cable bill. I'll pay for the channels I watch, which would include my local TV station and a few others - nothing more.... and I'd like a breakdown of my cable bill. How is the money currently being divided on my bill? If the majority of it is profit for the cable company - then why not take a portion of that and support local TV??? Why is this being passed onto consumers?

The CRTC has also limited the number of stations allowed on satellite. Locally, I can't even watch my local station/news due to these restrictions. Allow local stations to have a designated channel on satellite...this would encourage more advertisers to purchase commercial airtime and boosting local markets.

So, of course I want to support local News/TV. Communities need a voice.... however, I believe this issue is more complex than 2 questions and why are these questions being posed to the public? Is the CRTC too afraid to make a decision on their own? Is this a way of washing their hands of the issue and the backlash that will follow?

Flag

Like

*lady jane* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

What do cable companies like to do best? Screw the Canadian consumer with bundled packages with channels no one wants and yes increase rates.... Monopoly. What to Bell, CBC and Canwest like to do best? Misinform consumers regarding this issue and force people to pay and watch endless reruns..... Lets not forget that Canwest is mismanaged, CBC subsidized to the hilt by Canadian Taxpayers... And Bell. I hate your company, your lousy service..every since you gave away my business line 9 years ago...people still call me to rent a car. INCOMPETENT, ARROGANT, EXECUTIVES BOZOS

Flag

Like

*Ray* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I am tired of being gouged for Tv. I refuse to pay more. I will get an illegal US satellite dish before I pay another dime.

Flag

Like

*Al* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

The time has come for the CRTC to come to grips with inability to properly regulate the television and cellular phone services. CRTC seems to leap from one crisis to another. Competition foreign owned or not should be allowed to enhance competition. WE DO pay the highest rates in the world for both television and phone service. CRTC will only look out for the many friendly corporations that do have the CRTC's ear. I have little confidence that the CRTC

will provide a fair and level playing field for inclusion of all service providers. Cable and televisions price structures provide very poor fee for service. Any further increases in prices for the poor service that currently exists will cause myself and many others to shut it down. We are standing at the edge of the cliff. will the CRTC and the service providers give us that last push? Luckily enough I have put on my parachute in preparation.

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Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Too Expensive. Paying for too many channels that I have no interest in receiving....

[Flag](#)

Like

 *dalemcnaughtedmontonlberta* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Thanks but no thanks. We already pay too much. If you look at the cost of TV in the US compared with Canada the cost is almost twice as much. This is getting ridiculous..we already pay for channels that we don't want because of the packages. This has to stop..we should be able to pick the channels we want and pay for those. We shouldn't have to fund channels that we don't want. If channel X can't get any subscribers then they should close the doors. Why in the world do we have to keep them operating. If they cannot get enough subscriptions then shut down. If Tim Horton's didn't get enough customers then they would have to close, we wouldn't be giving them money to operate. This is the height of stupidity if we let the US companies in, the cost of services would drop and we would have a CHOICE IN WHAT WE WATCH. DO YOU UNDERSTAND DEMOCRACY....I haven't watched a local channel in years and I don't care if they cannot stay afloat then shut the doors..but I shouldn't be forced to pay for it and if it's free then they should not be able to charge the cable companies for it.. AGAIN FREEDOM OF CHOICE AND DEMOCRACY... do you people get it.....I don't think so.....How can one person get something for free and another person have to pay for it. Smarten up this is the biggest waste of tax payer money...The CRTC is the biggest joke in CANADA...our government should be ashamed..Only in Canada A DEMOCRACY are we told what we can watch, watch we have to pay for and how much we will pay because the CRTC set it up that way....GROW UP NOW.....FREEDOM OF CHOICE last time I checked we're fighting two wars in other countries for those people to have the FREEDOM OF CHOICE and in our own country we don't even have that choice....

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Like

 *peterterry* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

This is a cash grab by the TV networks. The CRTC must reject the new tax.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *G. Baldwin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Without removing the obligation to carry the signal, these so-called local TV stations should not also receive a fee for carriage. I personally do not watch CTV or Global. I support CBC and believe that this truly Canadian channel deserves support.

The world has changed since the '70's when cable first started to appear. Taxing the cable viewers to support an uneconomic model is not the way to go. The CRTC is not there to pick the winners and losers, let the market (the viewers) do that.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *tomrlumsden* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I earned a good living by selling advertising space on radio/tv which also provided the industry with the revenues to provide signal(s) to the public. The high cost of advertising on local/network broadcast certainly is the reason these media are still conducting business. I do

not see why the public has to pay twice for the same product, through purchases of advertised products, and, by paying the monthly charge to receive a cable signal.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

It would be unfair. I already pay a premium for TV services, which includes local TV. Cable and satellite should be giving something to local TV. I am paying for all signals being brought to my house, so those revenues should be distributed equally to TV channels being subscribed to.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *S K* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

No new fees. Local television needs to be broadcast free in the public interest just like basic radio. People should have a right to local communication. Television already gets profitable dollars from advertising of many kinds: commercials, sponsorships, product bugs during programming, etc. If you charge more for television (which is already a lot higher than it is in the States) you will guarantee more Canadians going underground to get grey market signals. Local television should be a requirement for any network to get a license from the CRTC. Networks are already making a profit so they need to suck it up and get better programming.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *David K* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

we are paying enough already, taxed to being poor, stop already

[Flag](#)

Like

 *22 years in broadcasting* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

pay more to support local tv - why? they have proven they care more about anything and anyone else besides the Canadian consumer. Given the chance to cut staff - they do ... given the chance to cut local content they do - it is a disgrace.

They get a choice on how they will treat us - we should have the choice on how to treat them. I think that if they want to get paid for local tv on top of what i already pay - then like the other channels I pay for I should have the option to pick them or not. I should not be forced to pay to help support them.

Given the opportunity to choose my channles - I would not choose the locals under these circumstances.

Don't get me started on the disgraceful scare tactics they have launched since all this has come down.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dave Trautman* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to 22 years in broadcasting](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm with you on this point... If we now have to pay for Local TV then we need to change the rules to allow cable operators to give their customers the choice of which one they want to "sponsor". I have a number of Local TV outlets (more than one owned by the same network) and I think I would maybe think about paying for just one and not all of them.

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Like

 *dave* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

1 Would not pay unless forced, then would get off-the -air or satellite (american), or internet tv.
2 Don't subsidize them in any way.

[Flag](#)

Like



Wardu ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I think local TV is important and would not having a problem paying for it. I have a definite problem supporting or paying a dime so CTV/Global can spend a fortune on bidding on American Prime Time Programming. Local TV to me is Canadian programming not the local ABC affiliate. CBC is truly a Canadian network while CTV/Global are nothing but glorified American affiliates with their 6/11 news programs.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rick The Wrench ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

We live in southern Alberta, we do not have access to cable and are 40 kilometers from our local TV station but we cannot receive it with out buying and setting up a VERY EXPENSIVE antenna system.

The local channel is not offered on the satellite system we use.

Just a few years ago the local TV station could be received with an economical antenna on a post but the station reduced it's signal strength to save money and the old antenna's didn't work any more.

We receive our only news from Calgary 250 Km's away.

But what do we get?

We do not really even get Calgary news because they have cut their own staff so far down that there is less than half of the reporters there was a few years ago.

Now we get LOTS of US feed data but very little local stuff at all.

The TV stations CLAIM they are not making any money but the owners are FILLING THEIR POCKETS.

It is easy to show a company is not making and money and that is to SPEND IT ALL.

Buying Hummers, summer HOUSES instead of cottages, huge boats, ski lodges, condo's in the tropics all used as business expense can easily make a company show large losses.

TV station owners got themselves in their own situation.

They FORCED their own customers away by NOT doing their jobs of providing WHAT THEIR CUSTOMERS WANT watch.

TV proگرامing became "FILL", stuff needed to space out the ads just like the print media has done.

They have chased their advertisers away with ridiculous rates

Now they are crying.

Has everyone forgot what the old mandate was for local TV and radio stations?

I will not PAY for local TV until they have programs that I want to watch and NEWS that is NEW, not off a wire service and DAYS old.

I can get the same stories from the internet just about as they happen FOR FREE.

TV stations have killed their own business, cable and satellite stuff is soon to follow as they have now priced themselves out of an AVERAGE WAGE EARNERS BUDGET.

LET THEM ALL GO BROKE.

Some smart person will soon come up with something just like the old Pirate radio station ships that set up off the English coast and made MILLIONS playing music that people WANTED to hear.

(Mind you it didn't take long for the governments too shut them down to benefit their political backers.)

Maybe we need pirate satellites out in space to entertain us now.

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Like



Al Rowney ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I think our cable bill is way too high as it is . I dont watch much of our local TV stations the only thing half way interesting on it is the news once in a while . I think local TV should be looking for ways to self support itself instead of asking for a hand out from consumers .

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Charles B* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

Local television has always been free over the air. If I was asked to pay for it on my basic cable, I would simply cancel cable (as it is already expense). Local television is a private company using public airwaves and thus should not be charging for this (if they were to make money would they give it back? who would control bonuses at these companies? it would be too easy to manipulate results). If there is a TV tax I believe you would have a double whammy whereby both parties would lose - cable companies would lose customers and with that local tv would lose that portion of revenues allocated to them.

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Like

 *Peter - Vancouver Island* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

I don't like TV packages ,I would prefer to be able to choose the specific channels I watch and quite possibly I would only choose one Canadian! I don't like commercials, I would pay more for channels without commercials. I currently record all my programming from the eastern stations on my PVR and playback when I want and fast forward thru the commercials. I would also like more access to the european channels - its all about freedom of choice!

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Like

 *JEJA1* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

I would cancel my cable

More govt funding for CBC

[Flag](#)

Like

 *rogetreloar* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

If I had no choice regarding such subsidization, I would likely cancel my cable service. If I had a choice, I would cancel the channels that required such subsidies.

I don't watch local television except for occasional news. The news is usually mediocre and I often find that the lead story is regarding an incident that occurred two, or even three days previously. This is hardly NEWS. Hence, I am not in favour of any measures to "support" local television.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Agnes* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

1) I think like many I would be forced to cancel or seriously downgrade the services I get. I have watched my bill creep up over the years as they have included additional charges for little things here and there, but there has to be a limit! I'd probably start using my computer a lot more for TV viewing, it's more of a hassle and not as convenient, but at least it's free!

2) I think the question has to be WHY are we so adamant about supporting local television? They pay for US shows and simply change out the commercials! Yes, the news and local info is nice, but I get the same thing from websites, on the radio or online viewing (as many ex-pats I know in the states watch Canadian news to keep up with what's going on at home). The sad truth is if local TV can't produce shows worth watching, then it doesn't make any economic sense to force us to keep supporting them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Nova_Scotia_Tim* ★ 1 month ago 3 people liked this.

Living in rural Canada we already pay far more than most Canadians for cable TV access. Bundled packages with cable, internet and phone are NOT available to many Canadians, meaning that we already pay too much. I am strongly opposed to being forced to pay for the so called local TV. I would accept fees for those channels ONLY if we the consumer could opt out. For example I have not viewed a made in Canada program on the Global Television network for at least 5 years. So called local TV can't have it both ways. They block the signals of US channels while rebroadcasting shows, have a monopoly on the advertising dollars and now they want to force me to pay even more. It's simply not fair.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *JacquelineC* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

News and especially local news, is more than just a commercial good. It forms one of the foundations of a healthy society. Without a knowledgeable electorate democracy is crippled. Without knowledgeable communities, disaster can't be managed or averted. Therefore, it is more important that we have good, well researched, comprehensive news than perhaps we can afford in every community.

In fact, even in Toronto our local news is incomplete. The natural gas explosions happened in the middle of the night. There was no coverage on radio or TV for more than an hour as my family watched fireballs and explosions. The first coverage was on 680news radio a full hour after it had begun and they incorrectly stated that the Holiday Inn at Yorkdale was on fire.

I agree that we need to pay for good news. The issue is how do we ensure that what we pay for, is how the money is spent.

As a second point, the cable industry has far too much power in the system. The carriers should have more regulations. Why can they put commercial ads on A&E, at no cost, that promote their mobile phone services? How does that benefit the Canadian broadcasting system?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to JacquelineC](#)

I agree that local news is very important. I would like to see a requirement that a percentage of their programming expenses be spent on local news and current affairs. If they spend more on US reality shows, then they have to spend more on local news.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *cablepoor* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I agree with the Free Market approach advocated here by many of the contributors. But I would like to see the free market applied to the Cable/satellite side of the business as well. Large US based players like DISH and Direct TV should be allowed to compete with Canadian suppliers to bring pricing down. The monopolistic practices that Shaw, Rogers and Bell ExpressVu have tips the negotiation scales in the signal deliverer's favour. If you had more suppliers costs will decrease.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *tiredofctvscrap* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

How would I react... I would be very upset and probably drop all of CTV stations. If Cable and Satellite suppliers are force to carry all these CTV channels CTV should be paying them not the other way around. All CTV programing is a repeat of the American Channels.

I would like to know what local program would be affected as all one had to do was turn on TV this Thanksgiving week (in the USA) and see repeat shows...where was the local programing???? The only station to carry original CANADIAN programing was CBC.

It is time to say enough is enough to CTV and their money grabbing CEO

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Phil* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

My fundamental concern with allowing the local providers to charge for their services is the lack of choice. Unfortunately, today's minimum cost for television covers around 40 channels of which I watch about half a dozen. Nevertheless, I am required to pay for all of them. If each channel wants to charge a fee, that is okay with me as long as I am only required to pay for a few channels. These bundles and base packages which cover so many channels doesn't work.

I recommend a model where there is a base fee for the provider and then each channel has its own cost based on what the station wants to charge (i.e. if they want more viewers to increase ad revenue they can charge a lower fee but if they want no ads they can make a high fee). Then let local providers charge as they like. Bundling can still be allowed, but it should be limited to no more than 5 or 6 channels.

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Like

 *Jon_Q_Public* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

1) If local stations cannot generate sufficient income through advertising revenue they should be allowed to close. Fee for carriage will not be a viable funding model as content delivery shifts to the Internet and does nothing to ensure quality programming.
2) The CRTC should take no measures to support local television. Let the market determine who is healthy enough to survive.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Don P from BC* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I have had satellite tv for over a decade and do not watch the local channels. I certainly don't wish to pay for something I do not use. Drop them from the basic program package and charge those who want them. You might be suprised how little the demand is.

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Like

 *marklenn* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

Local tv can be important, just not important enough that we should pay anymore for it. We already pay \$70 a month and imo that is near price gouging, it does not cost that much just to hook up a tv to a wire outside and send the signal.

I think I speak for most Canadians when I say we do not want to pay a single cent more and would rather watch American television if it meant our bill went down than local television if our bill goes up. The CRTC should bring down the high cost of cable and satellite

2. Local television should look for ways to compete on their own merit rather than government handouts. Perhaps they should consider going on the internet on things like youtube where it is free to broadcast their product. Television might just not be suited for small providers because you need a big audience to compete which most local television stations do not have. If local tv wants a bigger audience then they should start showing the shows and movies that Canadians like besides the godfather.

The government cannot pay for everything, local stations need to make their business work and if no one is willing to give the ad revenue and no one watched them, them maybe they are not worth saving

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Like

 *Sherman* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

there should be a free package with loca TV from cable compnay, cable company made too much money from customer.

And, the worse is: cable company made more money from internet service, they are too bad to control the flow. internet flow controlling is only happened in Canada, this will block the information spread, further more, hurt the economy.

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Like

 *happelmann* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

It should be realised that these are two different services.

One, the TV stations provide the programming.

Two, the cable/satellite companies are providing a multitude of services such as cable boxes, clean signal to our homes, channel selections and so on.

Why should the cable/satellite companies pay for programming, they have nothing to do with programming and are just giving us a better signal as the old rooftop antenna. This is just a way for the TV companies to make more money on the back of a service provider and the public.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *rbourque* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

i am not prepared to pay 1 more red cent for my satellite service.

if this issue cannot be resolved , so that i can chose what i want

and what i am prepared to pay then out the service goes and along comes an illegal service.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I thought I was already paying for Canadian television with my monthly bill. If not why aren't the providers upfront in telling clients that the monthly bill is just for the cost of US television but they are throwing in the Canadian ones for free.... Why is CRTC refusing to regulate Rogers and Bell. Their monopolies are way overpriced for so little service. NO I will not pay more for Canadian networks (local or otherwise) when I am already paying for them now.

As for supporting local television, I thought these companies were in it for profit and not supported by public subsidies?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *peteryong* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

My TV bills already too high. I don't want to pay any extra charges. As everybody can see fm TV providers. They make millions of dollars of profit. It is the time we should bring more competitors to the market.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Krystal* ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

"I would be upset if I had to pay more for local television on top of what I already pay. Living in the rural area that I live in we already have to pay more for basic services. We pay more for hydro with increased delivery fees, we do not have access to regular cable we are reliant on satellite television which is not reliable in bad weather and is more expensive than normal cable and since we do not have cable to get decent internet we need to rely on the expensive broadband option. Since we do not have a daily paper we rely on the local stations for weather updates, school closures and community news but I would not want to pay more, i feel we pay enough.

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Like



Cliff ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I haven't watched local TV for about 5 years. Local news and weather is more readily available online from sources that include local TV franchises. I have no interest in whatever else they offer.

[Flag](#)

Like



ernestprice ★ [1 month ago](#) 3 people liked this.

I would reduce/cancell part of my cable services.

The measures needed for Local Programing is "A New Business Model", current model not working. Also, Broadcasters need to control program expenditures on what they purchase-US versus Local.Broadcasters seeking only to gouge consumer pockests for their inefficiencies and overexpenditures.

[Flag](#)

Like



Graham Crowder ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I believe that the current debt load of the major TV networks in Canada is preventing them from investing more in local and Canadian-produced programming. The ownership of the numerous networks in Canada is in the hands of too few media giants, who should never have been allowed to acquire so many TV stations and add them to their other newspaper and radio ventures whether they could afford them or not. The CBC is in a different situation as it is deliberately underfunded by th government.

[Flag](#)

Like



robert metcalfe ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. the local stations in questions I feel are not truly local most of the shows they air aren't produced in house or by other local production companies. they are american shows.

2. there are already plenty of measures in place to support local canadian broad cast companies but they have mismanaged the funds available and spent it unwisely on american programs instead of trying to build the industry locally.

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Like



Rodney Kelly ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

LOCAL TV. I am not sure what this means. I am sure that CTV, Global, A-Channel etc.. don't know what Local TV means. I am from Ottawa and as far as I know the only so called Local TV on any of these channels is news and even at that, of the 1 hr newscast only a small portion is really local news.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

GREED!!!!!!!!!!!!

Remember the good old days, a tv, a antenna and a little box that turned it.

You would get 10 to 15 channels with all the worth watching content out there, not the best reception, but FREE!!

No CRTC to control our minds with Canadian content, but our choice with what we viewed. Now all the cash greedy companies, cable, satelite, local.....etc offer us 100's of high quality, hd channels filled with crap.

Time to cancel, rent a store front, and open a "TV cafe" where other people who have cancelled can come, pay a few bucks, I know, GREED!!!!!!!!!!!! LOL

[Flag](#)

Like



Rob ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

> Thinking about the importance of local TV to you, how would you react, and why, if you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services?

I'd probably get US PO box and a US satellite dish to get good programming.

>In your view, what measures, if any, could be taken to support local television?

I don't care. Keep reading to find out why.

Further, perhaps we should refine the use of the word 'local'.

If I want *local* news or weather, I have to unplug the cable, plug in the antenna, and tune in to a US station. On a canadian station, the closest I can get is approx 190 miles away!

I don't even bother with the antenna any more. I haven't for a few years. Now if I want local anything, I go to a US web site and get the info there.

If anyone is wondering why there are no local stations here, it is "due to concerns from MCTV over coverage". (See, I did my research.)

> CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% which took effect on September 1, 2009

So, I figure I should get a rebate for that "Local Programming Improvement Fund" garbage.

Watching canadian TV is great ... if you want news about Toronto, or Mississauga, or Hamilton, or Oshawa, or

Is anyone getting the point yet?

You have all this crap about "local TV" but it ISN'T *local* !

It's *local* in GTA, Hamilton, Ottawa, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, and possibly others. Great! It's local for them, so let THEM pay for it.

They have nearly 60% of the population of Ontario, and if you add in the Toronto commuters, I'm sure it would be over 60%. Let each of them pay 16.67 and give the rest of the province a break.

If you want to claim it's for *local* TV, then only charge the people for whom it's actually local!

Oh ... right that would be honest, fair, and decent.

You wouldn't want to do that. Never mind.

From "Frazer Kon"

"My plan is to order a free-to-air satellite dish"

That looks interesting ... I'll definitely look into this. Thanks.

In closing, I say LET IT DIE OUT! The people in my home town haven't had any *local* programming for years, why should anyone else deserve better.

If you want someone to blame, how about McTV. (the lower case c is intentional, and that's how I pronounce it, Mc T V) They are the reason that we can't get any news or weather or sports within 190 miles of here.

Wouldn't that be a good headline I can see it now

canadian TV stations kill off local TV

and the first paragraph starts ...

Everyone is forced to watch news about Toronto.

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Like



[G MACHIDA](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

CABLE IS OVERPRICED AS IT IS...ADDING ANOTHER TAX IS RIDICULOUS AND UNFAIR! THIS PROBLEM SHOULD BE BETWEEN SERVICE PROVIDERS AND THE CRTC/GOVERNMENT...DO NOT NAIL THE CONSUMER. THE GOVT SHOULD ALSO ENSURE THAT THE PRICE OF WATCHING TV SHOULD BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM FOR BASIC CABLE- BASIC CABLE SHOULD BE STANDARDIZED AND REMAIN THE SAME. WHY DON'T YOU GET TOGETHER WITH THE SATELLITE PROVIDERS AND ROGERS/BELL ETC AND WORK THIS OUT? MORE AND MORE PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY SWITCHED TO N/C TV . REDUCE OUR RATES FOR BASIC CABLE AND STREAMLINE SERVICES BETWEEN PROVIDERS. WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO? STOP WATCHING TV AND CANCELLING ?
REDUCE OUR RATES!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Greg Marsden](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I have to say I find this whole debate between the broadcasters and the carriers quite fascinating. Just recently in the US the internet carriers raised quite a big stink that they felt they should be paid (more) for traffic, say, between google and their customers.

Here we have it the other way around, as though Google were to demand of Shaw to be paid or no searchy searchy.

Ultimately at least in our case the whole argument has nothing to do with consumers, this is squabbling between two groups that both enjoy government granted monopolies. They are squabbling over how to divide up the take, that is all.

It is absurd to think the 'local station' would not be profitable when they enjoy access to wireless spectrum (very valuable), enjoy mandatory carriage on all broadcasting networks and mandatory simsubing. How on earth could you not create a profitable business with such government created advantages??

IMHO, if the CRTC wants to force reform it should mandate that all fees for carriage be listed on the bill and the consumer must have the choice to opt out on a channel by channel basis. If we can't have a free market situation for the carriers, or the local broadcasters then at least force the specialty channels to operate in one.

I think what we are seeing here is that the TV stations have been continually getting regulatory advantages, this is just the logical next request. After this is granted they will continually lobby to increase the fee.

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Like



[eleanorwalker](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

If the local cable company pays foreign (mostly American) television stations to carry these stations on Canadian cable services why doesn't the cable company have to pay a similar amount to the Canadian channels? Why should Canadian channels be expected to give up the cable rights with no compensation? Should consumers have to pay more? - ABSOLUTELY NOT!!!!
Owning a cable company is like having your own mint to make nothing but money. Month after month, customers pay an average of over \$100 per month and do I want part of my \$100+ per month to support local TV stations? YES! YES! YES!

From the cable company's point of view - if you're getting something for free that people will buy - why start paying for it now? In my opinion, the local channels should have been paid from the moment they were put on cable. I feel so strongly about the issue that I would support the cable company having to pay for the PRIVILEGE of having local TV stations on the cable system

RETROACTIVE to when the local stations were first put on cable.

The following is an excerpt from another website:

"Statscan released figures this week show that operating revenue for Canadian cable and direct-to-home satellite television companies totalled \$10.3 billion in 2008, up a whopping 14.4% from 2007.

"Despite the fact that Canada was in a recession in 2008, the industry still managed to rack up it's third consecutive year of revenue growth in excess of 10%.

"Once again in 2008, it was cable operators, dominated by Rogers Cable, Shaw Cable, Videotron, Cogeco and Eastlink, which accrued the big revenue increases and profits. While profit margins at wireless tv providers, primarily satellite providers (Bell TV and Shaw Direct), were a narrow 4.1% before interest and taxes, profit margins among cable operators profit margins were more than six times higher at 25.9%.

"Statscan figures reveal the cable industry's profit margin before interest and taxes has been above 15% every year since the beginning of the decade and higher than 20% since 2004.

"The huge increase in annual profits among cable operators is attributable to the ability to bundle additional services such as Internet access and digital phone services. Because cable subscribers pay for the bulk of the cable companies infrastructure, the bundled services have become huge cash cows with high rates of return."

I would like the reader to take another look at the last sentence in the above excerpt: "Because cable subscribers pay for the bulk of the cable companies infrastructure, the bundled services have become huge cash cows with high rates of return." I'm sure it is safe to say that the major cable providers in Canada are literally making a bundle. Is it fair for these 'filthy rich and profitable' companies to cry poverty and threaten to pass on the cost of paying for local television channels onto consumers? NO! NO! NO! Let the 'cash cows' spend some of their huge profits to pay local television stations a similar fee that is paid to American channels.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [frank_v](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I currently pay a hefty fee for basic cable, My assumption until now was that it paid for local brocasting to be distributed on cable.

If that is not the case, what have I been paying for all these years?

In 2007 I paid \$27, for basic cable, \$13.95 for tier 1 programs, \$4 for teir 2, \$5.00 for teir 3, for a total of \$49.95 for cable, nothing special.

in 2009 I pay \$35.95 for basic cable, \$14 for teir 1, \$11 for teir 2, and \$16 for teir 3 for a total of \$76.95, in just over 2 years that has risen by %54.

That's an unbelievable rate of inflation, and I receive no additional services from 3 years ago.

I believe Cable is already over priced, and does not deliver.

It is a Monopoly, I can't change service providers from shaw to rogers or anyone else, I am stuck with SHAW, unless I want to switch technology, and change the wiring in my house as well. That is not competition.

and %54 increase in two year is unacceptable!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [constancecochrane](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. Cable and satellite companies already make enough money and should have to pay for local

television from the fees they currently charge. Until this became an issue, I was unaware that the cable and satellite companies had such a "cash cow" in local television stations. In my estimation CRTC has been asleep at the wheel and has not been doing their job as a regulatory body. Consequently, I would not be happy to see an additional charge on my bill for local television.

2. Cable companies and satellite companies must pay for local television out of existing income. It is unconscionable that they are currently not paying.

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Like



Sled ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Broadcasters are asking the public to subsidize their own poor business practices. They are paying ridiculous prices for American programming just to keep them out of the hands of their competitors. CTV particularly has been known to buy programming only to put it "on the shelf", again, just to deny it to their competitors. As for Canwest, it is in trouble because it paid far too much for a package of newspapers. Speaking of newspapers, they as well as magazines are having trouble selling advertising in the current economic environment and they are not asking for public subsidies.

Broadcasters have no one to blame for their current financial situation but themselves and they should restructure their business appropriately rather than expect payment for signals freely available off-air. They already have significant and very valuable advantages - must-carry and simultaneous substitution - not available to foreign or specialty channels.

Please DO NOT MANDATE FEE-FOR-CARRIAGE!

[Flag](#)

Like



StanF ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I am pretty sure this CRTC discussion is being hosted by a web site in Dallas Texas. How much more Canadian than that can you get?

Heritage Canada, the mothership of the CRTC, will likely go into damage control mode when they hear of this.

And someone will get a Christmas bonus!

[Flag](#)

Like



Peter Hudson ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

For many people, this issue is made (deliberately?) more complex than need be, with a special language and abbreviations unique to the industry. In the end citizens place their trust in the integrity and expertise of regulatory bodies, and hope that the trust is not misplaced. The tendency of regulatory bodies to become captured by those they are supposed to be regulating is well documented in the literature, and it looks as though this has happened to some extent to the CRTC. I cite your readiness to jump on the de-regulation bandwagon in, for example, lifting the caps on cable fees. These latter have increased at approximately four times the rate of the CPI. In regard to the local TV issue, in layperson's terms, I would urge the Commission to a) recognise the importance of local TV. Airing of local politics and general civic issues inside and outside city hall is a vital service and aid to ensuring an informed citizenry at the level of community closest to it. CBC Radio continues to provide some of this, but its budgets have been slashed, and the decline of print media compounds the problem. b) to recognise that local TV cannot support itself solely by advertising revenues as it once did. c) recognise that the cable companies piggy back some of their operation and profits on local TV and thereby decree that they should compensate local broadcasters accordingly. d) acknowledge that the cable companies can well afford to pay such compensation, which, in any event is fair.

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Like



Sam Gunsch ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Yes local TV should get a fee from the cable companies.

The cable companies are gouging Canadians with their monopoly power.

The CRTC should reduce the cable company fees.

[Flag](#)

Like



ayesha ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I do agree that the cable and satellite companies such as Bell, Rogers and videotron should pay and not pass it on to us. The problem with this, is that as consumers we are already paying for it even though we don't want. It is disguised as their "Basic Service" and we must purchase this for at least 30\$.

I would also like to add that the CRTC should permit more competition where these companies can truly offer a better quality service to us Canadian, especially with the technology that exist today. Here are a few examples of poor service: 1) I subscribe to HDTV, but what Bell provided me was with a receiver that did not have a HDTV or digital output and they tried to make me believe I could not make that distinction. 2) I was forced to purchase 2 receivers at these outrageous rate because the rental fees were unreasonable. 3) Being force to sign-up for 12 month contract or more, so if something goes wrong, it is difficult receive real help. 4) HDTV should not be more expense than digital and their HDTV stations are limited. What choices do we really have... if it is not Bell, it's Rogers or some other company. Tell me, who can offer the best service at a reasonable price?

On several occasion I have written to CRTC concerning not only cable, but the cell, phone and internet services as well. And their response is always the same, We do not handle complaints. The CRTC fail to understand by renewing or granting these companies licenses they are a part of the problem and is responsible for these multi-billion dollars corporations to continuously exploit us.

Let me ask you... Would it be great to have some choices?

[Flag](#)

Like



Ronald Amero ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Ultimately, the consumer will pay unless competition demands otherwise. However, why is it the only option in your study that consumers of satellite and cable pay an extra amount. Yes, these types of service providers should pay for local television that they take for nothing. The question is why the CRTC does not regulate such industries so that a reasonable balance can be attained between some increase to consumers and hits to cable and satellite service providers' bottom lines.

I have to add that I find your question almost biased towards a negative response, hardly a valid and proper question for this consultation! VERY FEW people will say they will pay more when cable and satellite companies are making healthy profits. I believe this will negate your consultation on this issue; at the very least, it will skew the results.

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Like



gillellis ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I feel that the cable channels are gouging the public and TV stations. They are making big profits and not putting them back into Canadian or local content. They also provide a whole lot of programming nobody wants. I feel they should be regulated as a price of doing business in Canada that they must support their local communities.

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Like



mikecleaver ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Let me preface my remarks by saying that I am a 45 year veteran Canadian broadcaster, now

retired.

The reason the OTA's are asking for more money is because they did not properly run their business.

In the boom times, they were making huge profits which they spent on buying more stations and more expensive US programming.

They did not put away any money for a rainy day, nor, it seems, did they put aside money for the conversion to digital, which they have known was coming for more than a decade.

Cable and now satellite and the OTA's always have had a symbiotic relationship.

The OTA's supply programming to the cable and satellite companies, which in turn provide better quality and a much broader audience than the OTA on its own could reach.

This is similar to the symbiotic relationship between radio and record companies.

The companies supply radio stations with music and the radio stations expose that music to the public, which in turn buys the cd's.

There is no need to bail out the OTA's.

They are profit based entities and should stand and fall on their own merits.

The CRTC should NOT grant fee for carriage to the OTA's.

Flag

Like



John ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

I would like to see consumers have the ability choose only the channels they want. I have a Rogers Cable VIP package.... SD channels 2 to 60, 63, and 70 to 142, and a few HD channels (which I have the Standard Definition version already). Most of the channels I pay for I do not watch.

Since everyone knows cable and satellite companies can turn digital channels "on" and "off" (ie. category 2 specialty channels), I would like the ability to choose and only pay for the channels I want. For example, I would choose 1 SD and HD CBC channel, 1 SD /A\ channel, 1 SD and HD Global channel, 1 SD and HD CTV channel, The Weather Network, CNN (both SD & HD channels). Maybe some more, but the CRTC should understand this.

As for CTV, Global, and CBC, the satellite and cable companies shouldn't be able to take local channels for free, and then turn around and charge the consumer a price.... this seems wrong. But, it should also be recognized that CTV and Global operate profitable category 2 channels, which they are paid for.

The CRTC needs to rethink the whole model of television.

Flag

Like



STANFOCKNER ★ 1 month ago in reply to John 1 person liked this.

Yes.

The CRTC needs to rethink how they regulate cable/satellite TV signal redistributors. This whole mess arose under CRTC regulation. A free market (choice) would have enabled wanted channels to thrive and unwanted channels to perish.

Flag

Like



billy ★ 1 month ago in reply to John

a la carte or pay per channel is \$2/channel or \$5 for 3 channels in specialty channels. and that is cheap if you like those channels

Flag

Like



bill ★ 1 month ago in reply to billy

you can't even buy can of beer for \$2 or pack of cigarettes. for \$5 the amount is so small it's not even worth talking about, the cable companies should be ashamed of themselves to even negotiate a private deal in public, what business ask the public if they want an increase in anything. does the gas station ask the driver---would you like

to pay more,,,,,nobody wants to pay for anything if they don't have to.

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Bryan York ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I think this quote from Ivan Fecan of CTV summarizes the entire M.O. of Canadian broadcasters:

"Frankly, you can take a good show and kill it by negligent scheduling and you can take the same show and make it a hit by brilliant scheduling. It's a real craft, and that wasn't practised much here because in private broadcasting up until now, the programmer's job was mostly to choose what to simulcast. The programming is effectively done in Los Angeles."
- Ivan Fecan, Playback, January 3, 1994."

That quote holds today more true than ever before.

CTV and Global's entire schedule revolves around NBC, ABC, CBS and FOX. They have no creative idea of their own.

I don't know how they can be asking for more money given this fact.

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Mike J ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

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ljsmith13 ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I feel like we're being nickel and dimed by the cable/satellite companies, and any way they can find to get another dollar out of us they do. I've already dropped one package with my provider because I'm running into problems with the amount I have to pay. I'll cut again in the near future if there is no relief.

In these times, when people are losing jobs, some without any hope of finding another, to continue to try to squeeze every last dime out of the consumer will cause a lot of people to drop services if not drop the service completely. There are alternatives.

I don't think it is right to pay twice for a service we're getting. Cable/satellite should absorb the cost of local TV without passing it on to the consumer.

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John Manson ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I'm already charged by the cable company (and paying) a fee for every channel I receive.

The cable company passes some of those fees to the specialty channels but the cable company is stealing the local signals. The cable monopolies need to pass some of the funds to local channels. Local channels are the most watched channels.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees. My Shaw cable bill went up twice already this year. Why??? No new services were added!!! The CRTC needs to open the doors to Direct TV and Dish Network.

The cable and satellite companies should not be allowed to double dip – we already pay to receive local channels now its up to the cable companies to pass some of the funds to local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *larrys1* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Unreasonable to have to pay for local TV via cable. Cable companies already charging way more than necessary. In our area we only have access to Shaw. Other areas only have access to Rogers. This is a closed shop and CRTC should allow more competition. Both Rogers and Shaw have received billions of dollars and have built empires that limit our choices. Same is true for satellite services. Perhaps local broadcasters could enter the field and provide a more balanced service that would allow individual channel choice at more reasonable rates. It sounds like I do not appreciate the services provided by cable or satellite (I have tried both), presently back to cable and I know that business has to make a profit. The Problem is CRTC allows them to rape the public and this I believe is because of rulings CRTC have implemented. Examples of poor control are sound levels between different channel and even between advertising and programming. Too much advertising (1/3rd is ads).

Lumped service packages, to get one program I enjoy I need to subscribe to up to five others which I don't watch. CRTC allows increases based on profits cable companies input to you so they have no incentive to reduce their costs and in fact can pay executives overblown wages etc. without any regard to the paying public. This system encourages abuse of spending by the cable or satellite companies and in fact encourages it. I believe competition is desperately needed.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Free Canadian!* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I subscribe to Cable. My cable provider is FORCED to have the Canadian channels such as CBC/SRC, CTV, Global, 'A', CHEK, V and TVA on there system.

If I have an antenna I can watch them for free. Why should I have to pay extra to watch them on Cable?

I think if I am going to be charged extra for those channels they should become "Specialty channels" and it should be my right to choose to subscribe to them, not be forced to pay for them!

MAKE UP YOUR MIND CANADA!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bull* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Free Canadian!](#)

exactly, there will be no free TV over the air anymore. if you want to watch local news you'll have to pay for it. all the channels are pay-tv chanel..

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bull* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Free Canadian!](#)

free over the air TV will be by-gone era like dinosaurs..the demographics and current TV industry has changed so it's not longer can be supported by 100% advertisers anymore

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Free Canadian!](#)

times have changed with digital boxes, if you don't want it don't subscribe it to it. all the channels will be digitalized. it'll be pay per channel and no free over the air TV like no more free parking in city streets.

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Like

 *Jeremy* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

If I had to pay more then I would at the least reduce the amount of programming that I currently pay for to make up the difference.

I think it is ridiculous that the Canadian TV networks think they can find another way to charge Canadians for American TV shows. They hardly produce any Canadian content and there are already several taxes that they receive from the cable and satellite companies.

If they can't work with what they have then they should reduce their spending to match.

Don't charge the Canadian consumers more!

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 *donna* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

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 *tired of subsidizing !!* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

Considering how much I currently pay for my television services, I am COMPLETELY opposed to paying additional fee's for local TV. I've already had my bill go up once this year, and don't see any value in paying additional fee's for something that adds very little value. This sounds like nothing more than one more industry crying out for another handout or subsidy simply because their business model is broken. They need to either figure out a different business model that makes financial sense,.....or adopt a new strategy to provide "local" coverage using a National model. The sports stations seem to do a pretty good job with that!!

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 *Susan Lamping* ★ 1 month ago in reply to tired of subsidizing !!

It should be illegal for cable to pass fee for carriage on to their customers, but it should be put in place to protect local TV. Fees should be regulated.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Eric* ★ 1 month ago in reply to Susan Lamping

An cable companies should be forced to carry the signal. If the networks want to be compensated then it should be based on people actually wanting to watch the programming - not based on a customer base that is forced to receive programming they don't actually want.

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 *Lucas* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year. Yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the

CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

I say "NO" to a TV TAX.

Flag

Like



Janine Size ★ 1 month ago in reply to Lucas 1 person liked this.

You think that's bad? The cable companies want customers to pay more for local signals they are already paying for as part of the basic service. I say "NO" to that.

Flag

Like



garryandethelharris ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

It is up to the networks to work out the economics of their local stations without asking the CRTC to increase my monthly expenses, our costs are too high now.

Flag

Like



billy ★ 1 month ago in reply to garryandethelharris

Calling this a tax or bailout is misleading. This isn't a tax or gov't bailout. when the issue is fee for service rendered. TV stations can charge the viewer any price they want. the only non-profit broadcaster is CBC and it's losing millions per year even with all these gov't subsidy. CBC doesn't have any good quality programming except local news.

Flag

Like



StanF ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

Here in Ottawa we no longer have "Local TV". We have three Canadian networks (CTV, GLOBAL, CTV) providing national feeds and minor local news coverage. Curiously, all three networks consider themselves to be "Local TV" except in the production of local programming.

The two main carriers (Rogers, Bell) of these three networks, with concurrence of the CRTC, have already passed to consumers the CRTC "fee" intended to support the smallest of the small-audience TV stations, none of which are here in Ottawa.

So, I suggest it is time for the CRTC to stop the battle between big-TV and big-cable/satellite providers or get out of the regulatory business. They won't play nicely when you are in the middle.

Flag

Like



DD ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

The issue of fair distribution of revenues between the TV stations and the Cable companies is a different discussion. What the consumer really cares about most is the total cost of TV to him. So I feel the consumer is being taken for a ride when he is drawn into the discussion by the parties involved (stations, cablecos and CRTC included) with each party shaping the issue to their perspective to suit their cause.

The fundamental and general problem is that TV, with its multiplicity of channels many of which are totally crap, has grown into extremely diluted service content and in the process advertising revenues being cannibalized and spread out thinner and thinner resulting in all stations facing greater challenges to thrive and output quality. While at the same time consumer is constantly being asked to fork additional contributions to make up the difference and subsidize more mediocrity.

With less formal players, there would be more competition for timeslots, content would be richer, valueless content which is still being paid for would disappear, advertising revenues would be redirected towards the value content, survivability of TV stations would be non-issues and the

consumer would be consulted for build on quality rather than be summoned to fork more \$ for more unsustainable TV service.

Its the CRTC which has allowed this situation to emerge.

So will the CRTC please:

- assume its prime responsibility to keep quality TV content at affordable levels
- establish caps on overall TV service costs to the consumer
- establish mechanics to prevent issues of revenue distribution between Stations and Cablecos to impact overall cost to the consumer.
- regulate broadcasting so as to enable greater % of advertizing revenues to be directed for supporting higher quality TV content. (ex. via advertizing substitution)

Consumer cost of TV service has grown beyond limits!

The consumer is not and endless well and is tired of continuous gouging.

STOP the growth of TV service Costs!

[Flag](#)

Like

 Jay ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

So let me get this straight... if I create a product that nobody wants to consume and therefore nobody wants to pay for it, then I should be able to go to the government and ask them to force people to buy it?!

Why didn't I know this sooner?! I would have quit my day job and invented a beverage from sand and rain runoff! Sure it tastes terrible but the government says you have to buy it!

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Like

 milivoj omaljev ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

i dont support local tv station because they don't have local programming 90 % is american 7% canadian 3% local what a shame they have even guts to ask for money it is a joke, so what is so local about ctv or othernetworks, shame on them, shame on you to this comunisam scam, please stope this nonsense.

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Like

 cindyls ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I would like to be able subscribe to my local TV channel to keep up to date with local news without having to subscribe to all other channels in a package. Our local station is not represented on our Canadian package at all yet I have access to local stations from other cities.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Sharon ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV news strengthens the community, makes the community a family and in this day of age this is a much need service. Question how are people to know what is going on in their community without local news?

[Flag](#)

Like

 Tim ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Sharon](#)

I don't want to witness local TV die. I'd be willing to a pay a little more, but I'd like to have the choice of smaller packages in exchange so I don't have to have 50 channels -- 40 of which I don't watch.

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Like



Randy Jacobs ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Cable should be paying for local TV as they make money selling it in their basic package

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Like



judiking ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

This is utterly ridiculous! Nobody wants to pay over and above what we already are forced to pay. Possobly we would be more obliging if the CRTC supported local TV with stronger local programming requirements.

[Flag](#)

Like



Derek Hodge ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I think it only reasonable that cable companies should pay for the signals they get from CBC, CTV,TVO etc and, in view of their substantial reported profits, they should not be allowed to increase their rates to recoup these costs until they can show good cause for such increases.

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Like



Shiv ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Paul ★ [1 month ago in reply to Shiv](#) 1 person liked this.

The CRTC should make it so cable pays broadcasters for their product and not make us pay. The cable companies have huge profits, too. I don't understand how anyone can defend this.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sharon Millie ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I think that it is time my satellite provider paid for local television. I do not think that I should have to pay antmore than what I am already paying. Local television is too important to our local communitied to allow more stations to fail because of money issues.

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Like



dennis ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

If what I understand is true: cable companys do not pay for stations such as CBC,CTV,ect. it's about time they did. After all they have been gouging us for long enough. Why in this day and age we have to pay for 15 chanelns we don,t want to get 5 we do is beyond me. If cable staions started to go broke you can bet your butt they would be screaming for a tax payer handout. if there was some decent compitition in the market place all this would probsbly be taken care of. If you wont listen to your customer, then I'll go to a company that will. It's that simple

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Like



Guest ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to dennis

Not to mention that CBC is a public broadcaster paid for by our precious taxes already. I don't think it is right to tax us for what we already pay taxes for.

[Flag](#)

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Skip H ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

As a Dish subscriber since the C Band, I pay enough and I question for what? Much duplicated programming as it is, as well, one local station of 3 available. The Dish and Cable companies now pay for the programming they are receiving, but this is paid to the Corporate companies like CBC, CTV, GLOBAL, ABC, NBC and CBS to name a few. It is their responsibility to divide their millions among the affiliates they have acquired, yes these are the local TV stations. Don't go after the Cable and Dish companies, go after the Corporate Networks to manage their company properly and distribute their wealth with their affiliates. On the other hand the local TV stations sell advertising as well with a comfortable profit. We view this advertising, therefore, the advertiser is benefiting by the larger viewing audience than they would have if the local TV station were not on Cable or Dish. Believe me I do not want to pay for advertising. That is between the TV provider and the advertiser.

Cable and Dish companies already alter our viewing from American Networks to Canadian Networks when a specific program is on both Networks at the same time.

I'm tired of the fat cats getting wealthier without looking after their own and constantly having their hand on my wallet.

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Enough Already ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

No new fees, we pay too much already! I've had enough of the poor programming available to Canadians. I will cancel my Satellite subscription if there are any new fees

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Sharon ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I remember buying one large Satellite dish and the signal being FREE before the signals were scrambled. Showtime and HBO were free.

I remember a local unnamed Association buying a satellite dish and feeding a whole town cable TV for free too. Why are these companies having to charge, I do not understand?

Were the TV ads not paying for the channels back in the old days and the ads gave people free TV? What has changed so much that these companies have to charge enormous and out of control fees?

It would be nice to be able to choose the channels I wanted to watch without commercials if I have to pay for it!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Georgia Tielemans ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV is the way that our family stays current on issues that affect us directly from local politics to weather. Even though these stations are included in the basic package we are charged through the basic package for the luxury of having local TV station available. The cable/satellite companies obtain this programming for free but charge us for this service. This sounds like piracy to me. The cable/satellite companies should pay a share of the profit they get from charging us already for the local stations and not increase their rate. We have already been charged an extra \$1 per month with the reasoning that they have to start charging for the local stations when a decision has not been made yet.

[Flag](#)

Like



Miles ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

How ironic that CTV is crying money for local TV, when they don't even care about national TV, as evidenced by all the American programming they air.

Can you say "cash grab"?

[Flag](#)

Like



A Glazer ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Miles](#)

There is a lot of American shows in primetime, but I feel that local TV is an important and is additional Canadian content.

[Flag](#)

Like



AMork ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I will not pay for local tv. The networks and the cable/sat companies already charge far to much for the service they provide. Most of the programming today is garbage and we should not be paying for garbage. The CRTC has failed to regulate for several years now. Everyone is falling into the tech trap with the latest expensive gadgets that money can buy but people cannot afford. There needs to be a shift for efficiencies in local tv and cable/sat. Cable/sat charges a huge amount for providing basic programming per month. It all sucks but the CRTC has let this go on for years. System charges added, system maintenance charges, on and on. You all need to be turfed and replaced with some hardliners that promote and support the people of Canada, not the communication companies.

[Flag](#)

Like



John S ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV in South West Nova Scotia comes from two sources. The CBC, out of Halifax, aimed at Nova Scotia and CTV, out of Halifax, aimed at all of the Maritime provinces.

CBC does a good job; CTV should just give it up. They have more viewers, but IMHO the are dull and do not deserve to be preserved.

Furthermore, Bell TV, CTV and a number of others fall under the umbrella of (Bell) Globemedia. A payment from CTV to Bell TV as a fee for carriage is just a shuffle of money from one part of a conglomerate to another. The only difference is that the money will have come from the consumer.

Once again the little guy will get screwed at the expense of big business.

NO NO NO a thousand times NO to this nonsense.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mezei ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

If asked to pay another tax no matter what its purpose I am considering cancellation of all TV services save myself \$100 per month that will buy many DVDs, Keep your over priced under performing service.

[Flag](#)

Like



lamar ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Mezei](#) 2 people liked this.

The public shouldn't have to pay anything extra and the cable company should pay for local

tv like they pay for specialty channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Howard N ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Seven years ago I switched from Shaw cable to Bell Satellite, because Shaw was providing a poor signal in my area and totally ignored complaints about it. When I signed with Bell in 2002, my service cost about \$25/month for basic plus two extra packages. Over time I dropped one package because of rising costs. Even with that and no HD channels, my bill is now \$50/month for a lower level of service than I started with.

Shaw now seems to be providing a somewhat improved service, but their prices are no better than Bell's. Are we being overcharged? Darn right we are. Do I have sympathy for Bell/Shaw/et al's moaning about the "tax"? Less than none.

I want to see local TV survive. If that requires paying a nominal sum per household I can live with that. But I also want to be able to dump the 100+ channels I don't watch or need (that includes all US ones except KCTS). Why should I pay for garbage like the Fox Network? I wouldn't ask my dog to watch it.

I would be glad to pay for a MUCH cheaper, scaled-back Canada-only service and even a little extra for one or two other channel-by-channel add-ons. But if these cable/satellite bandits think they are going to squeeze any more money out of me, they are going to get a nasty shock.

[Flag](#)

Like



lamar ★ [1 month ago in reply to Howard N](#) 1 person liked this.

Agree with many points, including having no sympathy whatsoever with the cable companies whining and mislabelling this a tax. I also would want access to smaller packages, especially a smaller basic one. I don't watch that much TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



davebuchanan ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I would drop my Canadian satellite service and go back to US providers! I already pay far too much for poor Canadian cable! This is ludacrus! You force the cable companies to carry local programs and now you want to force me to pay for that, when it is already broadcast as a free service if you have an antenna! How stupid do you think the people of Canada are?

[Flag](#)

Like



Maureen McManus ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The money charged for people to access television in Canada is outrageous. If you are fortunate enough to live within range of the US border, you can pick up signals over the air however most of us have a choice of paying high prices for packages that include channels you don't want or not having access to television at all.

Any more charges to support large corporations that continue to make large profits without offering consumer choice is unacceptable.

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to Maureen McManus](#)

in the future there will be no free over the air programming. television is way more costly than radio as programming isn't cheap to produce. and television and radio no longer have 100% of audience like the 1975. over the air television is a dead business model as cable with 100 channels is the future. local television station no longer have a monopoly in

television viewers anymore like in the 1980s and 1970's

Flag

Like



[D. Shields](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I am on a fixed income of about \$12,000.00 per year. I am the only caregiver for a 95 yr. old with multiple handicaps. Most of the time I cannot get out of the house for movies, etc. (No, we do Not get much affordable help in caring for seniors.)

I & my Mother rely on television among a few things as an inexpensive form of both entertainment, & enlightenment. I can get out some times to the Library & I can use my computer. I prefer Public Radio to t.v. & most of these other diversions, but my Mother's hearing loss prevents her from listening with ease.

IMHO, the CRTC has in the past given the cable providers a 'license to print money'. They have been allowed to divide up the province of Ontario like war lords, & the only option to viewers has been t.v. 'dishes' & many U.S. providers have been banned in Canada. The CRTC has given big cable permission to raise it's rates whenever it felt like it, give out it's programming in 'Bundles' that often provide only one watchable channel to 5 channels that are of no interest to most viewers.

As a part of the Government of Canada, I think the CRTC should start representing the People of Canada, & stop rolling over & playing dead for the Cable Empires. If the internet does one good thing, it will be to provide fans with television on demand, & break the stranglehold of Big Cable.

As far as the Private Networks are concerned, they also do Not deserve one penny more from the Public Purse. (with the exception of Public Television -CBC, Eng. & Fr. & T.V. Ontario, who all deserve more than their current budget.)

If the CRTC one again caves in to the big cable empires, or the big networks this house will simply become a none-t.v. household. That Is a PROMISE!!

By handing over more money & power to both these greedy entities, you will have proven once again that you do not speak for Canadians, only for powerful corporations. You should therefor be disbanded as an arm of the Federal Government.

Flag

Like



[Derek D](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to D. Shields](#) 1 person liked this.

A lot of people, especially older ones, don't have Internet. And a lot of people like me want the CBC but don't want to have to pay for it again with an additional fee. We already pay for it with our taxes and on the basic service on our cable bill.

Flag

Like



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Derek D](#)

watch more CBC if you want it, but most canadians are watch CNN and American channels and American shows and pay for premium channels. Advertisers pay for the programming, the cable bill doesn't even cover close to the cost of the program. it cost \$5 to rent a movie cause it cost millions to make that movie

Flag

Like



[D. Shields](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to billy](#)

I like CNN for the car chases & gratuitous violence! : D It's like IV Geritol!

A surprising amount of Americans pick up CBC radio & T.V. both in border areas & on Sirius radio, & seem to like it. I don't pretend that Corner Gas or The Nature of Things will ever draw the numbers that America's Got Talent does, but prob. these folks are also watching PBS & specialty channels instead of NBC, ABC, Fox, etc. a lot of the time.

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bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to D. Shields](#)

the licenses are no longer a license to print money but a liability with all those local and canadian content regulations.

over the air television is no longer a need. or only source of media..today consumers have cable channels internet

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

D. Shields ★ [1 month ago in reply to billy](#) 1 person liked this.

Content reg's? If having more of them would get "So You Think Your Fish Has Talent" off the air in Canada...GOOD!

Today's consumers can have anything they want...If they have the money to Pay for it. I know of people who claimed to have bought 'chip cards' for U.S. satellite T.V. It worked fine until they were shut down. Then they bought another chip & another etc...Lucky Them. : {

Most of the current cable carriers are the internet servers too. Guess what's going to happen to our internet bills, esp. if they don't get what they want from this ruling?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Brad Jones ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I want a Fee-for-carriage to be charged to the cable companies to protect local television and I want it be against the law for them to pass it on to the consumers.

I also want cable fees to be regulated.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Gene Pike ★ [1 month ago in reply to Brad Jones](#) 2 people liked this.

Yes, the cable companies should foot the bill for this. There rates have gone up 80 per cent in the past 7 years.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Chad R. Smith ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local television stations are affiliated with national networks. If local television stations are suffering then it should be up to the networks to better allocate their resources. They should spend their obscene profits more wisely/responsibly but they should not hold consumers hostage and attempt to extort mor money from them. In my life if i want something but can't afford it I either make sacrifices to get what i want or I do without it. Television networks should operate the same way.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

isabelcroke ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Cable companies should not be able to add a \$10 tax to an already heavily burdened cost of cable to it's consumers. They should pay local stations at least half of what they make in my view, and they should also offer this as part of a basic package to consumers. Cable companies, in my opinion are raping both consumers and local TV stations. If they are able to keep doing this, what will bind them from keep increasing costs and making billions from signals they already get free.

[Flag](#)

Like



lamar ★ [1 month ago in reply to isabelcroke](#) 2 people liked this.

Exactly!!!! They already bill subscribers for it on as basic service. The cable companies and TV networks need sort this mess out amongst themselves and leave us out of it.

Flag

Like



Ron Waller ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The Local TV lobbyists are way off base. The cable companies are broadcasting their signal for free, which means more people get their programming and see their advertising.

I live in Hamilton and CHCH built a 500 ft tower to broadcast their signal to southern Ontario. If satellite and cable companies take care of the broadcasting end of their TV channel, exposing it to more people, that is more money in their pockets.

Next step for local TV is broadcasting their signal over the internet. Are they going to whine to the CRTC and make people pay extra for using the internet too?

We are in a time where the shape of mass media is rapidly transforming and this means media dinosaurs will go extinct. If local TV can't sell enough advertising to pay for their programming this means people don't want it. It's absurd to force people to buy something they don't want.

Local TV stations are businesses and they have to either swim or sink like every other business.

Flag

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to Ron Waller](#)

times have changed. industry has changed. and CRTC knows that. free over the air television is dead under the CRTC regulation regime.

Flag

Like



Derek D ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The Cable and satellite companies should have to pay for local TV. They are carrying it for free now and raking in profits from customers. Cable and satellite industry has neglected the local stations and made money off of them.

Flag

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to Derek D](#) 1 person liked this.

basica cable is total rip off, 4 of the channels are FREE over the air . if people don't want to pay for basic cable, just put an antennae on your roof, the antennae is only \$30.

Flag

Like



Beth ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I want my local TV. I already pay the Cable Co. too much. Work it out. There is enough money to go around without making the public pay any more.

Flag

Like



Derric ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Why would Canadians pay more taxes for television services and why are we even discussing paying increased taxes? Local news and weather interests me but I am not willing to pay extra

for this.

The the real issue is to reduce the current costs and improve the services and pay no tax. This can be accomplished by allowing more competition into this industry which will help to lower costs and give the consumer a wider range and better product. Open it up to the competition.

[Flag](#)

Like



Norm ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

It's time to shut down all these useless Canadian broadcasters, who do nothing but interrupt American programming.

I'm tired of having the starts and ends of shows cut off, commercials breaks being overrun with live sporting events, promos left out, previews obliterated, macroblocking, surround sound 5.1 missing.

Let them dissolve and say goodnight to them.

[Flag](#)

Like



naugustine ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I were asked to pay more for local TV, actual true local TV (meaning not a couple of minutes of local news everyday with the rest of the station a national feed), and that money went directly to the local station (i.e. not the national station, not the BDU) I would not be opposed.

What it seems from the hearings is that the situation may be that the BDUs up the cable bill in proportion to what they will have to additionally pay the broadcasters, plus a bit more, of course, for administration fees. The BDUs are not paying for the services they are selling. It is in fact a case of reproducing for resell, not personal consumption. They buy the rights to show specialty for this reason. They should buy the OTA stations as well. It doesn't matter if the OTA is available free over the air, I can get it for free because it is for personal consumption, what I'm paying the cable company is to provide me with a better signal. Out of that money they should be paying for the raw material (OTA broadcast) they're value adding to. Is a builder not expected to pay for his supplies? The disproportionate profit the BDUs make compared to broadcasters speaks to the fact the BDUs aren't paying their fair share to broadcasters.

That said, local TV in many places in Canada is a joke. It's not local, it's a knockoff off, and the sooner that system's gone the better. From what I hear the CHUM stations are fairly good, many stations in Quebec seem quite vibrant, but the consolidated Global Okanagan leaves much to be desired.

We need to see more funds put directly into the hands of local broadcasting stations. LPIF seems a good step, I support maintaining 1.5%, but it seems like maybe the situation is that Global the national channel can take the LPIF money for Global Okanagan and after that decide how much, if any, funds actually go to the CHBC station? This I don't support.

Program rights are key to support local channels. Non-simultaneous substitution should be the future, expand the storage capacity to let this happen. Or instead of blacking out the Thursay episode of House on NBC beacuse it was shown on Tuesday on Global, direct customers to VOD platform free of extra charge. If show debuted on Monday on NBC, VOD last week's show to keep everyone tuned into Global on Tues.

Local stations need funds. They need to find ways to increase advertising revenues. Advertising on internet and VOD platforms needs to be encouraged. Multiplex the OTA stations. Educate consumers that OTA is still an option. We need many ways to get local OTA stations. Cable AND satellite should carry everyone within it's target region.....

[Flag](#)

Like



DanforthWoodbine ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The industry has changed, and the regulations need to change. It is likely that the carriers (Mainly cable and satellite) are earning monopoly profits. The local cable company raised prices about 33% a couple of years ago. Many other utilities are regulated on a rate of return with a careful review of quality assets in the rate base. Then prices would be fairly regulated. The CRTC should prepare and publish the big picture of the industry cash flows: Income: Consumer payments, advertising payments, and tax payments or credits. 1. Distribution costs including cable, satellite, TV stations selling imported content and selling Canadian purchased production. 2. Production -in house TV channels and production companies; 3 "Royalties" to writers, actors. I expect monopoly profits to show, and that the TV stations will also show competitive financial pressures.

Local TV is important because it is the starting cycle for talent, and it provides a local service. I think all channels should receive a fee from the distributor. I expect an analysis would show that a decent distributor rate of return would equate to a multiplier of the channel fee be paid by the consumer. For example a 50 cent fee to the TV channel would have a three times fee and the consumer would pay \$1.50 for that channel. Today the local cable company has a standard price of \$2.79 or over 5 times.

Maybe the CBC should be exempt and be carried "free" since it is largely paid for by tax dollars.

The distributors should be allowed to continue to "bundle" packages of channels that they market but be required to permit users to build their own packages. The regulator would likely have to find a way to require minimum service levels.

It is likely that total industry revenue would not increase and that distributor monopoly profits would decrease.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John Hairy* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think this whole problem has been allowed to happen because of the CRTC. When I look around, there is competition in almost everything out there. Look at all of the cell phone providers, TV stations, yellow page books, billboard companies, you name it, there's competition. But wait. Where's the competition in the cable industry??? Rogers is the only choice I have here in the East.....and Shaw has the West....what's up with that. You know. I wonder if we would be here now, if the CRTC allowed competition in the cable industry.....hmmmmm

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mike J* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1)

I can get local TV for free over the airwaves - that's their business model.

If cable and satellite services want to include this copyrighted content in their services, then they should pay the local TV stations for the signal. Cable and satellite services are currently charging consumers for content, but not paying the content provider. If cable and satellite services want to replace the commercials, the TV stations should charge them more.

In any case, cable companies placing their own commercials in the middle of other companies' content is outright theft.

2)

I am less interested in local television than Canadian television. With the current local television structure, we are encouraging Canadians to live in their own little bubble, and not being part of the larger country.

What's the purpose of a "television station" in today's world? In the old days, the television station was broadcaster - of shows they made or bought. Today, cable and satellite companies can also be broadcasters; they can just as well do the buying and making of shows. Maybe stations, cable, and satellite companies are the same thing - just using a different medium and therefore a different scope of reach? Internet sites can just as well be broadcasters, more far-reaching than satellites.

[Flag](#)

 Like *Scott_S* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I have a TiVo HD, and living in Vancouver I pay Shaw only for analog channels and I get the HD ones off the air. Why should I have to pay more for something that I already get. If I had to pay, I would drop my cable and just use the internet because that's the future. And then I'm funding local tv at the same level that I also have. The economics are pretty clear that for my pocket book it is cheaper to build a good computer to handle websites for TV on TV than it is to get a PVR from a distributor.

2. Letting them charge will save them in the near future, but it's not a long term solution. And in fact it will probably lead to the downfall of them. Part of the problem is that people think they already pay for the channels. The truth is that nobody really thought about it, but just assumed since they pay the channel gets paid. If it was required that their signal was broadcast over cable (analog until the transition, then unencrypted digital) that one could pick up without a subscription. It would become clear that you weren't paying for these channels in the first place. This has the added effect that in small markets where it would be costly to set up a digital tower, they would be able to just send it over cable (or satellite). Now in the areas where there is a cost to serve (which would primarily only be an upfront investment, which the cable company could recoup if they become a subscriber later, and hence the local tv should be re-reimbursed or something) the cost of upgrading the tower could be changed to the cost of supplying cable. Satellite works too, but you'd have to regulate the cost of the set top box in this case, but it probably would be more economical. In large markets, they could just keep their digital towers instead of being forced to pay for the installation of the cable to houses that don't have it yet. But the underlying aspect of the channels being given over cable without a subscription would show that you aren't paying for those with your cable bill. For satellite, one would probably have to have some way of decrypting the channels that are local to the area, if the satellite serves more than one area. But that would be an easy thing to do.

That's only part of the issue, the next is supply versus demand. The demand for a show(s) hasn't stayed the same, but the supply has actually gone up. Because now there more supply: the local channel, the US channel (even though it MAY be recorded over if the timing is right), other Canadian channels on cable (cause I don't remember the time shifting when I was younger), and the internet (legal and illegal sources). Yet the local channel is probably still paying the same (if not more due to inflation and supposed increases in demand) for that show(s). If the CRTC wanted to save local channels, it would step in and force them to pay less for channels with high supply. It has the same effect as them getting payed by the distributors to their cheque books. The consumer doesn't pay more so their happy. And the show from the US learns that the can't man handle Canada. Plus less money drifts out of Canada. This is heavy regulation of the industry, unfortunately they (cable and local tv) have proven to us that they can't survive and serve the consumer without it. As a quick examples: local tv is in a financial mess, and our digital transition is far behind that of the States, and we don't have much competition in the area of PVR's (TiVo or computers, which will be more important in the future - more comments in other section)

Also, this doesn't interrupt the way that cable bundles their channels (which I have issue with, but that isn't relevant to saving local TV in the foreseeable future)

[Flag](#) Like *Lauren Roberts* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It is important to people and communities that local tv exists to cover and include the community and encourage local programs and creators that can become national. It is completely fair and appropriate that local television is paid for their programming by the cable and satellite companies that distribute them and profit by carrying them. That being said, the gouging and profit-taking that monopoly-like cable companies are already doing with little recourse available to consumers is ridiculous. I think the cost could easily be absorbed by these companies.

[Flag](#) Like

 *alen123* ★ 3 weeks ago 1 person liked this.

1. I would probably pay it, because local TV is important to me. I wouldn't like it, as I think it shouldn't be necessary. The reason I have cable instead of a dish, is because none of the satellites offer enough local (to me) TV.
2. Ensure that people local to the stations have convenient access to a good quality signal. I wouldn't want to switch from antenna to cable and back just to get my local stations. So having them available on the cable provider is important.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *rickyD1970* ★ 3 weeks ago 1 person liked this.

It's quite simple really. I don't even watch any local television. It makes no sense to me to be obligated to pay even more for a service I don't want.

If I have to pay for local television, I want to have to option to not have the service if I don't want.

If I don't have a choice but to have this service, I don't want to pay more for it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Hugh Thompson* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

The cable companies are already charging us to receive local stations. They steal the signals, charge the customer but fail to compensate local TV stations. That is wrong.

Local TV stations need to be compensated for their signals. That's how its done in the United States (Retransmission Consent)

As I said, the cable monopolies are already charging the customer, any additional fees would be double dipping.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees. Shaw cable increased my cable bill twice already this year with no additional services or explanation for the two increases.

While at it, the CRTC should open the doors to Dish Network and Direct TV – I'm sick of the Canadian greedy cable monopolies dictating everything...

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Adam Camery* ★ 1 month ago in reply to Hugh Thompson 1 person liked this.

I didn't know that local U.S. stations were compensated by there cable but ours aren't. Thanks.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Scott F* ★ 3 weeks ago 1 person liked this.

Canadian TV corporations may have been overspending in the last while, but that doesn't change the fact that the Cable companies have been charging for services that they haven't had to pay for themselves. So I think it's wrong if they do get charged and pass the charges on to the consumer. I do however think that more money should be spent on producing canadian television. CBC does it, and I am pretty sure they have a much lower budget. If the CRTC is going to step in on their behalf, which I think they should do, I think they should also put their foot down and regulate more Canadian Content from the Networks.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Lori* ★ 3 weeks ago 1 person liked this.

Answer to question #1: I would not be happy about it... I already pay almost \$70 a month for digital cable (Roger's VIP package) I would cancel it and go to a basic cable connection (\$30 a month). I like the digital, I think it's worth the \$70 a month (still a lot of money, but....) and don't want it to change what comes out of my pocket. So... how many people pay for the same package, how many people pay for basic cable.... this equals... hmmm... millions of dollars??? Why in God's name do they need more? Where is the money going that they can't "afford" to keep up with local programming.... Answer #2 USE THE MONEY THAT PEOPLE FORK OVER FOR CABLE!!! I'm sure some deal could be made with cable companies and local TV networks to make some profit (sure they already do!) But people are suckers right... why would they listen to the people that are paying for it?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *R. Thorburn* ★ 3 weeks ago 1 person liked this.

Cable and satellite cost to consumers are already set at unfair prices. I believe that the amount of money already being paid by consumers is more than enough to cover the cost associated with providing local broadcasting. Perhaps a little competition is in order as is currently the case in the cell phone industry. If I had an alternative to paying these rate hikes to satellite and cable I would switch in a heartbeat. Local programming needs to be financed by the companies that have been getting it for free and charging the consumer all along. We will remember this grab.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Amber* ★ 3 weeks ago 1 person liked this.

If the cable services charged for local channels on top of the charge I already pay, I would cancel completely. I can barely afford the basic charge as it is. I would love to support my local channels but I gotta eat, too :/

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Michael* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

Nobody should prop up a bad business model. Not Canadians themselves and not the cable company.

It's disturbing that the CRTC is even contemplating to *force* the cable companies to carry specific channels, *force* them to include them in basic packages, and *force* a price that Canadian subscribers ultimately have to bear.

Please step back and let demand drive it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *sergefordin* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

There's an oxymoron!

What local tv stations? Except for the local news, all shows are US or Toronto made!

If this tv tax is allowed by the CRTC, the CRTC should allow cable/satellite subscribers, such as myself, to have local stations removed from the service we pay for!

I don't watch so called "local tv" anyway. And it pisses me off, that when I watch a show on a US station, I get "local" commercials.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Janet_M* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

I do not believe that any new fees should be levied in general, and they should never be

passed along to consumers via cable and satellite fees. Those fees are already too high and local stations rarely if ever air local content that is of any interest to me. Why should I pay extra for something I don't even consume?

New fees would only encourage me to cancel my cable subscriptions. I would rather watch all my programming online than be forced to further subsidize poor business models.

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to Janet M

online programming isn't free either all those downloads and movies and shows are illegal.

[Flag](#)

Like



M.McDonell ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I believe that I am bombarded with commercial advertising from my local TV stations including those from our national broadcaster the CBC. If for whatever reason this doesn't bring in enough revenue to make them viable then they should rethink their economic model. I pay enough already to my local Satellite provider. No more new fees period.

[Flag](#)

Like



Faith Stewart ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I will cancel my cable .Enough is enough.I do not want local t...v. the CRTC tells me I have to have it Canadian content I have to have it now they tell me I have to pay extra.Is this freedom,The Crtc is the problem.

[Flag](#)

Like



Vel ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

no to the tax and CRTC should be dismantled as well.

[Flag](#)

Like



marvw ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. If I could I would cancel the local stations (they carry US shows mostly) and subscribe to the us stations. If not I would cancel my satellite service completely .

2. Local Advertisers.

Canadians are charged more for their cable, cell phones and internet than any other country.

[Flag](#)

Like



Line ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Allow the market to decide. Consumers shouldn't be forced to pay for channels they don't want anymore than cable companies should be forced to carry them. I'm not in favour of giving more money to already profitable networks. If they can't make local TV attractive enough to be profitable, I as a consumer do not wish to subsidize them.

[Flag](#)

Like



denice ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Cable cost are already too high. If they go any higher I will cancel cable and just watch programming online. I fully support local television, but I do not believe that I should have to

pay more for something I am already receiving. I believe the big cable companies should suck it up and cut into there large profits.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John D* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

This is down right criminal!! What these companies haven't made enough profit over the years. They are greedy!! The more they make the more they want!! I can only speak for myself, if this tax goes through, i will cancell all cable service. If my family and i want to see or find out things, i will go to the internet. I look at it this way, we don't need them, they need us!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *KR* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Regulate the way channels are offered regardless of how that service is delivered. (Cable, Satellite, Internet, Other Devices)
Remove completely the "Basic Digital Package". Remove each channel from specialty packages. Offer each channel at an affordable price.

For every X dollars spent subscribing to a channel Y amount is given to the network as a fee for carriage.

If people subscribe to your channel you make money. If you make money your network can create better programming. If you create better programming more people will subscribe. I have all channels available, but only because i like 1 or 2 channels in each package of channels. The fee for carriage would only apply if a subscriber utilizes your channel. Example: Subscriber orders "HGTV" at \$1.50. Provider Pockets \$1.00 network pockets \$0.50 (advertisements would likely benefit the network not the provider). Now imagine that millions of times over per channel per user. More than enough money for everyone. Canadian bills go down or up based on demand. The unpopular channels go away, the popular channels stay. Consumer choice dictates what stays and what goes, not some stuffy boardroom packed with half-wits.

Another benefit to this approach is flexibility. It does not matter if i subscribe to Satellite or Cable. Or if i choose to sign up for an internet based service where the site pockets X and the network pockets Y. I could even elect to subscribe on popular services such as XBOXLive and the same idea applies etc...

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Tony* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air. More often, they broadcast US channels and skin it with their own logo. Both CTV and CBC have done it on Football games...

I credit Bell TV for sticking up for us Canadians...avoiding to pay more for nothing...

I watched a local channel CJOH, and I was shocked to know that there was one 1 or 2 of 30 minute local programmes versus the remaining on US based....

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mike* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Tony](#)

Totally agree with you Tony! Total rip-off if you ask me...A good way to make the economy worse...

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mimosa* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Agree - do make an effort to work on plan B

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Paul Bignell ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not want to pay for local television on top of what I pay for cable/satellite for two primary reasons: 1. The networks have spoken through their actions: they are directing their spending to acquire American content rather than to support local TV. If they do not support that part of their business model, why should I? 2. I believe that the network TV business model is broken, and that local TV is less relevant than it once was. In a world with so many "infotainment" options - including specialty channels, over-the-air radio, satellite radio, internet, and even free newspapers - I cannot see a future for the local TV station. I believe that a special charge for local TV would be the thin edge of a long, painful wedge.

I also would like to note that the suggestion by the TV networks that cable and satellite companies should be able to absorb any TV tax is disingenuous. They are fully aware that that makes no business sense, and that they would not absorb such a cost if the roles were reversed.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Pat Ganzewinkel ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think we pay too much for local cable now, or a lot more than most and to charge even more especially in these economic times is outrageous. I believe CRTC need to regulate and lower the rates to be fair with our cable providers, so we stop getting increases or losing our channels. We need someone looking out for the little guys so the cable companies stop doing whatever they want when they want.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

RON ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

personally i find cable/satellite companies are ripping us off as well as cell phone providers and that is why i no longer subscribe to them. i have an antenna on my roof and that is good enough for me especially since i don't watch much television, one reason because I work the evening shift but do record the odd television show such as CSI. i appreciate having the news, otherwise as far as Canadian content TV shows go 99% are garbage and don't even come close to American programming. as for CBC i feel that we should not be subsidizing them for i don't care for CBC programming nor its politics and anti-Americanism at all, and i would be happy if it was shut down and that would have happened a long time ago for that station could not survive on its own for it has very little to offer and hockey could be picked up by the other local stations. i am amazed at how there are less and less good shows on CTV and Global. a lot of the shows are old shows being replayed over and over throughout the whole year, even in the same week such as Tuesday's Law and Order show was repeated on the weekend for several weeks and now there is talk that they want us to pay a \$10.00 tax per month. if they need more money, then they should charge the advertisers. they would also survive if the CRTC would not put its nose into their affairs and let them put the programming they want, which would be more American shows and movies and then you would see their revenues at least double plus the programming they produce would also improve and it would be great as it was when i was growing up as a child.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

joseteitelbaum ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I am paying for my cable TV service and enormous amount of money that is going almost in its entirety to the pocket of my service provider! I do not see any logical reason why I have to be charged so much more by them for local TV since two years ago they decided, in the classic unilaterally way they always do, to cut my basic cable group of stations I was provided with originally, and in order to regain it they charged me with an extra fee that was unauthorized! They just squeeze their customers and take advantage of the local TV to offer in the basic package all the channels they get for free anyway, so there is NO REASON for the cable companies to charge ANY extra fee for the service they should be passing part of the money I

already pay them!

My fees are the highest in the world anyway already! You have no control on them and they party on US! do your job and stop them! Regulate Cable companies!

[Flag](#)

Like



suemac ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV remains vitally important to me because I live in a rural area. While I stay abreast of national and international news, I also need to have access to what is going on in my local community. Being a rural resident is very different from an urban resident. A smaller, less dense population spread out over a greater geographical area presents challenges in getting relevant information distributed. Local programming, particularly news casts is one of the few viable options where high speed internet has yet to arrive, cell phone and mobile devices drop their signals because of spotty service connections and cable is available in a limited radius to small urban clusters. I dare to compare the rural vs urban situation in need of local programming to Canada vs North America or the Globe. If Canada no longer had Canadian TV available and was only able to access American or foreign TV, I believe everyone could see that would be a problem. Well, just shrink that down to small rural communities versus larger urban centres and it isn't hard to imagine that coverage of local municipal government, public education, community networking, etc. would soon fail to exist. These local items certainly do not get picked up in the larger areas. While I am fortunate enough to receive cable service through a small local independent cable provider, I do feel gouged enough with a basic cable service charge of \$49+ per month. I do not receive HBO, Movie Networks, Pay-per-View or any of the other "luxury" programming. Currently, I can access the local cable channel for community notices, community news, community commerce, etc, as well as somewhat local programming which means it is broadcast from at least a 2-3 hour drive from my community. Satellite coverage would not even let me see the programming I just described and satellite coverage is spotty in my area, at best. SO, it is obviously difficult for my local cable provider to compete against the big corporate entities, but they do provide me with as much as I need - I do not need to pay more for this basic service. I do not want to be charged any more than I currently am. When I had only a TV tower and antenna, I could only pick up 4 channels depending on the atmospheric conditions - TVO, CKNX-Wingham/London, CKCO-Kitchener and sometimes CBC. There was more to watch that was worthwhile and relevant with those 4 channels than I currently get on cable with 73 channels of mostly American crap. My suggestion for measures, is to take into account the challenges of rural, northern and remote communities and create a level playing field where local coverage is provided without additional fees and anything else is optional for a fee. Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Halifax, St. John's would not put up without local city coverage, it is no different for rural, northern or remote communities. Thank-you.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bob Bowland ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Good Day:

I am a retired radio station owner. I owned CKLP-FM, Parry Sound, ON from 1986 to 2001. Before that I was News Director, Operations Manager and Technical Supervisor for CHAY-FM, Barrie, ON, all at the same time. And, before that I held positions of TV News Anchor, Program Director, Music Director, Talk Show Host, and a host of other announcer positions. A 40 year career in radio and TV. My own station in Parry Sound went through a couple of serious financial scrapes and we worked our way out of them with the help of various financial providers. At no time did we ever think of having our listeners bail us out.

With that summary of my background, I would like to submit a comment with regard to the current controversy concerning the billing of cable and satellite services by local TV broadcasters for their signals.

DO NOT give these leaches that call themselves the hard done-by local broadcasters ONE penny! The so-called local stations are be owned by conglomerates. Conglomerates who don't understand the concept of local on a small market basis because their decisions are made in a community of 5 million.

Remember the old days when cable was just beginning? TV stations just HAD to be on cable. It would guarentee better coverage in difficult to reach areas. TV stations wanted greater reach, more hours tuned. What a concept! More territory without increasing power. Then, large

companies like CHUM and networks like CTV decide that while times are good they should buy up small stations like CKNX-TV in Wingham. This, they thought, would boost their reach and generate even more revenues for greedy shareholders who are always looking for a greater payoff.

Then the bubble burst!

Now the large companies and networks are over leveraged. Now they want the cable and satellite companies to pay for the continuing greed.

I say, sell the local stations back to local entrepreneurs. Just because the profit per station is not \$1,000,000 per year does not mean it is a loser. Many small timers would be happy with a payoff of a couple hundred thousand even if it were only salary and perhaps a bonus.

Meanwhile a couple of dozen people or so, would still be employed.

If we were to allow this silliness to mature, the pay-off of the local stations by cable and satellite services, then we, as subscribers, must be able to reject the local stations we don't need or want.

In my own case, I don't want most of the local stations available on my Bell Expressview service. At fifty cents per local station per month, I think I will be saving money on my subscription.

Let's put this controversy to bed once and for all. Tell the big companies and networks to eat it.

Go back to the drawing board. Tough! The shareholders are going to have a bad year like the rest of us have had with our investments. The big companies and networks will not only have to downsize staffs, they will have to SELL off to people who know how to run small operations, and yes, may become the competition. So be it.

Bob Bowland

12 Burritt St.

Parry Sound, ON

P2A 1N6

Phone: 705-746-6468

Have a GREAT day!

Regards

Bob and Dorothy Bowland

Parry Sound

Ontario

Canada

bowlands@vianet.ca

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Like



[querist](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cost of cable has gone up drastically in recent years while an increasing amount of dreck is being put on the airwaves. I am retired and cannot afford spiralling costs. I expect to soon cancel cable altogether. I will simply do without it. There are other sources for news, excellent books to be read, and the great outdoors to be enjoyed!

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Like



[kmfry](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

While I am not a big fan of "big government" as a rule, I do sincerely believe that there is sometimes a need for government to step in and protect the consumer by way of regulation, the more so when it seems that the consumer is being harmed. As a result, I believe that basic cable fees must be regulated and cable companies only permitted to raise basic fees once per year in an amount equal to the rate of inflation.

Cable companies in Canada have by and large been permitted to carve up the territory in a manner that gives one company or the other a virtual monopoly in many Canadian cities. Here in Victoria, we have only Shaw. In other cities, Rogers has the monopoly. Monopolies have long had a tendency to grow fat and greedy, while competition for customers forces the provider to become more aggressive in order to maintain the client base. Areas of the Greater Victoria area are also unable to sign on to satellite providers due to municipal ordinances (such as my home location) forbidding satellite dishes. As a result, Shaw is the only game in town for large areas of the country. Allowing (forcing by regulation) cable companies to compete for customers rather than permitting them to carve up territory to guarantee a virtual monopoly is something that is long overdue. The longer the current situation is allowed to continue, the worse it is for

Canadian consumers like myself.

The cable companies (and the Satellite providers), if they are allowed to continue without competition, must indeed be made to understand that their rights to profit from 'free' broadcasts (television and radio) are not unlimited. The precedent is there. Commercial users of other media must pay a small royalty for the privilege. The CRTC should take a similar stance with cable companies and impose a royalty for the privilege of selling the local channel(s) as part of the basic cable package. This royalty should not be injurious to the cable provider, but it should be a "real" dollar amount that can be passed back to the television and radio stations to help them continue their operations. At the same time the CRTC needs to impose a restriction on the cable companies to prevent them from simply passing the royalty fee on to the end user. It has been amply demonstrated that their current monopoly setup has led to record profits- even during the current recession. The companies have no need to raise their rates to pass on such a royalty.

Thank you for listening.

[Flag](#)

Like



[dandavedan](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Don't let them call it a tax. That is wrong. As I see it all the stations are doing is asking for what is theirs. If all of these stations close their doors what channels will the cable company's put on there services. Stations are already closing. And cable is going to have a hard time finding content to sale if there are no stations left in Canada.

Everyone favours new thing with digital channels is time shifting. If local stations are forced to close there doors because Cable Company won't play far. Most of the time shifting stations will be lost.

We should not let the cable company's own broadcast stations they are heading the truth about how the run there operations

[Flag](#)

Like



[querist](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cost of TV has gone up drastically in the past few years. I am retired and simply cannot afford cable if it goes up any more. I will cancel and live without it.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Maureen Rieger](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would cancel my satellite subscription - Bell is atrocious now and I won't pay anymore to them for their terrible service

[Flag](#)

Like



[Kathy](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think, before the CRTC makes a decision, they should make public how many Canadian local stations have or are about to go bankrupt and go out of business. Give us the information as to why the station was not able to continue operating, be it poor management or more money needed from places such as the cable and satellite companies. As long as that form of information is not provided to the public, people cannot make reasonable decisions or opinions on these issues. As far as I am concerned, the entire industry is too closed in, consumers are charged far too much for a product they have no knowledge of the operating costs and delivery. Give us the facts, straight and clear. Then ask us what our opinions are towards the costs of satellite/cable companies vs local stations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [bobpelling](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

This was the biggest reason why the big switch to all digital broadcasting, so that cable could charge more and most people would require cable to be able to watch local programming. YES local station SHOULD be able to charge cable companies for carrying local channels. AND it should be mandatory for the cable companies to do so. ALSO the cable companies should NOT be able to pass the costs on but should have to eat the costs themselves. Most if not all cable companies are making record profits in a time when the overall economy is smarting badly. The service many times is bad. For 2 years every time we had a bad storm, be it rain in the summer or snow in the winter the cable would go off. Sometimes this lasted for a few days. I NEVER saw a credit on my cable bill for this, but if I was even a day over due on paying the bill I got charged interest.

As far as the question of should the local stations/networks be able to charge for viewing via the TV Tax, it is imposed the station should be required to cut commercial time by 20% per hour. We are already paying for TV through supporting the individual sponsors of programs.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [KAB](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe that local tv is important to local viewers who need access to local information. Local tv personalities also contribute to community causes. Local tv broadcasters should be able to charge a fee for their signals to the cable companies that now distribute them for free. The current situation is unfair. Cable companies should not be able to pass on the fees to consumers. We are already paying an inordinately high price for cable services compared to U.S. consumers. Cable companies are making a very large profit. Basic cable services should be re-regulated in an effort to bring the price of cable services into line. At the same time, cable companies should be required to charge only for services rendered (e.g., they would charge only for stations watched, and if possible, only for hours watched). Compensation to local broadcasters could be based on their portion of audience numbers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Janet](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't want to pay extra for local tv. I am already paying enough for cable services. Local tv matters to me because I like local news and knowing what is going on in my area.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [R. D. M. C](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1) Local TV is of the utmost importance to me, particularly CBC Regina. I certainly don't want to get my news from Detroit, which is where much of our cable programming comes from. It seems to me that the Cable companies should have to pay for the local programming that they pick up for free. I would happily cut out some cable channels to keep my local channels (which do much more by way of local programming and public service than does the local cable station--though it makes some attempts in these areas).

2) It seems ludicrous to me that the cable companies can pick up local programming without paying a fee. No wonder that many people think that owning a cable company is a bit like having a private license to print money. Why not require the cable companies to pay for what they use? It might be wise to let viewers choose the channels they want to watch rather than having to accept packages selected by the cable companies.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Bruce](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I support the CBC and want to see it supported through receiving money from cable TV income. The cable TV industry is very profitable, but it does not pay for content. It is time this unfair situation changed.

[Flag](#)

 Like *Diana Johansen* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1) I would cancel my cable contract and find an alternative source for the shows I like to watch. If I view the channels I pay for on my Rogers cable package it includes the disputed stations. I'm not paying twice for something I could get for free.

2) Honestly Rogers and Bell already charge for these channels so they (in a world where they wouldn't fight this suggestion screaming like someone was skinning them alive) should pay money to the stations without 'passing' it along to the consumers. The consumers have already been paying for these channels. Rogers and Bell just happen to keep it for themselves.

[Flag](#) Like *Daryl Gray* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My understanding is that the CRTC's role is to balance the needs of the industry with the needs of the consumer while maintaining a Canadian identity on the airwaves. I find it interesting that CTV and Global have tried to blackmail Canadians and the CRTC by threatening to withdraw one of the few truly Canadian elements to their programming; local programming. Their main channels are now full of American programs or Canadian knock-offs of US and UK programs. Most of the specialty channels, many of them owned by CTV and Global, have become unrecognizable versions of what was promised when they were first created. Most specialty channels simply serve as platforms for constant repetition of programs and cross platform advertising. I think that the controversy over the repetition of CSI programs on the History Channel speaks volumes about the private broadcaster's attitude towards specialty channels and Canadian content.

That said, I would be willing to pay an additional carriage fee (one set by the CRTC, not the inflated one set by the industry) to support local programming except for CBC/Radio-Canada's television's services. Those services should be offered free and be mandatory since we already pay for them through a parliamentary appropriation. We need a Canadian voice on the airwaves. In return CBC/Radio-Canada must provide balanced and comprehensive content in news and current affairs and 100% Canadian content in non-news programming. I should be able to access CBC/Radio-Canada stations from across the country as I can now. CBC should not receive carriage fees for their services from the service providers. I would add that CPAC should be mandatory as well.

In return, all other cable and satellite channels, including the CTV and Global main channels, must be unbundled. Consumers should be able to pick which channels they want. The private networks call for free enterprise when it suits them, government regulation when it suits them. They 'want it both ways'. They should operate under a totally free enterprise system where Canadians will decide if they want to watch one of the private channels. Then we will see how well they can do.

I would add that the CRTC can help this situation by not continually granting new licenses to the same corporate 'usual suspects'. A diversity of ownership in our broadcast media will result in more competition and I believe better service to Canadians.

Thanks for the opportunity to submit my thoughts on this issue.

[Flag](#) Like *WiMax* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The best way to support local television is to let the viewer decide. The CRTC, funded by ME the taxpayer, continuously stands in the way of allowing true innovation. Let local television and other operators do whatever they want - NO REGULATION! When that happens, the taxpayer can decide on what businesses that provide television should survive and which should not. The United States has no such market regulations and local television survives quite well. Until the Government of Canada abolishes the CRTC and over-regulation, local television cannot survive nor can cable and satellite because we the people refuse to pay any more money for poor

service and choice. LET THE CONSUMER DECIDE. ABOLISH THE CRTC.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Terence Cameron* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am totally opposed to having local TV charge a fee over and above whatever I pay for cable service. This question is completely misleading. The real problem is CTV and Global have grossly over-spend and now find themselves with insufficient revenues in a recession. It is not the consumer's fault and it is not the responsibility of the regulator to fix their stupidity. You've given the networks enough nationwide access and other freebies. Stay out out this dispute. If the networks have to close local TV stations in order to fix their own mess, so be it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Karen Sturton-Pollock* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable companies pay for other services on behalf of their cable clients I think they should pay to carry the local channel as well.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Billincalgary* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV and local programming fall under copyright law. I don't know of any other situation where people can rebroadcast copy written material and not have to pay for it.

When cable first started many years ago, the bulk of the programming was local TV and cable companies charged customers for viewing those stations. Thus I do not believe there is an argument to support the contention that if cable companies will have to increase their fees to compensate local TV companies - they have been collecting money for doing just that!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *tomas* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Its sooo much better if we could get HD channels for free like CBC, CTV, City TV etc...Channels what you usually get in toronto and mississauga for free via antenna. Cable is such a rip off! Strongly against paying for cable!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Naren_Pattani* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It would be very disappointing if the Regulator were to "make the consumers" pay more for Cable / Satellite TV services through the additional tax, even if it is for the Local TV, for following reasons:

1. If this were to be an imposed charge on the consumer, then the Regulator and the public must be able to regularly look at the business and the books of the Local TV networks. However, this is almost impossible since the consultants, lawyers, accountants, lobbyists, and the PR people from these companies are bound to play difficult about it, and we will never know what we are paying for, or if it is worth paying for it. The CRTC is also ill-equipped to monitor the "Cost of Service" of the Networks; and if the CRTC did attempt to do it, it would be another government beuraucracy that goes on expanding - adding even more to the cost.

2. The current service provided by Cable / Sattellite Service providers is already very expensive and very poor, especially in their pricing plans, billing, customer service. When they can get away with not even having an e-mail track of what they have agreed with the customer, and when it is mind-boggling to resolve billing matters with them, the CRTS should not now gift them with another billing item on which to confuse the customers. In fact, CRTC should ask them to clean up their tariff and billing systems even as it does NOT agree on additional Local

TV tax.

3. To the extent that Local Programming is good for our country, that should be encouraged through other means than the charges on a TV Bill. In the same way as the Government subsidises many other industries through tax breaks and direct subsidies from general revenues, the government can take direct responsibility for this. And, if they do a poor job, the elections will take care of it.

If the CRTC were to grant the wish of the Local TV companies, it should also force the cable / satellite companies to offer unbundled service so that a consumer can choose as few as three channels, for example.

Finally, to the CRTC: We, the harried public - that can barely keep up with the expenses, with the many issues that pop up everyday, and with the PR shennigans of finance types and lawyers - are relying on CRTC to do their job for US THE PUBLIC, foremost, and not for those that are accumulating decadent wealth.

Thank you.

Naren

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Glen W* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV is useless in Canada. Funding for it on cable would be a joke. They have no interest in quality Canadian programming, we have no interest in watching.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Starry* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. I don't watch much local TV news. By the time it comes on at night, I'm already in bed. So I would not miss it one iota. If I had to pay extra for cable, I would drop one of the bundles- I pay for the basic channels and two bundles. If the increase is too high, I would just go to the basic.

2. Don't really have any idea of what measures could be taken. I do agree that viewers should be able to pick and choose the channels they want. I ordered a bundle to get one channel (Space), but have to pay for 4 or 5 others I never watch. If viewers could pick and choose, it is quite probable that local stations would fold. But doesn't that happen in all business? If no one buys your product, you don't stay in business.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Garreth Wellington* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

This is just a scam run by CTV and Global. They have sucked on the gonads of American networks for too long, and now that they have outbid each other and raised the costs of all the American programming they buy, they need a bailout.

B-A-I-L-O-U-T

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dave Ruch* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am strongly against any additional fees to the cable/satellite service in order to provide "local" Canadian network coverage. They already gain by picking up many more viewers than they would have otherwise, hence greater advertising revenue. IF they are allowed to charge for their signals on cable/satellite, then subscribers should be able to choose whether or not they want to receive the channel and pay for it. This, i think might backfire on CTV and Global but at least it would give consumers the choice we deserve and the networks another cash cow to exploit-- if consumers actually value their service.

[Flag](#)

Like

*StanF* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) in reply to [Dave Ruch](#) 1 person liked this.

Nicely put.

The CRTC should enable all TV stations to succeed or fail based upon whether Canadians wish to subscribe to their content. Get rid of the "package" concept.

[Flag](#)

Like

*C.D* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

My money is my money. I am tired of the governments giving into big business and making the middle class in to the poor. i will NOT support tax money for TV . WE NEED HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION TO BE ON THE TOP! NO NO NO money for TV . If this is done we maybe no better than China or the old USSR. I beg you as a middle class tax payer that is starting to sink TO STOP THIS !!!!! I would cancel my cable and use my TV as a new coffee table.

[Flag](#)

Like

*A concerned Canadian* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

-Local TV is important - it conveys our culture, documents important events that affect Canadians not American. Do we really want our culture to blend in more with America's?

- I pay for a lot of garbage American stations that I never watch - boring!

- I was shocked to learn that our own TV industry does not receive revenue from cable companies.

-Please support local programing, we are unique as Canadians - let's keep our identity.

-Our local stations should not be closing down because of the Greed of cable/satellite companies, why do they pay American TV exclusively - local Canadian TV must be paid fees now and forever.

[Flag](#)

Like

*Norm* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Cable TV is very expensive. I can't believe how much it costs. I am opposed to paying any new fees, tax, or surcharge of any kind. Both the media outlets as well as cable companies realise they are doomed as we move towards customized content from the internet. I am sure this has been said by many others but I wanted to re-iterate my point.

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Like

*M.J. Tait* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

What's next, are we going to be asked to subsidize newsprint or other media outlets?

Maybe we should also look into covering the costs of Taxi Drivers repairs to their vehicles??????

Local TV, as with any business, need to adapt.

If they can't make a profit to survive, close the doors.

Have they considered reducing their expenses? What a brilliant concept that would be.

I firmly believe we already overpay for TV (cable or satellite), and just like many consumers have expressed, would either reduce or cancel my subscription.....to reduce 'my' costs (take a

hint local TV).

Let's face it, most of what the private broadcasters are showing...(and paying big dollars for), is US 'reality' programming.

The true reality is that these businesses are poorly managed. It's easier (and seemingly in vogue) to cry wolf to the CRTC (governments) rather than become efficient.

And for that reason.....I'm out !

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Like

 [7lyselapointe7](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm just waiting till after xmas to cancel my internet & cable, it's too expensive! & they want to destroy culture found only in local venues, that's where it starts...

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Like

 [7lyselapointe7](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm just waiting till after xmas to cancel both internet & cable...it was cheap entertainment but now I can go out & do things at reasonable prices...the internet & cable are too expensive...& the big companies are too greedy so much so that they're willing to compromise our dignity & self respect by destroying our culture where it begins in small communities...

[Flag](#)

Like

 [lucy](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would have to cancel my cable if they start making us pay, when we lose cable we still have our local channels to watch and with that we still can get the news and our TV shows. 2. We need to get everyone involved, such as newspaper, media, advertisement on buses and posters on telephone poles.

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Like

 [jennifer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1) Local TV is very important to me. Local news, issues and concerns are broadcasted on local TV and it should continue to exist. Cable and satellite TV should have to pay to support these stations, when they are being carried.

2) I don't think the consumer should have to pay - cable charges are already very high

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 [M Fletcher](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I feel local TV stations should be compensated for programming based on the amount of content produced locally. Repeater stations get nothing, stations that create local news, entertainment and sports programming win!

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Like

 [Steve](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Just let us pick what channels we want to pay for each month and I bet this whole problem goes away really fast. I do not want to be told I must purchase a tier or bundle because someone at the CRTC thinks I need a certain amount of Cancon each day or I'm not Canadian. Just because it's Canadian doesn't make it local. I wanted to watch civic election results on my local TV and they had CSI on it. Great work CRTC.

If people want the channel they will buy it, if not it simply goes away.

I say we all buy bunny rabbit ears for local tv and I'll be more than happy to pay for Direct TV out of the US.

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Like



pacificlady ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local Tv is very important to me and many other Canadians for without it, we would not know what is happening within our own community. I pay cable fees for local TV and that should be adequate, especially since I am a senior citizen, and like many other Canadians, I am on a limited income and cannot afford to pay any more for the service. The cable & satellite companies should continue to include more local stations and include more Canadian content in their basic service. I would not be willing to pay more for this service no matter what as I am Canadian and deserve to view Canadian content before any foreign content appears on the screen. Canadians seem to know less about their own country and more about other nations and this should be the other way round. Canada, as a great nation, has many great and wonderfully produced shows and networks whether locally or nationally, so lets keep it that way. Lets keep Canada Canadian> (If I have to pay more, I will cancel, and perhaps others will too) That would cause alot of unemployment, affect the industry and those that depend on it for a livelihood. Have a great day fellow Canadians.

[Flag](#)

Like



louisn ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Here's the bottom line: Over the air (OTA) channels are free to air. Anyone with an antenna can watch for free. I do not understand why Cable/Satellite viewers should be penalized (discriminated) against?

Reality check here: Cable is doing the OTA Channels a service. Cable increases OTA Channels audience. Think of the number of people that can get 5 out of 10 channels very clear, 3 fair and the last 2 poorly. If it's that poor, people won't watch the channel but with Cable that channel reaches more. And Digital doesn't solve it. The 3 fair channels will become clear but the 2 poor channels disappear. At the end of the day, Cable is grabbing a free signal and is expanding that channels reach. The equipment used to offer this service is offered free to the OTA channel which I have proven benefits the OTA channel.

But lets discuss what I believe will happen if OTA channels can charge. First and foremost, that channel will have to lose their right to Must Carry. If Cable passes on the deal (figuring there are tons of other channels still available), the OTA channels loses viewers, which means advertizing revenue, which ultimately jeopardizes their very existence. Since the OTA channels are pushing forward, this tells me, they are arrogant enough to believe that the additional revenue can be had with no fall out, meaning that Must Carry will continue and Cable has no option. So to the CRTC I say everyone should have the right to pass on a business deal. It has to be Must Carry or a Fee based option. Now let's push this envelop farther. OTA gets whatever they want for a Fee signal and Cable has to pay the fee which certainly will get passed on the consumer. I submit that this will only encourage a more vibrant Grey Market and also encourage a stronger Black Market. The simple fact is that Canadians perceive American TV as superior to Canadian TV. Given this perception I predict a stronger Grey Market. I am sure I do not have to expand on how that will hurt OTA channels, cable channels as well as advertisers who will lose on their reach.

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Tony ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I believe local TV is important, and am willing to pay for some channels, however asking me to pay then forcing those channels into current basic TV packages will simply result in increased rates for cable & satellite TV. I am not willing to pay more than I currently do today to get the exact same set of channels, most of which I do not want. As a consumer I would like to have choice in the channels I pay for, on an individual basis.

I realize local channels cannot easily compete against major networks. I believe the best way to support local television is to have cable/satellite providers package local channels together, then offer these as the low cost basic package. Everything else should be an individual add-on - National, International, specialty or special-interest channels. In this way the local channels become the baseline that everyone has, and everything else competes in the free market.

Local channels may not have the perceived value of a major US network, however taken together as a group of 4 or 5 channels, I believe people will see the value of continuing to have them.

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Like

 *BLH* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Local television is extremely important to me, as a Canadian who lives far away from the media hub of Toronto and its strange culture. However, I would strongly oppose any increase in the cost of basic service because the cable companies have gouged customers since deregulation on August 23, 2002. In my case, in Vancouver, Shaw has raised the monthly rate from \$19.26 at that time to \$33.95 as of April 1, 2009 -- a whopping increase of 71.31 percent! The entry-level basic cable service from Shaw now costs over \$400 a year, which is far from "basic." There has been little if any improvement in the quality of cable service during this period. In fact, Shaw cut local programming that had been available under Rogers when they swapped territories. In short, the cable companies have already made huge profits from their virtually monopolistic positions in local markets and can well afford to pay fees to the local broadcasters, without passing along the cost to customers. Enough is enough!

2. Local television stations should be allowed charge the cable companies for distributing their programs PROVIDED THAT AT THE SAME TIME BASIC CABLE SERVICE IS RE-REGULATED BY THE CRTC. De-regulation has not fostered real competition among cable companies at the community level and has put local television into jeopardy -- quite the opposite result than intended by CRTC in 2002!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Steph* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable bills are way too expensive right now. It makes me sick that cable companies would sooner keep jacking up their already overpriced services rather than pay what they should to Local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Gordon T Stoodley* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We have satellite TV and for the most part enjoy it very much. I don't know what Canadian companies are paying for US TV, but as far as I'm concerned you can take off all the American feeds, especially CNN and the news channels. They report nothing only American related news and when they are short on that they beat the hell out of their own stories.

I know one thing they certainly have reached the saturation point and beyond on TV advertising. A lot of younger people have given up on TV and go to the internet for their news. They just can't take the advertising any more.

As for local TV programming we would certainly not want to lose it. However a large increase in fees would cause many to give up on cable and sat programming.

Thanking you

yours truly

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Like

 *garyferris* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Hey ... maybe we will see more antennas (antennae?) sprouting up to replace cable and satellite. In the area where I live I can probably get a good cross section of Canadian (perhaps not CBC but thats no big loss) and US stations and all it will cost me is the price of an antenna and a digital receiver - which is a bonus since with the basic cable package I don't get digital imagery!!! Goodbye CABLE ... hello "free" TV. And if the broadcasters want more money from us ... then I expect less advertising on their programs.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *peekabo0* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to garyferris](#)

OTA is definitely better than cable PERIOD! No simsubs, NO monthly fees, NO add'l signal compression, you can't get that on cable, or satellite.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *jimquelph* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to peekabo0](#) 1 person liked this.

This is a viable option if you live in, or very near, a major border city. Cable or satellite would be a desirable reception medium if you were able to choose, and pay for at a reasonable price, only the specific channel that you wish to watch. The current method of forcing users to pay for channels they have no interest in just to get one they want should be prohibited by the CTRC.

Even many of the current "basic" channels are of no interest to the majority of viewers yet they are forced to pay additional fees when they were added to the basic service. the Womens network and Aboriginal TV are examples. This is a tax on many to satisfy a very few.

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Like

 *garywalker* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Being in a condo I have no access to satellite TV. I am forced to subscribe to Rogers dismal service. I can't choose the channels I actually want - this would number around 5 including the two PBS channels which I already send donations to. I notice that Rogers subscribes to the "stop the tax" propaganda all over the TV, radio and newspapers. It is the likes of Rogers that should absorb any extra charges.

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Like

 *peekabo0* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to garywalker](#)

I agree with you 100%. I also sympathize as I too live in a condo where Robers is the ONLY choice. Despite that they flood our mailboxes with ads for their TV services including some telling us to NOT choose BellTV, as if we could anyway!

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Like

 *Phil* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Not paying at all.. The programing supplied by stations such as CTV or Global is crap. They then piggy back on US programing to which when they do there hijacking of a US feed, we get ripped off with the quality of the picture in hi deff. What right does the CRTC have to do this? If I want to watch a US feed I will do it. I don't need any agency telling me what channels I can watch and can not. If I want to watch the crappy canadian content I will as well. What country are we living in Russia, China.. This is BS

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Like

 *almurphy* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I abhor the inflexibility of my cable TV at present. If the cable company is forced to pay money to local TV, and then they pass the tax onto their customers, then I prepared to cancel my cable subscription.

I believe local TV are crying wolf. I'm not sure which party is telling the truth here. I really don't know who to believe. The cable companies are saying they are already paying into a fund and the local TV providers are saying they're not. If the cable companies are, in fact, pay into a fund, where does that money go? I need clarification.

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 *stevethompson* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to almurphy](#)

almurphy, cable/satellite already pay more than 5% of their revenues into a fund. Maybe the fund needs to be divided up differently.

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Like

 *almurphy* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to stevethompson](#)

Thank you for this clarification. It would seem, according to Local TV, that the cable/satellite are taking signals 'scot free.' Nice to know this is not fact. I can't comment on the distribution of the revenues since I don't know how they are divided.

Thanks.

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Like

 *6842849* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Under no circumstances should the TV networks be allowed to collect more money from the Canadian viewer. For years they have done only the basic requirements laid out in their licenses (the license hearings, BTW, have been a joke and essentially a process where renewal was expected and always given). These networks have ignored the Canadian public for years. They used their money to buy the American schlock and force feed the Canadian public, gaining millions over the years from the resulting advertising revenue. They purposely did as little as possible Canadian programming. When they did, the production values were so low that Canadian programming has become immediately recognizable and viewed with derision. - how many times have you heard someone say "oh, this must be a Canadian show" . These broadcasters put as little production value as possible into their feeble attempts at programming, all done in an effort to say to the CRTC- "look at what we did for the viewer since our last license hearing". A joke that the CRTC played along with for years. All they were doing was "selling soap" - forget about meaningful programming. Look back at the revenue that Global and CTV took out of the regions of Canada over the years and look back at the disgusting wages paid to their executives while local programming was non-existent. They put NOTHING back. Now that the ad. revenue landscape has changed there is no way we should support their lifestyles.

The CBC is another story. We contribute close to a billion dollars a year for their inflated salaries, redundancies and waste. Then you let them compete with the private networks for advertising revenue.! Why can't they do the job with a billion bucks? If they need more they should do what PBS does and go on air and ask for donations!

In my view these "canadian" programmers should be required to do some real programming which reflects Canada to Canadians. OR get off the pot

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Like

 *jgmack* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I just got my Rogers bill with a notice that states I have to pay 1.5% of my television bill as an

LPIF. That stands for Local Programming Improvement Fund. It also states that Rogers is required to do this and that they will be passing this cost onto its customers. I find the whole thing disgusting! Although it doesn't amount to much now, you can be sure this amount will increase every year. What a rip off! Why should I have to pay for bad television that I don't even watch? An Improvement Fund! I do not believe for one minute that this cash grab is going to improve the quality of television in this country. This is so very wrong!

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Like



Dianne ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I will not pay more for my cable. I don't really care about local TV or Canadian content. 95% of what I watch is on the US channels, and I resent that Can. channels over-ride the signal, preventing us from seeing not only the commercials, but also promos for other US programming that I watch. If this horrible TAX is approved I will just cancel my cable and watch my favorite shows online. I feel that we should be able to pay for just the channels that we want... with no over-rides. As for what I would pay for on the Can. line-up.. only an all news channel. I think it is time for the CRTC to admit that it fails the consumers miserably, and bow out!! It is time to give us what we want, and for me, that is US channels with a clean feed.

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Like



Bob ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

If we are to pay extra for local programming we should have the option of choosing the channels we want and only paying for them. Right now Bell bundles channels and I am forced to take channels I really don't want. It's time the consumer started to have a say in what we buy. If one wants to have access to sports you are forced to have either a satellite or cable provider. There are limited providers and because of this the providers seem to take the attitude - take our bundles or go without. The focus should be on what the consumer wants not what the provider wants to give us or not what the CRTC thinks we should have

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jamesrdown ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Firstly, I would have to say that if there was no off air TV available in Canada, the networks might have a case. They don't.

I get CBC, CTV, Global and CHCH TV all off the air and in Hi Def. So until they take themselves off air become only available on cable ,they are responsible for their advertising revenue to pay for their TV content. Capitalism at it's best. Just look at CHCH TV in Hamilton. A major change would you not say.

Why not open up the airwaves to say Direct TV. It makes just as much sense to do this as make the people locked into cable, to pay for Canadian off air networks. Shut down all off air broadcasts and then put the 'save the network' tax in.

Otherwise, let Capitalism reign.

James R Down

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Like



Rudy M ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local television is important. If I live outside of a major city (ie Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver etc), I don't want to see that city's local newscasts. I want to see what is important to me, not someone hundreds or thousands of kilometers away.

That being said, it's nothing but complete horses-assery that makes the cable companies think that they can charge me to view these local channels. Rogers/Bell/Cogeco etc. want to receive these broadcasts *for free* from the local broadcasters and then charge the end-users to receive them. What sort of business model is that?!? "We pay nothing for it, add no value to it

(in fact, detract value by adding annoying commercials), and want you to pay us for it." It's like me farting, then making a scoop with my hands and pushing the air in your direction... and then trying to charge you because you need to breathe to live.

I love those stupid commercials they've been running on TV: "...collectively the big networks made \$400 million last year" or whatever the number is. What they fail to point out in the commercials is that Rogers ALONE made over \$1 BILLION in operating profits in 2008 (http://www.rogers.com/web/Rogers.portal?_nfpb=t...).

Boggles the mind that they're trying to portray an entire industry that has collectively made \$400million as being greedy when a single cable entity made 3x as much!

To answer the two questions directly:

1) I would cancel my television subscription and download whatever it is I want to watch. SANS COMMERCIALS!

2) The suggested measure makes perfect sense. However, the CRTC needs to enforce that this added fee MUST be paid for by the cable companies, and not passed to the consumer in any way, shape or form. If the cable companies want to charge for this added "service" the CRTC should mandate that the cable companies MUST unbundle their services and charge for channels individually.

Flag

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Baffled ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

If CTV cared about "local" and Canada as much as they pretend to, then why is their schedule chalked-full of American shows?

Flag

Like



BRIAN ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

1. I WOULD OPT OUT OF CABLE AND IMPORT A US DISH SYSTEM 2. LOCAL TV SHOULD BE LOCAL, NOT USING REVENUE TO PURCHASE US SHOWS EXCLUSIVE BROADCAST RIGHTS TO CANADA, WHICH IS WHAT THEY WANT THE EXTRA MONEY FOR.

Flag

Like



Barry ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

Have we forgotten what free enterprise is all about? The networks are struggling with infrastructure cost and reduced advertising and yet they continue to invest in programming for Canadians to watch. They have a "right" to profit from their efforts and it should be their "right" to charge for their signal as it is the "right" of all Canadians to pay or not. We have been spoiled by continuing with outdated business practices that used to allow homes to receive the signal free with an antenna. Times have changed. The CRTC should allow the networks to sell their signal.

Flag

Like



J K ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable package as the only channels I routinely watch are local ones which broadcast over the air in HD.
2. Ensuring that only quality content is produced instead of this terrible "cancon" where we fund and generate laughable, horrible, cheap looking content that appeals to the lowest common denominator.

Flag

Like

 [cd](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

We are currently paying cable service providers for content they are getting for free. They absolutely should be required to pay content providers ('local TV broadcasters' or otherwise) for signals that they wish to re-sell to consumers.

Fellow consumers - don't be duped into thinking this is a 'tax' or that the cable companies necessarily need to flow this cost to consumers - you are already paying the cable providers for this programming! Why should the cable service providers be entitled to free ride off of content providers? If you are concerned about the value you are getting from cable service providers, take it out on the cable companies not on the content providers who aren't getting a penny of the money you are paying for their programming.

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 [peekabo0](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to cd](#)

I agree 100%!

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[Like](#)

 [ogstonb](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I would refuse to pay for the local chanel and if that was the only way to get the cable I would cancel that. I would also consider moving to another province that did not have you pay for local tv. Especially now that I am near retirement.

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 [johnvn](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I do not wish to pay additional money to receive local stations via cable or satellite. Cable and satellite actually expand the audience of the over the air broadcasters affording them larger profits from advertising. Most local stations are actually making profits but a large part of their expenditures is on American programming. Why should I play for a Canadian station to rebroadcast what's available from American stations?

What should be done to support local TV is to stop the simultaneous commercial substitution (sim sub) for American TV shows shown on Canadian TV. This prevents Canadian stations from producing Canadian programming which is different from what is available from the American stations. Without sim sub Canadian stations would be encouraged to attract Canadian viewers based on Canadian programming that's relevant to Canadians. This could bring more viewers to the local stations and more revenue. In other words it would stop Canadian stations from being lazy and relying on American programming. There would exist competition amongst the Canadian networks to attract audiences to their stations based on Canadian programming. This simply is capitalism.

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 [davetrautman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to johnvn](#)

I don't think you are clear on Simultaneous Substitutions. When a Canadian channel is showing the same program and episode of some show at the same time as a U.S. station is showing that episode then the US channel is removed for the duration of the show. This prevents a local store from being able to buy cheaper advertising space on a US affiliate. Competition between Canadian advertisers must be protected by closing this door to unfair access. So if you know that a show will always be blocked by the Canadian equivelant broadcast you would gain no advantage from buying space on the 'covered up' station.

Capitalism must be seen to be fair in order to benefit everyone. Unfair advantages tip the playing field and open doors to abuse.

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Like



Mr. James Brady ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

1--I would cancel my cable. Why should we be charged 2x for the same service?

2--Although commercials are a necessary evil, they should pay for the channel time they will be on.

Canadians are supposed to be nice but you push our buttons too long and we will retaliate.

Flag

Like



Loren ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

If I were asked to pay for local television on top of what I am already paying in subscriber fees, I would also cancel the service immediately.

The current mandatory inclusion of the local television feeds in a basic subscription means that any additional charges for these signals would in effect be an access tax, which must be paid in order to access the medium.

You cannot mask a tax by turning its collection over to a private interest, and if the broadcasters wish to sell their signals, the consumer must have a right to decline the product.

All Canadians, myself included, are overtaxed and over-regulated in all areas of human endeavour, and in television broadcasting both the quality and audience for Canadian content has not been improved by decades of subsidization and market policing.

By contrast, the products of the Canadian music industry are quite competitive worldwide, as these performers must compete in the near absence of governmental handouts.

It's time to take a hard look at reducing Canadian media subsidization, regulation and protectionism.

Flag

Like



Karen ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

I completely agree with charging cable companies a fee for carriage for local television stations. Local television is extremely important to areas outside of Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. We have a large country and everyone should be able to get community updates via television. I think cable companies should not be passing these fees onto the consumer. Do they forget that they own their own local Television stations as well? So ultimately they would be charging the consumer to pay for their own channels (OMNI, Rogers Cable, CITY TV etc.) among others. I also want to point out that each year I receive a letter in the mail (I have been both a customer of Rogers and Bell) notifying me of an increase in my cable service. Every year I receive this letter and each time I think to myself, what the heck am I getting for this increase, the answer is NOTHING. I get nothing. They frequently rearrange my channels and repackage them so that I no longer get the channels I want and yet I am paying more? I think its high time they paid up, they have had a free run for far too long! CTV, GLOBAL and CBC give the consumer what they want to see Rogers does not give me what I want or need out of TV and to pay more for that is crazy.

Flag

Like



Ruth May Mugford ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

Without doubt the obligation for the cable & satellite companies is TO PAY the local tv networks. Cable companies such as Rogers have long benefited by selling the programming of local networks to the public for no real charge to themselves. Their profits have been astronomical, while the networks have been steadily loosing money due to changing times.

To permit the cable companies to continue not paying is akin to allowing people to attend a

movie but not pay the actors, the producers, the extra's etc. It just isn't fair, however, nor is it fair to allow the cable companies to add extra charge to consumers for a service they have already been paying for all this time. The fact that the cable companies got away with this all this time should not grant them the privilege to charge extra money as the consumers (me) will not be receiving any extra service!

Your decision is a difficult one and I truly hope that in the end it recognizes both the rights of the local tv networks and the general public.

Thank You
Ruth May Mugford
Flag

Like

 *mobilehowie* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

1. I would cancel local services.
2. If the hundreds of millions weren't spent on American television, the networks might be able to afford to pay for local broadcasting. Also, extremely high costs of personalities and executives are eating away at any advertising revenue available.

If the current system of television broadcasting isn't working, don't increase prices. Change the system.

Flag

Like

 *Grumpy Bear* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

My reaction would be a resounding no way! We have only ever had ONE "local" news cast and that is from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Whom is getting my tax dollar already. The other "local" broadcaster has fed us the local news from a city 2 hours away.

A product that the local advertises would be interested in supporting.

Flag

Like

 *wabbitswayer* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

I think that the cable companies have been overcharging their customers for years and their profit margins are already extravagant. Having said this, I feel Cable companies should have been paying for local signals for years now and should be made to pay them retroactively and without a price increase to cable subscribers. We customers have been screwed over enough already by these monopolies and enough is enough. The cable companies make as much annual profit as the banks, and now they're advertising about another price increase in the form of a tax, well I say screw the tax and screw the cable companies, do what is right and make them pay for a change without allowing another rate increase to the customers again. You can label me " Tired of overpriced cable and lousy programming "

Flag

Like

 *angry_voter* :-(★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

I've also cancelled my cable service due to excessive ly high prices, excessive number of commercials, poor channel selection and bad service. In my opinion, Canadians are being exploited by unethical monopolies that have perverted the market in order to generate undeserved profits and avoid any actual responsibility for their actions.

Flag

Like

 *Isilvester* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

The cable and satellite companies should pay for local TV out of their current profit.

Not pass the cost onto Customers

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[Like](#)



Karen ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I completely agree with charging cable companies a fee for carriage for local television stations. Local television is extremely important to areas outside of Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. We have a large country and everyone should be able to get community updates via television. I think cable companies should not be passing these fees onto the consumer. Do they forget that they own their own local Television stations as well? So ultimately they would be charging the consumer to pay for their own channels (OMNI, Rogers Cable, CITY TV etc.) among others. I also want to point out that each year I receive a letter in the mail (I have been both a customer of Rogers and Bell) notifying me of an increase in my cable service. Every year I receive this letter and each time I think to myself, what the heck am I getting for this increase, the answer is NOTHING. I get nothing. They frequently rearrange my channels and repackage them so that I no longer get the channels I want and yet I am paying more? I think its high time they paid up, they have had a free run for far too long! CTV, GLOBAL and CBC give the consumer what they want to see Rogers does not give me what I want or need out of TV and to pay more for that is crazy.

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herschl ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I watch television about 6 hours a week & because of the different stations I view I have to get a VIP package that costs \$140 for 2 months. My cable company constanly seems to be raising the monthly rate for no aparant reason. Let me pick the stations I want & charge an appropriate rate. There doesn't seem to be an answer to the pay for coverage situation, the stations pick up views when carried on cable, this audience gives them the opportunity to charge for the progams to advertiser. Without cable they wouldn't get the rates for some of the top shows that they do now. The cable companys don't want to pay for something they can get for free over the air.

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Timus3 ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Canadians pay way too much for this service already. Paying more will cause people to cancel.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



mitchellbrogan ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I already pay lots(\$100+\$10 for HD per month) for my satellite signal. I have everything Bell offers yet only perhaps watch Sportsnet (Flames), TSN (Flames), CBC, CTV, NBC, CBS and occassionally FOX. My son will watch Comedy Central, Discovery and Geography. He used to watch more but any longer due Xbox Live. The reason I only watch these channels the timing is right and if I going looking a show to watch by the time I find something it is half over. Part of this my fault for subscribing to so much but at the same time the only way to get some of the channels it to pay for an entire package. I feel that I subside a lot of speciality channels that I will never watch but have to have them in order to see the one channel I do want. I think it would be much better if I could chose the specific channels I want and just pay for them. Then the cable and Satelite companies could pay the channel their fair share. If I chose to select Calgary local channels they should get paid for me wanting them. If no one was willing to pay for a specific channel then why should it be broadcast. I am fed up with carriers and the way they deliver their service.

[Flag](#)

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Jennifer L ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. If I was asked to pay more I would cancel my cable services ASAP.

2. I'm not sure of a fool-proof measure, but any "solution" that ends in me paying more, whether it is a "tax" or not, will result in my cable services being canceled.

[Flag](#)

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Jeff Bowman ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I have chosen to use an antenna to access the High Definition signals now available. I feel that cable charges are far too expensive. How long does the consumer have to keep paying for infrastructure that has been in place for over 25 years?

I get my local news from the online newspaper. I do not watch television news. I do get a lot of my news from the radio as well both in the car and at home.

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James ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I would cancel or at the very least scale back my Shaw service dramatically if there are going to be more increases. At present, I already pay well over \$120/month for cable and internet access. This is a truly abhorrent cost borne by consumers, while Shaw, Rogers et al are making huge profits. We should have a REASONABLE basic cable package available - 10-13 channel for say \$9.95 and then we could pick and choose what we want from there.

[Flag](#)

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barbarahudson ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

As far as I'm concerned, local TV is piggybacking on the cable network. I get CBS, NBC, and PBS (American channels) directly off the air in hi-def (1080p as well as 2 to 3 sub-channels) with a cheap indoor antenna - I can't get local programming from either CTV or CBC anywhere nearly as clearly, and I refuse to subscribe to cable for what, in the case of CTV, is just a simulcast of CBS or NBC.

"Local programming" on CTV is a joke, and has been for more than a decade. I don't miss it - like almost everyone I know, I get my news (even local) off the Internet.

Both networks have the option of moving up their date for over-the-air broadcasts if they don't want to benefit from the requirement of cable companies to carry their signals as part of basic service, but right now, and for the foreseeable future, they need the cable carrier more than the cable carrier needs them.

As for myself, I'll be buying a second indoor antenna to pick up ABC. When CTV and CBC begin broadcasting in hi-def over the air, I'll take a look - in the meantime, given the poor quality of what passes for "local content", I don't think I'm missing much.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



M. Jean Benson ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

About Local TV - I do not have any available as I live 100 km from the closest City station and it is not even available to me I don't believe. That is Red Deer. I pay a lot now for my TV and I am a Senior Citizen. It is the only entertainment I have as I am in an isolated very small village. I thought when I subscribed to satellite TV that everything was covered, and as I said, it is already expensive. Here are other items: Some of what I pay should definitely be going to support our local stations, (Until all this 'news' erupted I thought the local stations were getting some of my money) especially for people who are isolated like me.

Some of what we pay to Cable and Satellite companies definitely should go to Local Stations. I have had increases on the Cable and Satellite bills every year since I got it here over 7 years ago. My Satellite Co has just been taken over by some other company, so I expect another increase any day - nothing ever goes down but our cost of living keeps increasing - not easy for a pensioner!!

Canadian TV stations should not have to be closing down like at least one Station in Manitoba

has had to do.

If stations are closing because they can't afford to stay on the air, then let that be US stations and SPORTS stations. Do we really need so many channels catering to all the sports? - if we had one that featured figure skating, I would be ecstatic!!

When we as Canadians have to pay to support US stations, that is not fair, and maybe that is where cuts should be made, if it comes to that.

Thank you for your time and for listening to one person who is already hurting with all the bills I have.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bill Hubbard ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Doesn't it seem odd that APTN has been placed in the 'basic' bundles of service providers, but at the same time, get a fee for carriage per every household? If they're a basic service, they should not get the fees, but would flounder if they didn't. The same is true of local television stations. With so much fragmentation of the market, the advertising dollars must be spread further, so a fee for their services should be paid by the cable companies that currently access their content for free. Think for a moment about how much money the cable operators make from their subscription fees that pay for what? No programming - unless you want to call the community access drive they pump out programming. (party on Garth). They sub-contract their repair and tech services (that's a joke), so a majority of costs can be written-off. Even if they were to pay \$5.00 per subscriber back to local television, they would still be making obscene profits. Cable & Satellite providers are like banks. A lot of input \$\$, with very little effort and very little going back out.

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Like



alex ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

If I'm forced to pay for these local stations that I don't want, I will be cancelling my cable and getting an illegal satellite. I WILL NEVER PAY THIS TAX.

[Flag](#)

Like



TOM ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I feel that I already pay too much for my television channels and I will not accept an increase in fees no matter what is decided. I will cancel some of my channels and use my rabbit ear t.v. to watch local channels.

By the way, if the local and cable channels are in such a need of money how come they can afford to spend so much on their commercials that we seem to be bombarded with since a couple of months telling us how poor that they are.

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Like



dubyaTO ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I am absolutely fed-up with Rogers, Bell and others taking advantage of a feeble regulator like the CRTC to gouge consumers for services that are available in other countries at dramatically lower rates.

Additionally, I don't watch local television - so if it were to disappear, I would likely not miss it much. Local broadcasters spend exorbitant amounts on television shows from the United States that I have no interest in watching - why would I wish to pay for that?

Rogers and Bell I feel are to blame for the consumers' current plight. They have essentially been awarded a monopoly on television, internet, and mobile data services and the CRTC has done nothing to shield consumers from predatory pricing and marketing tactics.

I do not see the value in what I pay for the services I currently receive - a price increase would likely encourage me to obtain media through "pirate" outlets or illegally rebroadcast programs online.

When Rogers and Bell are forced to divulge precisely WHAT consumers are being charged for, and WHY, we might well find that local companies ARE being exploited by the various cable providers in the same ways that consumers are constantly being squeezed.

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Like



Al McKinnon ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I do not want to pay extra for local tv. As it is now the way cable companies bundle packages I have to pay for eight channels in languages I do understand. Fees are too high now need to decrease not increase

[Flag](#)

Like



Dan ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. I would cut back on my cable costs. I pay too much already today and with my recent job loss I would be forced to pay cable LESS money than I do today. That would be the catalyst to make the change. I would keep local channels option and cut back on optional channels until DTV is available for free.

2. Ratings indicate that while viewership is down, most people still watch local channels especially at news time. More and more PVR options are available so traditional ad revenue will drop as people skip the ads. If cable can give CNN \$ per subscriber then they should pay for ALL channels (incl local) as well as long as subscribers have options to select any channel they want and delete the ones they don't. Adding more ads or integrating ads into the content will only turn me off of the local channels even more. The local channels need to be compensated but must be competitive and efficient. So, perhaps ratings based compensation vs per subscriber could help, that way if nobody is watching, they get no money. I know that is not a great idea for small market channels so there would have to be some balance funding available.

Bottom line - Cable costs are way too high and there is no justification for continued rate increases considering their profit margins. They should pay for all content just as I have to and I should have a better choice of channels I want and don't want to pay for. There should be more competition in content delivery. Cable & satellite infrastructure should be separate from content delivery companies so that I can choose to have any company provide content to me via cable or satellite. Hopefully, that would create a bit of competition but unfortunately based on my gas bill we would be seeing a lot of extra fees and no real savings to the consumer.

[Flag](#)

Like



N. Katsios ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The current state of local television in Canada is horrendous to say the least. Most stations do not fit the definition of 'local' in my humble opinion as they do not air any Local content outside of news. For a station to truly serve the community its licensed for it MUST air relative local programming which for me involves programming other than local news. How about some lifestyle programs, talkshows, coverage of local events or local sports teams. The audience is there (ex. popularity of Cityline, local lifestyle program on CITY-TV Toronto) and I believe a station that airs more local programming than foreign would be successful in this country, contrary to what the conglomerates (Canwest & CTV) have to say. I want local television that is more community focused and run locally then the current corporate model we have now where all stations air the same content across the board except for local news- YES I AM TALKING ABOUT YOU CTV!!

I do not support a fee for local TV unless the Commission can GUARANTEE that this fee will not be passed on to consumers and that the money raised through this fee will go to the production of Canadian programming. Thus far I have not heard anything at all from the conglomerates on where this money would be spent, so why bother to give them more money if they are just going to spend it on the acquisition of more foreign programming?! If CTV & Canwest are losing money on local television then perhaps they should look in the mirror as the reason their networks lose money is because they are poorly run. Also if this business is no longer profitable then they should do all Canadians a favour and GET OUT of the Conventional TV business and

give someone else a shot at running a conventional network. Local TV does better when run by smaller, independent broadcasters- case in point CHCH Hamilton which is more successful under Channel Zero leadership then when it was run by the conglomerate Canwest.

My suggestion is for the creation of a smaller, locals-only basic package that is also much more affordable then the current basic package. All money raised through the subscription of this package should go directly to the conventional networks thus negating the need for FFC, Value for signal or whatever its being called today.

In addition, mandatory subscription to the basic package should be dropped, this policy is outdated and contrary to the Commission's stated goal of creating a broadcasting industry that is driven by market forces and less reliant on regulation.

Flag

Like

 *Fed up* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Cable/satellite companies charge us to view the local channels, so why should they receive them for free?

Just another example of the telecom companies using their duopoly to screw the consumer.

Flag

Like

 *Canon_W_Thomas* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

If asked to pay more for what cable companies receive free, I would immediately join whichever political party advocated for strict regulation of cable/satellite fees for service and actively pursue their implementation.

Local television news and coverage is as vital as national coverage, and should be an obligatory requirement of all signal delivery systems. And i would not object to paying a reasonable price for such delivery.

Flag

Like

 *Darryl* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

When I signed up for my tV service I assumed I was already paying for local tV, as it was one of the packages within, so I would be extremely pissed if I had to pay more. The cost of cable and satellite in this country is already out of line.

I think the cable companies and satellite providers should be sharing the fee they receive, in order to support local TV

Flag

Like

 *Darlene* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Darryl](#)

I agree with Darryl - I think everyone should be able to watch local TV channels and that the Cable and satellite providers should include it in their budget. We pay a large sum of money monthly to Cable and satellite providers so they should be able to include local channels in their budget without charging users any more than we are paying now.

Flag

Like

 *Alan Eugeni* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The issue is actually quite simple. When the current local TV - cable arrangement was created in the 1960s, we did not have a digital environment with 500 channels. Local TV was happy to "give away" its signal to cable companies in return for access to more audiences. Canadians were happy to pay for cable and obtain crystal clear channels immune to the vagaries of analog transmissions. This setup was a win-win-win: Local TV got more viewers (and could charge more to advertisers), cablecos got "free" content that they could sell to subscribers, and subscribers

were happy to pay a few dollars a month for crystal clear signals. Everyone was happy.

Today, advertisers have left local TV in droves, finding other sources of advertising, leaving local TV with its high overheads and less revenue. Cablecos now offer a 500 channel product offering, of which local TV is only a small part. And Canadian viewers can actually obtain a better 720p signal with over-the-air digital TV broadcasts on a cheap VHF antenna compared to the degraded cableco signals. The win-win-win situation of the 1960s is no longer the case.

Local TV providers have a product worth something. If their distribution strategy once included "giving it away" to the cablecos, that is no longer the case today. Cablecos CANNOT demand that the CRTC force local TV to give them their signal for free simply because it once made economic sense. They must pay for it, just like they pay for all other channels they carry.

And Canadians deserve MUCH MORE choice from their cablecos, who have so far been happy simply selling expensive packages which contain only two or three channels a consumer wishes. The digital era is here. There is no reason why Canadians cannot create an "a la carte" channel package from their cableco, paying ONLY for the channels they wish. The cablecos have acted as FAT CATS for years with the blessing of the CRTC. The CRTC's mandate is to safeguard the interests of Canadians, NOT the interests of the cable industry.

Message to the CRTC: DO YOUR JOB!

[Flag](#)

Like



[SamanthaMitchell](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am a college student and spending money on satellite services is getting to be a little expensive. I am already at the max amount that I can pay, and I worry that with a new tax added on I will no longer be able to afford T.V. I do not want to lose local t.v. its a way for me to keep up with local events and fundraisers. I like knowing what is happening on around me. Its very important for me to know about things such as break n enters, possible rapists. Without my local T.V station I may never have heard about a man in my area that was using his car to pick up and rape unsuspecting women walking home at night from the bar. I let everyone know that came to visit me what was going on. Me or my sister could have been a target had we not known what was happening.

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Like



[ICPM](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. TV and radio were expected to have a business model based on revenue derived from advertising, not subscription fees, and it should continue this way.
2. Local TV is really the News programs, a couple of hours in the morning and a couple in the evening. The rest is braodcasting of material developed elsewhere. If all those minutes of advertising (18 to 24/hr) can't pay for local tv, then drop some programming.

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Like



[96Brigadier](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Whenever I am asked to pay for something I ask myself "Am I going to receive the value for my dollar that I expect?" In respect to local television, the answer is a resounding ABSOLUTELY NOT! What is it that they bring to the table? Breakfast television? Local news? All of the programs that are worth watching are on the major networks, they aren't a product of local television stations. Nothing that local television provides is worth me spending more money on it.

Local television has a business model of charging for advertising, if their business model is broken it is not up to me to fix it for them. Either they adapt or they go out of business, just like everyone else. Asking me to pay for their broken business model is a non-starter.

Finally, I blame YOU Mr. CRTC for our high fees, lack of competition, and all around crappy Canadian television. The US has lower fees, better channels, better programming, better

everything. As with local television I could care less about Canadian content. If Canadian content was so good it wouldn't require the CRTC to force us to have it available. They should be able to stand on their own two feet, or not.

Flag

Like



Don't-Like-Cable-Monopoly ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The operative word in the phrase, "free to air," is, "free." Local stations send the signal out free; cable companies pick it up, free. And so, it should be provided as part of a basic package for free. Cable companies can charge for whatever other stations they purchase and provide. I guess this is pretty much status quo, except the basic package should be lower priced to reflect what is paid for local stations, namely, nothing! More may be charged for optional purchased stations as agreed by the CRTC and the market.

Flag

Like



Don't-Like-Cable-Monopoly ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

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Darren W. Wood ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

For those that support the cable/satellite companies in saying they are doing local tv a favor by showing their content to an increased viewing audience, let me ask you this.

If cable and satellite go to the History Channel, Discovery Channel, Teletoon, YTV and many others that have commercials and said they want to carry their networks for free because satellite and cable are doing them a favor by carrying their signal to a wider audience, what do you think the response would be????? It would be go pound salt!

Give me a break. If your going to make an argument, at least make one thats within the scope of reality.

Flag

Like



depthought_42 ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Isn't it ironic that the CRTC is seeking input through the medium that will lead to the eventual death of cable/satellite/FTA television. More and more people are watching their programs without commercials or censorship over the internet.

Local TV networks spend their money to broadcast American Reality TV Crap. It would make no sense to support a tax that would send more hard earned Canadian dollars south of the border.

I say any money given local networks should be allocated 100% to the bingo channel --- the only consistently clear channel in cottage country.

Cheers.

Flag

Like



J. Martin ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't want to lose my local TV stations they provide vital information that shapes my day,

week even my year wether it is shopping, medical information or especially safety issues. This vital information is valuable yes, but I cannot afford to pay more on my cable bill, I am a single Mom and earn under 20K. I don't want to become a Brandon, MB!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Lucille Bourgeois* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would just like to say that not everyone can afford cable or satellite tv programmig, and not having either I would be truly vexed and disapointed if we lost our local free tv stations. So if the other companies are using these stations and collecting fees from people then they should be sharing those profits with the local stations, that would be the fair thing. Fair is fair.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *M. D.* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I feel that the consumer should not be made to pay extra to receive local news and events. We currently don't pay to have the local news brought to our door through a local newspaper so why should we be made to pay for it via television? I feel the cable and satellite companies make far more profit than they need to at the consumer's expense.

I am on a budget and I already feel I pay far too much for having cable which I was forced to get because of supposed advancements of technologies. I was perfectly happy with using a little tv antenna to catch the stations. This greed has got to stop! I for one would cancel my tv cable altogether if this is gouging continues.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *clivemarleneadkins* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am with Bell Satelite and in an area that has a local C.T.V. Station whick Bell does not supply me with. I get local T.V. on Rabbit Ears loud and clear and do not intend to pay for a signal that is already free. I pay too much for very little now. I think it is the responsibility of the cable companies to pay the Local T.V. stations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *M Russell* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Quit simply, if I am required to pay for local TV, I will cancel my cable service and use the antenna that I have just installed. I have already downgraded my cable to the most basic service because I am being force fed channels I don't want. It would be very easy for me to pick up 15-20 channels with an antenna for free.

As for what measures could be taken to support local TV, put the channels back in the hands of local owners. The CRTC has allowed the large conglomerates to hijack TV in this country in the name of corporate profit. It's time to give local TV back to local people. If they can't make a go of it, then let them go out of business. Break up the large companies and increase competition. Competition will force the braosdcasters to be inovative.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jacki* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Dear persons on staff at the CRTC. Please don,t let big cable get away with it. Why does cable charge it's customers for local t.v. and yet refuses to pay CTV for it's local programming. Montreal Quebec deserve to have local t.v. we have the population. for it but would rather spend millions of dollars for American t.v. while Canadien networks are struggling.

[Flag](#)

Like



vicshaw ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1 - As far as i'm concerned I already pay for "local tv" and if CTV and Canwest want more money then the cable companies can take it out of the rates that I already pay or they can remove channels from the basic package that shouldn't be there to cover the extra cost to them.

2 - First of all, they need to stop spending millions of dollars on US programming that we can watch on the originating American networks. It doesn't make sense to spend money on something people can and will prefer to watch on American channels. Secondly, they should be forced to create more Canadian and local programming or buy American programming from networks not available in Canada like TNT and USA instead of buying programs from the big networks we can already watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mr_L ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Your problem is Rogers is in bed with the government, until this pact is broken down, people will be a victim of price manipulations. Allow more competition and lets get the truth out there.

[Flag](#)

Like



G Wilkie ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Simple solution:

Pay for local TV, then remove ALL foreign channel bumping by local stations when the content is the same. As a consumer I should have the right to see ALL channels that I am paying for. This would remove a major cost to the cable companies which could defray the additional costs forwarded to the local stations.

We would finally see true competition in TV time slots, instead of the Corporate Welfare system endorsed by the CTSC to date.

[Flag](#)

Like



Carlo Sgro ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

As a Shaw Direct Satellite subscriber living in Kitchener, I do not get local TV as my local station is not carried by it. I cannot think of the last time I actually watched my local station (CKCO), let alone local programming. I do not want to pay an extra cent for local TV that I do not get.

[Flag](#)

Like



mel ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV is NOT important to me and I don't want to be forced to pay for it! CTV and Canwest are NOT local stations but rather media giants which bought out "local" stations years ago. Local news is crap fluff with a pro feminist, pro gay, and for Canwest - pro USA/Israel.

What measure could be take to support local television - simple; they could put some content on the air that I might care about watching and sell commercials to local businesses. Currently their "national" sales offices mostly post "national brand commercials" going after the big money. They need to change the business model because technology which gave them what they got has continued to evolve. But they don't want to change from a business model that made them rich. Dinosaurs who won't change - but still want to make money like they used to.

[Flag](#)

Like



FatherH ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Joe:

I was trying to be kind to them :o)

In reality, I think \$1.00 per channel for the first 25 selected - - as individual channels - - would be fair, with the cost dropping to 50 cents each for the next 25 selected and 25 cents each for all additional channels, would be a more appropriate pricing scheme.

If someone actually wanted 100 channels, using this suggested pricing scale, their cost would be \$50 (plus taxes...), per month - an amount I think most of us could live with - and the cable/satellite companies would still make a lot of money.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bdenyes* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I am strongly opposed to paying any additional fees what-so-ever to support local TV programming. I think the TV broadcasters and the CRTC in Canada need to wake up to the fact that we the viewers do not have bottomless \$\$\$ in our pockets.

TV broadcasters want to charge cable companies - actually I believe that it should be the other way around - the cable companies should be charging the broadcasters for carrying and distributing their signals. Where would the Broadcasters be without the cable companies to bring the signal into viewers homes? Without the cable companies, broadcasters would be forced to shell out big \$\$\$ to build and maintain a sizeable distribution infrastructure system. Without the cable companies, the broadcasters would have 10% of the viewership, 10% of the advertising revenues they now have and a big fat 0% chance of survival !!!!

The bottom line is that the broadcasters and the cable companies need each other. The cable companies should be charging a fee to the broadcasters that would offset the carriage fees being proposed by the broadcasters ... and they need to work together to survive without charging the consumer any additional \$\$\$\$. I simply will not pay any additional fees for local programming. I get my local news from the radio and newspaper.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Frank* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I had no idea that Bell, Telus, Rogers, Shaw, Eastlink, and all other cable / satellite suppliers across Canada were NOT paying any royalties to the local stations, which are the base price of MY current subscription, and I myself am outraged!!

The cable and satellite companies recently ran an ad campaign stating that using illegal satellite dishes to bring in American programming were the same as stealing. It's interesting that if a consumer does it, it's stealing. But if they take local television for free, it's fair business practice.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Johhny Canuck* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

It is disgraceful that they [cable and satellite companies] feel no compunction to pay for the programming that they are, in turn, charging their customers for. There is no "free" basic package to their customers. So to claim that they are not charging customers for access to these channels is a flat-out falsehood. They are charging for something they have, up until now, received for free.

It's wrong and it's also wrong that they have gotten away with it for so long.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dave Trautman* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Johhny Canuck](#) 1 person liked this.

You're paying for the wire with Local TV and not the content. There's nothing being stolen here. Local TV is often not a clear signal in many parts of Canada. Cable provides a clear signal. You pay for the wire. Nothing strange about that.

Flag

Like

*Daddyeo* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm getting close to retirement. It's scary. We will be on a low fixed income. Nobody things of people in the real world. Reality is I'll probably have give up my cable buy an antenna & just watch local programing. Cable & satalite have been too expensive for years. All kinds of programs that probably most people don't care about but your forced to buy them in your bundle. Like I've always said hundreds of channels but nothing to watch. I'll be better off with local TV from an antenna. I believe local TV should be supported: however no increases, cable can cover the cost. Lets not forget the CRTC who have really created this mess, they are the ones who have mandated most of this junk over the years. Now they are looking for the public to bail them out. If the Public had any brains we should on-mass cancell our cable/satalite subscriptions sit back & watch the results. I don't think we would be all that suprised with what would happen. When I grew-up there was no cable or satalte , just local TV over the air. It was good. We really don't need all the added expense THINK ABOUT IT where your hard earned mony goes.

Flag

Like

*Paul Reid* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The no cost solution is to allow an open and free market to decide which TV stations and services are worth the money. End mandatory carriage, tiers, simulcasting and bundling. This means making ALL channels including local stations, the CBC, shopping channel, etc. optional. It will force the network and cable cartels to put out programming consumers want and are willing to pay for, or perish. Those that go down will not be missed.

As cable TV is effectively a non-competitive regional monopoly the CRTC role will be to ensure all channels are available at reasonable cost by regulation until there there is true competition.

Flag

Like

*Bruce N* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

We are buying a new LCD TV. We are going to try an antennae due to our close proximity to Toronto and Buffalo. Hope it works we'd love to say goodbye to the cable companys.

Flag

Like

*levendis* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Bruce N](#)

An antenna ? Sounds like placing a sail on a cruise ship and shutting down the engines!

Flag

Like

*Paul SCHRAM* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I have written to the CRTC in the past about issues relating to the service and the ever increasing cost of service by Shaw, Shaw Direct (or Star Choice, or whatever they call themselves) and Bell. The people at the CRTC do not care in the least about us, or what we pay. Our providers care even less. Having said all that, it is my choice to pay ridiculous prices for my television services, and I can opt to cancel it and find another source of entertainment. I cannot really blame the providers for gouging us when when they have a monopoly, and the CRTC ensuring the maintain their monopoly as it is all self serving. It is human nature to be greedy and take care of yourself... In any case, as long as I am not forced to pay more for local TV as part of a basic, and can get rid of the local programing, I don't care the least if they decide to charge us. Two months ago I cut my programing in half to bring the cost down to \$800 a year. If they decide to make me pay for local programing, then we'll donate our dish to the local landfill... However, if anyone in power would like an opinion as to what I might want as a Canadian, I would suggest replacing everyone at the CRTC with people who have a bit of

common sense and the will to force Cable and Satellite companies to provide services at reasonable costs, quit ramming Canadian content down our throats and let us decide what we want to watch, and tell local providers that if they cannot make enough of a profit running their businesses with the income from advertising, then close shop and find another business to run into the ground...

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dave* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I live in the mountains and antenna tv reception is very poor so cable is the only option but I do object to the fact that I have to pay for channels that I do not watch. Why can't the cable companies provide a cost per channel (including the local channels) and allow consumers to pick and choose. I do not feel I get value for my money now as more than half the channels I get, I do not watch. I would not mind paying for local channels as long as I do not have to pay for the garbage channels that the cable compny forces on me.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ted - Kelowna* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I don't mind what I pay currently for cable service, may be on the high side, but I have accepted it.

What I am not willing to accept is paying more for cable with no promises of better local programming when I do not even watch local broadcasting from CTV, Global, and CBC.

The CRTC should break up the 'basic' package offered to Canadians and give us some REAL choice in what we want to pay for.

CRTC should cut these major networks off from the millions they already receive from Canadian taxpayers. We'll see how CTV, Global and CBC advertising revenue does after they lose half of their subscribers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dave Dobson* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I'm tired of the cable companies continually increasing their fees without delivering any better or extended service. They have had a good thing going for years charging us for signals which they have captured for free. Time for them to pay for the signals and I'm not interested in paying Shaw any more for the service.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Marg Lobo* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV keeps us informed about local, regional and world news. We (3) would definitely support our local TV. We will pay for local TV only. Right now we receive chanel, through the cable company, that we pay for in our package that we don't view. We should have a choice of what we wish to view and not pay for something that we do not consume. We feel that local TV is very important and should be reimbursed for their feed. The consumer must be protected from increased taxes. While large Corporation should carry their burden without greed.

Marg

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Fed-up* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I agree with jpfiringer below. I have cancelled my rogers TV service in, full...and started up using US satlite. The savings are enormous, and I get twice if not more HD channels. I finally

got fed up with ROGERS taking all my money with little or no service, and now they are talking about passing on the fee for local TV. If it doesn't cut it on its own, forget it, I don't want to subsidise it....and I have chosen not to take it any longer. The greatest thing about Rogers, they offered me my service package at 50% when I called to cancel....10 year client gets this deal when they call to cancel...how sad. I hope this debate cuts into their profit big time.

Flag

Like

 Sean Dolan ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

Allowing people to pay for the channels they want or 'a la carte', and not bundled packages would quickly establish the actual value of individual channel content. It would better provide better consumer value through continued access to channels people watch, and those channels that have previously cost too much as bundles.

It would also establish the underlying content costs, and those that cable and satellite providers are charging their customers. A simple stated fee structure could give consumers greater choice, as would allowing the CRTC to regulate whether the fees added on were reasonable.

It's unfortunate that many of the companies providing TV service are the same that have been imposing restrictions on bandwidth and thereby being allowed to undermine the online content that broadcast, and some specialty channels have been providing. If those channels would provide their channels online, much like CPAC there wouldn't be much need for cable or satellite television at all for most viewers.

Although the 'skinny cable' that has come through in the news also sounds interesting, it would have to be at a cost that is lower than the currently excessive fees cable and satellite providers charge for free content. Having given up television because of excessive fees charged for the few channels I watch, I will continue to watch the content provided by broadcasters online and would happily pay them directly without the excessive fees of cable and satellite tv providers.

Flag

Like

 Former TV employee ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

Dear CRTC,
Please observe the common thread in almost every posting on here.
Whether for or against the proposed fees, most people are tired of the near monopolistic bully tactics of the providers forcing us to buy channels we don't want.
I can't buy tier 2 on Shaw without buying basic, which I can get on rabbit ears for free so indeed those sources deserve their cut.

But long term all of this is an exercise in corporate and commission self preservation. TV lost their oligopoly, cable and satellite is about to lose theirs, the internet will destroy traditional business model as you can't regulate the earth. Torrent to PVR!

So in a word, stop spending tax payers money on commissions, regulations, subsidies, and let the dinosaurs die or kill each other.

Flag

Like

 dik ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

These companies have created the monster known as tv pirates, lots of em out there and I think many more to come if this so called tv tax comes in to place. I will be joining them too. I'm totally fed up with being ripped off, I only watch cbc for hockey and nothing else

Flag

Like

 R. Anthony ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

Local TV is or has been reduced to local news shows for a few hours per day. I'm not interested in paying any additional money for that. Why haven't they been developing Canadian TV shows

? Most if not all are American shows that they paid too much for, and now want me to pay because they overspent. Please explain why they are taking so long to go digital as well. When I see REAL local and Canadian programming I might be interested in helping...maybe. As far as cable is concerned, I'm sick of the packages where we are forced to pay for channels we will never watch.

It might be time to rethink this whole mess !!!!

If forced to pay extra on my cable to support these bandits I will switch to satellite

[Flag](#)

Like



Cathy White ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable bills are extreme as it is! Make them pay there share! Keep local TV alive!

[Flag](#)

Like



Terry Evans ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1) I would cancel as many services as I could. I obtain all local news from other media (radio and internet).

2) Let the market take care of itself. If the major networks can't afford them let them close them. If there is a market someone else will invest to exploit it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jesse ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. I already pay for local TV as I dont have a choice if I want them or not on my satellite service. If I were forced to pay more then I would cut back or cancel my service.

2. None. Produce content that people want to watch and advertising money will support the local TV channels. No public bailout for failing companies.

[Flag](#)

Like



nipper ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I would not pay any extra money. If local stations took their broad cast off, I would not notice or lose any content. The local newspaper can do the same cheaper. If i had a choice right now i would cancel most of the cable services however since it is bundled i have to pay for a lot for media i will never watch it is truly aggravating.

[Flag](#)

Like



franciedennison ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Given that the CRTC outlawed ordinary Canadians from receiving television signals through their own satellite dish but allow satellite and cable companies to take it free but charge customers, I don't think cable and satellite service providers have any right to charge customers for local television signals they carry. Having to pay local television stations for those signals, without passing on that cost to customers, should be the price of doing business in Canada. Cable and satellite service providers have had a free ride for far too long.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jason Franklin ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1) I would cancel my programming if forced to pay for something that is free over the air

2) what local TV? We have four English stations in Winnipeg, they offer at most 2-3 hours of 'local' programming and most of that is news. We should do nothing and allow them to fold if

need be, CTV is making lots of money on their specialty and national channels (enough to pay millions to cover the Olympics), make them pay this tax with the proceeds of those channels.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *martindz* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local television is extremely important to the way our immediate society functions and informs itself of things that matter in proximity. I would not pay for this service, but I strongly believe multi-million dollar corporations like Rogers or Bell, should be supporting this cause as they are the BIG profitters in the 'world' of television, local, national, and even global (with all the variety of programming they offer)

Thank you for reading my opinion

Martin D

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Alexander* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs.

Cable and satellite companies should not be forced to distribute them as part of their basic service.

Cable and satellite tv subscribers should be able to pick and choose what channels we want to watch and NOT be forced to buy entire packages to get those channels.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *JZ* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The CRTC has no right to exist. The airwaves ought to be completely free and open, without the arbitrary Canadian content laws that bog down our evenings with terrible shows like Little Mosque on the Prairie.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Pablo* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

The real simple solution is to treat local TV just like premium channels. Charge me if I want them and pass the money to the station, if I don't want them then I won't pay for them. Being forced to pay for local news that I don't watch is borderline criminal. If local TV is so important to people then they will subscribe and all is well. If people don't support them then they go out of business and close.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bob* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

SHAW JUST JACKED THEIR RATES UP **DURING A **RECESSION! Absolutely STUPID PR in my opinion. No respect - No Explanation - I paid too much prior to the rate hike.

I am actively looking for ways to reduce my monthly Cable bill - it's too high and I don't even have the Digital Cable package! Let the local service providers charge as long as you allow everyone to opt out! - I will cancel all non essential services if rates go any higher.

P.S. Why does this site not accomodate Firefox Web browser?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *heather2223* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1) Considering the channels I watch most often are the local channels, I would have no problem paying for local tv. However, I assumed that I was already paying for local tv in the \$60 a month I am paying for cable. I find it outrageous that the large cable providers use these local channels to attract customers and then fail to compensate the local tv channels. I would not be at all interested in purchasing a cable package if it did not have local tv channels, and I'm sure I'm not alone in this sentiment. Therefore, cable providers gain revenue from their ability to provide local channels and these local channels should be properly compensated.

In addition, the question should not be if people would be willing to pay extra for local channels. I don't want to pay more than \$60 a month for cable, but I would be very happy to cut back on other channels in order to maintain my local tv stations. This, however, is not the problem of local tv channels but a problem with the package pricing of large cable companies. Local tv should not be punished because the large cable providers freely exercise the advantages of their market power.

2) Local television is important for maintaining Canadian cultural sovereignty and community cohesion. Local news is an important for ensuring public opinion is informed, and keeping our democracy healthy. Given the importance of local tv to society, many measures could be justified to support it. Paying \$10 a month for local channels seems completely reasonable. Given the importance of local tv to society, it also seems important that cable providers be forced to carry a certain amount of Canadian content in each of their cable packages.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Paul B* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Cable and Satellite services should pay for local TV.
All or a significant part of any cost for the payment of local TV should come from a redistribution of what cable companies pay for to other Cable and TV content providers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Nick* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Canadian Cable subscribers should not have to pay for local TV content on top of what they are already paying. Both the Cable companies as well as the broadcasters are already profitable. Forcing Canadian to pay for local content that many do not watch, would expand the grey market for illegal tv signals, such as buying a Direct TV dish and receiver out of the USA.

If Local Television needs additional support, the broadcaster and cable companies should work within thier own current framework. Like every Canadian, both need to learn how to tighten thier belt and find ways to cut back.

The CRTC should also ease the burden of Canadian conctect requirements. This is forceing many of these Canadian Broadcasters into airing local content to satisfy these demands. I do not think we require up to 10 hours of local news coverage a day. All relevant news is easily accessable via the internet and other mediums.

Thanks,

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Livingston* ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I don't trust the information from either TV stations or cable operators as they each have their own agendas, but I do know as a consumer, I am fed up with bearing the brunt of every increase that comes along, especially when these matters are out of our control except to opt out.

The CRTC should act as mediator and have each side give a little. Thnak you.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Doft F ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local news, local psas, even local ads are prefereable to me over watching the U.S. equivalent (from Detroit or Seattle). And all the shows I want to watch (American network shows) are carried on Canadian TV stations, so why bother with the American stations at all ?

And as far as saying I don't need local news because I can get it on the internet... the web news is adapted/taken from the lcoal news outlets (like local TV stations). To say that is like saying "I don't need farmers or ranchers because I get my food from Safeway". Let these guys negotiate and work it out.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Nathan Heyink ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I would be upset if I had to pay for local TV through cable or satellite. If I can get it free over-the-air, then why should I pay for it when using cable? I think local stations should be allowed to charge cable providers, but those providers should not be allowed to charge consumers for those local stations.

[Flag](#)

 Like

seancalgary ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

Local TV is important for Weather, News and a sense of cultural awareness in ones surroundings. It goes without saying that given we are now Digital it should be carried on cable/sat. services but we should not be charged extra for it. Local television in the past made it's money off advertising spots it sells. Why do they need any further support, they are a business.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Lisa ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

It should be free to consumers if the cable company doesn't pay for it. I thought we were already paying for it with our cable bill so don't see why we should have to pay more.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Jim ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

1. From what I see it is a money grab by the stations. They still kill the viewing with far too many commercials so them have that issue doesn't wash.

Like the rest of us they need to tighten their belts.

2. None, make them accountable for the way they run their business's first this is NOT the Auto Industry looking for a bailout that shouldn't have happened either

[Flag](#)

 Like

Ivan Woodburne ★ [1 month ago](#) 2 people liked this.

I currently watch a total of 1 hour per day, monday to friday of local TV. 1/2 hour of CBC and 1/2 hour of CTV. If I gad to pay more for this I would discontinue getting those stations. I am forced to watch the feeds from these stations on other programs by having them broadcast over the US station where the signal originated. I would much prefer to watch the US feed as many Canadian broadcasters tend to run long and louder on their commercial segments and cut off portions of shows. If local television is to survive, it should do so in a competitive environment. Government subsidies tend to weaken program content, not strenghten it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *michaelduda* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

The local TV providers should be allowed to negotiate charges with the cable companies. However, we pay enough in cable rates as it is so anything that is provided to local TV must be cut from the same sized pie. The amount of the fees paid to a particular network eg. the Food Channel or TSN, should be based more closely on the level of demand for these different types of channels. If some channels cannot remain viable under the new framework that pays a fee to local TV while the overall pot of money remains the same, then those less viewed channels should be allowed to fail.

Flag

Like

 *seemart* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

There should not be any charges for basic TV channel, as it consists of shopping & boring channels . bombarded only with advertisements. after watching these shopping channels we do some impulse shopping from these channel which is waste of our hard earned money. so basic tv & also other channel should free of charge as we are allowing these channel to come our premises. Cable company should recover the charges from advertisement as we help these company by there products , it is similar to the junk mail we get in post, cable company should be thankful to us as we are watching these stupid programmes

Flag

Like

 *peterharrison* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

i don,t mind being charged for local t.v so long as i can say no thanks.my local paper is loosing customers, what do they do, with the internet local is changing.so let it die.the packaging deal with cable is set up to work against the best interest of the customer.let me pick and choose the programs i want not you and the cable company.some one please stand up for me.thank you

Flag

Like

 *Ray* ★ 1 month ago 2 people liked this.

I refuse to pay for "local TV" on top of what I already pay for cable. The "local TV networks" do not need my support. They make enough profits already and if they were to start charging the cable company for their signals, they will just pocket the money or use it to to buy more American TV show. I'm a soccer fan and my cable provider (Rogers) has more local sports programming (on channel 10) than all these so called "local TV" stations combined.

Flag

Like

 *Dennis* ★ 3 weeks ago 1 person liked this.

my cable bill is simply to high. I am retired, living on a modest budget and in the last two years I have received a 10% hike and a 6 % hike in cable fees. Yet I see no increase in services. My choices haven't gone up. I still only view the same programs I have always watched - i am just paying more and I can't afford it. The local TV stations I used to get free and I value them for local news, weather & current events. I have complained to the service provider and got nothing for my trouble except higher cable bills.

Flag

Like

 *dorispower* ★ 3 weeks ago 1 person liked this.

I want to see local TV available across this country. I feel we pay a lot for cable & they should be paying our Canadian stations to distribute their programs but not pass those fees on to the public. A large portion of the day it appears I am paying for hours and hours of infomercials on dozens of stations, so obviously the cable company is paid by those companies to fill up the

schedules with ads no paying customer wants in the first place. Local TV is vitally important to every region & they should be able to charge the cable networks for distribution but the greedy cable networks cannot be allowed to cry poor and force cost hikes on their customers. We must keep Canadian broadcasting alive!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



M Barry ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A few months ago I had FREE local channels. I decided to get basic cable. My free channels are now no longer free because they are part of a bundle that I am now being charged. Interestingly, my majority viewing is still the local channels. Alberta has already lost two local TV stations. Why can cable companies see fit to pay carriage fees to American stations but to date do not want to pay local Canadian stations?

[Flag](#)

Like



L Katz ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

it should be the cable companies that pay from their profits. the users should not have to pay more than they already do.

[Flag](#)

Like



Zimbu ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is an important part of my (SHAW) cable service. The existing local TV programming as provided is generally quality programming and is far superior to many of the garbage programs that are included within each of Shaw's program (take-it-or-leave-it) tiers.

Viewers seem to be left out on choice. You don't order liver and onions if you only like the onions! The CRTC should be correcting this situation, not adding to it!

I would gladly pay a reasonable fee for local TV programming of my choice.

[Flag](#)

Like



tmayer ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would be appalled to have to pay for local TV. I live in Windsor, On, and subscribe to Shaw Direct Satellite for my TV view. Shaw Direct does not offer any local TV for Windsor. I have heard the Bell does not offer local TV either, and thus satellite subscribers in the Windsor area should not have to pay for something they don't get!! As far as local TV needing support, I feel they are just looking for a golden egg like everyone else. Big 3 and Banks got free money now local TV wants a piece of the pie!

[Flag](#)

Like



slimsilver ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The sad part is that in Canada our elected officials and regulatory bodies are in bed with the Big boy's in the cable/satellite companies.

In the early days of television lawmakers fought to make sure every person in North America had access to free TV programming and now they have turned their backs on the little guy for political payoffs.

The CRTC, that govern these industries, and was initially created to protect the citizens from being taken advantage of. These agencies are now filled with former executives and paid off politicians. These regulatory bodies now just serve as protection for the old boys club to ensure there is no more competition so companies like Rogers and Bell can make record profits by gouging the citizen's.

We as the people that pay there salaries and keep them in there position of power need to stand up and make them account for there action's.

We can stand by like always and do nothing or we can change the way our elected official's are put into power and are taken out of power.

As it stand's now the CRTC are put into power by the Government that is elected and are puppets.

We have a weak Government and it has always bowed down to presure from big business and let them gouge the people and that is what has to change or we will always be taken advantage of.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Helen* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable & satellite companies already gouge the consumer with over-rated selection of channels that repeat the same program repeatedly. The local TV station is of vital importance for those of us who actually live in real Canada not just the large over-populated & polluted cities. We who live in more remote areas do exist & depend on our local stations for local news & weather, although with the weather aspect only if they have decent weather reporters that can predict the weather! If we lose the local stations, as was sampled last New Year's Day when MCTV Sudbury had no one operating the News at 6:00p.m. & we were 'added' to CTV Toronto. A brief mention that Sudbury area was given & that was it - no news relevent to Northern Ontario. Large urban areas figure they are the only ones in existance & this is reflected & supported by the various stations - CTV, Global etc. The cable & satellite companies do not provide good service to their customers as they are always wanting you to rent or buy - Pay Per Vu etc anything to bleed the consumer of more money. It's about time CRTC got with it & really find out what is happening out in the commercial world. The fees that cable & satellite companies increase without regard to the consumer. We who are on pensions like our TV & not all of us have access to computers nor want to so hear our cry in the wilderness for consideration regarding affordability & accessibility!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *msab* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My basic satellite rate already includes local TV, for what I am paying them - it should be the cable and satellite companies who pay for the local tv signal.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ralphwood* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Since Shaw bought out Fundy Cable who then swapped it with Rogers we have seen nothing but soaring cable costs. The local content has deteriorated and we have lost the direct local involvement that was such a feature of Fundy Cable .We have been swamped with direct mail advertising by Rogers which I know from experience isnt cheap and we've seen soaring profits by Rogers .Regional broadcasting is essential in a coutry as large as Canada .CTV and CBC have some excellent local productions that help preserve our Maritime heritage ,we dont want to be force fed news and programming from Toronto where they hardly know the Maritimes exist .Do what you can I beg you to save an essential part of our Canadian and Maritimes culture. We may be small in the larger Canadian picture but we want our news and culture reflected as part of the larger diversity that makes Canada unique and the place we love .

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ralphwood* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Since Shaw took over Fundy Cable and subsequently swapped with Rogers we have seen nothing but ever increasing cable fees and less and less community involvement that was such a hallmark of Fundy cable .We have seen the profits of Rogers soar while at thesame time being inundated with a huge volume of direct advertising from Rogers. Local broadcasting by both

radio and TV is an essential part of our Canadian and particularly our Maritme culture.Both Cbc and CTV produce some excellent local originating programmesWhich wouldbe lost to us if we are force fedmore Toronto originating content be that news or entertainment .We value and treasure our local culture as I suspect do most Canadian regions .To gut this on the altar of even higher profits for the cable companies will be a gross travesty of all that we hold dear as part of this great mosaic of Canada .Local broadcasting is essential in preserving this and the cable companies should be forced to carry this and pay for itsuse just as they pay for all other content We pay through our taxes for CBC and we pay morethan enough for cable services going by their profits that they can well afford any fees to regional broadcasters.I sincerely hope theCRTC wont let down the customers and Canada on this vital issue

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ian Wilson* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Give your freaken heads a shake if you think we want more taxes added to already excessive burden placed on our backs! Open up the market and allow Dish Network as well as Direct TV to compete, the Canadian content law is stupid and non-productive, As a Canadian I am almost embarrassed for the programming we offer in Canada, you don't see any Americans trying to pirate our signals do you?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *SyntaxError01* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Currently i pay \$0.00 for my local television. on the same token i local TV is the only television i have in my home, Over the air (OTA) traditional broadcasting. legal and free. I believe that traditional broadcaster should be grateful that they are barley required to have a traditional broadcasting infrastructure to the masses. On the other hand how can television service providers aloud to charge consumers a free for local TV that they are getting for free. Service providers who rebroadcast traditional television must give that content for the price they paid for it, FREE unencrypted, uncompressed. should go for standard definition analogue, SD digital, and High Definition Digital signal.

FREE LOCAL TV!

unencrypted, uncompressed on all mediums.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Douglas Anderson* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I beleive cable companies should pay the local station.....Brandon, Manitoba is a perfect example. I'm sure Winnipeg will lose stations soon if something is not done.

I do not need more Toronto News AKA, (The National).

Finally, it seems we are paying for allot of specialty networks that are in fact owned by just a few networks, who in turn simple re-run the same programs. Pay the local stations to produce local shows.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ulrich and Mary Trumpener* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Discussion Question:

1. Thinking about the importance of local TV to you, how would you react, and why, if you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services?

As seniors, we watch TV much more than we used to. We are particularly interested in news and programs that give much more background than newspapers and have interviews with experts with varying opinions. In addition to excellent shows about the environment, we want to know what is happening in other parts - of the world but especially of Canada as well as the wealth of programs that TV brings. Local news, of course, is especially interesting and important - how can we vote if we don't have local as well as national information?

Government has to remember that many people don't read news anymore - they want to watch and hear it by TV. One of us, Mary, taught ESL for many years, and she saw that it was much easier for the new Canadians to watch TV rather than try to get news from a newspaper. Newspapers in the languages of newcomers are often very limited in local and national news, so they are no substitute for reliable local and national news.

We have heard often about the present system of cable companies getting access to local TV stations for free. We believe that local stations need a lot of financial help if they are to do a good job giving local information to local viewers - everything from sports to local events to entertainment to local politics and problems. Indeed, if they are to be able to pay the bills and stay open.

For as long as we can remember, cable companies have made a great profit. But now local stations are having trouble paying to give us the reporting that we need. Government must act to do this otherwise we will lose our local TV stations.

2. In your view, what measures, if any, could be taken to support local television?

So I have no hesitation in saying that cable companies - not the people who receive the program on the cable that we are already paying for - should be required to pay the local station for carrying it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Fed up in Almonte, ON ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have already gone back to just "basic cable" as the price for having movie channels etc. is overpriced and unaffordable.

If I could select the channels I want to watch, instead of all those garbage specialty channels, and have a choice of other cable providers in my area, I would appreciate it.

"Local TV" means a lot to me, I enjoy watching Ottawa's A Channel morning show as I get ready for work, the hosts are fun and keep us up to date on all that's happening in Ottawa and the Valley, I would miss it if it were gone. They support a lot of local worthwhile charities and events and those agencies that utilize that support would be hard-hit if was gone. I also like to watch the CJOH local 6 pm news and NEVER watch national broadcasts.

I'm tired of companies like Rogers, who get a monopoly on an area as the provider leaving the consumer no choice, unless they want some ugly dish stuck to the side of their house. If the CRTC and government don't do something to stop the cable and satellite companies from gouging the public, my next step will be to cancel cable altogether.

[Flag](#)

Like



pierreboileau ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think the cable companies should take on the responsibility of supporting local tv. It is an essential service for our community. I already feel that the current arrangement with cable and satellite providers is equitable and don't believe that they are being taxed. I would pay more for local tv, if necessary, but I believe the cable companies need to reduce waste and attempt to fit the cost of local tv into current fees.

[Flag](#)

Like



Steve Finney ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I strongly feel that we pay more than enough for our TV. Coming from England the cost of cable / satellite tv here is considerably higher than the UK, seemingly down to there being virtually no competition to Rogers for Cable and Bell for satellite!! The profits these companies make is ridiculous from there "duopoly". If anyone should be made to support local tv it's them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *MS.MACDONALD* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I BEING A SENIOR AM WORRIED ABOUT THIS RAISE IN PRICE OF CABLE. BEING ON A FIXED INCOME I WOULD HAVE TO CANCEL MY CABLE AND JUST HAVE THE BASIC, I ALSO HAVE HAD A DISABILITY FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS AND CAN'T GET OUT MUCH SO CABLE IS MY ENTERTAINMENT, NOT THAT THERE IS THAT MUCH ON THE V.I.P. PLAN BUT MORE THAN THE BASIC PLAN, SEEMS AS THOUGH I PAY TO WATCH WHAT I PAYED FOR LAST YEAR, PAYING FOR REPEATS.

I FEEL ROGERS CAN FINANCIALLY HANDLE PAYING THE INCREASE AND NOT PASSING IT ON TO THE CUSTOMER AFTER ALL THEIR PROFIT WAS IN THE BILLIONS LAST YEAR, I DIDN'T EVEN CLEAR 20.000 THERE IS NO COMPARISON. I REST MY CASE.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Wayne Carney* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The recurring theme that I keep hearing in this forum is that local tv stations should receive money from the cable companies, and that any funds to local programming should not be borne by the consumer.

I think that we should be honest with ourselves, if CRTC directs cable companies to give money to local broadcasters the cable companies will do so. Eventually this cost will be borne by the cable user in the form of higher rates. It may not happen the first month that they start funding local programming and there may not be a line item on our bill that says \$10 for local programming. But rest assured over time our cable bills will increase to pay for this.

The only thing that would stop this would be if CRTC prevented rate increases or if large numbers of people terminated their cable service. With respect to CRTC assistance to the end user, I think that we know from their history that they will not act. With respect to people terminating their service, I keep hearing that the cost for cable is already too high, but each year the cable companies increase prices and their profits increase. It's clear that most of us that threaten to terminate our service just roll over and accept the increases. If we were serious about the existing high price of cable we would have already terminated our service, the cable companies profits would have dropped, and they would have taken action to prevent further losses (e.g. reduce cable costs). The cable companies know this, and if we are truly honest with ourselves we know it also.

You want to do something serious about this - terminate your cable service now and write to the minister responsible for the CRTC.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mark* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I wish the CRTC would quit forcing Us to pay for packages and Canadian content that would never make it in the market without.

I receive 100 channels of subsidized crap.

Local TV is very important to most and Radio may soon follow suit with satellite competition.

If cable is paying for crap like women's net, APTN, AL Quida, some money should go to LOCAL..... It's a no-brainer if you're not some government official with your mighty head stuck up your [A#@..Fighting](#) to keep your over-paying job and pension.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Pamela* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV? My cable company can afford to pay. In the last

five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service

At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right to me!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [den2menace](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Yes, the cable and satellite companies should pay the local stations, but NOT on top of current services... they are too high as it is now, I just do not see the justification in their prices, based on what they pay (a one time fee & other expenses) versus the volume (hundreds of thousands) of their customers that they charge.. i.e. - my local viewing area has a population of approx 300,000 possible customers and at an average cost to that customer of \$80 that is over 24 million dollars for them... so, again I say they don't need any help or taxes whatever you want to call it, THEY NEED TO PAY LOCAL TV !!!!!

[Flag](#)

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 [susangowan](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I want to support the status quo on this issue. I, myself, have a basic package i.e. I use an antenna on all three of my TV's and like the service I am getting, including local programming just fine. In the past we were expecting as Canadians to have Canadian content in our programs? Does this not apply to local programs such as CBC Ottawa & CJOH & shows like Regional Contact provide so ably? I look at the situation like this - if it's not broke, why fix it? In terms of other "cadillac" services, appealing to a broad range of Canadians, go ahead & change that if you must & I know you must be innovative entrepreneurs. But do leave the basic packages as is. Otherwise I would be asked to pay a fee which will likely terminate my viewing behaviours. There, I've said my piece. Merry Christmas to you & yours and a Happy New Year. Please think of all your viewers both young & old & the in-betweens. I am in the latter category...

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Like

 [Elda](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We already pay mega bucks for Cable - what is wrong with them? It is high time they tightened their belt and proceed with airing local stations. They are the backbone of our province, supplying local news, events, etc. that are of interest to us locals. The balance of their channels are okay but don't have any local content.

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 [P Sullivan](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would consider returning to tower reception or moving to computer generated TV programming.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [joanpye](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I always watch our local news (not located in this city but covers the Timmins/Sudbury, Sault Ste Marie/North Bay area). CTV out of Sudbury provides us with good coverage of area events and news. If this was lost, we would not get coverage as the Toronto stations only carry MAJOR news events from our area.

I don't know all the economic details of how payments are made but I feel that the cost of our satellite TV is already high enough and something should be worked out with the local TV stations and the satellite/cable carriers.

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Like



Roberto ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

In the past I had satellite and over the years it kept increasing so I discontinued it because it became very expensive. Now I have only local channels, I shouldn't have to pay more for local TV. Cable companies should start paying for the local TV, why does the CRTC continue to allow it to happen? It's very important that we continue having free local TV for local news and other important documentaries.

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Like



Maria ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I definitely agree, I had satellite in the past and it became expensive. I only watch local channels, there is no reason the poor small guys should be paying. Cable companies should start paying for the local TV and the CRTC should stop this. If I have to pay then I will stop watching TV.

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Like



Diana ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think that cable companies have had a free ride long enough. Customers are clearly saying that we want local TV and we already pay for the service. Cable companies should stop fighting it and starting paying for local TV.

One of my pet peeves with Bell Satellite is that I don't get my local CJOH TV. I am hoping that as a result of this review, that Bell will be required to provide local TV to all their clients!

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Like



D. Moore ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is the MOST important. I travel a lot, so right now I do not subscribe to cable TV or satellite. I found that the basic package is expensive, does not include the channels that I prefer, includes many channels I would never watch, and I generally watched the local channels for the news anyway. My favorite cable channel -BNN- is more efficient to watch on the internet than waiting for what I want to see to come up on the TV. Cable does not offer the 3 or 4 channels I would pay for in a basic package.

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Bill Roberts ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

How much is this online consultation process costing the CRTC? What is the contract value with the firm hosting this forum? Thanks, Bill Roberts, Toronto, On

[Flag](#)

Like



StanF ★ [3 weeks ago](#) [in reply to Bill Roberts](#)

[askingcanadians.com](#) is being hosted by an American service. It may be free. Check [www.disqus.com](#) for details.

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Like



carollemeilleur ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My husband and I do not subscribe to cable and local TV is our only mean to get local news. Please don't take it away

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Like

 *Dwayne* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I say no more rate hikes. They already make enough money and should pay for local TV without charging a nickel more!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Linda Tracey* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is important to our community because it keeps us informed as to what is happening in our communities, like charitable events that benefit all of us. Cable companies can afford to help pay for local TV.

[Flag](#)

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 *HR* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I wish my cable company was more transparent with billing info. I've been paying about \$20 a month extra for The Movie Network for instance, and would happily pay a few dollars more each month to support local TV.

[Flag](#)

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 *Dan* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not like to pay more for services as a whole and would rather pick the services I like including local television. A basic charge to cover infrastructure costs would be reasonable as well as to promote local television.

[Flag](#)

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 *Linda B* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm already on the basic cable, and I find it keeps going up all the time. I got this package because I'm on a fixed income and can't afford more. If I have to pay for local TV, I may have to cancel my TV altogether. Every single bill keeps going up, but my income stays the same. I'm sure the cable company can afford it MUCH better than the "little person". I'm totally disgusted with the whole idea of having to pay for local TV. I'm going to have to start thinking about dropping things that aren't NECESSARY in my life, and TV can be replaced with some other pastime.

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 *Ricky* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I guess it's now a myth that commercials pay for air time and that keeps the television stations afloat.

I think that if I end up paying for local stations... then get rid of commercials because apparently I'm now the stakeholder keeping stations afloat, not them, and as the stakeholder, I don't want to watch commercials.

I already pay for local TV as part of my cable bill. If I was asked to pay more, I'd ask "where's the opt out option" for stations 3 of the 4 local stations.

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 *murphy* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

- It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

- We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV – my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service

- At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right to me

Flag

Like

 *nancyclark* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i do not want to have to pay extra for local tv. as far as i am concerned, cable and satellite companies can afford to pay for local tv without passing the cost on to consumers. they are making huge profits. local tv should definitely be compensated for their signal being rebroadcast by satellite and cable companies, who have to pay for their other channels...particularly american ones. local tv should always be part of basic cable or satellite packages..local tv supports local business and local charities and keeps us in touch with our communities. i would like to see a fund of some sort to help them upgrade and produce better news and local content.

Flag

Like

 *selladen* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Pass the buck to the big boys and keep local TV alive.

A bigger issue is how integral TV has become to our existence, I heard one statistic that claimed: 40% of Canadians watch 30 hours of TV/wk. or more. We waste our lives aimlessly following the lives of the fake, the real, or the "real"! How pathetic! Get up and do something productive! Read a book, exercise, play with your kids, go to the park, visit/call your parents, a relative, a friend or a neighbor, volunteer, pray, solve world hunger! Where is the meaning in our lives?

Flag

Like

 *riker1* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not want to pay extra for local TV but I would be 100% in support of having continued local TV. In my opinion if cable companies cannot absorb the additional cost they should not be in the business. Cable and satellite companies in essence have a monopoly that is allowing them to reap huge profits. Like I said above if they cannot absorb the cost they should not be in the business.

Flag

Like

 *lornebeaton* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Please ensure that the cable companies pay for the programming from local TV companies and do not pass the costs on to the consumer. I have noticed that the cable companies have increased their rate far above the cost of inflation over many of the past years.

The cable companies now have a monopoly on the cable programming available to the public. It is no longer relevant to receive signals through the air by antennae.

I find that the amount of money paid by the cable companies for American programming is reprehensible. Surely we, as Canadians, can ensure that our quality Canadian programming is given priority by requiring that cable companies pay for that which they receive for free.

Thank you,
Lorne Beaton

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S Paddock ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable and satellite cos. should cover the cost of local TV. They charge enough for cable to be able to pay for this.

We see endless adds on TV as it is. The cost of those should cover the cost of necessary local television.

[Flag](#)

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apriyeung ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think local TV stations have the right to charge cable and satellite companies. These cable companies are making lot of profit and they are currently monopolized the market. Local TV stations are needed and I don't want to see it disappear so I strongly agreed that they should charge the cable companies for distribution their programs.

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duddeyfuddle ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

As a senior who grew up with TV in the fifties, I miss the FTA (free to air - antenna) TV. Living in the GTA, life was good. TV was free. Except for the nest of roof antennas spoiling the view, there was no cable/satellite till the early sixties (\$2.95/mo). About a dozen network stations existed with reasonably mediocre programming and really bad advertising. Who of us can forget the kilowap hour? It was the Untouchables with Eliot Ness, brought to us by GE. Smellovision at its best. Our teacher in high school was Eliot Niece. Me and my classmates were the Unteachables (this is TRUE!). Who can forget when CBC Tor changed from channel nine to channel six? The big day occurred with as cardboard 9 being manually rotated to the 6 position!! With instant replay!! Endless entertainment!! Local programming was Irv Weinstien with the latest fire report at Hertle and Main. Every Tranna resident was endeared to Buffalo. Boost Buffalo - its good for you. So we did. My personal fave was Rocky and Bullwinkle (Igor and Natasha)... but I digress. I am trying my level best to live without cable and am planning to upgrade to ANY KIND OF FTA media, be it OTA, satellite, internet, or anything unscrambled coming out of my cable. So CRTC and Network TV and guvmint regulators, I assure you that me and many other content loving Canucks will do whatever to break the backbone of the current highly despised content distributors. Pleez?

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Nigel Scott ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We live in a 'grey' area. We can receive local TV 'air' signals from Calgary provided we have powerful antenna amplifier. I cannot recall the power rating but usually consisted of a component next to the antenna as well as the near the TV itself. (Radio Shack as was then known use to sell these units). The single unit amplifiers usually sold at general stores (e.g. Canadian Tire) are not nearly powerful enough.

The problem, for us, is that these powerful amplifiers have disappeared off the market. This means we have to use a satillite service to get any local TV. So what was once free now costs about \$42.00 per month plus the initial setup.

This fee has recently jumped from about \$37.00/mth.

As a primary producer that feeds all you city dwellers , I am among those that live in rural Canada and thus cannot sway the situation one way or other. But this simply demonstates the inordinate greed these corporations have in world today. Even, as I suspect, the demise of those powerful antenna amplifiers is due to arm twisting of the manufacturers to cease making them available to the Canadian market, by the cable carriers. Afterall, these types of amplifiers are easy to obtain in Europe.

In this situation, I have no choice just get the news and weather but to pay (through the nose).

Please remember as well, this can easily deprive people of emergency warnings.

[Flag](#)

Like



Claudia G. ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

As a new mom, when I can get the evening time, I watch local news channels to find out what's happening in my community. That news impacts me immediately and that outside contact to local issues is critical to me. And my dollars are worth as much as the cable companies'. We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV – my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service.

At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right to me.

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Like



rickcinway ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

When I look at my cable services, I see a lot of redundant channels, lots of French channels, lots of channels which I don't want (especially the inane and cry-baby specialist: CBC, CTV and Global). Tell you what people, if all these useless channels were individually priced out to the consumer, I bet that you will see these channels would have very little demand. I say, let the market decides who prospers or who falls by the wayside. Very simple and with the added bonus that the socio-engineers are left out of the picture. Proud to say that it is me: Rick Cinway, and I say that it is not up to the networks to ram down the throats of Canadians of what being a Canadian means. You live it, you don't need TV to define it for you.

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Like



magdamallory ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable already charges me for local TV stations as part of my basic package. Why would cable feel free to charge me more for the same?

[Flag](#)

Like



Amy_Glendon ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am ready and willing to cancel my cable package if I have to pay more. We already pay enough money for the little we have. Why sould the cable companies get to make a profit while leaving the rest of us BROKE.

[Flag](#)

Like



StanF ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

www.ASKINGCANADIANS.COM is an American website. The CRTC can't even use Canadian resources to host this "consultation".

How can we expect them to support Canadian Taxpayers?

Well, I suggest you write to their Minister at Heritage Canada.

A fellow by the name of Moore.

min.moore@pch.gc.ca should be his email address. (Well at least one of them.)

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Like



Jackie ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think it's absolutely ridiculous to expect people to pay for Local TV separately when we already do so through our Cable Service, who's rates keep climbing without any increased service. I don't understand why cable companies are allowed to charge for these services when they do not give the money to Local TV. Isn't that theft?

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Like



carrolM ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable TV first entered Canada in 1952. It wasn't until 1982 after multiple attempts that Cable was finally cleared to offer pay TV.

The general interest licencees, both national and regional, were required to program 30 per cent Canadian content in their initial years of licence rising to 50 per cent during the last 15 months of their licence periods. The Commission (CRTC) also decided to specify percentages of gross revenues and of total programming budgets that were to be spent on Canadian content, in the interests of defining cable industry contributions to "new and innovative Canadian programming....and Canadian dramatic programming."

At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels.

Disgusting!!!

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Like



Grace Clarke ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV ? my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service

At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right to me

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Like



John ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I am charged additional for local , I will drag out the old antenna.
we are already grossly overcharged for cable.

If I remember correctly,when cable came about,one of the selling points were that we would not get as many commercial messages.What a crock,now on cable 40% of the program is commercials and getting worse.

We need more competition! As for the overair broadcasters, their worth is more than cable.

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Like



Gary Kubisek ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

V Beats GLEE: CTV Ends Fall Season on Top

- CTV leads Global by nearly 60% in primetime, claims 7 out of Top 10 series -
- V is Canada's #1 New Series -
- /A\ Leads Citytv as Canada's Third-Ranked Private Network -

CTV heads into 2010 with the hottest schedule on television, as evidenced by another Fall Season squarely at the top among Canadian broadcasters. With the Fall Television Season now complete, data from BBM Canada confirms that CTV leads its nearest competition by 58% among total viewers on average in primetime. In a season that saw the introduction of many new series, viewers remain dedicated to returning hits, as CTV delivered seven out of the Top 10 programs among total viewers. Nevertheless, with a Fall schedule that saw little tinkering, CTV still emerged with Canada's #1 new series, *V*, among the network's prime selling demo of A25-54. With 1.004 million viewers, *V* averages 11% more viewers than *GLEE* (907,000) on Global.

More viewers flock to CTV than Global in primetime in Canada's two largest television markets as well, with CTV delivering higher ratings in Toronto and Vancouver than the competition in the key selling demos of A25-54, A18-49 and A18-34. Meanwhile, /A\ remains Canada's third-ranked private network behind CTV and Global, delivering more viewers in primetime than Citytv.

CTV demonstrates particular dominance at 10 p.m., where it delivers 133% more viewers than its competition in total viewers and double the audience among A25-54 and A18-49. The spread is even greater against *THE TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO* on Citytv, where CTV delivers five times the number of viewers.

>> A heartfelt congratulations once again to CTV. Congratulations for making the phone calls to buy US programs a little faster than Global, and buying what you thought were the more popular programs.

Hopefully you'll continue the great tradition in 2010 by sitting on your ass and making the calls to the Hollywood studios in a timely matter to stay on top.

Great job!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [mursch](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable companies should be paying for part of the cost of local programming without adding this to our monthly cable bill. Local programming is limited to the news and some community programming, but it is nice to be informed what is happening in the area. Some groups and community service clubs need the exposure of their events to be successful. I would miss it if it was gone, but I don't want the money coming out of my pocket. Let Rogers pay.

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 [facebook-598361922](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations? It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever. We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV – my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service. At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. We're all taking concessions on our lives, some of us are or have lost our jobs, the cable and satellite companies that are operating in Canada keep charging more and providing less of a service, I'm tired of this monopoly and wish they'd start giving back to Canadians without hitting us again with another increase or fee.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Byron Varner](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I rely on local TV daily for news, weather and most of my TV viewing. I get this service through my Satellite provider and pay a large amount, considering the many, many stations I am forced

to receive but never look at. I think it only reasonable that the cable and satellite companies pay for local TV signals. As a consumer, I feel I am already paying for these signals and therefore don't think that if the cable or satellite companies have to pay for local signals, that I should have to pay more than what I'm paying now.

[Flag](#)

Like



Caitlin Hicks ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The big cable and satellite companies should continue to provide local programming as part of what they are required to do, since they are given so much power over what we see and learn about and because they benefit financially from their position as gatekeeper and provider. Don't pass on this cost to local stations - they are not the ones, nor are the customers the ones who should be charged. This is part of the duty of cable companies and satellite companies have to the community which they get all their income from !!! Are they not making enough profit already??? Surely they can afford to make a little tiny bit less profit and continue to provide this essential, community building service.

[Flag](#)

Like



CKelly ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I pay alot of money for my cable service here in Vancouver. There is only shaw cable that I am aware of as a provider and no competition with another cable company.

I enjoy local television and it is important to me-local tv programs and news; networks like CBC, CTV, Global and APTN-inparticularly.

The money that I am paying the cable companies should pay for local television broadcasting and Shaw cable and the others should pay for those programs the same way they pay for American programming. Our rates should NOT go up, if they are now forced to pay for something they haven't been paying for-they make ENOUGH profit as it is.

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Like



CKelly ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

You people hate Canadian content-feel its boring and crappy? "We want more American shows???" Who are you people? Did I read that correctly? Do you work for the cable companies and are paid to comment here? Are you American?

Recently, CFUN-Talk 1410 went off the air after many years in Vancouver with NO WARNING. It was replaced by a second, 24 hour "All Sports" station. The content is mostly American sports. Now, unless I want a flat "uni-perspective" on vancouver and issues, I must listen to CKNW-which I have never listened too-I have lost my late night radio program that I listened nightly too for 12 years. With CFUN went the local personalities and other staff who were "let go"; lost their jobs, with out warning

Yeah-American programming.

I have now been "radio free" for 6 weeks and listen online to CBC and alternative radio programs from around the world.

I suggest, that if you prefer American programming to Canadian content-then you have an undeveloped palate. Its like being raised on greasy, fatty food (American content) with lots of additives. When you have to eat healthy, or food without the extra fat, salt and sugar-you think "It tastes bad!!" "There is no taste!!"-like spoiled children.

I suggest you fast from your American reality shows, 24 hour News propaganda (CNN) and other American drivel and see how you feel about Canadian programming in a couple of months.

If you want to be American and like mushrooms, sit in the dark about yourselves -and never

hear anything about Canada on your shows-then keep watching that American crap.

Better yet-move there.

[Flag](#)

Like



Roberta Ann Ludke ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It is not fair for the consumer to pay anything on top of what we already pay for local tv. I think local tv is a RIGHT, NOT a privilege to pay extra for. We used to have 2 local tv stations in Sault Ste Marie. Now we get our local news from Sudbury. Cable and satellite services already charge steep prices and they should be forced to contribute their share to local tv.

[Flag](#)

Like



ortundra ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable TV services are already outrageously high in Canada but Local TV stations are very valuable and should definitely be compensated by the cable companies. cable companies should also reduce the cost to consumers for delivering their service. It's time for them to give back some value to Canadians who have paid for their huge profits over the last decade.

[Flag](#)

Like



cindyjacksonandjohnkoss ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i want local t.v. but we do not need to pay any more for it or cable.

[Flag](#)

Like



Anne P. ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable companies have to pay all other sources of programs, why shouldn't they pay for local content as well. The staff at our local are involved in the community in a huge way! If they had to close, the community would suffer the loss.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kim Fisher ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I think local television stations should be compensated by the cable companies. We need to protect our local stations so that we can keep them viable and continuing to cover and help issues in our local communities. This is what tv does best! A small change to carry local channels from the cable companies is acceptable and the specialty channel charges should be lowered!

2. I think giving local stations more flexibility and government support is a step in the right direction. We are losing our national identity to the USA by making those programs the only profitable "pipeline" for stations to use for revenue generation.

[Flag](#)

Like



carolcloke ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If cable companies are charging me to get local TV but get it for free, WHY ARE THEY CHARGING ME. Local TV should get to set and charge a reasonable price for their programing.

[Flag](#)

Like



Deserea McGowan ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I thought I was already paying for local television. I pay the cable company enough

money...they should be the ones that are now paying for the channels that they have been billing me for but they have been getting for free.

[Flag](#)

Like



Diane ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Hi:

I think it unfair that the cable companies charge me large fees but do not share those proceeds with CBC, Global and CTV who are providing original, local content that costs money to produce.

Cable companies should be forced to share their profits.

Please note I am not in favor of NEW fees, as a consumer, I would rebel. Just share the existing pot of money more equitably.

Thank you,

Diane

[Flag](#)

Like



barbarasmyth ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe that local TV should receive a fee for carriage. If the cable providers decide to pass that cost onto the consumer I feel that would simply represent the continued 'overbilling' of cable providers! However I would reluctantly pay the added cost because I cannot imagine television viewing without local TV. I also do not enjoy viewing television via the internet. Current devices, such as PVRs allow the viewer to watch television on their own schedule, which I always do. Therefore it seems obvious that advertisers will be looking for lower costs for television time, as many viewers fast-forward through the commercials. However I have read that the commercials are changing their design so that the viewer still receives the message.

The ideal solution would be to pay for local TV and then be able to select any other TV station on an individual basis not as part of a bundle.

[Flag](#)

Like



csimcox ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We already pay for cable service which is more than enough to cover local broadcasting. We are going to lose our Canadian identity to the United States if we do not support our country having its own unique cultural and patriotic broadcasting system, to foster our Canadian Identity. Also, work in the TV industry for Canada will leave thousand of people out of work if there are no local programs to create. This is a very destructive message to send to Canada that you do not support our country enough to ensure that we receive more Canadian programs and local news stations for us.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kyle Fergus ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I say that ABC should set up ABC affiliate stations in Canada to cable/sat-cast their lineup with no sales of programming to the Canadian re-broadcasters like CTV. Shut down Canadian stations, as they offer nothing of value.

If this new tax goes through, I will be cancelling cable in an instant. It would help out CTV and Global big time, sure, but it would not mean more money for the production of Canadian programming, but rather more money to buy American shows. Not to mention, more money just to run the networks.

In this case, this is nothing more than an extortion attempt.

[Flag](#)



John H. Hargaves ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Dear CRTC:

Why are the cable companies allowed to raise rates at 4 times the inflation?

Why are the cable companies allowed to render our QAM tuners useless with their propriety and over priced DCTs?

Why are consumers charged for local TV when in fact the cable compaies don't pay one cent to receive, re-transmit and re-sell the signals.

Something needs to be fixed here in Canada.

Sincerely;

John H. Hargaves

[Flag](#)



Dale Evins ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I say that Dish Network should set up Dish Network affiliate satellite distribution centers in Canada to offer Canadians the same deals US residents get. Shut down Canadian cable and satellite companies, as they offer nothing other than rip off Canadian broadcasters and gouge Canadian subscribers.

[Flag](#)



Chris Travers ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I just read a great comment on another website:

"My right testicle has more Canadian content than CTV and Global combined."

Wow, that's a great statement. It truly sums up Canadian television and its pathetic state in a nutshell (pardon the pun!)

Chris

[Flag](#)



go away ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Chris Travers](#)

Would you mind acting more like an adult and take your childish comments back the forum you came from?

Where are the moderators?

Sheesh!

[Flag](#)



Hampton ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to go away](#)

Chris, I read that elsewhere too, and I thought it was brilliant. It captures in an essence just how little Canadian content there really is on stations like CTV.

What is the use of CTV anyways - to insert as many Canadian Tire ads as possible in an episode of American Idol? Honestly.

[Flag](#)



 [Hugh Thompsom](#) ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Hampton](#) 1 person liked this.

You guys are fukced!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Geevis](#) ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Hugh Thompsom](#)

The best is when you're watching one American network that's already been hijacked by a Canadian station, and another Canadian network cuts in overtop and does another hijacking!

It's like a double hijacking, totally screwing things up and rendering the original American telecast unwatchable. When will these Canadian networks learn to come up with things of their own?

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Steve Longos](#) ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Geevis](#)

The thing to remember of course is that we, the consumer, do ultimately control the market. Refuse to buy Canadian crap ... Canadian crap goes out of business. Put the viability of the cable/satco's in question and any decision made which would start to smell if brought out in daylight could very well be overturned.

That is the whole issue here.

We have refused to buy Canadian crap by not watching American shows on Canadian re-broadcasters. But this had such a good effect that the CRTC stepped in and made sure we had to watch them on those stations or not at all via this simsub idea, that clearly isn't working.

The CRTC is now getting ready to take it a step further for the very reason that we are trying our best to exercise that right to not support these crappy Canadian broadcasters (or as many say - rebroadcasters).

The only way we can have the shows we actually want to watch and not support the substandard Canadian crappy stations like CTV and Global that is thrust upon us with no choice is to break the law or at least bend it a bit (unless you live close enough to an actual market that airs said quality programming that is via over-the-air US stations).

I am getting ready to turf the bill by cancelling my Bell TV account and going with DirecTV, but not until after Christmas, as right now I am a tad bit busy with looking after the kids and my brothers kids as well.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [John](#) ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to Steve Longos](#)

"I am getting ready to turf the bill by cancelling my Bell TV account and going with DirecTV"

Me too. My brother in Az has DirecTV, I can't beleive how much cheaper and better it is compared to the CDN crap called bell. can't wit 'till late January when I finally pull the (ilegal) switch.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Sat Guy](#) ★ [3 weeks ago in reply to John](#)

Hey guys, I've done it. There's a good dealer in the Newmarket area here that can get you going fast (look him up).

The rates are so much cheaper, the picture quality is better, you get additional channels like ESPN and the real HBO, plus no annoying simsubs, which is the best part.

You can put up an OTA antenna to get CBC for your local news, and you're set for live.

[Flag](#)

Like



Harvey Normandy ★ [3 weeks ago](#) in reply to [Steve Longos](#)

It is very easy to get DirecTV. All you need is a US address, and you're set. Our entire street here in Peterborough subscribes to DirecTV now, and there has not been one complaint. No more crappy simsubs, and more channels for a better price.

How could one ask for anything better?

[Flag](#)

Like



Steven Holby ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Only on Canada are Cable/Sat companies allowed to take a broadcaster's signal without retransmission consent and re-sell the signal without compensating the original broadcaster.

Only in Canada are Cable/Sat companies allowed to raise our rates at four times the cost of inflation.

The CRTC should start regulating cable fees and the CRTC should let in outside competition like Dish Network and Direct TV!

Local broadcaster need to be compensated for their signals and as the cable companies are already charging customers for these channels, the cost must come from cablevision fat-cat shareholders pockets

[Flag](#)

Like



Tom B ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It would seem that cable and satellite companies have in effect gained a monopoly in communication services as the old technologies such as individual TV antennas disappear. Their income is fixed, controllable and predictable unlike advertising revenue. They have shown how well they are able to control and increase revenue through their ever changing packaging of programs. Therefore I have no doubt that if they are forced to contribute a fair share to local TV, which I believe they should, We, the consumer, will pay for it one way or the other.

[Flag](#)

Like



Shawn Hamilton ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I wouldn't have a problem with paying for a LPIF if I thought there might actually be an improvement in local programming. However whenever I look @ a schedule for Global and CTV all I usually see is a rebroadcast of American programs. Global has built its business on profitable entertainment programming produced in the United States, it could care less about Canadian content. Also these stations benefit from the practice of simultaneous substitution. We need true Canadian content not this reality TV craze. We have seen what happens with CTV, they align with MTV and then neutered their assets from CHUM. The term Canadian in CTV is an oxymoron. So all I see in this new money grab called LPIF is that a local program will be a joke.

[Flag](#)

Like



willardlawrence ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If local companies only provide news service, what about stations like CKCO who produce programs like "Pokadot Door" and "Romper Room", these programs are picked up by cable companies and other stations and re-broadcasted. The cable company sponsors pay money to advertise during these programs. The cable companies have NOTHING to do with the production end of these programs, they contribute NOTHING to put them out on the air, all they do is rebroadcast and reap the benefits of other peoples hard work. Not only that, with digital TV they limit access to these stations original broadcasting. You can no longer pick up signals directly from these stations. Great if the cable service is working but what about if there is a national emergency, and the cable service is hit. Wouldn't it be great to be able to fall back on the "old" system of reception to get local national news and advisories. after 9-11 there isnt a sole who should say, "It will NEVER happen." We are not invulnerable, quite the contrary, with our military fighting wars on foreign soil, our troops are stretched so thin they couldnt defend Ottawa let alone the rest of the country. That's if they were given the equipment and ammuniton to do so.

These companies have made 100's of millions of dolars in the past several years and they are NOT forecasting a loss in the years to come. If anything, maintaining status quo, they will gain many more 100's of millions of hard earned customers dollars for doing next to nil to obtain. If they failed to set aside a suitable reserve during the years they were "rolling in the clover", that is NOT the customer's fault. That in itself constitutes breach of contract. Customers contract to receive a service. They expect providers to do all in their power to provide that service. Instead of frivalling away customer dollars in dividends to share holders they should have been taking a more balanced look and paying fewer dividends and investing more in infrastructure (like supporting local TV) to ensure a steady source of the product we the customers contracted to receive. The CRTC should not be entertaining apprioval for these rate increases. The service has already been paid for it's up to the cable companies to claw back some of fat dividends by paying fewer in the future so they can pay for the upgrades and provide the service they've already been paid for.

Flag

Like



Andrea ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I know as it stands I cannot afford cable right now and do not have cable. When Rogers bought out Shaw cable I was not happy. I also had no say or choice. Rogers came out with the Tiers system and I previewed them liking the tier with the space channel. I signed up for the tier after the free trial period and was hit with a inflated bill. I cancelled my cable and was cable-less for 4 years. I tried again in 2008 with Rogers and am again now cable less due to the fact that between phone and cable prices the non essential one had to go. If cable is truly digital then why can we no select only the channels that we want to watch and pay for it? The technology is here but they just want to dig us out for channels that we dont want or watch. I personally hate Rogers and would welcome other competition who don't have to rent or purchase the lines from Bell Canada or Rogers as it would not result in lower rates for the Consumers. My money would still be going to a company that I despise. If Rogers has been getting the channels from local tv for free and then billing us for receiving them then rogers should be Paying the local tv stations for the use of their programs without increasing any fees to the Public as we are already paying for the programs but Rogers has not remitted payments to the Local Tv stations. Also the CRTC has got to get its head out of the Backsides of the Bell and Rogers Monopolies and allow for other fair competition. Shaw never dug out its customers and provided excellent service so why can't greedy Rogers be happy with its multimillion dollar profits? Can't Rogers see that their non payment for the programs is the equivalent of Customers stealing Cable?

Flag

Like



Michael Cowie ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Frankly, this is idiotic.

Having lived in the UK, I find it atrocious that the government of Canada would progressively erode the CBC's budgets so they are forced to abandon local TV, and now our they have the

audacity to tax the citizenry for getting cable (generally the only means of getting any kind of decent signal from any station - including the CBC) with anything relevant to where they live. This is a recipe for taking the nation into even further "town and country" divisiveness and padding the wallets of the network owners (who will likely divert as much of the money into buying syndicated shows from the US in any case).

If the privately owned stations can't afford to make local programming, then fine - shut down the local stations. If any money were to be taken from the public to improve the TV infrastructure of the country, the government would do far better to create a series of digital signal broadcasters - I live in central Toronto and can't even get a decent signal on my digital rabbit ears from the CBC, much less any other broadcaster - I was better off with "peasant-vision" which we will be shutting off soon with no equivalent replacement in sight.

It's pretty obvious that the CRTC is beholden to private interests, and this ridiculous notion dovetails beautifully with Rupert Murdoch's campaign to shut down the BBC in the UK because it's too hard for his Sky network to compete with it.

If Global, CTV and anyone else who can't turn a buck, and invest in our national, independent broadcaster. Period. I already pay a tax, and it goes to the CBC.

Flag

Like



Lucy ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I made arrangements to have my TV cable service cancelled the moment I opened the letter saying my rates would go up again. I REFUSE TO PAY THIS TAX!! TV is TV, I don't care where the channel comes from. I will use my antenna from now on. These stations can post unlimited commercials, it seems, to pay their way. You want me to pay tax to watch more commercials, & less programming?? I am sick to death of being nickled & dimed to death (taxes). My pay does not go up to support this bleeding, & I have no more blood to give.

Flag

Like



Darren Miller ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable / Satellite television is ALREADY costing too much! The advertisers pay for their advertising to be seen, and the consumer (ME!) pays the broadcaster to watch it! If one is to have television, it should be FREE if one is forced to watch advertising. If one is paying a pricey sum to these broadcast giants, one should get to watch their programming WITHOUT advertising. Do not add any more cost to the subscriber. In fact, force them all to LOWER THEIR PRICE. In my city, London ON, the local station (A channel) sucks so bad I'm just glad to see them going...

Flag

Like



rodneycraves ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV should be left to sink or swim on their own. They should be allowed to fail.

If these companies can't survive with the huge amount of advertising the viewer is constantly inundated with, then they need to look at their business practices. Maybe they should start by putting on some worthwhile programming!

While you are at it, unbundle the satellite and cable packages. Those channels that nobody wants should be allowed to fail, instead of being artificially propped up. Let the viewers decide!!

Flag

Like



Andrew C ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe local television to be highly important for the local content they produce (when they actually produce something original) and the availability of local advertising it offers. That being said, Cable and Satellite Providers are forced to carry these channels and offer them in their basic packages. This gives the local TV channels a far greater reach than they normally would have. It allows the Local TV Channels to charge far higher rates for advertising because of the

increased reach. Another CRTC mandate makes Cable and Satellite Providers overlay a Canadian broadcast over an American one showing the same program. Again, this allows the Local TV Channels to acquire advertising revenues that it normally wouldn't receive. Greed and poor management of the Local TV channels have them complaining to the CRTC to allow Fee for Carriage. If this is something they want, then I say the CRTC must do away with forcing these channels be carried in a basic package. Allow them to be offered a la carte. That way, customers have the option. Cable and Satellite have the technology and ability to do it this way. So to answer the question how I would react if asked to pay for these channels, I would suck it up and pay if these channels remained a required part of basic packages, but I would likely not take most available if they were offered a la carte. Really, most of the local channels re-broadcast American content anyways. Why would I pay for it on another channel when I already pay for it.

In my view, the measures are already being taken to support local TV. Local channels are available over the air and through ALL Cable and Satellite providers. On top of this, the CRTC recently added the LPIF Fund. This takes approximately 1.5% of revenues from Cable and Satellite providers and distributes this money to the local TV channels. They are receiving more money than they have ever received before.

I'd like to offer a 3rd tid bit of info for anyone who is interested. The Local TV channels complain that Cable and Satellite companies make huge profits year after year while the TV channels don't. Cable and Satellite companies offer more than just TV service. They offer High Speed Internet and phone service as well. The introduction of these services, combined with TV service is what has made these companies as successful as they are. TV is probably the least profitable part of their business.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jason E* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I highly disagree with paying any additional fees for local tv through my satellite provider. There is no difference whether I access local tv though my satellite provider compared to accessing local tv through an antenna. Why should I have to pay a fee for this when I am already paying for my access through my satellite provider?

The local tv companies are just that, companies. As a business owner I am not receiving any form of bailout (which the TV tax essentially is), so why should the local companies? If they cannot remain competitive, then too bad for them. If the government feels that for some reason the local tv companies should receive bailout funds, the government should be returning some of the revenue generated by the taxing of my tv service in the form of the 13% tax I already pay.

What is the purpose of the new 1.5% tax now being charged? I did not approve this!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *KL* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Yes local TV should charge cable companies for their programming. I am surprised they are not already. If the cable companies are profiting from the programming of the local stations than there should be a cost to do so. This also should not increase the consumers bill. ie, cable companies should not be permitted to increase the cost of service as a result. They are already making a profit today and have been for some time now off a free service to them charging for this now is would be very greedy. However it is the cable company so I would not put an attempt past them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Chuck* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Our family does not watch local TV. We get Canadian content from community newspapers, National Post and Internet. Nevertheless we are forced to pay for local TV because it is included in the basic cable package. Adding a local TV tax will make this unfair situation worst. TV subscribers should be allowed to select their own channels just like we can subscribe movie and

other non basic channels . Those who don't subscribe local TV should not have to pay.

[Flag](#)

Like

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Like

 *debbiecourtney* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Type your comment here. I have worked for thirty-nine years and no one has ever offered to pay my way or provide financial assistance to me without charging me interest. It is ridiculous for a company to be collecting any profit and complain they do not have enough support. I feel it is just another grab from the consumers pocket. Everyone I've talked to about this issue agrees with me. We do not want to support any more businesses which charge more but deliver less and less. I think a government agency like CRTC should be looking after the consumer and not big business! Perhaps you should give it a try and actually help the common citizen. I have a university education and I've always been able to support myself but there are many people these days which are not so lucky. Someone should be making sure low income people have access to television. Step up and do what's right by not supporting any more increases in rates!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jane* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Let me pick and choose what channels I want to pay for. No TV Tax!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Zerickson* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think that local television is important and is entitled to a fee from the cable and satellite companies that transmit it. I live in downtown Toronto and cannot get tv reception without subscribing for cable. For 25 years I have been paying for a package which includes local channels and many other channels which I don't watch.

I don't think my already high fees should be increased. Many times I have been subjected to fee increases based on cable capital costs which I think should not have been charged to subscribers.

Local television should be compensated in the same manner as the other channels are.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *tv watcher* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think the broadcasters should definitely be allowed to charge the cable companies for their services but cable companies should be allowed to not include them in their services.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Janice W.* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the main companies like Shaw Direct, Bell and Telus, are holding billions of dollars and refuse to pay to keep local stations going, it is like Scrooge holding the money and denying people of knowledge on local news and events in the local communities. I say that these cable companies are very inconsiderate and selfish about their own customers and their needs for local

programmings. I was not afraid to ask my local cable/phone/service provider companies about their support for local programming, and I am glad I did. Access Communications cared about local programming because they want to get the word out on local news and events, and SaskTel cared about it, too, as they use local programming to promote its business with customers. They also give back by participating and sponsoring in local community events.

[Flag](#)

Like



mikehatfield ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Any additional cost would force me to cancel cable completely. My feeling is my basic cable bill covers the cost of the infrastructure to provide cable service to me in the first place - that I happen to get some channels is a bonus. Since upgrading to digital cable, I seldom watch anything but the specialty channels for which I pay extra. I would much prefer to buy individual channels and get the programming I want (which is mostly British in origin) because local programming (with rare exception even on local networks) is typically US in origin or in concept. Once cancelled, I'd ironically be forced to try to pull in local programming over an aerial, which means I'd be back to just having the CBC like it was when I was a kid as the reception for CTV is poor and Global is impossible in my area.

At one time, I would have argued strongly for local television. Local news and current affairs programming was relevant and reflected my community. However, these days, in Nova Scotia, it is rare to get balanced reporting on local issues - Global seems to be over 50% New Brunswick-based stories and CTV is not much better. At one time, local TV tried to time-shift programming for the Atlantic time-zone. They don't any longer. NS is underserved and I no longer feel any sympathy for the local networks. The image they project is not of the Canada or the Nova Scotia I believe in.

[Flag](#)

Like



mikehatfield ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The additional cost would force me to cancel cable completely. My feeling is my basic cable bill covers the cost of the infrastructure to provide cable service to me in the first place - that I happen to get some channels is a bonus. Since upgrading to digital cable, I seldom watch anything but the specialty channels for which I pay extra. I would much prefer to buy individual channels and get the programming I want (which is mostly British in origin) because local programming (with rare exception on local networks) is typically US in origin or in concept. Once cancelled, I'd ironically be forced to either try to pull in local programming over an aerial, which means I'd be back to the CBC like it was when I was a kid as the reception for CTV is poor and Global is impossible in my area.

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[Flag](#)

Like



Cyril Cook ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

What is local TV. When I look at the guide I note that the same programming is happening coast to coast...so what's local about that other than the news and weather. If I must pay for a local channel then let me chose which one, after all, when I buy one local paper I don't pay for the others as well. I also note that cable companies also provide a local channel for various community interests.

I can obtain local news very effectively by radio and newspaper...local TV is not really important to me.

If the regulators/government want local TV to be paid for, everyone should pay not just cable/satellite subscribers. I remember the day when so called local TV lobbied to be carried by

cable and indeed the CRTC made it mandatory. Recently a local TV station was dropped by Shaw in western Canada and the crying by the station was loud and vociferous.

The technology is now available, it is time for regulators and government to catch up with Canadians, we should pay for only those channels we want and should not subsidize local programming or any other channel or production fund....if subsidization is necessary, it should come from taxes otherwise unfair burden is carried by cable/satellite subscribers rather than the general public, many of whom live close to the U.S. border and can obtain OTA channels at no cost (including HD TV without the need for an expensive box). Paying for OTA local broadcasting also penalizes rural and remote residence who have little or no use of local events.

If the local OTA TV stations are not profitable, they need to fix their own business model. With the multiple of alternatives open to Canadians today, the old local TV model may not be sustainable. And although subsidization may be appealing...are we going to subsidize every OTA local TV?

In the end, as cable/satellite costs are pushed up by mandated CRTC decisions, which are already numerous, many will revert to OTA antennas combined with internet and movie rentals on line.

It would be interesting to know how much of our cable/satellite monthly cost is CRTC mandated (i.e. funding programming, forced carriage of certain channels including subscription for some stations such as CBC newsworld).

[Flag](#)

Like



[StanF](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) in reply to [Cyril Cook](#)

Come on Cyril

Your continued support of our cable/satellite industry is critical.

Where would the CRTC be without that aspect of the communications industry to regulate?

They can't make a business case on the cell phone industry alone.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Kevin Bishop](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers. I understand Broadcasters operating profits approach \$400 million last year while they already receive \$600 million in benefits from the Cable and Satellite companies. What commitments have been given by the big TV networks to keep local television stations on the air?

[Flag](#)

Like



[Ticia](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1) If asked to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for cable, I WOULD CANCEL MY SERVICE, period! Local TV is obviously not that important seeing as how the big networks never committed to supporting local programming. Now they suddenly demand more money to "save Local TV" ???

2) To support local TV, the big broadcasters need to start using those billion dollars of taxpayer money and from TV providers. There is no need for a bailout!

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[pjdesmarais](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the Providers were asked to pay for these services I do not feel the money would be spend on local stations. If they are forced to pay for these stations would they have the option not to broadcast them at all (like other stations, i.e Superchannel)?

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Bell Corporate Shenanigans... ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

From: Crull, Kevin (6013042)

Sent: December 4, 2009 12:07 PM

Subject: Asking for a few minutes of your time... Stop the TV TAX

Team ---

Hopefully this is my last request for your time and attention on this matter. The CRTC has set up a web site for public comments and consultation on the TV TAX issue. The Canadian Government has insisted that the CRTC consider the impact of any decision or change in regulation on consumers... There is an obvious direct impact of significantly higher pay TV bills, which nobody supports. But there are also very broad industry implications of a TV TAX to "bail-out" conventional broadcasters which would severely damage the Canadian Television industry, slow innovation, reduce variety and choice, and harm the development and success of Canadian Content...

The direction the CRTC is headed is BAD for the Television industry, BAD for Bell, and BAD for Canada.

Bell employees have really stepped up and successfully contributed to the debate. Like everything in life however, there are two sides to the argument --- and our opponents will mobilize and will be pushing hard over the coming week to sway public comments in their favour. That's why I ask you to take time this weekend to make your voice heard. Please see below a link to yesterday's BellNet article on the latest developments. Go to <http://television.askingcanadians.com> and then click on the "discussion topics" on the left side of the page. We have provided several bullet points on BellNet you can cut and paste into the comment box. You'll need to provide a first name and an email address, but you don't need to register - you can post as a guest. Of course feel free to make your own comments, the bullet points are simply reinforcement of the company's key messages, and are there for your convenience.

PLEASE CASCADE this to your teams and encourage them to contribute and to cascade themselves. Thanks again!!

Click [HERE](#) for BellNet Article

I am also once again attaching the great Cartt.ca article which objectively points out all the reasons why the TV TAX is bad policy and bad for the industry. You can find that below.

Kevin

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StanF ★ [4 weeks ago](#) [in reply to Bell Corporate Shenanigans...](#)

Do you know why the CRTC has hosted this discussion on an American web site instead of using Canadian resources and talent?

Flag

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michelledunford ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I'm fed up with exorbitant cable rates and paying for channels I don't watch and don't want, in order to get the few I do. I would throw my hands in the air and go back to basic cable or no cable.

2. Local cable can easily be paid for by the cable companies out of their massive profit margins. I abhor the cable company tv ads saying consumers must pay a surcharge (read: "tax"), when the original CRTC plan stated cable companies were to pay the LPIF themselves, and NOT pass the fee along to the consumer.

Cable obviously operates with little concern for its customers due to there being little competition. It would benefit consumers to have more competition in the cable marketplace.

Flag

Like



Bill G. ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Absolutely not. It's not enough that the ON and Fed governments will be imposing additional taxation thru the creation of the HST, now you also want to impose fees for watching our own local broadcasting? Ludicrous.

And this will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!?

Have you heard the term "free market"? The best chance for any broadcaster to survive is to put a good product out and be fiscally responsible. Not from government bailouts, because let's face it, this is just another way of subsidizing local programming over big US conglomerates (ie another way of the CRTC controlling what we watch).

We Canadians have a great product in local programming, which can stand on its own two feet. There's no need to subsidize it.

And frankly, throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming, so how do we know that money will be put toward that effort?

Absolutely not!

Flag

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9vh9 ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We are a low-income (and tax-paying!) family who has decided that we are better off without the monthly cable bill. We are quite happy with our two free local channels, CBC and NTV out of St. John's. The quality of the programming is very good (especially CBC), the news and other local shows are highly relevant and we feel very well-served by them. Nevertheless we are very concerned about cutbacks to CBC funding. I would HATE to see any more advertising or self-promotion on either channel--it's almost unbearable now. The CBC especially needs and deserves to be better funded, and I do not understand how the cable companies can justify charging for carrying their free signals. It seems like pure greed to me. Also, the ads that the cable companies have been running lately are infuriating: they very carefully tread the border of outright dishonesty. They seriously need to be put in their place.

(1) We have been discussing lately what we will do when all TV goes digital and it's most likely that we will upgrade our computer equipment so that we can watch online. (The internet connection is a necessary expense anyway, for work and educational purposes.) I will NOT pay a cable company for a signal that we already pay for with our tax dollars. If we have to go without TV we will.

(2) Better government funding for CBC, and free or cost-recovery ONLY prices for basic CBC or

NTV on cable. Also, the CBC specialty channels should be available as single choices from the cable companies, not bundled up with all kinds of other stuff we don't necessarily want.

Thanks for the opportunity to say my piece. CBC is incredibly important to Canada. With such a huge and diverse country, it is our single best hope of remaining unified. Every day as I listen to the radio while I work, I get to know the rest of my country, and every evening when I tune in to the National, I know I am one of many who, in spite of all our differences and disagreements, are proud to be Canadian.

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Mike Colacci ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My name is Mike Colacci and I would like to comment on the proposed TV Tax, I think it is a farce and an outrage that this tax is being proposed. I believe and many believe that the government already asks for enough taxes whether it be property, salary or gst, pst or whatever other acronym you use to tax us. As a consumer and as a father of 3 children, I already have a difficult enough time to meet the budgetary needs of a family life all the while trying to give my children all they need to be happy and this so called tv tax is another burden on my shoulders. Why don't you give us the freedom to choose ever channel we want to watch if you really want to help consumers, that way we can choose to keep or not to keep the local stations. As you well know, the majority of Tv watchers would cancel there local channels in a heartbeat because the programming is horrible and outright boring, so don't hide behind a tv tax and you are not doing any favours to the local tv stations and especially to hard working families by installing a tv tax.

[Flag](#)

Like



fedup13 ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable/satellite companies can easily absorb this cost! Yes bonusus will need to shrink... but that is the real world.

Maybe the CRTC should introduce them back into the REAL WORLD by allowing more competition in the cable business! Maybe even break up their bundles and allow the customer to choose exactly which channels they want/willing to pay for. That should help to lower the fees, as I am tired of paying for channels I don't want!
PLEASE STOP GOUGING US!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Norman Bray ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

would not be prepared to pay more than what paying now for bundle of services.

Local television should be paid for production which is used on cable.

[Flag](#)

Like



deniseblakebrough ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable and satellite should pay the local stations for their news and special reports.

Type your comment here.

[Flag](#)

Like



Laura McNeil ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I agree that local tv is very important, but I don't believe that consumers should have to pay for this. We consumers pay too much as it is for the service that we receive no matter what cable/satellite company you deal with. I agree that the cable/satellite providers should pay a fee/donation to support the local tv stations, however I don't think it's fair that the cable/satellite company's will in turn charge their consumers for this so they don't have to foot

the bill. In conclusion if I end up having to pay this fee I will cancel my cable/satellite service completely and watch tv online because it costs way less anyways.

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Like



dan R ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable/satellite provider shills are not being truthful here. Canadian specialty channels and all American channels already receive fee for carriage. It's only Canadian conventional stations that aren't compensated for retransmission. Yet the cable/satellite providers are already charging their subscribers to receive conventional Canadian stations.

It's time for the cable/satellite providers to pay up what is owed to Canadian conventional stations. The CRTC should not allow the cable/satellite providers to raise our rates as we already pay for ALL channels we receive. The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees as cable prices jumped FOUR TIMES the price of inflation.

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Homer Johnson ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I had no idea that all channels except the conventional channels receive a fee for carriage. The theft committed by the cable companies must stop!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Ricky 45 ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I watch local news everyday. I had no idea that all channels except the ones that carry local news get paid.

The CRTC needs to regulate cablevision. 4X the increase of inflation is robbery.

Plus I don't need all the junk channels rammed down my throat. (they receive a fee for carriage yet almost no one watches them)

Come on!!!

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Like



Dahlia ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It should be my cable company that pays this. Afterall they just reported a 24% profit and an 18% increase in business. Surely they wouldn't dare pass this on to the consumer. I would seriously consider pulling all my business. At the very least the cable companies better offer lots of flexibility in choosing channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



1960john ★ [4 weeks ago](#) [in reply to Dahlia](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable/satellite companies would love to offer you freedom of choice in the channels you receive.

It is the CRTC (the host of this site) that mandates you not have that freedom.

Maybe if these restrictions were lifted we could pay for only the stations we want; resulting in more competition on the providers of these signals(the cable/satellite companies)bringing us the public lower rates.

[Flag](#)

Like



carlosalewis ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I live in Ontario and we already pay too much taxes. Health premium, the many taxes on gas, GST, extremely high income tax, the proposed HST which the Premier has jammed down the throat of Ontarians; and, now another TV tax when I hear there is already a tax that is part of Cable bills that TV Networks already get. I think the Corporate TV model is broken and believe its in all of our interests to get it fixed, but don't believe the socialist tax and spend is the answer. What is the root of this failed business model? not sure, but a bail out won't address the core problems.

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Like



[Mark K](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Yes...local television is important, BUT things are way out of hand. Everytime we turn around there's another fee for this or that, but wages aren't going up to meet these increases. Don't the local stations get their revenue from commercials. The amount of commercials crammed into a television show made it past ridiculous years ago, so financially they should be doing fantastic. I think we need to cut the profit margins from both cable and local stations, and give the consumer a break.

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[StanF](#) ★ [4 weeks ago in reply to Mark K](#) 1 person liked this.

Freedom of choice in what you watch should not be confused with freedom to pay for what you watch. The CRTC is protecting the TV industry, NOT Canadian consumers. Thousands have complained about this but the CRTC is under no obligation to be fair to consumers. Remember, the present situation arose under CRTC supervision and in full compliance with CRTC regulations. Only the government can direct the CRTC (as they did in allowing an additional entrant into the cell phone market). Write your MP if you want the CRTC to be fair to consumers. Don't waste your time venting here.

[Flag](#)

Like



[caa](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

CBC radio and tv is currently funded through our tax dollars and should continue to be. If there is increase in my cable I will cancel. This issue has really brought to light that we are real no value for the dollars consumers spend on cable due to the television mediocrity. Why do I have to channels I do not watch and are billed as one package. Why do I pay for product marketing on the channels that I have bought a subscription too i.e. Food Network? I typically watch a few stations and would be interested in only paying for those.

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Like



[Sue](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe local tv is covered by Rogers already. Each city across Ontario has access to local tv, parades, auctions, local news and sports are covered by staff and hundreds of volunteers from within their community, and aired exclusively on the local channel, can't get any better than that. CTV saying people will lose local tv is completely incorrect. If they want to charge and effectively it means we pay, then move them off basic and they become a specialty channel. Let people choose if they want to pay then.

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Like



[spud01](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There isn't a logical reason for a fee to support local TV. If they can't make their business work, oh well.

The simplest solution is to remove the provision forcing cable, and satellite companies to carry local TV stations. Let consumers decide what channels they want. Then local TVs advertisers get

to decide if they survive.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John F* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would pay for local TV if I could opt out of other channels that I will never have any interest in but am forced to because of CRTC intervention. I am not a proponent of subsidizing local business through incremental taxes, they never disappear, they only go up. I believe the solution is fixing the business model to allow consumers more freedom of choice and the payment of fees to the media provider through the cable or satellite companies. Please eliminate the bundles and forced subsidization of channels that have little or no appeal to some consumers. I also have a question about why my federal taxes are paid to support the CRTC when cabinet is taking a more active role in decision making and you are being disengaged.

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Like

 *John* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The problem facing local broadcasters can and should be solved "in house" without bothering cable companies, viewers, consumers, CRTC, etc. When your revenues are less than your expenses you need to do one of two things. Increase revenue or reduce expenses. I see far too many over paid news anchors merely reading from a teleprompter and getting huge salaries. Cut internal costs to make your stations profitable. Stop buying expensive US shows. I can watch them on the US services and do not need the Cdn broadcasters buying them and then claiming poor. If a program is not being broadcast on US border stations then go ahead and buy them otherwise I will watch the US stations. Save the money.

On a show on Rogers TV the VP from Bell captured this issue perfectly. When Rogers got into the home phone business Bell had their revenue drop as their core product was being attacked. Bell did not go to the CRTC nor their customers for a hand out. Instead internally they changed the way they do business and internally fixed things to be able to survive. Broadcasting stations are run by a bunch of dinosaurs who do not realize that the world is changing and they need to shake up their 1950 business model and get creative.

At the recent hearings it was said that the cable companies have a hard time agreeing to negotiate with broadcasters because why would you pay for something that is free. They give their signals away over the air for free, they show their programs on the internet for free yet they expect the cable companies to pay for it. Not right.

As well, broadcasters already get increased distribution on satellite and cable and they get those annoying commercial substitutions that makes them tons of cash in increased advertising rates. By watching on cable or satellite you get a good signal without interference. Cable companies invest huge capital costs to give customers that good signal and send these local stations far and wide. Long gone are the days that you could not get a broadcaster due to buildings or hills in the way.

Also, the Save Local TV is a joke. Two hours of news with 60% of that program not local is not local TV. Yes, your building is fairly local but your content is not. Look in the mirror and see what is actually going on.

Give it up broadcasters. Solve this problem without annoying everyone else.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mohamads* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

we need less taxes not more please.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Paul Vanderzwet* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The idea of paying for local programming is ridiculous. They make money from advertising as well as government support and are profitable. How is it that if I get my local programming through a cable or satellite I should have to pay extra, while my neighbour looking at the same programming off air is free? This is nothing more than the broadcasters looking to reach into my pocket to line theirs. They remind me of Ferengi's whose 'first rule of acquisition is to maximize profit at all costs' shame on them!

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Jay ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

- A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.
- Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.
- The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

[Flag](#)

Like



James ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I find it hard to believe that the CRTC is legitimately considering this farce (again).

The whole reason that this issue exists, is because of the CRTC.

The CRTC mandates that we all must watch Canadian programming, so the Canadian networks realize that they can make substandard (cheap) shows, and we must all watch them.

Now that Canadians have many specialty channels to watch, the Local Canadian networks are afraid that even the cheap shows are not getting watched (and hence advertisers do not want to pay for spots).

So what do the Local networks do? Rather than create decent programming, they cry for more money (because the CRTC is telling us we still must watch them).

To answer the above questions..

1. Cancel all services, and go gray market or OTA.
2. Abolish the CRTC, Canadian Content Regulations, and let everyone fight for themselves, because the good programming will still get watched.

Now perhaps this can be put behind us, so government money (my taxes) will not be wasted on the whining Broadcasters anymore.

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Like



F Hall ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair Big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

TV Tax is a bailout for TV networks, making almost \$400 million in operating profits last year and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from providers annually and more than a billion dollars in funding from the government

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Like



Steve_R12 ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The facts are simple, I have access to local TV now because the CRTC says that the cable

company have to provide those stations in its basic lineup, they do not pay for them, but they have to carry them and be told where to carry them. If we have to pay for those stations, then the cable companies should be able to bury them wherever they like on the lineup. You can't have your cake and eat it too!!

I pay a premium for TSN, OLG, etc packages, but the cable company pays the network to distribute their channels and have freedom to put them where they want on the dial. When I receive local channels for free, but am told where to put them on the dial to make them accessible to the public isn't right. Let the public decide how much they want access to local programming. \$10/month is not worth it!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Rina* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It'll just mean more costs to the consumer. NO Thanks! I think there is plenty of local television, I don't need to pay for anymore.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *M. Sokoloski* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I never watch CTV or Global, if they want more money for them then give me the option of canceling them. Also why do I have to pay for all these channels when I only watch maybe 10. If Shaw wants more money then force them to offer ala-carte menu so I will pay for what I want instead of all this surplus garbage.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *KH* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There are enough expenses as it is already...the HST in Ont is another headache; so I do not need another increase in my Cable bill.

If this goes thru, I will cancel my Cable completely.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ron* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

First of all, you (CRTC), are being far too loose with the term "local TV". It seems that the concerns are more about supporting subsidiary like outlet of the broadcast industry that I would consider to be REGIONAL, NOT LOCAL. Let the market take care of such a player; if there is enough interest in the broadcast area it should be able to survive. If not, adios amigo. To me local TV is the likes of Oakville Cablenet and not the old CHCH. I used to watch the old CHCH frequently but did not relate to it as local! It passed away but my life goes on and I would never have considered paying a tax to keep it going. This is a retro example but spot on. Things change and we adapt. Here is a question for the broadcasters: How much do they pay to support Oakville Cablenet (the truly "local" TV)?

I am and have been a satellite subscriber of late and feel that the satellite carriers should be required to carry the what I call local TV (see above). This could spell the end for that in-between "regional" TV broadcaster but so be it.

Satellite providers would have to pay for supporting true "local TV" but the market could control their passing this cost directly to the consumer who could otherwise opt for cable service.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *vijayverma* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I wish i had the option of selecting the channels that i actually watch, which is 3 out of the 29 i get!. Asking me to pay more will just result in me having to cancel.

There is a simple in business basics, if you can't make the business run, look for different ways to fix it without impacting the customers you already have. If you cant do that then maybe you shoudn't be in that business.

To the companies asking for money, maybe you should look internally to see what you can fix, because a customer has to pay more at this point, you are probably going to see them leave at the end.

CBC: You should be ashamed of asking for more money given that you get some much from us already, for you to be part of this whole scam you should be shut down for mismanagement of the money provided to you already.

CTV/Canwest: You need to fix your own problems internally before you ask us to pay to fix a problem that might never go away. A customer cannot afford to keep paying more to fix something that is broken in processes internally. Stop overspending and pay attention to only what your customers want instead of providing them what you think they want! Basic 101 for business sucess

[Flag](#)

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michael cole ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i would be happy to pay for local tv if i had the option of subscribing or not subscribing to these stations.i beleive this should be a basic right as a consumer.but if im forced to pay for programming i dont need i see this as a violation of my rights as a consumer.the digital age is here and its time the regulators give consumers every thing that it has to offer.including the right to pick what programming we wish to subscribe to.

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ivorshea ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Observations On Subsidization of Canadian Broadcast Television- - -
Or, The Survival of Canada
by Ivor Shea

Canadian network television broadcasting has been an unnatural, protected service since its inception so it is important to revisit and understand the incredibly important reasoning behind it before deciding whether or not viewers must now subsidize it or allow it to perish.

Television broadcasting in Canada has enabled our country to capture some of the monies invested by U.S. owned or controlled corporations who wished to influence our consumer buying habits. Without such advertising vehicles, these advertisers would simply have relied on the spillover television and magazine advertising from huge, sophisticated U.S. media. It is safe to say that the billions of U.S. advertising dollars Canadian broadcasters have generated for Canada have helped us create our own talent throughout the production industry but more importantly, communicate with each other from coast to coast in our official languages and help keep this country whole and prosperous.

At the same time, the development of our television broadcasters has enabled Canadian companies large and small, national, regional and local, to use television to compete with those U.S. owned and controlled corporations to influence Canadian consumers and create jobs in Canada.

Cable and then satellite carriers, by government design, improved reception of broadcast productions and expanded reach to complete the coverage of national communication with pricing initially controlled by the CRTC and when competition developed, with pricing controlled by the marketplace, in both instances providing citizens with great value.

Local programming has always been a CRTC condition of licence not only for broadcasters but also for Cable companies. The CRTC, therefore, has been of considerable value to the country

and while licencees have complained bitterly throughout the years, they certainly would not exist at all without the protection they have earned with their local programming compliance.

Just a few years ago, with national television advertisers in decline not only here but also in the U.S., the CRTC created further competition for CBC and CTV networks by licencing the Global Television Network. Viewership was further fractured and the very life blood of broadcasting, the advertising dollars, were split three ways instead of two when just over the time horizon there would not be enough dollars to support even two Canadian networks.

Over the years, broadcasters have expanded their efforts to satisfy the demands of advertisers who do not wish to waste their dollars communicating with the masses but wish to focus on the most promising prospects for their goods or services through more targeted media. The pool of vehicles now available to these advertisers goes well beyond broadcast television which has lost its status as the most powerful medium with which to acquire and retain market share. Specialty channels, owned primarily by the broadcasters themselves, have picked up much of the revenues which their broadcast channels have dropped. The Internet, featuring target marketing and accountability, has also taken market share from the Canadian broadcast giants. That is simply competition and evolution; the birth of new and the death of old, just as the television broadcasters stripped national advertising from Canada's newspapers and magazines half a century ago.

While this has been going on, the Canadian government's commitment to Trudeau's multiculturalism initiative has seen millions of new Canadians demanding media in their own languages either directly from their own countries, legally or illegally, or created here but featuring their own communications so that they can live within their own communities and maintain their ethnic identities. Thanks to pioneers like Johnny Lombardi of CHIN radio in Toronto, there are Canadian Italians who have been in Canada for fifty years who have never found it necessary to learn Canada's official languages and still cannot be reached by advertisers through CBC, Global or CTV television. Companies developed by other new Canadians just as the Italians did decades earlier, naturally advertise in their own media and now mainstream companies, particularly Canada's banks with their Vice Presidents of Multicultural Marketing, and telcos such as Rogers, Telus and Bell, have committed part of their marketing strategies not only to support such media but in the case of Rogers, to create new ethnic television channels to better serve groups who prefer programming which reflects their culture and language. More importantly, not the languages of Canada's large broadcasters.

Canada's cable and satellite carriers, thanks to compression and digital technologies and with the encouragement of the CRTC, have and continue to help this transfer of viewers by expanding their channel lineups to add dozens of ethnic channels which siphon advertising dollars away from Canadian broadcast television. In the next few months, those wanting the latest al-Qaeda reports will be able to subscribe to Qatar-based Al-Jazeera television. More eyeballs will be lost to Canadian broadcasters with the approval of the CRTC. Have we yet reached two-hundred ethnic channels to fragment the viewing audience for advertisers?

At one time it appeared our Federal government had a plan to develop Canada as a strong, bilingual, unified country by using its powers to help develop magazines, radio, newspapers and television knowing media was the glue which would hold us together, bring new Canadians into the fold and enable us to prosper. The public appears to be totally unaware of this and like consumers everywhere, they simply want the best quality for the lowest price when shopping for stuff and simply want the channels they enjoy most for the lowest price. They don't understand there are far more important issues at stake- -like the future of Canada.

A Canadian broadcasting system with networks in English and French operating without a national purpose, whether financial or nation building, is redundant and has almost been replaced. Its primary program offerings are all created in the U.S. and advertising dollars earned are for the most part simply returned to the U.S. to purchase their outstanding programs. Canadians can continue to view their favourite programs on U.S. channels or specialty Canadian channels without loss of service.

If the only purpose of Canadian broadcasting networks is to showcase Canadian programming developed through various forms of existing taxes, the CBC can and should provide that forum only in our official languages and if it is not too late, confine itself to the development of a Canadian culture by focusing on all things Canadian rather than multicultural or foreign- -a

defined purpose, 168 hours per week. This for those Canadians who are not glued to their TV sets watching channels featuring their home countries.

If the purpose of Canadian broadcasting is to continue to attract U.S. advertising dollars, we might be better served by selling the ad avails or interstitials provided by U.S. specialty channels and using that money to support our creative community. This is not chump change but in fact significant revenue from powerful advertising vehicles as has been proven over the past twenty years in the U.S. There is no longer any need for the CRTC to deny monetizing these vehicles to protect the Canadian broadcasting networks should they be allowed to evolve naturally.

In terms of local news, cable companies across Canada are ideally prepared to assume that task and do so with a passion more akin to the local newspaper coverage than today's broadcast news. Community television channels already exist almost everywhere staffed by dedicated and well equipped men and women who know their communities intimately. All they require are the news gathering skills or people of the newspaper tribe to best serve Canadians as media evolves. Those who crave local news might also return to local newspapers.

Like the door-to-door milkman and the doctor who made house calls, the Canadian broadcaster, because of audience loss, advertising loss and a huge wave of competing media, has already found an exist strategy in specialty television. Financial support for their broadcast channels as requested from the general public is not an option as can be proven beyond all argument by offering the public broadcaster channels as optional, stand alone services. Like paid circulation newspapers and magazines, let the public decide whether they wish to purchase a subscription.

The alternative is for Canadian Heritage Minister James Moore or some other Ottawa visionary to realize the need and develop the plan to seriously nurture and utilize Canadian media to help unite Canada and Canadians once again if it is not already too late. /

Flag

Like

 *Local Buddy* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Friends of Canadian Broadcasting welcomes the opportunity to comment on this important topic and we seek an opportunity to appear at the forthcoming public hearing in order to offer the Commission comments from a viewers' and listeners' perspective.

2. There is strong evidence that Canadians value local news – more so than any other type of television programming. In an April 2008 study commissioned by Friends and collaborating groups, Pollara found that 76% of Canadians believe that local news is “very important”:

3. Corroborating findings emerge from CMRI Inc.'s The 2008 TV Trends and Quality Survey: A Report on Canadians' Attitudes toward TV, which found that 64% of Anglophones 18+ years of age indicated that they were “very interested” in “local news” – a far higher percentage than for any other type of television programming. As well, during the 2008 Broadcasting Distribution Undertaking (BDU) & Specialty public hearing, the Commission heard from Nanos Research that “78% of respondents indicated that having local news was of high, or very high, value to them.”

4. Canada's conventional television broadcasters are the only participants in the audio-visual system with the capacity to deliver local news programs with high standards of journalism and production values.⁴ And these locally-produced programs are expensive compared with similar national network programming because the base costs of production are duplicated and must be borne by each individual station, rather than being amortized once across a national system.

5. Canada's local television stations are an important source of reflection and local news for each community, playing an essential role in the information infrastructure, and therefore the economy of every city in Canada. They are also essential to the expression of important stories from each community to national audiences and to serving the needs of those millions of Canadians who rely on over-the-air signals for their television reception.

6. It would appear that CBC, which earlier this year reported a \$171 million shortfall and 800 layoffs, no longer has the resources to offer a critical mass of Canadian programs of distinction during peak viewing periods, and has resorted to a schedule driven by an assessment of the

potential for commercial success featuring imported American shows such as Jeopardy!, Wheel of Fortune and Ghost Whisperer each week day and scores of Hollywood movies which now cram its schedule.

7.CanWest has hit the ropes, in some part as a result of pressure on television advertising revenues in the current economic downturn. While its television properties may emerge stronger under a new leadership and financial structure, its contribution to Canadian and local programming is the weakest of the three Canada-wide English-language conventional broadcasters.⁵

8.And, while CTV has dominated the English-language ratings race, mandatory information published quarterly by its parent company's 20% shareholder, Torstar, reveals that CTV has been operating at a substantial loss over the past year.⁶

9.The Commission's own financial summaries indicate that profit before interest and taxes (PBIT) of the private conventional television industry was only 0.4% in the broadcasting year ending August 31, 2008 – before the on-set of the recession.

10.Already, Canadians have witnessed the shuttering of two local stations – in Brandon and Red Deer – and several more have teetered on the brink of closing before they emerged at the last moment under new ownership – and this in such major centres as Montreal, Hamilton, Kelowna and Victoria. While the focus of attention has centred on local crises, national conventional networks are only as strong as their component parts. When fewer local stories emerge to a national audience from Brandon, for example, all Canadians are the poorer for it.

11.From a position of strength one decade ago, the economic engine of conventional television has tanked in recent years. This is in large part because advertisers now have many more choices to reach their desired demographic targets, and are less willing to pay large fees across the board to reach less-defined and shrinking mass audiences.⁷

12.Even if the private conventional television industry were to return to the negligible profit of the 2008 broadcasting year, the Commission will recognize that the industry is not sustainable on this basis. This fact signals that Canadian conventional television is in dire straights, which is alarming both for its economic implications, and for the threat it poses to diversity and local presence in communities across the land.

13.Hence the urgency of developing a new stream of revenue to sustain an essential link in the Canadian audio-visual system.

14.The audience for conventional television stations carried by cable and satellite distributors is substantial

In the seven-week period from August 31 to October 18, 2009, nearly 40% of viewing by satellite and cable subscribers was to Canadian conventional signals⁸ and 90% of conventional viewing came from cable and satellite subscribers. Therefore, the economic value of conventional signals to distributors is beyond dispute.

15.The line on financial statements "Cost of Goods Sold" suggests that a company pays for what it sells. For five decades, cable monopolies have generated substantial profits from the sale of a product for which they have not paid. Perhaps during the early growth years of cable this might have been an equitable bargain for both parties, because cable extended the audience reach of local stations, and advertising agencies paid for full coverage area audiences. Advertisers no longer do so.

16.Furthermore, the BDUs' carriage of distant and time-shifted signals has fragmented local audiences, with negative impacts on conventional stations' local audiences and therefore advertising revenues. When viewers choose to watch a program on a station in another market or in another time zone, local stations lose on both ends of the transaction. This is because ad agencies pay for audiences on the local station only, and do not recognize the out-of-market audience. And they reduce what they pay when local viewership declines.

17.As well, public policy has allowed cable monopolies to acquire programming undertakings and thereby compete directly with conventional broadcasters for limited ad revenues. And the cumulative impact of audience fragmentation – while the distribution of multiple new channels may be highly lucrative for distributors – has hurt the bottom line of Canadian conventional

broadcasters.

18. As a result, conventional television can no longer survive nourished by advertising revenues alone.

19. In the neighbouring American jurisdiction, public policy pays great respect to the concept of program rights protection. If U.S. rules applied in this country, no American conventional stations would be carried on the Canadian system, there would be no carriage of out-of-market signals in the same time zone, and no carriage of time-shifted signals. And in the United States, distributors pay for local conventional signals.

20. One result of this difference is that Canadians enjoy a much greater range of viewing choice than Americans. While this difference is of substantial benefit to Canadian distributors, through the ensuing audience fragmentation it damages the economic viability of Canadian conventional broadcasters, especially those operating in the English language.

21. There is overwhelming evidence that cable monopolies can afford to pay for local signals: Based on your Commission's data, the cable industry's profit before interest and taxes (PBIT) was 25% in the 2008 broadcasting year – the most recent available data.⁹ Note that DTH & MMDS distributors, on the other hand, enjoyed a comparatively modest 4% PBIT in 2008.¹⁰

22. Data from the 'big four' cable distributors' annual reports further illuminates big cable's financial capacity: And the cable industry is in no position to argue that Internet and local phone profits are irrelevant to this discussion, because both businesses have been built on infrastructure paid for by cable subscribers under past capital expenditure charges approved by your Commission.

23. Distributors have misled the public about the impact of paying for local signals. They have characterized signal compensation as a 'TV Tax' which might add \$10 to a monthly cable or satellite invoice.¹¹ They have suggested that Canadian conventional television operators had an operating profit of \$400 million last year. And they have suggested that cable companies are profitable only when programming services are combined with other services such as Internet and home phone.

24. While posing as a consumer advocate, there is evidence that big cable has gouged consumers in recent years. For example, since your Commission ended the regulation of basic cable rates seven years ago, Rogers and Shaw have increased their basic price by 85% and 68% respectively, during a period when the Consumer Price Index rose by only 14%.¹²

25. Friends therefore recommends that the Commission re-regulate the basic service of the big four cable monopolies and ensure that cable distributors do not pass along any signal compensation to their subscribers. Satellite distributors, on the other hand, should be allowed to pass along, without mark-up, signal compensation costs to their subscribers, until such time as they achieve a 10% PBIT.

26. We also recommend that signal compensation should be allocated among the local conventional broadcasters based on total tuning to Canadian programs in the preceding broadcasting year. Each television market should be assigned a proportion of the total compensation based on population. Markets such as Montreal or Ottawa, with a significant presence of both official language groups, should each be considered as two distinct markets.

27. In a given market, the compensation should be allocated based on each conventional local broadcaster's share of the total audience for Canadian programs. The following chart indicates how this might work in the Toronto/Hamilton extended market area, and is based on the total audience for Canadian programs in the 2008 broadcasting year (note % Canadian Viewing in column two):

28. We understand that the Commission may not wish to employ the term 'fee-for-carriage', but may be prepared to examine some form of 'signal compensation'. The choice of vocabulary is not of primary importance. What is essential is that the Commission involve itself sufficiently in supervising the negotiating process so as to ensure that the interest of smaller broadcasting players, including those without specialty and pay assets which the BDUs may covet, is protected. This protection must include, but not be limited to, a solid commitment to arbitration on a timely basis.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Jen* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not support the idea that local stations should charge cable and satellite companies and their customer's for a signal. First of all this signal is available free to anyone who puts an antenna on their tv set. Secondly cable and satellite providers do not have a choice about carrying local stations. In fact as a consumer you cannot not get local stations. It is not fair to ask someone to pay for something that they have no option to unsubscribe from. If Canadians are going to be charged for local stations they NEED to also have the choice to unsubscribe from them while keeping the other channels in their package. I for one will never pay for local tv. I will cancel my service and will go back to bunny ears where it is free.

Furthermore the local stations are owned by big networks. Big networks who make a lot of money. These networks have refused to guarantee that a local tv tax would go to local stations. They have refused to guarantee that no more local stations will go under or that ones that have gone under will be reopened. The money will literally go to line the pockets of the big networks who are really just looking for a bail out.

Consumers need to have a choice in what they pay for. It is not fair to charge one consumer for something that any other consumer can get for free

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Donna G* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm already charged by the cable company for local TV signals. Now it's up to the cable company to pay conventional TV for the right to carry the signals.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Gil* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The idea of stealing someone else's product and then selling it... is simply theft. Just look at produced music. We simply steal it and now it is an accepted practice. Shaw cable in Western Canada is a virtual cash cow monopoly and yet small local television stations that provide local news, public service and community programming receive no monetary benefit from the product they create that airs on cable. Local television provides a voice and identity for their communities. As far as passing this supposed additional cost for fee carriage on to customers... cable has already reaped much financial benefit without paying. They are not in the dire financial straits local television is. Its way past time they paid up. One has to wonder where the CTRC has been all these years when local television was in need of a fair shake.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*smart consumer* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the cable companies are free to pick up conventional TV without any retransmission consent than consumers should be able to splice into cable without paying cable bills.

If it walks like a duck then...

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*leeporteous* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would like to add my support for the position taken by the Friends of CBC.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



C G ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Cable companies are stealing conventional signals and gouging their customers.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Ben McDonald ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Recently I had the opportunity to view a video on the web showing the Friends of Canadian Broadcasting presentation to the CRTC on this topic. What their spokesperson (Ian Morrison) said during his presentation made eminent sense to me. Considering their profit levels the cable companies do not need more revenue from their customers . They can afford to pay for local broadcasting content they distribute out of current resources. For their part, broadcasting companies should be supported with the money collected from the distribution companies in proportion to the market share they have for *Canadian* programming they deliver. These goals can and should be achieved through active regulation since the television marketplace is dominated by too few players wielding what seems to be near monopoly control. Achieving these goals for Canadians is what the CRTC was (at least in large part) set up to do. It shouldn't shrink from its duty. Canadians will support a firm regulatory hand controlling the power and profits of the cable companies.

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Lynn K ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable TV service. The rates are high already.
2. It is time for the cable companies to pay for distribution of programs to TV stations... without passing on these costs to consumers.

If we do not have viable and affordable local TV stations most Canadians would lose interest. Community is going to become more important and we need to tell our own stories. Have you ever gone to Mexico or Hawaii and only had CNN on the TV? Let's not go that route.

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Torquey ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Why do local TV Stations need compensation from the cable and satellite services? Does the revenue from their advertisers not adequately fund the local services. If not, what is wrong with the management of these local stations? If you expect me to pay more to help fund the local TV, I would expect that all local TV will be without advertising. Why should I be paying money to permit the local TV Stations to make a profit from the advertising?

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Igor Stratcky ★ 1 month ago in reply to Torquey 1 person liked this.

No, ad revenue alone is not enough.

1- Specialty channels that run advertising (History, Discovery, TSN,) receive fee for carriage.

2- American channels receive fee for carriage.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Retransmission_con...

3- Google "retransmission consent" and you will see that the American conventional channels all have a right to fee for carriage. In fact, both FOX and NBC are at the moment negotiating new fee for carriage contracts with the cable companies.

Google

"fox retransmission consent"

And
 "NBC retransmission consent"
 And you shall see lots of hits.

It's only in CANADA, the Cable/Sat companies RIP OFF conventional TV.

Remember, the Canadian consumer already pays the cable/sat companies - fees for receiving every channel - it's the cable/sat companies that refuse to pay some of the money back to conventional TV stations. AKA "stealing"

Flag

Like

 *ritakingandjeanmarcdanis* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It seems that everything we do now; demands an extra fee. We really enjoy our local TV News . current local events etc. For the happiness of your local people leave matters alone. We pay enough for our cablevision and all we get is advertising we really do not need. Why do we have to beg for what we enjoy.

Flag

Like

 *Jimmy Hurlbert* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Very hypocritical of CTV to be asking money for local TV, when Canada-wide they don't even care about national TV, and just import American shows all the time to air during their schedule.

Flag

Like

 *Igor S* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

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 *1960john* ★ [4 weeks ago](#) [in reply to Igor S](#)

Most of your post talks about regional and or national networks, nothing local about them. You refer to what US cable and satellite providers pay to carry US networks. How many of there networks are crown corporations? Maybe you'd like the U.S. style of healthcare as well? While I wouldn't like to see anyone lose their job, maybe ctv/canwest would be more viable if they didn't have to compete against the CBC(you know that crown corporation we all pay for with our tax dollars) for advertising dollars.

By the way I like a lot of Canadians use something called radio for my local news, you should try it as it is free and unsubsidized by my tax dollar and is truly local excepting of

course for the CBC stations!!

Flag

Like



bruiscasey ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Local TV is important, and I agree that cable companies should be required to carry them. However, forcing them to pay on top of that is ridiculous. All TV companies survive on advertising and that's how it should stay. That's why we're forced to watch commercials. If local companies can charge cable companies, then we should get fewer ads on the local stations.
2. Tax breaks/incentives for Canadian companies who advertise more than \$XXX per year on local TV channels.

Flag

Like



Roger Shaw ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable/satellite provider skills are not being truthful here. Canadian specialty channels and all American channels already receive fee for carriage. It's only Canadian conventional stations that aren't compensated for retransmission. Yet the cable/satellite providers are already charging their subscribers to receive conventional Canadian stations.

It's time for the cable/satellite providers to pay up what is owed to Canadian conventional stations. The CRTC should not allow the cable/satellite providers to raise our rates as we already pay for ALL channels we receive. The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees as cable prices jumped FOUR TIMES the price of inflation.

Flag

Like



krdort ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I consider cancelling my contract with my t.v. provider.
2. I go with the Friends of Canadian Broadcasting on this question: rates for basic service should be re-regulated, and local broadcasters should be compensated for their signals based on total audience for Canadian shows.

Flag

Like



MeMe ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I rarely watch the local stations. They now have the opportunity to reach me, thanks to the free distribution done by the cable companies. Local stations end up reaching a much broader audience than if they were relying only on the "over the air" signal. I really think the cable companies are making them a favor by providing them a larger audience through free distribution. The local stations are shooting themselves in the foot by asking us to pay for their content. We will not. I do not want it. They will lose their audience. Less audience means less advertising. Less advertising means...

Flag

Like



Judy Brownlee ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe that the reduction of local TV content is a major problem for the average person, as it is for me. We lost our local channel recently and many of us miss the programming which was interesting and essential for keeping us informed.

I think the cable companies should be paying more of their 'own way' in the tv/cable/digital business in Canada. I do not think our tax dollars should be supporting these huge companies. Our Canadian channels, CBC and CTV, are wonderful and need to be supported.

Flag

Like



[Darren Lourdes](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

These Canadian networks have overspent on the rights to American programs, did things like buy newspapers, Alliance Atlantis, CHUM, the hockey night in Canada theme song, and now that they have vastly overspent on these things, they want a bailout for their mismanaged ways - NO WAY AM I PAYING A CENT MORE FOR CABLE!!!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[JOe](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The fact that the CRTC allows cable company monopolies on service should be changed to give the market a chance for dispute. If I do not like what one service is offering I would have an option to switch to another service. As it stands the cable companies say "take what I am offering or go without"

If the industry tries to make me pay more for their lousy service I will be forced to find another way to watch TV. IE: rabbit ears or antennae

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Wayne Carney](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I should start by saying that I am a cable tv subscriber. I subscribe to cable because I cannot receive local tv with an antenna, and because Canada lags behind other countries in making tv shows available via the Internet. If either of these problems were resolved I would terminate my cable service, since I'm of the view that cable fees are already far too expensive.

With respect to a further increase in cable bills to subsidize local tv services, I would not have a major problem with such a decision if crtc also mandated that cable companies offer subscribers the option of "opting-out" from local tv services. In effect offering subscribers an avenue for avoiding the additional costs requested by local broadcasters. In my view this should satisfy the local broadcaster, who believe that the cable and satellite companies are unfairly profiting from their services. In addition it would satisfy the subscriber, who would have the option not paying for a service that they would be perfectly happy to live without.

With respect to the question "the importance of local tv to me"? In an environment where there is not enough money to do many of the things I would like to do - I would be perfectly happy to live without local tv programming if it came with an additional cost.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Anne Curtis](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I pay substantial cable fees to Rogers, which is quite profitable as a company. I do not think it is fair for Rogers to pay nothing for the local TV signals they transmit. Local TV needs funds, and I think they should receive payment from the cable companies which are profiting from their signals. I do not think the cable services should pass these costs along to consumers- we are already paying for cable and the cable companies are quite profitable. I think the rates for basic cable should be re-regulated to prevent the cable companies from gouging the consumers.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[j0e](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There is hardly any good Canadian programming. When I think of the television programs that are watched in my household, 99% of it comes from the United States.(NCAA sports, Grey's Anatomy, House, Big Brother, TLC) This being said, if our "in house" programming was better, I wouldnt mind watching it. This does not by any means degrade the quality of our Canadian programming. I believe it is important to have your local news channel, weathernetwork etc. But We should not have to pay more for what we do get. How can you charge us (the consumer) more money for the garbage that these companies produce? You have already instated a LPIF (local programming improvement fund) that consists of 1.5% tax and now you want us to pay

an additional \$5-\$10? For what? Didn't these companies make something like 400 Million dollars last year? Are they not receiving funding from other companies that pay to have their advertising done on commercials? I think it's the CEO's being overly greedy. This past year has been extremely tough on the economy. What about the average joe? We don't live in million dollar houses or have multiple cars or summer homes or time shares. The consumer has been forced to cut back on their cable/satellite packages because we can no longer afford the benefit of television. And now the BIG companies want more money? This is a bail out that I will refuse to pay. Maybe these corporations should look at other ways to save money. Maybe they should have to pay for some of their productions or take a pay cut.

There has to be another way. Maybe there is a problem with the structure of the companies that they cannot afford good programming. Could it possibly be that they are spending too much on buying these American shows and not putting in enough "effort" to the Canadian productions. I truly believe that this is an internal problem, one that every Canadian with a TV set should not have to pay for, for the continual mediocre content that we are receiving. If there were good shows on Canadian programming, I would 100% watch that over the US. But for now, there is nothing... in my opinion

[Flag](#)

Like



lawrenceamusser ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am completely supportive of local television programming and I do not believe it is necessary to increase cable fees in order to continue receiving them. Like many Canadians I think that it should be a cost that the cable companies bear as they do in fact, profit from local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



slimsilver ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is paid through your taxes and advertising revenue.

Cable and satellite broadcasters are paid through their subscription's and advertising but with an added bonus of not having to pay for unscrambled Canadian signal's they are told by the CRTC that it is open air signals and are free view so they reap the profits from what they charge you for these channels they don't pay for..

Now the American PBS channels they have to pay for even though they are open air signal's or they would be joining Conrad Black in his new holiday home in the NY State hotel for con's. This is what the CBC and other local station's are talking about they pay other station's in other countries for their open air channels but refuse to pay their own station's here at home for their's.

That is were the FCC in the United States and Ofcom in the United Kingdom are far more in touch with what matters in the telecommunications and wireless communications sectors in their own countries and the consumer's that use these services.

Unlike the CRTC here at home they cater to the ones that have the deepest pockets and can offer the most in perks.

[Flag](#)

Like



tired_of_the_politics ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable service and subscribe to an American service. Is that legal...not sure but I am tired of the banter. Maybe we should levy huge special fees against the cable companies and put them out of business and then government can take it over. Cable companies have been sucking us dry for far too long. I am considering just cancelling our cable and finding other forms of entertainment. Between the commercials and cable fees it's just not worth it anymore. 2. No new measure need to be undertaken. There is plenty of support out there now. Maybe we don't need 3-4 local television stations in every community. How about working together and benefiting from some economies of scale. Do we really need 4 different news broadcasts?

[Flag](#)

Like



Faizel Desai ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1) Cable and satellite rates are very high. They raise rates without consultation, feedback or reason. We do not have 100% digital cable or HD channels yet pay through the roof for cable or satellite. I am against any increase whatsoever for cable or satellite no matter the reason. We only have two or three cable/satellite providers per region. This is ridiculous! Can the CRTC change its criteria or regulation to allow more cable and satellite providers into the markets? I would like to see full access to USA cable and satellite providers directly to lower our prices and get better quality TV signals. Can you do this? Can you help the consumer instead of allowing these monopolies to gouge us? Stand up for consumers!!!

2) None. If local TV cannot survive on all the TV commercial and infomercial revenues they receive they deserve to go bankrupt. Perhaps they should cut their obscene salaries and bonuses. Perhaps they should not spend \$400,000,000 a year on USA programming. Perhaps the CRTC should re-regulate all cable rates to the benefit of consumers.

Flag

Like

 MichelleVi ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I always felt that our local channels were important to know what was going on. I didn't realize how strongly I felt until the Grey Cup DID NOT air on CBC. I thought "how could that be...why would our own networks not support our team" At the end of the day the only things we'll know is whats going with the Rich and Famous in Hollywood. That is usless to all of us. Local TV is important to every city and lose it is to lose ourselves

Flag

Like

 stevekaran ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not feel that it would be appropriate to support a bail-out of a poorly managed industry. The broadcasters have been using cable and satellite providers as a medium to expose their content to every single household in Canada, yet they say that they are unable to make a profit from advertising to support their costs. This clearly shows that their content is not compelling for Canadians, otherwise they would have been able to charge appropriately for advertising to cover their costs.

If I have to pay extra for this programming (which I don't find compelling), I will have to cut on my other TV purchasing as I don't plan to spend more than I do today. That will reduce profits for cable/satellite providers, as well as content creators (that I will no longer buy now) and will have an impact on employment in Canada.

I say NO to a bail-out for broadcasters. Let's stop wasting money on business models that obviously don't work.

Flag

Like

 KG ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The Cable companies are making very handsome profits. The cable companies preempt advertising to insert adverts for which they receive payment – this deprives the programme providers of viewership for adverts that give them revenue. Public services like CBC, CPAC, Knowledge, PBS, Provincial Government channels, weather, should be free to every one.

Viewers should only pay for the channels they want to view.

If they only want the Public services channels then a \$5 per month service charge (including HST) to the cable company is reasonable.

We welcome Freeview HD, and have experienced it in Europe and it is excellent. The public service channels on it, including the BBC, is all free.

There should be no tax on television viewing at any place in the process. Remember the Charter gives freedom of expression to mean freedom to hear and therefore of necessity to view as well according to the Canadian Supreme Court ruling.

All cable rates should be set by the C.R.T.C. after public hearings and input.

Any rates/fees between cable companies and channel providers should be negotiated between the two parties and be subject to reviews and change by the C.R.T.C. both before and after

coming into effect.

Alternatively a licence to receive television should be available from the government and the proceeds given to cable companies and channel providers with no other fee being charged to the viewer by the channel or the cable company. \$100 per year is a reasonable figure for this. Remember they both receive advertising revenue.

Alternatively charge \$200 per year and prohibit ALL advertising. This latter is the best in my mind. After all, who enjoys watching advertising? Knowledge network does very well without it, and is my preferred network.

We have no interest in Pay per view and do not and would not use it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *William Enstedt* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I live in a fairly isolated area of BC and I receive Canadian programming via cable network. I would only be able to receive one Canadian station without cable and with poor reception. I feel that it's very important to maintain access to the CBC, CTV and Global and should continue. I would not like to have to pay an extra fee just for the Canadian portion of my cable service but I also think the Canadian producers should receive compensation for their product. Cable service providers should be made to compensate local producers for their product as they do for other international productions.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Disgruntled Elf* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Do you not think that we, as Canadians, are taxed enough? Oh sure, just put another tax out there, we'll pay it begrudgingly. We will grumble about it for a while but we will get over it. In a few years, another tax will come along and we will pay it too and the cycle will continue. Look at this country, the best country in the world and we sit back and let corporations and politicians lead us around by our nose rings ... what are we people, cattle? No ... I do not want another tax on my entertainment, on my food, on my books, on my medications nor do I want another tax on my funeral. For the love of Pete, enough is enough!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *antitaxman* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

Having said that, there has to be another way besides taxing the customers already. \$400 million in profits made by these networks and they need more bailout money? There needs to be accountability and proper managability of your company(ies). You cannot make \$400 million and expect a bailout. A company that needs a bailout is a company who has miscalculated their finances, and were irresponsible with the management of their business. Nobody wants a tax. All you top dogs are going to have to take a pay cut. Sorry. End of story.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *slimsilver* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to antitaxman](#)

I saw this posted in another forum and you work for a telecom corporation though you don't say that in this post.

So i will post here with the same reply to you that i posted there.

Local tv made 400 million in operating cost ((last year)) yes they did and Cable and satellite providers made 375 million + in every third quarterly report and paid nothing to local broadcasters (True known fact).

You have a vested interest in this matter.

And you have all right's to be concerned you may loose your annual pay increase if this cost is charged to your employer and you know as well as i do that it will work its way down the line and that there employees will take the hit for there operating cost increase.<Cuts will be made to offset operating cost)

But there are alot of family's out there that can not afford to loose there local tv or pay even a dime more for cable and satellite programing.

I have done my research and have seen the memo's that satellite and cable broadcasters have sent to the CRTC that states that there are signal pirates out there taking there signal's and they wanted it stopped cause they were loosing millions in revenue.

Know that it is known that they are the pirates and they are the ones that are stealing the signals they want the public and there own employee's to help them keep there coffers full with money they took from us the public that pays for local tv to operate.

I don't think so telecom guy.Or antitaxman who ever you are in this fourm.

We have payed the price for to long to stop there imaginary pirate fairies and have given millions to satellite companies in tax money for them to secure there signal with card switches after card switches and for what so they could get money from the Government to upgrade there HD and Digital signal's.

I have seen the projected cost reports to the Government for them to switch network security cards and we the tax payers have paid 80% of the cost to Nagravision the Kudelski Group from Sweden for there network security cards.

That is where our tax dollars are going to these big telecom giants not local broadcasting. We need to take a stand and not let them take from us the people again.

Let them dip into there big bank accounts and pay for something themselves for once and not give them a license to steal.

[Flag](#)

Like



R. Gaade ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have no problem paying for local channels, but only if the cable industry does away with its bundling practices. In other words, allow each customer to select which channels they want access to, whether local, US, or specialty channels. The technology exists for cable providers to do this.

The current practice whereby for every four channels I am interested in, I also have to pay for six or more that I'll never watch is not in the public's interest. Channels that cannot survive on their own merit will disappear, and that is only fair and equitable to the public who pays to watch TV.

I'll gladly pay for CBC, CTV, etc. so long as I don't have to pay for channels that are not of the remotest interest. Do away with "packages" of channels, and allow viewers to select their choices from a "menu" of individual channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rob ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

quite frankly, I will likely cancel my tv if any tax is added because I don't feel it's right for these networks to be spending millions of dollars on small jingles which don't mean anything. I can always occupy my time doing something productive instead of throwing my money at some yuppies who think they can steal from ordinary citizens.

[Flag](#)

Like



Joanne Wesley ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I strongly object to the way my cable provider bundles packages. I am forced to pay for channels that I don't want. Now the proposal is that I will be forced to pay extra for my local channels. I recently wrote to Shaw regarding the fact that they switched channels and now I am unable to watch Detroit PBS. This was included in my bundle and was one of my chosen channels. There is no reduction in my bill and yet I now am recieving a reduced package.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mark_M* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think when you look at the revenues that the main players in satellite and cable earn annually is substantial and although they may need or want to continue to show growth in the bottom line, at what point does it become obscene to what they can make off the average Canadian household. They have a guaranteed market for their product, there are only a handful of competitors to share the profits with, what more could a person ask for when starting a company. Their fees for their product continues to rise only because of the need to satisfy their greed. Show me one these companies that lost money or is making less money than five years ago, impossible. I believe in the local TV and they provide a necessary service to the community and they must continue to exist and the big companies should pay for the signal that they themselves are pirating. CRCT you have a job to do and that is not to allow the big communication companies relay fees to the consumer, it would not be fair or just.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ruthbear* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I find is scandalous that cable and satellite companies do not already pay fees to the stations that they broadcast. They have been making money off our Canadian TV stations like CBC, CTV, TVO, and Global for years now and must share the massive profits they make.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bonzie* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think it is Ridiculous.. We as Canadians are already paying enough taxes and money to the government and on top of that you wnt to add another tax for TV... For companies that are already doing good financially and do not need anymore money to survive since mosts Canadiand are living paycheck to paycheck and cannot barely afford to make their montly payments Common people life is expensive as it is... why do we need to give more money to TV that already makes plenty

[Flag](#)

Like

 *reets* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. My reaction would be to cancel my TV service since i already pay more than enough. It is easy enough to get all your TV from online sources such as downloading or free online service or paid services that cost a fraction of the price.

2. Are the local channels for CTV, CBC, ect not supported by the companies that run them? Maybe i don't know how the broadcasting industry works but if say for example Pizza Hut wants to run a "local" restaurant, is that paid for by the local community or does Pizza Hut have to pay to run the location?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dave Banks* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My wife and I use an antenna to access 4 channels of broadcast TV. We want this to continue, and not be paying fees for programs that we watch.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *DJ Fraser* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am much more interested in local politics than in provincial or national politics, because it has more bearing on my day-to-day life. Likewise I prefer local TV programming to national. I don't have a problem with paying a little more money to ensure that local TV continues to thrive. I

definitely don't support the cable companies providing local TV without paying for it.

[Flag](#)

Like



I. C. S. ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm already charged by the cable company (and paying) a fee for every channel I receive.

The cable company passes some of those fees to the specialty channels but the cable company is stealing the local signals. The cable monopolies need to pass some of the funds to local channels. Local channels are the most watched channels.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees. My Shaw cable bill went up twice already this year. Why??? No new services were added!!! The CRTC needs to open the doors to Direct TV and Dish Network.

The cable and satellite companies should not be allowed to double dip – we already pay to receive local channels now its up to the cable companies to pass some of the funds to local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



Steve ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I had no idea that Bell, Telus, Rogers, Shaw, Eastlink, and all other cable / satellite suppliers across Canada were NOT paying any royalties to the local stations, which are the base price of MY current subscription, and I myself am outraged!

[Flag](#)

Like



GG ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable and satellite companies recently ran an ad campaign stating that using illegal satellite dishes to bring in American programming were the same as stealing. It's interesting that if a consumer does it, it's stealing. But if they take local television for free, it's fair business practice

[Flag](#)

Like



Ken ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It is disgraceful that they [cable and satellite companies] feel no compunction to pay for the programming that they are, in turn, charging their customers for. There is no "free" basic package to their customers. So to claim that they are not charging customers for access to these channels is a flat-out falsehood. They are charging for something they have, up until now, received for free.

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Like



Mike ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Canadians have reasons to be concerned. Not only do satellite and cable companies want to preserve their "free-ride" by not paying a cent for the use of local TV programming, but they want customers to pay more for local signals they are already paying for as part of the basic service. The CRTC should take action to protect Canadians from double-billing and regulate the rate for basic service. That will ensure affordable television for consumers and a sustainable model for the TV industry

[Flag](#)

Like



Bill T ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable companies are already charging us to receive local stations. They steal the signals,

charge the customer but fail to compensate local TV stations. That is wrong.

Local TV stations need to be compensated for their signals. That's how its done in the United States (Retransmission Consent)

As I said, the cable monopolies are already charging the customer, any additional fees would be double dipping.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees. Shaw cable increased my cable bill twice already this year with no additional services or explanation for the two increases.

While at it, the CRTC should open the doors to Dish Network and Direct TV – I'm sick of the Canadian greedy cable monopolies dictating everything...

[Flag](#)

Like

 *anonymous* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't want to lose my local television stations, so I am very much in favour of them receiving money from the cable companies for the services they provide that the cable companies use without paying for.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *StanF* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to anonymous](#)

What local television stations are you talking about saving?
Are you talking about a station that is owned and operated by a network?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Arvin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm very surprised that we are even having this discussion free to air channel wants to be paid? Are they going to share thier advertising revenue with the cable or satellite companies did anybody ask? Its not that i'm a big fan of my cable bill but I strongly oppose any increase hope CRTC is reading this.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *A V* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Average Canadians are struggling to financially make the ends meet. Especially in this time of recession, many have lost their jobs or tolerated a salary decrease. In addition, lately the cost of living has exponentially increased. Very few industries have been safe from the recession. Cable and satellite companies are one of the industries at the top of this safe list. Not only they have not lost profit, their profit has increased. Cable and satellite companies continue making huge profits. It is their responsibility to provide quality programming in exchange of the hefty fees that they charge the customers, including local programming. If the fee charged is fair and used properly, the amount of profit should be reasonable. The fact that cable and satellite companies profits are sky rocketing means that they have not put enough money back into infrastructure. Local TV must be supported by cable and satellite companies and it always has to be as such. Not only they are the only party that can afford it, but also it is their obvious obligation. Consumers / average Canadians must not be overburdened with another tax to watch what should be provided to them free of charge. It must be every Canadian's right to get local news, not a paid service.

2. As mentioned in item 1, cable and satellite companies must fully support local TV. Media companies have the deepest pockets and it is their obligation to provide quality programming for the hefty fees that they charge the customers. Even if it means that local TV stations amalgamate in the parent cable or satellite companies and operate under financial support of the cable and satellite companies, it can be done. It is wrong to overcharge already overstressed customers and average Canadians for local TV. If cable and satellite companies

own the local TV stations, supporting local TV stations won't be an issue anymore.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rodney ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Canadian networks spent a whopping \$775 million on US programming last year!

\$775 million! Let me repeat \$775 million!

No wonder they want a bailout!

[Flag](#)

Like



Helen Duncan ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable/satellite provider shills are not being truthful here. Canadian specialty channels and all American channels already receive fee for carriage. It's only Canadian conventional stations that aren't compensated for retransmission. Yet the cable/satellite providers are already charging their subscribers to receive conventional Canadian stations.

It's time for the cable/satellite providers to pay up what is owed to Canadian conventional stations. The CRTC should not allow the cable/satellite providers to raise our rates as we already pay for ALL channels we receive. The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees as cable prices jumped FOUR TIMES the price of inflation.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jack Page ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Shaw cable is already charging me for CBC, CTV & Global signals. The CDN cable monopolies should do the right thing and pay the networks their fair share instead of stealing from them while charging and gauging the consumer.

In other civilized countries like the USA, the cable companies MUST pay retransmission consent fees to the nets. The US cable companies basic cable rates are regulated and charge consumers less for cable service.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees in Canada. Shaw increased my cable rates twice in 2009 alone, without any explanation. The CRTC should consider letting Direct TV and Dish Network – they offer better service, cheaper rates and they don't steal signals from ABC, NBC, CBS, or FOX.

[Flag](#)

Like



Huong Von Gooni ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Leeches and Parasites... perfect terms for Canadian networks that just suck up all the American programming that is out there and try to claim it as their own.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mike ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We only have cable for national news, some sports and for PBS from the USA. I disagree that I should have to pay more to support local TV. We would likely cancel our cable if this rate increase is approved. We have not bought a high definition TV and I feel that there is so much advertising and poor quality programming on most of the stations to justify the cost since we hardly watch TV.

Perhaps local TV should seek more advertising and cable should charge local stations a fee for broadcasting their programs thus reducing our cable fees.

[Flag](#)

Like



dchung ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is important to me. They are the stations I watch to start and end every day. The news they carry is relevant to me. The cable company has structured the basic package cost with so little extra beyond local TV, if they don't pay for carrying local TV, the basic package is mostly profit to them. I remember all the times cable companies moved channels out of basic package. We keep paying more for basic package but get less. And there is no choice - take it or leave it attitude.

So unbundle all the levels and packages and apply true cost for what you give me, and give me the option to make sure local TV stays around. With everything done electronically and technologies they are already using these days, the cost to provide the custom options should be minimal.

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Like



bmairs ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. What local TV? The only thing local is the news - everything else is brought in from a variety of networks, therefore I feel I am already paying too much for the very limited local programming.

2. Any and all media needs to be self sufficient or close. Just because local broadcasters cannot market their very limited product for a price that will keep them afloat is not my problem.

[Flag](#)

Like



johnrobson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I live in Burlington, Ontario & don't get CHCH TV, Ham on my Express vu line-up..I asked way & was told that channel just isn't in the mix. I think local channels are important in that they provide local news & weather but beyond that the local channels all seem the same in terms of the programs they purchase. I don't want to pay any more than I'm already paying & feel the local channels & cable co's should redistribute current revenue to address these concerns & not simply pass on additional expenses to the consumer.

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Like



Darius ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Let's face it, what do these Canadian stations really offer. When you break it down, yes, they have some local news, but even that has gone downhill. You'll see about 5-7 minutes of important news sometimes (like a murder, how politicians are wasting our money again, the latest on Tiger Woods), but for the most part, TV news is repetitive and full of fluff. Look how often CITY-TV shows the weather during a newscast. Do we really need to know the 0.5 degree difference in temperature between Scarborough and Oakville?

Aside from a bit of local news, Canadian networks offer nothing else. They fill their Cancon quotas with "Cancon Filler Crapola (CFC)", and the rest of the time they spend hijacking American networks. We can already get these programs on NBC, CBS, FOX, ABC - and if it weren't for these annoying Canadian networks, we would get them unbutchered, in tact, without

the ends cut off or the surround sound missing or video problems in HD because a useless Canadian channel cannot pass the feed through their poor equipment properly. And don't ever think about blacking out US networks - otherwise we'll all go to DirecTV.

Bottom line is, it's time to put these Canadian networks out of their misery and stop their whining. We can get our local news elsewhere. Let the CBC do its job. Canada doesn't need 4 networks anyways, as we only have a tenth of the population the US does. The CBC is fine.

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Like



John Spackman ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We are again being asked the wrong question. It should read Do you support the manner in which you are forced to receive your TV signal?

If local TV does appeal to the public then the public would be prepared to pay for it as proved by TVO & PBS.

Should the Carriers be forced to pay for Local TV signals, the answer is no. However should the public be force to pay the carriers in the current format and the same answer applies No.

Technology currently inbedded in the Carriers inferstructure allows subscribers to pick those stations they chose to watch, this makes the solution simple let the public pay for what they want to watch as opposed to having to pay for that which they have no use for. Let Darwin rule. I will leave the CRTC to figure out where they fit in.

[Flag](#)

Like



anthonyboselli ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I feel compelled to comment on this subject, as its importance may affect the communications industry and Canadians as a whole for a long time to come.

I do feel that local Television matters, as it keeps Canadians informed on a local level in an era where we are becoming all to distant from our neighbours, and communities. Some of this may be related to the fact that; how Canadians choose to receive their information has changed considerably in the past decade, or it could be that the digital era has changed what we consider a convenient way to receive local or national news for that matter. With that being said, I want other readers to remember that local news and information is important to me; but there is a key message that I don't want to become lost in my posting: "CHOICE".

Canadians have chosen to receive their information in new ways, we have adapted to the "digital age", and we have adapted to a busier life style. This could mean reading the news online, choosing to PVR our favourite news broadcast, or watching the news on a digital time shifting channel at a later time. These are all adjustments most of us have had to make in order to fit "information" into our hectic lives.

What the cable/satellite companies have managed to do is adapt with time, and provide Canadians with alternatives that fit their lives, and they have become profitable in doing so. On the other hand the opposite is true of the Canadian broadcasters. Their business strategies concerning adaptation to modern communications have failed. In fairness that is the only aspect of their business strategies that have failed; the big broadcasters have turned healthy profits, so we are not in danger of loosing iconic Canadian companies. What we are seeing now is an attempt by the broadcasters to change their strategies by doing what any good business would do; and that is trimming the fat. They want to rid themselves of the unprofitable aspects of their businesses. In this case local TV, is the unprofitable ugly duckling that they so desperately trying to trim, or should I say save.

The big broadcasters are in a tough spot, let's be honest. What they have done is sat done and said to themselves "we need to do something about unprofitable local TV stations." In most industries it would be a no brainier, sell to a suitor with deep restructuring pockets, or shut them down. Seems easy, case closed! Wait a second, if the big broadcasters did that then all the bad names that the likes of Rogers and Bell have been called would have been directed towards them. Of course they couldn't do that, so what did they do, they decided that they would try and break a very honest quid pro quo, where broadcasters provide programming that viewers want, and distributors carry their signals so that broadcasters can charge large sums of money for

advertising spots. Let's be bitterly honest, yes distributors don't pay for signals, but broadcasters don't assist in building infrastructure that the distributors use to project programming into the homes of millions of Canadians.

Please CRTC, don't make Canadians subsidize another failing business, and please don't punish successful Canadian companies for being successful. Tell the broadcasters they must adapt to an ever changing market. We want them to be successful, but on their own accord, not based on a massive subsidy that Canadian consumers would be responsible for.

Thanks for listening

Anthony Boselli

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 *Danielle* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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 *lindaturczak* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not think that local stations should get any more money. As a taxpayer, I think that myself and my family pay too much in taxes. I will not watch these channels if they receive any more money. Also as a senior citizen, I do not receive a rate pay like any of these companies. I feel that we should be able to subscribe to the American TV, such as Direct TV etc. It is not fair if we want to have these channels and are unable to subscribe to them. I think that the CRTC should pass this request.

Thank You

Linda Turczak

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 *Anonymous* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I DO NOT AGREE to proposal of additional tax for local tv based on few facts:

1. They rec'v funding from gov'n't and TV providers already
2. They get a Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that went into effect this year
3. The TV providers are forced by the CRTC to include them in their line up and have to give them the preferred low channel numbers on the dial
4. The \$5-\$10 per month extra, per person, that is being predicted it will cost is OUTRAGEOUS and irresponsible
5. Specialty channels that are paid a fee, are charged to the customer only if the channel is selected

This said, IF a tax would be imposed, then the users should have the option of not keeping the channel and therefore not paying the tax. I could almost guarantee, EVERYONE in middle class would drop the channels immediately. I would certainly drop the channels in a second if I had to pay a fee for keeping them. Then what will happen to the local channels when they lose their viewers???

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 *Moncton* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Over the years there have been many changes that have required adjustments and sacrifices in our society. I feel that the natural progression of television, radio and newspapers should be allowed to proceed on a commercial basis of profit and expansion. No profit, no expansion.

Putting good money after bad can not solve this problem.

I suggest if they have the public backing they go the way of public television and raise the funds on their own.

Time to cut the apron strings, I say no preferred treatment for Local Television. They are to profit or fail on their own merits.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Michael* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am going to cancel my TV service , I am using a super high speed GPS application to get TV channels using HD internet access , cost me 10 \$ a month , and I am getting 145 channels , 45 Movie , 20 sports

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Like

 *pecan251@yahoo.ca* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Michael](#)

Michael, please tell me how you do that so I can cancel my cable!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Simonizer* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Here we have primarily 2 companies in Global and CTV, who should be known instead as LEECHES and PARASITES, because all they do is hijack American networks for their programming and come up with nothing on their own, begging for even more money, because spending a whopping \$775 million on American programming is still not enough to cram their schedules with Yankee Doodle Dandy Fanfare?

It's time to cut off the LEECHES and PARASITES.

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Like

 *xah* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *4rms7ech* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There is no choice for Canadian content to be added it is MANDATORY its included... so the people PAYING for the TV improve the tv service that only the people with antenna and coat hangers wedged in their tv will watch.

MANDATORY to included and MANDATORY to pay are 2 things the average consumer does not interpret or like

All this fee will do is reduce people actually subscribing to a TV or satellite service provider so any extra funding passed on to the local tv stations will be lost in the churn,

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Anonymous* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I predict one of two things will happen:

1. If we are given the choice of paying the tax to keep the channel, then 90% of the viewers will

drop them almost instantly. Then what happens to the local channels?

2. If we are all forced to pay \$5-\$10 extra a month and not given any options, then 90% of viewers will drop the service altogether. Then the local channel AND tv providers will go bankrupt and thousands of jobs lost!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Clint ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I will add my voice in advising the CRTC that cable fees are too expensive. Originally cable fees were controlled by the CRTC but this was discontinued some time ago. Since then, and I can only speak for my experience, but cable fees have increased far in excess of the inflation rate. The cable companies, in my experience, do a good job in providing the service, but they know that as consumers, we have no choice in selecting our carrier - typical monopoly scenario - and pretty much set the rates according to their mood. The current slugfest being fought between cable and network TV are ridiculous. The networks find themselves struggling with their debt payments due to their drunken sailor mentality in the past number of years when making acquisitions. The viewers should not be on the hook when the networks are suffering from self-induced bad management decisions. I'm at the point where I will not support additional charges on my cable bill - particularly if charges are imposed for 'local tv'. If this is what comes down the pipe, then both sides are going to lose a customer. I will simply take my cable bill savings and spend it on dvd entertainment. I'll have an added benefit - no commercials!

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Clint](#)

\$20/month for any channel pay per channel basic cable. i only watch or need to watch 10 channels. DVD are don't have new content or up to date content who wants to watch movies that are a year old.. \$20 is good value versus renting movies. \$20/month is cheap if you have like 3 people watching it in a household with 3 outlets or 3 tv in your house.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rath ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

TV Cable is expensive as it is, now a new tax on top of that. Everything now a days is getting so expensive that you can't afford it anymore. This above statement says "whether local TV stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs", ok but who is going to be paying this tax. I am sure this will be passed on to the consumer and on top of the cable bill. TV stations who make 100's of million dollars is profit, can now make more.

[Flag](#)

Like



cmggmc ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I wouldn't want to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for cable. While local TV is good, why is it more important than other local media like community newspapers or radio but you don't see other local media asking for support, other than raising rates to their audience or advertisers.

2. In my opinion, give no public money support to local television. They put their airwaves out there for viewing public and they get advertisers to advertise to the public. Radio programs are free to anyone with a radio and if you don't want to subscribe to cable or satellite or even own a TV, why should you be taxed to pay for local TV. Local TV should get its support from its advertisers only. If they can't survive economically, then they need to take a serious look at their bottom line and decide if they should stay open. TV is not the only way to get information at the local level.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sick of broadcast tax ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We are taxed enough and an additional \$5-\$10 each month is not acceptable. This cash grab from the broadcasters sickens me. Enough is enough. Don't change a thing.

[Flag](#)

Like



Harry Tuysusian ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The fact of asking the public to pay for their erroneous strategy is nothing but a bailout for the big TV networks. They make millions in profit and already dip into the cable and satellite margins. This new charge is a TV Tax and the public should not be charged. If the old model of TV Networks does not work anymore for them, they should look into change and other avenues of improvement. They are private companies and should know how to survive and adapt to changes without overloading the public who is quite happy with their cable or satellite receivers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Fab ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government. I AM not willing to pay for it

[Flag](#)

Like



Darryl ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Advertisers pay to show commercials on TV, why would Canadians now have to pay a tax in order to support these stations? They get enough money for TV ads NO FEES!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Kate ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think the whole argument about fee for carriage is disingenuous on the part of the broadcasters.

1. Nowhere have the broadcasters guaranteed that any monies they get through the TV Tax will actually go local TV.
2. The broadcasters are actually making it harder and more expensive for small businesses to advertise. By creating mini-networks like the A-Channel, they've made it too difficult for locals to afford to advertise.
3. They get other stuff from cable/satellite: mandatory carriage (cable/satellite have to carry these channels), low placement on the dial (they're in the basic packages) and substitution of commercials for US shows (like during the SuperBowl).

They get all these things that have commercial value yet they still can't make a go of it. That's not the fault of the cable/satellite companies. If they are so concerned about local tv, they should invest what they have in local tv and not American programming.

[Flag](#)

Like



Pieter H. ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I have to pay for local TV then it should be optional, then the cable and satellite companies should not be forced to distribute those channels and other governmental subsidies for those channels should be cancelled too, just like any other non-local channel. I would immediately cancel most of the local channels.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [mona](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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 [ricardolosantos](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Please do not allow the TV broadcasters to impose a new tax on Canadians. Their own bad decision to increase spending on US programming to \$775M, from only \$400M in 2002 has led to this mess. Why are consumers expected to bail them out? Let their shareholders bail them out.

If the shoe was on the other foot and CTV, Global and the CBC were making huge profits, do you think they would share it with us? Of course not.

These Companies by the way do a very small amount of local television. The Cable Companies produce most of the local programming.

Ricardo L.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [timreed](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

As far as I am concerned, conventional broadcast tv signals should be left as free over the air signals, like they were meant to be when these companies were given a piece of the public airwaves to operate on.

I would have no interest in paying to receive a signal from any of these local broadcasters. Their newscasts have all changed from local to regional over the years, and I doubt that paying a fee to receive their signal would change that.

If the broadcasters carried NO US content, I may consider paying for their service.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Highroad](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am not in favor of paying an additional fee for local channels. If local channels are entitled to collect a fee for their signals then the cable companies, and ultimately, the cable company customers should have the choice as to whether they want to receive them and thus pay for them. These channels would need to be removed from the basic cable package and be a part of the optional selections; i.e. if you want them then you pay for them, if you don't want them then you don't pay for them.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [StanF](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The CRTC is under no obligation to read let alone act on any of the wisdom written here. Call and write your MP and express your concerns. Even today the government overturned a CRTC decision. Sure enough, Bell, Telus and Rogers got upset.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Zubair Lone](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax would cost ~ \$5-\$10 to Canadians on their TV bill each month - it doesn't seem fair and

is definitely not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and other TV providers.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax seems like nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They have made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that has already gone into effect this year.

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Like

 *Loma* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I feel it is completely unfair to have the local networks charge extra for services we already pay for in packages we subscribe to.

If they think they need more than the 400 million they made last year alone for programming or keeping their networks going, they can call on volunteers to help fund them just like many other successful organizations have done.

By forcing us to add to our invoices every month, everyone will come out losing, many people will cancel their services which in turn will cause the current funding for these networks to plummet and the service providers will lose much of their profit as well. You've already forced us to pay the LPIF of 1.5% which is triggered for local programming as the name says, so why should we pay even more for the exact same thing?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Don* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't know why people in this forum are talking about cable/satellite bills being too high. We are not talking about your current bill being lower the question is if CTV/Global and CBC have there way you will be paying more for your cable/satellite feed and supposedly this will be for local tv. Also those who believe we pay the highest cable/satellite bills in Canada vs worldwide should do there research because if you had what some country's consider to be cable/satellite service you would find out very quickly you get what you pay for. My opinion is CTV/Global and CBC should find another way to recoup there poorly spent dollars.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *stanfocner* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Let's pay for goods and services we want.

It is particularly dumb to pay Harmonized Sales Tax on stuff we we don't want.

Isn't it?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *donavan_beth* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Just another Tax grab!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Frank Harris* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400

million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually.

Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year. Why do we have to pay 2 TV Taxes Plus the PST & GST?

Enough is enough!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [allanholmberg](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

As a past broadcaster (technical) with 25 years of experience I am disappointed to see the losses of local over-the-air broadcasting. Local service has not only helped to define communities but has also been a safety outlet for information in times of crisis and/or local needs. Although I often felt the CRTC had been counterproductive in demanding excessive regulation (read: monopoly) it has ensured many positive aspects to Canadian Broadcasting and can continue to promote the service.

I am in favour of cable companies not only supporting Canadian production but also helping support the local broadcast signals they distribute with caveats. Support of local signals carried should be only be to a level consistent with those paid for similar distant signals and not to subsidize private profits. Further as many local broadcasters have shown they are not capable of retaining audience and sponsor support the CRTC should condone (particularly when substandard service is noticed) a freer marketplace to allow new local services. In all cases other than cable operators a broadcaster should provide a minimum over-the-air 'free' signal to their core audience.

Further, I would like to ask that the CRTC instruct the CBC to provide over-the-air national TV service in Kamloops - this ridiculous situation when the CRTC allowed CFJC to dis-affiliate without instructing the CBC to ensure continued service of the English TV service. This is a glaring dis-service to our community and a glaring example of your loss of support for a national cohesive broadcast service! All the BS aside we used to install low power TV transmitters into communities of 500 people or less for minimum cost - the community of Kamloops with over 75,000 people without CBC is ludicrous - shame on you.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to allanholmberg](#)

advertisers pay on number of viewers not on the cost of content. 75,000 population but only 25,000 viewers. now you see why it's not economical to produce local content for the local viewers if it's 100% supported by advertisers. With content like movies or shows that are syndicated it can be broadcast to millions of viewers like David Letterman show,,the guys makes millions in his talk show.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Lynne](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am sick and tired of being nickled and dimed TO DEATH by every ABC and XYZ company I receive services from. As much as I support local tv, I am NOT willing to pay MORE than I already am for it. We are already paying out the nose for TV services here in Canada. It seems every time I get a new bill my cable services are going up. Well I've had it! I've reached my limit! I've tossed around the idea of cancelling my cable service for the past 4-5 years and now the time has finally arrived. Come the new year, I will be calling Rogers and cancelling my cable AND internet service.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [B T](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

<http://www.digitalhome.ca/2009/12/canadian-cabl...>

[Flag](#)

Like



Keith ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

CRTC is as much at fault as the cable/satellite companies' greed here. I originally hail from Hong Kong so I would have (and had) subscribed to some Chinese channels on cable. But in the name of "supporting Canadian content" I am also forced to subscribe to Fairchild and/or TalentVision (same owner anyway) if I want to get any other Chinese programming. Are you sure Rogers and other cable/satellite companies are paying their fair share to Fairchild? Probably not. How can CRTC guarantee that will not happen with this local TV tax? Probably not.

I have no confidence at all in CRTC but I still have to say: Whatever you do, do not allow Rogers et al to pass this levy on to consumers. And as others may have said, cap basic cable/sat rates; cap executive payouts. Break up Rogers if you have to! And you, CRTC as a whole, needs to rethink this forced bundling, and make it clear if this bundling is a business or regulatory decision.

It is now viable to break free. One of the best antennas for receiving digital TV over the air costs \$55; a cheap ATSC set-top is \$50 should you need one; cable to link them together goes for \$30. That's all the basics you need. Big screen TV and an audio system are just niceties that you may already have anyway. If all you watch are those "local stations" anyway, this setup can pay for itself in just 2-3 months. Support local TV. If Rogers et al don't want to contribute to local TV, don't give them anything.

[Flag](#)

Like



cable tv watcher ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I pay enough for cable. In my area I only have access to one cable company, who overcharges in my opinion already. I am AGAINST asking for MORE MONEY from the consumer to pay for local TV stations. It is a bad idea.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave Ashwell ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I recommend as the Friends of CBC has stated that the Commission re-regulate the basic service of the big four cable monopolies and ensure that cable distributors do not pass along signal compensation charges to their subscribers. Satellite distributors, on the other hand, should be allowed to pass along, without mark-up, signal compensation costs to their subscribers, until such time as they achieve a 10% PBIT.

I also believe that signal compensation should be allocated among the local conventional broadcasters based on each broadcaster's total audience for Canadian programs in the preceding broadcasting year.

[Flag](#)

Like



Earle Pereira ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would strongly object any charge to pay for local tv on top of what I already pay for my cable and satellite services.

Let local television earn it's revenue from advertising.

[Flag](#)

Like



Renee ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year! Enough already!!!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *feelmypain* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My thoughts...We are getting screwed and no one cares. It doesn't matter what we say. It's all about money in the end, channels like IFC, DUSK and others will pay the price because just like me many other Canadians will cancel these channels to reduce the cost of television. Who do you blame, the government?, the cable provider? In the end companies will suffer to make ABC and NBC and channels like that make more and more and more money!!! They are the one's that should really pay and have the money to do it! HEAR MY PAIN...

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *Windsor-Essex* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. The service I currently subscribe to is the very basic Shaw Direct Digital Lite package, so I think I am uniquely qualified to comment on this. I would perhaps be satisfied with an extra very small fee, say \$2, but only if I actually got local TV. I live in the Windsor area, and there is NO local programming. Therefore, another fee to pay for local TV when I still don't get any would be very upsetting.

2. Television is an advertising based business. In order to support local television, better programming that will draw more people to watch will raise more advertising dollars. Better doesn't always mean more dollars spent, as many very popular movies cost very little to produce. Hire better producers that have performance-based clauses in their contracts. This will lead to better programming, and more advertising.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *R Kennedy* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

You make enough money, I will cancel my cable service and listen to the radio and CDs without all the turmoil you bring to the lives of consumers. Local T.V. should be paid for their services.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *alsan* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would react negatively to requests by cable/satellite to pay ANY added cost'. The cable companies should absorb a reasonable cost or discontinue use of local tv services

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *mark22001* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I am all ready considering getting rid of my cable, as it cost way to much for the few channels I actually watch! I'll get myself a HDTV antenna!

2. We should be able to buy only the channels we want to watch. These packages the cable companies sell are a rip off! This way if you wanted local tv, you would just include that or these channels as the one, or ones you want to pay for!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *rr1* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable and Satellite companies are interlopers charging us for what we used to get via antenna for free. I am going back to antenna as you can get hd over the air just the same as you used to get before cable came along. Enough of this nonsense their internet service is lousy and over priced and slow as well.

Cheers,

RR1

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mikecleaver* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I'm wondering if anyone at the CRTC actually is reading all of these comments (some of which seem to be posted by shills for either side in this debate?)
It seems the government actually pays NO attention to public input.
As an example, Parliament passes the HST legislation for Ontario and BC, despite overwhelming opposition to this "enhanced" tax by residents of both provinces.
Is this just being done to give Canadians an opportunity to vent on the issues or is someone on the Commission actually compiling how Canadians feel about this?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *geraldtestar* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

The recommendations of Mr. Morrison seem simple and clearly designed to protect the rights of Canadians to be informed and the rights of broadcasters to own and benefit from their program materials. The enormous profits of the cable companies is clear evidence of the imbalance that has crept into the system. Morrison's views should be adopted.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *David* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Enough already....cable is more expensive than telephone and internet combined...it is already too high (some of the highest pricing in the world) and this change will end up costing you know who...the consumer. I don't believe for one minute that the change being considered would increase local programming...it would only increase tv network profits and executive compensation (which is already outrageous when a CEO makes up to 15 times more than the lowest paid employee in that business. The networks are feeling the pinch of a paradigm change in their business (the effect of the internet, specialty channels and a loss of advertising dollars) and unfortunately those that make that 15 times more have not been smart enough to figure out how to change and evolve their business. This proposed money grab on their part will only disincenent them away from finding solutions and effectively evolving their business model. Shades of General Motors. The business has changed, so should they and if they can't figure it out then let that company fail and let the strong prosper (those that come up with solutions rather than money grabs). Let's stop this hand-out mentality and put the burden on CEO's getting paid on results not handouts...please.....

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ed Schmeler* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1. If asked to pay extra for local TV I would have to very seriously consider dropping some or all of my current selections - the cable TV companies and my cable company are already making excellent profits - why can they not pick up this cost? Secondly; what mechanism is in place to ensure that any money raised by such charges would actually be used by broadcasters to maintain or improve local TV?
2. In order to support local television there must be regulations in place to ensure that less money is spent on importing US shows. The CBC should receive more tax money to improve its local broadcasting.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *rr1* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Cable and Satelite companies are nothing more than interlopers who capture the airwaves and re-sell to us something that has already been paid for through advertising. I am tired of having to pay near high definition fees for something that I could get for free from an antenna which is exactly what I am looking to do right now.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *roy* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I already pay to support the Knowledge network and some to US PBS. The reason for this is; there isn't much in the commercial spectrum of TV broadcasts that have any real value. Besides, in this way I can watch programs of value without putting up with incessant advertising. Despite all this I do admire the efforts of the local station to do a good news broadcast and does it's best to relate to the public.

So to answer the question: would I be willing to pay a small addition to my cable bill?? the answer is yes ,providing the negotiations between the broadcasters and cable people produce an agreement to share the expenses and only ask the public to make up the small difference

On another topic, I don't think it was a good idea for the Global people, running around the country trying to buy out the competition and finding themselves with insufficient cash flow and having to lay off hundreds and sell off TV stations. Perhaps mismanagement is a fit description.

Looking through the various comments and responses to comments I must say I'm not very impressed. Much ranting and very little substance.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *isabellamariag* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

my town doesnt have a local station, however we have a volunteer group of individuals that produce programming that is aired by Shaw cable sytem, it has become increasingly difficult to have this continue, the area appreciates local programming and although Shaw cable provides some information on their local channel, it doesnt allow for the type of programming ie talk show format that is currently being produced by the volunteers, if a local station were here, I would think that this is a great service for the community and should be supported by everyone using their signals, as of now, i pay over 110.00 dollars a month for cable service, many of the channels I dont watch however the ones i do enjoy are included in the packages offered, it would be so much more economical if cable companies allowed viewers to purchase the channels they desired instead of offering expensive packages with only one channel watched by the subscriber, the dish is expensive as well, the CRTC has a responsibility to make services such as cable, internet and dish more affordable for Canadians, isnt this organization there to look out for the citizens of this country?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *vlgavqmr* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i pay \$15.00 for basic service now. let me choose my own channels. i don't need 45 radio channels & 20 french channels. all i need is the cbc. i don't need conservative ctv or global or unbiased conservative mike duffy. let me pay for the channels i want. i think it's time for all of us to think of other ways to get our tv viewing, e.g. satellite from a u.s.a. address, connect the internet to the tv or simply drill a hole into your neighbor's apartment & connect the cable to your tv, & split the bill. p.s. maybe you can bring back the montreal star & any other dinosaur you wish to help out.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Linda Gosselin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My cable company already charges me for the local TV programs they provide to me. I am not willing to pay more for this. However, I think the cable companies and satellite companies should have to negotiate a fair payment to the local TV companies for their programming and that the cable and satellite payments should not be allowed to pass on this cost to the consumer. To ensure this the basic charges should be re-regulated.

[Flag](#)

Like



Linda Gosselin ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

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[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ 1 month ago in reply to [Linda Gosselin](#)

there shouldn't even be NATIONAL DEBATE over simple fee for service agreement that private businesses do everyday..it's only \$5 which is less than the tax on people's tax bill and this isn't a tax or gov't bailout,,it's a private business charging for service. the CRTC is regulating price which is not it's mandate.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ted M ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I think the cable companies should have to pay for the local signals they distribute. The cable companies should not be allowed to pass these payments along to subscribers. The compensation to local broadcasters for their signals should be allocated based on each broadcaster's total audience for Canadian shows.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ron Levesque ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Is the question of whether or not local stations can negotiate with cable companies? The networks do all the heavy lifting and take the risks. The cable companies collect the money it needs to be shared. You have the power to prevent the cable companies from adding to already expensive services. Use those powers and don't be the advocates for those you are supposed to regulate.

To allow the local stations to share in the wealth however, you need to insist that the private stations along with the cable companies actually invest in Canadian programs. The experiment with radio showed that regulations can create quality Canadian music. Do the same for the other arts.

[Flag](#)

Like



Michael Moyes ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I would not be happy if I had to pay for local tv on top of what I pay for cable. I already pay around \$85 for cable a month and that is not an extensive package. Paying for local tv in addition is not a good idea. Local tv is the most important to me personally and I shouldn't have to pay extra for it. The money to pay for local tv should come from cable companies.

[Flag](#)

Like



casey ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1. I'd pay it. It's either that or cut the service.

2. None. Get the Conservatives to stop cutting the CBC's budget and staff so our TV icon (the CBC) appears to look suspiciously more inept each year. Our taxes must continue to support the CBC, with controls placed on salaries, bonuses and discretionary spending... not on programming. Previous cuts to the CBC have severely impacted their regional newsrooms. I wonder if that is so the corporate media giants can try to get the money that used to go to the CBC, or if it is just so they can fill our Canadian homes with Canadian versions of American

corporate-sanctioned news-drivel. Shaw, Rogers, Bell, Eastlink, Telus will all be fine... they know how to charge enough.

The CBC is a national treasure that, for decades now, has systematically been strangled by the government (current & past). Our Canadian corporate government is overtly trying to remove the CBC's ability to provide effective programming and report independent views while shamelessly promoting private industry (corporate interests). All the privatization of everything that has and is occurring IS NOT GOOD FOR THE PEOPLE. Our 'local TV companies' are pretty much owned by HUGE media corporations that don't deserve our tax dollars. There are probably exceptions.

Fund the CBC, let them get back to what they were 30 years ago. The good local TV personalities can get a job with the CBC when they re-open the studios they were forced to close when the budgets were cut again and again or when CBC government puppets implemented disastrous policies.

Oh yeah. it won't work if the CBC is operated as a government-type bureaucracy.

[Flag](#)

Like



Benson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If these local / Canadian broadcasters actually produced original content, then I might be on their side, but as retransmitters of American programming primarily, there is no value to stations like CTV and Global.

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to Benson](#) 1 person liked this.

it cost millions to make canadian and local programming. and millions to broadcast american shows and canadian shows. cable companies aren't giving you free cable.

[Flag](#)

Like



M. E. Waters ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

#2. Cable companies should pay broadcasters for the programs they provide to their customers but be forbidden to pass that charge on to customers. For far too long, cable co's have made huge profits by forcing customers to take a 'package' which includes channels they do not want.
#1. I do not want to pay higher cable bills. I believe this charge by broadcasters must come from the profits of cable co's.

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to M. E. Waters](#)

broadcasters pay the show producers, advertisers pay broadcasters, cable pay broadcaster, viewer pay cable,,,now how hard is that to understand. it works in every industry. everybody makes money if everybody gets paid for what they consume

[Flag](#)

Like



curtisabbott ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There are a couple of thing that really annoy me. One, why does the CRTC roll over and allow the cable companies to threaten the Canadian public with a TV tax? Is it a tax?? I feel it is nothing more than the cable companies circumventing the possible dip in their obscene profits on the backs of their customers. If I were a member of the CRTC, I think I would take extreme exception to the misleading cable ads we have been subjected to, and have them cease and desist.

Secondly, the cable companies claim that they are compensating the local broadcasters by allowing free transport on their systems. Do they allow the drivel that they bring in from the US to be freely broadcast, or do they pay a fee? Hmm, it would seem that the local broadcasters are only asking for the cable companies to level the playing field.....something that should have been done years ago.

Cable company rates need to be regulated. Cable companies need to carry local "CANADIAN" broadcasting. The cable companies need to play fair and pay for the services they rebroadcast. Period!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *KJ Carlyle* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would be very upset, and would cancel my cable subscription. I feel local programming should be supported by charging the cable companies for the signals they distribute. The cable companies should be regulated so they cannot pass that charge onto their customers, the rates for basic services should be regulated. Local stations need added funds to survive.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Don* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

In my opinion, the cable companies are doing a disservice to local broadcasters when they carry local signals without paying a fee to the stations involved. I always thought "rebroadcasting" required an agreement with the originator of the signal. Not to mention when the cable companies include local stations in their "basic" packages and charge their subscribers in the area a fee for carrying on air available (local) content.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *GaelM* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think local TV companies should have the option to charge the cable companies to carry their signal. Why should the cable companies be able to serve up local TV making oodles of money and not have to pay for it. I would miss local TV, especially local news. Further, i don't understand why there is an automatic assumption that cable companies have to boost their rates. I think their profits are good enough so there is no need but i don`t have any sense of what we are talking about here - its is 50 cents or 50 dollars? It seems to me the consumer will decide if there is value.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mack Damon* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

two words: "pirated sattelite" if you impose ANOTHER stupid tax, i think more than a few canadians will agree with me. how is that for lost revenue?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mutlee* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Mack Damon](#)

If you have a crack for nagra 3, let me know.
Until wwe get that it's only FTA satellite.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bertpalfrey* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Your first question is manipulative. The real question is, "Should the cable companies have to pay local content providers for their product?" The answer to that is, "Yes!" Your question implies that cable providers should make exactly the same exorbitant profits they make now

and the subscriber should pay extra for local content. As a regulatory agency, your job is to make sure that cable providers fulfill their duty to subscribers.

Right now, I pay for 60+ channels. There are only about 18 that I watch on an intermittent basis. So, why can't the cable companies charge me \$1 to \$2 per channel per month that I actually want? No, they package the channels so to get the ones I want I have to pay for a huge number I don't want.

Your job, as the CRTC, is not to protect the cable providers but to protect me, the Canadian citizen.

I would pay a little extra for local content but, if I see the CRTC protecting the interests of the big cable companies and allowing them to pass along extra charges for local content to me, I will certainly make sure that I and my friends get out the message that you are totally screwing regular citizens in favour of the cable companies.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Tim09* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

As it stands cable is grossly over priced and the programming is poor in relation to what is offered. With the amount of commercials, repeats and just plain stupid shows we are getting a ratio of about 3 cents to the dollars worth. I'm getting tired of paying for dumbed down formulaic Americana. I would not pay for local TV unless I received a substantial check from the advertisers who suck my time having to wait for them to finish lying to me about whatever crap they are selling, not to mention the amount they edit to make room for the ads. Besides most of the local TV I've seen after 48 years is fair at best unless your talking pbs. That being said local TV is an important service and should be supported, paid for and or subsidized by the cable companies and advertisers. It's not like they don't have the money ! Just a side comment after reading a lot of your comments. The CBC is a good and important think for Canada. It needs to be here. As much as medicare does.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mary Ives* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't subscribe to cable tv and I definitely don't miss it. The only television I watch is CBC which is free. If I had to pay for it I wouldn't because I can't stand the commercials. Mary

[Flag](#)

Like

 *tim09* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

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Like

 *Monte C* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I understand cable companies are obligated to carry local TV channels. Free them of that obligation and watch how quickly local TV gets dropped. If the lefties want local TV with their cable let them pay for it. International news can be had over the internet, local news can be heard on the radio or by way of newspapers, such as they are.

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Susan ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Aren't I already paying my cable company for local tv? Why isn't my cable company paying the local tv stations for their feeds? Local television should be compensated for the feeds that they provide to the cable companies. I would resist any additional charges the cable companies would try to impose if they were forced to pay for the local channels that they are currently getting for free. The cable companies are making billions off of these channels and they should foot the bill for any new fees for local tv without passing it on to the consumer.

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Debbie McGee ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

- Cable companies should pay for the local signals they distribute, and they should not be allowed to pass these charges on to consumers. They are a monopoly, and already charge a fortune for their privilege of making a handsome profit off the work of other people. Cable and internet services are becoming so important to Canadians, and so expensive, I would support nationalizing the cable companies!

- In the meantime, the compensation to local broadcasters for their signals should be allocated based on each broadcaster's total audience for Canadian shows. This would put onus on broadcasters to put time and attention into Canadian programming.

[Flag](#)

Like



D. Shields ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Debbie McGee](#)

Thank you Debby for pointing out that Cable Companies have a monopoly in their respective areas. For all intents & purposes they are a monopoly, yet the CRTC has disputed this with the citizens of Canada, time & time again.

I'm hoping the CRTC will be Objective for a change with these Cable Giants, & stop catering to them!

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Like



Patty ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If there is a new charge or tax applied, I will cancel my cable services. Cable bills are already too expensive, ranging from \$55-\$80 per month. While I appreciate local television, I am not willing to pay a higher cable bill. Perhaps there are other ways that local television could be saved. For example, there is no need to broadcast sport scores for professional teams on the local television networks.

If the focus is local, then why is there a sports news segment on "local tv" that addresses professional sports? If anything, they could save airtime by eliminating that segment all together and keep the focus on local issues and local sports. If someone wants to professional sports news, there is no shortage of sport networks and internet sites where this information can be obtained.

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jerryburdenie ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Since finding this website, I've read a lot of the comments that have been posted by ordinary Canadians. And it seems to me there's a pattern developing, in that two basic and pervasive themes are recurring:

1. People are dissatisfied with the local programming to which they are being subjected; there may be a couple of hours of local newscasts worth watching but few decent locally produced Canadian-content shows that attract them. They're tired of paying exorbitant amounts to

subsidize these broadcasters (i.e. CBC).

2. People want to be able to pick and choose the cable stations they view. They don't want to be told by cable companies that they have to take a certain bundle just so they can enjoy the Golf Channel or OLN or HGTV.

These are the two messages that we should be sending -- loud and clear -- to the CRTC. Don't tell us we can't have a choice because we're the ones that finance these endeavours in the first place through the fees we're charged and the taxes we pay. If people quit paying for television cable service, the cable industry would be in dire trouble.

It's time the CRTC, the broadcasters and the cable companies understood and acknowledged our displeasure.

And if the CRTC doesn't take these factors into consideration, the television situation in Canada will continue to wander through the wilderness while its financial supporters continue to gnash their teeth and be frustrated that their arguments and opinions are not receiving a fair hearing.

To hell with the broadcasters, the cable companies and the CRTC. It's about the consumers, stupid!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Margaret Taylor ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My opinion: We pay way too much for a service that does not at this time financially compensate our local stations. Local news has been the life line in Ontario for years. The solution is simple. If the digital service that I pay for is broadcasting my local TV station then the service I pay for should be paying my local station for its broadcast. Not the individual. We already have to pay extra for movies. Really, it shouldn't be that hard to figure this one out. It's called fair. You know fair.

[Flag](#)

Like



albert ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

2009.12.08

Cable companies are charging way too much, and all they do is shipping TV companies' signals to your home. OK, if anymore cable rate hike, it will give me more reason to "cut" the cable, and use simple dipole antennas, a construction of which is commonly known as "rabbit ears". A simple dipole antenna is just a piece of wire bent in certain ways, costing nothing, and you should be able to receive signals from close-by TV stations.

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Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [albert](#) 1 person liked this.

that is the reason it was free of charge before and cable companies didn't have to pay since the signal is free of the air. but times have changed, industry has changed, things have changed. industry regulations need to be change to changes in the tv and radio industry.

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Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [albert](#)

victim of changes,

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [albert](#)

winds of change.

free tv--gone with the wind. a bygone era.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[albert](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

2009.12.08

Cable companies must consider giving customers the ability to choose individual channels, and a customer only pays for those channels so chosen. The package thing is totally ridiculous -- why should I pay for those channels I do not want to watch ?

Cable companies must pay TV companies, because they are using TV companies' signals to do things, including shipping them to customers' dwellings.

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[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to albert](#) 1 person liked this.

i have 28 channels on basic and 70% of the channels are worthless to me. the ones worth anything to me are the over the air channels canadian and over the air American channels..

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[Like](#)



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to albert](#) 1 person liked this.

of the 28 channels only 10 are worth watching on regular basis...i think the cable companies even have data on which channels are most watched..

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[Like](#)



[patriciaokahashi](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I had to pay more to see local tv, I would be really mad at the cable stations. I understand they have profits of over 2 billion dollars and they already charge us for delivering local tv stations. I would cancel my cable service and go back to free tv.

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[Like](#)



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to patriciaokahashi](#)

that is the problem, there won't be any free TV except CBC. the quality of programming in free over the air channels sucks compared to before or the shows suck,,i know i've been watching TV for decades.

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[Like](#)



[patriciaokahashi](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to billy](#)

there's always DVDs. And books...I'd start reading again.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Thelma Jackson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I most definitely refuse to give the Big Networks, or anyone else, another nickle for the drivel they turn out! They have "milked" us of too many billions already!

2. They can all share more evenly in what is already being collected.

[Flag](#)

Like



Joseph Dwyer ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am a cable supporter and have been since we have had an option. The many times I've had to add to my subscription either with new hardware or just upgrading my service has been well worth the product. When asked if I would support local T.V. my response is a resounding "NO". Why in the world would I. It is this inadequate service that I have left and if you think that as a good run of the mill english speaking Canadian I should subsidise those relying on Chin or Greek T.V. saturday mornings or any of the other junk on local T.V. your sadly mistaken. I don't want to pay for more localized crap. Please don't be redicules if the stations can't make it on local contributions let them shut down. I for one and many millions of others won't miss them. Yes there will be a few who will miss them let me suggest they come to the table with their cheque books. Leave us alone.

Joseph Dwyer Barrie

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Like



B Mavin ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

In most cases, the reality is that local TV could be accessed by turning off cable and simply reconfiguring TV to antenna. So paying more for the service is not reasonable. However, I do think that cable should pay some access fee to local TV stations for the use of their signals. I am suggesting a token amount set by the CRTC such as \$2 per subscriber BUT not to be passed on to the cable customer. the amounts should be absorbed by the cable company.

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Like



Jim Shane ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm already charged by the cable company (and paying) a fee for every channel I receive.

The cable company passes some of those fees to the specialty channels but the cable company is stealing the local signals. The cable monopolies need to pass some of the funds to local channels. Local channels are the most watched channels.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees. My Shaw cable bill went up twice already this year. Why??? No new services were added!!! The CRTC needs to open the doors to Direct TV and Dish Network.

The cable and satellite companies should not be allowed to double dip – we already pay to receive local channels now its up to the cable companies to pass some of the funds to local TV.

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Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jim Shane](#)

the reason local channels weren't chargin cable companies to pay for free over the channels was because the channels were free. BUT that is changing,,there will be no more free over the air channels as viewership has dwinded so much the free over the air channels can no longer be 100% advertiser supported and have fix content costs and fees. broadcassters cannot cut cost with CRTC regulations on content, advertising, regulations. so they layoff staff and reduce quality of programming so now all the good shows are in pay-tv channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Doug ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV stations broadcast over the air. If the satellite/cable companies carry their signal then the larger audience must command higher advertising fees for the local station. Advertising pays for the local TV. Customers of the cable/satellite companies should pay only for the signal

being delivered. If the local TV stations cannot survive on the local advertising they should shut down.

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Like

 *Danny* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

cable companies should pay an if the the money for my cable is not being payed i will be very upset thanks danny

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dino* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Yes, they should pay some money back to local tv stations. They get the signal for free and make money off it. That's not a fair deal. Local TV must compete with big American networks for programming and the current business model doesn't work anymore. The cable company keeps raising their rates, one dollar here and there...

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Like

 *Scott* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My view is that the proposed fee for carriage creates an undue, unnecessary and unfair burden on BDUs, and, ultimately the Canadian consumer. The financial risk associated with poor management of resources by the broadcasters should not be shifted to others who had no participation in, or control over, and therefore bear no responsibility for, such poor management. Support for local television must come from those who directly benefit from it - the broadcasters, and no others.

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Like

 *Mike* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It would not be fair to force cable TV subscribers to pay for local TV which they may not want or watch. If local TV is to be paid for by cable companies then it should be as a subscription choice with a fee paid by those cable customers who choose it, as is the system with food network and TSN. This system would allow the people to decide if they felt their local TV provided enough value to survive.

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Like

 *billy* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mike](#)

cable companies don't have free cable,,so why should be there free TV channels. nothing is free,

[Flag](#)

Like

 *TC* ★ [1 month ago in reply to billy](#) 1 person liked this.

REpost: TV should be free and not charged per channel. Advertising pays the bills. I really don't see charging for a channel and then allowing advertising. This is double dipping. If I pay for a channel I want it to be ad free, otherwise I should not be paying for it. Cable and Satellite need to clean up their act in this regard. GREEDthat is what this is all about.

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 *anonymous* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There should be NO TAX. We are already paying enough. Broadcasters already receive so much

funding from government and TV providers. Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming. The big TV networks made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year. And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

No way!

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Like

 *Irene Thomas* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Let's start running things as if this was a small business with low overhead - people aren't going to shell out more money forever. How can resources can be shared and costs lowered, what expenses are non-essential? Tighten belts like the rest of us!

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Like

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Irene Thomas](#)

charge for everything. like the gov't charges for parking on city streets after 7pm. these are private businesses not non-profit or gov't departments. gov't departments charge an arm and leg for their services.

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Like

 *TC* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to billy](#) 1 person liked this.

TV should be free and not charged per channel. Advertising pays the bills. I really don't see charging for a channel and then allowing advertising. This is double dipping. If I pay for a channel I want it to be ad free, otherwise I should not be paying for it. Cable and Satellite need to clean up their act in this regard. GREED that is what this is all about.

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 *TC* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

First of all there are too many small local TV stations being subsidized. In large metropolitan areas, there are as many as 10 stations all saying local news is needed which is basically the domain of radio and the you can always get local news on the internet. Local TV was only instituted in the late 1950's, this was radios domain and newsprint until then. We all know what is happening to newsprint. With the advent of the internet, we don't need all the local TV stations. A rate hike is out of the question, proper business management is what local TV needs. The public already give too much money to CBC, CTV, Global etc. As for Cable and Satellite, CRTC needs to tighten the way they are charging for services. They charge for both Standard Definition and High Definition of the same stations, this practice needs to STOP NOW!!!

Canada is way too slow in regulating these practices and needs to enforce a freer distribution of the HD Channel roll out. TSN and Sportsnet should be forced to broadcast over the air as now you have to subscribe to them to watch NHL playoffs and Grey Cup games which were once over the free air broadcast before. The NHL should be forced to stop the blackout practices for Canadian stations and do what is done in the USA, allowing all carriers to broadcast freely. Pay Per View should be regulated more, CRTC regulates internet broadcasts of movies from out of the country but will not allow regulated broadcasts to movies, American and British shows over the internet. Canada use to be a leader in communications but now they are far behind and DO NOT SERVICE the Canadian public needs. The commissions act far to slow and always to commercial advantage, not the public need as public comments as these a brushed aside. All of this conspires to increase the cost of broadcasting in Canada to beyond the affordability of regular Canadians.

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Mike ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Call it what you will, it's just another bloody tax grab... We're bailing out GMC, we've got McGuinty's billion dollar mismanagement of the Welfare fund, the proposed Ontario HST, Harper's recession recovery plan (how many billions is he spending on that?), the billion dollar HR boondoggle (a few years ago), the gun registry fiasco, and the list goes on... What all these politicians seem to forget is that it is the same poor taxpayer that ends up with the bill for all their stupidities.

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Roger ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the local T.V.stations want their programs broadcast on cable or satellite, they should be the ones to pay for that service.

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Like



Dave C ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If we're going to have a new fee for local tv rammed down our wallets, I hope it is as low as possible - and to make sure the networks share the financial pain - eliminate the practise of forcing networks and cable companies to show the Canadian signal when shows are simulcast - get something - give up something.

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Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Dave C](#)

\$5 ain't a whole lot of money, if people don't think it's worth even \$5 than don't watch it. and don't pay. people should be paid for what they produce. like cable companies who complained about cable theft etc and pay tv theft is felony. cops were busting people for cable theft in the 80's and 90's

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Like



Richard McNeil ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local tv, as well as any other tv network, make their revenue from advertising. Any amounts negotiated between tv and cable carriers is their own business. The cable companies are not "strong-armed" into paying for other tv programing, nor should they be in Canada either.

Local tv companies' employees are well paid... most make above average salaries, live in nice homes, drive nice cars and have a nice retirement package to look forward to. Should local tv receive any additional money from cable carriers, these additional revenues will be translated into higher direct costs to consumers of cable, or, if subsidized by Government in some way, will translate into higher taxes for our Canadian citizens.

If local tv is playing with the idea of obtaining government funding to cover their assimilated shortages in revenue, they should lend an ear to past proponents of similar schemes... such as Sydney Steel, Devco, and numerous other companies that grew to depend on government funding, only to have it withdrawn at some inopportune time, causing the business to fail.

It is us, the public, who pay for local TV service already, in one way or another. Without us watching the advertisements, watching the programming and spending our money on items displayed on the tv advertising, you would not have a business. Advertising revenues are the primary source of income for TV, local and otherwise. Do like any other business does when revenues are less than expenses... cut back!

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Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Richard McNeil](#)

it's private business it should charge any price the consumer wants to pay..i mean the fact, these aren't public companies like CBC which is losing millions. look at all the well paid gov't bureaucrats ate CRTC or other gov't bureaucrats, these are skilled workers in the TV industry, what is lacking is talent to produce good shows. it cost 25 million dollar to make 'cheap' movie. that is how much it cost cause nobody works for free. advertisers don't get free advertising either. 100% advertiser supported Television is dead business model. Viewers watch shows or programs not channels. the cost is in the programs that are purchased

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Like



Christopher Gleeson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable and satellite companies are already overcharging for the services they provide. Adding another charge to an already inflated bill is both unnecessary and unjust. Local television is no longer truly local, in any event. Because of media concentration, permitted by the CRTC, we have seen the erosion of true local programming over the past 20 years. Candidly, if the "local" stations leave, very few would notice.

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Like



cgleeson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable and satellite companies are already overcharging for the services they provide. Adding another charge to an already inflated bill is both unnecessary and unjust. Local television is no longer truly local, in any event. Because of media concentration, permitted by the CRTC, we have seen the erosion of true local programming over the past 20 years. Candidly, if the "local" stations leave, very few would notice.

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billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to cgleeson](#) 1 person liked this.

there was never any local content worthy of watching except for local news since the budge was so low for these local content shows. only people watch local content is locals so it's really small market if it's 100% supported by advertisers. media in canada is no longer concentrated it's actually spread out. consumers now have 100 channels to get their news including international channels etc. in satellite internet.

[Flag](#)

Like



P Withers ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I currently receive TV thru Bell satellite. I would like to but do not receive a "local" channel at all, because it is not offered, and I do not want to pay an extra fee to receive a local TV channel. However if a fee were to be charged for local TV, then i believe I should have the right to unsubscribe to those over the air channels which I do not watch or do not want to receive. The current "bundling" practice is very restrictive and not user friendly. It also results in substantial extra costs - I do not see why (since the technology is easily available) the TV providers like Bell and Shaw and Telus could not make available a local TV station and allow one to add extra channels for an extra fee per channel.

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Like



tmartins ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I have an antenna, I get the local TV stations for free.

If I have cable TV, I have to pay to get these same stations. However, if the local stations get their way, I (and all other cable customers) will have to pay twice to get these same local

stations, to the cable company and to the local TV stations ... that hardly seems fair.

Let's face it, if the CRTC allows the request from the local stations, there is no way the cable companies will absorb the cost, the viewing customers will be charged more.

Due to the poor economy, many people are not getting any salary increases, but the cost of cable TV goes up, like clockwork, every year (twice, so far, this year).

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[Antonietta Stenta](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

First of all I'm not willing to pay anymore than I am as I could not afford it relying irtgh now just on my pension income and I believe we should not pay more as it is already quite high.

As to what measures could be taken is exactly what they've been saying on TV the cable company should support the local television.

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Like



[burgers](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

So let me get this straight. The networks, i.e. CTV Global, purchase small local tv stations, to get a bigger viewing audience, sell advertising spots, using there viewership stats, and American shows they broadcast, as a selling feature to potential advertisers, such as Coca Cola, Canadian Tire etc. In turn the networks are suppose to make a profit. Then when there profits start to slip because of less advertising dollars coming in due to the recession, we the customers who subscribe to Bell/Rogers/Shaw/Cogeco are suppose to subsidize the drop in network revenues, cloaked as "lets save the local tv station as a scapegoat to drop in profits". How about OTA transmission? Are they going to go around, searching for homes with yagi antenna's and hit them with a local tax for having an antenna? If it wasn't for Bell/Rogers/Shaw/Cogeco the viewership of the baby/local CTV's and Global's would be limited to yagi viewership. Now how would they sell advertising spots based on those numbers? They couldn't. Period. Now the CRTC, a paid by tax payers dollars government body, want's the people to help decide? What a con and waste of tax payers hard earned money. This is just a play by the networks to help subsidize there drop in revenue's due to the recession. There are the whiny kid on the block saying ""well if if the big giant car companies got money how come we can't have any ""stomp stomp. Are the CEO's and executives of these networks forfeiting there bonuses this year to save there local TV stations? Give me a break what a sham. CRTC shame on you for not making the decision you are paid to do. CRTC is there to protect the consumer not to prop up the profits of the networks. Do not the cable and Sat. companies already pay carriage fees to the networks to retransit there local tv networks? Yes they do. I will not pay for this.

[Flag](#)

Like



[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to burgers](#)

CRTC isn't to protect the consumer but to make sure Canada has a television and radio industry for cultural purposes much like CBC. if were to let free market forces work, there would be no CBC or Canadian TV or radio industry.All Canadians would be watching American TV shows and owned by Americans. okay. Canada would be 51 state of the United States in term of media and 100% content. there would be no need muchmusic.

[Flag](#)

Like



[MarkBurch](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to billy](#)

You seem to have contempt for the very people whose culture you want to defend. Let Canadians create/view their own content. The digital age allows this at \$0.

[Flag](#)

Like



MarkBurch ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm seeing lots of Canadian content on these posts and it cost \$0. Canadians already create mass amounts of local online content daily without any help from the CBC, CTV or CRTC. Those agencies have self-serving mandates that crave more and more \$. They don't need it. Canadians entered the digital age long ago and will never look back.

[Flag](#)

Like



A LOCAL TV SUPPORTER ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

AS CANADAINS WE ALREADY PAY TO MUCH FOR ALL TYPES OF TV. IT HAS INCREASED TO THE PIONT WHERE NOW THE COMPANIES ARE BILLINAIRES. LOCAL TV NOT ONLY IS A MUST IN LOCAL AREAS FOR KNOWLEDGE OF ONES COMMUNITY BUT IN THE GOOD IT PROVIDES IN RAISING AWARENESS IN CHARITY SITUATIONS,ALERTS ON HEALTH,CRISISES IN LOCAL AREAS SUCH AS AMBER ALERTS. WE HAVE GIVEN SO MUCH TO THE PIONT WHERE ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. THIS DECISION SHOULD BE DECIDED IN A BOOARD ROOM NOT BY COMMITTEES AND ON GOING MONEY SUCKING ADVENTURES. THE FACTS ARE SIMPLE AND WE THE PEOPLE DESERVE THE RESPECT OF THE NETWORKS TO PROVIDE IN A COST SAVING MEASURE THE LOCAL TV WE HAVE COME TO EXPECT. THE FACT THAT CABLE AND GLOBAL COMPANIES ARE BANDING TOGETEHR IN CORORPATE MEETINGS IS RIDICULUS AND COSTLY. WE WANT THE SERVICE AND THIS SUPPORT IS BLANTLY OBVIOUS TO YOU...SO NOW EAT ABIT OF YOUR PROFITS AND SUPPLY IT TO THE CUSTOMRS WHO HAVE MADE YOU RICH. THERES NO NEED TO SPEND MORE CASH TO BASICALLY DECIDE WHAT THE PUBLIC WANTS,IT IS APPARENT. WE ARE ORDINARY CITIZANS,FARMERS,LOCAL HOMEOWNERS...WE DON,T NEED TO BE CHARGED MORE AS ITS ALREADY RIDICULUS WHAT IS CHARGED TO US. THREE QUARTER OF THE STATIONS ON BASIC CABLE ARE REPEATS OF ONES ALREADY ON. SO WHAT WE PICK WHICH CHANNEL WE WISH TO WATCH THE SHOW ON ? ITS CRAZY.MISMANAGED AND CERTAINLY NOT ABOUT THE PUBLIC. WE ARE NOT FOOLS,NOR IGNORANT ON MATTERS. ITS TIME FOR THE HIGH CASTLES TO Fil and relate to normal public demand and provide us with the local and the choices we pay so much for. ITS TIME TO GET REAL.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rebecca Sedore ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If this new fee is supposed to improve local programming - why are we already paying the CRTC an extra 1.5% for a Local Programming Improvement Fund. Maybe the CRTC should explain the difference.

How much does the government expect to glean from Canadians...where does it end? It seems as though our government creates every opportunity to strip more and more away from each family's budget, and straining consumer finance to the point of exhaustion.

TV is not a necessarily of life, and further taxation would ultimately prove to decrease affordability and limit growth of the market.

What makes cable companies, car companies and airlines superior to every other business in our country? What about locally own small and medium size businesses - where is our improvement fund? Why shouldn't these companies have to compete as every other business does, to reach success.....and why don't Canadians seem to speak up on issues that impact them? Gouging like this would not happen, if we did not let it.

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Like



dlc ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

- 1.negatively, cable is already too expensive for the quality of service delivered
- 2.none let them live or die based on revenue from advertising

[Flag](#)

Like



[rnbobchristie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Firstly, I must say I am delighted that the CTV effort to bypass the CRTC and drag Members of Parliament into the fray is being refuffed. This site was provided to me by my MPs staff when I sent the following to them:

From: bcchristie@shaw.ca [bcchristie@shaw.ca]

Sent: November 26, 2009 5:06 PM

To: Casson, Rick - M.P.

Subject: Local TV matters to me

Dear Member of Parliament,

I have no doubt that most viewers will simply let CT put words into their mouths. On the other hand, I was around when Cable TV first came to Canada and clearly remember the local broadcasters INSISTING that the Cablecos carry their signals at no cost. Then they argued that when a program was running in Canada at the same time as in the US, the Cablecos be required to do something called simultaneous substitution. Then, they wanted asynchronous substitution and they got that too. This is lunacy. The local broadcasters did not make a good bargain and now they want you to order a do over. Let them pull their signals off the cable. THAT is their right. Then we will see how much they are missed. NOT!! This is a business spat and government should have no role to play. The CRTC is disgusted with the broadcasters coming running to them ONE MORE TIME. For you to interfere would not only restrict free enterprise, it would "dis" the entire CRTC. Leave it alone. I pay enough as it is.

Truth be told, I am something of a technology addict and having lived much of my life in the throes of Television and Computers now, in retirement, spend over \$200.00 a month subscribing to a broad range of Cable Television Services, Internet Services and Telephone Services all from Shaw Cable. I was delighted at the range of services increasingly being provided by the cable companies over time and rue the day that I did not buy in during the very tenuous early days when survival was open to serious question. Basically, as much as the government and the regulators wish to protect the consumer, it is important that the free market be allowed to function and the broadcasters have made their own bed and now they want you to force the rest of us to sleep in it. Every decision that they now wish to overturn are exactly the same rules they asked to be implemented in years gone by.

I cannot say it too clearly. If the broadcasters no longer want to be carried at no charge by the cable companies... fine--let them pull their signals. If they do however, then the rules regarding simultaneous and even non simultaneous substitution and the denial of advertising revenue should also go by the boards.

Regarding the present spat, I would say a pox on both their houses. Listening to the ads promulgated by both the broadcasters and the cable giants is reminiscent of the 45 day election campaign in which every other ad is promoted by one political party or another, except that in that case you can hold your breath in the knowledge that it will soon end. In the present dispute, it goes on and on. In that regard I beg the CRTC to do two things. First, force both sides to be silent on the issues and second, MAKE A DECISION. I personally support no change, but even if you force the cable companies to subsidize the broadcasters with or without an increase in fees or the acceptance of some of the more archaic proposals like "skinny basic", I would be happier with a solution than with the ongoing uncertainty. Put simply--do your job, MAKE A DECISION!!

Flag

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[bob](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to rnbobchristie](#)

times have changed since the 90's 80's and 70's the entire industry has changed. free over the air TV model is dead.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [mikekiraly](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable prices are to high to begin with, I lost my job a year ago no thanks to all the rich and greedy people out there so I had to cut my cable, those lucky enough to still have are suppose to pay an extra \$10.00 / month sorry I don't think so. Right now my main concern is how much is Ontario works going to help and how will I get to the food bank and back.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [joe](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to mikekiraly](#)

mike, you should support the CRTC regulating the cost of basic cable again. Since cable rates were deregulated, the cost has increased by more than 70%. Ouch. That hurts.

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 [sjn](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would simply use internet television. Local TV (with a high quality signal) is the most important component of cable - a great deal of the rest is just generic american junk.
2. Cable companies should be REQUIRED to pay fairly for local television, and to absorb the cost as part of doing business. Consumers already pay far more than they should for inflexible packages of junk. There are two principles at work here:
 - a) make sure that locally-relevant television is at least as accessible on cable as imported garbage
 - b) make sure that cable companies properly support the communities that allow them to earn their revenues, by providing properly priced access to real television, and by passing on appropriate revenue streams to those stations that actually have relevance to our communities.

We have MORE than enough American junk-food television (and, sadly, increasingly large proportions of home-grown garbage too..).

It's time to return access to television to the local environments - and I'm not referring to the stupid cheezy 'shows' that cable stations sometimes run to nominally fulfill their license requirements (thanks, CRTC, for failing to address that issue properly.....)

Locally produced quality television needs to have equal and fair access to audiences - and audiences have the right to proper access to locally produced quality programming.

How difficult is that?

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 [RMZ](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The posts here are a good read and tells me nobody on this discussion board is in favour of paying anymore more than they already do, and some indeed question what "local" TV really is. In a shrinking economy where job losses, uncertainty, bail-outs and stories of gross mis-mangement and fraud in every sector of industry, entertainment and business are prevalent how can the CRTC, the cable companies and "local" tv stand there and ask such a stupid question? They need to study the impact of a increase in prices? Really?!? Have they watched TV lately? Would I pay \$10 more to watch George Stroumboulopoulos. No, I think I'm good with \$80 a month. Would I spend \$10 to save his job. Yeah.. probably not. Besides, who has time to watch TV? Don't they know people are working longer hours afraid of losing their jobs and having to just work with less? What idiocy. Good news is some enterprising individual will get a business up and running installing TV antennas.

"The CRTC's mandate is to ensure that both the broadcasting and telecommunications systems

serve the Canadian public." Looked it up on their website.... Wow! And the best thing they can think of is allowing local tv stations to charge us more for the same piece of pie.

Flag

Like

 *Eric Petras* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I had to pay extra to retain local tv, I would, but this should not be necessary...the "tv tax" that the cable companies campaign against in their advertisements is not being generated by local television -- rather, it reflects the intent of cable companies to increase their rates in order not to lose any of their profits. Cable companies have to pay U.S. stations for the right to carry their programming ... so should they be required to pay local television stations, without increasing customer fees.

Flag

Like

 *Karl McKenna* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm angry that cable companys do not pay for the programming that they are, in turn, charging their customers for. There is no "free" basic package to their customers. Saying they're not billing customers for local TV right now is a lie.

Flag

Like

 *Jennifer K* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the CRTC allows the satellite and cable companies charge us a tv tax, then they have sunk to a low that is low can be. If they allow this, then that is sad. It means they are allowing these companies to brow beat them and dictate what they can do. I barely make ends meet as it is and if they do this, then I may not be able to afford my other bills such as my phone (a necessity) and be bale to buy food. I have student loans I make each month and they are hefty and won't be able to pay both. The satellite company I am with now offers their package for \$4/m but I have been with them a while and have to pay \$6/m. I have protested that since now their packages are \$4/m, I should be re-charged at the new package rate, which gave them such a laugh it was disgusting. Why should I be charged more for being with them longer?

They have increased what I pay each month twice within the last 6 months. I have an extra receiver and an added channel which I should pay for and that I have no problem doing but I do have a problem paying for something extra on top of my bill. Since many A channels have dropped their 6 and 11pm and weekend news, I don't feel I need to pay for local channels when I don't get local news. CJOH news is okay but I liked A news better.

CRTC, you will alienate a lot of people if you side with them and impose a tv tax. Don't let them be your boss, you be their boss.

Flag

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 *B Norman* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jennifer K](#)

The fact that A channel cancelled their newscasts is evidence that local TV is struggling and the current business model where the cable company pays nothing for the signal is not working.

Flag

Like

 *'Gene* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The Cable companies not have a hidden charge in their rates to pay for their "Local" programming that is, in large part, produced by volunteers!!! If they can be given the right to increase their fees annually, without hearings, and can charge for "local" programming, why shouldn't private broadcasters also be paid by the cable/satellite provider for carrying their programming and charging us to view it? Private broadcasters pay large amounts for thier

programming and with all the out-of-area channels on satellite and cable, the advertising market is so fragmented, costs cannot be recouped. If we still want local, the money has to come from somewhere!!

An alternative could be that no charge for the 'local' stations but if you want a signal that is not local then you pay for it as we do 'speciality' channels with the fees going to the station you subscribe to.

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[Gary Kubisek](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Let's say that these useless Canadian broadcasters like CTV and Global are dropped, and US networks are blacked out because they own the rights to the programs in Canada. But eventually, these Canadian networks will be gaining hardly any advertising revenue, because they aren't carried on cable / satellite anymore, and will go under. Then they won't be able to bid on any more American programming, because they no longer exist. Then they won't have the Canadian rights, and then the American programs won't have to be blacked out.

Cable / satellite providers won't lose much because we'll still have access to American shows, and CTV / Global will have gone by the wayside. It'll be a few years of pain for long term gain for the average viewer to get rid of these annoying MoFu's known as CTV and Global.

The BDUs could also just cut deals with ABC/CBS/NBC directly for VOD in the interim, Shaw already offers NBC on Demand for example. Depending on how CTV/Global's contracts are written up they might not have exclusives on VOD of the stuff they acquire from the studios since that isn't really "broadcast" but narrowcast to the consumer.

It would come down to who can hold out the longest, the BDU or the broadcaster. The BDU can circumvent somewhat, the broadcaster however without BDU access will be losing millions in ad revenue as their viewership takes a severe dip and advertisers refuse to pay high rates.

Meanwhile, sales in media players will skyrocket as the viewers turn to online delivery methods. And once that happens, the broadcasters will lose outright since many will find the experience nicer, what with 720p versions available, no commercials to skip through, no Pamper's ads imprinted over the opening credits, etc.

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[John Burshlaag](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Gary Kubisek](#)

Yes, people will love the cable companies if we can't watch the hockey playoffs for two years while they wait for Canadian TV companies to go under because they won't pay for retransmission.

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[Marvin Deluth](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to John Burshlaag](#)

The hockey playoffs are on CBC. Just get rid of CTV and Global.

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Like



[Dave](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

no more fees on the cable service paying too much already, if you give the stations the chance to collect more money we need the right to pick our own packages and dump the channels we never watch

[Flag](#)

Like



Karl McKenna ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Dave](#)

I for one would like to have a choice not to subscribe to 50 channels on basic cable. Maybe a smaller basic package with Canadian channels and the 3 U.S. networks and PBS

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Gill Narmandy ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Why pay for Canadian channels anyways, as they offer little value and just are retransmitters of American content.

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[Like](#)



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Gill Narmandy](#)

cause American content isn't free. either advertisers and viewers pay for the content.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Gill Narmandy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to billy](#) 1 person liked this.

But we already get the American stations. There is no need for Canadian rebroadcasters. They can screw themselves. They are nothing but a bunch of parasites and leeches who can't come up with anything of their own.

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Jan Kennedy ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable companies are already charging us to receive local stations. They steal the signals, charge the customer but fail to compensate local TV stations. That is wrong.

Local TV stations need to be compensated for their signals. That's how its done in the United States (Retransmission Consent)

As I said, the cable monopolies are already charging the customer, any additional fees would be double dipping.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees. Shaw cable increased my cable bill twice already this year with no additional services or explanation for the two increases.

While at it, the CRTC should open the doors to Dish Network and Direct TV - I'm sick of the Canadian greedy cable monopolies dictating everything...

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Joanne ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not support the TV tax. If local stations are very important to broadcasters, why don't they spend more on local stations, and less on US programming. Broadcasters also do get funding for local programming so this is a funded area.

I feel the issue is that broadcasters are feeling the impact of less revenue from advertising, and now looking to consumers/distributers to solve.

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Debra Ward ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not want to pay for local TV on top of my cable package fees. There are several reasons for this, and several alternatives. It isn't the amount of money, which is fairly small - it's the greed of the networks, and their money grab couched in a new local-coverage mantra. I do not believe

them.

First, the national networks (including the CBC) have done nothing to show that they have any interest in real local coverage. CBC decimated its local newcasts in secondary markets. In the Ottawa region, I have seen CHRO move from a local Pembroke station to a number of increasingly odd incarnations, until now, when both its dinner hour and late night newcasts have been removed by its latest parent company, the local-tv caring CTV. Hamilton (among others) has repatriated its local station from Global/E! (the less said about that the better) to provide its community with local news and movies. More power to them. If my money would go to stations like CHCH, I would give it with both hands, in a heartbeat -- even if it is not my own community.

The idea that national networks have any loyalty beyond their advertising revenue is laughable. If they've discovered "local TV matters" it is only because they've run focus groups that have told them that this angle is the best way to get consumer support for fee-for-carriage from the cable providers.

Ironically the only real local coverage in Ottawa is NOT provided by a network, but by Rogers Cable. So to your question of how to support local TV, I would do what I already do -- support Rogers by 1) Using it as my cable provider and 2) Watching Rogers 22.

And on a related subject, I would love to eliminate "basic" cable packages altogether. I personally could survive very nicely without CBC, Global, CTS, Vision, APTN, the French networks, the Shopping Channel, the sports channels, and would happily pay a fee for TVO, CTV the CBC and CTV News Channels, Discovery, the four American networks, Bravo, Showcase...you get the idea.

The cable companies provide a service -- and certainly in the case of Rogers, I find the service improved over the years, and it's a service for which I am willing to pay. I am not willing to pay for the networks which get their huge revenues from reselling American programs to us. Local TV does matter -- but as the networks histories and actions have shown -- not to them.

I can even get by quite nicely without Global,
Flag

Like



John Burshlaag ★ [1 month ago in reply to Debra Ward](#)

The Ottawa CTV station has one of the better local newcasts in the country. A lot of other local communities would like to have a newscast like that.

Flag

Like



ann ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell.

Flag

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bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to ann](#)

CRTC regulates canadian content, local content and even commercials and even types of shows etc. regulating price isn't something gov't can do well. just look at gov't taxes it just goes higher and higher. this isn't a tax either or gov't bailout. the money isn't going to the gov't and the gov't isn't contributing any money except the CBC

Flag

Like



Suzanne Phillips ★ [1 month ago in reply to ann](#)

I'd be okayto pay a modest amount more in my cable bill to support quality local TV, even

though I hate the government's selective corporate welfare of the television industry.

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[Pat Patterson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable companies should pay for the local TV content that they carry, they are getting them for free and charging their customers for access.

Canadian news programs should be mandatory and free to all cable subscribers.

If I have to pay more I will probably cancel my subscription to Shaw Cable.

[Flag](#)

Like



[L. A. Wood](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I feel I already pay more for satellite TV than the product is worth. I want to be able to select individual channels and not be forced to pay for three or more bundled channels when there is only one or two channels in the bundle I want. Also, if CTV and Global want me to pay extra for local stations, let them save a ton of money by buying less American programming. They could well afford to compensate local stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Patsy Archibald](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think we already pay enough for cable and or satellite services. Shaw Direct has an increase every 6 months and we do not have any new channels, only HD. I live in the country so I am not able to get cable as they only service 4 miles out of town limits. So I do not have much choice on what service I have but we shouldn't have to pay for local channels also we are paying enough.

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[phil](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV. The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

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[George H](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the national TV networks are in financial trouble it is for them to rectify the problem or go out of business. Running to the CRTC to force the general public to subsidize their business is going to backfire. If allowed they will continually go back to the trough for more. There will be no need to improve management. If the national and local stations pull out of cable they will quickly be history as the advertisers will leave. I will reconsider my cable service if this tax is allowed. Local stations should get revenues from local advertisers and they could try selling subscriptions as the local newspaper does.

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[Frazer Kon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm sick of being taken advantage of! I currently don't get a local TV station so why should I pay more for local television I DON'T GET!!! The closest station in Niagara Falls is either American or from Hamilton. If I can't find out what the traffic is like on the exit I take to get to

work then it's not local TV. If I can't get news about what City Hall is doing then it's not local TV, if I only see a broadcast from my city when a "high ticket" news story happens like a massive fire or terrorist threat it's not local TV. I have to look at several blogs and read a couple newspapers to get access to who was shot near me! I recently found out about a murder down the street from me, the "local" television station I watch every morning before work didn't even mention it!

Local TV covers local traffic, local traffic accidents in town and on highways, regional/municipal/city government and local events. I currently get none of these things via local TV so why in the sam hell should I pay for it?

I don't like the Canadian Government! They legislate protectionist measures then complain about the US doing the same thing. We don't let cellular companies come into Canada if they aren't majority owned by Canadians and not allowing for a free market.

We pay the highest Cellular costs, insurance costs, TV costs, all our daily expenses cost more because of the B.S. the government does! Blocking foreign companies from doing business does not allow competitive pricing and allows us to get gouged financially!

My plan if my bill goes through is to buy a free-to-air dish. It's no different than the current cable and satellite companies actions, take free services and charge for them, I just wont pay!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [jaysc](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If Cable & Satellite service provider already pays fees to the CRTC, why can't the CRTC allocate these fees to support Local TV. Consumers of Cable and Satellite should not be paying more than what they are already paying now. Local TV should then be more proactive and function as a real business entity and look for sponsors for the show. If what they are showing is relevant then people would be willing to pay for the production of these shows.

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 [johnrpaterson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

OVERVIEW: Over the past number of years, the CRTC has presided over the deregulation of the broadcasting industry, supposedly with the goal of ensuring Canadians can benefit from the broadcasting system. What in fact has happened is the CRTC has gone overboard in 'providing the industry with more flexibility' resulting in the exponential growth of a few cable company monopolists whose primary motivation is profit. Local TV has increasingly been strangled by the tentacles of the cable industry. We may have lots of channels but most of them aren't worth watching. In summary then, my opinion is that the CRTC has done more for the cable companies than it has for Canadians.

Q.1. My Answer: I would be furious! We already pay far too much for cable service. Cable providers have stacked their 'packages' to maximize profit, not provide the consumer with real choice. The CRTC needs to regulate the cable industry into providing real choice and cost options.

Q.2. My answer: With the help of the CRTC, the cable industry has essentially taken over control of broadcasting in Canada. The CRTC needs to get back to basics and give priority consideration to local stations and stations carrying national and international news. In other words CRTC, quit cowering to cable companies and act in the best interests of Canadians!

[Flag](#)

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 [ericvc](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Its time we put an end to massive CEO bonuses and salaries. IF CEOs were really doing there job, they would not rely on government funded bailouts to perform daily business, nor would they ask the government permission to add a tax to consumer's monthly cable/sat bill. Its time for major companies to stop thinking about the bottom line and start thinking about the consumers especially when they are making millions. I think its a crime to have these companies charge us more for something they are profiting from at no cost to them.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Gary Tyo* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am absolutely adamant that the Cable Companies are charging too much and are not sharing the revenues they receive with the Local TV Stations. The LARGE Cable companies should be forced to charge no more than they are now and give at least \$10.00 to the Local TV stations for assist in making things work

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Jason* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The money that the Broadcasters are looking for is ridiculous! It is a sickening, unethical tactic to try and trick consumers into paying additional monies to the Broadcasters through the satellite/cable providers. Who is going to foot this bill? The end consumer! ...not the satellite/cable provider. Who is going to be the scapegoat for this trick? The satellite/cable providers instead of the Broadcasters! If the broadcasters WANT more money (they surely don't need it), the debate should be positioned as that... a charge against consumers to fund the Broadcasters as opposed to the current argument that the Satellite/Cable providers are making too much and should be paying.

If this gets approved, it would be a shame!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Jason* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The money that the Broadcasters are looking for is ridiculous! It is a sickening, unethical tactic to try and trick consumers into paying additional monies to the Broadcasters through the satellite/cable providers. Who is going to foot this bill? The end consumer! ...not the satellite/cable provider. Who is going to be the scapegoat for this trick? The satellite/cable providers instead of the Broadcasters! If the broadcasters WANT more money (they surely don't need it), the debate should be positioned as that... a charge against consumers to fund the Broadcasters as opposed to the current argument that the Satellite/Cable providers are making too much and should be paying.

If this gets approved, it would be a shame!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Verbs* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Add a tax to cable tv = cancel Canadian cable and get directv

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Frazer Kon* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Verbs](#)

I'm actually going to get a free to air dish. I'm sick of being gouged. For years Cable and Satellite providers have charged us for services they accessed for free! I'm going to go and get a better signal than "rabbit ears" and get all the content for free like the cable providers.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Konst Liris* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

- 1) I think it's a bad idea, I don't want to increase my bill for channels I don't watch any way.
- 2) Advertising within the programming it's self. This insures brand visibility and will likley increase consumer take rates

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *cherylkedwards* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable and Tv are both right and wrong. Cable should have been paying for the local signals in the first place .Tv spends to much on US programs and can rejig their budgets to serve local issues.NO CONSUMER should be paying for local TV . We pay to much already. The cable companies should absorb the cost.Local Tv should keep stations open or have local tv news appropriate to their surrounding towns in separate newscasts.I don't have local TV in Welland.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *trudy* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year. Why should I the consumer pay for this tax it is outrageous!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *Drew* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

How would I react to a new fee?

a- do my best to vote in a different government. One that lets this backwater view of business happen deserves to fall

b - put up an antenna. wouldn't that be progressive...

What measures should be taken to support local television?

Short answer is NO MORE MONEY.

Then, to look first to canadian channels when choosing what TV to watch. I'd rather support Canadian, than US product, all being equal. That doesn't mean i should be FORCED to watch Canadian TV, and it does mean that broadcasters need to re-consider their priorities for the content dollars they have.

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 *Peter* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am astounded at how easily the fabrication of a "TV TAX" has been picked up by people who might otherwise be concerned about the state of local tv.

The CRTC does not impose tax - only parliament does that.

This response to a catch phrase is an excellent example of what happens when people believe everything they hear and see on tv .

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 *roykellogg* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If most persons knew that Over The Air (OTA) would give you 17 HD channels FREE in the GTA then the Cable and Satellite providers may be far more willing to do a deal with the local providers. Both Local TV providers and Cable and Satellite providers are in the wrong. They BOTH care nothing about the consumer and only their own individual pockets.

Both provide a valid service they should be reimbursed for!

Both issues are valid but..... the CRTC should inform (or tell BOTH of these providers they are going to inform) all Canadian's about OTA.

With the better quality HD sets in the GTA everyone will get CBC, Global, CTV, TVO, CTS, CHCH Hamilton, Sun TV, City TV etc. all in HD plus Buffalo Channels also in High Definition and many

more in Standard Definition.

So let the Cable companies give some payment for areas that can get very few OTA Channels. That way the Satellite and Cable providers would have less to pay out and the Citizens in remote areas would benefit from local programs.

I see this as a win - win situation and the CRTC should get these feuding children to the table.

Settle NOW or all will learn of OTA FREE HD TV!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *AnOpposingOpinion* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The original reason for cable tv to exist added folks outside a viewing area to see programs not available to them on a standard tv antenna. From that the CRTC permitted monster monopolies to form, which uickly became marketing tools aided and abetted by a Government regulator, which guaranteed where we are today. Further the CRTC became the official thought Police of signals from around the world.

We are now and always have been censored as to what and when we can watch programming from arond the world. The only countries forcing the censorship of satellite feeds are headed by Canada through the CRTC together with other foreign nationals afraid of world signals that may disuade their people from watching superior proگرامing other than the trash that is home produced. The cable companies overlay commercials on ALL channels hundreds if not thousands of times daily. All in the name of Canadian content. The subscribers in the thousand have complained to the cable companies over this intrusion without any rspnse or reason. Another money grab in the name of Canadian content.

If the CRTC were serious concerning the general public as to their viewing habits, they would stop the monopoly presently enjoyed by cable companies and introduce rules allowing the marketplace to dictate what the people want to watch and when.

Cable receives signals from everywhere and for the most part do not pay for the services, yet charge the consumer outrageous fees to rebroadcast what they have obtained for nothing, other than capital cost in euipment etc,

We are observing the demise of local broadcasting, not only caused by reduced advertising, by competition and the growth of the industry with specialty channels.

Local broadcasters should be allowed to compete not retreat from the reality of technology, by including programming without that silly and outdated Canadian content rules, which are now and always were retractive or if you wish censorship,

Hundreds of thousands of Canadians have purchased American satellite servics in the gray and black market, for only one reason. They are voting with their dollars aganst the CRTC antiquated rules and forced censorship. A good analogy would be the sad old days of liquor, beer and wine prohibition in the first quarter of the 20th centurt. Organized crime exists to fill a void Government has restricted from the people. The people will get what they want when they want it without Government interference. Organized crime would not exist if we as a nation were not restricted

from all of the Government self described social ills.

I for one am so fed up with cable and all the warts that go with it I am seriously considering purchasing a Directv system and be damned with the pissin contest presently being fought out on my television sets, by cable and the networks.

I do not believe Cable Companies should pirate signals without some form of payment to the originating producer. I do not believe cable companies should increase the subscriber costs since that are already making billions of dollars through the monoploly granted by the CRTC Open up the skies to Canadians through the use of satellite services. Legalize Foreign satellite providers, remove the restrictions from television providers with the antiuated Canadian Content rules removed FOREVER! The CRTC is not to be permitted to continue the Canadian content rules as they are nothing more than a sham to guarantee inferior programming together with amateur inferior acting, producing and directing. The cost to taxpayers is not in the least justified.

I would be more than pleased to discuss Canadian broadcasting with any body or group that have a sincere wish to push and force the regulators into the 21st century.

As it is now the problems are only increasing as the ruderless ship of broadcasting flounders in the sea of futility

Respectfully submitted

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Joe* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

This issue has attracted too much verbiage and too little action.
Make a decision and go with it.
The consumers will then vote with their chequebooks.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *The Smith family* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Our family is not willing to absorb any additional cable costs, (that will undoubtedly increase on a regular basis). If we are forced to do so, we should then be given the option of choosing the stations we wish to support, and not be required to pay for them all as part of a 'basic package'. If CTV, Global, CBC etc. were offering quality productions local or otherwise, they would have the sponsors they need to operate, rather than expecting consumers and/or taxpayers to keep them afloat, regardless of what they choose to broadcast.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ransom tv* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I cancelled cable TV with Rogers over 3 years ago primarily for two reasons, 1) they moved channels that were in the basic category to a category that I would have to pay an additional fee and taxes, 2) the costs, it was ridiculous paying for channels that I don't watch.

My apartment building where I live furthermore does not have a tower antenna for the building however it does have the tower cable and satellite support. So there is my 3rd issue, I can not receive local TV simply signal due to the buildings management and the 'deal' they have with the cable providers.

I have learned to listen to radio more, CBC especially and other local stations. It's a sign of the times that we now have to pay for every single service we receive and when it comes down to budgeting ones monthly bills and the value of services, TV no longer is on my radar.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *FED UP* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There is no such thing as local programming in Canada

FOREGET IT

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Trudy Niggli* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We do not have satellite or cable as we are in a rural area. We rely extensively on our local broadcasters to stay informed on local news and events. I do not believe most satellite or cable subscribers would like to pay extra for local tv as they already pay a significant cost to the providers. I believe that these providers should take a portion of their profits to compensate local tv for the use of their signals. If it is part of their basic service, a portion of that fee should go to support local tv system costs.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Fred* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I thought that TV stations charged money to advertise in the dreadful commercials that people without PVR's are subjected to. Most local TV programs are tied to a bigger network such as CTV, global, CBC, etc and I'm sure if you asked how much money they receive from selling 30 seconds of time during Football, Hockey, Olympics, it would be more than 10 dollars from each Canadian. How about actually watching Superbowl ads on a TV instead of on the internet the

next day, someone is paying to put those local channel ads on (and we all know there not paying for a script or talent). CRTC you are a dinosaur that should have been dissolved years ago. How much does the CRTC pay all of it's executives and employees that think they should control what we permit our fragile minds to see.....Cancel Cable.....Cancel satellites.....The internet is the light at the end of the tunnel, fortunately for the CRTC and local cable that light is an oncoming train...it's only a matter of time.....does anybody watch local crap....I only watch Canadian TV for Hockey.....Does the CBC actually run during the summer? I pay to much for all my government (Communist) control Services. Internet TV and those nice Direct (USA) dishes work just fine. How about we take the CRTC budget and split it up to each Canadian. By charging more you will see revenues go down because we the people are sick and tired of government waste and bailouts.....I have a mortgage, I have bills, give me some money, Boo Hooo. In the real world when you have an inferior product you disappear from the market place. In the government world you fire up the presses and go further into debt, essentially "survival of the weakest" What's next bailing out pro athelete who go into debt by spending 5 million on a 4 million dollar budget. This is not a measly ten dollar increase....it is a 10 to 20 % increase in our bill. Ten dollars doesn't sound like much.....but how about we take another 20% of the Canadians "disposable income" that is a bigger number. We all know that once this goes through...then our local radio station, local phone service provider, local this and that will expect 20% as well. This problem will take care of it self as local food in my fridge is higher on my families priorities than TV, when we can't afford to have TV service the TAX will go away, and hopefully the CRTC will to. CRTC stands for Communist Run Television Channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ronald Bartram ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not believe we should pay extra for local TV. I believe the cable company and any other supplier of local tv should pay for using the signals (but not by charging customers extra)

[Flag](#)

Like



Gordon Harris ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think that the large networks SHOULD be paid for their content by cable companies just as specialty channels are paid for theirs. Cable-based local programming is often amateurish and does not have the ability to do the kind of local news reporting that network-owned or affiliated stations do. If networks are forced to close local stations, viewers will lose the ability to get high-quality reporting of local news stories and, in the process, many people working for these stations will lose jobs, which is an important issue to many local economies.

In order to address the canle companies' fears, I think that cable companies should be allowed to charge a flat rate for just the attachment to their wires, as telephone companies do. Then they should be obligated to get rid of the ridiculous "package" billing and be forced to charge PER CHANNEL. This way, if customers want only news channels, that would be all they would pay for, just as telephone customers pay only for the long distance calls that they make.

If Canadian viewers want American programming, they would, in this scenario, pay for American channels, and it would be up to the Canadian stations to produce programming that viewers want to watch.

As an example, I would be willing to pay the flat hookup fee on a monthly basis plus a fee for CBC, Knowledge Network, BBC World, American Public T.V., Algesira, the Cooking Network, Out tv, and a couple of other ones. If certain U.S. shows tempted me enough, I might subscribe to ABC or some other network, but I'll bet that in the end I'd be paying less each month and I wouldn't be paying for a bunch of channels that I never watch.

I hope that you will consider this idea.

Gordon harris, Campbell River, BC

[Flag](#)

Like



Susan ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am absolutely against this new \$5.00 - \$10.00 extra fee for my viewing of any television programs. I already pay a hefty fee for my Star Choice service and I also pay taxes on just about everything I buy. Enough is enough!

If it comes to this, I'll just get rid of the television. Can't afford to pay extra period.

[Flag](#)

Like



Alex ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local television should get paid by the cable companies. The signal is available for free over the air to consumers. If the cable company is not offering these channels free to consumers as the broadcaster is, then they should pay as they are charging their customers for basic cable. If they do not want to pay a fee then offer a very basic local channel package most consumer would be happy to pay up to \$10.00 for just local stations. This fee would go to the cable company and the local station. It would be fair and consumers would have choice. In some areas local station are not available to consumers over the air. Those consumers should have an affordable package available. It is fair that the broadcasters want a share of the cable companies profit. They are providing channels that fill up the cable companies line up.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tony F ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local-TV is critically important for communities, public safety, and much more. Anybody who has experienced ice storms, snow storms, forest fires, that have shut down their communities know this. Local-TV is a public service. I oppose a local-TV charge.

If I am forced to pay for local-TV then I should have the right to unsubscribe those over-the-air channels I do not watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sandy F ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local-TV is part of the fabric of healthy communities; it is also a public service. The CRTC should have the commitment and courage to support local-TV with stronger local programming requirements.

[Flag](#)

Like



kenjarvis ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We pay far to much for the cable we have already,When you think of how many program rerun every couple of weeks we really dont get the service we pay for. Maybe we should all cancel our tv providers and see how many people that put out of work,But that will only hurt the average joe cause the owners will still have the billions of dollars that they have already stolen from us from there terrible tv channel scamming that they already have and the crtc lets them get away with.

[Flag](#)

Like



greg ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

NO NO NO NO NO

the local programmer has a source of revenue in advertising. The Canadian Government is the nations largest advertiser. Like in any other free market business learn to survive or perish

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Brenda Cupper* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Is there not some way that we could charge the large cable TV services to support local TV. If I had to choose between paying for cable and local TV, I would choose local TV. But is some of the ads on the TV are true, large cable companies made oodles of profit. Why not have them subsidize local TV. That would be my preference by far.

t

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *milivojomaljev* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i dont support local tv station because they don't have local programming 90 % is american 7% canadian 3% local what a shame they have even guts to ask for money it is a joke, so what is so local about ctv or othernetworks, shame on them, shame on you to this comunisam scam, please stope this nonsense.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *The Verbrator* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Is the CRTC's idea of Canadian content to let Canadian networks air as many American shows as humanly possible on stations like CTV, and then wrap Tim Horton's ads around the show, trying to fool viewers into thinking broadcasts of American Idol, Ugly Betty, The Office are actually Canadian?

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *patriciakirkland* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Less control is needed by broadcasters. If we could pick only the stations we wanted and not what the broadcasters say we must have, I would support the extra charge as our satellite bill would be less anyway. I feel the broadcasters want total control on our viewing habits especially when you hear them make childish threats about blacking out shows to get their way.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *blain* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the cable companies start to charge for local stations they can keep them. I only watch two of them now and will go back to the old way and install an antenna on my roof. Oh my gosh free local stations, go figure!!!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *beth* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I myself like my local news and watching everyday. I don't think that local programming can survive on advertisments alone. I think that the cable companies should have to pay to use the local tv signals. They are the ones that are profitting from this and not giving any of it to local tv stations.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Philip West* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Hello CRTC,

My wife and I do not see any benefit to local TV and do not feel that we should be forced to pay additional charges to keep local offices open if they cannot be run effectively with the current funding that is provided to them.

If fact if additional charges are levied on our TV bill we will probably cancel the service.

The fact that this is even being discussed is a little shameful, considering the current economic climate. Canada is already one of the highest taxed countries in the world and it has to stop somewhere.

If local TV offices cannot be run effectively, then they, unfortunately, need to close.

Regards,

Phil.

[Flag](#)

Like



FED-UP ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

No bail-out from me for the big T V stations. Let them close the money losing local stations,If they cannot make money on all the commercials we are first to watch. And please no more switching to local T V stations from U.S . networks. If this money grab from the Canadian network's is approved ,I will cancel my satellite connection.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tim ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to FED-UP](#) 1 person liked this.

They're not making money because someone (cable companies) are taking their broadcasts and rebroadcasting them without payment. Somehow the CRTC thinks this should be legal.

[Flag](#)

Like



bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Tim](#)

Tim the CRTC forces cable to carry thes channels,cable would perfer not to carry them,they'd rather sell you specialty channels tsn,history ect

[Flag](#)

Like



Peter M. ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe Local TV is important and should be available to viewers with as few impediments as possible. I also believe that local stations require the additional funds that a restructured arrangement can bring.

Local TV may not be as consistently viewed as network or specialty channels but it does provide information, recognition of community achievement and in some cases access to issues that are not as fully covered by larger broadcasters.

The addition of a local station(s) to a basic cable package at an moderate additional fee would, in my opinion, be a positive step as I believe it would give the local stations an economic boost which, I would expect, lead to better more comprehensive local programs.

I would be happy to see this item added to my cable bill, particularly if it allowed me the chance to balance the new fee with the option of dropping one or more of the specialty channels, which have become disappointing because of their repetitive schedules.

[Flag](#)

Like



judiking ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I oppose the local TV charge. If I am to be charged for local TV stations, then I should have the right to unsubscribe to channels I don't watch, therefore not having to pay for something I don't use!

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul ★ 1 month ago in reply to judiking 2 people liked this.

Cable companies are ripping off both consumers and local TV stations. They are make millions from signals they are getting for free

Flag

Like



Cathy Fouchard ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I really don't want to pay more for T.V.. I do understand that cable should pay for part of the distribution. If I had to pay for local T.V. I'd want to be able to pick the channels of my choice that I'd actually watch. Local stations need to be supported by having some incentives to provide local, Canadian programming.

Flag

Like



Doug Cross ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Re: Television Tax

I am addressing the so-called "TV Tax" issue from a business experience perspective that maybe different than other perspectives you have received. For 25 years, I sold national television advertising for a Canadian television network. For the last 21 years, I have acted as a media consultant planning and buying media advertising for retail clients in Central Ontario. The media buying involves all types of media including television stations that cover Central Ontario. My business background provides an understanding of both national and local television issues, as well as national and local advertising issues.

The TV tax issue is directly related to CRTC rulings in the past. What the CRTC rules now on this issue, will not only impact on conventional television stations, but also on other media some of which are also regulated by the CRTC. All media are employers of Canadians and all media contribute to the Canadian cultural, social and political overview. Favouring one medium over another medium I am sure is not a road the CRTC wants to travel.

Cross Ownership

In all the media discussion on this subject that I have been exposed to, the cross ownership issues has not been explored. The main players in the fee for carriage debate all have some degree of ownership in some or all of conventional television stations, program distribution companies and specialty cable stations. These include BCE, Rogers, Shaw, CBC and Global. Others such as Torstar, BCE, Shaw, Rogers and Teachers Pension Fund also have an ownership position in media other than television. While the CRTC has approved all the television and radio consolidation, that in my opinion, can contribute to a conflict of interest. On this issue, I believe there is an ownership conflict of interest; money travelling out of one pocket into the other pocket of the same corporation.

Subsidies

Conventional television already receives a subsidy for Canadian content production. Specialty cable stations do not. The specialty channels receive fee for carriage dollars from the program distributors, which the conventional TV stations do not. Both are a form of subsidy. Both conventional TV and specialty cable channels can sell advertising on a national basis. As I understand it, only conventional television can sell local advertising.

Do the forms of subsidies currently in place result in an equitable situation for all the players involved? All the players very much include all Canadians, which one way or the other foot the bill.

Viewership Opportunities

Over the decades, the CRTC has approved an ever growing number of specialty cable channels covering every area of viewership interest. Most of these channels have limited audiences but collectively have a major impact on the decreased viewership of conventional television stations. With decreased viewership comes a decreased ability to sell advertising revenue. Also specialty channels and other media are competing for those same advertising dollars.

Advertising dollars did not grow at the same pace as did places to spend it. Any new CRTC ruling should take into consideration; is there revenue available to support it and how it will impact on other already approved outlets, not just in television.

National vs Local

As I'm sure the CRTC realizes, all the pros and cons media hype is not really about save local television. If the national TV owners of local stations gave the local TV owners more control over local policy, local revenue rates, more access to programming, etc, local television would be in

better shape. Corporate owners are micromanaging local stations across the country and that is hurting station's ability to relate to their local market in all ways. Local stations have little control over programming sales, news coverage, community involvement, retail advertising rates, etc. All major discussions, and probably most minor ones, are made in Toronto.

In my Central Ontario media buying of television, the local stations in the market (a subsidiary station not a network owned affiliate station) are at the mercy of the national network ownership for community oriented local programming. Advertising rates are set by network ownership and are geared to national advertising vs local retailers. The local station sales representatives cannot negotiate or approve local retail advertising deals. All negotiation and approval has to go through the network revenue management in Toronto. I can assure the CRTC, this national network micromanagement approach is costing the station local retail advertising revenue. I have been told by a senior network individual that, in general, national advertisers are 80% and local retailers are 20% of station's revenue. If local stations had more control transferred back to them, I suspect a better balance and more revenue could be achieved. More importantly, the local market would be better served. Radio is 80% local, 20% national revenue. The point that I am attempting to make is that there is more involved in the "Save Local TV" than just fee for carriage revenue sharing.

Revenue Opportunities

The owners of TV stations also own specialty channels and websites for example. All of these have advertising revenue opportunities. Are they packaging and selling these opportunities together to maximize advertising revenue? Opportunities to maximize revenue should be explored by the CRTC before any ruling is adopted that will add costs to the Canadian viewers.

Foreign Content

While the CRTC has Canadian content rules for television, the fact is most of the advertising revenue is generated by selling foreign content. All other media has a much higher Canadian content sales volume than television and they do not receive the subsidies like television.

Economy

The recession may be over but the economic tough times are not and will be with us for some time. The economy has devastated advertising revenue worldwide. Most media does not have a CRTC safety net to change the rules as is being proposed by conventional television. Generally speaking, media has to adapt to economic conditions, not seek government intervention that will put an additional burden on an economically stressed Canadian public.

The economy will improve and advertising revenue will return. By way of example, Media Sales Incentives Central Ontario retail clients dropped out of television in 2009 due to fear relating to a recession. They are returning to TV in 2010. The return is 20% less in dollars than 2008 but that is still 80% better than 2009.

Conclusion

What the CRTC is being asked to, again, rule on has its history past, present and future. Past CRTC rulings, and this ruling, impact not only the present but also the future. Has anything, other than a worldwide economic situation, fundamentally changed to alter the decisions you have made twice on this same issue. Has anything fundamentally changed that merits the Canadian public spending more money to receive the same product.

Thank you for providing a forum for the Canadian public to express their views, perspectives and experiences.

Flag

Like

 *snowymocho* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I was thinking of getting rid of my cable because the monthly bill is way too high. They need to lower their price's!

Flag

Like

 *William Francis* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A tax of around \$10.00 would really hurt most people but those in a lower income group also people on a fixed income. Most people would cancel their cable or satellite system. If this happens a lot of people could be out of work. I see no easy fix to this. We pay enough for cable or satellite now.

Flag

Like



Lin ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable bills are too high already. If the price is raised we'll have to watch less TV as we simply can't afford to pay more. On the other hand watching less TV might be a good thing.

[Flag](#)

Like



bcallison ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

WHAT LOCAL TV? I have been corresponding with my Satalite Co for several years now, asking why when Kelowna had a Local TV Channel with local news, we 40miles south in Penticton do not have access to it, because we are on Satelite. The strange thing is that my satalite company is owned by Shaw, who has a contract to carry this channel on there cable but can't figure a way to expend it to their satelite customers. I would be willing to pay a Small fee to subsribe to it, say \$2.99 like they charge when one orders a separate channel.

[Flag](#)

Like



Al S ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Canadians already pay too much for tv and internet service. I am sending an email to Roger's to let them know I am going to cancel my cable if any more taxes are imposed.

YouTube is just as entertaining as tv anyway.

And I want to be able to choose each and every channel. Forcing bundles on us is just criminal. Forcing us to pay for channels we don't want to get one or two that we do want is criminal.

[Flag](#)

Like



jenniferhooley ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We are a low income family of 4. I believe we already pay too much for the terrible TV service that is provided. We have 100 channels of mostly garbage, and re-runs. If the cost of this pathetic service goes up any further, we will cancel our subscription. We already wonder what we're paying for.

I'll be honest: I am considering pulling out, and illegally downloading the few shows that are worthwhile from the internet.

I don't think anyone has a right to ask for more funding based on the current state of poor services Canadians receive.

Thank you for your consideration.

[Flag](#)

Like



deangilmer ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The annual revenues generated by cable program providers is staggering. Companies are required to pay cable providers huge fees in exchange for air time in which to advertise their products and services. Consumers receive pre-packaged programming, at rediculous monthly rates, that often has multiple channels featuring the same programming. This redundancy is a huge waste of the consumer's monthly contribution in cable fees, not to mention wasted channels that could easily support local stations and provide content vital to the surrounding areas who have in turn supported them for decades.

The recent closure of CKX Radio and Television in Brandon Manitoba, which had been one of the longest serving providers of local radio and television content in Canada, was a tremendous blow to not only western Manitoba but eastern Saskatchewan as well and throws up huge red flags of things to come.

The lack of support for local television stations by the CRTC will ultimately lead to the closure of all local television stations resulting in complete control of television programming by the cable networks.

Speak up Canada and tell the CRTC, an organization created by the Canadian Government to regulate these providers on our behalf, exactly what we want in radio and television content.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*harries* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I oppose any changes to the regulations for charges for local television. this amounts to an indirect Government enforced subsidy of private industry. TV charges are already too high.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*janegilchrist* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i would not like to pay an additional fee for local programs. I have found that these programs can be of immense benefit to all members of the community and there should be more local tv, not less. My basic package brings me local news, features, interviews with people of various ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and reviews of theatre & music. It is a service that we have a right to expect.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [janegilchrist](#)

you don't have a right for anything. if you don't want to pay even pay a dime for the service or program than it is worthless.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*facebook-595773427* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It is an issue of over the air vs cable. There is some issue about cable companies charging extra for Local Channels. This will be further complicated as HDTV is rolled out and Local channels will have to purchase ATSC broadcast equipment, which isn't necessary with cable because the cable Converters are already digital. Public policy seems to have chosen to support Cable rather than Over the Air TV. In this case Local TV should get either legislation to prevent cable from double charging them or free upgrades to Digital TV equipment (ATSC) and more leway for more powerful transmitters.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [facebook-595773427](#)

"Public policy seems to have chosen to support Cable rather than Over the Air TV."

OTA channels have gone the way of the dodo because so much of Canada cannot get the channels. In order to get any programming at all, especially in rural areas like mine, people need to either get the locally run cable or a DTH satellite setup.

Where I live there would is no access to OTA channels, and for that matter, only 1 radio station on a good day.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*k.rad* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i presently use rabbit ears to watch local TV news programming. i do not want to lose its production's quality and content due to lack of funds.
if cable and satellite companies are distributing local TV news programs they should be charged a fee for that TV signal.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



Liz G ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Sick and tired of paying extra and extra and extra for satellite service ... and too much Canadian crap ... makes one consider using an American address of a friend to get some decent channels to watch ... the rich get richer, esp. the CEO's ... stop before there is a rebellion.

[Flag](#)

Like



jpker1944 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

TV is ridiculously expensive now! No reason to increase my monthly cost! I will be cutting off cable if I have to pay one more cent.

[Flag](#)

Like



Glenn J ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Reality is many people do not even have cable/satelite right now since they cannot afford it. Hiking the rates with another "tax" which would also be subject to pst/gst on top of it just to inflate their profits stinks in a 2way no polite words will ever describe.

Instead of trying to increase their profits how about the CRTC gets off their collective asses and force competition. The deregulation that happened before and legally allowed competition was beyond lame. All of the cable companies just got together and made a agreement to not cut into each others Areas.. making it the same as it was before and keeping prices inflated.

Now the CRTC wants everyone to pay more to them and CTV etc when they are already making big profits? I for one say they can kiss my ass.

I vote not only should this farce be baned but the CRTC should be dissolved ASAP and replaced with new members on the board that will actually do their JOBS...

ie: serve the need of the PEOPLE not some corporations profits.

Not only this but other crap like the G.A.S. fees they are trying to allow for BELL to effectively choke out competition for DSL.. etc etc... the list is endless and it's proof the CTRC is a failure in it's current form

[Flag](#)

Like



Carol Smith ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We pay way too much for TV now; also too much for internet I am tired of having to pay too much money for these services. Enough is enough Stop the TV Tax.

[Flag](#)

Like



Patti ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My family and myself are totally opposed to a local-TV charge. If I'm being "made" to pay extra for TV programs then I also have the right to unsubscribe to those over-the-air channels we never watch. I also suggest the CRTC more strongly support local television with stronger local programming.

[Flag](#)

Like



bcgersfan ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would be prepared to reduce the package which I presently subscribe to, so that there would be no increase in the monthly amount I spend.

If they intend to charge me for local programming then I want the right to subscribe only to the

stations I watch, rather than a bundle of stations which are virtually useless to me.

Flag

Like

 [twister7777](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We are already paying way yo much for the poor quality of programming that we can have. If the bill go up between 5 - 10 \$ per month for the same content, I'll seriously thinking to dump everything overboard

Times are changing, the media needs to adjust themselves, simply. If the cannot survive, say hello to bankruptcy and turn the page. We do not need 8 channels of local news that are fighting for the same publicity revenues. Let's keep one and then, publicity revenues will be good enough to survive.

And, if the large broadcasters want the same money that specific channels, let them became specific channels then ! Let explode the "rip-off" basics packages that costs twice too much to everybody and let those broadcasters be selected as a single channel or a block of channels about information (like the sports block, the kids block or arts block, etc ...). We will see if they can run being equal with the specific channel ? it will lower the basics packages for everyone and then more money to get what WE WANT to see and not crap that we do not want to see. Also, cut the billion that SRC/CBC are receiving, they have to fight by the rules, stop burning my income taxes to purchase high price series like "Lost" from ABC at more than 100K by show ... it isn't essential to their survival

So, to resume, explode the basics blocs of channels to remove broadcasters (SRC, CBC, CTV, TVA, etc) lower the rates of the basic blocks and let them with in the jungle with all the others foes ... will see who will survive :-)

I'm happy to read your comments about my ideas, cheers :-)

Flag

Like

 [Mark Van De Keere](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think we should pay the likes of CTV and Global a lot more money for great original Canadian content and programs like CSI: Miami, American Idol, House, Numbers, Bones, the NFL, etc.

It doesn't matter if a few years ago they had tons of money to spend on Alliance Atlantis, CHUM, the Hockey Night in Canada theme song, the thing is now they require even more money and we should bail them out for their mismanaged ways.

I'm thrilled to see my cable bill go up \$10 a month to suppor private companies worth billions. So what if my kids won't get to eat anymore.

Flag

Like

 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Mark Van De Keere](#)

TV isn't a need, TV is bad for you, turn off that TV and read a book. cry me river okay. jeez your kids shouldn't be watching all that garbage in TV and should be doing their homework , most of the programming on basic cable is garbage, and to get cartoon channels or cartoon shows you need to pay like \$60/month those are specialty channels.

Flag

Like

 [Guest](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to bill](#)

Billy, In all fairness, who are you to say that the kids are not doing their homework. I watched a LOT of TV as a child, especially in high school / university. I did my homework and TV never rotted my brain.

Even today, I am a teacher, and I HATE reading. So I don't, I watch a tonne of TV in my

spare time. TV is my life outside of work. I am not totally convinced there is a correlation between TV time and school.

[Flag](#)

Like



Lindy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Mark Van De Keere](#)

I don't want to pay \$10 a month extra either. I already pay too much for cable. But I like local TV. The two sides should work it out. They're making enough money to figure it out without making me pay more.

[Flag](#)

Like



markpomero ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

No measures should be taken to support local television - free markets should prevail - shut down the CRTC

PS your web site is VERY cumbersome. If you were running a business you would be broke.

You seem to be trying to make it as difficult as possible for Canadians to respond

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to markpomero](#)

the free market will decide not the CRTC regulations. there is no 'free' market in the Canadian TV and radio industry,,it's 'regulated' by the CRTC. right now the free market says nobody wants to watch canadian content or local content so don't produce it.

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to markpomero](#)

as for advertisng, there should be no advertising regulations, why any restrictions on advertising or ownership rules. it's just tv and radio.

[Flag](#)

Like



Adam Camery ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to markpomero](#)

I'm a free market person myself. That's why I was shocked to learn that the cable companies weren't paying local TV stations for their signals, but they were paying other channels. The current situation isn't fair.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mike ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Canadian broadcasters want cable customers to pay an extra fee to subsidize local TV. Local TV is in financial trouble but why should cable viewers pay more than other viewers? Is it just because it's an easy fee to add? It would be more logical to charge all viewers the same fee to view a channel.

We could charge a license for each TV as in the UK, but that would likely result in a revolt by consumers. And what exactly is a TV in a world where many people watch TV shows on their computers and phones? A better option is for a direct subsidy from general tax revenues, but should the government be subsidizing all local TV or just CBC, the public broadcaster?

Adding a new fee to cable subscriptions is pointless given this business model is already on its way out. If we end up paying for individual shows or subscribing to shows and channels via the Internet, what is the point of charging a fee on a service that may soon have a declining

subscriber base?

Canadians are currently forced to subscribe to a base package of channels instead of picking everything a la carte. This makes sense for cable TV, but it isn't necessary for the Internet. If I choose not to subscribe to local TV shows or channels via the Internet, should the CRTC really levy a local TV fee on me? Are we going to end up paying fees for television, music, and other creative content on all of our cable and Internet bills?

I don't watch any local programming but I do believe that local TV serves a purpose. I don't know the solution to local TV's financial woes, but I don't think this fee is the right approach. I think I would prefer that the government subsidize local programming for the public broadcaster out of general tax revenues, but mandate that the public broadcaster provide this service in markets over a certain size.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Kyle Shephara* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The only way to settle this is to finally have the cable companies serve us up a la carte. Let us choose the channels we want, and the other will dissolve.

I am so tired of being FORCED to pay any amount for any channels or programming I do not want. A la carte would allow everyone to either thrive or die simply based on what they are presenting to the public and that is how it should be. There should be none of this stuff about supporting CDN programming just because it is CDN. CTV does not deserve any money from me because I watch none of their original programming (they barely have any).

If one watches their programming, then send them your money - please be my guest and write them a check - just do NOT demand I support them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *R CLARK* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

we (72 seniors) in fort erie do not have any canadian local programming! our local news comes from buffalo tv stations (500mtrs across the niagara river) millions of Canadians do not have local programming! and we (72 seniors) cannot afford to pay more fees! just to fill the pockets of the Canadian TV companies! especially the CBC! we already gift the CBC with more than \$1.4 billion dollars! and then they (like the rest) apply for and get more funding to produce the garbage they already show us! then the CBC lied! when they said they had to fire hundreds of people! they forgot to mention, Colleen Jones only works about one hour a week now! the CBC just hired two very expensive people Amanda Lang and (I love me) Kevin O'Leary! and then the CBC all new sets all new people! none of them need more funding! NO TO FEE FOR CARRAIGE.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *R CLARK* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

we (72 seniors) in fort erie do not have any Canadian local programming! our local news comes from Buffalo TV stations (500mtrs across the Niagara River) millions of Canadians do not have local programming! and we (72 seniors) cannot afford to pay more fees! just to fill the pockets of the Canadian TV companies! especially the CBC! we already gift the CBC with more than \$1.4 billion dollars! and then they (like the rest) apply for and get more funding to produce the garbage they already show us! then the CBC lied! when they said they had to fire hundreds of people! they forgot to mention, Colleen Jones only works about one hour a week now! the CBC just hired two very expensive people Amanda Lang and (I love me) Kevin O'Leary! and then the CBC all new sets all new people! none of them need more funding! NO TO FEE FOR CARRAIGE.

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Like

 *stormintv* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to R CLARK](#)

you are right Mr. Clark and even if thousands are not getting local TV that means the CRTC

is not living up to it's mandate. They have caved in to these TV moguls that have flashed cash if front of their faces over the yrs and now the public has had enough. They must think we are all stupid out here, the time has come for changes. The broom handle is in as far as it can go.....

Flag

Like



[Felice](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is rather unimportant and dying way of getting local news/information. The internet has long since replaced TV as a medium to get local and international information.

I would not pay more for local TV as cable bills are already far too high to begin with, my fear though will be that the CRTC mandates what I am allowed to have and not have in my cable programming thus my bill will go up anyway. As Canadians begin to pay higher bills for entertainment costs more will become fed up with this regime and start turning off their TV's and start watching shows directly from the internet.

Stop allowing simsub's would in my opinion force Canadian broadcasters to start producing shows that can 1-sell the rights to be broadcast in other countries. 2-Attract advertisers to a particular show driving up the cost to advertise during that time slot.

In my opinion a broadcaster will only need to produce a couple of good shows which will drive up revenue's, which in-turn will also make the broadcasters money, possibly keep local TV stations, open, more opportunity's for Canadian actors.

I grew up with a lot of great Canadian TV shows and movies that when mentioned around the world everyone knows, that has come to a stop and I believe it has more to due with the protectionism offered to Canadian broadcasters, they became complacent now they have no money and want to take it from cables pot of money.

Force them to produce good content, stop allowing them to make money from shows they pay to broadcast in Canada from the US and then allowing Canadian advertisers to pay for time slots that the Canadian signal can be placed over top of a US broadcasters.

If they cannot afford to keep local TV running how can they afford to keep buying foreign programming? Maybe they should be denied the ability to purchase these shows and forced to either shut their doors or produce good quality Canadian content. I believe they will use that money to produce good quality TV and attract the advertising revenue as they did in the 80's and earlier.

Flag

Like



[bobmartinboswellbc](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV., what is local tv?.....Boswell BC has no local tv., Creston BC has no local tv., Cranbrook has no local tv., Nelson BC has no local tv.,.....the only off air I can get in Boswell, is the CBC - so why watch - nothing but stupid sports from elsewhere, Canadian productions that are not worth watching, or imported foreign products.....the other Canadian networks are no better.....Give me the choice of channel by channel selection at a cost per channel, that is all I ask for my satellite service.

Flag

Like



[JeffFillion](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. No increase in fees for subscribers (None).
2. Better distribution of existing money from specializes channels.
3. Minimum of 3 hrs of local news and original news per day from local stations (maximum of nation wide news in local station).
4. We won't to pick every channel separately (including CBC).
5. No more money for CBC.

Flag

Like



[JeffFillion](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

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4. We won't to pick every channel separately (including CBC).

5. No more money for CBC.

Flag

Like

 *JACQUELINE A* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I THINK THAT LOCAL TELEVISION IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ALL COMMUNITIES AND TO GET THE INFORMATION RIGHT ON HAND I THINK THAT IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO SEE THE CRTC TAKE THIS AWAY FROM US. THIS IS OUR TIME TO RAISE OUR VOICES AND TO MAKE SURE THAT WE CAN SAVE LOCAL T.V. STATIONS. WHEN BIG GUYS WANT TO TAKE AWAY WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY OURS THEN WHEN ITS GONE THATS WHEN WE THINK THAT WE SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT. WHATS T.V. GOING TO BE REPLACED BY ??? THE BIG T.V. STATIONS THAT AREN'T EVEN INFORMED ABOUT EACH REGION IN THE COUNTRY??? WHATS THIS WORLD COMING TOO???? WAKE UP CANADA AND DEFEND WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY OURS!!!! PROTECT WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE AND THIS ISN'T A BAD DREAM THIS IS REALITY!!!! SO EVERYONE DO HIS OR HER PART PLEASE. THANK TO SAVE OUR LOCAL T.V. STATION OF SHERBROOKE, QUEBEC, CANADA.

Flag

Like

 *begander* ★ [1 month ago in reply to JACQUELINE A](#) 1 person liked this.

What makes you think your local TV station in Sherbrooke would be "saved" if SRC/Global/CTV succeeded in taxing us all? Or that your local TV station in Sherbrooke is even at risk of being closed? Don't buy any of the arguments that the broadcasters are feeding you. And how much programming truly local to Sherbrooke are you even getting from your local TV station? I bet it's not much at all and I'm pretty sure you would be appalled if you took the time to measure it. I encourage you to get the facts and then I'm certain you will say no to the TV tax.

Flag

Like

 *Mak* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Do NOT want TV Tax. I will cut my satellite TV service if imposed. Already trying out some HD FTA(free to air) video cards for PC as backup.

Flag

Like

 *Brian* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would cancel bell satellite completely. Pay way to much now. They just make more money .year after year. There is such a service called free to air. NO CHARGE. If tv station go broke, so be it

Flag

Like

 *Alex Armstrong* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1) It would be totally inappropriate for the cable/satellite companies to be forced to pay a fee to the broadcasters. The cable companies do not "consume" the signal, all they do is widely distribute it, at no fee to the broadcasters, to the eventual consumers. The cable companies are doing the broadcasters a huge favour distributing the signal in a way the broadcasters are incapable of doing. If anything the broadcasters should be paying the cable companies a fee for the service received.

In reality, the real solution to the high cable/satellite rates would be to end their de-facto monopolies.

2) Are the broadcasters short of cash? That does not seem to be the general claim. It would

appear that the local stations should have enough funding as is.

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Like



[A Glazer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Alex Armstrong](#)

The local broadcasters are asking to be paid for their services. There's nothing wrong with that. Specialty channels are paid by cable, why not local TV?

[Flag](#)

Like



[Dennis Guthrie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to A Glazer](#)

Because they sell commercials. They are free when picked up by a local antenna so why are they suddenly not free anymore if you need a satellite dish to receive them. Cable and satellite are not charging anything for local TV they charge for the distribution only so you want them to have to pay for something they give away?

[Flag](#)

Like



[dguthrie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local television is terrible. If we are forced to start paying for this crap then I want the right to opt out. Local television should sink or swim on it's own. If they want people to watch then put on something worth watching then they can make money from advertising. I will only pay for premium services without commercials.

[Flag](#)

Like



[A Glazer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to dguthrie](#)

I don't want to be forced to pay any more either, but I believe the local stations and cable companies should come to an agreement on fair compensation and the cost shouldn't be redirected to consumers.

[Flag](#)

Like



[dguthrie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to A Glazer](#) 1 person liked this.

In the end consumers are the ones who pay for everything. Every extra cost will be passed on to us the viewers in one way or another. If you want to see fair compensation then the local stations should be paying the cable and satellite companies for the privilege of being carried. Every station that is carried consumes bandwidth. That bandwidth costs the provider extra money and it is the local stations who benefit by having a larger potential audience. I as a consumer have no need to have 12 stations that all carry the exact same programming at the exact same time for 20 out of 24 hours. Let the local stations die off if they can't figure out how to attract viewers and sell advertising. That's what they do for a living and if they are not any good at it, then bye bye now.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Brenda Chisholm](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Dear CRTC

I have been a paying customer of satellite and cable tv, over the years I've seen my bill increasing, increasing my choice of tv control by you and now you want to add yet another tax, service to my tv viewing. Will I've have it. If this bill goes through I will be ending the use of my satellite, I won't be using cable so I won't be watching regular tv from Canada any longer. I'll be watch dvd's and the internet for my viewing.

[Flag](#)

 Like *Paul* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't know how often I have flipped through the channels lately and simply given up. If it wasn't for sports, discovery, and HGTV, there would be no reason for me to watch TV. If price goes up, I'm out. The CRTC is likely as corrupt as the FDA. All these guys can do what ever they want...really, anything they want and we don't have a clue where the money goes. No doubt, we are getting horribly ripped off as it is... same as gas prices. We have no idea. Everyone knows that TV has gone down the toilet in recent years. A nice flat panel, my blue ray player and a good movie beats a bunch of depressing realty shows, and 6 or 7 crime/murder/csi/trial programs, not mention Nancy Grace and the latest abducted child. We should all boycott tv for one year! STOP RIPPING US OFF!

[Flag](#) Like *A Glazer* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Paul](#)

Yeah a lot of the stuff on TV isn't great, we must keep our local TV stations, as any information from otherwise all our TV news will come from Toronto.

[Flag](#) Like *Gloria Forcier* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians? Those who suggest that Bell or our customers can easily hand over more money to the networks aren't looking at the facts. On top of what we and the government already give to big broadcasters, Bell TV has endured more than \$2 billion in cash losses over the years as we've built up the country's number one alternative to cable. While our business is starting to see real success - we offer the industry's best programming by far and we won more TV subscribers than anyone else in our last quarter - Bell TV has yet to actually make any profit at all.

[Flag](#) Like *John Thompson* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

As a senior on fixed income I cannot afford any more expense, yet I would like to hear/see local news etc. on the tv without having to turn on the radio. However, if the crtc does not have the guts to clamp down on these mega-giants and stop gouging us seniors, I will fight the tv providers by going back to radio and an antenna tv.

[Flag](#) Like *Debbie* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Honestly I think this is another way to get more money from the subscribers of cable & satellite service. Another thing is that I don't even watch the local channels if I had my choice as there is nothing on these stations. Every year we turn around we are being hit with increases like \$2.00 per service. When is it enough. I guess when consumers start cancelling the service and everyone is losing money they will smarten up. But he saying that they have not smarten up yet so its possible they wont' then. If we are charged extra each month I will cancel most of my services and only have the ones I need. And do away with local stations. nThey make millions of dollars a year. So if we are bailing them out when is someone going to bail us out.

[Flag](#) Like *A Glazer* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Debbie](#)

We all should have a right to watch local TV because it connects us with our communities..

One thing I've noticed travelling across the country is each city is different and local TV reflects that.

Flag

Like



Vinod Mehta ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We can not afford any more taxes. I agree we are already paying too much for all TV services being it cable or Dish.

Quit paying CEO'S astronomical bonuses and there will be lots of money to operate TV stations.

enough is enough

Flag

Like



Paul Sidoo ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am totally against paying for local TV. In fact, I believe we pay too much as it is and we (my family) are considering cancelling cable. The only reason for TV in our home is sports, discovery, and HGTV. We do watch other programs but if we have to pay more, we won't miss it. If any company is having problems, they need to restructure instead of begging for bailouts to pay for the dead weight in these companies. Look what Campbell (premier of BC) has done to our educational system and health care... it was harsh at first but it did eliminate a lot of overpaid positions. I am a school teacher and these are tough times... I am overworked and stressed, but I hope by sucking it up during this time, better days lay ahead. It is a bail out, I am against bail outs. I know jobs will be lost, but why not save health care and education with a \$10.00 tax instead of generally poor TV programs.

Flag

Like



Frank Lawson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The fact is the the CRTC has always decided how the revenue is split. It is just that they have always decided in favor of cable companies allowing them to grow. Now companies like Rogers and Bell are exporting Job to India as fast as they can and no longer deserve any support from either the Government or the people of Canada.

1) Cable companies should be forced to share their cables just like the telephone companies. The technology exist to do all this

2) People should have the choice of paying by the hour or on a per item basis for TV.

There could be different price structures with adds, without adds and with just a few adds. The technology exist to do all this

3) and or we should not be forced to pay for channels we do not want. We should be able to choose specific channels. The technology exist to do all this without unreasonable cost.

4) To take a broadcast and rebroadcast it without payment is theft. It may be legal because the CRTC for some reason allows it but it is theft and MUST be stopped.

If I download a movie and sell copies of it I can go to jail, but is this not what the Cable companies are doing in essence? The technology differs but the crime is the same.

Time for the CRTC to step up. No need for fees to go up but clearly time for some innovative thinking. Force the cable companies to share the cash . It is not the 1960 , technology has changed.

You could force the cable companies to share the revenue from consumers, add etc and force the TV stations to share AD revenue. This would make them mutually co dependent. Then perhaps they would work together.

But in the end consumers should be given lots of choice, and low cost

While participants in the industry learn to share the revenue. But lets face it the cost of delivering the signal to homes is going down on a per unit basis while the cost of production goes up.

Finally Canadian content should be mandated from all.

Flag

Like



Frank Lawson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

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Finally Canadian content should be mandated from all.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Gracey B* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I already pay too much for what I am getting. Keep charging me more and I will cancel everything and go without TV. hey that's a great idea. Doesn't TV rot your brain.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Lionel* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am NOT watching local TV, so I don't want to pay for it. An option is to make local TV an optional package, just as the Movie Network or Discovery HD, and let people interested in it pay for it. Forcing everyone to pay is unfair.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *clark may* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable companies should not have to pay local tv services to carry their signal. They are doing the tv stations a service by distributing their signal. If cable companies are required to carry the signal then simulcasts should be discontinued, and it should be made an option whether the cable company carries the signal. At present in SW Saskatchewan the "local" cbc station is a feed from Winnipeg. Regina and Calgary are closer yet Winnipeg is the "local" signal. Global doesn't even serve the area.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *A Glazer* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to clark may](#)

The CRTC looks at tv as a luxury, I believe it a basic need to be able to view local tv!

[Flag](#)

Like



Ray & Joyce Robinson ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Long story short

The consumer can NOT pay anymore!
it is not our fault The Big Guy over spent

Ray & Joyce

[Flag](#)

Like



Wayne P. ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1. If you do this, I will cancel my TV service. This is no different than the hockey and baseball strikes. You have millionaires fighting against billionaires and we the people are expected to pay to bail them out. TV is not must have. I would miss it but I would definitely cancel.

2. Close up the CBC. The government has no business running a media enterprise.

[Flag](#)

Like



wayne p ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1. I will cancel all TV service immediately. It is not a necessity of life. This is the same as the hockey and baseball strikes. Millionaires fighting with billionaires and we the people get bit in the end. No more.

2. Shut down that huge waste of space black hole, the CBC english and french.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mike Forget ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

TV stations get revenues from advertisers and the rate they charge is based on viewer base. The local TV stations should be grateful to have the cable viewership without additional cost. If local TV stations want to charge for there service than the cable companies should reserve the right to who they want to broadcast and give the choice to the viewers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mireille ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

If we need to pay for our local tv, then I want the choice of the chains I pay for as I don't watch all the current local chains (such as the governmental ones).

[Flag](#)

Like



Mireille ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

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[Flag](#)

Like



Jim Smithson ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

IT WOULD BE TRAGIC IF WE LOST OUR LOCAL STATIONS. THE CABLE COMPANIES CONTINUE TO HIKE OUR RATES FOR NO REASON SO IT'S OBVIOUS THE TIME HAS COME TO REGULATE THE CABLE/SATELLITE BIZ. SHAW AND ROGERS DO NOT PRODUCE QUALITY LOCAL PROGRAMMING. ALL THEY DO IS TAKE A PERCENTAGE OF OUR INFLATED MONTHLY BILLS AND FUND BUSH LEAGUE "CABLE" TELEVISION. HOW ABOUT SHAW AND ROGERS CANCEL THE HORRIFIC COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING THEY FUND AND GIVE THAT MONEY TO THE BROADCASTERS? THE 50 VIEWERS SHAW AND ROGERS GET IS A TESTAMENT OF HOW CANADIANS FEEL ABOUT THE "LOCAL TV" THEY PRODUCE. I WATCHED JIM SHAW'S PRESENTATION AT THE CRTC HEARING AND IT WAS AN ABSOLUTE EMBARRASSMENT. HOW CAN A PERSON WHO CAN BARELY STRING A SENTENCE

TOGETHER BE RUNNING A CABLE COMPANY LET ALONE HAVE A SAY IN THE BIGGEST DECISION IN BROADCAST HISTORY. REGULATE THE BDU'S IMMEDIATELY AND STOP THE GREED.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Chicklet78](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is very important for the community, and provides an outlet to showcase the types of issues that affect the people of Ottawa directly. It also provides an essential service of highlighting and promoting the various fundraising activities that most our local charities depend on. Without local TV, the annual CHEO telethon would not be in existence.

However, it is not fair to consumers, especially during these troubling economic times, to impose a TV tax to be able to have continued access to local tv channels, especially while cable distributors are making so much money with their current packages.

A TV Tax will cost me an additional \$5-\$10 per month on my cable bill. This TV Tax will be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5%, which took effect on September 1, 2009. The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the Big TV Networks, who made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone. A TV Tax provides no guarantee that the Big Networks will do anything to keep local television stations on the air. This TV Tax comes in addition to the close to \$600 million in benefits the broadcast industry already receives from cable and satellite providers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Chicklet78](#)

talk is cheap..if people want local and canadian content, they'll have to pay for it or the advertisers pay for it as right now, CRTC requires canadian and local content free of charge.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Gene Pike](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Chicklet78](#)

That is just spin and fearmongering by the cable guys. They've picked that 5 to 10 dollar figure off the top of their head.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Joanne](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not want to pay an additional tax of \$10 myself in addition to what I pay for cable TV. I think it is a good idea that local stations should charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs. Some local stations are struggling just to remain in business. They have had to lay off people and eliminate local news programs from the program

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Iamar](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Joanne](#)

A lot of the smaller channels have eliminated either their 6 pm or morning local news shows. That's a lot of jobs lost and much less local content.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Larry](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV needs more money to broadcast American based infomercials late at night, more reality shows, more Canadian content.

Dream on!

I will cancel my cable TV before that happens.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *Judy* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable companies are ripping us all off. Most of what is on television today is repeat after repeat anyway. We are paying far too much now for what little content we get. If something is not done about this I will get rid of cable also.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *robin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The fees currently charged by Cable Companies are exorbitant. Shaw Cable fees (for basic cable only!) have increased in Calgary from ~\$16/month to ~\$38/month in ~10 years. This is a doubling of fees for exactly the same service. My salary has not doubled in a commensurate fashion. Cable Companies appear to be making exceedingly healthy profits. Local TV networks appear to be in dire financial straits. If Cable Companies have used local networks for free, then this should change - ie, Cable Companies should pay local networks. However, this should not change at the expense of the Canadian consumer - given that Cable fees have more than doubled in the past 10 years. Thus the CRTC should step in and REGULATE the fees charged by Cable Companies, to ensure that the consumer is protected. If anything, Cable Companies should be forced to roll back their fees - not use this squabble with local networks as an excuse to make even more ridiculous profits.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *Rae* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local T.V is important! Every community deserves a voice and coverage of their issues and events!

It is appalling that they aren't receiving the money they deserve because of greedy and unjust cable companies.

Something needs to be done!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *DOUG* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Get serious, 1.5% on Sept. 01/09. \$400 MILLION in operating profits last year. I will cancel all satellite providers and encourage others to do so. No way will I pay extra money to watch local T.V. We Canadians are not stupid.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *billy* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to DOUG](#)

the entire business model of television is changing..no more free television over the air. all the channels are specialty channels,,,and CBC is losing money

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *Crystal* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There is no reason for cable companies to charge me the consumer for being able to watch local tv. that should've been a fee that they had to pay to the local stations in the first place. Don't the cable companies make enough profits as it is to be able to pay the local stations a fee from that and to make sure that we the consumer don't have to pay an extra \$10 on top of what we pay already. If they do that I will be going back to an antenna and the cable companies can all lose money. The advertisers are supposed to pay the stations for their use of broadcast time

which means I'm watching pointless advertising while watching these stations anyways. Maybe the local stations need to charge the advertisers more for that time. Besides even if tax goes through who is to say that the money the broadcaster get will go to the local stations that need it most anyways. Once that tax is imposed they won't ever get rid of it. \$40-50 is more than enough to pay for basic cable that doesn't have anything on as it is, let alone have to pay another \$10 on top.

[Flag](#)

Like



billl ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Crystal](#)

even if it's \$3 for the 4 stations they don't want to pay a dime..why pay when it's free and don't have to pay according to CRTC..and besides the channels are FREE with a \$30 antennae

[Flag](#)

Like



hervekuentz ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I pay enough already. Canadians are heavily taxed and should not have to pay more for broadcasting companies already having high revenues from annoying commercials and especially considering the poor programming available.

And by the way why should cable subscribers have to pay for everyone else?

[Flag](#)

Like



Rudy ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Why the hell should I pay for public tv. Don't they charge enough for those ads we keep seeing every 3-4 minutes. I timed one show and it turned out I watched more ads than program, so NO I DO NOT SUPPORT A \$10 CHARGE TO ME for something that they are already being paid for. If they are having problems the chare more for the ads

[Flag](#)

Like



Fiona Donnelly ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Why not just boycott local TV if an additional tax is implemented as they would do in Europe. If no one watches local TV then I'm sure they would get the message. Companies who cannot adapt to the market trend are mismanaged and should pay the consequences.

In Germany you pay a flat rate of approx. \$ 25.00 TV tax a month and that's it. You do not pay satellite companies or TV stations at all. TV stations earn enough with their advertising revenue. All programs are broadcast digitally and they pretty much project the same shows we are watching here. They do not repeat shows over and over again and have the same amount of TV stations (local, national and international) if not more.

Someone is getting rich at the viewers cost in Canada. Satellite and cable companies charge enough as it is. Let TV companies go under if they are mismanaged just like any other commercial company

[Flag](#)

Like



Gene Pike ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Fiona Donnelly](#)

Under the current situation, the cable company collects money from you to broadcast local TV and the TV station doesn't get any money from the cable company. Doesn't seem fair.

[Flag](#)

Like



Name ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would pay for local TV on top of my cable services, but I would like to choose what cable

channels I wish to access and pay for only those. I think we are paying far too much to the cable companies for access to channels we never watch as well as those we do.

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Nothing like paying too much for poor programming. Way too many re-runs especially on holidays. Shove in a 24 hour tape and head to your cottages. I'm with a lot of other people. This tax comes in, I will cancel my programming. What did we all do before television? I served this great country of ours for 30 years in the military only to find, now that I'm retired, that freedom comes at a price. Their price.

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul Seyler ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I subscribe to satellite tv and I am very concerned at the thought of another fee to be levied on top of already very high package prices. We are already charged in the satellite providers basic package for local tv. We don't have a choice as they include local tv in the basic package which is mandatory to pay for so why do they need to charge an additional fee. We need the CRTC to provide protection against what is almost a captive service by only two companies in Canada.

[Flag](#)

Like



louis60 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Here we go again. Another tax. In fact looks like a bailout to me. Gov't stepped in when the auto industry was in distress but didn't tax the buyers of cars, it amounted to taxing all Canadians. Gov't didn't step in when Nortel was in distress... survival of the fittest I guess. Why would I be willing to pay a tax to help broadcasters who are already getting help with local TV, help them through their mis-management of their business. Look at how much they spend on foreign programs. And this tax would not commit them to support local tv i.e. they could spend it at whatever they deem good for their business. NO WAY! I would cancel my TV. It is already costing more than my electrical bill which has been going up steadily. In fact inflation is everywhere (electrical, gas, food, ...) but my salary has been frozen for many years.

[Flag](#)

Like



Scruff68 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable TV is way overpriced for what we get. I have no more than \$100.00 per month to sacrifice to TV & Internet. Every time Rogers increases my bill I call them to reduce my package accordingly, soon, I'll have almost no channels and the slowest internet for \$100.00 per month. GREAT VALUE! But, oh yes Rogers gives me a whole bunch of crap from their affiliates that I don't want or need. This is value for us to them! Soon we will be forced to purchase Digital terminals for EVERY TV set in our household, another extra monthly cost, that's great. My salary has not gone up in 10 years but everything around me is going up and I have less and less money for essential services and enjoyment anymore.

[Flag](#)

Like



johncatalucci ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would cancel my cable service completely and I know a few friends that would do the same. Back in the day if someone couldn't stay in business they cut their losses and not go after the public for handouts so the CEO could get richer and that is what this is about. Poor Joe Public is getting gouged left, right and center, enough is enough.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Al [★ 1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I pay over \$600 a year on cable tv. I cancelled some channels after the 4th rate hike just to save some money. I try to watch something on a Saturday night and all I do is flip channels because there is not much out there. We are forced to pay for the less popular channels because they are thrown in our package. And now there is a bigger push to have more Canadian content. Let's face it. Most of our broadcasting comes from the US and that is where the tv popularity is. With rates going up, it's no wonder some people pirate the signal because they are fed up. Give us some value for what we are paying. Someone here is making a whack of money at our expense. And it's all coming from the same satellite signals. Lower the rates please!!!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 merrilljhouse [★ 1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have been following the 'debate' back and forth between the cable and TV station folks with much interest and 'inner anger' welling up. My wife and I are just 'retired' and on a very moderate fixed income. We moved our internet, phone and cable services to Rogers in order to have 'one neck to choke'. We have continually been frustrated with the 'creeping up' policy of Rogers to continually find ways to increase the amounts of monies they get from you to get services by splitting off channels and packages etc. We have subscribed to the Oasis nature package which is outstanding but we find all of their movie content in all of their movie packages is beyond awful. We have been seriously considering cancelling all services down to the basics with them and now this 'crap' starts up. So I start counting the numbers of ads that are run per program by the TV stations and it's really quite unbelievable. About 20 minutes out of 60 I would be sitting there watching ads if I didn't 'flick' as my wife says. There are far too many nights when we can't even find anything worth watching out of the bazillion duplicated channels that Rogers offers so we read. This will be the last straw for this camel's back. We will cancel everything from Rogers and just rent our movies locally for \$2.50 per movie and watch the savings accrue in our meagre bank account instead of the crap content on TV. Next is the cell phone!!!! Back to my Daytimer instead!!!!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 Andy [★ 1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the cable company add the "Tv tax" to my existing payment, I'll cancel my service completely as I don't think they should be charging me more for services that is no better or has added value to my monthly payment. At least, give me the option to opt out of the local channel, which I can get over the air. Or at least don't let the cable company profit from local TV in their basic package as they have been promoting all these while. The big cable company should absorb the extra cost as they have been raising their monthly fees.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 Bundled [★ 1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

People are tired of being nickelled and dimed and bundled to death in many forms of electronic services. How do we know that the cable companies and the broadcasters aren't sleeping in the same bed and this is a staged controversy to raise cable bills.

I realize that we live in a market driven economy and profit is not a crime but it would be great if there were a choice in providers and what I want to watch with out having to take a bundle to get one particle viewing choice. Greed on both the cable and the broadcasters. Maybe the broadcasters should not allow the cable companies to carry their signals and start their own cable delivery system. Open up the industry to competition. Why is there only one cable company per region?

I don't know how elderly and soon to be elderly people can or will afford the cable services.

Regards,

Tired of being Bundled,

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[Like](#)

 *Paul Edgar* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Well first I would hope I could cancel my local tv stations in my cable package. If I have to pay for it I should have the right to not subscribe to it.
Second, if local television wants support, they should be restricted from purchasing US television shows and be made to produce and air Canadian made tv shows, and end their simsub of american networks. Then they can pursue local advertising, and heck I would even be more open to paying for local tv because I would know it was actually going towards Canadians.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *josephzammit* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I can't afford any additional cost on my cable. It's too expensive as it is now. If it happens I will cancell my cable subscription.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Maurice & Dorothy Boyd* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My wife and I receive the two Government Pensions each as our total income and we are both liveing in a Long Term Care Facility so we do not have enough left at the end of the month to afford another cost to our only saource ef entertainment. We now pay Cogeco \$63.25 a month so I feel they are getting enough for their service. If this further tax will probably cause us to give up our TV for ever. Please use some commen sence and stop this cash grab NOW.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *A Wharram* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Having just moved back to Canada after living in the UK I was surprised to discover how much more we pay for basic cable! I can't believe that as consumers we would be expected to pay for local TV when cable and satellite companies are not paying a fee for these signals? We should support local television by forcing cable companies to pay a fee to distribute these signals. These funds could be redirected to local television. This cost should absolutely NOT be passed on to the consumer when cable and satellite are making record profits and we are already paying over the odds for basic services.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Anne* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Both sides are trying to get John Q Public to make a decision the ultimately will mean an increase in fees either way. Neither side wants to be blamed. Personally all I care about is retaining my local programming (such as it is) WITHOUT an increase in fees!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *brucevaleriani* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable/satellite rates are significantly high already, the companies have no business charging subscribers for content infrastructure (ie, they provide content viewers want to see, and their rates already reflect that) - any additional costs for local content production should come out of their already outrageous profit margins.

If they went ahead with charging subscribers, I would cancel my cable service completely.

As far as additional revenue for supporting local television, local television should be seeking out local advertisers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Phillips ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Answer to questions:

1. I would cancel my cable TV subscription. I would then take my TV down to Ottawa with hundreds of organized friends and supporters to the Parliament buildings and burn it on the Parliament buildings lawn there in a pile with the others.

2. The CRTC (or an organization uninfluenced by corruption and kickbacks) should regulate the television industry starting with rolling back the excessive premiums for subscriptions we pay, including reducing the number of commercials allowed, which has increased to a ridiculous amount of airtime on most Canadian stations. You should have the Auditor General Sheila Fraser look into the books of these Communications giants and publicly disclose the operating costs vs profits in order that we the public know where the money is going and how much their profits are.

You should then supervise meetings to work out a price for carriage between the Rogers Empire and the local CTV and all other networks, not unlike union negotiations.

This is not beyond the scope of the CRTC mandate and is quite frankly the only way to fairly handle this situation without looking corrupt and favoring one side or the other. Another question...Why did you arrange for the hearings to be held in Gatineau Quebec? This is so far away, most people will not be able to attend.

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Like



Tom ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

just another tax

little or none would be directed to local TV programming after the bureaucracy takes its huge bite

the CRTC mandate is to make decisions like this to protect the consumer if you need the public to decide for you then the CRTC should take a very long holiday!

[Flag](#)

Like



Greg Weisman ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We can't allow an American style corporate bail out... that's what this is. If business can't survive it must be allowed to fail, or adapt... TV stations can cut costs and find new sources of revenue... if I understand the facts, they already have with cable channels where they make great \$\$... SPEAK UP EVERYBODY so the CRTC drops this stupid idea of taxing us for something we dont want and something that cant compete

[Flag](#)

Like



Phil Phillips ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We are already paying for local TV. We do not want to pay any more for what we are already paying for in local TV. Rogers and the cable providers need to pay TV networks for what they are receiving from them. It is between the Rogers group of cable providers and the networks like CTV etc. If the CRTC is asking about imposing a TV tax for this you must just be another arm of the ROGERS EMPIRE hired to gloss this over and give Rogers what they want. I am sure Rogers can afford to settle up with the local networks for the programming they get. They have been able to buy many radio stations and even the Dome Stadium (for a paltry \$25 million) there is no doubt that they are making plenty and Rogers and the others should pay for it. I can tell you that we are rapidly losing faith with the CRTC ability to oversee these proceedings. We need to regulate the industry NOW!

[Flag](#)

Like



[d lewis-watts](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i can't get local tv because my sat. provider does not offer it... i sure don't feel i should pay \$5 to support local tv... which is only 5 hours local anyway....

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Lisa D](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Give us the choice,make the locals an optional package such as Discovery, History,etc.If this tax is forced upon me I would seriously think about cutting off my cable. We are taxed too much already, I say, enough is enough!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Alfie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There is no point of these Canadian networks to begin with - all they do is hijack American programming.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Steve](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I heard CTV wants \$50 per month more to air American Idol.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[jklinders](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

In answer to question 1, I am already paying for local television as there is a cost of doing business associated with broadcasting the signal. The broadcasters have been enjoying a far larger audience than they otherwise would have had at no cost to themselves. if I was required to pay more for channels I barely use my reaction would be to ask for an opt out.Seems to me it is not cable's fault that the broadcasters are spending hundreds of millions of dollars to get American content that I can get from American channels. The problem here is with the word local. look at the prime time lineup on Global and CTV. Not a whole lot of local TV there.

In Response to question 2, if the broadcasters want to get support for local television, they should consider actually creating content locally. I live on the East Coast, I can think of 2 things produced locally they put out. The news(which is generic and spread out over the whole region rather than a province by province basis) ad the IWk telethon(a worthy cause). So outside of a yearly charity and a newscast that is not even dedicated province by province, they are not producing content I can call local.

Small wonder that I am extremely bitter that these fools have their hat out in a way that will likely raise my bill as cable providers will raise the rates as a cost of doing business.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Tym Barker](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I will not pay for local TV.

Also, please do NOT control our access to communications. You cannot stop the technology revolution.

Hulu and Netflix are coming. If they continue to be shut out of this country I will personally start a company providing proxy servers to all Canadians so we can watch what we want at competitive market prices.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Paul R* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I've had it with the rich getting richer at the expence of the poor! Many people are on fixed incomes and can't efford any kind of rising expence. I thought the CRTC was partly here to insure that big buisness didn't take advantage of others,

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ray B* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I live in Saint John, NB and we do not have local tv. If you the CRTC are to give into the greed of these so-called local stations I will cancel my cable package with Rogers. it is not Rogers fight and to give these clowns (CTV, CBC, Global and A) more of my hard earned money is wrong. For what the right to have a couple of reporters covering our news? Stories from my city are always 3 or more into the 6 pm news and usually only a couple of minutes. While stories from Halifax are first on and last much longer. You call that local. get out of your caves, CRTC and Federal Government and smell the real world. I am retired and on a fixed budget. I would rather listen to my radio or watch a rented video than pay one more cent to the aboved named stations. We already subsized the CBC by hundreds of millions and the others need more money just to pay more to the share holders. Phooy to that. Could my cable provider being giving me a better price as well you bet they should/could. So if anyone pays make them pay it not the little guy, the one and only tax/fee payer in this country. So as I have said you take one more cent from me I walk from my cable. I have already cut back when you folks put the 90 cent tax on my bill I cut the news package with my provider. I will cut dollar for dollar that you cause my bill to rise. Think about all the retail and banks and all the fast food places that advertise that will not have me to buy there goods because I won't be watching. How many millions can you say will be lost across Canada? This is rather long but you folks better get message and these stations die as I do not care anymore.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *juliafoster* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

- 1- If they can't run their business they should sell it to someone who can.
- 2- They should spend less money on American content and more on Canadian.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *shawn* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

At this rate you wonder why people like to steal Cable and satellite signals I agree that Canadians are charged way to much for Cable and satellite.. And I also believe that we will be charged even more once the HST sales tax get passed into law. Isn't it nice to know that as Canadians we are being taken advantage of from all levels of government and industry

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jeff Allstate* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. a la carte
2. no more simsubs - force Canadian networks to come up with all Canadian programming or get off the airwaves
3. more competition into this country like DirecTV
4. no must carry stations of any kind

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Colby Hoffstra* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Hey, instead of investing in CSI: Miami, House, American Idol, Canadian networks should

actually invest in Canadian shows including local news.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *josie2050* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I live in Niagara We do not have a local station the closest is Hamilton and I never watch it. I find local news online and from the radio. I have checked out some of what they call local programming CTV Global and there is nothing of interest so why should i pay for local station when

1- I have no local station and

2 I would never watch any of it anyway. Canadian local channels carry boring and old programs and as for reality shows I would never waste my time with them I would like to pick the channels I want , no packages. Just maybe we would get better quality tv if they had to vie for our business

3 Get rid of the monopolies , a little competition could make for good and affordable tv

[Flag](#)

Like

 *DARLENE* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I OPPOSE THE BIG NETWORKS PROPOSAL TO IMPOSE A T.V. TAX OF UP TO \$10.00 A MONTH ON OUR SATELLITE BILL. I AM NOW PAYING \$1.20 PER MONTH ON MY BELL BILL AND I'M NOT HAPPY ABOUT IT.I PAY MORE THAN \$200.00 PER MONTH NOW FOR BELL,INTERNET AND T.V. AND I THINK THAT IS FAR TOO MUCH AND WILL BE CUTTING BACK IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ghatchard* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1) Appears to me that Cable and Satellite cos sell the local stations' signals paying only the respective distribution costs. They should pay the local stations. As a former cable and current satellite subscriber, I will not pay more. In my opinion the charges are currently too high. If forced to pay an additional ie \$10/mo, I will reduce my subscriptions, watch local free to air wherever possible, and use the net, radio, newspapers etc.

2) CATV/SAT cos should pay local stations. There is much duplicative programming. The respective companies need to reduce the number of stations carried to minimize duplicate programming and the new respective fees to the local stations. In short They will need to cut costs, staff, restructure etc like the rest of business and industry. I hope this is the beginning of the end of the "gravy train" for Cable/Sat cos.

Thankyou for the opportunity to provide my comments

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mikemp* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

AS a large number of TV stations are owned/controlled by cable /satellite company's this would appear to be yet another controlled rip off!

I have done something about it , DUMPED Rogers! now have OTA 27 HD channels
A PC based PVR that will record 4 channels while playing back 2 all for NO MONTHLY CHARGE.

Internet from Teksavvy phone from Teksavvy problems solved saving \$160 a month!
miss Rogers? NO!!! better picture quality and more stable no sim-subing no inaccurate program guide no missing end of overrunning programs.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *alistairmcintyre* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i do not support any fee increase for local tv.these companies make huge profits already ,how much profit is enough all canadians are tightening our collective belts so should they.we simply cant afford any more hikes or user fees ,who got a raise this year or last not me and you want canadians to support a huge increase when the country is on its knees.this is totally disgusting and obscene to ask for more money.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Doug Barrett* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I take two local newspapers so I have no interest in local TV news and they cannot support the analysts, etc., to expound and discuss news items. CBC supplies my needs for that.I feel it is fraud to make us pay for bundles,to get the the individual programmes we want.Typically I watch 4 of 67 programmes.I believe the cable companies should be open to more competition. They are overpaid, extortionistic and care nothing for the viewers.The bottom line rules!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *donandirenebadger* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

WE CAN NOT AFFORD IT WE ARE NOW CUTTING BACK ON SATELLITE T.V. AND IT LOOKS LIKE WE WILL HAVE TO CUT SOME MORE AS OUR BILL IS WAY TO HIGH AND WE ARE ON GAOV'T OLD AGE CHQS ONLY AND WE ARE FINDING WE HAVE TO CUT BACK MORE AND MORE . THE PAPER IS CUT TO SUNDAY ONLY . INTER NET TO SLOW SPEED AND SHAW PHONE INSTEAD OF TELUS AND ONE CELL PHONE FOR THE 2 OF US AND OUR FOOD, WE CUT OUT CUPONS LIKE CRAZE AND STILL CAN NOT MAKE IT.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Georgi Bagelman* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe that there should be local TV and that the cable suppliers should be paying to use the programming but that they already receive a huge profit from their subscription fees and should not be asking the public to be paying more.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *S. Ghazarian* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I consider local programs important as they connect us to our communities , this includes all types of programs, not only local news and events. By causing the decline and disintegration of these local networks because of the typical greedy capitalist motivations of these big businesses, impacts the society in which we live and causes further disintegration and alienation in our local communities. ..Rather than charging fees for this service which is part of our current system and would inevitably cost us, the customers even more money per month, I think they should pay for these services simply by having the networks dump many of the high cost, inferior, US programs that are currently being purchased. The high cost of such programs as reality tv programs, ridiculus games shows, and many talk shows such as Jerry Springer that contribute nothing positive, inspiring, or educational to the community at large.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Alan* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is an important element of television viewing and should be considered as necessary a component as Canadian content in broadcasting - it should be mandatory to maintain it. As much as broadcasters (networks) are required to provide a certain level of Canadian content, they should be required to do the same as far as local TV. The networks must run their businesses in a way to ensure that these content criteria are met. It should be the responsibility of the the general public to financially support these content requirements. If a tax like this is passed on to cable/satellite subscribers, how will it be imposed on non-subscribers?

Flag

Like



darlene23 ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

It's about time cable companies stopped gouging the general public. They are making billions in profits at the expense of working class people. They receive the local tv stations for free....why should they get it for free? Do the general public get anything for free, cable companies say tv stations want to charge a TAX but the last time I checked only the government can charge a tax? People complain that the CEO's of tv stations shouldn't have bonuses DO THEY FEEL CABLE COMPANIES SHOULD!! It's about time that cable companies stopped over charging for packages. Years ago this fight was in the US and the cable companies became controlled so that they couldn't gouge the consumer anymore, it's time the CRTC got with the plan and started looking out for the working consumer!! In regards to the question would I pay more for local tv why should I pay again I am already paying it through my local cable company as it is. Are you suggesting I pay twice for the same product!!
REGULATE CABLE COMPANIES!!!!

Flag

Like



Elizabeth Lepage ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

The only person that s/b paying any money in this issue are the cable/sattelite co.'s. Consumer's have paid for years thinking that local tv locations were getting the fees consumers pay. We Brandon Westman have already lost our local news and as a farming community has little use for weather / news etc from wpg. 2-6 hrs away. The networks have no right to tax consumers. I refuse to pay anything more then the 43./month I am paying (even though the bill is 48.-refuse to pay) I'll stop watching tv altogether before I pay anymore.

Flag

Like



Jean-Guy Roberge ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Tv signals without the cable or satellite dish are free and should remain that way.The only way that charges would be acceptable is if their actual of income would be stopped.I mean advertizing.The tv networks make their money with advertizing and compete between networks for customers.So stop the advertizing and I will be ok with paying so much a month for their signals,then if I am not satisfied with their programming,I can drop them and get another signal.

Personally,if the CRTC allows tv networks to charge cable and dish companies for their signal,I will go to what is called the grey market and buy a dish from USA and use their service.It is not legal for the USA dish companies to broadcast in Canada but it is legal for a consumer to use and pay for these signals.

Flag

Like



anamaria D ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I am allready thinking about canceling my cable services. If you charge more, without a doubt I will cancel. My sons have canceled theirs when you started to charge the 1.5% back in september. Is hard to feel agreeable with a monopoly that is charging so much more than what they deliver. Why do we need so many channels when we see the same program at the same time in so many of them. You make so much money already that is hard to believe you can find an argument as to why you would charge more.

Flag

Like



Iamar ★ 1 month ago in reply to anamaria D 1 person liked this.

I'm sick of paying more. Cable bills have gone up 76 per cent since the CRTC deregulated the industry back in the 90s.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

John A ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If they add this new fee for local tv I will cancel my cable service, I agree with comments made by some others that we should be able to just pay for the channels we want to watch not a lot of others that we never watch, and I hardly ever watch local stations or I should say what passes for local stations now. I can live with or without TV.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Hugh Thompson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable companies are already charging us to receive local stations. They steal the signals, charge the customer but fail to compensate local TV stations. That is wrong.

Local TV stations need to be compensated for their signals. That's how its done in the United States (Retransmission Consent)

As I said, the cable monopolies are already charging the customer, any additional fees would be double dipping.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees. Shaw cable increased my cable bill twice already this year with no additional services or explanation for the two increases.

While at it, the CRTC should open the doors to Dish Network and Direct TV – I'm sick of the Canadian greedy cable monopolies dictating everything...

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Joyce ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Again the big corporation will be holding the consumer hostage. We are already paying too much for what we have to view. It is GREED and the CRTC will be contributing to it if they let this fee happen. They will gain nothing because a lot of people will not be able to afford it. They should be reducing the cost to the consumer with the exorbitant profit they are making. THIS IS AN UNFAIR TAX which will be passed on to the consumer.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Keith Edwards ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am happy to pay for something worth watching but not for the banal network TV fodder currently offered. I pay for premium pay TV channels to get something worth watching. I am therefore totally against propping up any network TV local or otherwise. The recent down market move by CBC (dumbing down The National not to mention the equally dumbing down of their classical music radio station) is just an example of the miserable standards now existing. The only network stations I can support are PBS and TVO.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Rickford ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I have to pay more for local TV then I will have to reduce or cancel my cable. 70% of the basic cable channels I never watch and over 50% of the local channels programming is garbage. That is why they cannot get advertisers. I always watch the news on the local Global station but I can get that on line too.

To support local TV channels and by that we all know it means the Canadian Networks, they should be the only channels in the basic cable package. A rate should be set by the CTRC and then that money should be distributed by the percentage of the local market that each channel

garners thus rewarding excellence in the local market. All the specialty channels should be al a carte.

[Flag](#)

Like



[lamar](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Rickford](#)

Rickford wrote: "To support local TV channels and by that we all know it means the Canadian Networks, they should be the only channels in the basic cable package."

I agree.

[Flag](#)

Like



[H.Chisholm](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think is to expensive now and not looking at a change in income in the next 2 years and then it may .25 cents @ hour plus havng the harmonize tax in June biting into my pay check its just seems to much . By the way if im payig for tv why do have commercials ?

[Flag](#)

Like



[mikemp](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

With regard to the planned rip of of Canadian viewers...

A large number of TV station are now owned or controlled by cable/satellite company's so this is a calculated grab to make more money !

I HAVE thrown Rogers out as

A) there internet is both expensive and they do not deliver anything like the claimed speed and service is BAD

B) HD quality compromised by rogers and is NOT the best quality available.

I now have OTA (27 Channels Plus) and a dedicated PC as a PVR that will record 4 HD programs at the same time as viewing HD playback NO monthly charges and MUCH better quality as there is NO down converting

I Dont miss rogers at all wish I had done this sooner.

How many CRTC staff involved have worked for major cable/satellite/TV company's and are therefor biased?

[Flag](#)

Like



[Not-a-sucker-anymore](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am happy to leave my comments and I hope you are reading them. I am preparing to cancel my Satellite dish subscription. I am fed up with my bill going up constantly with less and less choice for me to reduce it. (Why I cannot cancel my digital bundle now that I had Hi-def is beyond me, and, frankly, ridiculous and obvious gauging) I will get a \$38.00 Hi-def antenna from Costco and download all my shows from utorrent. An immediate cost savings of \$100.

I sure hope others follow suit so you and the thieves at Bell, Rogers, etc.... will learn a hard lesson.

[Flag](#)

Like



[nicoledeSouza](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think it is appalling that the cable companies and satelite companies have gotten away with not paying local cable companies for the services that they provide. Local television is extremely important in keeping consumers and tax payers informed with what is going on. i am tire of

being taxed for everything when big organizations continue to make money. I think that cable and satellite companies charge way to much as it is. If you look at prices in the States for the same services, we are already paying almost double and in some cases triple what they are being charged. It is really appalling! I do not think that cable companies should be allowed to get away with this and i hope that the CRTC will fight for the rights of tax payers!

[Flag](#)

Like



cancon ★ [1 month ago in reply to nicoledesouza](#)

why pay when you don't have to. the channels are free over the air..get a \$30 antennae and put it on your roof. free tv

[Flag](#)

Like



Liz Watson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We would cancel. The news provided on local programming is just picked up from the newspaper and is no longer news to us.

We are already paying far too much for what we receive. We are told that we receive in the 100's of channels. Perhaps we do receive that many but the majority of them are repeats. AT the most, there are about 5 decent channels. The rest aren't worth watching so if we cancel, no big loss to us. If we want to watch a movie, we'll go to the corner store and rent one. It will be less costly.

[Flag](#)

Like



Zoe ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am not interested in paying to support local television that is used for the Reform/Alliance /Conservative coalition governments party platform for small towns. Furthermore, I am sick to death of being price gauged at every turn in this country. I am cancelling my Bell Satellite, going to Costco to get at \$38 hi-def antenna and will download my shows via uTorrent.

That's a savings of over \$100 a month! Problem solved.

[Flag](#)

Like



peter333 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think it's good that this consultation process is happening so that my voice can be heard: NO MORE TAXES FOR CANADIANS! OF ANY KIND! We are already taxed to the max. I AGREE WITH THE RECENT POSTS PREVIOUSLY POSTED BELOW. Enough already!

[Flag](#)

Like



cancon ★ [1 month ago in reply to peter333](#)

it's not a gov't tax moron! it's fee for service rendered, the shows aren't free. advertisers don't get free advertising either.

[Flag](#)

Like



petros ★ [1 month ago in reply to cancon](#)

the cable company doesn't pay anything to the local TV channels for the stations they air yet we have to pay and now they want us to pay some more. it doesn't make sense
2 me

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Pat* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not pay. I would likely switch to an American satellite provider. Cable and Satellite is already too expensive. There is nothing good on anyway. I won't miss it. If the parties can't come up with a solution to this without more costs to the consumer it will hurt them both. I WILL NOT pay more.

We cannot continue to support losing businesses. If they can't make enough advertising revenue to stay in business too bad. Enough bailouts!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *frustrated_consumer* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

we should not have to pay for local tv , on top of what we already pay for our cable or satellite services, they way that cable and satellite package channels, really suck, so much garbage channels, for the 1 or 2 good ones in a package , we should be able to choose a package of 10, 15, 20 , 25 channels ect , and pick the ones we want in those packages, so we only pay for the ones we want .

John

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *lamar* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to frustrated_consumer](#)

People shouldn't pay more and Rogers should pay for local channels like they pay for other speciality channels like TBS and Spike TV or the 100 gardening channels that seem to be on. In the end, people shouldn't be forced to pay more.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Robert Spence* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable bills are too high as it is right now. The CRTC should allow more competition in the cable industry . Get rid of the CBC. TV stations should be able to stand on their own two feet, without seeking handouts . Don't impose this ten dollar fee on consumers, we pay enough for as it is

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Rob* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think the CRTC is wrecking the TV Industry in Canada. The majority of the shows in Prime time come from the USA and the Canadian stations Simsub the signals which causes issue like drop in sound and porr pictures. If the CRTC let the TV networks show the content that the viewers want to see without forcing Simsubs then their product would be better. Also, this would force the Canadian TV Programs to compete with the US programs and improve CANadian based TV. Canada has a lot of great talent and unfortunately, the way the CRTC has managed the TV Media, has forced these great talented people to move south! Let the TV networks and companies live or die by their choices not the CRTC's.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *debl* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable package if I was forced to pay more for local TV. Taking into account my local stations provide no local programming outside the news and a breakfast television show. The news is advertised to be different but it is the same stories broadcast in each version, just a different anchor reading it. If local stations need more money maybe they need to hit up local businesses for advertising dollars and get more national advertising revenue. We already pay far too much for cable and I will not support a \$10/month tax grab.

2. Local stations need to become local again. Where is the advertising from local businesses?

Where is the local programming (aside from news)? Where are the local stations in the community? Local TV thinks it is too good for us, maybe it is the parent companies fault, but time to go back to grass roots.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bobtoro* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My cable bill is already ridiculously high. I do not want the CRTC to add \$5.00 - \$10.00 to my cable bill to subsidize local TV. The only local TV I watch is the news - most of the rest is just not worth watching. If the CBC etc. are having money problems then get rid of the fat salaries they pay out to top management as well as the ridiculous bonuses for - at best - mediocre programming. In summary - NO I do not want to have to pay extra for my cable tv to subsidize local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *lamar* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Bobtoro](#)

I used to think the same too about local TV, then thought about it and I realized how much playoff hockey I watch on CBC and learned that Global and CTV own the Canadian rights to American shows that (and there's not that many) i watch so the cable companies wouldn't be able to transmit them on U.S. channels they carry. About 90 per cent of the channels out there carry crap I don't watch, but the Canadian networks show or own the rights to most of the stuff i watch.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jerry MacDonald* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If local TV CANT RUN THEIR BUISNESS By Generating Revenu Through Their Normal Channels ,,Find another Business.CONSUMERS ARE ALREADY PAYING FOR THIS SERVICE. Perhaps they could look inward and CUT COSTS ie Wages paid to top Management for Failing.If this goes give consumers THE option to OPT OUT OF LOCAL TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Caitlin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There is no excuse or reason to have to pay extra for local television. Local television is what connects the city we live in to the outside world. They should be getting paid from the Cable and satellite companies who are raking in money from the tax paying people. The Cable and satellite companies should have to pay up for their neglect of local television.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *StephenA* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Caitlin](#)

So true. I can put a battery powered TV on a trash can and get local channels for free, so why should I have to pay the Cable, companies for this when they get it for free, too.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Neil Fernandes* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The high prices of cable TV are CRTC's fault for playing along with the cable co's. There should be real competition in the TV broadcasting Industry. Its a pity that its so restricted to 2-3 ;monoolies' in what's considered a '1st world country'. Open up the market and see the prices of everything from programming to transmission drop. Open up the industry and let the market decide the direction. Another area CRTC is sqzueeing the Canadian Public is cell phones. You guys have got to get your act together before trying to get any semblance of a free market structure to these 2 industries!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*StephenA* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Neil Fernandes](#)

Yes the cable companies like to scream poverty, yet they've increased rates by over 7 per cent in the last year and the average cable bill is over \$50 a month. And now they want to charge us more for channels they already charge us for.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Chrystal Gillett* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It is important for all to afford local television and have the availability of it to all. For we have many people on minimal and strict budgets. Some have ended up with lower pay cheques because of pay cuts or loosing their jobs. I feel we pay enough for their services they give us with. tv and satelite compared to some of the companies they have in the states. We all support our local television, but we wont be taken by it for we can get subscriptions to our local newspaper. It will trun us to new companies that will give us a better deal when they start in canada.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Ken Long* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am a retiree and I only have a verrv limited budget. So any increase in TV cost, of any kind would be disastrous, and would cause me to return to listening souly to the radio. Like in the "Old Days"

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*cancon* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Ken Long](#) 1 person liked this.

4 free over the air channels, i mean the antennae is only \$30 and it's free free free over the air.but over the air stations are dying business model.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*cancon* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Ken Long](#) 1 person liked this.

4 good channels is more than enough channels..of the 100 channels only 5 is worth watching and the good programmes are all in specialty channels these days.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*I Am Candian* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am opposed to any increase.

If i currently have a service and if the service provider tells me in advance that thier rates will be going up then i have a choice to make (1)accept it (2)reject it

The way that this is being done does not give the consumer a choice.

If i was dealing directly with the local TV companies i would say... No thank you... i do not want your service anymore.

If my service provider (Rogers, Bell, whoever) give me the choice of paying more for those local TV channels or removing them from my service... then i will remove them. It's really that simple.

Canadian Gov.... time to wake up... the people are watching you... give people choices... otherwise they will make thier choice come election time.

[Flag](#)

Like



Donald J. Després ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe that the local TV stations are being ridiculous in asking for cable and satellite companies to pay a fee for local TV signals, which anyone with rabbit ears can receive for free over the air. If I as a consumer has to pay extra fees to watch local TV with my satellite subscription, I will have to cancel some of my existing programming in order to pay for it. With the amount of TV commercials that we have watch during an hour of programming, they should not be requesting further funding from their viewers. If we have to pay an additional fee to watch local TV, than the C.R.T.C. should make them cut back on the amount of advertising that they show. They should not be allowed to have it both ways.

[Flag](#)

Like



Zia ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV should take the funding currently provided to them through various resources (and advertising dollars) and spend more on local content as opposed to more and more US content. Any additional \$ given to Local TV by service providers will result in increased fees for me/us (the consumer).. I cannot afford to pay any more than I already do.

[Flag](#)

Like



kyle ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel cable all together, put up a OTA Antenna and get Local TV for free, the way it has always been

2. Local TV is self-supporting all major broadcasters own profitable specialty stations that the Cable companies pay a premium for to broadcast.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tony W ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am very much against mandatory fees for local TV services. There is very little in such services that is of interest to me and I strongly object to being forced to pay for them. If there is to be a charge for local TV, then cable and satellite operators should not be forced to broadcast them and they should be moved to an optional service package so that subscribers can choose not to take them. The local services should then receive revenues based on the number of subscribers they get, not a flat fee.

The large networks who produce most of this programming are already hugely profitable. So far as I can see this is nothing more than a money grab on their part.

[Flag](#)

Like



Michael ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Nobody should prop up a bad business model. Not Canadians themselves and not the cable company.

It's disturbing that the CRTC is even contemplating to **force** the cable companies to carry specific channels, **force** them to include them in basic packages, and **force** a price that Canadian subscribers ultimately have to bear.

Please step back and let demand drive it.

[Flag](#)

Like



BkP - Toronto ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Forget them - business survival of the strong - enough subsidies.
Poorly managed companies like CanWest have no one but themselves to blame.
No TV Tax.

BkP

[Flag](#)

Like



lamar ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to BkP - Toronto](#)

But the current business model sucks for broadcasters because the cable companies take their product and pays nothing for it and charges us under their basic service fee.

[Flag](#)

Like



Joyce Dunn ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I simply would NOT be prepared to certainly pay for LOCAL TV coverage. Why should I be charged any more for local programming when, in the beginning of TV, that's all we had? I can understand the relevance of then choosing & paying more for whatever "Theme/s" I choose but NEVER for local TV coverage. That should go without saying. It just 'boggles' my mind when everyone seems to come after the consumer if/when greed takes over and one isn't satisfied with the amount of money already coming in??? Stop coming after the consumer and work this matter out yourselves between the TV Stations & the Cable and Satellite Companies. What do I, as a consumer, have to do with the outcome???

[Flag](#)

Like



Rick. A ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable service completely.

Very soon the sheep will revolt. The TV establishments should be taught a commercial reality, one that most of "the sheep" already live by and that is this: If you cannot make it work, move over and let somebody who can, do the job. When are we going to apply the basic rules of business to these corporations? \$10 a month is not a lot of money it is however the principal that counts. This amounts to corporate welfare AND they will be back whining at the public representative (CRTC) repeatedly.

To the CRTC: The answer is simple: No!

2. Improve the quality.

Another basic business rule.

[Flag](#)

Like



ronnu ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Yes we do pay a lot for cable, internet, phones etc and I would not take kindly to having to pay another \$10 - \$15 per month. The questions/comments I would like to pose are...if it were not for the cable and satellite companies a lot of viewers would not be able to watch CTV, Global, CBC etc programming, especially those in more remote communities or those living within the shadow of say, a Global transmission tower. I do live within the shadow of one of Global's transmission towers and if I had to rely on an antenna, this would be the only channel I get and that would be with a shadow. CBC and the local CTV channels are "snowy" and forget about HD. So, CBC, CTV, Global etc., without the cable and satellite services, how would anyone see your programming? You should be thanking them for getting your programming out there and not asking for a hand out. You are getting the advertising revenue, not the cable and satellite companies.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *R D K* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

For these Big TV Networks whose net profit for 2009 was \$400 Million to ask the customer to pay \$10 a month more is nothing more than highway robbery. Totally outrageous demand to which I say NO, enough is enough!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [R D K](#)

\$5 is probably the right amount but cable and consumers don't want to pay dime. there is 4 free over the air channels if you want free. but that era of over the air broadcasting supported by 100% advertising is dead. not enough veiwers with technology, the height of over the air broadcasting is 1982. TV was the new media and only media and only 5 channels on cable. lots of good movies and programming back in those days.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [R D K](#)

now all the good movies are in specialty channels like spike, TNN etc. no good programming in over the air broadcasters anymore.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *RW* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Well with all due respect, for the C.R.T.C and it's members.

Lets look at the past,back in the 1960's the tables were reversed and the local stations told the cable companies to take a hike.

Let's look at what the local stations are doing in other countries to increse revenues, they have started to broadcast on the free to air signals, High def signals, this increases their revenues.

We the poor, and I am a very poor person, I have a fifty dollar antenna I bought in montreal, I may not have cable but I get 5 american stations clear as a bell, and 2 canadian ottawa stations, and it costs me nothing, sure I don't have all the stations I could have with cable but I am Poor.

Losing the local stations would suck from my point of view, but they would just be doing a very bad thing to those of us who can just barely afford any pay for signal.

It is pretty much gaurenteed that we will be fraked with the cost, as we don't count when it comes to money, only where they think they can control what we watch.

It is too bad that so many poor people will get fraked by the C.R.T.C, but thats what they get paid to do.

News anchors earn their 100thousand plus per year salaries working 3 hrs per day.

Just for fun as an example of our wisdom, here is a trick question.

WHAT WILL SAVE YOUR LIFE, KNOWING HOW TO DRIVE, OR SHAKESPEAR.

WHICH ONE DID YOU AND YOUR KIDS LEARN IN SCHOOL?

Now that you see an example of our wisdom, what do you think they will do?

we are screwed, no matter what...open your wallets and.....

Enjoy, and don't complain or we will have our computer send you a form letter response

The C.R.T.C

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Rick* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

how many stations are we talking about? Do we need 2, 3, 4 or 5? Lets be realistic here. On the other hand we could go totally socilist and make them all wards of the state and even that might work because the standard could only go up! When are we going to play business the real way?

[Flag](#)

Like



Sonny Bee ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1 I would be extremely angry at the CRTC if forced/asked to pay more for local TV. Local TV is available free to air. Its value to a viewer who watches via "rabbit ears" is zero. Its value doesn't change just because the same signal is viewed via satellite or cable.

2. Local television should "support itself" by cutting its ridiculous over-spending on US content. Smart business people "live within their means". That's what the local TV stations must do. If they don't, it's their responsibility, not the public's.

[Flag](#)

Like



DonD ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is supposed to be paid for by the advertisers. The government forces us to watch shows from the local feed even when we're on a U.S. channel. Drop them from the grid. If I want local TV after that I can always hook up an antenna.

[Flag](#)

Like



Debra ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would cancel my cable subscription because it is already way too expensive.

A TV Tax will cost me an additional \$5-\$10 per month on my cable or satellite bill is more than I can afford on top of maintaining schooling and living expenses for my family of 5.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the Big TV Networks, who made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone. I am lucky to save a couple of hundred dollars.

A TV Tax provides no guarantee that the Big Networks will do anything to keep local television stations on the air and local news and community coverage is important to me.

This TV Tax comes in addition to the close to \$600 million in benefits the broadcast industry already receives from cable and satellite providers, so why pick on me?

[Flag](#)

Like



Becky ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Debra](#) 1 person liked this.

I agree Debra. Cable and satellite companies are trying to fool Canadians with this "TV tax" claim. The government is not asking for a tax and that is not what the CRTC is considering. The cable and satellite companies are just getting us consumers ready for a \$10 month fee hike and blame the government. TV bills are way too high. I hope the CRTC regulates the cost for a new basic service, this will provide an affordable option for customers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tatjana ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Currently I do not subscribe to any cable or satellite TV service. I have internet and have made do with that in order to save money. I am on disability. When I did have cable I was satisfied with the selection on the 29 channels I got. Who can watch hundreds of channels anyway? My favourite channels came from the U.S. specifically Detroit; one of them was public television. I enjoyed the content on TVO and figure skating and the Wind At My Back series on the CBC. Other than that I watched very little Canadian TV. The news I got from a combination of American and Canadian channels depending on whose viewpoint I wanted. CTV has very good Canadian news but mostly Toronto news. Thankfully The CTV Sudbury station also carries local news, news for Northern Ontario, news pertaining to the area we live in, not just to Toronto. This is very necessary. I need to know what is going on locally, as well as nationally and internationally and how it will affect me. This news is ONLY provided on local TV (though TVO does try to be relevant to the north). As for funding for it, Local TV news should certainly be INCLUDED in any basic TV cable/satellite package and cable/satellite companies should share their profits with Local TV stations if advertising is insufficient to pay for it. I used to live in Toronto but now I live in a remote northern Ontario community. There are less people to pay for services so we get less service and it costs us more. But we need local news just as much as Toronto needs its local news. We only have one local channel available to us and its 3 hours

away. Toronto has several within an hour or two radius to select from. Please do whatever is necessary to enable our local TV that carries our news, to stay on air. They are as worthy of funding as any other channel cable companies carry and more necessary. If need be let the government help fund them too. Any cable I would subscribe to in the future must certainly include LOCAL TV news. CTV sudbury is more relevant than the CBC.

Flag

Like



Mario ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Problem is and always be the same, the cable and satellite provider don't pay anything to the local TV network. It's true that some station make money but divided by all the local channel they provide I figured it's not much compare to the Sat and cable compny make. If you take just the basic they give you the local channels only and ho much of what they charge goes to the TV network???? The public shouldn't have to pay anything extra and the cable and sat company should pay for local tv like they pay for specialised channel ex: Hist, AE etccc. I can access the local TV for free with a small antenna so why should I have to pay the Cable, Sat company for this service that doesn't cost them anything to get them self????

Flag

Like



Jeannine ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I get asked to pay for local TV, I will drop the service altogether. It is not a necessity. Most of us are already in the process of reviewing our budgets and reducing our tv subscriptions and I am sure this will push those of us on the fence to a definate.

The timing is incredibly poor with the current economy requiring stimulation.

If you have a conservative subscriber base in Canada of \$6 Million paying an \$20 per month (\$120 Million per month) for basic tv and a conservative 30% buying premium channels average 10 per month (\$18 Million), the total is (\$138 Million). If 5% drop TV All together and another 10% reduce their premium service due to the fee - you result in 4.8 million at \$30 month (including the local fee) (\$96 Million + \$48Million local) and premium TV (\$12 Million). That is a loss for TV companies of 30 Million/Month to give local tv 48 Million.

What will be the cost to the consumer? Technicians, Technologists, Project Managers and Engineers displaced from work. All likely TV subscribers, internet subscribers, telephone / wireless subscribers... who will no longer have an income.

With Chrysler, Nortel and many other smaller companies displacing employees the potential for these displaced employees to find immediate employment is at a disadvantage.

EI per employee displaced \$1500 per month as all of these careers pay over the max EI benefit rate (And is a cost to the taxpayer). Other costs that would result: lost tax dollars - no paycheck to tax.

Adding this tax will further burden subscribers who are already trying to stretch their incomes in the current not so thriving economy.

I do understand if local television does not get funding it will also result in job losses. It would just be less of a hit to the economy. Not all Tv station displaced employees would not be maxing out an EI claim and there are other avenues to raise funds. Telethons, Fundraising, Internet Subscription service. A little creativity and innovation could eliminate the need to panhandle from the television subscribers.

Summary: Putting the cost onto the End User or the Television providers will only result in lost dollars, lost jobs and add to the current low economic situation. Television is not a need, when money gets tight it is at the top of the list to be discontinue.

Flag

Like



John M ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I do not wish to pay more on my satellite bill for local tv. The major cable and satellite

companies already have large profits.

2. The large cable and satellite companies should support , ie fund, local programming. Local programming is important to Canadians.

Flag

Like



Clara Fabrizi ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

The big TV networks made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receiving close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year. Consumers cannot afford another tax, especially with so many people out of a job.

Flag

Like



Cottontail ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1. I would react very negatively. If indeed these are Local, then they are available as ever with an internal or external antenna. Cable and Satellite should simply refuse to carry them - why pay extra when they are widely available?

2. Local TV has always been supported by "local viewers." I personally, would rather watch CNN on CNN and not CBC/CTV or GLOBAL. I pay to support Women's network and native programming, etc - none of which I would support - all to get programming I want. I pay extra to get the non-politically correct channels like FOX news Channel, I rarely rarely rarely watch CBC - heck even the Gray Cup was not available on CBC.

Are they living up to their mandate? Do they provide adequate information on issues? I don't think so.

Let local TV rely on local advertising or simply go the way of the DO DO! If they are any good, people will support their programming. If they continue supplying American programming, then they don't deserve to exist - cable and satellite provide much better service.

Flag

Like



randyn123 ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Don't you think that the programming we all ready pay for is expensive enough? Enough with these hidden taxes.

Real local TV is now a dying breed as the Broadcasters haven't learned to adjust in a changing world. Most of the local TV programming is American TV programming because that's what most p eople want to see.

If you really want to give canadians a real choice, get rid of the forced packages that Cable and Satellite providers have to deal with and give us a real choice.....like if we really want to have local channels included in our packages. I just have to put an external antenna and i'll receive all the local channels I want free of charge and with probably a better video quality than what I get with compressed channels on satellite.

Give us a choice by only getting the specialty channels we really want and not bundled with other channels. Then the Canadians will be able to have a REAL choice in what they want to see and not what the regulators are FORCING us to see. There's a very distinct difference between both.

If it was just up to me, it would be an external antenna and downloading the programming I want from the Internet.....Now that would hurt everybody.....

Please make sure us little folks that do dish out a hefty amount of money each month to our providers are not left with yet another price hike as alot of us are seriously thinking of getting rid of ou Satellite or Cable accounts or downsizing to a minimal package as it's getting too

expensive and it's now considered a luxury to just be able to watch the programming we really want.

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Like



[Laura](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell. Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming. The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year. And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

[Flag](#)

Like



[josie2050](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am opposed to any additional cost of cable We already pay way too much compared to other countries. If I have to lose local channels, so be it. I do watch the CBC but they are partially funded through government As for the local channels I never watch them Their programming choices are unappealing and I couldn't really care less about them.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Angelo McQuarrie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Compelling cable and satellite companies to distribute local TV signals and then demanding a fee payable to the providers of those TV signals means that the end subscriber will end up paying that fee plus applicable taxes. Unless the end subscriber wishes to view local signals this is offensive and unfair. CRTC must allow the cable and satellite companies to provide basic service that does not include local TV signals, such that individual subscribers can opt out of paying for services they don't wish to receive. Anything less is just intolerable and nothing less than highway robbery to me, a despicable plunder imposed by the CRTC, an act for which subscribers like me might rightly rise up in whatever way we can to end the existence of the CRTC.

[Flag](#)

Like



[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Angelo McQuarrie](#)

cable companies need these local channels as the local channels need cable. subscribers of basic would just go to another cable company that has local channels in their basic subscription.

[Flag](#)

Like



[stormintv](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Do you guys now see why there has been satellite piracy and free channels since 1984 when the big dishes were out. 1 million Canadians had Direct TV in its pirate prime. You can't beat or even deal with these manipulators . Run your own tv life. Wait until the new FTA fix is out and get your Rolls Royce back out of the garage.

[Flag](#)

Like



[JIz](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

All this talk about "Local TV" is very misleading. There really is no local TV aside from some news the majority of programming on Canadian television stations are all shows that are from U.S networks. So, we don't really get anything really 'Local' now do we. If we are forced to pay for "Local TV" then there must also be enforced "Local TV" content quotas set (60% minimum) for all Canadian Networks in order to warrant any fees we must pay.

I should not be forced to pay extra for something that I can pick up free using an antenna. If I should be forced to pay extra I would like to demand that I have the choice to pick and choose which Canadian television stations that I would like to or Not like to receive. I would much rather "opt out" of the Canadian networks and only watch the U.S stations since the Canadian broadcasters are just re-broadcasting the same tv programs anyways.

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Like



StilettoSuicide ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have no real insight to this issue aside from the fact that I subscribe to cable. On one hand, we DO pay a crap load for cable service every month. But really, on the other, I could easily spend that on one night of out-of-house entertainment. I feel the \$80/month I spend on my cable is a small price to pay for the main source of entertainment for most of us. I do however feel that there are other ways to get this "urgently needed" money out of us instead of nailing us with yet another tax to pay.

[Flag](#)

Like



Donato Antonucci ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Like



Angie ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If this new fee goes through and the Cable and Satellite companies are forced to collect this fee on behalf of the the local TV stations, I will be canceling TV services completely, especially since the content of most of the programs has little or no family values anylonger. I don't feel it's right that we pay additional fees for local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



MD ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The big TV corporation saw good profit in taking over the smaller station that could easily survive with local advertisers,so let these big pay no brain big shot bad administrators that are trying to bleed to death the average and small earners have a taste of their own medicine and fall down their high chair.Let the local TV stations go back to what they were (good interesting and profitable) and more than fair salary scale for everyone in the station that were normal peoples like we are.

We the small business owner we do not have the luxury to be able to tax the population to help us to survive and pay for our mistakes like what is happening with the Hydro Ontario,if we cannot survive the only recourse we have is to close our doors.

Because the Government made the mistake to bail out big companies like banks and auto industries on the back of tax payers,now all the big companies want their share of those bail out

stupidities.

At \$10.00 an hour we cannot and will not support those big shot anymore, WAKE UP CANADA and you at the CRTC.

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Like



John L ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Enough is enough. Most Canadians already pay more than enough for the entertainment they receive. - No more taxes or hand-outs please

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Like



Sarah Anson-Cartwright ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If there were new additional charges imposed on my family as television consumers, I would complain to the CRTC and the Minister of Canadian Heritage. I would not fault the cable or satellite companies for adding it to consumers' bills, because they have would have had this "tax" imposed on them.

The cable and satellite distribution companies are already required by regulation to contribute huge amounts of funding toward Canadian broadcasters and the system overall. It is unfair to keep forcing those players to subsidize the over-the-air broadcasters indefinitely.

With respect to local TV, I agree with the CRTC's new local programming improvement initiative. In addition, it should require the over-the-air broadcasters to commit more to local television programming. Until they make such a commitment, they should not be rewarded with any further funding via the regulatory process and at the expense of cable or satellite TV customers.

Thank you,

Sarah Anson-Cartwright

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Like



sueman26 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

NO MORE IMPOSITIONS OR TAXES ON MY CABLE BILL. TOO HIGH ALREADY. NOTHING REALLY DIFFERENT BUT RATES KEEP GOING UP ... ENOUGH ALREADY ... \$400 MILLION IN PROFIT ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH ... TOO MUCH GREED AND NOT ENOUGH SERVICES TO JUSTIFY INCREASES. I WILL NOT PAY FOR LOCAL TV ON TOP OF WHAT I ALREADY PAY. THIS SHOULD BE INCLUDED

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Like



Judith ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable service, as well. The cost is all ready outrageous. I never watch local programming (that's why I pay for cable). The TV tax is just corporate welfare.

2. Television stations make millions of dollars, they don't need a bailout. Gouging the consumer should not be an option for these greedy fat cats.

The CRTC should be making sure cable costs go down, not up. As well, how about regulating cell phone fees: Canadians pay more for this service than those people in any other country!!

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Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Judith](#)

there are 4 free over the air channels, go ahead and cancel your cable. one of the reasons people have cable is the clear digital signals and HD signals and pay tv channels of cable. The signal from antennae suck especially with LCD tv..can't even sell your analog TV

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Like



Judith ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to billy

I cannot receive even the local channel(s) -- the area in which I live is too dense with signals: I get nothing for free. I can only conclude that you work in this industry and are pushing some kind of self-interested agenda. I cannot believe anyone would actually support this "tax" and stand up for huge corporate interests (i.e. profit, profit, profit) unless they were going to benefit!

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[Like](#)



Gerry Colville ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Being on a fixed income - we cannot afford higher rates for cable TV, internet and telephone. PLEASE CONSIDER THE SENIORS !!!!

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[Like](#)



marc d ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

dont we pay enough already ? why do you think alot of people are pirating cable ? because it,s costs way too much... canadian famillies are already asked allot and should not be asked more...

at this point any increases on my cable bill will mean that i will have to cancel that subscription and i will be watching shows on various websites that will be less efficient then cable but WAY less expensive...

enough is enough

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Julie ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Less Money, More Taxes part of the norm now a days. I won't pay more for local TV I like watching Local News and thats about all, just to know what's going on in the community but at this point if I pay more for it I will cancel and go back to the old method of reading a newspaper for local news Much LESS expensive

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



vandrbest ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not want to pay extra for local tv. I don't watch it, except for news. I would much prefer that we focus on sustainable business practices vs. propping up old dinosaurs with my tax dollars.

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[Like](#)



Keith Peppard ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We have no "local" TV here. The closest we could come to that would be ATV out of Halifax, NS.They are " local " in name only as most news shows are shown multiple times, the announce staff are anything but professional and if I had a choice I would suggest getting rid of them - to PAY for them is non-sensical.

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seanfernie ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV

providers like Bell

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Dushan Divjak ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I refuse to give the Big Networks a \$2 billion bailout over the next five years.

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Like



MB ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't understand this at all, we are forced to watch the local station if it is broadcasting the same content as the major US network so that we see the local commercials. Local stations get paid for the commercials, and if they reach more households they can charge more for the ads. Now they want to charge the cable company for the signal that we are already being forced to watch? That cost will be passed on to us and we pay too much already

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Like



Nigel Bartley ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe we pay enough taxes

If this application is approved I will cancel my Canadian TV service and look for other alternatives which will not have any Canadian content.

Thankyou

[Flag](#)

Like



Karen ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

At some point we have to say enough is enough. If more fees/taxes are added to the bill I can guarantee that I will cancel my service. And if enough Canadians cancel their subscriptions to cable and satellite companies maybe then someone will sit up and take notice and do something.

But instead of being reactive to consumers outlash why not be proactive and do the right thing. Yes local TV is important but in the grand scheme of things TV is a luxury that we do NOT need to survive. Trim your budgets, cut your fat bonuses and streamline instead of charging it back to us.

Frankly as an overtaxed Canadian I am fed up with overregulated control by the government. TV like our skies and cell networks should be deregulated and open to competition. And frankly let the weak sink and the strong thrive so that consumers in the country can get the best possible rates available so that we can all save money.

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Like



Dave ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think if the satellite companies offered you a choice of the station that you wanted it would be fair, but to dump channels that I don't want and place the burden upon the customers to pay for it is wrong. It's time for the satellite companies to change

[Flag](#)

Like



Craig ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I could not find in the CRTC report where it says the consumer pays the tax. Let the companies pay for it. They make millions and have gouged us enough with their frequent and greedy increases. Why is it put on the consumers' shoulders?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *KJohnston* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would consider cancelling my satellite service because I feel the Cable/Satellite Operators are making big money and our current fees are too high. I think CRTC should introduce more competition to help bring down prices.

2. I think the Cable/Satellite Operators should absorb the cost from the local TV Companies. If that is not an option then they should create a Theme Pack for local TV like they have with their other channels and charge the standard fee. Why do they want to charge \$10 for local TV when their fees for the standard theme packs are between \$4-6 and they pay for those channels?

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Like

 *Susan Jackson* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe we pay the local cable networks more than enough for our service and in fact they the cable companys should share the profits with local t.v. stations.

at least pay them a fair wage for their work that the cable companies are charging for

[Flag](#)

Like



New Approach ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to Susan Jackson

Susan, they don't pay many of their employees! They make them volunteer. Would you like to work for free?

[Flag](#)

Like



sandraroxborough ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable companies make enough money. Why should I be giving them more? I work hard for my money. We, as Canadians, are taxed to the hilt. We should not be paying more taxes. This is unfair to tax us more. The Americans would not put up with the taxes that we pay. Why should we?

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Like



notv taxp lease ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

No way more tv tax!

If you want to tax for CBC, then I want to be able to cut it from my cable vision so that I do not have to pay!

[Flag](#)

Like



pennybateson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I support local tv - it matters to me - however, I am not willing to pay more for it - I currently pay quite a lot to my cable company for tv and do not want to pay any more. I have stripped down my viewing choices in order to save funds. An additional \$10-\$15 month is outrageous and should be covered by the large networks.

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Like



JinAB ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

This should not take place if the cable companies are simply going to pass the costs on to cable consumers. In most cases cable consumers are given very limited choice as to what they can or cannot subscribe to, and are often required to subscribe to "packages" that include channels that they rarely, if ever watch. If cable companies are able to simply pass these added costs on with

no flexibility on the part of consumers to decline the additional charges, then it is simply another means of soaking the customer, who has no real choice!!

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Like

 *Jack Babcock* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the CRTC allows these extra charges, I as well as many of the people I have talked to about this will have to cancel our TV services as we will no longer be able to afford this. I don't know where the cable companies think this money comes from, but for us on a fixed income, I am sure that many will do exactly what I will be forced to do, and that is cancel my TV services completely.

I am fed up with all these types of charges and have to wonder why the Government allows these people to take advantage of Canadians the way they do.

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Like

 *Guy D* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Already the price of cable is outrageous. My wife and I only watch about 6-10 stations and yet have to pay for hundreds!! When announcement of this further increase came out in October, we cancelled our cable totally. We will do without TV (for how long?) and are now using the internet. Both CRTC and cable loose. I wish everyone got together and cancelled their cable for, let's say, a period of 3 months to show CRTC and the rich cable folks that we have enough!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Marius Gligor* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I pay a lot for my cable service \$60/month, and it is very much a strain on my budget as I am living on student loans. Everybody involved is making huge profits at the corporate level yet they want to take more from us poor people. Why did those networks purchase all those small local stations if they didn't think they could make a profit? Its all a game they play, and if I have to pay more I am out and no more cable/satelite to for me.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Florence* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I object to pay extra for local TV. I already pay a very significant amount of money every month for my satellite service. Why should I pay extra for a service that I am already paying for in my package. We Canadians are drowning in taxes...new HST, new TV tax, income tax...my hours of work are being cut back and you keep increasing taxes...salaries don't keep up with all the taxes!

Measures to support local TV: make TV executive cut their salaries and expenses and put that money in the operating budget instead. Increase revenues from local advertising and like every other industries out there, local TV has to cut expenses in order to stay afloat...it's not that difficult to figure out!

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Like

 *kelly* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

any more fee's on my tv and i will discontinue services.this has gotten way out of hand already.they all deserve to be out of a job if this is the way they want to continue.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *louise63* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Both the CRTC and the television industry will lose by adding on this tax; seniors like us will not continue watching tv....that's plain and simple, which means less dollars from all the seniors. By

acting this way, we will see the younger generation joining forces.....meaning again a big loss from both CRTC and the television industry

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bluelily* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't pretend to know all the ins and outs of all of this issue but I do know several local stations have been closed. Those areas now have to be serviced from a bigger centres, hence no local news. We are already getting local coverage of the states ie ducks crossing the highway in Seattle and I really don't care about a lot of the generic coverage that is coming from Toronto. I want to see stuff from our area, at least from western Canada. Most of BC is already covered by Global Vancouver or Global Edmonton. There will only be more of this if something isn't done.

National news is very well covered but what about local news?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jim Davey* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There is absolutely no reason for an added charge to those of us on cable systems. The fact that you are looking for our "reaction" instead determining whether the charge should allowed or not shows that the CRTC is the who is not reacting properly to the problem.

It is very simple to determine who owns the rights to the broadcast material in question. Any court in the land can determine ownership.

The owner of the broadcast material can then sell broadcasting rights to their material to whomever they wish - it's called Capitalism! If someone does not wish to pay for the material, they cannot use it. It is very simple.

If local TV/radio outlets cannot afford the asking price, they cannot use the material. If local commercial entities do not want to sponsor time that would allow the stations to afford the broadcast material in question, the viewers/listeners to that station would not get a chance to see/hear it.

Canada is not a Socialist country. It was built on capitalism and it will continue with capitalism. The CRTC is a very socialist committee and, as such, shouldn't be developing what is sure to be a very biased report. I have attended hearing before and disagree completely with the committee's "slant" on things.

If you pay for something, you get it - very simple. If you want to live away out in the country where living costs are cheap, then you get a reduced level of infrastructure - no hospitals, no police nearby, distant schools and no big city cable system! Why should it be any different?

The CBC is as socialist as this country should be. There are plenty of CBC radio and TV stations in Canada. If someone does not like the broadcast material that is available to them, they can move to an area of the country that supplies it and pay the additional costs of living that people like myself incur in order to live the life style we want in an area that can afford a top level cable system.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *nootka62* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not be willing to pay more than I already am for my satellite service. There are more programs that I would not watch than there are ones I enjoy.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Chuck* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If this legislation is passed, allowing local TV stations to charge cable companies for distributing

their programs, I will cut out some of the services that I currently get in order to off-set the increase. We already pay too much for our cable and internet services as compared to other countries.

I'm fed up of being asked to bail-out these multi-million dollar corporations. Nobody is bailing out consumers who have lost their jobs because these corporations are not practicing sound fiscal policies.

We in Ontario are already being asked by our provincial government to swallow the new HST, next year, at a time when many families are barely surviving.

And now we are being asked to absorb additional charges on our cable bills for services that most of us barely use. We do not have the option of not subscribing to these services because of the regulations and the inflexibility of the cable TV packages that are offered.

Ten dollars a month doesn't sound like much on its own but in the total scheme of what we pay as consumers it's significant.

Canadians are taxed and regulated to death and it's time that we stood up as a people and tell our government that this has to stop.

[Flag](#)

Like



Donna V ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Our satellite bill is high enough already and I would at the very least opt out of programming choices equal to the additional amount I would be charged for local TV viewing. Cable and satellite companies should realize that online program viewing will soon be mainstream and TV viewers will be able to select their favourite online viewing options for a yearly fee. So say you have 7 favourite programs that you watch, you could conceivably subscribe to online viewing options for \$12/program/year for a total cost of \$84 a year. That's what I spend in a month for satellite service. If viewers want local TV, they will likely be able to watch it online. We'll no longer be at the mercy of cable or satellite "packages."

[Flag](#)

Like



Sherry Graves-Morrison ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would like to see other options offered by the cable company, such as paying only for the stations you want to use, not being forced to accept bundling that keeps increasing in costs in order to get the "extra" channels you want to view, and being forced to pay for channels that you never watch.

If there were other cable companies operating in Ottawa, this would be less of a problem as the customer would have a bargaining option. As it is now, the customer is forced to accept what ever plans the cable company offers with no options.

[Flag](#)

Like



Len Libman ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is of little importance to me and I do not believe myself or the government should give any money to Canadian broadcasters. Like any business they need to survive on their own accord and should not ask the government to bail them out. If they cannot make a go of it, they can shut down.

[Flag](#)

Like



Laurie Turcotte ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I find the request for monthly tax for local TV appalling. We pay so much in tax in Canada, and I don't mind paying to keep our infrastructure, health care, etc., taken care of. But, first off, local TV is generally substandard in quality. Secondly, where does this tax stop? If we are paying every month, the millions of dollars going for local TV will be going into who's pockets? Will there come a time when the local TV stations will say "we have enough"? Or will we be lulled into paying this monthly tax, only so some executive can take a long winter vacation? I don't buy this at all. We are facing the new HST, then TV tax...which is clearly unfair to the tax payers. I think that the cable providers can come up with some way to balance the books, aside from it

coming out of our pockets.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Phyllis* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

As a senior I can barely afford the ever rising fees as it is and will simply have to cut back to the most basic package - enough is enough!!! Where does it ever stop?

Why are our fees so astronomical compared to the U.S? Because you have set up monopolies in most areas that allow price-fixing and no competition!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *billy* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Phyllis](#)

maybe you should cut back to basic cable. you probably watch TV than most people. there is less people in Canada and less viewers. over the air channels are still free.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *John Ruetz* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. How would I react? Very, very negatively. I pay already for access through the provider. Let them sort it out. DO NOT impose yet another fee on us. We have been increasingly fed to death over the last 20 years. This does not help the economy. In fact, this distortion of the economy makes the rich get richer and poor...

2. What could be done to support local television? I am not aware the local television station in Kitchener, Ontario - CKCO Channel 13 - is either making or losing money as a CTV affiliate. If it is in one of the better economic markets in the country, then something is very, very wrong with how it is being managed and its relationship to CTV. On a personal note, I rarely, ever have an interest in watching CKCO since it does not offer anything of interest. Literally. I remember last winter the oddity of watching CKCO for the the half-hour Star Wars Clone Wars episodes, but that's is pretty well it for the last 20 years. Literally, and I am not exaggerating. CTV affiliates, at least, need to negotiate a better deal, or be prepared to spend the money to get programs I would like to watch that usually are available on History Television or Space; one of these is a CTV entity. In a nutshell, specialty channels are killing local television, diluting product offerings across many channels means there will be winners and losers. I suspect local television are the losers since their managers and primary networks are either unable, or unwilling, to adjust in the competitive marketplace. That's capitalism, and that is Canada.

[Flag](#)

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 *Me* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

In smaller markets where only one local TV station exist, it is important to keep that station profitable via some means so local newscasts (at the very least) can still exist. If some sort of extra income (say 50cents/cable subscriber in the area served by the transmitter) helps with that, then that is reasonable. Larger markets where multiple stations exist, that is probably not needed to such a large degree, so maybe it is 5cents per subscriber per station. So the \$5-10 that the cable companies are promoting because 50cents/month total.

But...:

That being said, the long term model of Canadian TV needs to be rethought out. Digital transmission of signals (to ultimately allow the gov't to sell freed up bandwidth for other causes) will be a great expense to stations who are currently running a 30-50 year old VHF or UHF TV Transmitter and will have to replace it because no upgrade path exists. And as hydro rates increase, it makes the current transmitter very expensive to run anyhow. If 80% of your customer base are picking up a signal via cable/satellite, then why have the transmitter at all.. but without the local transmitter, your local cable company is not required to carry TV station any more. So TV stations are in a catch 22 situation.

And with the influx of HDTV, these stations will essentially have to start from scratch and rebuild

their studios, control rooms, etc. to support it just to remain competitive as more people expect HD feeds, even for the local news.

They need to think further down the road.

[Flag](#)

Like



Empty Wallet ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

No thanks, don't need another tax with the HST coming into effect soon. This cost will be passed on to consumers and will drive a different behavior to obtain programming of an unsavory nature i.e. HD Antenna = free access to programming :)

signed - empty wallet

[Flag](#)

Like



Raja Ghadban ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Like



I Burden ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not wish to pay to support local Television. I do not find their programming valuable and it is in any case marred by too much advertising.

[Flag](#)

Like



Yvon La Croix ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I categorically and vehemently OPPOSE the Big Networks' proposal to impose a TV Tax of up to \$10 per month on our cable or satellite bill. If the "Big Networks" need the extra funds, they should raise their advertising rates. Why hit the population all the time, we are already over taxed. The big industries, the ones that use television to convey their messages to the consumers, should be the ones to pay. They have the big budgets, we don't.

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Like



bgf ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am getting very tired of this issue. If Local TV can not sell enough advertising to make their station profitable then they go under... this is no different than any business and it not up the Canadian public who are taxed to the max to pay for unprofitable local TV... It is up to Tv to come up with revenue generation that doesn't impact Canadians in a tax...

[Flag](#)

Like



toryryan ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The importance of local TV is negligible. In my area, CBC, ATV, and Global comprise the local

stations. Based on their left wing slant on generally all news stories, I no longer rely on their point of view, as I see them as biased. The other shows these networks carry (worth watching) are typically not unique, and can be found on other cable channels, typically US networks. I use the environment Canada website for my up to date (and accurate) weather information. Local tv is of no use to me. I would not be willing to pay another 10 cents to keep them alive. If somehow this rate is elected, I will be switching every TV in my home to receive a satellite dish signal, and cancelling Cable TV altogether. In my opinion NO measures should be taken to support local television. Its completely worthless.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [annbissett](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If they want to charge their customers extra for local stations that they are already receiving in hidden charges, then we the consumer should be able to choose the stations and packages we want to watch, not the ready made packages.

The cost is too much for what we have now. NO choice in our viewing.

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Like

 [Laurie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

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And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Like

 [Rev. Richard Middleton, Deacon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I strongly feel that we the public have had enough of taxes on TV Programming by the CRTC. It's about time that you listen to the tax payers for a change. This is all a bunch of bull, so let's get on with things as they are now!

December 4 2009

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Like

 [robertdigneault](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe that the cable / satellite industries are already overcharging. At the same time, I believe that any TV stations and that includes the ones from the states, if they get revenue from advertisements or commercials, they should not charge a fee to carry their signals and cable / satellite should not charge consumers with a fee to see these channels. The only channels that should be associated with fees are those channels that have no commercials. The cable / satellite and local TV stations have both made enough profits on our backs and should be ashamed for asking more. We are coming out of the worst recession since the great depression and when will enough be enough. If those 2 entities were in the red, I could understand up to a limit but they are both making huge profits and deserve no more money from the average taxpayer. Enough is enough. With the service we receive right now from both entities, we should get a rebate on our bills. That's my Rick Mercer rant.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Overtaxed_LJM* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

From the public hearing... local stations are owned by TV Networks who made roughly \$400M operating profit last year and are funded by the government with more than a billion of our tax dollars.

Why do profitable companies want more from the public?

Greed.

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[Like](#)

 *Jon Z* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

The TV networks make their money from commercial, the cable companies get paid by us, what's the problem here?? Neither should get any extra money. I very rarely watch local tv because the news is a waste of time, I get my news online or the newspaper. One last thing, if the TV networks do get this extra money to support local tv, when the economy recovers and ad dollars come back are they going to give this money back??

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Allan and Mae Craig* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

We live about one hour north west of Ottawa.

We need local A Channel and CTV news from Ottawa. We do not have any other local news. It would not be acceptable to get news only from Toronto which is 450km from here. Toronto news has nothing at all to do with Renfrew which is a small town of less than 10 000 residents. We used to have a TV station in Pembroke which is 45 minutes from here but that was swiped from us many years ago. We were assured that there would be news from the Ottawa Valley on A and CTV but that has declined to O.

I need confirmation that our Ottawa News will continue. Anything less is unacceptable.

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 *Pat* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

If I had to pay extra for local TV , I would have to cancel my basic cable as I am paying too much for basic cable now and am not able to afford extra fees on my fixed income.

I feel that cable companies should be paying local stations for carrying their programs -- most of the cable programs are the same on all channels and often are offered at the same time on more than one channel.

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 *brian f* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

TV services are already very expensive. I would not be willing to increase my monthly payments for local TV service. I don't believe that simply giving more money to the broadcast networks will translate into increased local TV service. Local service needs to stand on its own.

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[Like](#)

 *Bill C* ★ 1 month ago in reply to brian f 1 person liked this.

Brian, did you know that you are already paying for local TV in your cable bill. Your cable company charges you for local channels under the "basic" package.

As I understand it, local TV stations are not asking consumers to pay more because you already pay.

Right now, it is the cable and satellite industry that is not standing on its own. They enjoy

regulatory privileges that allow them to take signals and programming for free from local TV stations. They charge you, the customer, for these programs and signals and pocket the money.

It does not seem fair to me, that is all. As a consumer, I don't want to pay anymore for TV services, either. But that does not mean I support cable getting a free ride by government protection.

The best thing to protect consumers is for the CRTC to re-regulate the cost of basic TV services, that way if cable companies want to increase the rate, they will have to apply to the CRTC. That should stop fee hikes.

For example, I am a Rogers customer, and since the CRTC deregulated cable bills, my service cost has gone up by 70%. This is not right and unfair.

Consumers have to be protected and we should have a choice in local channels. We all can't get our news from Detroit.

Flag

Like

 *donaldjohnson* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't feel it it right to pay for something that we've had since way before cable television. I think cable, satellite companies should promote and include local television as part of their packaging. Local news and information is vital to it's residents.

Flag

Like

 *R. Scott* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable and Satellite Companies should first provide financial statements as to what they are charging Canadians for, i.e.: a breakdown--complete:
All profitability margins for Basic cable/satellite, Digital cable/satellite Specialty channels, USA Channels and Movie Channels.

CRTC should reverse it's nondisclosure favorable ruling(s) for Cable and Satellite Companies.

Let's have a look at where they are making their profits first. Then make a decision on what charges should be applied which fairly represents that of the local channels.

Where would Canadians be w/out local news, weather and Canadian culture content?

Flag

Like

 *Emily form Montreal* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think local tv is very important and should be supported by all. If we are forced to pay for basic cable but yet we complain that we don't want to pay for local tv. Cable companies have been gouging us to pay for cable for long enough and giving us local tv free. Ya right, we absorb the cost of local tv in our cable bill but they don't pass this money along to the local tv. Local tv deserves to be paid for it's use or we will lose it all together. Please hear our plea, and make the (rich and getting richer) cable companies pay something to local tv. But it shouldn't come from my pocket but from theirs. Enough is enough, they charge us way too much for cable already!! ty

Flag

Like

 *Scott* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Why should people have to pay for local TV when Cable and Satellite have been charging for it for years? They just haven't been paying anything back to the conventional TV networks. No wonder the Cable & Satellite companies are making billions in a recession while everyone else is struggling. I hate to say it, but it's time Canada looked south and adopted the American model

that works. Cable, Satellite and the local TV stations/networks can co-exist without anyone getting their shorts in a knot!

[Flag](#)

Like



Richard M ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have always mistrusted the cable companies. They charge for services, post huge profits but have very little overhead. They do not produce a product but simply relay programming. They offer "packages" a great deal of which is uninteresting baggage, but you must pay for to get the little you want. In my opinion there should be some sort of revenue meter so a consumer can pay for what they use, just like any other utility. In saying that the "carrier" should pay the producer for what is consumed.

[Flag](#)

Like



Murray ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If it would save our local TV yes within reason, but since I have paid cable and now satellite services for years for local TV and they have not passed it on to my local TV. They should pay my local TV for all those years they took my money for what in my eyes was piracy of the airwaves. The cable and Satellite services seem to think that they are above the need to provide payments for services rendered, which when they demand payment, they expect it immediately or they withdraw services. What makes them above this!!

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Like



glen ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

cable tv is already toooo expensive the cable companies are making for too many profits on the backs of local television this should never happen as a senior on fixed income this action will force me to cancel servicesw

[Flag](#)

Like



Wm. Grenier ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Since we pay for our TV reception by whatever means (ie satellite, cable) to a private company. It is ridiculous that they want an extra tax placed on our bill as this is a part of the fee we pay. We already pay taxes on our bill.

As a former business owner I know only too well that all expenses to run a business including taxes would be included in the cost we ask of our clients to pay for the service we supply.

Therefore this would be double taxation for the same service.

This makes no sense at all and unless they can say they do not include any taxes they must pay to run their business which is highly unlikely.

I don't buy into this argument.

Local TV should be charging the cable and satellite providers a fee for provision of their service.

[Flag](#)

Like



morgeo ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I feel that there should be no charge for local tv at all. The cable and satellite companies should air these programs as part of their charitable giving to the community that provide their income. If they can support and sponsor sport and the like then they can do the same for TV.

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Like



bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to morgeo](#)

right on morgeo, in fact, that's what they're doing now, the crtc forces the cable company to carry the local channel, the cable company doesn't pay for it, and it's passed on with the

channels the subscriber pays for.that way the local channel can reach even more advertisers.not only that,the cable company provides a nice clear signal,much better than airwave reception

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We just can not take another tax or increase to our current cable/satellite monthly bills. We can't take another tax increase in general. Too many fees, extra costs already out there. It's getting hard to eat!

The CRTC is a government agency and either through the CRTC or another Government branch, the government should pony up and pay what these companies want to produce local programming. It can be supported in the guise of promoting Canadian Content. This should however be done, with no further tax to anyone. The funding is already there, allocate what you have to accordingly support Canadian Content if you wish to. That is your mandate.

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Like



Randy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Dave](#)

Hey Dave, hopefully the CRTC will re-regulate the cost of a basic TV service for consumers, that way our cable bills could actually drop. I heard that over the last 5 years, cable bills have skyrocketed 4 times the rate of inflation. My wages did not go up 4 times the rate of inflation, but my cable bill did. It is not right. Enough already.

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Like



Denise Douglas ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV stations should be paid for their signals...all the other specialty channels are being compensated. The cable and Sat companies have billions in profits every year and should be made to pay the local stations without any increase to the consumer. This is not fair to Local TV and the consumers...we pay alot of money every month for our "TV Privledges" and some of that money must be paid to our local stations. Local TV is vital to our communities!!

[Flag](#)

Like



bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Denise Douglas](#)

we are paying the cable co. for specialty channels,we noy paying them to provide local tv,we can get that with an antana.the cable co. has to pay for the specialty channel then they charge us for it.the crtc forces the cable co. to carry local tv,the cable co. doesn't pay for it and they don't charge us for it.but if you change the rules and make the cable co. pay for local tv,thats a cost that will ofcourse be passed on like any business.lets let the cbc worrie about providing canadians with local news ect,isn't that why we spend millions evry year to keep the cbc going?

[Flag](#)

Like



Lyn ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Cancel my service as it is just out of hand, I know quite a few people who have already canceled their services...
2. why not create a packages for local tv and packages for non local channel. Allow local programmers to charge whatever they believe they are worth. This would allow consumers to make the choice of whether they want to purchase the programming or not. The scenario that is created is supply and demand - the content is available to anyone who would like to purchase but if there are no takers than the answer is by the numbers.

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Like



bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Lyn](#)

thats what the local channels are worried about Lyn,if that ever happend their done. the cable co. are forced to carry them now by the crtc,now the local channels want the crtc to force them to pay as well,talk about a free ride

[Flag](#)

Like



gusrobin ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to bas](#)

Next will CRTC ask the TV Cos to produce the content too!!!!???? And pay the 'Local TV' a 3rd fee.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tim Warner ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't want to pay any more than I currently do for my cable TV service, and I don't think the Broadcasters really need the money or will be held accountable to deliver the social benefits that are intended.

The emergence of the internet as a medium needs to be factored in - the barrier to the little guy having his voice heard has been almost eliminated with Social Networking, youtube, etc.

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Like



Libby ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My husband and I watch the local channels more than others. We enjoy the news reports and Canadian content. We would feel it was an unfair cost to people like ourselves (boomers) who appreciate the importance of keeping up with local issues. We already pay high rates and really use very few other channels. We would rather give up many other channels that give up our local channels.

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Like



Bill ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I dont understand why my cable company pays for US channels, but they won't pay for my local Canadian channels.

It just doesn't seem right. That is all.

[Flag](#)

Like



bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Bill](#)

Bill, your cable company is forced by the crtc to carry your local channels.when cable was first introduced the local channels pleaded to have their station carried by cable so they could be veiwed by the growing cable subcribers thus be attractive to advertisers that being comercials bought and paid for.The cable companys were offering us something above and beyond regular tv,the local channels wanted to ride for free on the shirtails of the cable companys.the cable companys paid a lot of money on infrastucture, licences,ect.

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Like



Connie ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We already pay cable/ satellite companies enough. It took them long enough to even carry our local channels. I want the news in my area. It is very important to me. I don't need to know

what is happening in Toronto. I want to know what's happening here. I believe that the CRTC should insist that the cable/ satellite companies to pay for this local programming. Why should they get it for free? Heaven knows they don't give us anything for free.

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Like



[ArdenB](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Connie](#)

Connie, your right. I live in Regina and I don't find what's happening in Toronto relevant. Most of the events in my city are broadcast-ed on my local station, and *gasp* Toronto doesn't care about what happens here much.

What do they give us for free? Well, we have to pay for basic to even see "free previews" on my cable, and even then I don't get the channel unless I have a special box for \$10 a month plus a remote (\$5 a month).

Pocketing 2 billion profits for a year? Well, wouldn't we all like to see that profit go down, even a little, to get local tv where we can see our weather and community events?

[Flag](#)

Like



[GDO.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

we are paying to much for tv. now with comes from the us. if we had more canadian tv. I would complain as much some of the crap that come from the us. is't not worth watching & they are the ones getting rich along with cable & sat. compane's

[Flag](#)

Like



[dolphin62](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am sure Shaw and other stations are bunch of money grubbers,I agree with other customers what they are against their prices and bills are too high there's no way we can't pay too much for it!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



[sylviawambolt](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We appreciate local TV programs but unfortunately don't know enough about the financing to make a definitive suggestion. However, I would think with all their experience, the CRTC could make a decision to benefit Canadians. Not big companies but the everyday person trying to keep their head above water paying all the bills. How about a dollar a station? A low, common sense basic fee then \$1 for each station we want. Not bundles, individual stations that would then stand on their own. If they are not good enough they won't last.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to sylviawambolt](#)

The question not a tax but consumers paying for the TV station that they are watching as the ad supported model isn't going to work with 100 channels and none of them need local content or canadian content rules AND with PVR, advertisers are paying for advertising that veiwers are skipping. Advertisers know this and have been paying for the FREE TV. CBC can't even pay it's bills even though it's subsidize and have advertising on CBC. Advertisers can't support channels when everybody is skipping their commercials with PVR

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Like



[Simmone Joyette](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i am valued customer of local television since i was a child and i would like to see the satellite

companies pay for the services. please change the situation as is.

simmone joyette

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Paul Kelly](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would be very frustrated and possibly unable to absorb any more cable increases. I want my local TV stations to be accessible but don't understand why I pay for them thru cable but these stations receive no remuneration from the cable/satellite companies. I feel I am paying too much now, for cable, with the pathetic U.S. programming pervasive. Whatever happened to Canadian content??

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Paul Kelly](#)

TV stations can't afford to make canadian content and continue to lose money on making those programs nobody wants to watch. period.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Jonny Morigan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

From what I've read so far, and it's only one page's worth of comments, there seems to be a tendency to attack each other and/or their comments. Many of these attacks are formed around faulty logic and/or a lack of information. This will not help us, as a people, provide the CRTC with useful information so that an informed decision can be made on our behalf.

I think it would be important, if information is being presented as fact, a credible source for that information is provided. In this way, a reader can go and pursue the information so an informed comment can be made.

Now for my opinion regarding the topic at hand. Television isn't essential to our lives as it is an item of luxury/convenience. If this premise can be accepted then we can move on to determining what we as consumers are able and willing to pay for the service and or alternative goods.

In answer to point 1. Given the current model which "Local TV" operates (I am defining local as "anything I can get with TV or house antenna"), setting aside current service and billing packages, I would be offended if in a cable/satellite service I had to pay more for something I can get for free. This is because if I can get it for free through one means, I believe I should not pay a company for the exact same service/good content.

2. If I can be allowed to define Local TV as "all domestically funded/produced - including co-ventures TV" I would not be opposed to paying *marginally* more if a service provider, who should already have said infrastructure in place, provided me with all "local" channels or allowed me to select which ones from other locations I wanted. This package would appeal to me and would be fair as then I believe the extra service providers could then legitimately collect money from me, the consumer, for things I would want and not have easy access to (thus providing me with a service) with a portion - a significant percentage - of those funds being directed to those stations as the primary providers of said service and the Canadian cable/satellite companies acting as an agent on their behalf (thus being allowed to claim a commission for work done). If American channels wanted to compete with that, at a higher rate (because we are a tenth of their nation's population) then allow them to do so, again with the option to provide the "Local TV" channels. This, I believe would allow for municipal, provincial, and foreign competition to occur which would force improvements of quality of content and service while helping to control rates.

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[billythekid](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jonny Morigan](#)

That is right, with internet, Canadians don't need Television or Radio 'regulations' the cable companies and tv stations and radio stations can do whatever they want. no regulations on

advertising, ownership or canadian content rules. the licenses for the TV and radio stations are worthless anyways. nobody wants the licenses and lose money. who cares what non-subscribers or views or non-paying customers want.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [wayne62](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

How would I react to paying for local TV on top of what I already pay? Do you need to ask?

The system, as it currently exists, serves three groups, the broadcasters, the providers and to some extent the Canadian acting community. When this is all said and done, the exorbitant fees we pay for our television channels, most of which we don't want, will continue to enrich the favoured and protected few.

I don't want any measures to be taken to support local television. Let them survive because they provide programming the consumer wants - and I expect "measures taken to support" really just means more money taken from the consumer.

And to the good folks at the CRTC - get out of the way and let the Canadian television consumer have what we want for a change.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Nancy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Canadians shouldn't have to pay for/bail out poorly ran businesses that is local station. With that said, throughout this whole debate, I've yet to hear/read that networks are committing this extra tax to support local stations anyway. Personally, I don't watch local stations, I am sure I'm not the only one. Why should Canadians who don't receive a benefit from "saving" local stations be forced to pay for it??

What gets me the most is how this entire issue has been played out by the media, I think many are neglecting the fact that the media is biased. The very people who are pushing for/going to benefit from this proposed tax are the ones who own all our media outlets!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [mik1123](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1./ I already have cut back on my cable bill by cancelling parts of my cable package due to the LPIF fee/tax, and would certainly cancel my cable subscription altogether if I had to pay for local TV. I would like to see how much money they would get if I used an aerial to view local programming??

2./ local advertising revenue has dropped enormously due to the recession, give higher but temporary tax breaks for local cdn shows til the economy improves and see what happens, because a shut down local broadcaster gathers zero tax revenue for the gov't.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Boddington](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

What I find interesting in this whole discourse between the cable companies and the networks, is that no one talks about what is best for the consumer. The Cable company veiled argument that the consumer will be worse off as a result of fee for carriage, is disingenuous at best. Since when have the cable companies ever put the consumer first? Look at the way packages are assembled. Can anyone say these are in anyone's interests other than than the cable companies? Does anyone understand their cable bill once the internet bundles are added in?

I pay a considerable amount for my cable and internet and I am sick of it. The fees go up on a regular basis without any justification. I want to pay for what I watch, not what I don't. Let's try and find a system that works in the consumers' interests. What a concept.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Freeman ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There is no reason why one company (the cable company) should be allowed to pirate another company's (the tv station) product. With that comment, you can see that I do support the TV stations getting paid for their services, as any other company providing its service to the cable company would.

To avoid the consumer getting hit with "additional charges", let us make ALL private, local canadian channels and the CTV/Global networks available as one "package". Because we already pay for the CBC, it should continue to be a mandatory "free" service to be carried by all cable companies.

Everything else (US networks, all specialty cable services, etc) would be available on a subscription basis - if I want a particular service, I will pay for it; if I don't want it, I have the option of dropping it and therefore not paying for it!

This would effectively eliminate the "packaging" that the cable companies now use to get me to pay for services I do not want. It may actually result in a number of services disappearing, but so be it!

I know that, in my case, reducing the number of "unwanted" channels that I must now pay for as part of a package, would probably free-up enough cash to make a payment to the local stations, and still see no increase, and maybe even a reduction, in my monthly bill for these services!

Just a suggestion!

[Flag](#)

 Like

Peter Tattersall ★ [1 month ago in reply to Freeman](#)

Your accusation of piracy is nonsense. Under the present model, Local TV stations broadcast their content without charge to the receiver. They supposedly make money by charging a fee to advertisers included in the broadcast, and the fee is dependent upon the number of viewers, as measured by monitoring organizations such as BBM. Cable companies receive the content, including advertising) and deliver it to a larger viewership than would otherwise be the case. Arguably they should charge the TV stations for this service rather than the other way around.

There is some piracy going on, though. American broadcasts are hijacked, and the Canadian stations' content, including advertising, is substituted that of the original station. Oh, wait, that's already sanctioned by the CRTC....

[Flag](#)

 Like

Jack ★ [1 month ago in reply to Peter Tattersall](#)

Hold on Peter. Just because TV signals are free over the air for consumers does not mean they are free for cable and satellite companies to retransmit. Canadian consumers can hear music on the radio free over the air, that does not mean the cable company can start sending free CDs to its customers.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Ron B ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Satellite and cable companies should be forced to negotiate a fair price for the local signals that they have been getting for free OR the networks should have the right to pull the signal from their distribution. BUT this cost should not be passed along to the consumer. If my satellite bill gets any higher I will pull the plug and just go with the internet.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Murph ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I want to pay for what I watch, I don't want to be forced into paying for stations I have no interest or need for. I don't need channels in multiple languages I don't speak, I don't want shopping channels I don't buy from, I don't want Canadian networks trying to get me to pay for their bad business models. If Canadian networks can't make money then let them die. I have no interest in giving them money to show American reality shows and sitcoms - that is not local T.V.. If the CTRC allows more charges on my bill for cable and networks that will be it for me and cable T.V.. This whole issue is nothing but a money grab by cable companies and networks. CRTC tell these thieves no more fee increases for consumers and work it out themselves, if they can't work it out revoke licences and licence new cable companies and independent broadcasters interested in real local T.V.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Murph](#)

if you don't want to pay don't subscribe, simple as that and go read a book instead.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Samantha Burns ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I haven't had television in years, mostly because it's too expensive. I get my local news on the internet and in newspapers and my television primarily from the internet.

If I was paying for cable (and I do enjoy channels such as the Food Network, so I can see how in the future I might consider ordering cable), I'd be pretty upset if I was asked to pay for local channels as well. While I appreciate local tv, it's mostly a repetition of the shows I can get on American channels. Why pay twice? If local channels can give me something more for my money, such as increased Canadian content, concerts, movies, etc, then it would make sense to pay for it.

Besides, paying for cable "packages" in general is strange. I only want the channels I want. Why should I pay for a channel I'll never watch? I suppose the answer is that I don't. I don't pay for TV, and don't see myself doing so in the future, unless the options change.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Kevin Gooden ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Despite my belief in the importance of local television programming, especially local news in smaller markets, I do not support higher cable/satellite fees, which have reached a maximum level of affordability for most consumers (perhaps unaffordability is a better word!). If the CRTC is going to support any changes at all, they need to be very careful. This could easily become a big political issue, if not handled correctly.

2. Local television needs support, but consumers cannot afford to pay any more money for TV. This seems unsolvable, and actually will be without a cooperative effort from all involved. Here's some of the main issues I see (please bear with me...I have some proposals at the end of this):

- It's clear from the myriad of comments on this website that consumers want more choice in channel offerings. This is understandable, given the technological advances that have made entertainment more accessible than ever. Still, having a look at numerous satellite TV providers in other countries, it's clear that selling channels via bundling is a common practice. This is likely due to the fact it makes extra money for the satellite/cable companies, but there may be some underlying technical issues as well.

- Specialized channels/shows appeal to fewer people, but their production costs are the same as any other. The people who watch those channels and shows enjoy them greatly, but without the

revenue created through bundled sales, some of those channels and shows couldn't exist. Some people will say that is good, but when those speciality channels/shows are actually offering high quality programming, I don't agree that we're better off without them.

In order to address the points above, including supporting local television, I propose the following:

- Require cable/television providers to pay for local television
- Require local television to produce more locally-developed content, or to purchase a certain amount of locally-developed content
- Allow cable/television providers to charge additional money for their Basic package, so they can pay the local television providers
- Require cable/television providers to include, as part of their Basic package, a new group of channels, perhaps five, where the consumer can choose each individual channel in that group. And those channels could be ANY channels the provider offers, except for movies and adult channels. This would allow many consumers to tailor their channel offerings to their own particular interests, and while it would result in higher Basic service subscription fees, for many consumers it could actually result in a lower overall bill.
- Ensure that local television continues to be part of the Basic program package, and is not included in five user-choice channels in the Basic package

Thanks for the opportunity to have some input.

[Flag](#)

Like



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Kevin Gooden](#)

if you can't afford \$10/month or \$30/month on cable, don't subscribe or watch it. even a guy on welfare can afford \$30/month,,,than again a guy on welfare isn't worth much to advertisers who pay for the programming right now

[Flag](#)

Like



[Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

TV was free from the 50's because it was 'supported' by advertising, TV was never free. Allow the TV and radio broadcastes unrestricted content and advertising if you want free. No Canadian content rules and no restrictions on advertising.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Deanna Howatt Parker Price](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Enormous profits come from all of us having to sit through endless commercials. Force the networks to share some of their loot with local stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



[mhumber](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not think there should be an extra charge for local TV. It is up to the broadcaster to make local programmes interesting enough to increase the audience and therefore obtain more advertising revenue.

[Flag](#)

Like



[brett99](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Allow us (the people) to choose what we watch and what we CHOOSE to pay for, allow the dinos to change with the times or simply fade away. Local people who want local programming WILL pay for it when its offered in affordable quality. The current system only encourages mediocre programming, as those who make it are under no pressure of competition what so ever. The

result will be an increase in unique, quality programming that all english speaking peoples will want to watch and be willing to pay for. Give the people what they want for a reasonable price is the model that works...;see itunes, the only music seller making a decent profit.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ron R* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I feel to a certain point that local TV is important to me, however the only thing "local" about it seems to be the newscast and the commercials, otherwise it's hard to tell the difference between local TV and the US TV channels.

As for paying more I don't understand why I should have to pay for something that I can receive (and do) for FREE from an antenna on my house. Cable and satellite providers are doing local TV a major service by providing their signals into homes of people who don't, can't or choose not to receive their local TV from over the air signals. If anything local TV should be the ones paying the cable and satellite services to get their signals to the masses.

As for paying extra for something that I already receive for free, I'd drop my service altogether. After all it's not like you can't access programs from other sources such as the internet for example.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *dirk* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I understand the locals caused CRTC to "force" sat/cable carriers to carry local signals on non-degraded channels many years ago. CRTC mandated this to be done but payment to locals was not mentioned. I understand one CRTC's goals is to ensure and enhance Canadian content and I support reasonable payment to effect this. I understand locals have received a subsidy to create local content for quite some time now and have on or about January 2008 received an increase in this amount. My carrier has passed this increase fully and directly on to me although CRTC indicates there is sufficient profitably in the carriers to absorb this increase. I fully believe and expect my carrier will pass any subsequent costs of this nature to me personally. The current economic conditions notwithstanding I cannot support these costs and will cancel my TV service, purchase and install a rooftop antenna and receive my local channels off air(and free). As to the American channels my carrier provides I will ensure my rooftop antenna is sized and configured to receive these American signals. My understanding, especially with the advent of the analog to digital conversion, is my picture quality will be superior to anything the carriers provide today especially with respect to HD signals. The other speciality channels I receive to the extent possible will be viewed through Internet connectivity. The channels I cannot view using these messages will be missed for a short while until I see the significant savings generated by cancelling my carrier and not having to pay the ever increasing monthly costs my carrier and indirectly my local channels charge me. I will also no longer be continually subject to their picture quality degradations.

It would be interesting to know why the locals did not foresee the "current business is broken" and why the consumer now needs to pay for their lack of business sense and acumen.

PS: Sarcastic Remark: Bell TV charges a Digital Access Fee for their service. I asked Bell if I could cancel the digital access and go to the analog service only and save the \$3.00 monthly charge. The CSR laughed and indicated Bell has always been digital. I asked and the CSR was unable to tell me why Bell now charges for what always been a digital service. I suspect revenue may be the motivating factor.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The fact is that the cable companies need the local channels. The reason i don't have satellite from US is because they don't have local channels that i need to watch like local news. One of the reason we have cable is the signal is a lot clearer versus over the air and for pay tv channels. With Canadian content rules and ownership rules, Canada doesn't have the capital to

invest in multi-million dollar movies or tv shows like the US broadcasters so what you have is mediocre programming Canadian shows that nobody wants to watch and instead watch CNN and American shows which are just more entertaining like CSI or other shows which requires huge amounts of capital to produce. The CRTC needs to look at Cancon which requires TV stations to must have 50% content in prime time 6pm - midnight no idea why so specific and restricts advertising for Canadian Broadcasters AND restricts ownership from foreign investors. With internet, the media is scattered so Canadians can access information anywhere. The Cancon and ownership really needs to change to changes in the technological and cultural environment. With PVR, Canadians can record Canadian content anytime of the day. but requiring Canadian content in prime time is too restrictive of the gov't . There are a way too many gov't regulations for a broadcaster to make money nobody wants to invest in a Canadian broadcaster including Canadians with so many gov't restrictions making unprofitable to produce Canadian programming. Fact is Canadian content is unprofitable to Canadian broadcasters.

Flag

Like

 *arejay1* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1 We have no local TV in Scarborough and have had none since Scarborough cable was sold. CTV does not have any Scarborough programming. Therefore I would cancel my cable service if I was asked to pay more. I don't see why we should should pay more to watch Train 48. If these companies want to cancel so called "local TV" give their licences to someone else and give the new owners a break on HDTV.

Flag

Like

 *Znark* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1. CTV, CBC, Global, etc. make money from their advertising
2. Larger audience = greater advertising revenue
3. We know cable can "strip" out shows and ads from their feeds eg American programming and replace them with whatever they want

Question: Do the cable companies insert their own ads into Canadian ("local") programming and make revenue that way? Or do they leave Canadian programming intact?

If cable does not change the Canadian programming (including ads), then Canadian broadcasters should benefit from wider exposure of their ads. If cable does benefit from ads they insert into Canadian programming, then they should share the revenue with the broadcasters.

Flag

Like

 *bill* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

It is essential that local tv survives especially in small markets where alternative sources of local news are very limited. I am in favour of fee for carriage of the local stations and am quite willing to pay for the service provided I get to choose what cable stations I receive and pay for. Currently cable and satellite services bundle a number of services and force you to pay for stations you will never watch. My bill would be lower if I had freedom of choice. Cable and satellite operators enjoy a monopoly that allows them to abuse their consumers.

Flag

Like

 *Paul Augustine* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Keep Local TV. We don't want to get our news and information from the US, we want local TV.

Flag

Like

 *byakura* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1. I would pay a reasonable amount (1\$/channel) if a few things would change, if I am paying for a local channel, I should not need to pay per screen, but per household (ie descramble signal coming in), so that you could hook up multiple HDTVs to one signal without cablebox (I believe presently all digital cable is scrambled and you are forced to buy a cable box), also there would be an opt out, ie you do not need to buy these channels (forced upon you as basic cable, if I am to pay for it, I should be able to opt out of it if I don't want those specific channels). I hope everyone remembers that when we switch to all HD digital signals, what really we should be paying for is a clear digital signal, and the maintenance for it, nothing more. If the local TV wants a part of the money towards this, then they should also share in the profit from the ads that the local TV company gets from all of the additional eyeballs the cable company brings the local company.

2. Tax exemptions for local programming for the local station, another words the more local programming, first for local programming, then for made for Canada programs, and for filmed/produced in Canada series or programs. Which should help develop production being produced here.

I hate when people say the best TV is from the US, that is not necessary true, we are just flooded with it, I would love to see more British and other Foreign TV programming, but for some reason, these have a premium price. Some if the best TV was made elsewhere and americanize (such as The Office) some if the funniest TV gameshows I have seen are Japanese (such as the Human Tetris show) why can't we see more of that then, another CSI or Law and Order, or NSIS clone. They can be done reasonably well, and at reasonable price, and IMO be a change from the american TV we get, only channel that seems to try this is of course CBC, if Global and CTV want more money from me SHOW ME SOMETHING NEW DIFFERENT and/or CANADIAN.

Cheers,
Brian
Flag

Like



[patrickhunt](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If i go out to a library and take a book, movie, it's free. make copy's and sell them for prophet what would be wrong with that? Or how about i download movies,songs,books,painting,blueprints, and sell it all for prophet? just because the companies (cable and satellite) are taking signals and selling them for profit dose not mean it is right as well. No one watches the news from somewhere else in the world, we all watch local so we know what is going on, yes granted we also watch the national new as well. And yes i know the Cable and satellite companies has to show local channels, but they don't have to take that same signal and send it out to all there other areas, so that i pay to have 5 different global and ctvs. If you want to be like that then i could go around to different places the USA and Canada and place antennas that will put the signal to one location and then that way i could sell off all the channels for \$10.00. I bet all the stations would get there lawmen on the phone. But why? it's free in that part of the world so why could i not just sell it somewhere else?

Just because some people watch only a few channels dose not mean we all watch them. And the Cable and satellite companies know this, that's why they have groupings like that. (I did work for a Cable company for 4 years) The 'free air' channels should stay free, for the people that can't afford the big \$\$ to the cable/satellite companies. We all know that no one like to do Hard work for nothing and no one like to pay for something others can get for free, but the Satellite and cable companies do pay each other to use what the other has already, why not find out the average cost for the channels in the industry (not the residential) that they pay for all channels and apply that to what they have to pay, NO back pay! And yes of-course some channels coast more but others cost a lot less. compare profit rates to other stations, BBC,ABC,to CBC.

If i set up a receiver in my yard to decode the satellite signal, and I'm getting cable to my house for free, i would be mad to if i got caught and had to pay, but i would know i should have been in the first place, how about i give what i got to my Town now. who's going to complain here? Just look at both sides as a little kid, what would the adult say to them?

I worked for Access Communication in Regina Sask. They say they are a non-profit community cable provider, then why did the people that are higher up get bonuses every year?

While there work force (called contractors) were treated like crappy employees? And if someone said union they were fired for some other reason. I quit them as i was a trainer to new contractors.

If the companies have to have local channels why not have them have a set of channels they are already getting for free or near free and give it to all who ask for it? this includes satellite as well as cable. This would mean a better chance of that person getting 'cable' from them because they are already getting something from them already. It would be a advertising wright off for them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Doug Derouin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I certainly do not agree with paying more for local TV. I posted that earlier. Here is a thought. We in Brandon just lost the Brandon station as I said. So if forced By the CRTC - I may have to start paying for it. FINE. Then again now that I no longer have a local station-- I should never ever see a charged added to MY bill because of any charge for local coverage. Unless they want to help pay for Winnipeg coverage from my pocket 200 miles away. I really do not call that local. Local is when they talk about Westman issues at least or The Brandon Wheatkings etc.

Nope -- because of our unique sinle market station we have --if Brandon customers are dinged extra because of any new local coverage "fee" unless a new staion is set up-- lets Sue CRTC for unbalanced rulings!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *one-eighty* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think that the satellite and cable companies MUST always make local TV available to subscribers. Many local stations are not on satellite and are not available to subscribers.

The cable and satellite companies are providing the local broadcasters with a good distribution service and I do not think they should pay for distributing signals to a LOCAL audience.

However, I think that they should pay for these signals if they are distributing them to a DISTANT audience. They are violating copywrite when they do so and they should compensate the rights holders.

For example, Global owns the rights to House in Vancouver. If people here time shift and watch the Toronto broadcast, Global Vancouver should be compensated because their ownership rights are being violated. Global Vancouver paid for the right to show House here so they should benefit from people here who want to watch it, no matter where the signal comes from.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Carl Haskins* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

People, people, listen up...

The best thing to do is go with DirecTV. You get all the channels you want including ESPN, the real HBO, TNT, Starz, Showtime, Cinemax, NO SIMSUBS and having to deal with these annoying Canadian stations that are totally worthless, a better picture quality, all for a lower rate!!! Now what could be better than that?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *patrickhunt* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Carl Haskins](#)

Oh ok.....wait I CANT GET IT HERE!!!!!! why cause i don't live in a area of smog. The world outside your city dose exists and you need to think outside YOUR box.

[Flag](#)

 Like [johnbarazzuol](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have no problem with local tv getting a per subscriber fee, after all if TSN, Much Music which gets a per subscriber fee, even though they are part of basic cable now, plus are allowed to charge for advertising why shouldn't local tv be able to have both, or you can just rule that any station that has paid advertising should not be able to get a per subscriber fee, the playing field should be equal

Flag

 Like [Mitch](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

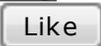
I watch local tv using a cable service, and do have to pay for this basic service. If I have to pay for it, but they get it for free, is that not 100% profit for them? How is it relevant whether they are forced to provide it or not? Shouldn't they have to pay for this? There is no doubt that local tv cannot survive at this rate, and I think the cable companies can afford to divvy up some cash for this. A small percentage of these fees would go a long way to keeping television viable and should not result in higher fees to the consumer. It is easy to say that we should just let local tv go dark, but if that was you losing your job, I think you would be less inclined to take that opinion. How are the americans able to offer the service for less? Good question... it is not only television that is cheaper there, as living expenses are lower across the board than in Canada.

Flag

 Like [nowoolinis](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mitch](#)

Do you think the cable companies magically bring the tv signals into your home and don't incur any expenses in doing so? Do the Telcos also have no additional costs associated with providing their service to you? The reality is that the cable companies are mandated to bring those signals into your home by the CRTC and do incur costs in doing so. The bandwidth dedicated to the so called "local Channels"(filled with multi million dollar corporate advertising) is prime space commandeered by multi million dollar organizations who are not adapting well to the changing dynamic of TV/internet methods of communicating with their audience (you). They are still making huge sums of money in general and see the CRTC as a sugar momma potentially providing more money to line the shareholders pockets. If you support paying them in any way shape or form, then ultimately YOU will pay them, as once a fee is imposed it will not go away. (Tax, Tax, Tax)

Flag

 Like [patrickhunt](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to nowoolinis](#)

Oh yes all that band with for the few channels is so much... BULL! you are not the only one who works for a company. And i quote ' we have so much room in the RG 11 that we are waiting to increase the speed. once they go up in internet speed so can we with no problems" The Head ends are a joke!!! Lets not update the giant antenna we have for the free air channels cause why should we? It works good enough. And of course there is advertising how else would they make any \$\$? you don't give them anything. It's not a tax, it's you say hey, why should we pay, we made all the money off this for years, the people that have paid for this can pay more. you just don't want it cause some people are going to complain to you, and you get that enough when you up you prices. So did your Superior come in and tell you what to think as well? mine did.

Flag

 Like [carsojo](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV can be watched for free by picking up over the air transmissions. Why should the public have to pay to see it on cable/satellite, which is sure to happen if the local TV companies get their way.

If the cable/satellite companies pass on the charge to consumers, then we should be given the choice of not subscribing to it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave T ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There seems to be a serious blurring of two different issues: Local programming vs. local TV signals. Local TV programming is important to me. I like to see local news, events and general goings-on. I do not think the networks should be providing over-the-air transmissions anymore; analog or digital. Your own website confirms the vast majority of Canadians have access to cable or satellite signals which are usually better quality anyway. I think the networks could save millions of dollars each year by not paying for towers, maintenance, leases, tools, and all the other related expenses. We really don't need over-the-air transmitters any more.

I also believe the distributors should pay for Canadian signals much like they pay for American programming. These providers are making huge profits from us viewers and not producing any of this local content. I also think the CRTC should limit these fees more strictly because we don't have a choice for services. There isn't any true competition out there so it needs regulating.

Thank you.

[Flag](#)

Like



Boumbalatti ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I can hardly believe that I live in a country where we can even talk about taxing viewers for a subsidy to bad and fully controlled television. It is crazy that we have arrived at this point. First how did we give up our right to watch whatever we want to some strange bureaucratic office that has the authority to decide what I need to see on television and what I need to listen to on my radio. As a result we have few choices no independents and only mediocrity at every turn. If I were a young person I would certainly be looking to get out of this absurd country. But then I am too old to run. Instead I will just turn to my inadequate slow speed high speed internet and start watching TV without CRTC or government permission. People the world is changing fast and we are talking about businesses which will only have further failures as the communications world changes.

CRTC has made sure I have to buy channels I don't want, they make sure I pay too much for every service and then they make sure that they control what I can watch.

This is sad and old fashioned and very tiring. Give us a break

[Flag](#)

Like



the skeptic ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. You can not legislate against technology, it will bypass you!

2. People will vote with their wallets [or feet], and walk away.

Somebody's revenue streams are dropping, and they want more money.

I am probably part of their problem. I have gone all high speed internet for news movies etc.

Next to go, will be my home phone. Why pay for something I rarely use?

Since I was on satellite, local TV was irrelevant. [there really was no local news]

More people will make the hard decisions and decide not to pay for what they do not want and are not using, regardless of the CRTC, the revenue streams will continue to decline.

[Flag](#)

Like



Doug Smallwood ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local television is very important to a community, however they broadcast over the air free to everyone and sell advertising to cover their expenses. If they were to receive funding from the cable providers the cost of cable would go up. I would not like to pay for a service that I can receive free over the air. It appears to me that it is a saw off for the broadcasters as their signal is distributed free for them giving them more coverage which in turn allows them to increase

advertising rates. I am in favour of the status quo.

[Flag](#)

Like



Andrew ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my service. CTV shut down CJCB Television in 1983 ending all local programming. They continue to sell 10 Million dollars of local advertising annually. The parasites already get enough money from this market without any local programming.

2. If current license holders cannot make money in certain markets; cancel their license and call for expression of interests from other parties for the license.

[Flag](#)

Like



David Musico ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am in an area where I do not get any local tv without cable or satellite services. I have watched MCTV Sudbury which is suppose to be our local station but rarely do i see anything about our area. Do i wish to pay more for local tv. The answer is NO! I have no choice but to have cable or satellite.

[Flag](#)

Like



petergomery ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

TV stations should rely on advertising revenue, NOT fees, for their survival. Cable companies provide the opportunity for enhanced viewership and TV stations should be thankful for their existence. Without viewers TV stations could not sell advertising. The system isn't broken so let's not try to fix it with government intervention.

[Flag](#)

Like



Andre ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am neither for or against local TV. I suppose it has it's place for some people but not me. Our local TV station is quite frankly, terrible. There transmission quality is subpar and the local news looks like a high school production. I don't watch it. Why would I watch a US show on that channel when I can watch it in HD? Not going to happen. I get my local news from the radio and local websites.

To think that the Networks should be paid for their signals. I don't agree with that either.

Especially when the Cable and Satellite companies are legislated to carry them. I never watch these stations because they don't have programming I want to watch. If I want to watch as US show, I will watch it on a US station. Until they can start making shows I want to watch, they don't deserve my time or money. Then when they go out a spend millions of dollars to get the US shows, because theirs are substandard, they want us to pay for that too. The Networks need to have to do what the auto sector has done. Go back to the basics and re-invent themselves. So in the short of things, I will not pay for local television. I will cancel my subscription and go a different avenue if it goes that way.

Local televisions need to be competetive and it is not. Competition works in the US. Why wouldn't it here. Because they don't want it to. They just want their handout. They already get a bunch of of my money through taxes to the CBC and through the TV fund. AS far as I am concerned, If I want it, I will buy it. If I don't, I shouldn't be forced to pay for it. That goes for any other Channel in the TV world. Nobody subsidizes the company I work for. If we're not competetive, then we go out of business.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bryan ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I pay for it all ready, in the basic pakage you pay an amount this includes local channels, granted the BDU's do need to make a profit off the investment, if they do not pay for local TV

signals why do the packages cost that much? The plant (either cable or satellite) are a cost of doing business and should be amortized over the life expectancy of the plant. Cable companies have been making large profits for many years and reinvesting some of the money in new technologies that allow them into internet and the local phone market. the rates have been going up almost yearly since Sept 2002 Rogers has increased rates an average of 71.2% with Shaw not far behind at 67.8% (<http://www.friends.ca/press-release/6955>). Costs do go up, but not by that amount. Canadians pay too much for local signals already. Satellite companies seems to keep up with cable rates. I do agree with competition and the right to make a fair return on investment, however if the BDU's do end up having to pay for local signals- It is a cost of business and should not be passed on to the consumer. BDU's should take a percentage of the profits to support the companies that allowed them to have a business in the first place..

Flag

Like

 *toastiebear* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

Here's my question on the whole issue, what is the definition of local? Beside CBC and the Educational Nets, look at any CTV/Global primetime lineup and you'll quickly notice that, besides the 30 minute local newscast, it's stock full of hit US shows. I think if these networks are going to profit from their existence on my dial, they should have to offer something different than the other 300 specialty and international stations. I can go to any one of 10+ US nets on my dial to watch Gossip Girl and Desp. Housewives.

Local nets should be mandated to produce/acquire/broadcast majority local/national programming (Cancon). That way the Canadian film/TV industry will survive, Canadian arts/culture and way of life will be embraced and the local TV nets can actually call themselves local.

We are capable of producing amazing television in Canada, but cannot compete against the lean & mean American machine when it comes to \$\$\$. Without regulation, the (so called) local networks get cheap and lazy and mass purchase imports that are already widely available.

Local television, my arse! Wake up and smell the PUSHING DAISIES CRTC.. I wanna see 'local TV' SURVIVOR as much as the next FAMILY GUY, but you dont need a GHOST WHISPERER to tell you that 90210 is not a Canadian postal code. Cancon is in JEOPARDY and has been LOST on the FRINGE for too many DAYS OF OUR LIVES. Without any LAW AND ORDER, we're merely DEFYING GRAVITY. FLASH FORWARD ten years and the cast of CSI MIAMI will consider this a COLD CASE.

Flag

Like

 *Prudence* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I am from a developing country and cables do not carry local TV stations there. Read my writing - I say 'a developing country'. As the saying goes, 'the horse has already gone through the gate' here in Canada through extreme protectionism for the major cable providers. Rogers and Bell have gotten away with too much - the audacity of bundling local TV stations in basic packages. What I pay for basic package here in Canada gives me over 98 channels including Cinemax, HBO, Starz, Lifetime, etc in my home country. If you minus the local TV stations out of the basic package from these cable companies, you are left with virtual nondescript cable channels having very little to offer. CRTC you are again trying to deflect taking a decision which is solely your responsibility by asking for public input. It is full time you understand what real competition is all about and what the global telecommunication industry is offering to other countries including least developed and developing. Canada is far behind!!

Flag

Like

 *flarintonking* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I think that Global and CTV are being short sighted and not working with the future of the industry in mind. Their adds are about protecting Local Programming, but when asked for a plan to show that the fee for carriage money would go to that they can't provide one! They've over spent on American programs and should not use Local Programming as their platform. They should

create a plan that includes local programming to be available on the new Rogers on Demand and work out future fees based on 'hits' etc. Until then they are part of the basic cable services. Our cable bills shouldn't go up. With Rogers paving the way for television to move over to the Internet the broadcasters should be jumping on board today! Focus on creating excellent Canadian content and providing local programming so if I live in Lindsay I can watch my news, sports, and community events right on rogers created by a CTV team. The broadcasters have to get with the program. If I was Rogers and it was two years from now, I could easily say "don't need you at all as part of our package" and drop the broadcaster and give money to independent contractors.

Seriously get with the program

[Flag](#)

Like

 *B Cartwright* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local television is a very important consideration in selecting the right service for our family. At our permanent home, our local channel is offered over satellite, so we made this choice. At our previous town the local channels were not offered over satellite so we chose not to purchase satellite, but went with cable where the local channels were available.

I would be willing to pay a nominal charge for local coverage if a) it offered our local channel preferences and b) the fee and the channels were optional. Furthermore, I would only be willing to pay such a fee if it could be shown that the entire amount went directly to support local television and not to increase the profits of the satellite or cable carriers.

The cost of television seems high. However, with nothing to compare to it is difficult to judge if the cost is reasonable or not. In response to jpfiringer, it is much higher than free illegal T.V., but if we all went that route, then the end-cost would be much higher.

Having observed the other comments, I also believe that perhaps we all should do more reading and less watching of television. As a whole, we seem to be challenged with accurate spelling and grammar.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *williamreeve* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable television service is already more expensive than I can afford. As a result I must rely on "rabbit ears" for what limited and rather snowy television I can receive. The CRTC should be focussing its attention on the question of why cable TV is so expensive in Canada, not on proposals to make it more expensive.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *janwbrouwer* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I only watch the news on CBC and TVO i do not have satellite or cable however i am a taxpayer i know CBC and TVO are funded with taxpayer money how am i going to keep my channels most of the time i can not see TVO properly. why is that?

i can not afford cable. So wat you say ! the corporate bombs don't make enough money i say bull !!!!! the corporate bums have taken away the football game from the poor . i always tough this came was for all Canadians

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Simonizer* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Question:

Do CTV and Global have stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Simonizer* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Question:

Do CTV and Global have stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Dave* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

One word to solve all this mess:

DirecTV.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Didely* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't see why it's so hard to understand Local TV broadcasters need to be paid for their content going through Rogers', Bell's pipes. Intense regulation is needed.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*stevethompson* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Didely](#)

Didely, or should local TV broadcasters be paying the cable companies for Rogers and Bell carrying their content through their pipes into our homes? If Rogers/Bell didn't carry them then we wouldn't get to see their ads.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Gary* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I will not pay for local TV. We already pay enough for TV in this country and with things like signal substitution we cannot even view the channel of our choosing, and more importantly, the channel that I am paying for. The signal quality suffers and shows routinely get cut off before they end, especially sporting events. If local TV wants to survive, they should survive on their own merit and not on my hard earned pay cheque.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Bud B* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the networks are to receive money from the cable/satellite providers they should expect that the carrying of these "local channels" will no longer be mandated and the cable/satellite customers should be given the option to subscribe to them or not. As it now stands all customers must take CBC, CTV, Global, etc as part of the basic package. I also believe that an true open air policy should be put in place that would allow Canadians to purchase the equipment and subscriptions that would allow them to view all available media that is currently in our air space. This would allow US, UK, Asian and European providers to enter the Canadian marketplace and truly provide options to the Canadian public. We have seen a protectionist CRTC create the situation where Canadians have the poorest services for the most cost in the world. Open up not only television and the internet, but also cellular services. Let's have the CRTC represent the public rather than the corporations.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Ken* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Fully support the option of selecting which channels to watch along with paying a fee to local broadcasters if it is one of the selected channels.

However, local TV does sell full coverage reach using Cable stats and I trust they will share that revenue with the Cable Companies.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Surfer* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I will not pay for local TV. I had Express Vue it was too expensive the packages were designed to make me take and pay for a bunch of channels i did not want. I switched to cable it was the same thing. Too expensive not enough content to add sufficient value to continue. Got rid of cable too. Have now moved on to the internet If I cannot find what I want there I do without. Cable/Sat and the CRTC are behind the times and out of touch with the consumer.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ken* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I support fees charged for Channels selected by the user.

Much of the basic package offered by the Satelite/Cable carriers includes channels never viewed in our home.

Having to pay over and above for local TV makes no sense.
I do not see the Satelite/Cable operators asking for a piece of their earnings.

Two seperate companies and yet one feels the need to ask for a share of the other's profit?

It's time the CRTC gave consumers a real choice.

That means letting Canadians choose which channels they want without keeping the current system and expecting us to pay more in order to support local Television.

Advertising dollars have shrunk on local Television due in part to audience levels.

How creative has local Television been in generating revenue during this current economic slow-down?

Their recent campaign ads supporting their position on dipping into the carrier's pockets has been quite creative and perhaps if they used this approach with local retailers, greater success in attracting more local dollars would occur.

No, I do not support additional fees to support local TV however, I do feel the Federal Government should restore some funding to Canada's Public Broadcaster.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Glen M* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

-The cost keeps going up and I am over the point of being fedup.

-I want to see the cost of the service to go down.

-I am installing a rotor antenna upstairs at this monent.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Leo VanLeeuwen* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would quit the my satellite service and go over the air watching local TV.

2. A total new direction as far as cable and satellite services are concerned.

[Flag](#)

Like



Carol ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not pay for local TV on top of what I already pay, in fact, I'm ready to give cable up period! It is already more expensive than it should be! If local stations need support they can go about it the same way everyone else does: donations, fundraising and corporate sponsorships!

[Flag](#)

Like



Bob L. ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I see little or no value to local TV. The "local content" is minimal and has devolved into a quick flash of current events and nothing more. Local TV could die and it would not affect my viewing in any form. I would not pay a single penny more for local broadcast/content.

[Flag](#)

Like



Wayne K ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV has no right to charge cable companies to carry their signals. Cable companies already carry local TV signals at some cost to themselves. Local TV is getting additional exposure (audience) with cable companies carrying these signals outside local broadcast range. If anything, local TV should be paying cable companies to carry their signals.

If the CRTC decides cable companies should pay, and cable companies (rightfully) would have the right to pass through the cost to the consumer, then I should have the option to unsubscribe from one or more local stations. If I want to get local TV, I can simply get it over-the-air.

No additional measures should be taken to support local television. If the market cannot support it, the station should fold. That is the way it is done in every other commercial endeavour.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jason Durant ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. The cable companies should pay for local TV. It's that simple. They charge outrageous prices to the customers already. They've been profiting out of the free use for years. it's time they give local tv what it deserves. And their "TV Tax" campaign is totally misleading. I have already switched from cable to satellite because I am fed up with the service and ever-increasing fees Shaw charges. In typical Canadian Monopoly fashion they have taken for granted their situation for way to long. It's time for them to come to terms with reality.

[Flag](#)

Like



RobertStewart ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Like taxes I would have no choice. Run a long wire to Japan where the rates are \$15.00 lower and several hundred times faster.

2. In Ontario: change the A-channel to H-channel or HospitalTV (.eg. fashionTV, etc.) move the head broadcasting office to Ontario Hospital, since we now get 10 minutes of news and 40 minutes of repetitive Hospital stories.

[Flag](#)

Like



FIREFTR134 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I WOULD CANCEL MY CABLE SO FAST .WE HAVE THE CRTC TO THANK FOR SO MANY OF OUR

PROBLEMS FROM PHONE SERVICE INTERNET AND NOW TV. CANADIAN CONTENT STINKS NOW AND HAS IN THE PAST WHEN THE CRTC TRIED TO FORCE IT ON US NOT ALLOWING OTHER STATIONS IN FROM THE USA. I SUPPORT LOCAL STATIONS CHARGING THE CABLE COMPANY BUT THAT SHOULD NOT AFFECT THE CABLE SUBSCRIBER BECAUSE WE ARE PAYING FOR IT ALREADY

[Flag](#)

Like

 *FIREFTR134* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I WOULD CANCEL MY CABLE SO FAST .WE HAVE THE CRTC TO THANK FOR SO MANY OF OUR PROBLEMS FROM PHONE SERVICE INTERNET AND NOW TV. CANADIAN CONTENT STINKS NOW AND HAS IN THE PAST WHEN THE CRTC TRIED TO FORCE IT ON US NOT ALLOWING OTHER STATIONS IN FROM THE USA. I SUPPORT LOCAL STATIONS CHARGING THE CABLE COMPANY BUT THAT SHOULD NOT AFFECT THE CABLE SUBSCRIBER BECAUSE WE ARE PAYING FOR IT ALREADY

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Like

 *Beverly* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The best way to promote affordable tv is to re-regulate the cost of a basic tv service for those consumers that want it. Given us the choice for a small package of basic services at a regulated rate that cannot be increased without notice and public consultations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *gillian* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am tired of getting rip off every month. Enough already. Stop the rip off. It is unfair to Canadians in poverty. Have you ever not paid your bill, see what happens. Rogers will call you day and night. Then there are disconnection, reconnection fees, interests... it is all a real racket. Canadians deserve more and better from cable and satellite companies. We are not ATM machines for them to take from us what ever they want because we have no choice.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Koflach* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have had at least two raises in my fees from Shaw this year and for the life of me, I do not know what else I am getting for the raises in fees. I have no problem paying for a quality product but in comparison to what is being offered just to the south of us we are severely being abused.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *jean* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

cable costs are already exorbitant, nothing should be done to add to these charges for the consumer we are already considering cutting back on Cable services and that is without any

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Reckage* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would cancel my service. we already pay enough.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *junobeach* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would cancel my cable. Do not put any fees, tax dollars, money of any sort to support local TV. As a business they need to support themselves. While you are at it no funding to CBC either.

Thanks, Juno Beach

[Flag](#)

Like



Wayne ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I currently use rabbit ears to receive the few channels I get. I find that the basic packages offered have little substance to offer when it comes to any kind of useful or meaningful programming. I actually watch very little TV due to the garbage that most channels show. I would like to see things like basic packages eliminated so that the stations that can't make it on their own are no longer subsidized by more successful stations that are packaged with them. I believe that all consumers should be free to decide what channels are part of their TV package and at the same time be free to refuse channels they do not want in their package. If the rates charged are fair and reasonable, people will pay if they get the channels they want. The way things are currently, I have no intention of subscribing to any television provider. Should the day come when the few channels I can get are no longer available, that's ok with me as I watch very little TV. Should this happen, my television will be used for viewing movies only. Then I will truly only be watching what I wish to watch...as it should be.

[Flag](#)

Like



J Brown ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

So much of the programming we are forced to subscribe to is garbage. Allow the local broadcasters to charge for their channels and allow the consumer to pick and choose their own programs from the cable/satellite companies. Then if the stations either local or specialty go under so be it. If my rates increase I'm going back to my antenna.

[Flag](#)

Like



robertjpearce ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable and Sat company's are already making HUGE profits and constantly figuring out ways to charge us more. They should be forced to pay for the local networks they carry like any other channel they currently pay for. We should have the option to pay for JUST the network we want and stop this package rip-off they've been doing for years. This way there are some network channels we will want but MOST we won't. This will make a neutral cost no cost added and non taken away. We have the right to local news but I don't give a hoot what's going on locally in lets say down town Vancouver but I MUST carry there network. WHY!?

[Flag](#)

Like



stephenp ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If they think I'm going to pay what they are charging for the measly few channels I receive now they are mistaken. there simply has to be more value in what is provided! This is not about what they plan on charging but what they already are charging! And then they are going to up the bottom line?! I would rather cancel my subscription and connect a UHF antenna to my HDTV and get my locals for free!!

Sorry I forgot to add, WHAT CHOICES ARE WE GIVEN!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Brad Kincaide ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I already pay too much, a new fee on top of the already steep cost would certainly force me to buy an antenna and cancel cable altogether.

Local channels are mostly filled with U.S. programming, I refuse to pay more for that.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *sammillar* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

We already pay enough to watch television. Many years ago television was free after we paid for an antenna and bought a TV. Cable provided free cable to every household for a period of time until people stopped using the antenna and then cable started charging the public for their service. This service charge has increased continuously to the point that the average Canadians can no longer afford to watch TV. I believe the CRTC has played a big part in the profits made by the cable companies. Please lower my bill, I do not want an increase of any sort!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Alireza Rajabian* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1-Local TV is the only thing we watch through air antenna.

2-You would better impose a fee to satellite and cable companies. they are fat enough to absorb such a cost. And for your information we got so much fed up with bell and rogers that abandoned both of them and will never subscribe back to any of them for TV channels. I have a land telephone line with bell only because of necessity. that is all. and I personally think crtc has been very lenient towards the aforementioned companies!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Gary Hoodle* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I feel its all about money not about what is fair or what the consumer wants the bottom line is profits. I feel the programming should include local content as well as other stations they want to broadcast at no extra cost to consumers. There is a consumer reluctance to pay anymore for watching mostly commercial content on any station you might watch. I for one have lost interest in watching tv because of the commercial content and any increase in the cost will be the final straw to turn it off on a permanent basis That is my thoughts on the issue of costs relating to our so called tv entertainment.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *aurora1965* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I certainly do not want to pay more for my television services because they are already expensive enough. However, in what other business scenario does one group of companies (the distributors) get to take the product of another (the broadcasters) and sell it to consumers without paying the owner any compensation? The distributors have been getting a free ride on the backs of the broadcasters, and with the commercials they are airing, the distributors are insulting our intelligence. They are trying to sell this as a TV tax that they will have to pass along to us, rather than what it is, which is paying fair value for a product they have been getting for free and reselling to us.

Local television is very important not just to the viewers but to local business as well. If is hard to know how dire their position is, but if it comes down to close the local station or force the distributors to pay for the signals, the distributors should pay.

If the broadcasters do get compensated for their signals, the distributors will most certainly pass the cost on to us. A bad thing. So if the CRTC gives the broadcasters the right to charge the distributors, they should also give us consumers the right to choose the specific station line up we want buy. Not just packages, but the ability to choose what individual stations we want with the cost on a per station basis. This will probably mean that border line stations go under, but if people don't want the service, why should we have to pay for it. It probably is not a good thing for Canadian content, but I think it should be survival of the fittest. Those stations that consumers want to buy survive, the others don't.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Shawn H* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable companies are paying for American channels so it's only fair to have them pay for Canadian channels. The cable companies are not hurting for money whatsoever. The only problem with this is our fees will just go up for service if they are forced to pay for them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jacqueline* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Shawn H](#)

They don't pay for American over the air broadcasters like ABC, NBC, FOX etc...

[Flag](#)

Like

 *peekabo0* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jacqueline](#)

They don't? Prove it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *davetrautman* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to peekabo0](#) 1 person liked this.

Well, actually the cable company has a listening tower in my region of the country from which it can pick up (over the air) the signal from nearby border cities. Since it is received over the air - there's no charge.

A recent decision was made (about a decade ago) to pay a royalty to some border stations for the 'retransmission' of their signal. Cable operators factor this 'transmission' levy into their operating budgets.

I think the issue here is whether there is something to pay for in Local TV. If there was something I needed all the time and relied upon for my happiness then it makes sense to ensure I have access to it. But I should be able to support local TV by buying products from its advertisers. Not from some redistribution of money based on audience coverage related to some definition of 'local' TV. The vast geography of Canada means there is not much TV which is 'local' to anyone outside of the major cities.

Proof enough?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Don Booth* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We need to reinvent local television.

It will be interesting to see what happens in Hamilton.

Local television is very important, though local stations that are owned by networks do almost nothing - no wonder they are not doing well. There is no incentive to watch them.

Local stations that are independent of networks should receive a modest incentive.

Local stations that are owned by networks should receive nothing. A network should have enough resources to develop attractive local programming.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *peekabo0* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Don Booth](#)

What Hamilton has done with CHCH is awesome and very commendable. Their new format is why I will NEVER watch city, ctv or global EVER AGAIN!

[Flag](#)

Like



[efrey2k](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think I pay enough for just basic cable. For the last couple of months I have contemplated on cancelling TV altogether and get my local news from the internet. If there was an additional costs for local TV on top of what I already pay, It would make my decision of cancelling cable even easier.

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[Werner Patels](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The way Canada's broadcast networks tell it, Canadians want local TV, and they are willing to pay for it, no matter how much it costs. Carried by this belief, the TV networks have been lobbying the federal government and its regulatory arm, the CRTC, to allow for special fees to be paid by cable-TV companies to the broadcast networks. They argue that cable companies merely "steal" their signals and sell them on to subscribers. Cable companies, however, have balked at the proposition and promised that any fees, if implemented, would be passed on directly to cable subscribers.

Seeing their support from the general public dwindle, TV networks have launched their campaign Local TV Matters. In TV and print ads, they raise people's awareness about the cable companies' "dirty little secret": cable companies, the broadcasters claim, have had a free ride and enriched themselves on the backs of local TV.

Various cable providers across Canada have fought back valiantly, also in TV and print ads. But they should not expend too many of their resources on this fight, because the broadcasters find themselves on extremely shaky ground, not least because of their constant fibbing and distortions of facts, which is why the majority of the general public is clearly siding with the cable companies on this one.

Make no mistake: cable companies have had a rather checkered past. For example, they once tried to trick subscribers through what was known as "negative-option billing", a way of adding extra services to the cable bill without waiting for the subscriber's specific order for such services.

But compared to the situation in the US, Canada's cable-TV companies provide better services at much better prices. While a major cable channel like Showtime in the US can cost a cable subscriber as much as US\$9 a month (and that is through a limited special offer), equivalent channels in Canada can be added for as little as C\$1.50 or, perhaps, \$2. No wonder that so many Americans are still without HBO, Showtime or AMC, thus missing out on Mad Men or the Seinfeld reunion on Curb Your Enthusiasm, while the majority of Canadian cable or satellite subscribers have relatively easy and inexpensive access to these programs.

Most Canadians are probably not aware of this either, but most US cable providers do not offer the "timeshift" option, i.e., the main networks from various time zones across the country. In the US, timeshifting is therefore the satellite providers' strong suit, but in Canada, every cable company does not only deliver all the major Canadian networks spread out over the various time zones, but the American networks as well. It may not sound like much, but the timeshift option gives subscribers a lot of freedom and flexibility in how they consume their favourite shows even if they do not own a PVR.

But there is more that distinguishes Canadian from American TV. In most locations in the US, at least where yours truly happened to find himself at various stages in his life, people could easily forgo cable-TV and watch regular off-air channels using their rabbit ears. If they were not interested in specialty cable channels, they could at least get all the main broadcast networks such as ABC or FOX – and totally free. Now that America has gone digital, which allows networks to piggyback two, three or more channels onto the same channel frequency, Americans could soon find themselves with thirty or forty channels, free-to-air, courtesy of their "rabbit ears" (and a digital converter or digital TV-set). This will make paying extra for cable a less attractive option, especially if Americans continue to be strapped financially for years or decades to come.

In Canada, however, TV reception has been a problem, especially in big cities where most of the viewers live that advertisers deem valuable. Blocked by the concrete and steel that make up our cities today, it is nearly impossible to receive a half-decent picture in, say, Toronto or Calgary. I

remember that in Toronto I would be lucky to get a very snowy CBC Toronto and an almost unidentifiable CityTV with almost no audible sound whatsoever. But that feat required placing one finger on the antenna's tip while performing a continuous sequence of Arabian cartwheels.

In other words, Canadian broadcast networks – CBC, CTV, Global and CityTV – would instantly lose at least 70 to 85 percent of their viewers if cable companies were to drop them from the line-up. Or, put differently, the cable-TV companies provide the backbone of the broadcasters' transmission and distribution infrastructure. Except for the guy sitting directly on top of or underneath a broadcast tower, most Canadians would not be able to see any of their homegrown networks and programming if it were not for the cable companies making them so easily accessible.

Losing basic cable carriage would mean sudden death for all Canadian broadcasters (including the CBC). In fact, the broadcasters should be paying a fee to the cable companies, instead of the other way round, as no Canadian network would be viable without cable. Besides, the federal government only recently forgave \$450 million in outstanding fees that the broadcasters had failed to pay. They should take that money now and invest it wisely. Apart from that, they may soon have one competitor less, following the filing for bankruptcy protection by CanWest, the owner of Global TV. This would leave only three major networks, or two commercial ones, and if they still could not make ends meet, they would deserve to go under as well.

Canada's cable companies have invested steadily in the latest technology and launched digital and high-definition channels at a time when these innovations were only a wet dream in most other countries. When cable subscribers can get the "whole package", including HD channels, for as little as, say, C\$130 a month, one is almost tempted to wonder how the cable companies can still turn a profit and keep upgrading their networks. In most other Western countries, consumers pay a lot more a month for a lot fewer channels, and often in addition to a government-imposed, expensive licence fee.

Canadian broadcast networks must finally wake up to the reality of the TV market, with the emphasis being on market. The real decisions are made by consumers. The main reason why so many local stations have had to shut down is that Canadians have not been satisfied with the quality of programming. Unless CBC, CTV, Global and CityTV realize that they must produce for the marketplace, rather than around or behind it, they will all disappear over time – cable fees or no cable fees. Consumers of TV are no longer a captive audience. They have access to a variety of other media, both domestically and from abroad, and they will quickly vote with their feet, um, remotes.

[Flag](#)

Like



[peekabo0](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Werner Patels](#)

TV reception is a problem in Toronto? You gotta be kidding. I can pick CBLT-DT w/o any antenna at all. With a simple indoor ZSS, I get all the locals in clear solid HD. BDU's like yours MUST bear the cost of any CRTC mandated FFC, NOT the consumers!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Angela D](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable TV is already too over-priced. Now they want more tax on it?? I know there are many with a love for "local" news, but let's be honest the content is not worth paying extra for most of the time.

[Flag](#)

Like



[robertwcasey](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

What annoys me is that Cable and Sattellite providers charge their vivers for local stations which they include in their lineup but they don't pay the local stations what they pay for the rest of their line up. In other words they lie to the CRTC and the general public by telling us they do this for free because the stations are free to air. Cable and Sattellite providers never do anything for free. If they can pay for non local channels they can pay for the local also, they

charge us for it. When they advertise its always how many channels they offer to get you to buy in, they charge for every one of those channels. Time to step up and do the right thing and it won't take a phoney tax, all it will take is to make sure they pay for what they charge us for.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *rickmurray* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not be happy. I feel that I already pay for cable and as such would consider getting rid of cable and using over the air signals to get my local programs

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Like

 *Anne* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Do not tax my TV!!!! If all it takes it is for me to cancel may cable, I will!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *rickmurray* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would cancel my cable service and start to take my signals over the air again in order to get local programing. I feel that I pay for cable already and that the cable company has been paid for years to carry local channels and should start to now pay for it without charging us any more

[Flag](#)

Like

 *spp_24* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would cancel my service. I want to pay for content when I want it (pay per view everything, including local TV).

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mrfedup2* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

with 18 out of a 30 minute program being mostly advertisements anyway why watch? time to cancell and get back to the great outdoors!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *David Fenske* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I do not watch local TV and so I am opposed to paying more for it.
2. The CRTC could stop regulating TV completely and allow individual statons/networks to fail or succeed based on their own merits and appeal to individual customers, just like most other businesses in a free country.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Kelly Stewart* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I've never paid for cable tv. No matter where I move to, I just plug the tv in the wall and those are the channels I watch. I get enough local channels for the news and don't watch the rest. And when this tv dies (was purchased for me in 1983), I highly doubt I'll get another one. Television is filled with mostly junk enjoyed by people with low IQs, I guess. It's time for everyone to ditch their televisions and get a life. Alzheimer's research is showing that watching tv can lead to the disease. Not the actual viewing but the fact you could be doing something else more stimulating, e.g. read a book, do a crossword puzzle, entertain family and friends, take a night course, do some volunteer work, go to church, learn another language, join a book club, play board games with your children, go for a walk, join a fitness club and so on. Think of the money you'll save by not paying cable bills. Oh yes, and I also don't have the Internet at home.

There's not much on the Internet that's interesting and any searches I require (my library), I do on my lunch hour at work. Think of the money you'd save and be able to spend it more productively.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Nicole Eva* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not think we should be charged for local television. Local stations should be free with antenna only. I do not want to be forced to subscribe to a cable provider simply to get CBC, CTV and Global in my home.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *jimarnold* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If there is a fee for local TV on top of what I currently pay for my cable, I will cancel my cable subscription. I find little of value on TV at the current time, whether it is over the air channels or strictly cable channels. What I do watch I usually get on DVD or on the internet since the programmes that interest me are not carried by either over the air channels or cable specialty channels in Canada.

Should I find a need to watch local programming I will just resurrect my roof top antenna.

The over the air channels built their business case on an advertisement funded basis and since their audience is increased by virtue of being on cable/satellite their advertising revenue should be higher due to increased charges for advertisements justified by the broadcaster's increased viewership.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ken* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

This country is a joke in all it's radio and television charges. There are charges for local channels, and they are not broadcasting local programs. It's like 70% US show and 30% local shows. If I want to watch local news I have to pay. Then there is monopoly for cable and satellite companies, as they can charge what ever price they want. There is no competition for Rogers or Bell. While in US they have many to choose from, and they get charged according to the package they select. I have given up on all TV, and using antenna. Hope CRTC has some sense to help the people, and not the companies like Rogers, Bell, and Shaw.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *D L MACMILLAN* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

THE CABLE COMPANIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN CHARGING FOR LOCAL TV FOR YEARS. THEY SHOULD PAY TO SUPPORT LOCAL TV , BUT SHOULD NOT BE RAISING CUSTOMERS BILLS FOR SOMETHING THEY ALREADY CHARGE FOR ,JUST BECAUSE NOW THE FREE RIDE IS OVER. I HAVE BELL SATELLITE BECAUSE CABLE IS NOT AVAILABLE IN MY AREA AND THEY CHARGE ALOT OF MONEY FOR TERRIBLE SERVICE (EVERY TIME IT RAINS A LITTLE BIT I LOSE THE SIGNAL , ALWAYS RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PROGRAM YOU WANT TO SEE) INSTEAD OF FORCING TV STATIONS TO PRODUCE PROGRAMS I DON'T WATCH (I DO WATCH LOCAL NEWS ,WEATHER ETC.) WHY DON'T YOU MAKE SATELLITE COMPANIES STRENGTHEN THEY SIGNAL SO A LITTLE RAIN DOES NOT INTERRUPT IT? ONE OTHER COMPLAINT IS THE COMMERCIALS ARE TWICE AS LOUD AS THE PROGRAMS . THE CRTC SHOULD BE PROTECTING THE CUSTOMERS FROM THESE PRACTICES

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mdimock* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If it's a toss up between people w/o cable/satellite getting dinged with fee as well, or only

dinging cable/satellite subscribers, I say charge people subscribing.

I've made a choice not to access programmed television via signal in my house. I also haven't been a cable/satellite customer since 2003. I support local programming, but am not willing to pay for something I don't use.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *john* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not pay for the local TV station, adding more fees to my cable is ridiculous, and would force me to cut back on cable, Canadians already pay too much for TV, if local stations are not viable, then they should not be in business. Taxpayers should not have to support them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Tricia Anne* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable service rather than pay more money for programming I rarely watch.
2. Local advertisers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *trucker7000* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable.
2. Manage it so you have enough income out of ads and cut the fat from the top

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mark .O* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel service too.
2. Advertising can support local TV. They already run far too many commercials.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ddlamont* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have Star Choice and am already paying \$75 a month for a bunch of useless programming. Our whole family of 5 only watch a dozen stations, but are forced to pay for hundreds of unwanted stations, and multiple stations showing the same program at the same time.

How about \$2 per month per station that I actually watch???

I do not want my bill to go up so that I can watch one local newscast daily. I can get the latest local news on the radio or the computer for FREE.

Don

[Flag](#)

Like

 *T Volpel* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think the Local stations should be able to charge for their station to the cable companies. I also think that by doing so, the cable companies should have the right to not carry the local station as part of the basic cable package. As long as the cable companies are forced to carry local stations, they should not have to pay for the stations. A good solution is that once a local station charges a cable company, the cable company then can decide whether to pay the charge or drop the service, just like with every other specialty channel.

Most local stations have been centralizing their programming and reducing the amount of locally produced content for years. In Edmonton very few local programs are left and Shaw Cable has

just as much local programming as does the local CBC, CTV and Global stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



reneb ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

First of all. our local station is NOT carried by either cable or Satellite.. Our station is a ctv station and it has NEVER been part of cable or satellite. We pay double and triple what our US counterparts charge. I for one am getting tired of being asked to bend over

[Flag](#)

Like



Shaun in Toronto ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Time to man up over at CRTC

Impose a basic \$20 cable package on Bell, Shaw & Rogers

Contains

-Only has those channels avail as free 'antennaTV' for those who want just that

Fee for specialty channels 'a la carte' to be added to above.

make sure CBC, CTV, Global, City etc get a fair piece of the basic \$20 package and all this goes away.

why is that so hard to impose??

like going to a restaurant, you order what you can afford AND want, not take whatever the chef wants to shove down your throat and charge for the 'privilege'.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mark Bascin ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am disgusted with the networks wanting us to pay for their lack of ad revenue. They could simply charge their large corporate customers more for ad placement rather than go after the viewers to pay for content we don't want to see anyway. I only watch a single local channel, and that is only for 20 minutes a day. Why should I be forced to pay through my cable bill to support their blatant waste of revenues. I'm starting to think we'd be better off without major Canadian networks since they ape the content from the US networks anyway, of course with their ads overlayed (generating more revenue for content they aren't really providing).

[Flag](#)

Like



kenlawson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is important but not if it is going to increase my expenses, I will just use live streaming, which is improving but has a way to go. Actually CPAC is the worst streaming in the Industry now. The CBC and Others have improved rapidly in the last few months with much better quality and speed.

[Flag](#)

Like



Chris in Calgary ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1)

I believe I should NOT be paying for local TV, that's what Rabbit Ears are for. I pay \$100 a month NOW for all my extra programming. Why should we pay satellite and cable co's for something that is given for free?? Is it because they have their cable inside my house?? They get enough money already from everyone, look at their profits already. Every year it seems

they get nothing but bigger and bigger profits. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH ALREADY. HOW GREEDY CAN ONE GET ??? (Shaw????? - BELL?????)

2)

Right now, I believe the cable & satellite co's should be supporting our local TV stations as we (THE PEOPLE) support the cable & satellite co's by paying our OUTRAGEOUS bills. What ever happened to share & share alike? Instead, it's TAKE, TAKE AND MAME TO GET AHEAD. Well, I DON'T LIKE my local TV getting MAMED !!!

[Flag](#)

Like



PJK ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Over the past 10 years the major activity of the media has been to acquire & consolidate services. Given that each purchase & sale has been at a higher price, the theory of bigger is better has now priced itself beyond the capacity to generate profits. I was content with our local station before, the fact that it has been sold 3 times within the past 10 years hasn't resulted in any reason for me to pay any additional cost for viewing. If such a fee is enacted I want the right to choose what individual stations I wish to receive - NO PACKAGING.

[Flag](#)

Like



R Whalen ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

What local programs? The only local ones are the news shows, CBC moved theirs from 6:00pm to 5:00pm cant watch it while driving home from work. I don't bother watching CTV as most of it is for New Brunswick so its not really local news.

[Flag](#)

Like



9308rick ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i PAY ENOUGH FOR MY CABLE SERVICES AND CANNOT BE ASKED TO FORK OVER MORE CASH TO LINE THE POCKETS OF TELEVISION SERVICES I ALREADY PAY THROUGH TAXES, ADVERTISING, AND GOVERNMENT HANDOUTS(SUBSIDIES)

[Flag](#)

Like



5411 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We see little improvement of programming by the TV companies. There are constant repeats and replays of the same programs on different channels carried by the same Tv company. We dont believe the costs should be carried by consumers in the guise of an "extra Tax". We are also of an opinion that without cable the TV companies would have few, if only local, outlets for their productions. In our condo, we are not permitted to erect aerials or dishes for reception of programs, and we rely strictly on ONE cable company who have a monopoly in our area. Any additional costs would be unreasonable under ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

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Like



alwalton ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We live in a fringe area where "local" doesn't exist. If the station isn't carried on the satellite, then we don't watch it. Should we be expected to pay for local stations that do not exist? This issue started when satellite and cable were allowed to charge a fee to carry specialty channels, and now the over the air channels want a piece of the "pie". Its time to end that practice and let all channels survive or fail on their own merrit. Any more charges and we will all be going to FTA receivers.

[Flag](#)

Like



William ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Local TV is important to me because, unlike cable and satellite service providers, ONLY local TV tells me what is happening where I live. It also provides substantial support to local activities run by volunteers which are a critical component of life in any community. That being said, I would not pay extra for local TV because on a limited income, I can only afford to spend so much on TV.

2) In view of the high profits already made by cable and satellite companies, they should be required to negotiate with local TV stations but with a strong proviso that such costs are not then simply passed on to the consumer.

[Flag](#)

Like



calmzone1 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I WOULD NOT pay extra on top of what I am already being gouged for watching crap. I thought that was supposed to be part of what I was already paying for cable, that a portion of the monies collected by the cable company was going to our local stations. The local stations DO have the right to earn money, but not at the public's expense. They are a business, they sell advertising and make good money through that - oh, right, the CABLE company makes money for advertising locally.

I am a single mom, and I do not have any extra money. We decided as a family that there was so much crap on TV these days. The commercials were having so much money put into their creation, to then bombard us endlessly in a desperate attempt to get us to spend hard earned dollars, that we canceled our cable service. We purchase movies, TV series that we enjoy, and cheerfully enjoy life without cable. We get local and international news through newspapers, radio, and RSS feeds.

[Flag](#)

Like



michellesimonin ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Hello;

Right now I am subscriber of Shaw TV, but will be switching to Telus TV in two weeks. One of the main reasons for my switch was and still is the constant advertisign of a TV Tax. I have e-mailed Shaw asking about this Tax and who we as the consumer would be paying for it.

While Shaw has not replied to my e-mail...I called. I was told by the person ont he other end that the tax really is not a tax, but a charge that the cable companies will implment if they have to pay the local stations. I was not only taken back at the fact that they are advertising that this is a TV Tax (and here I thought only governments could charge a tax)...but that they were taking the siganls from the local stations for free and charging me for them...without giving back to the local stations. I asked the gentleman on the phone if he goes to 7-11 and takes a slurpee for free....his response that it would be stealing...

Second question, I think in order to keep Local Television as it is, they should receive some payment from the cable companies. Whether this is cost is given to the consumer, so be it. From my conversation with Shaw Cable, the only people not being paid are the local stations....the US channels get paid, as well as the TSN's and other stations....so why would the locals not get what others are getting.

I also called CTV and was told that the local TV would be still free to the consumer if they did not have cable....so it would be added in to the cable bill.

A side note...is I don't think that Shaw Cable (Calgary) should be allowed to be advertising the TV Tax when a government is not collecting it like GST or other taxes. This is mis-leading and is confusing the consumers.

My opinion is give the Local TV stations what they feel is owed to them. Keep local tv as local.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [dunedon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Quite simply, if I am asked to pay another fee to support TV I don't watch I will cancel ALL TV subscriptions I currently have.

My view is that if local TV cannot support itself, then it should go off the air. Despite wanting to "stay Canadian" it makes no sense to dig this country deeper in debt for programming that we do not want to watch.

Flag

Like

 [Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We already pay too much for what we receive. I feel that 90% of the programs we get are junk so I am not willing to pay for anything additional. Let the market decide.

Flag

Like

 [Michael](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would be furious if I was asked to pay more for anything cable. I moved out on my own a year and a half ago and the cost of cable was the biggest surprise cost to me! And if you downgrade your package, the cost is not much cheaper but you get significantly less channels. I would consider cancelling or finding some alternative.
2. Either the networks do a better job with advertising or cable companies pay for it and don't charge more to consumer because they charge ridiculous amounts already.

Flag

Like

 [Doug Mcm](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Why should we pay for something we can get with an antenna attached to our satellite dishes or rabbitt ears on our tv sets? Lets throw choice wide open, allow canadians to chose from Bell,Shaw, all other carriers including american direct tv, or Dishnetwork.

Flag

Like

 [Paul van Emmerik](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not subscribe to cable tv. I receive digital signals and enjoy off-the-air tv broadcasts. I do not want these to disappear and hope that they will always remain free. If it means that the cable companies should be charged a fee for redistributing the signals then so be it. I'm all for it.

Flag

Like

 [peekabo0](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Paul van Emmerik](#)

Smart choice, OTA is much better in the long run in many ways. The OTA signals should remain free in urban areas for now, it's rural areas that may suffer unfortunately, especially come Aug 2011.

Flag

Like

 [Peter_SA](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my existing satellite package and find an alternative. I've been looking into FTA satellites. Local programming is not worth the extra money, rates are already too steep. Its almost impossible to find a basic package for under \$50/month, taxes included. With a

recession, and an aging population, many will simply pull the plug from existing service providers and look for alternatives.

2. The argument for local TV revenue is bogus. All of these stations are owned and operated by conglomerates such as CTVGlobemedia, Canwest, etc. Why is the CBC lobbying for this? They are a PUBLIC BROADCASTER, already sucking more than \$1 BILLION OF TAXPAYERS MONEY ANNUALLY! It is simply outrageous, and a cash grab that the CRTC should oppose on behalf of consumers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Ardy ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable bills are presently too high. The Cable companies make a lot of profit at the expense of the users. CRTC should get the fees reduced keeping in view that there is a Recession in Canada. No hike should be allowed at the Publics expense. Presently the networks, CBC, CTV etc are all showing good profits at our expense.

We would not like our television programs to get any more expensive at the expense of the Cable companies or the networks.

[Flag](#)

Like

 circulator ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think it is important to also mention the amount of advertisements that consumers are subjected to while watching television.

What is slated as a half-hour show is generally around 21 minutes long. Meaning 9 minutes of advertising is in every half-hour time slot. This does not include the product placements in the show, which is becoming very common. That is a huge amount of advertisement that consumers are paying to watch.

I disagree with paying to watch advertisements, and I believe most people feel the same way.

The service providers need to provide a more dynamic and up-to-date service which would include things like:

- Individual channel choice (no more forced bundles)
- OnDemand services in HD & available right away
- Better/Cheaper set-top technologies (PVR/DVR)

In addition, a more global view of media should be included. Waiting sometimes years for shows that air in the US or Europe to air in Canada is unacceptable.

It is time for Canadians to take a stand and fight the monopolies held by the large providers like Rogers and Bell. We need to demand better services at more reasonable prices!

[Flag](#)

Like

 allenedge ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

the "bundling" strategies used by the cable operators "force" me to pay for channels I never watch.

I realize that some bundled channels are regulated to be included, but there are far more that are not

I would prefer to redirect the costs (to me) of these unused services to the support of local TV A case in point is "big 10 tv". Why do I have to pay for US college sports!

[Flag](#)

Like

 Greg Trainor ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not be impressed if my bill went up at all for local channels.

As a subscriber we have choices on the themes or packages we choose to select and pay for. The locals are bundled into the basic package. So if I have to pay more for them, it should be my choice what channels I want - even right down to the single channel.

I am also VERY upset with the laws out there now which exist that override US channels with Canadian ones. I am paying for a premium US channel, it should be my choice as a subscriber to choose if I want to watch that program on US or CDN channels. This is a major issue come Superbowl or any or national sporting event, I want to choose to watch the US feed with US commercials so be it! Who are the CRTC to tell me what I can or can not watch - especially after I PAID for it!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



barbaraw ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable bills are already exorbitant and companies raise rates regularly with no connection to inflation. I don't mind local TV getting some of our cable charges but cabel rates need to be capped or reduced and we should be able to select stations - I have access to dozens and dozens of stations I never watch!

[Flag](#)

Like



Moose57 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would request an option to OPT out of my local stations delivered by cable and sat and use an OTA antenna with better quality signals. As these signals are by design FREE as they are part of the public airways, it is unreasonable to be assessed a fee.

If any, the broadcasters should pay cable and sat for getting their signal to their audience, as few receive it free over the air currently in most markets. This is too their advantage for advertisers to reach the largest possible audience.

2. In most cases, local television is easily propped up by virtue of the profits from ownership of digital specialty tv stations. To enjoy the right of profitable specialty TV stations, the prerequisite must be the local stations that serve the public interest, even it some loss is incurred.

Profit and loss must be considered looking at the WHOLE picture and not just a segment.

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Like



Moose57 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

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Profit and loss must be considered looking at the WHOLE picture and not just a segment.

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Like



darknightcl ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

In answer to question 1, I believe I would most likely cancel my cable TV service. The logic is fairly simple, I believe. Local TV stations broadcast their signal FOR FREE to anyone with rabbit ears. Why should I be forced to pay for their signal, simply because I'm fortunate enough to be able to get the signal through cable instead of through an antenna? Keep in mind that I

wouldn't miss my favourite TV shows, I'd just download pirated copies from the internet. Then the entire TV industry would lose whatever limited support I give it now. I suppose this means that local TV is not important to me. I only use it to get local news, and that I get through RSS feeds from a local TV station, not by watching any local newscast. If that TV station shut down, I'd simply find an RSS feed from a different source.

As for question 2, I have to wonder why these local stations suddenly can't support themselves through advertising revenues like they did in the past. What's changed? Essentially, the question is "is it reasonable that they suddenly need help, or could they have done more to prevent this situation?" Ultimately though, since local TV stations aren't important to me in the slightest, I wouldn't be inclined to bother doing anything to try to support them.

Flag

Like

 *jsmythe* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

WE ARE BEING BLACKMAILED HERE BY THE NETWORKS. WE MUST NEVER SUBMIT TO BLACKMAIL!!

1. It is NOT important to me. Like a lot of Canadians I do not have any local TV. I get local news, community events and weather through local newspapers, radio and internet. The big city TV stations do not even recognize our town exists!

2. Cable/Satelite fees are too high now. For a senior they are more than 10% of a monthly OAS cheque.

3. If the local TV model is broken, let the Networks fix it or shut them down. DO NOT LOAD THE BURDEN ON CONSUMERS!!!

Flag

Like

 *brianm1* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'll cancel my cable service, I am not paying more for a service that has so little already

Flag

Like

 *Chris* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. The only Local TV of any interest to me is the local news. Beyond that I dont see a lot of value being provided to me by my local TV stations. I am currently paying a LPIF and am not interested in paying more for local programming.

2. I think the idea of forced bundling is outdated. I would like to see my total cable bill remain the same but for me to have "a la carte" choice when it comes to channels. Have all stations get fee for carriage and allow consumers to subscribe only to those stations that they want. Broadcasters cannot say they want to be on basic cable in order to have higher ad revenue only to turn around and say they are not getting enough ad revenue and need fee for carriage. Likewise cable cannot pass all costs onto consumers on top of what they are currently charging.

In terms of serving small markets I think that should be the primary role of the CBC. Where market forces work well then private broadcasters will fill market demand. In small markets where there are not enough economies of scale that is where a national, tax payer funded organization should be stepping in to provide service. Having the CBC compete with CTV and Global does not make sense.

Flag

Like

 *P. Walker* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Paying for local service is not acceptable. I use cable as my "antenna" to collect the free TV signals and have them provided at a consistent level of quality. If I purchased an antenna to capture the same signals, I would remit nothing to the local station, so therefore why should a cable "antenna" be tretated in a different manner.

If I were forced to pay for local TV stations, which is likely, since the standard government reaction to anything is to tax, I should be able to pick and choose every station I want and pay for each, not be forced to accept pre-determined packages from the cable providers.

Frankly, local stations are not worth any amount of additional expense on my part. Their business model is based on advertising, which I already pay for through the goods and services I pay for. Now, if they are to drop all advertising and provide only programming that would be a different issue.

The reality is that their demands are based on a lull in their profits and poor control of their costs. When their profits rebound, the tax, for that is what it will be, shall remain. This is the nature of governments when they try to dabble in the market, the average citizen gets to pay more.

Thanks,

P. Walker

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[benquantrell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It is my opinion that the distributors should have to pay for any signal they wish to deliver, however, it should not be mandatory to distribute any particular signal, up to and including CBC. I believe that broadcasters should be paid for their signals, but consumers should be able to choose exactly what programming they wish to receive without mandate from the government. I understand the desire to have Canadian content available, particularly local news, but I personally do not make any use of it and somewhat resent being forced to pay for it.

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[rob](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The local channels are included as part of the basic package which means these channels are being seen by everyone and anyone that has cable/satellite. These local stations make most of their money based on selling advertising. Advertising rates are derived by ratings. If these local channels weren't on cable/satellite where they can be watched right now - they would not get the ratings they currently get to charge what they do for their advertising.

On the other hand, if only Rogers carried CFTO in the Toronto area and Bell didn't - chances are Rogers would have more people signing up for them just to see things like CFTO news and some of the programming they carry.

The fact of the matter is - each entity needs the other.

Instead of nickle and diming the public, do as big conglomerates should do and come up with a solution that satisfies your customer basis (that solution is definitely not another charge/tax - that's for sure!).

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[grammab](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable companies are charging exorbitant amounts! (I'll soon have to hand them over my entire pay cheque.) They package TV stations in such a way that you have to buy several packages in order to get the TV stations you like. Why not include all local TV stations in one package? And, Cable stations already make enough profit to pay the local TV stations without having to pass it on to consumers!

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[Donald L](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I will NOT pay a TV tax.
2. I pay hundreds monthly to Shaw (TV/phone/internet) and will not pay a penny more.
3. The federal party in government when/if the CRTC approves a TV tax will never my vote.get
4. This is pure gouging by greedy corporations and lobbyists, unopposed by weak politicians with their own agendas.

Flag

Like

 *GrammaB* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable companies in Canada already make huge profits, enough so that they should be able to pay for local TV without having to pass it on to consumers. I would cancel my cable if I am asked to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for cable services! I'll soon have to hand them my entire pay cheque! Come on CRTC, do the job you were put in place to do ... really control the profit-greedy cable companies!

Flag

Like

 *Rick M.* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. My local A station in London is very important to me. I watch the 6:00 p.m. news daily. I already pay a lot for my Rogers cable service. Including HD channels and movie channels my monthly bill is about \$100.00 Some of this should be directed to the local station. I always thought it was. I should not have to pay extra for local TV.
2. Rogers should be made to share some of their profits with the local stations.

Flag

Like

 *Ken Parker* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am afraid local TV has fallen behind the times. I seldom watch local TV News etc as it is old news. If I have to pay for it then I should have the option of taking it or leaving it. In other words eliminate packages and allow us to pay for station by station. Any increase I get will mean the removal of some service I receive now to pay for it. Local TV cannot win. We are a small country and based on population cannot support three networks.

I am retired and on a less than fixed income and cannot afford a large increase.

Flag

Like

 *dereknorman* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not pay extra for local TV services I already pay enough money to my cable supplier. Also the Broadcasters have spent money recklessly on purchasing assets ie Canwest \$1.5 billion spent to buy Atlantic Alliance. Also the CRTC has already allowed the Broadcaster to charge a \$5 monthly fee to cover local broadcasting this increase was immediately passed through to the taxpayer by the cable companies. It is my understanding that the broadcasters were allowed to increase the number of minutes for advertising per hour.

The client should not pay any more fees to watch Television we already pay far too much my monthly bill for the "Basic services plus 4 additional bundles is \$65.

Flag

Like

 *Murray H* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. If I had to pay I would want it to be an optional part of my cable package so I can choose whether I think the service is worth the fee. However, because all the local channels are on an analogue feed this would likely be technically very difficult. Right now a charge of \$10/month would not be worth it for the limited amount of local programming I watch.

2. They are already receiving the benefit of sim-subbing whereby their commercials are already

distributed for free by the cable and satellite companies, the value of which probably greatly exceeds any new fees that they are asking for.

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Like



AI ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable is already expensive and with all the packages more then 1/3 of the channels are a waste and don't watch ... If cable rates go up ... I would have to seriously think about cancelling cable.

[Flag](#)

Like



Brenda B ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I feel that we are already paying too much for cable service. Local TV has more than adequate revenue, the local TV networks have profits of hundreds of millions of dollars yearly - why should we pay extra to support them?

[Flag](#)

Like



David ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The air through which the broadcasting companies operate belong to the public.

These companies should be charged or taxed as a result.

No new fee should be levied on the cable companies because of this.

Alternatively there should be 100% Canadian content. Any breach should result in immediate loss of license not a fine.

[Flag](#)

Like



dishguy ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1.

I would cancel my subscription to Shaw Direct and source my video entertainment from other sources such as the Internet and rental stores.

I have only one local station at present and the "local" content does not consist of anything I enjoy viewing.

As with most "local" stations they have opted to fill prime time with purchased American programming instead of investing the money they are given under certain federal programs to make or purchase quality Canadian programming.

Local TV would be of utmost importance to me if I actually received any local content.

2.

In order to support local television we need to have a definition of local television that fits the title.

I would like to see a minimum of 50% Canadian content in prime time and a minimum re-investment of revenue into Canadian content.

I would like to see a value for investment in "real" Canadian production for the broadcasters that is aired with pride and value to the viewer in mind.

Here is a weighted example of what I would think is reasonably fair.

Canadian content aired in prime time = 1

Canadian content aired in the 2 hours adjacent prime time = 1/2

Canadian content aired in the overnight hours or "infomercials" = 1/4

Cable/Satellite should be forced/allowed to carry only one local station from each province.

These would be free and still subject to the must carry regulations with freedom of the carrier on which to pick from each region.

All others are free from must carry but a negotiated carry price would have to be paid if they are chosen.

The viewer and quality have been forgotten by the CRTC, the Broadcasters, and Cable/Satellite over the years.

In the fight to maintain an edge over each other all three of these entities have forgotten what

is actually at stake here.

All I want is a venue to watch the best of what is available in content without someone buying my eyes and either blinding them as the broadcasters suggest via blackouts, hold them hostage as the CRTC has done via restrictions such as channel substitution, or poke me in them via fees as the Cable/satellite companies have done.

The competition has been washed away from the market by all three of you and all that has been accomplished is Canadian content has been relegated to second rate knock offs of American content and news.

[Flag](#)

Like



Richard Backs ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I already pay more than \$60 per month for fairly basic satellite TV. I actually want less than 1/2 of the channels offered, but have to buy unwanted channels in order to receive the educational / learning channels I value most.

Local / Canadian television should be offered as part of a basic cable / package offering for all Canadians. We already have too few companies in Canada controlling "points of view" when it comes to news reporting - let's not make the problem worse.

If this means I have to pay more for "basic" Canadian programming, so be it. That being said, the cable companies should be mandated to revise their subscription practices such that all other channels are available on a "cost per channel" offering.

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Like



John Smith ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think that basic cable is expensive enough already, for \$25 a month I personally watch only 2 channels. (History and CBC for news.) Almost everything else I cherry pick from the internet. ([fastpasstv.com](#)) I feel that if anyone required more to operate, the user would be on the hook, putting TV even farther out of the publics reach. In bad times TV is the first to go. Then theft happens. Cable is too expensive. 20yrs ago we paid \$15 monthly for a lot more than now. Too many channels of crap and no quality.

[Flag](#)

Like



john ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The problem with television in Canada has been caused by the CRTC. When new broadcasters were granted licences, they make many promises. The CRTC has no backbone and has given in to relaxing the promises after several years. UTV in Vancouver promised 2 hours local programs every night in the eighties. Allowed to renege. Specialty channels were to be commercial free in the nineties, paid by subscribers. Allowed to renege. If you had an office in Toronto, a tape machine you are now a national broadcaster. Local TV station had to have buildings, RF distribution, and a major local present. The CRTC allowed a bandit in Toronto to compete with local station for the same advertising dollar with just a videotape machine and office. The CRTC has also allowed the CBC to gutted in the last 20 years.

The problem in Canada is that the CRTC has never cancelled a licence for a programmer going back on the promises they made to get the licence in the first place. The are TV bosses who are appearing before you crying poor who have made millions selling their share of the speciality channel lottery. He works for CTV. It is time for the CRTC to stand up an not allow the speciality channels to suck up Canada ad dollars. They were to be paid by the subscriptions. True user pay. That would leave the Ad market to correct it self . A sport specialty channel took football from CBC. What is that sports cannel but a tape machine in a warehouse? You have to Cable now to watch football.

The ads are all going to a group who have not invested in the local commuity. The CRTC has allowed the cable bandits to take over broadcasting in Canada. In Vancouver CTV has a tiny HD transmitter, CBC a much larger. We need more over the airwaves HD signals. Most people in Canada do not understand you can get HD with out cable. Just asked any sales person at future shop. They say you need a box. The cable model is broken and the CRTC caused the problem. It may be time to start all over. Make cable channels ad free.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *geturner* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i would not be opposed to a minor fee, if i could pick only those stations that i prefer to watch. local news is very, very, important to me and my family. if business was fair in its dealings with the public people would be much more receptive to new ideas. nobody likes to be ripped off.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *kellyflocksmom* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Actually Canadians already pay for "local" tv, but who exactly has local tv? I know my part of Ontario is rarely covered by any of the "local" television stations, Barrie or Peterborough, so I'm already paying for something that I get no value from. I find it ironic that most of the "local" tv Stations yippy about this problem are owned by CTV Globe Media, which is a subsidiary of BELL CANADA ENTERPRISES which is in bed with Bell Expressvue.... no matter how they cut it or how the decisions the CRTC makes the Cable/Satellite companies are going to get their monies from Canadians.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *Danny* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I might choose to subscribe to a local station, if only I had a choice in the matter. We should get rid of the "basic package" altogether. There are lots of channels we never watch anyway. Why support them with fees if I don't want them?

2. When a subscriber elects to receive a local channel, it means it serves a purpose for the viewer and it should receive a fee. I don't want to support any local station that we never view.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *Trevor K* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would have no problem paying a reasonable fee to support local television. I would point out that reasonable in this case would also be nominal. I would also like to see the local stations be able to be chosen individually thereby allowing the Canadian people to decide whether or not they are providing a service that we are willing to pay for through private dollars.

I would also that in general the Cable Giants earn massive enough profits that the fees they are charging should be re-examined and most likely reduced.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *kenhalenb* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

First living in Woodstock NB, I do not currently have any real local TV to watch. CTV has a station located in Halifax NS and they have the gall to call that local TV for all of Atlantic Canada.

Secondly reception of over the air signals in this area is very poor at best from the CTV, CBC stations and that is about all the station signals that I can pick up here.

Unless the broadcasters are able to provide truly local television over the air to an area they have a tremendous amount of gall to ask me to pay extra because my satellite company spent the money to invest in an infrastructure that would provide me with a clear and viewable signal in a reliable manner.

I would not be prepared to pay the Canadian TV networks any money to help with stations in other areas that are failing due to poor business models.

If there is truly a shortage of viewers and revenue for certain areas then that geographical area should be responsible for raising the revenue required for keeping that station viable. In no way shape or form should someone from another province be required to pay a fee to

CTV because they have oversaturated the Alberta or Ontario market with "local" stations/
[Flag](#)

Like



m pdft ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

What exactly is meant by "local tv"? Do you mean community cable shows or quality television series like Flashpoint and Corner Gas?

Right now cable companies are obliged by CRTC regulations to carry the local channels - previously available over air with an antennae. Part of the agreement that broadcasters have with the CRTC is that, in exchange for profiting from PUBLIC AIRWAVES, they in turn have to provide free access to their basic national networks to the public. Keep in mind that these same broadcasters crying poor still make hundreds of millions from their specialty channels. Changing this CRTC agreement won't improve the amount of Canadian programming or the amount of local tv produced by the broadcasters. Both CTV and CanWest are on record as saying that, even were they to get extra money for these basic channels, they will NOT commit to spending those funds on local tv.

It's a scam. The broadcasters made some bad business decisions, they overpaid for some underperforming television properties then the economy tanked and now they want the public to bail them out. If the broadcasters can't commit to making a serious effort toward making good Canadian programs then what do we need them for? Why do I need CTV to bring me "CSI"? Cut out the middleman and get the US shows directly from the US channels. Unless the broadcasters are going to spend their profits in Canada - as opposed to gambling hundreds of millions (last year \$470 million) on US shows that may or may not last out a season - why should the Canadian public support them in any way.

And more importantly, why should the CRTC support this?

Can-Con regulations have worked in the book industry and the music industry. Impose set amounts of Canadian programming in prime time based on the Network's gross profits. If the CBC can have 5 prime-time Canadian-made shows with audiences over a million each, why can't the private broadcasters do the same?

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Like



Rick ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

CTV in Northern Ontario claims to be local but they produce a Northern Ontario News cast that covers all markets. They say they need funds to remain in business so why did they cut the local news years ago; this is not a new issue. The corporation turns a profit so why should we give them more funds when only part of the company is a money loser. If the local shoe store is not turning a profit the government does not mandate that we all contribute to them, this is called free enterprise and a risk of being in business.

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Like



John ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Will support paying for local channels provided by suppliers, BUT I should be permitted to receive only those channels I wish to receive and pay for.

[Flag](#)

Like



Gerry Milinkovic ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the CTRC is going to agree to fee for carriage to support local programming then the money should go to a fund and not directly to the broadcaster. The fund can then be used for the development and maintenance of local programming and the broadcaster would have to show proof of performance to access this fund. The fund should also only be accessible to underserved communities. (programs and communities that can support themselves should not be funded) Local Producers not associated with the Broadcaster should also be able to access the fund for the creation of local programming. Programs funded this way should not count toward the Broadcasters' Canadian content obligations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *BigRickyM* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think local tv is an absolute necessity. It keeps our public informed with a true sense of participation. It keeps us in touch with what is around us and keeps me personally in touch with my roots. The diversity of our nation can be benefited as well because it is the constant sharing of news that enlightens us with knowledge and shares views and ideologies amongst many ethnicities. I do not really care to have American views ahead of my own Canadian views. This local TV is a true benefit to keeping our country together and it improves lives due to many factors. Seeing and hearing how diverse and expansive our culture is and can be is part of the evolving Canadian culture and make up of this country. I don't need 10 sports stations. I don't need 15 movie stations. I don't need 20 different specialty programs. I am fine with the core of stations that we had 25 -30 years ago when cable did not exist but was needed because society built all the buildings and structures that ruined basic television signals. I just want cable to provide me with the channels that I want. Not the channels they want to import or produce so that they can profit. I don't even have a choice of cable company. It is assigned and I have no choice of what I want to pay for.

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Like

 *andykrupski* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Cancel my cable service
2. Adapt to new media and revenue model

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Randy* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I will not pay any more money for this cable service but will be removing it. If however the extra charge resulted in a difference in the way the Cable Companies offer their bundled programming (and hopefully the content) or even removed their bundling practices altogether, I would not hesitate to pay the extra.

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Like

 *Tim* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do NOT think it is a fair to force cable companies to carry these signals and then make them pay for them. I as a consumer would be upset at being forced to do something AND then have to pay for the services. These local companies got along fine broadcasting for the last 50 years without charging viewers, now all of a sudden they have no money. Why is this? Poor business practices? Poor viewership? I for one hardly watch local television as they do not carry the shows I wish to watch - maybe a fault of the CRTC sticking their noses into the business and forcing local channels to have a certain percentage of content?

If I WAS TO HAVE TO PAY FOR LOCAL TV, I SHOULD BE GIVEN THE CHOICE IF I WANT TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE CHANNELS.

If I ran a business, I would be expected to make it on my own - I would NOT be given a handout by any other party to keep me in business. This subsidizing of poorly run businesses has to stop.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *David Wohlfahrt* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Tell me why the public should be forced to pay for the local networks financial shortfalls on the heels of their over extended debt load for buying into Newspaper chains and overseas networks? These financial decisions were made by private business executives who understood the risks involved. When I make financial decisions to invest my capital, I do not have the

option to get my clients to pay a separate fee to pay the finance costs of my investments, so why should they have license to do so? In the case of the CBC that is different! The CBC is owned by the government--it is not a private business and should not be grouped together with the private networks. COME ON CRTC, stop trying to fool the public into a debate over paying private sector debt. They should be forced to sell off assets if they cannot pay the loans it's that simple. The CRTC is not a tax collector for private broadcasters!
I have gone through 4 recessions in my business life and suffered through every one. I cannot collect unemployment insurance in hard times as a business operator--I have to get work where ever I can to keep money flowing. These are the risks of private business.

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Like



David Wohlfahrt ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [David Wohlfahrt](#)

I read an article the other day that was written a few years ago about the Thompson family business (The Billionaire Thompson family). In the beginning when Ken Thompson's father started his broadcasting business up in North Bay, Ontario, he thrived on local advertising and began to expand through the north. By the end of his career (life) he had amassed a fortune of \$750,000,000.00 of which he passed on to Ken. Presently, the Thompson family fortune has ballooned to 18-23 Billion US dollars and according to the article they still control 40% of CTV Bell Globe Media among their investment portfolio.

My problem with the super wealthy people and businesses is that they will never use their own capital to cover the operating costs of their own businesses--they always charge their customers extra if their expenses are increased due to inflation or drop in revenue like the banks and the governments. The city of Toronto is a good example. It is well known that you cannot always take, take, take, you also have to give back. I think this is the perfect opportunity for these broadcasters to suck it up and give back to the people for once and stop the wining.

Why is this not disclosed to the public--most if not all people who have commented on this venue have neglected to bring this up. This is why the super wealthy including the Thompson family members are so reclusive. Information is so hard to find on them and their many numbered companies that people don't realize how much or what they own. Google Taylor Thompson to find the article.

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Like



Sean ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not subscribe to cable because of the expense and inflexibility of the service. Why pay Rogers a tonne of money when I can use an antenna to get local stations for free?

I think it's criminal that Rogers can profit on what people can essentially get for free.

I believe that if the cable network is truly important to Canadian access to television then it should be nationalized and run by a government agency. Companies like Rogers should be able to provide service to viewers with flexibility and competition. CBC, TVO, and other local stations should be distributed on cable for a minimal user fee.

1. I don't pay now and wouldn't pay then
2. Fund the CBC, force foreign stations that don't represent our country to carry Canadian content (e.g. Fox NEWS, CNN)

[Flag](#)

Like



Ken L ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Provide local TV with more flexibility by reducing archaic Canadian content requirements which are absurd in this era of global connectivity. If the resulting local TV is not sustainable through advertising then let it die -- it's time has passed.

[Flag](#)

Like



Richard ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

It is an interesting question.

From the cable/satellite point of view they are distributing local TV and by do so increase the exposure of advertising that local TV makes most of their money from. Perhaps local TV should be charging more for advertising.

From the local TV side, it would seem that a lot of content is being provided to the cable/satellite companies and it would also appear that the cable/satellite companies are making significant profits. So you could argue that there should be a better profit sharing model established.

[Flag](#)

Like



isb035 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Here in New Brunswick access to local programming has gradually been disappearing. CBC, Global, CTV have been shutting down or reducing staff at offices in New Brunswick and now our "Local News" has been coming from outside the province. I now find I get my local news on the internet since it is more timely and easier to access.

Most canadian broadcasters have been buying american shows instead of creating their own content and even when they have a hit show, such as Canadian Idol, they shut it down. If I want to watch American shows I already pay for those through my Shaw Direct subscription and I do not want to pay even more to watch the same shows on a Canadian channel with only the comercials being different.

Local networks need the cable and satalite providers to distribute their signal to our vast country. Both parties rely on each other and neither should pay the other.

[Flag](#)

Like



Philly ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Increase in service fees would be unreasonable and absurd. Cable prices have steadily increased w/o increases to service provided. Would consider FTA if such fees were imposed.

2. Cable is charging customers for a signal it gets for free, last I checked that is unethical at the least. Cable companies should pay up out of revenues ALREADY BEING EARNED. There is no reason to pass this cost onto consumers.

[Flag](#)

Like



scotia ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We rely on free local TV (an antenna) as all cable "packages" are far too expensive and the "bundles", basic or higher, contain a high percentage of channels uninteresting to our household audience.

We do not pay for cable now, and would not watch TV at all if we had to pay for local TV, and when needed news sports and weather updates are just a click away.

Funding is an issue but should be possible with a CANADIAN viewer audience of free local CANADIAN.

[Flag](#)

Like



Stephen ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1) I would not like to pay extra for local broadcast's because most of the local broadcasts don't even show local content most of the time, you watch the A-channel(something "local" around me) and outside of your news and weather I would say almost everything else is US content purchased for millions to be run on the local network. I can watch the same content on any US channel or any number of national Canadian channels.

2) If you were to implement a "Tax" to support local TV, it should be mandated that not 1 penny of that money can be used for buying US content, and that whatever the current % of income is spent on Canadian content must be maintained outside of this tax, if I am to be forced to pay to support Canadian content I want it to support Canadian content not a US TV show that is purchased for distribution in Canada, eg. The broadcaster makes \$100 and currently \$15 of that is used on local TV content and \$85 is used for buying US programming. This \$10 TV tax should make it \$25 for local and \$85 for US, that way it doesn't become 100% operating income for US and only the small TV Tax for local TV.

Like I said if I have to pay for Local content then it should be Canadian made local content not just a well of free money for the broadcaster's to use to buy US programming.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *nashwaak* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. If the substitution of Canadian feeds for US feeds were to stop, and if I could opt out of paying for local channels, I might accept such a fee. Otherwise it would be manifestly unfair.
2. Nothing can save local television, it is doomed to replacement by more flexible internet services, including video feeds.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Suzanne Michal* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I can't afford to pay more for cable. If the tax is added, I will cancel Rogers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Peter Coleman* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I find cable TV very expensive without any additional charges. Local TV has made a good profit over the years from "over the air" viewing so why should they now make a money grab? I watch only news on my local TV station and would drop it if it was possible if an extra charge was in place.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Eugene Leger* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Current legislation should be enforced: in order to own a broadcast license in a jurisdiction the company (or other organization) should adhere with local content rules. If making a profit by producing local programming is not possible, licenses should be made available to non-profit groups who take it upon themselves to produce this programming and enjoy charitable status. Local media is not a luxury it is a need, far more than the news from Detroit.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dan Lafantaisie* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We already pay enough for cable/satellite service, and with all the new taxes and hardships in our country, this is just another kick to the already fallen population. I am NOT in favor of any additional fees for local programming. The fact that the local Canadian broadcasters do not spend their money wisely is not my problem. If local TV shows and movies would actually be entertaining, I would reconsider, but it's a joke and the sad part is that it will never improve. So NO NEW FEES, I am paying enough already.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *rapkowi* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The CRTC has already taken away our rights as Canadians to watch what WE want to watch. Put on an American station, and automatically it switches to a Canadian station ! WHY?? If you give the networks, CBC, CTV, GLOBAL the right to charge for their stations, I will cancel my subscription with Cogeco and install an antenna. As far as I am concerned, the CRTC has outlived its usefulness. Cable costs are far too high already, as well as internet. I refuse to pay more!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Del* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would probably install a U.S. satellite provider and cancel Starchoice if this became a reality. I totally resent having to pay more to keep the likes of CBC and CTV operating.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *plhooker* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would either refuse to take the Canadian channels, if the price rose due to them, or cancel TV entirely, because I pay enough already. I get most of my news from newspapers anyway, and the few programmes that I like to watch are US ones. Furthermore, I hate being forced to watch simulcast programmes, and this might be an opportunity for me to get rid of the possibility.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *claughlin* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I got rid of my satellite about 2 years ago because I watched the price of the basic package go from \$10.00/month to \$35.00/month in about two years. That package consisted of mostly local channels. Television, phone and internet are ridiculously inflated in this country. These services should only consume a small amount of our monthly income not break us. After all, the technology is bought and paid for and all they have to do is flick a switch. Come on CRTC, it is about time you do your job and give the consumer a break.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *PWC* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I feel that local TV is already subsidized by Public money and any further request for money by local stations amounts to extortion. I have also noticed a huge increase in the quantity of commercials on these stations. It's not only a turn off, but is driving people away from television completely - thus a loss of ad revenue and likely why they are losing money. Fix the management model of these stations and stop piling good money on bad.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Terrance* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV should have to compete in the market. Consumers should be given free choice. The problem is with the current local offerings, cable-packages, and the regulatory structure This has resulted in a circumstance where Local TV cannot compete (revenue streams have changed - interests have changed), cable companies do not allow free choice (e.g. individual selection of any channel/set of channels without other non-value added channels being thrown in), and we have an oligopoly (i.e., limited competition amongst service providers using the same last mile pipe into the home) where service providers can seek increases through the regulatory structure rather than in the market (look at the average rates Canadians pay for cable, Internet and Cell service). These hearings are attending to one small hole in a very large dam!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Greg* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local television has always been free and should remain that way. If they need more money they need to ask the communities they serve for donations or get more advertising dollars. Over the air television is free so why should it be charged to people who are on cable. The cable companies should foot the bill. They are making a good profit it would not hurt them to pay the bill as the consumers are charged to much for what they receive on cable.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Gordini* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Absolutely outrageous. Local tv benefits from cable by allowing a wider audience for programs and advertisers. Cable tv benefits by gaining free access to local channels.
2. Local tv may have to get extra revenue similarly to Public Broadcasters (annual fundraisers, etc).

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Darren W. Wood* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local tv is important and I do not feel cable/satellite companies should be allowed to charge for this as they do not have to pay for it. Passing any increase after years of making a profit on these free channels is crooked to say the least. REGULATE cable/satellite companies as their business practices are suspect.

To support local tv for those that want it, cable/satellite companies should have to supply "local only" programming for free (if they dont want to pay for it) or if they are made to pay for local channels, then the costs should be included in the already inflated cable/satellite programming charges.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *RMc,SJ,NB.* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I support local TV BUT Rogers cable & internet etc fees are WAY TOO EXPENSIVE IMO right now! their probly making millions in profit now & plan to dump the entire cost of local TV right on the consumer?!. all I know is I'm disgusted with what I pay now. :-(

[Flag](#)

Like

 *davesmith09* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm more than happy to read about local news or events on the internet. I'll tell you what though. I don't have an attachment to cable other than hockey in the winter months. So if it gets to expensive. I'll pull the plug.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *aghs* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Most of the discussion here is based along the lines of the so-called "TV debate," as outlined by local broadcasters and cable companies. When cable first became available in Canada, local stations (still primarily over-the-air) were a draw for the cable companies. Cable companies, in trying to get established, needed (and wanted) to carry local broadcasters because there really weren't that many other options, and local viewers had to be persuaded to purchase TV (now cable is practically considered a birthright).

Fast-forward to the present: the audience is so fragmented that local TV really means local news. That's what this debate is really about.

Do we have much in the way of strong local content? No. A couple of newspapers who have, at best, a rudimentary handle on video and audio. Think to elections, federal, provincial, and municipal. Who's going to provide that coverage? "Big" and immediate news stories will be lost

to local bloggers, and "citizen journalists" who have no ethical framework or professional processes (on balance, bloggers are a joke). Local television news provides the most immediate and comprehensive coverage. How would networks provide national coverage if local bureaus were to shut down? They couldn't.

The dollar debate is not only myopic, but it undermines the question of a Canadian public broadcasting system (though the internet and other direct delivery methods are turning it into a narrow-casting system - where content is streamed, on-demand, to the user).

For example, CTV Calgary is really a bureau of its parent network. The same goes for global etc. Back in the day when "SCTV" was produced in Edmonton, there was actually some merit to a local broadcasting argument. However, now, with all historical perspective all but lost in favour this conversation will sink into a debate about the dollar.

Most Canadians are entirely ignorant of how DTH (Cable companies) make their money. Let's see, you want "local" programming for Detroit, you get to pay a carriage fee for that channel. You'll get to watch "local" Detroit news, and weather, and "local" network programming.

If you want to watch Calgary TV, that broadcaster doesn't get a penny from the carrier. If DTH want to make the argument that you can still get the signal over the air, then the locals can just shut down their transmitters (oh wait, they can't because they are regulated and HAVE to operate them, even though it doesn't make financial sense any more).

Here's an oversimplified solution: fee for carriage, period. As a viewer, I pick the channels I want to pay for. I would select three local channels, and about 5 or 6 other cable channels. I can only watch so much TV, so why am I forced to pay for stations in packages I don't need? Because that's how the Cable companies make money; by splitting popular channels across several tiers. DTH can then pay the segment directly to the "locals" and it will be as fair as rain...it will fall equally on everyone.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mark* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I believe that like all television channels, the local TV stations should be allowed to charge for its services. However, I also think that the Cable/Satellite companies can make them an option.

I don't believe ANY channels should be forced on us as part of basic system. On TV, there are approximately 20 channels this household watches out of 200...but I am paying well over \$200/month to watch these channels because they are bundled into different levels...I would rather pay \$50/month and only access my 20 channels thank you.

If no one wants to pay for local programming...then guess what, local channels better pick up their game or get out of the business.

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Like

 *johnrb* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would expect to be able to drop local stations that I don't watch and don't want to pay for. What is local about them? Here is today's local CTV station's afternoon lineup: Bold and the Beautiful; Sue Thomas: FB Eye; Dr. Phil; Dr. Oz; Ellen Degeneres. Here is the evening lineup: e-talk; access hollywood; Corner Gas rerun; Shrek the Halls; The Wedding Crashers. What is local about that? Global is even worse. These stations aren't local, and can't even be differentiated from American channels. If they demand money, get them off my cable.

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Like

 *adam* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The poorly managed local TV stations will die no matter what you do - and dont be fooled, its the only reason they need more money then they generate. Like most people I too would cancel my cable subscriptions to the local stations and use the over the air HD signals when

required.

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 [Darin McBride](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If cable companies were no longer forced to broadcast local TV, but it would be an optional package like all the other packages they offer, then it would make sense. And then you would see hoards of people using rabbit-ears to watch local TV, and only use cable for bringing in signals from other jurisdictions.

It is not the CRTC's job to make broadcasting a viable business. That's the job of the broadcasters. Maybe we have too many local stations to survive economic downturns. A few stations dying out would thus be good for the economy, and should not be propped up with consumer dollars being mandated from subscribers. My sister, who doesn't pay for any cable, would not be paying her fair share? That's ridiculous.

Cable companies distributing local TV already adds value to the local stations by giving them a competitive edge over stations that are in optional add-on packages. Charging me money for that is just adding insult to injury. Try providing TV that I want to watch, at the definition I want to watch it at (i.e., HD), and you'll be able to sell my eyeballs to your advertisers. Otherwise, I'll just have to find an on-line source for my programs, or just wait until the season ends and buy it on DVD. It'd probably be cheaper than the huge bucks I'm giving to Shaw already, and entirely cut the TV stations out of the loop.

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 [Ken S from Ramara](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

You can't make BDU subscribers pay for channels that OTAs give away for free. Tax one you must tax the other! If the decision is made to tax, then BDU subscribers must be given the option to opt out from subscribing to localtv, something we can not do now. BDUs already collect a subsidy for localtv, from their subscribers. The CRTC should allow the market to decide if localtv is viable!

[Flag](#)

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 [Alderman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable costs too much now..

Subscribers to Cable TV and Satellite TV pay for packages of channels which contain many marginal Specialty channels. These channels are owned by the Networks.

I propose a reasonably priced base package for subscribers containing Major Networks and the local stations.

Specialty Channels would be purchased not in packages as it is now, but individually. Packages of these specialty channels are not economical; one or two channels in a package carry the weaker, seldom viewed ones.

If these weaker specialty channels were on their own, few subscribers would mean their demise, but the Networks wouldn't particularly like this scenario. Cable/SatTV are bloated with too many hardly watched channels.

It's time for a change.

Maybe if the monthly cost is lowered and the programming improves, I will again subscribe to one of the above, but now I listen to as many as 12,000 RADIO STATIONS over the Internet for the cost of a connection. Perhaps someday, if Broadband improves in Canada, TV may be available also.

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[Like](#)

 [Otis10236](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The only TV programming that's "local" is the local news. Sure we have more channels but they're all the same programs. I for one am tired of watching re-runs of the same movies and TV shows on different channels and paying a premium for the privilege. I'd appreciate the

opportunity to have a choice which includes offering Direct TV and Dish Network. Our country is run by oligarchies.

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Like

 *Rick Mili* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think it is outrageous that the cable companies have been getting free content for so many years and making billions in profits as a result. I think they should be charged for the content and there should be a regulation that they CANNOT pass this on to their customers, but must "eat" the additional cost themselves.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Chandler* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I pay enough already. I'm scouting local flea markets because of how this issue may play out, if you catch my drift.

There is value to local programming - but quality, focused programming. We should be looking to the BBC for guidance on how to create homegrown programming people want to watch and that holds its own against US content. It doesn't need to have million dollar production values, but it does need to be well written and conceived. And when something flops, let it fail - don't prop it up as a worthwhile titan of Canadian culture. If each Canadian network could produce just ONE quality prime time program that garnered decent market share and ran for 5-6 seasons, I'm convinced local programming would pay for itself.

This whole debate turns on the definition of local programming. I'm happy to get local news, and I'm proud when the odd (and I mean ODD) Canadian program makes good either in Canada or abroad. But if you tell me that the 100 specialty channels I have to get in a bundle that simply replay syndicated programming, long-since-cancelled shows or movies from 20 years, or poor homegrown dramas and sitcoms are somehow "local" and worthy of my support, you're asking too much.

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Like

 *Rob* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do NOT support local television being able to charge for their signal. They should trim their costs in tougher economic times like the rest of us rather than asking for a new revenue source. If the local and national news wasn't of such poor quality I might think otherwise. It's low value, entertainment grade, spin, gossip and drama. It lacks any sense of balance and avoids putting topics in perspective in favour of over-hyped drama. Why should I pay for such garbage that only serves to mislead the public.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *warrenstrom* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I do not want to pay higher fees for subsidizing local tv. If the carriers (CTV / CBC) cannot carry the present channels then they need to drop those that they claim are unprofitable. Like any other business, they should stand on their own without the need of a bailout through more taxes or fees. I already pay approx \$100.00/month (this includes internet cable however). Local advertising should support local tv

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Like

 *erich* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I dont care what they do as long as my cable fees do not go up. this is the bottom line for all consumers.
or make cable completely digital, thus empowering the consumers to select and pay only for

channels that they will watch, enough with paying for 20 channels and watching only 1 or 2 of them

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 *David Hanson* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local T.V. raises its funding through advertizing. CTV and CBC also raise funds by producing specialty T.V. net works such as Bravo, Show Case, Men, just to name a few, which the cable companies pay a lot for. Now, they want the cable companies to pay them as well? No! If the cable companies are to pay them, they should pay them out of the funds that they pay for the specialty T.V. networks; and not in addition to what they pay for the specialty networks. If they can't operate without the extra funding, they can go off the air.

[Flag](#)

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 *Brian Daniels* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. As a cable subscriber, I strongly oppose any additional charges resulting from fees to over-the-air broadcasters.

2. Local television should continue as it has always done, without imposing involuntary costs on cable subscribers, perhaps adapting its products and business model to meet current business conditions, as is the case with any other industry.

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 *stevesimkus* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I rarely watch "local television" of any kind and, frankly, would not miss it if it disappeared. In the thousand channel universe (and on-demand soon to become the preferred method of receiving TV content), the days of local broadcast TV are numbered anyway.

So, for that matter, is a taxpayer-supported public broadcaster. CBC operations should either be sold off to the private sector, or wound down entirely. In all honesty, I cannot remember the last time I watched a program on any CBC channel.

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 *Noel Jago* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The entire concept of a "conventional" station is no longer applicable. With so few Canadians watching "off-air" signals Cable and Satellite have formed the new standard for delivering TV to Canadians. This was a goal the actively sought and achieved. The idea of conventional and specialty no longer apply. TV is TV and the value of each station / channel should be sold to Cable and Satellite companies via a fair market based fee for carriage system.

The "basic" cable package should provide enough money to pay for any local station. Local TV will be lost without being able to negotiate fee for carriage and an important service required to express the diversity of our nation along with it.

The CBC is a public broadcaster, receives government funding and should not be included in any market based or fee for carriage system.

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 *Dave* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. There is no extra fee I would be willing to pay for local TV. I am more than happy to do without it, as I'm not willing to pay any more for TV.

2. If local TV can't support itself, then it shouldn't exist.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



kevincrannie ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

If Fee-for-Carriage is imposed upon cable/satellite subscriber's, I am among those who will also cancel my basic cable television service with Rogers. Basic Cable should not cost \$38 monthly, especially when all that is being aired is reality shows, soap opera's, talk shows, and repeats upon repeats. In essence, the CRTC should issue an order directing cable/satellite companies to lower their fees. It's nothing more than greediness on the part of Networks wanting more of the tax payer's money; not-to-mention Rogers slapping fees upon customers that they are to absorb and saying it's mandated by the CRTC (1.5% LPIF imposed upon customer's September 2009). The CRTC needs to regulate cable/satellite companies, so as, to put an end to cable/satellite companies ripping off the customer's, all the while making record-breaking profits. Enough IS enough!!

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Like



chris ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

i think cable and sat and telus all want something for nothin but want to hose the consumer more i will cancel it if this goes through

[Flag](#)

Like



Will ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I'm pretty sure I already pay too much, so why would I want to pay more.

If what is meant by local television you mean companies like Global, the CRTC has already failed at their job of protecting local television. Rebroadcasting only does positive things for local TV as it gives them a broader market. Anyway, these are not Ma and Pa stations broadcasting something unique, they all broadcast the same crap.

The bottom line is that they are businesses and I am a consumer. If they cannot drum up enough business, then close. I am not ready to spend one more red cent.

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Like



Brian Kramer ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I don't have cable or satellite service. Both are far too expensive and the packages are laughable. If someone wants only one channel they should only pay for that one channel, not a package of 20. And the cost of their HD is atrocious.

All my channels arrive to my home via Over-The-Air broadcasts. I get a dozen High Def channels for free.

Local tv should not be allowed to charge a fee. Their business model is to collect revenue through advertising. If that isn't working form them then that's their problem to fix. They can trim costs or try to get more advertising. When the cable/satellite companies broadcast their signal then they are giving the local station more eyeballs for their advertising. That's their compensation. They deserve no more. If you allow them to charge a fee then the cable/satellite should be allowed to not offer the signal. Thus allowing the customer to not have to receive the local station if they don't wish too.

No actions should be taken to support local television.

[Flag](#)

Like



darylberry ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I strongly urge the CRTC to put an end to all of this talk of raising fees of any amount! Both parties in this whole argument are now showing, as they have in the past, a disgusting display of greed. Tell both parties to grow up, stop their propaganda ads and move on.

My wallet is empty enough.

Flag

Like

 *Gloria* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm sick and tired of getting nickled and dimed to death. Everyone just wants to add \$5 or \$10 a month to our bills. Well guess what, you're not the only ones that want a piece of my money. I already pay huge amounts of money for my service. You guys start dividing up what we already pay. The service we get is already expensive for the quality of product we are getting. Now you want more of my money???? Well forget it. I'll cancel my service before I let that happen. How do you expect people to support all these things? Who the hell is looking out for us? I have a feeling that all this is for the government to say, we let you talk. However, we need to raise more taxes to pay for this so sorry for your luck. I'm just plain fed up with the greed of big business. I wonder how many \$1000 dinners and \$500 bottle of wines this will buy.

Flag

Like

 *gbgbgb* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

we pay enough fees.. take the lock of the market and let us decide our cable companys without being locked. nuff said.

Flag

Like

 *Brian Biggings* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

There is no way I should have to pay for any tv containing commercial advertising. I beleive that cable/satellite companies should pay the broadcasters but subscribers should have the option to op out of receiving them. Those of us in southern Ontario get superior digital reception off air.

Flag

Like

 *SCF* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Canadians have some of the worst cell phone services and the worst television services and it's the CRTC to blame. Let the market resolve these issues. Let consumers decide. Stop trying to regulate these things. If Canadians want to pay for local TV, let them decide in an open market place, don't bundle it in their cable bills, giving them no say in the matter.

Flag

Like

 *richardjohnston* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The most important thing on television is local coverage. I don't have cable or satelite dish because it costs a lot of money and you get dozens of American chanel's that have no interest to me. I would pay for this service if there was an option at reasonal cost to just get the Canadian networks and our local provincial chanel's.

Flag

Like

 *wernerfroemgen* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

i don't see any value in local programming. if the fees go up i will kill cable and get a gray market american dish. the local stations suck, no one i know watches them.

Flag

Like

 *bryanq* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Broadcasters (networks) are paid to deliver an audience to advertisers. If the cable company is retransmitting the signal without changing the commercials, they shouldn't have to pay for it. If

they're substituting commercials, they should pay for the signal (or license the programs from the Americans themselves directly).

Cable is just another delivery method like a transmitting tower or an internet connection; if it's not changing the signal, the network should be happy they don't have to pay for the upkeep of the system.

Local tv has become a misnomer, since the local station management doesn't determine what shows are carried or when they run; those are central head office decisions. Even the "Canadian" programs are determined by Toronto only. The only thing local about local tv is the news.

If an extra fee is charged for local tv, I want them to be optional. If I have to pay directly (instead of indirectly through advertisers), I want the choice of what I'm paying for.

I might agree to a fee to continue production of local news, but even that is "iffy" since their current formula driven approach isn't local, either. If an extra fee is added, it will increase the likelihood that I will switch to the internet for my program delivery.

[Flag](#)

Like



Shawn Peterson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

CTV and Global are evil, mismanaged corporations, using local television as a ploy to get more money to air even more American programming (as if 99 percent of their schedule isn't enough).

How come they had plenty of money to buy things like Alliance Atlantis, CHUM, newspapers, the rights to the hockey night in Canada theme song, and pay their executives with handsome bonuses. CTV shut down Brandon, only to use it as a pawn in this feeble attempt to get more money out of us Canadians.

What's needs to be done is to get rid of the CTV and Global networks, stop simsubbing all together as it's highly annoying, open up the airwaves to the likes of DirecTV who offer a much more competitive channel lineup and rate compared to Rogers, and force the remaining Canadian stations to air all Canadian content.

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Like



ajuanmanuel ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I do not care about local tv, if it went off the air and my bill was lower i would be happy. If I were asked to pay 1cent more for worthless local tv, i would just cancel my cable
2. Local television should look for ways to raise money on their own merit, if they cannot compete on their own merit then maybe they should go to internet where cost are lower and get off tv

[Flag](#)

Like



ian ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Majority of programs on local tv are syndicated american shows. It is not fair to the viewer to pay when the service being offered is currently offered on the American Channels. As for local news and weather, it is 2009. I get all of that information online. I am all for supporting local business and Canadian companies, however the Canadian channels are passing any money they get on to the big 3 us networks. As it is currently structured, local TV gets no support from me.

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Like



ian ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

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Like



Marg ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The last thing we need is yet ANOTHER TAX. We are already paying certain companies for their services and that should be enough.

[Flag](#)

Like



Datacide ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1) I would certainly cut down the other channels I have to make up the difference.

2) Local advertisers. These companies can help themselves like every other company.

When it comes down to it...I don't watch much local stations at all and to be honest re-feeding content from other networks is about all I see that is remotely interesting on the local channels...and I can get that programming directly from the source network.

If we are asked to pay for local TV, then I want to have the option to NOT get those stations in my package. Make a "local TV" package and see how many people sign up for it. The local stations can't have it both ways...by being included in the basic package with everyone's TV, they get a TON of exposure and then can use this to drum up advertising based on how many households get their channel (which is everyone who pays for TV packages). Can't drum up enough cash from advertising in a slow economy? Well...too bad...lots of companies went belly up in the economic down-turn. Canadians are sick of bailing out companies that can't cut it on their own and we are more than sick of taking hits to the wallet for entertainment.

[Flag](#)

Like



disgustedbynewtaxes ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We pay enough for cable fees, and should not pay any more. I'm amazed that this is even being considered, as we are at the earliest stages of a recovery and new taxes are being thrown up at every turn. It seems that the politicians and beurocrats are living in fantasy land - we won't continue to support bloated, inefficient, and ineffective government. I'm aware that local TV stations are not government agencies; CRTC, on the other hand, is. The CRTC should not be increasing the fees for cable or satellite access.

[Flag](#)

Like



gerrycurry ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

With the exception of over the air broadcasting, I do not support the current model in any shape or form. I believe the only fair way to provide programming is strictly a la carte. If you want to watch it you pay for it. The current "basic" plan forces me to pay for about 50 services, out of which I would only EVER watch 5. Some of these services aren't even in a language I understand. I will NEVER pay for a service that forces me to pay for 45 services that I will NEVER watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



Chad K ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. If I want a local station I should be given the option of subscribing to that station. It's as simple as that.

2. Local television could be supported by providing a service that those in the community it serves would value. If they are unable to do so then they have no reason to exist.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John Smith* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Cancel my service. Currently I only have basic cable because every other package is far too expensive and includes channels I do not want and refuse to be forced into paying for.

2. CTV, Global et al could easily afford local TV if they spent less on foreign product. Additionally, local businesses are keen to advertise to their local markets via these stations but CTV, Global et al, reduced said commercial time in local markets by forcing Toronto-centric advertising (including network promos) into markets that did not want or need them. They also cut costs (re: talent and story gathering capabilities) thus weakening their product. The big networks have also been abysmal in their adoption of the internet as (a) a driver of business and (b) a portal for content, I should add, content that does not parrot US stations. I would like to see local stations return to local ownership if the big networks cannot provide sound management. Their current strategy is incompetence masquerading as concern, and it seems to me, Canadians have had enough.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Frank P.* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

In my opinion, local TV should be FREE if they run commercials (ex, CTV), however I would pay for high quality uninterrupted programming (like PBS in the US). The problem is that high profile US shows bring in the audience, therefore get most advertising dollars. If supply & demand reigns, then we can say good bye to local programming.

If CRTC forces local TV to have local programs, then - at least short term - they will lose the advertising dollars.

Perhaps local stations and cable companies should be taxed on their commercial revenues at two rates: lower rates for local, higher for imported. Similar to import duty. In the end, more commercials in CSI will bring in the same as less commercials in a D. Suzuki special. Now, supply and demand will be "tipped" slightly to make everyone happy.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *saugaking* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I will cancel my cable services.

Why does the Canadian public always have to suffer by paying more taxes?

Is it not the Cable Provider or Local Stations job to have TV programming funded through Television Commercials and other Advertising.

I have a solution:

Canadian Corporations should create Television Commercials for their businesses and pay the Television stations to have their commercials paid for? That way everybody wins. The businesses can benefit from the exposure, the TV stations get their money and the Canadian Public can enjoy Local Programming AND advertising from our Local companies instead of watching the same commercials from Rogers and Bell all day long. Not to mention this may encourage Canadians to support Canadian companies and help out our Economy.

Asking the Canadian Public to pay a TV tax, is a slap in the face considering that many Canadians have lost their jobs this year. Not to mention, Rogers will be laying off another 900 employees.

Who wants to pay another Tax?

Right after this letter, i need to hop onto another website to petition paying the Harmonized Sales Tax.

So needless to say, if I need to pay another \$10/month to watch tv, you bet I will be canceling my TV Services.

[Flag](#)

Like



Nancy ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

This issue should be resolved between the local stations and the cable & satellite companies at no extra charge to the consumer. Canadians are already charged far too much for cable/satellite, internet, and mobile phone service, and don't have enough choice of providers! Come on CRTC, do your job and protect the consumers!

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Like



Mitch ★ [1 month ago in reply to Nancy](#) 1 person liked this.

who are you kidding..... the CRTC has never done anything to protect consumers!

[Flag](#)

Like



Robert C ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local television gets advertisers to pay for it's programming. It's obvious that there are allot of advertisers, some shows are so full of commercials its irritating. Why would I want to pay more for this. The information that the local channels provide is available in many forms. The amount we are paying now is way too much. The government should focus on important things like the deficit, health care, education as well as other essential functions. TV is not essential. The CRTC dictatorship needs to end. As an adult I don't need you to tell me what I can watch. Let the consumer make the choice. Get rid of the antiquated regulations requiring Canadian content.

[Flag](#)

Like



Larry Levsen ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I want a choice, and local TV has absolutely nothing I want to watch. Pardon me, I forgot, I do watch a 1/2 hour a day of local CTV news, I then check the local Blogs on the internet to see if that same CTV station is actually telling the truth. As for the local great mother corp, they are nothing but a bunch of useless self-important talking heads.

Let's solve the problem for the Networks, instead of CRTC forcing the cable companies to carry X number of local stations in every basic cable or satellite package. Treat them like all other packages, let us decide if we want to pay for them or not. Then you can let them have the same fee as the specialty channels get. If it turns out they are not wanted let the cable or satellite company drop them. Make all the locals just another optional package, you would soon find out if they are wanted, or just maybe they would be forced to improve. The results in my opinion would be lower cable/satellite costs, or improved local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



DIVEMAN ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We, the consumers are being ripped off.

Why are the networks spending hundreds of millions of dollars buying US programs when I can watch them on US stations. Do I need Global or CTV to run the same program in Canada when I can watch it on CBS. The exact same episode at the exact same time. What a colossal waste of money.

Why am I not seeing US commercials for example on Super Bowl day even when I am watching a US station. Again a set of rules that is costing us all money that is not required to be spent.

We are being snowed here and no one is prepared to do anything about it.

Not 1 more cent in fact we should cut rates across the board by 50%.

Why not open the market to Comcast, Time Warner, Shaw etc and get some real competition in the market place and scrap all the rules.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Hugh* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Shaw cable is already charging me for CBC, CTV & Global signals. The CDN cable monopolies should do the right thing and pay the networks their fair share instead of stealing from them while charging and gauging the consumer.

In other civilized countries like the USA, the cable companies MUST pay retransmission consent fees to the nets. The US cable companies basic cable rates are regulated and charge consumers less for cable service.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees in Canada. Shaw increased my cable rates twice in 2009 alone, without any explanation. The CRTC should consider letting Direct TV and Dish Network - they offer better service, cheaper rates and they don't steal signals from ABC, NBC, CBS, or FOX.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ken Kellett* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If the cable providers want to be able to increase the price then I should have a choice in cable providers. In other words, there needs to be competition between providers to control pricing or the CRTC needs to intervene in pricing.

However, I also believe the cable companies need to pay for the local channels as they do with all the premium channels. The cable providers are benefiting from the broadcasters who are taking all the business risk.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Branden* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I'm sick of the bashing ad campaign on behalf of both the broadcasters and the networks.

The Savelocaltv ads are saying they need that money to support local TV channels. But the truth is we all know how incredibly obvious it is that in all these mergers and local network acquisitions on behalf of the big networks, that it is their intent to shut down the local stations, but maintain the branding, and then broadcast quote-unquote "local" content from their headquarters in Toronto.

Meanwhile the stopthetv tax ads are trying to convince Canadians that the CRTC is asking cable to pass on the charges to the viewers. But the truth of the matter is the CRTC told the broadcasters to find a way to implement that fee to their corporate structures. It was solely cable and satellite's decision to wage a war on their viewers with these ads.

Secondly, who cares if we have local TV stations when 90% of the programming consists of acquired US shows.

The CRTC ruling that forces the broadcasters to simulcast the Canadian feed of US programming when they air in the same timeslot is so foolish. Who cares if we watch "House" on channel 8 or channel 28?

Any forward movements on behalf of the CRTC should force the channels to produce more

Canadian content.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [hoopsref33](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local tv is more important to Canadians than the specialized cable channels that have flooded our cable boxes in the past decade. The CRTC should do everything in its power to protect and preserve this integral part of Canadian culture. If the media conglomerates with their specialty networks are struggling to make ends meet, then they should sell off money-losing channels that are being subsidized by all of the local networks. If we as consumers were able to chose individual channels without having to pay for a package, this would not be an issue. The channels people watch would earn money and those that are unprofitable would cease to exist. It makes no sense to force consumers to pay for 30 channels when realistically only 15 get watched regularly. This is a business model that needs to change. Imagine going to the grocery store to get milk, but the only way to get milk is to also buy a product you have no need or interest in? It is no wonder that people seek alternatives to these business models. If Consumers were able to pay \$1.00 per channel and get individual channels, most would be happy to order their 30 favourites and not be stuck with 25-40 they have no interest in watching. The simple solution is to allow every Canadian the ability to chose only the channels they want and pay for them directly. This way the money collected can be paid to support the product that the masses want. Local channels would either need to be profitable or shut down. Then the cable companies can charge a nominal recovery fee for the service of cable entering our house, and be able to pay the channels being subscribed to. Stop the subsidy of marginal channels on the backs of the local networks.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Mark Moeller](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable companies should be paying to keep local TV in Canada alive and functioning. As for their "TV Tax" Ads, I was disgusted. Shame, shame on cable TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [mrneelix](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I feel that it is very important to retain local television as it encourages a feeling of a community as opposed to a collection of strangers, but on the other hand I do not believe it fair that the cable and satellite companies instantly jumped on the bandwagon of passing the charge directly through to the consumers.

I feel that considering the fact that the providers have enjoyed record profits in part by offering the broadcasts from these local stations (which now that they are being asked to pay for them they are saying that they are of no worth) and considering the number of times in very recent history they have increased their rates, it is about time that they should contribute to their operations.

On the other hand, I also believe that the networks should be required to make a commitment to maintaining local stations and possibly be required to submit a request to a governing body with justification before they can close local stations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [stanschurman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Nobody could ever accuse me of being a fan of the cable companies. I look forward to Rogers et al being given some stiff competition for a change. They need the humility. That being said, I am also not sure that the TV broadcasters have a moral or even an economic argument for wanting the cable and satellite companies to pay for their signals. The broadcasters sell so many thousands or millions of viewers to their sponsors. The viewers are the product that the broadcasters sell, not programs. The cable companies deliver the viewers to the broadcasters and they do it at no cost to those broadcasters. An analogy might be the TTC delivering subway

riders to The Eaton Centre in Toronto. The Eaton Centre doesn't charge the TTC because, without the transit system, the number of shoppers would decrease drastically. The same can be said of the relationship between the broadcasters and the cable companies. Without cable, the number of viewers for any given network or station would decrease dramatically. The cable companies perform a free service to the broadcasters in my humble opinion. Also, like everyone else, I certainly don't need any additional charges added to my already inflated bill. We can be almost certain that the cable companies would add an "administration" charge onto any additional fee that might be allowed.

[Flag](#)

Like



Adamg ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Given the option I would cancel ALL my canadian channels. Simply put I dont think any of them (canwest, ctv nor rogers) are honoring the spirit of the broadcast act. The word local tv implies that there is local programming - however at present outside of the larger metropolitan areas it doesnt exist beyond a couple of hours a week.

Above which the networks simply use commonized news (since there are almost no local shows) and rebroadcast us programming.

I believe that enough is enough - if they (the large networks) dont want to honor the spirit of the broadcast act as opposed to what they are currently doing the optimal solution would be to simply sell off all the OTA networks (or refuse their license renewals) and allow US networks such as NBC,CBS etc to buy the channels with a condition of producing canadian news.

I will not pay 1 cent more to these parasites and you can call this whatever you wish "fee for carriage" "value for signal" it amounts to the same thing - paying more so channels that provide almost NOTHING to canadians can continue to buy US programming. For every dollar my bill increases I will be cancelling 2 dollars of programming. I can get everything off of the net and dont need to continue to put up with this.

If we are going to continue to attempt to generate Canadian content (and local content) then specific requirements need to be set in order to gain a license renewel - 1) no toronto, montreal, vancouver, calgary license without meeting a requirement to update OTA to digital for less populated areas like Kitchener/Waterloo, Hamilton, Kamloops etc. 2) Simulcast rights need to be earned and should not be universal - for every hour of PRIMETIME (ie 7-11pm M-F) locally generated programming 3 hrs of simulcasting can be purchased, for every hour of cancon 2 hrs can be purchased. No more simulcasting for free.

This isnt a matter of paying for local tv - canadians already are. There is little to no HD OTA in canada, yet its universal in the US. Almost all canadians are forced to purchase cable/sat with a required package and no opt outs for \$30+ a month. We shouldnt have to bear this burden since the networks have done this to themselves by purchasing ever increasing quantities of US programming while at the same time fragmenting the canadian market with specialty channels simply to ensure the US equivalent channel could not enter the marketplace.

CTV recently chose to air the grey cup on TSN2 a limited access speciality channel. The grey cup is one of the most watched canadian sports venues yet many were shut out. This artificially propped up the revenues of TSN2 while making CTV OTA look less profitable.

Enough is enough.

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Like



E Eisinga ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Not happy would probably get rid of my satellite pay way to much now.

[Flag](#)

Like



Michel Petit ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We already pay too much to TV as they (cable & channel providers) presently bundle what you like with what you do not and you have to pay more - the consumers, like me, can not afford continual increases; I agree that the local networks should be compensated but not by subscribers but from the huge profit cable companies and TV sat companies presently enjoy via bundles and other speciality channels which use to be standard channels. They change the name to continually increase fees - what higher fees will do is only limit choices for poor and middle income Canadians whom are constantly required to pay and pay with minimal benefit. Cap profits and give to the local channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul H ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The price vs. selection is not there. We definitely do not get the selection for what we are forced to pay for. If I had to pay additional money I would either choose a free to air system to work on getting a US Satellite System where I can get the choices and pay an appropriate fee. Local Television should receive more money however local TV should move to being a non-profit much like PBS where viewer sponsorship maintains the station. I mean really what local content is actually being shown on local TV.. mostly... network shows that we already pay for on a pay feed.

[Flag](#)

Like



rickrowe ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable satellite fees are too high now. I cannot afford higher rates. My friends in the United States pay far less. They do not subsidize speciality channels through subscription fees. Channels should survive or fail based on what revenues they get from advertising etc. If the Specialty channel cannot get viewers thus advertisers they should fail. The same should apply to local broadcasters. Let the market dictate. In my view the CRTC has failed in this area.

[Flag](#)

Like



Michael ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable bill and just download shows I want from the Internet. I would do this because I don't like being charged twice. Will they be getting rid of commercials? I think not. In the case of the CBC, it is a triple cash grab. If they have a fee, they should let me choose not to have the local channels. I'll just read my news from online.
2. I don't think a measure should be taken. They should save themselves or go bankrupt. Running to the government to impose a tax (effectively at least) is just sad.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jim S ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We pay too much for too little as it is. As it has been mentioned by others in this post, we are getting ripped off by the only game in town (Shaw, Telus and Bell). If I have to pay for local TV, which I already am and the big three pocket it, I will go back to the old rabbit ears. Make them pay, and not forward the cost to us. Put a freeze on the prices they are charging us, and make them give us more for less, like they do in the US.

The CRTC has to open up more competition to drive the price down and give us more to choose from. Then again, the CRTC is a non-elected body, so what do we expect. They're probably in bed with the big three. I, or we, could do a better job than those monkeys. Make it an elected body that anyone can run for. Like us.

I say NO to the tax and higher cable and satellite rates. Their free ride is over. Make them pay!

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Like



Tom L ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would be furious if you had me pay for local t.v. Local t.v (with the exception of news and very little sports) has proven to be a useless waste of airtime and taxpayers money, i.e (the CBC). Free Enterprise does not mean force feeding the consumer what they don't want and paying for it. That's how gangs to business.

This same question should be imposed to cable and satellite providers. The CRTC has let this problem with paying for what you don't want for years and now the greed is so big that Your even noticing! Let the market decide on who survives just like any normal business in a supposedly free market state!

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Gerald D ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would NOT pay for local TV on top of what I already pay. I already pay too much for cable

2. I would like to see the following compromise:

a. cable operators be made a simple carrier of content, with no say over what is carried (similar to what is done with electricity and natural gas in some provinces)

b. all channels be unbundled, allowing users to choose what channels they want to watch

c. per b), channels be allowed to charge a fee for their content, with the fee (less a modest handling fee for cable vision, set by the CRTC) going directly to the content provider

d. as an important part of c), any channel charging a fee would be required to NOT have any commercials (otherwise consumers would in effect be paying twice for the same content)

c. per a) and b) and c) and d) above, local TV be treated like any other channel. if consumers didnt want their content or if their content/channel costs too much, they would fail to survive, the same as any other business. No more bailouts.

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Michael - Richmond ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Go ahead, let the cable companies collect an additional fee for local programming, which they will then pass onto the local stations.

BUT ONLY if I can then have the choice to remove that channel from my cable service. I would then add ONE local channel, instead of the three or more that I get now.

In fact, there should be no bundling allowed. You pay for what you get and you get what you pay for. Don't want it? Don't buy it.

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Mitch ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If we are to be charged for local tv(which i dont think we should be), then we should have the right to choose which local channels we want to pay for. This in turn would add true competitiveness to the industry. Perhaps more people choose to pay for Global but not CTV or vise-versa. The channels getting more viewers would then attract more advertising dollars. The channels not doing well, may be forced to shut down. Isn't this how capitalism is supposed to work?? Networks shouldnt be bailed out simply because they've been around a long time. If they cant cut it, too bad. I believe no matter what, there will always be a demand for local news. But maybe, we dont need 4 local channels. So if some channels shutdown, the remaining will become more profitable. I say let the free market solve this problem.

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Jack ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We have about reached the saturation point of Canadians patience. I know I have..I pay about

\$125/month for Bell Sat tv..and they are mostly channels I do not watch. However I cannot pick and choose what I need. Instead I am mandated to subsidize "diversity" channels, i.e. APTN, French etc. Should prices/taxes rise one more penny, I will cancel and reactivate my US DirecTV account where I am appreciated as a customer and not considered as a cash cow for both the Sat/cable/tv corporations. I really don't care if its "legal" or not. If the police have nothing better to do then spend time looking at sat dishes, go for it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Michael Foster ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1 - I already refuse to pay for cable and happily receive my local TV via HD antenna, therefore I can not do anything to respond. If I did have cable I would cancel it.

2 - In my view, the national broadcasters are incredibly lucky to be granted the gift of broadcast licences, and if they feel they can not fulfill their mandate, other companies should be offered the licences. With this threat in place perhaps they will be happy with the profit they do have, rather than the profit they wished they had.

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Like



Guest ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I am forced to pay for CTV, Global, Citytv & CBC, I will be forced to cancel my cable service and get my information entirely from the internet.

It is because of specialty channels from the above networks, which I am forced by Rogers to purchase in order to get a couple of channels above basic cable, that my cable bill has skyrocketed to the point where enough is enough.

It is frustrating that the major Canadian networks are allowed to simulcast over the USA network signals. I buy cable to access USA stations and I detest having to watch Canadian ads on the American channel.

If they want to be paid for their signals, then the CRTC should order that their signals along with all the specialty stations are provided on an individual basis with the rates regulated by the CRTC. Furthermore the simulcasting should be stopped.

Let the consumer have a choice in what they want to buy and stop the price-gouging via of bundling.

[Flag](#)

Like



Michael Foster ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1 - I already refuse to pay for cable and happily receive my local TV via HD antenna, therefore I can not do anything to respond. If I did have cable I would cancel it.

2 - In my view, the national broadcasters are incredibly lucky to be granted the gift of broadcast licences, and if they feel they can not fulfill their mandate, other companies should be offered the licences. With this threat in place perhaps they will be happy with the profit they do have, rather than the profit they wished they had.

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Like



Paul M ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Air broadcast stations will have to reinvent themselves by themselves and by the market they compete in. They are already given a big advantage by Cable by the very fact that their broadcast areas are expanded, providing them with larger advertising market bases - and they still can't make it work. To provide them with an additional subsidy of \$120 a year per Cable subscriber is nothing but an offensive shakedown of a consuming public that doesn't like the service they still deliver - in a world of so many other interesting and creative entertainment and

information delivery options. In other words, the CRTC would be rewarding mediocrity and complacency, setting a precedent which it can never reverse. Meanwhile the mediocrity and complacency will only increase, and there is no doubt they will be back, again and again, for even more CRTC handouts, rudely picked out of our pockets.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *annef* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We already pay too much for our television service. the Bundle concept is ridiculous for viewers. We are paying for channels that we NEVER watch. I would prefer fewer channels and better quality. Canadian content is not important to me - quality is what counts. There are local stations that would not be missed if they folded. The whole industry is so over-regulated - the CRTC has created a monster - There should be more freedom and flexibility and the competition allowed to determine who survives or falls. We watch less and less TV because of the lack of good programmes.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *k Hemeneka* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is important but we the consumer SHOULD NOT BE CHARGED extra for it. What we have here is 2 GREEDY Multibillion dollar industries(broadcasters and cable/telecoms) trying to get the OTHER side (and.or the consumer) to pay for something they'd rather not even have (because it gets in the way of the profits they make from American shows for the broadcasters and cuts into the HUGE profits the cable companies make with their near monopolies). I have NO sympathy for a company like Canwest who overextended themselves all over the globe (buying networks in Australia etc) then claiming poverty when the economic collapse happened. And siding with the cable telecom companies with their already ridiculous pricing and their past evil tactics like negative option billing(and not to mention the GOUGING pricing the charge for cell phones in this Canadian Tri-nopoly...the WORST, most EXPENSIVE service in the western world according to independent economists...and a pure license to Print Money for these companies...) is not something I want to do either. MAKE THE BROADCASTERS stick to their Can Con commitments(and THEN some)!! Or have them split the cost with the Evil cable telecoms (but DON'T let them pass on additional costs to already overcharged consumers!!!) If you the CRTC can't give us REAL economic choice (why can't I pay for EXACTLY the channels I WANT and not get stuck with a bunch I NEVER view: Broadcast Darwinism...if your cable channel can't support enough viewers, you shouldn't be on the air!!! Survival of the fittest/best), you can at LEAST protect the consumers from 2 GREEDY industries trying to pass off the cost of local TV to consumers. DO SOMETHING POSITIVE FOR A CHANGE CRTC and don't just help the 2 most EVIL GREEDY industries in Canada SCREW the customers AGAIN!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *peterdkemp* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local tv is paid for by advertising and free over the air. I would cancel my Sat TV subscription if they try to charge for it. If they can't make money then go out of business.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Notwillingtotakeitanymore* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If local television would add programming that people actually wanted to watch advertisers would pay for the advertising space! I am not willing to further subsidize "Local" programming through additional taxes and fees.

Do or Die.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *sjtigers* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

1. Local tv has stopped being local a long time ago. CBC has done fine with regional broadcasters, other than local news no one watches "local" programming otherwise they would be offered instead of the other things on TV.

2. It is a waste of time to artificially support local stations when the companies themselves abandon them in favour of specialty channels. The reason they are losing money is simple, no one watches them much anymore.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Stormbringer* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

I want to PAY for every single channel that I watch. It is only fair.

However it is UNFAIR that I am FORCED to pay for services that I do not want to have.

APTN, VISION, WTN for examples.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Marilyn_M* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

We are already paying a "local TV" fee and have no choice but to pay or the "bundled channels" are not available. Cable fees have increased many times in the last few years and I have reached my limit and will cancel my cable if there is anymore increases. I am tired of paying when I only watch a few channels. Decent programs are a rarity. I am sick and tired of commercials, infomercials, including business infomercials disguised as programming and reality programs.

I want to see consumers be able to choose which channels they subscribe too...not bundles etc.

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Like

 *Amy* ★ 1 month ago 1 person liked this.

To be quite frank, I have some issues with both sides of the argument with respect to this whole FFC debate that is currently going on.

While I acknowledge that there is a small amount of truth to both sides of the argument, there are some major flaws with both.

With respect to the BDUs argument that these signals are being broadcast free of charge, then the BDUs themselves should be mandated to retransmit the same signals free of charge, effectively turning the cable or satellite dish into an alternate form of antenna. They could then encrypt and charge for those signals that are not OTA broadcasts. If they choose not to retransmit them in the clear for free, then this should be considered an acknowledgement on their part that they are in fact already being compensated for the signal, and as such should not be allowed to pass this fee on as either a price increase, or as a separate line item on the monthly bill. As for providing repair service for those customers that choose to only use the free transmissions, this could be handled one of two ways. Either a lower tiered response level could be established, or the BDUs could implement a "per service call" fee structure.

Also, with respect to the BDUs argument that FFC could add an additional \$10.00 per month to the subscriber's bill, this is born from the fact that in a never ending battle to be able to claim they deliver the most channels vs. their competition, they have chosen to inundate us with every affiliate station from coast to coast out there. This needs to be stopped, and stopped now. At a bare minimum subscribers should be allowed some choice with respect to which "local" stations they receive. The BDU's should be mandated to make the stations available via OTA signal mandatory for each region, and make all other "local" stations optional. As a resident of Aurora, Ontario I may care to receive the signals from stations in the GTA, but I don't really care to receive each affiliate from St. John to Victoria. A better solution would be to allow subscribers to have an "A la Carte" capability, and allow us to choose which stations and therefore types of

programming we wish to support.

As for the broadcasters themselves. Let's be honest, why as a cable or satellite subscriber should I be forced to subsidize consumers who choose to receive your signal via OTA for free? Until you are able to establish a system to charge those consumers of your OTA signal, you should not be given the right to charge me for it. For years, you've enjoyed the right to simulcast your signal onto the channels of the American affiliates, ostensibly so that when you sold commercial airtime on the different shows, you could guarantee the advertiser that the viewers of that show would see their commercials only. I believe that this was a fair and equitable solution. You should not be allowed to enjoy both streams of revenue.

Also, with respect to the LPIF, this fee is supposedly for the continual improvement of local programming. As such, I think it is only right that on the anniversary of the fee taking effect, the local broadcasters should have to provide evidence of that improvement. If they are unable to demonstrate that there has been improvement year over year, then the fee should be cancelled for the following year.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *E Bayrisal* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1 - Unless I am given the choice to whether I wish to subscribe or not to each channel, I will cancel my complete cable service. With the Internet, pay-per-use (e.g. itunes), or DVD for individual shows/movies available, the constant griping by the cable/broadcast firms is getting to be irritating, at best.

2 - I don't believe any measures should be taken. If the economics are not viable, why is it in business?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ArticGirl* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have cable and don't watch the local channel, the local news is full of nothing of real value unless you're into peewee hockey scores. I can walk by the newspaper rack and by the headlines alone get all I need without even buying a pile of advertisements I don't want. Local TV had its day, it managed for many years and now all of a sudden they can't manage. The local weatherman lives in a mansion, might give them a hint on where to begin to make cuts. I don't need someone's hand in my pocket to get money for something I do not want, the problem is the cable companies will not allow us to opt out. This is basic programming to start like it or not. Advertisers have always supported local tv, if they can't get them to advertise with them it is not my fault and I should not have to pay for it. Cable fees should be coming down, not going up.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jeffrey Robillard* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Fees are too high at \$65 per month taxes-in for basic standard definition analog cable. Recently Rogers moved channels around. Now the American PBS station has lots of static, and I can't watch the Ontario Legislature because they moved it to digital cable. When I complain to Rogers, they say move to Digital Cable which is more expensive. Please consider this alternative: encourage Internet TV for standard definition TV services to increase competition (hopefully the cable/phone companies won't hike the internet rates) - the right price would be \$30-35 per month taxes-in.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ed magee* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel services equal to or greater than a local TV fee as required to have neutral effect to my monthly cable bill. Cable/satellite charges are already excessive from the members of the Oligopoly.

2. Nothing. Local programming is a victim of its own poor product. Let market forces operate

freely. No more bail outs

[Flag](#)

Like



Joe ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would absolutely cancel my cable service. The cable company already raised their fee about 8% for next year, even at this economy downturn. If they charge us another 10 buck more, I believe more people will cancel their cable.

2. Let the market decide whether the local tv can survive. Lots of manufacture companies laid off people or even went bankrupt. Why can't local tv go off the air?

[Flag](#)

Like



F Raschka ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is awful. The only good shows are American ones they buy. Don't tax me by taxing my cable for stations I don't want. Just let American stations like NBC have local affiliates so we can have better local TV. Cancon should be gotten rid of.

Evening news is the only Canadian content needed. Allow American broadcasters to compete here with local news. Give the greedy locals nothing.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dan ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. To start with, here in NB, we have very little OTA channels. If I want to see what's happening locally, I read the local newspapers. We have ROGERS cable and most of the time, we watch specialty channels or US HD channels, rarely anything local. We already seem to be paying way to much in fees of all types for channels that we don't even watch but must pay for. Supporting the local channels will not be any different. Why must I pay for channels like The Shopping Network, Vision, and so on and so forth? Why can't we order what we want to watch? Same thing will apply for the local channels. Take them off cable, I wouldn't careless. Going back to "Grey" or even "Black" market is looking better each day. In that case, everyone would loose: local, ROGERS and all the specialty channels. I would be willing to risk it anytime should they start charging me for it. Come to think of it, am I not paying \$1.63 already on my cable?

2. If local TV was doing fine before, why would they need a handout all of a sudden? Take them off the cable/satellite and see how long before they start losing money...for real. How many people are using rabbit ears nowadays? Probably not a whole lot.

With that in mind, maybe it's time for you, the CRTC to split the channels that we, the customer, which to watch. If I order a pizza, I order the ingredients that I want, not what is already there. The same should apply to my channel watching. Then, if I want to have Global , then I'll ask for it.

Instead, to watch the 10 or so channels that we regularly watch, I am forced to get all the packages in order to sort the one I want from those that I am not interested in. Thanks a lot.

[Flag](#)

Like



John B ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Add a tax to local tv and I will cancel. The only real shows that matter on local tv is the news which I can get for free from the internet. All the other programming in US shows. The CBC is the only channel that actually produces their own shows and they are already funded by the govt.

[Flag](#)

Like



Glenn Rousseau ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Why would we implement a tax, fee or whatever you want to call it to support, private industry that does not provide any value to the market. Networks are failing because the business model has been outdated for more than twenty years. Cable and satellite company's have grown from the network and their local affiliates inability or lack of desire to provide programming to Canadians. We are forced to watch local and network feeds of North American events even though in many cases they are inferior. The networks and local companies have benefited from wider viewing audiences (captive) and greater revenue from advertising due to audience growth. The problem is that networks are inefficient, fail to deliver what consumers want and the marketplace has been left open for the cable and satellite companies charge us a premium for better programming. The bottom line is consumers will pay more for less and the monopolies that are protected by the CRTC will become more inefficient and will be back at the trough again. Let the marketplace decide who will survive, let the consumer decide, and stop taxing, and controlling the marketplace with regulations, levies and other means.

[Flag](#)

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minnetonka ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Firstly, i would not like it if i were asked to pay for local tv. If this happens, then i will reduce my channel packages. Why? Because my bill is too high already. I rarely watch it anyway. From what i read and hear they want to charge the service providers more for their local programming. Global and CTV went on a spending spree buying up networks and speciality channels and now want us to pay for them.

[Flag](#)

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Janemarc ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am not in favor of paying to support local tv and in effect, supporting those who work in it. It is inevitable that tv will migrate to the internet as more and more people want to watch what they want when they want it. I recently read in American Scientific that at current rates, conventional TV will be virtually non-existent within 5 years. The writing is on the wall, look at music downloads. My wife and I personally do not care for local television as we get all of our news from the internet and primarily watch specialty channels. There is a strong possibility that if an additional surcharge is added, we may cancel our cable television. Although it would be nice if everyone was happy, but the bleak truth is that viewership is on the decline and it is unfair to charge for a service that has no reasonable chance of long term viability. The only way I see this as viable is if tv stations use the iTunes format and charge people to view their channel; maybe this will work? Perhaps giving them some tax breaks and allowing them to operate like our southern PBS neighbors. If not, pull the plug as you are only prolonging the agony.

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Like



Darrell Woods ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We already pay far too much for our TV services as it is already and this is largely (in my opinion anyway) do to the lack of open competition. This, "Extra Cost", is a far as I am concerned, already paid for. . . so what are the cable companies doing with this money and why aren't they passing it on to Local TV????

[Flag](#)

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Michael Murphy ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

We are held to ransom right now. This is industry is probably the only one that can force us to purchase unwanted services to get the services we want. I am hoping that the CRTC will force a model change to allow the consumer the choice of channels we want, rather than the packages that are forced on us.

I don't want to subsidise any T.V channel. We already pay for basic cable which includes the

local channels.

Part of this is the changeover to digital signals which are not free to air. I am a Rogers customer and they only care for their bottom line. They give us channels that repeat the same movies etc. We can do without most of the channels so let us pick and if some close down so be it.

Flag

Like



R. Beckers ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I had to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for cable, I WOULD CANCEL the service. Local TV, as important as it is, is of no interest to me. However, the Cable company (COGECO) should be made to pay for local tv. Have you seen the "palace" they operate from?, and their record profits?

To support local TV, make the cable companys pay, and NOT pass that onto consumers.

Flag

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Sandy ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think local News and content must be preserved, its criminal that the huge cable providers are not paying anything towards suporting the local markets in which they are making huge profits from.

I want to know when there is an emergency ,or events that are happening in my community that I can turn on my television and get the information I need.

this new trend towards "super newsrooms" in Toronto and Vancouver just lessens the voices and diversity across our country.

Flag

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bkanderson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable companies should pay broadcasters for their signal. Cable companies are already a license to print money. They have no mandate to produce quality Canadian programming and Shaw especially has cut back on its local programming in recent years replaying a few programs many times a day.

Local broadcasters produce Canadian local news. Cable companies produce nothing of value to the community.

Local broadcasters have had Canadian content rules to maintain. Cable companies simply take signals from cable producers for a fee and send them down their pipeline with no added value. Now they want to charge consumers for their theft of local broadcast signals which they added to their line-up.

Cable companies have never had to comply with consumer choice by offering only the channels wanted by consumers on a per customer basis. Instead, customers get all kinds of channels they don't want and according to cable will have to pay extra for the channels they do want. This does not endear cable companies to consumers. We pay too much already for channels we never wanted.

The CRTC should enforce its requirement of at least 30% or more of Canadian programming from local Canadian broadcasters but require all cable companies to pay broadcasters a percentage for their signal.

Cable companies already overcharge for the channels they deliver. There is no need for them to pass on the extra charge to consumers.

Give us fewer channels (ones we choose) for less money.

Local programming and news are essential to a nation. Cable channels about cooking, shopping and pets are not.

Flag

Like



galbraw ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local and national TV stations charge advertisers as a major source of revenue and this revenue stream has been protected by the Government of Canada by forcing Canadains who subscribe

to Cable to switch over to a Canadian Channel when watching an American Network with the same show as the Canadian Station. Thus supporting the Canadian broadcaster's revenue. No other charges should be paid by consumers or the cable companies to the Canadian Broadcaster.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tom B. ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

How about the cable and sat companies charge the TV stations for delivering their product? Those networks that don't pay, don't get delivered. Then the cable companies can lower their prices instead of raising them. As for local stations, perhaps there are too many. Shut down the CBC. We don't need a government funded network. There are better things to spend our taxes on.

[Flag](#)

Like



Charles B ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The introduction of any increase in cable fees to support "local tv stations" will simply make me cancel cable service. I don't see how something that is free over the air should be charged for. Local TV should stand on their own 2 feet - they buy American TV shows and charge for advertising based on this. If the model doesn't work for them then they should hand back their licences and let someone else have a go at it.

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Like



V. Dixit ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The TV Broadcasters are a business. I am not going to bail out an industry just because it is not able to survive . I am lareday paying enough instead of beig asked to subsidize an industry

[Flag](#)

Like



John Smith ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

This is already too expensive. Will cancel my subscription if another tax is added for local programming or any other reason.
Who needs 300 channels ? There is not enough time in the day/month/year to watch.

Let subscribers receive and pay for any channels they want. Let them take only the channels they want.

Let the broadcasters and cable/satellite providers charge whatever they can get through competition.

If Canadians really care about local television, it would thrive under such a regime. If they don't, then this is another tiresome attempt to gouge consumers.

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ssfc72 ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would cancel my cable or satellite service.

Since over the air tv stations make their money from the advertising that they charge for airing with the programs, then they are greatly expanding their audience when the tv channel is carried by cable and satellite.

This means the TV stations should charge more for advertising on their channel, because the signal is being viewed by the extra cable and satellite viewers.

The cable and satellite companies should be charging the TV broadcasters for carrying the TV signal, over their service.

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Pablo ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The real problem here is simple. Ad revenue for traditional media(TV/Newspapers/Magazines) is way down. Advertisers are just not spending what they have in the past. This is forcing content providers to find new ways of sustaining themselves. Instead of adapting to this challenge, the Canadian networks are asking for a hand out to help them cope. Providing them with extra money is a short term solution, it is up to these companies to find new ways of staying profitable or they will go out of business. I for one do not watch any local TV and I would not want to be forced to pay extra each month so I can see a cow birth on my local news.

The simple solution is for Rogers/Shaw and Bell to stop being forced to carry local signals and to pay them for people wanting to subscribe to them. With that said, I would like to see CBC stay on for free but if I had to, then I would be willing to pay a fee to keep CBC.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

S Hamilton ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV has been free to receive over the air since it's inception. Any attempt to begin charging for this service would lead to loss of customers by the cable systems. The cable and satellite companies charge only for the distribution network they operate and special satellite channels. Those satellite channels are owned by the same media companies which now want us to pay for their local TV channels. If they had not been so eager to get involved with so many side channels in the first place, they would not find themselves in the current predicament they are in. The current downturn in the economy should not be justification for increasing consumers costs. Just as consumers have had to belt tighten, so should these media giants learn to live within their means. Local stations are mandated by the CRTC to provide local programming as part of their licence. Failure to do so should force them to relinquish those licences. If they need to find revenues to provide those services then let it not be on the backs of the consumers, who after all are the reason they are in business in the first place.

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jgmack ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I absolutely do not want to pay a fee for local television. Its already included in my cable package and as we all know, cable in this country is incredibly expensive. I didn't ask for Canadian networks to be included in my package. We consumers do not have the choice. The fee for local tv would be nothing but a huge cash grab by Canadian broadcasters and consumers will end up paying for it, not the cable companies. I recommend the cable companies be made to get rid of their channel bundles and allow consumers to pick and choose the channels they want. And if nobody subscribes to local channels so be it. Perhaps they need to improve the programming they provide to attract more viewers. The CRTC will likely approve this fee and will tell us it is necessary to preserve Canadian content in television. In my opinion, Canadian content is not that good and its unbelievable that I may be charged an extra fee for something I don't want.

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Terry Clarke ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not have a problem paying for local TV as long as I also have the choice of not receiving it should I so desire. The reality is that if local TV wants the rules changed so that they can charge then the rule that the cable companies have to carry them should change as well. I may not want CTV, Global and CBC and I should have the opportunity to chose which one I want and am willing to pay for.

Going even further, it is time to revamp the whole system. We should be able to pick and chose which stations we want without being tied into packages.

As for supporting local TV, it should be the same as any other business. Charge a fee and if there is no buyer close the door. The public should not be subsidizing a money loser.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Tony C.* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Is this really a question of whether ALL cable and satellite subscribers should pay the bill for keeping stations in small places running?

Stations that broadcast "content" that is of interest to only such a small amount of people -market- that it could not possibly generate enough business to sustain such stations by itself? It sounds like a waste of money and resources to me. Lots of money in, with little output -only a handful of people as audience.

The answer is no, let's not subsidize these "economic inefficiencies"

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*MaxPower77* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. Easy; say "see'ya later local programming i haven't watched since the early 90's".

2. None. Close the stations, nobody will even notice.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Lisa Koncsik* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I wouldn't pay for local tv if it cost me more than I'm already paying. Local television should get their money from advertising and reduce the contracts they have with staff in an effort to save money.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Blakef* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. If I am asked to pay for local content, then I should have the right to decline the subscription. I currently receive many, many non-specialty "local" TV channels with my basic Satellite TV service. If these become reclassified and charged for as specialty channels, then I want the right to decline to receive them, which means that the satellite/cable companies should no longer be forced to send them to me. In terms of the national channels including CBC, CTV and Global, the Cable/Satelite should have to provide one each of these as part of the basic cable/satelite package, and there should be no extra charges for this (or extra fees to the providers). Typically if these are locally broadcast channels then we would always have the option to receive these signals with antenna directly (i.e. bypass the cable/satelite) and so should not have to pay more to get them via cable/satelite. As I said above, for other versions (e.g. other CBC channels from across the country) then by all means treat them as specialty, but I want the right to decline to receive them.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*viewerintoronto* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would react negatively if I had to pay for local TV; my cable bill is outrageously expensive enough as it is. It seems to me that local tv stations have been slashing Canadian film and television production for years and importing American shows in an effort to boost their profits; why should I pay for a signal whose programmes are becoming more and more irrelevant to me?

2. The big companies that bought up all the local TV stations must undergo their inevitable bankruptcies so the local stations can be sold to different investors. That way, programming decisions can be made by local people who will know what matters to people in their community. If revenue from advertising is dwindling, local TV could capture a bigger market by producing top quality local shows they can sell around the world, like TVO used to do.

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[Stuart_S](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I live in Winnipeg where there are several local broadcasters i.e. CBC, CTV, CHMI City TV and Global. They all carry a local news channel but after the 6pm local news they rely heavily on US programming (except for the CBC). I'd really love to know what local TV they plan to air between 7pm and 10pm which is considered prime time viewing.

Most people I know get their news from various websites on the internet. The sad reality is local TV is dying and apart from the local news there is very little other local programming shown. Unfortunately the Broadcasters cannot reach all households within Canada so they rely on the BDU's to distribute their signals. The broadcasters make money by advertising and the BDU's by charging subscribers for these programmes.

With the profits being made by both sides they should come to some agreement on fees. As a cable subscriber I want to be given the choice to pick my programmes and not be forced into buying packages of channels. With the invention of high definition broadcasting I want to watch these shows without them being simsubbed. A lot of younger viewers don't even watch or subscribe to TV they download it off the internet for FREE. I'm willing to pay for my TV.

I will not lose my Canadian Identity if Canadian producers cannot compete.

If I can choose what newspapers I can read, what car I can drive or what beer I can drink then why does the Government find it necessary to tell me what I can watch on TV. Yes programmes can be vetted for illegal or prohibited content but I'm sorry HBO will not make me become less of a Canadian if I'm allowed to watch it.

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[Rick de Beaudrap](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The economic model for local television model is based on free receipt of the broadcast by the end consumer, with the revenue side from advertising. I see no reason why this should change just because the signal is received via cable rather than the airwaves.

The discussion between cable providers and broadcasters should be framed as a balance of economic value provided and received. In this sense, local broadcasters are one form of "specialty channel" offering services to a niche market.

Broadcast signals have economic value and the cable carrier gains from having something to sell. The cable carrier should "pay" the broadcaster an economic value. That said, the requirement that local channels be included in the basic cable service means that the local broadcaster is already receiving an economic value from the cable carrier. His audience for commercials is larger than if cable did not carry the signal and he is able to charge a higher rate for advertising.

That the cable subscriber is required to pay a fee to a monopolist for a cable package is really at the root of the problem. A free market in both advertising fees and signal carriage would sort out the market according to economic fundamentals, PROVIDED the cable subscriber is also free to choose which channels to include in a subscription.

The solution I favor is total unbundling of cable packages and free choice for every cable subscriber as to which local and non-local channels to take. Consumers would take up the broadcasts they want to see. Cable providers would charge for the channels the consumers want. Cable providers would pay for desirable content, and would require payment for content that broadcasters wish to market but which has an inadequate subscriber base to make it worthwhile to the cable provider. This might include some local broadcasters, as well as owners of other specialty channels whose narrow markets are based on languages, cultures, religions, sports and other niches.

If a broadcaster can make a profit from advertising to a larger market, he should be willing to pay the cable carrier. If the broadcast is in high demand, the cable carrier should be willing to pay the broadcaster to acquire the signal.

The balance is always found in free market economics. Bundling and regulation get in the way of the solution.

[Flag](#)



klfmd ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I really don't think local programming is worth the cost. I get all the news I need by reading the paper and the internet. Local Canadian content is poor anyways. I can't think of one show I'd watch. To pay more for it seems ridiculous when you consider how much I already pay.

[Flag](#)



leonardbristow ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would react extremely negatively if asked to pay for something which has traditionally been free over-the-air for many years. Local television is not particularly relevant today with the advent of virtually instant communication devices and I do not think either my family or I would watch it if I were required to pay for the service. Even the local weather is obtainable elsewhere. The news is frequently completely out of date and the sports are hockey, hockey, hockey.

As far as supporting local television is concerned, why are we wasting our resources on something which is becoming more and more irrelevant?

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TedDock ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Obviously when the focus groups were consulted by CTV/Global on the best strategy for selling the public on a new government decreed "fee" (Aren't government decreed fees usually referred to as taxes?) on cable and satellite users, the option of marketing it as a rescue plan for local TV won out. How sincere CTV/Global are about saving local TV can be gauged by the care they have taken to avoid actually committing themselves to spending this new revenue on the local stations.

[Flag](#)



Andrew ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

In regards to question 1, I already pay for local programming. It's called a basic cable package and it includes channels like CBC, CityTV and the like. That being said, cable prices in this country are atrocious. If this were new technology I might (emphasis) be able to understand the high prices, but this is ridiculous.

To the second question, local television should look into local sponsorship. I shouldn't have to support something that I have no desire to watch. Local channels should be treated like specialty channels are: those who want them, pay for them. Cable customers aren't charitable organizations. We don't want to pay for junk.

All this aside, Canada needs more competition in the communications sector. Our cable/cell/internet/land line bills are among the highest in the world. Why you ask? Because the CRTC won't allow competition. It stands behind the protectionist policy that does little to promote Canadian content and more to drive up costs for the consumer. Enough is enough!

[Flag](#)



HOB ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If you use cable or satellite to watch TV, the CRTC requires that your Cable provider offer local TV to you as part of your basic cable package. This arrangement ensures that local TV stations, and the Canadian programs they carry, have access to as many viewers as possible. So Cable and satellite providers are assisting local TV selling their advertisers promotions. Charging for Local TV is a double dip, if Local TV wants to be paid they should transfer their advertising revenues to the cable companies. Same as CBC if they want to stick their oar in the water then federal funding should be reduced by the amount of money they get from Cable.

There should be NO measures to support local TV. They are in a business and the free enterprise system says " you sink or swim on your own measures". Lousy business plan you go under.

I will not pay more money for the same old crap and crappy repeats.

Flag

Like



nshah ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If local programming is NOT self-sustainable, I do not want it.

Why should MY tax dollars go for something that I do not use?

Yes, I understand I dont use it today but there are other channels on cable that I do use and do NOT want to pay more for them.

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Bruce Benson ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't feel we should be charged fees for Carriage. This amounts to another damn tax and I am sick of it. If Cable is forced to pay for Carriage, all they will do is pass the costs down to us the consumer. Our Cable bills are already too high. If we the Consumer are forced to pay for Carriage, we must be given the choice to pay for these signals or opt out. If we opt out, we can still view local TV with a set of rabbit ears if we really want the signal. The only thing local about Local TV is basically the news. The rest is American programming and that I can watch on any of the other Cable channels. I sure don't want to pay more so I can import more American programs and keep a flawed system alive. If they (Local TV) can't make it on their own, let them sink.

Flag

Like



rkruger ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If I am forced to pay for local tv, I want to choose who to support. In my market there are 4 local stations. I usually only watch one for local news and sports. I feel I should only be forced to pay for what I watch. I am not willing to support all local TV if forced to pay. I want to choose where my money goes--not some corporation or CRTC.

If local tv would provide a product that is desired, advertising revenue would not be a problem.

Why should I pay for lack of a quality product? Local news and other offerings should be looking for something that makes them unique from the other offerings. Has local tv looked at other revenue streams such as value added products on the web (behind the scenes or additional background info).

Flag

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T. Lee ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Let's think about what 'local' means, first and foremost. Is it simply regional newscasts? Or are we talking about 'Canadian' or 'big-city Canadian' television series'? Producers seem to pick and choose what local means. But do we honestly need three hours of 'local news' every day, at the expense of world news coverage? Please don't tell me that 'local TV' means insipid variety shows that no one watches. I'm consistently surprised by the lack of creativity and foresight local broadcasters exhibit, and infuriated by some of their tactics:

*Broadcasters have been known to 'buy and shelve' TV shows so their competitors don't pick them up;

*As for series', Vancouver and Toronto have had some great TV shows, in particular Intelligence' and This is Wonderland, based in their respective cities, which were cancelled in spite of their general popularity.

Local broadcasters need to think outside the box (and redefine what that box is), whilst the cable companies need to recognize that they've been riding a lucky wave for some time, by not having to pay their fair share.

Answering the above questions more specifically:

1. I don't pay for cable. I refuse to give money to cable companies with mediocre, over-priced service, who don't allow me to get only the channels I want. (And yes, I would choose a local broadcaster or two, especially if they were relevant.) In the meantime, I watch the local broadcasters (if only they'd stop holding some of the great TV shows hostage, and think less about their political mandate and more about wide-scale viewership).

Currently, the Internet provides enough options for my television needs.

2. I can support a local TV station that provides intelligent, honest in-depth journalism about local and world news. I can support a local TV station that engages more with the community, allowing viewers a platform to engage with one another, and with the content (public forums; cross-platform; etc). When viewers are engaged in their community, they have a vested interest in it, and will respond by watching more of it.

It behooves me how/why broadcasters can't figure this out for themselves.

[Flag](#)

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Rick ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't think I should pay any extra fees. The cable/satellite companies have been protected by the CRTC for long enough at the expense of the Consumer. Please don't tell me that the Shaw family have sacrificed (ha,ha). It should come out of their ROE. Better yet, the CRTC should either force the market to preserve local TV at their own cost and if they don't then just open wide the market to any participant. It does not matter anymore under this scenario. The CRTC would be irrelevant.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ted McKeown ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I doubt if my comments will be taken seriously or if they even get posted but for years the big players in the game have been funded by the government. I am talking about Rogers, CTV, GLOBAL, CBC, and the list goes on. They have received huge amounts of government funding over their years and yet NBTV.ca (a web based internet TV station) has been literally shut out from the funding process. We have exhausted every avenue available and have been turned down again and again. Now the other guys are starting to set up stations on the internet (like we did five years ago). They will no doubt be getting more government funding to do this. We at NBTV called and asked the Television Fund if the other companies were using TF funding to make the transition to the online format and we flatly told no, "this isn't happening", but I suspect otherwise because I know better. If the CRTC wants to be fair about this then they should make it easier for smaller local broadcasters to broadcast local channels on the internet and those local channels should receive government funding. They don't need much either, not nearly as much as they major broadcasters because we broadcasting on the internet and costs to run streaming video on the internet are small, so they should allow some funding for that to happen. Otherwise our democratic system is a farce. You can't just make the decision to heavily fund big media companies (some of which are financially unstable right now) and not fund the other guys like NBTV.ca because they are struggling to survive on nothing and in today's market economy all media will transition south of the border and Canada will be left out of the loop COMPLETELY if this happens. I have brought this up in conversation with the CRTC before and received no response whatsoever. So in conclusion I say be fair about this. The CRTC will never be respected again or taken seriously by the public IF they are not perceived by to be fair.

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Tim Stein ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

First off the cable industry has benefitted for decades off of a CRTC-imposed "free ride", beginning back when cable first appeared on the scene. Local stations were convinced to let cable carry them without any compensation at all. At the time it was ok, since local tv made enough in ad revenue to cover the losses. Now the shoe is on the other foot, so to speak. The

cable companies do not want to have to dip into their already ridiculous profits to compensate the local carriers. this is a disgrace. The bigger disgrace is the fact that cable is showing ads on cable channels calling local tv's requests a tv tax. It is not. It is a potential price-gouge by cable/satellite companies who do not want to repay local stations for the decades of "free rides". Local stations have suffered for years now because of the decline in ad revenue. ever think that the expanded video universe thanks to cable has a lot to do with this?

The cable companies would be happy with the extinction of local tv - in the sense of competition - so they can build more packages and increase their already bottmless bottom line. This is a fact, not some misinformed speculation. Like it or not, CRTC, you enforce mediocrity in this country with your retarded (in the actual definition of the word) restrictions on Canadioan programming to begin with. Perfect example: Can-Con. In simple language, the enforcement of Canadian content on stations. I amk very pro-Canada, but this edict forces stations to air sub-par programming because they HAVE to, instead of forcing our country's artists to get good enough to compete globally.

The cable cos should compensate local tv, and not pass the costs to the consumer who, which has repeatedly been pointed out, already pays too much for what we get.

Having grown up the son of a man who had to deal with the CRTC for decades while working at radio/television stations, I know a little more of the full story than some others. Don't gouge us and call it a "tax", liars. Do the right thing.

Flag

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Neil B. ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

TV stations have several purposes. To entertain and to inform. They are funded by advertising revenue. By placing advertisement in front of our eyeballs, they are diluting the entertainment and information content and we, as viewers, are paying for that dilution in the form of our time. At some point, the entertainment and information content becomes so diluted that viewers decide that they are no longer willing to invest their time in watching that particular station and viewership drops. This results in a drop in ratings and a decrease in advertising revenue for the station. This causes them to petition to CRTC for more advertising minutes per hour and want to charge cableco's a fee for carriage. The answer is not to tax the viewer more, the answer is to provide the viewer with more value for their eyeball-time. That means, reduce the number of commercials, refuse to show annoying commercials, stop putting your logo in the bottom corner of the screen, stop rolling pizzas along the bottom of the screen over top of text or captions that are important to the program currently in progress; stop squishing the last minute of a program into 2/3 of the screen so you can put a talking head in the corner advertising what's coming up next... Stop pissing people off and you might win some eyeballs back and start gaining more ratings so you can charge more money for classy advertising.. In short, take control of your business model.

Flag

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Mark ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I have no interest in paying for local television.

Based on its status as a communication tool for the government, including the Emergency Broadcasting System, it should be provided to citizens for free by all broadcasters - EVEN IF THEY SUBSCRIBE TO NO OTHER CABLE OR SATELLITE SERVICES.

The cable companies say we should not have to "pay for channels we don't want" but they force us into tiered programming to prop up otherwise unsustainable channels.

The basic local broadcasting should be made available to anyone who wants it, for free, and all other channels should be made available a la carte.

Flag

Like



Brian ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not be in favor of allowing cable companies to charge extra for local programming. My current bill for basic cable is already too high, at around \$65.00 The cable company is very

adept at manipulating the packages to ensure that consumers are discouraged from having only basic cable, as they place many of the basic popular channels in different groupings in order to pressure people to add to the basic package.

I am in favor of cable companies having to pay for local programming, as they do for any other channel. Separately, I would be in favour of the CRTC providing some ground rules for cable packaging so that the additional costs would not be simply passed on to the consumer.

Given the importance of local cable, it would make sense to allow consumers to choose to include local programming as some of the channels in their basic package. Under the current regime, the cable company decides what channels are considered "basic", often making arbitrary decisions related to profits.

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 *APB* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. I would cancel my cable service completely. Everything on cable is available online, and I'd just get it there. The minor inconvenience of hooking up my TV to my computer to watch shows (whenever I want) is more than outweighed the costs of my ever-increasing cable bills. Cable companies have really hit a nerve with this latest attempt to gouge consumers, and people are going to fight back.

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 *Ma* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Given that Canadian broadcasters paid in the order of 3/4 of a billion for non-Canadian programming last year, and only chipped in 50 Million for Canadian programming, I find it very difficult to swallow their threat that local programming is too expensive to keep making. My understanding is that they are given licenses by CRTC in part because they have something to offer Canadians that will reflect their culture back to them. Well, if Canadian drama / comedy / other genres are not receiving much of a boost proportionately, one would think that they should provide that Canadian content in the form of news about our communities that we can relate to, instead of waiting for it from the big aggregator in Toronto / Calgary / Montreal. I suggest that rather than taking away more and more local content, networks could better compete with the US feeds by pumping up support of local and homegrown talent. Otherwise, what's there to differentiate them, since all they are becoming are repeater stations for the US?

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 *P Burton* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Go free to air, digital aerial no compression no pay great picture

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Like

 *Bill Truscott* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

The real question is why should local TV be free and why should the cable systems get away with effectively charging for a free product. I don't have a problem with paying for value. If I receive decent, unbiased local and national news coverage, if I receive good quality programming then I am going to be happy to pay for it. Just like other cable channels I should be able to either choose to buy it or choose to eliminate it when unhappy with the service. At the same time the networks should be compensated for it. I can't get any local TV the only supplier is the cable systems. I can't stick an antenna out the window and get a free signal. Millions of Canadians are in the same boat. It's not free here its sold by the cable systems and its the only Canadian content in their service in real terms. I love the CBC especially the radio service and would love to see the TV service emulate what Radio has been able to do. CBC unites our country it gives me a window into Quebec and Nova Scotia. We need the TV equivalent.

It appears that the Cable systems ads are working people do think they are subsidizing the networks as opposed to the cable systems already selling their programs in their packages. In

my opinion what the cable companies are doing amounts to theft. Its one thing to broadcast a signal its another to capture that signal and then sell it as part of a package. BTw could some of you please explain what subsidy CTV gets now? CBC is our nationally owned system and Shaw et al are stealing our signal and profiting from it. Thats just wron

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Like



Eva ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I don't purchase cable or other TV signals because I find them expensive. This will change as my new husband likes to watch sports.

We currently watch CBC free through the rabbits ears, and there are local news broadcasts spliced into it. I find these very valuable - a good way to learn what is going on in neighbouring northern towns.

Yes, I think the cable companies should pay local channels for their signal, and include them as part of their basic bundle. The consumers should not have to pay more for the already overpriced packages, although I'm sure the cost will be passed on in some way... such as dropping some other stations from the basic package.

Other than the expense, I don't purchase cable because the company creates packages of stations that they think I should watch. For about \$60 per month I would definitely want to pick the stations I want to watch. A lot of them broadcast junk, like those horrible reality shows. I would much prefer a movie channel, but it is cheaper to rent several movies than pay even more for an enhanced bundle.

Personally, a basic "skinny" package of about 5 stations (including the CBC and some local ones) for a modest fee, to which I could add other individual stations I want at additional cost, would be my preferred method of paying for TV. I'm sure the cable companies would make a lot less money with this fee structure.

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Brad Mathews ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Local T.V. Stations are already making money from cable and sat. When they negotiate with advertisers to buy ad time they CLAIM a coverage that already includes cable and sat. customers and in doing so increase their ad fees accordingly. I cannot be the only one who knows this. The other issue is cable (rogers) and Sat. (Bell) OWN t.v. stations. So they want to get money from each other and stick it to consumers. All due respect to local T.V. but it generally is a waste of time. When I want local news I LISTEN TO RADIO. Remember radio? I get what I need fast and concise. I don't need to see pictures to get the news.

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Like



Neil Rowe ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not be in favour of paying for local tv. Local television was always paid for by advertising. I think Satellite and Cable companies should be required to broadcast local programming to their subscribers located in a certain geographical location. This is easily accomplished especially by satellite as they do this to some extent already.

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Robert von Kuster ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I am currently a subscriber to Shaw and it seems that every 8 months the price of the cable package goes up by another 3 to 5 % and we lose channels on the analogue dial as it is switched to digital only. Today I pay over 60 dollars a month for the three tiers of cable. I find it outrageous as a consumer that there is no direct competition to Shaw in my market. I have complained but nothing will happen since they have a virtual monopoly on the cable market.

So the questions is do we pay too much for cable TV. Yes we do. What do we need to be able to do as consumers? We need the ability to exclude channels that we do not want. If Local TV wants to charge a fee I should be able to opt out. I never watch Omni, Access, CityTV, and Global. Why should I need to pay for these stations if I do not watch them? A consumer should

also have the ability to opt out of any channel.

CTV, CBC and Global are owners of several of these specialty channels. These channels basically re-broadcast the episodes seen on the network channels. Sure back when these channels were approved they were to be different but over time they have just become re-broadcasters of the networks. Open up cable channels to full competition. If the privately owned channel cannot make it in the open market place I guess there is no market for it. Certainly we will see several of these specialty channels close down but I believe it will force the remaining channels to produce something better than what presently is on.

How many channels do consumers need to see re-runs of Friends, Simpsons, CSI, NCIS and on and on.

Shaw should at least be forced to pay our local channels for the time shifting which is offered to the subscribers. I find it amazing that they can re-broadcast CBC Winnipeg in Calgary without having to pay anything. This is the main problem. People are viewing shows out from their local market and therefore by-passing the local ads. Less people watching the local program at the scheduled time = less income from advertising. By forcing our cable operators to pay for time shifting this could help offset some of the loss.

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 *andrewp9* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I think that the local TV that 'basic cable' / 'basic satellite' delivers should return revenue to the local TV stations that provide the content. The basic service/local TV should be an optional package and should be paid for (as it already is). The question is should the revenue be kept by the cable co's (only, as it is now and I think that is a free ride) or shared with the content creators and the answer is clearly yes it should be shared. If cable wants to charge more then consumers can opt out of that package and if that causes local tv to disappear then the market has spoken.

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 *Disgusted* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would not pay 1 red cent to support Local TV as long as it includes advertising. If the Local TV were devoid of advertising then I would consider it. I have already canceled my cable subscription completely.

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Like

 *theninjasquad* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Pricing for cable is getting ridiculous. Right now to get the basic digital cable package from Cogeco, it costs roughly \$60... and that is for the most basic digital package that they offer! Once you start adding anything on the costs go up big time. And each year they keep increasing the price a dollar or two at a time. It really needs to stop.

I am not willing to pay anymore money per month just for local tv. I don't particularly care how they sort out this payment for local tv mess, but whatever is done on this I really do not want prices to go up. If anything, they need to start going down.

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Like

 *Pineview* ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

My local TV (CJDC) is a joke. I never watch it, so why would I want to pay for it. The same goes for all the other 'local' channels. If you have 100 channels to choose from and 60 are junk, you really only have 40 channels. Why would I, or anyone, choose to subsidize those 60 channels?

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Like



P Burton ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

Not willing to pay anything. The value is questionable. None of these channels could stand on their own. Get out of my pocket and leave my money for m family and not Poorly designed government programs

None again get of my pocket and all Canadians pockets. No one should have to subsidize any channel they do not want. Even civil servants should be able to understand this, or maybe you should tour the country with your grand ideas, if you think they are so great. Course with the current anger in the country you might be run out of town on a rail

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Like



GW ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

1. We already pay way too much for the service we get from the cable/satellite oligopoly the CRTC has sanctioned.

2. Any measure that directly effects the cable and satellite companies' bottom line would automatically be passed on to the consumer as higher fees given the oligopoly you have authorized and maintain. (Cable and satellite companies in the U.S. would love to make the incredible profits that Rogers, Bell and the like are making.)

Remember when you used to regulate what the phone companies could charge for long distance? The phone companies grew fat at the feeding trough you created. Deregulation changed that.

I think the problem is the regulation. The problem you are seeking input on would be solved if the CRTC got out of the regulation business and allowed market forces to regulate the market.

We Canadians don't need you to protect us and our culture. Of course you are probably on your way to becoming obsolete as technology improves. We won't need the cable and satellite companies when we are able to stream content through our internet providers in the future. Just like with natural gas, we will be able to buy our content from anyone and the cable and satellite companies will only be able to charge for the distribution using the infrastructure they now have in place.

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James Johnston ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would be really, really upset. tell that to Mr Harper

[Flag](#)

Like



James Johnston ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

I would be really, really upset. My TV and Internet bill from Shaw cable is to darn high already.

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Like



donaldbrewer ★ [1 month ago](#) 1 person liked this.

If local TV stations were able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their service the most likely outcome is that the cable and satellite companies will choose not to carry the channel. Currently most TV stations pay the cable or satellite company to carry their channel. If a local TV station were to now charge the cable or satellite company it is my opinion that they would quickly be dropped from the channel line up.

The best example I can give is local provincial parliament. How many cable and satellite companies from each province are carrying the provincial parliament channel? They all carry CPAC but most do not carry the province's parliament. Look at Bell ExpressVu they carry CPAC and the Quebec provincial parliament but no other provincial parliament channel why is this? Star Choice at one

time carried the ontario Legislature but resently droped them. I happen to know that each province and terratory has its own parliamentary channel and they would all love to have their channel offered on local cable and on the direct to home services Star Choice and Bell ExpressVu. In 2005 the provincial legislatures petitioned the CRTC to have the provincial legislatures a must carry for all cable and satellite providers with no success. What could be more local than your own provincial parliamentary channel?

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Like



WTF? ★ [1 month ago in reply to donaldbrewer](#) 3 people liked this.

Nobody wants to watch the proceedings of the legislature. Only hard core political junkies. Don't waste my time and cable bill with this crap. I would rather be strapped to a chair and forced to watch Jerry Springer for 10 hours straight than watch one minute of the legislature in [you pick the province].

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Chip Hicks ★ [1 month ago in reply to donaldbrewer](#) 2 people liked this.

Cable companies don't "chose" to carry the local channels. The CRTC and the government of Canada forces them to. They have no choice. TV stations don't pay the cable companies for broadcasting their channels, they charge cable companies. The more popular the channel, the more the cost. And, CPAC is alsoo forced on the cable companies by the CRTC.

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Like



donaldbrewer ★ [1 month ago in reply to Chip Hicks](#)

CPAC is forced on the cable companies but not the local Legislatures. As for having to pay to have your channel carried I contacted Bell ExpressVu about having them carry our local channel and I was very clearly told they would only carry us if we payed them to carry us.

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Chip Hicks ★ [1 month ago in reply to donaldbrewer](#) 4 people liked this.

Sorry for any mis-information. Maybe it depends on popularity, or the satellite system. I'm in the cable business and I know that we pay through the nose for our non-local channels. We're forced to carry most of the Canadian programing/channels that are currently provided. I just feel that no one is propping up my job, why should the Canadian public prop up a possibly dieing industry? If the locals can't make money, either by changing their model of business (ie exploring Internet subscriptions) or finding a way to make themselves more desireable, why should the Canadian public have to prop them up and keep them in business? Look at the auto industry. Yes, they got a LOT of money from the governments, but they had to and still have to make MAJOR changes in their business model or they will fail.

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Neil Rowe ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be in favour of paying for local tv. Local television was always paid for by advertising. I think Satellite and Cable companies should be required to broadcast local programming to their subscribers located in a certain geographical location. This is easily accomplished especially by satellite as they do this to some extent already.

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Like

 *Lois* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the cable companies should pay for local signals. That said I certainly do not watch all the so called specialty channels supplied by my satellite company. Taking these off and offering more local TV would be better for me. I am a senior and live in a rural setting. I can not get high speed internet so rely on my TV for local news and weather. The A channel just took off the local morning show with not warning. This should not have been allowed. Our input was asked for AFTER we lost local stuff. No matter how much more I pay, I will never get it back. They already closed the local station. Paying more certainly does not benefit me. We can not get cable here so we are at the mercy of the satellite companies.

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 *Oldkoot* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Let's put it this way, cable and satellite providers charge the consumer for the basic package, called essentials, which is comprised of local ota signals for the most part. If they get these signals/stations for free and charge the end user to view them, then this is wrong. When the cable/satellite companies charge the subscriber for this, then they should pay a portion of the monthly subscriber bill back to the local stations who provide them with content. IMO it's illegal to sell something that is basically free. As a consumer we SHOULD NOT have to pay any additional charges, simply pay a percentage of the current monthly fee back to the local stations that keep cable providers in business. Cable companies need to realize that paying for OTA signals is a cost of doing business.

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 *Stoney Burton* ★ [1 month ago](#)

basic cable and satellite services ought fairly to include the local programming for the area in which the service is delivered, while the broadcast signals from other areas should be add on options. The extra-regional signals should be additional, while local should be carried without additional charge. Certainly the rates being charged are sufficient to see some revenue sharing and financial support back to local originators.

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 *jim45020* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i PUT HIGH VALUE on local tv coverage particularly for news and public discussion of community affairs. In light of the high level of profit that the cable firms make each year and the almost monopoly situation they enjoy for them to be allowed to charge additional fees is beyond my comprehension. I would expect that the cable companies and the satellite operators should be made to carry these fees without adding cost to the consumer. The consumer is already paying very high fees and I would not be surprised to find out that Canadians pay the highest or nearly highest fees for this type of service in the world just as the situation exists in the cell phone subscription fees.

2. It is obvious in this period of weak economic activity that local tv is suffering along with many other business firms. This will not last forever. In addition without subsidies the networks will have to develop new models which work. If they were given a free ride they will be only too eager to get on the bandwagon.

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 *Paul* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Should the cost of local TV be passed on the the end consumer? Yes. This question is not the one that should be asked though. The question should be do we already pay enough to support both the local TV stations and the broadcasters. The answer to that is yes.

How should local TV be supported? That one is more complicated.

First off the consumer already pays for local TV. How you may ask, by paying the inflated costs for basic cable that over regulation and service monopolies have created. We pay more for TV here in Canada than most everywhere else on the planet. Why do we pay more? We pay more because some government official somewhere decided that we needed to protect Canadian content and protect the cable companies from having to compete in an open market. So now we have channels that can't show interesting content and cable companies that charge whatever they want because they can get away with it; it's not like we can change service providers. Two or three broadcasters in Canada does not induce competition, only price fixing.

If you are really interested in creating a sustainable market then open it up. Treat all communication companies equally; Telephone, TV, Satellite, etc. Force them all to sell access to their networks to any company who wants it and regulate the rates so they can't overcharge. Allow broadcasters to broadcast any TV stations they want; stop forcing them to carry content. Stop forcing TV stations to show Canadian content; let them compete without tying their hands behind their backs.

Will these changes help in the short term, no... in fact I'm sure the transition will be too much for some companies and they will fail. In the long term these changes should ensure that there is an open and stable market with competition, which is the opposite of what we have now.

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Rico ★ [1 month ago](#)

Currently cable companies pay for non-local stations. Local stations should be afforded the same benefit. However, that should probably also give the cable companies the right to not carry local stations if they don't want to, but I'd prefer it doesn't come to that. Local content is too important to lose.

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Like



mvanner ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch very little "local" television on cable that I do not already pay a fee to receive (CBC, TVO). Living where I do I can receive all the local stations other than the air in HD so the question is why would I pay for them?

No measures need to be undertaken to support local television and current measures for Canadian Television production should be scaled back. We already through federal subsidy provide financial support to the CBC.

The requirement that Canadian channels be "mandatory" basic cable channels should be abolished. Further to this ownership and content restrictions should be relaxed or abolished (Canwest-Global is almost Fox North and CTV isn't much better). Cable and satellite providers should also no longer be required to perform feed substitution.

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aaronpayne ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I am paying more will I get more service or product for the money? Less commercials?

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Like



hn ★ [1 month ago](#)

Dismantle the CRTC and let the market place set the price and choices available to Canadians. I just don't like the idea that media in Canada has to have a certain % of the market dictated by government.

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Like



Norbert Schlenker ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be angry about paying extra. It seems to me that the deal the broadcasters originally struck, and which over the years has paid them handsomely, is to provide programming services to their viewers which are paid for by advertising. When I watch a local station, those ads are still there. I presume the stations are being paid to show those ads to me. It is incredibly unfair to ask me to pay again for programming when the deal is, and has always been, that the ads pay for the programming.

If they want me to pay, then the stations should deliver the programs ad-free.

2. None. In my view, no business in Canada is entitled to have its business model buttressed by political force.

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Harvey Bushell ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local/community TV must not be allowed to disappear. It would be like all corner shops disappearing and being left with nothing but Walmarts.

On top of that the cost for cable TV is outrageous. I'm seriously thinking of dropping it entirely and just watching off-the-air programming, which of course is mostly local tv.

Flag

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artskibicki ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not, in any way, support the ability of forcing one business (the cable companies) to compensate another (the television stations) for a product or service that is otherwise free or would not be wanted by the former simply because the business model of the latter no longer works.

The local television station business model is based on broadcasting television programs free of charge to the viewer but paid for by advertising. The more viewers the program attracts, the higher the amount the station can charge for advertising. As such, the television stations are helped any time their signal is rebroadcast to more homes, such as through cable, as the volume of possible viewers increases. It is not the cable companies who are taking advantage of the television stations, it is, in fact, the other way around. Further, the cable companies are REQUIRED to distribute the local signal. Finally, the cable companies are required to interrupt American television signals and, instead, broadcast the same program being broadcast from a local Canadian station, further increasing the viewership and thus the value of the advertising shown on those stations.

If given a choice, it is very likely the cable companies would drop the local television station from their line up. If that is the case, it indicates that distribution of the local stations is of no value to the cable companies and it would be nothing short of a tax for them if they were forced to pay for a service they do not want. This matter is made even more ethically tainted as that same service is available free for any other user.

The cable companies' business is in delivering a signal to their clients. If such a signal is subscription based, such as the pay channels, the cable companies have an obligation to collect the subscription payments and remit a portion back to the channel operators. However, if the signal is free of charge to the end user, it should be free of charge for the cable companies to re-distribute. If anything, the local television stations should be paying the cable companies for increasing their viewership and, thus, the value of the advertising they can sell, through their cable networks which had to be paid for by the cable companies.

The fact that the local television station business model no longer works is an issue for the television stations to tackle. You cannot, ethically, force another industry to compensate an ailing industry especially if the former has no stake in the latter.

Local television stations need to either adjust their own business model or broadcast

programming that would more effectively attract viewers. If anything, if the CRTC considers local television stations to be necessary, it should reduce the restrictions placed on these business to offer a product their clients (the viewers) would like.

Making the cable companies responsible for local television stations will so severely muddy the market that it will, in time, make it untenable and may need to be publicly funded in order to survive. No on, least of all the average Canadian citizen, would benefit from this.

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Norbert Schlenker ★ [1 month ago](#)

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If they want me to pay, then the stations should deliver the programs ad-free.

2. None. In my view, no business in Canada is entitled to have its business model buttressed by political force.

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Like



L Harold ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think local networks are vitally important. Would I pay more? Yes, I suppose I would but I think a much better question is why can we not pick the stations we want and pay a per/station fee. The cable companies are peddling "junk" I want to say CR-P but that would be rude. Why should I have to pay for stations I don't want and don't use. Surely in this day and age the cable companies still don't need to "bundle" which is only another word for "cash grab!"

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Like



TPJR ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be at all happy with paying more for my TV service as it already is extremely high. These local stations are making money from advertising which they have been doing from the onset of television. Are these stations in danger of going out of business with out more money coming in? If they are, can they not charge more for the advertising slots? If we do end up paying this extra money are there going to be less commercials?

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Like



davidpollack ★ [1 month ago](#)

This new proposed fee is unacceptable!!! Shame on you, the CRTC, in wasting taxpayers money!!! Here is some free advice, coming July 2010, both Ontario and BC are implementing the HST on EVERYTHING. This equates to 8% increase in people's cable / satellite bill. BC and Ontario represent more than half the Canadian population. Therefore, over half of all Canadians will be paying 8% more come July 2010 for their satellite and cable. Enough. The timing is poor for the television stations to ask for money. Put the onus back on them. Tell them to cut their costs. CTV - how much did you pay for the olympics?? How much did you pay for all those US programs? Global - how much did you pay for all those US programs? Show some leadership and tell these television companies NO!!!!

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Like



john_in_surreybc ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local programming is not something we should pay an additional fee for. If they cannot support themselves through advertising and traditional revenue streams, they should be permitted to go out of business.

I believe the market should determine what happens with local stations. Any additional fees are not appropriate unless voluntary and I do not think that there would be much revenue generated by such a process. If there is not the money to support local television they should not be assisted by taxpayer funding

[Flag](#)

Like



Shawn Langlois ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that TV stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs, or, alternatively, that cable companies should be required to carry those transmissions on a sub-basic tier for a minimal charge. For example, local TV channels should be bundled on their own as a first tier for \$10-\$15 to cover off transmission charges for the cable company as opposed to being bundled in a larger more expensive package if the cable companies do not wish to pay to re-transmit. This could go up to \$20 to provide a small subsidy to local TV Stations. This isn't anything new. For example, if you don't have a local phone wire service and want internet over your phone line, there is a "dry loop" charge of about \$7, which covers the transmission of your internet service over Bell Canada's telephone lines. I think that local TV Stations should be done the same way.

[Flag](#)

Like



Lasagna54 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Any charge will just be levied against consumers and our TV costs are outrageous to begin with when compared to the US. Add the fact that I consider myself a typical Canadian and I watch little if any local tv.

I spend too much time working to pay Canadian taxes to watch lousy programming and then get charged for it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am totally against being paid any more on top of what I am already paying for my cable service other than occasional increases from the cable company to cover its incremental costs. These stations have been perfectly happy to allow their signals to be carried at no cost by satellite and cable companies since the inception of those services. I don't trust the big networks not to use the additional funds to purchase more American programs for top dollar. It is their own business model they need to fix, not to get subsidies from the public by the backdoor through the carriers.

2. Personally, I don't watch local television and I have no interest in doing so. If local television is perceived as important to the majority of Canadians then it should be funded from the public purse in the same way as the CBC or, alternatively, it should go to a model like that of PBS in the United States or TVO, etc. in Canada and be funded partly by viewer contributions and partly by government funds.

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Like



Dreamworx ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't pay for cable because it is a waste of money. I get a selection of channels from my "rabbit ears" and if this was to be cut off or if in some manner a fee was charged, I would simply give up on television altogether and rely more on the internet. The Bruce Springsteen song "57 channels and nothing on" is more relevant today than a decade ago when the song was released. Today it's "500 channels and nothing on".

[Flag](#)

 Like*bp* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I don't think I should have to pay more for local broadcasting on top of what I already pay for cable tv as it is I pay far too much for my cable. I would most likely seek Satellite tv if I was asked to pay more for broadcasting since if I am going to pay more I might as well get more than what I get right now and I can get much more with Satellite than I can with cable for what I pay.

2. I think we certainly need to support local TV but I can't justify paying more to Cable companies for that privilege it seems like another money gouge to me especially in these very tight financial times for everyone. If they haven't been charging for it before they can certainly keep on broadcasting local TV for free now and frankly cable companies should be paying Local TV to be able to broadcast their programs they charge us, the users, enough to do so.

[Flag](#) Like*Kent* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies are currently REQUIRED to provide the local signal as part of basic cable. Requiring the cable companies to pay for this signal, when they have no choice in providing or competitively procuring the signal is unfair - it IS in fact a tax on the cable companies. I fully expect the cable companies will pass this tax along to the consumer. I am not willing to pay for it under these terms.

[Flag](#) Like*williamgordon* ★ [1 month ago](#)

First of all, I think that we already are paying far too much for the programs that we receive. There are probably far too many channels available and yet the choice for quality is not there. I am only interested in the news and public affairs programming and there already is far too many news channels competing for the viewers. I do not believe that we should have an added tax to what we are already paying.

[Flag](#) Like*Roy Weston* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is not a regulatory issue, it is a business issue. So let the networks and the cable companies work out whatever business arrangement suits them best, because both of them need each other.

The cable companies need the product that the networks provide, and the networks need the wider exposure for advertising that the cable companies provide.

[Flag](#) Like*hussainsiddique* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Taxing cable/satellite subscribers to pay for local TV is totally unfair and unjust. TV is a privilege not a basic human right. This argument can be extended for internet or other privileges. Please do not impose any fee/tax to support the local TV. Local communities with assistance from local/provincial/federal governments can support their local TV.

[Flag](#) Like*Peter Bursztyl* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations produce content. Cable companies which re-distribute it should pay for the use of it. Everybody else pays fees to those who generate programming. When I attend a theatre or

concert hall, I pay for admission. Why should cable companies, and by extension, the viewer, be exempt? Clearly advertising revenue has become inadequate - despite the huge bite it takes out of the programming hour. It is high time Canadians began to pay in currency for their entertainment. The corollary of this is that the amount of time devoted to advertising should diminish.

Flag

Like



Darlene ★ [1 month ago](#)

I value local television and think that the cable companies should be charged for the signal they get from broadcasters. Our local cable company (Shaw) has what they term as local coverage, 'almost news', but in reality it is a little show that does not offer me comprehensive news about my community. I am willing to pay for local television. Our local A-Channel station provides comprehensive news about Vancouver Island. Cable companies have for too long had free reign to charge consumers and up their prices and then they make you purchase tiers, where you get a lot of programming you may not want because of the bundling option.

I believe that local television should be supported and fee for carriage is a must, and it is about time broadcasters be compensated for their signal by the cable companies. The cable companies already charge exorbitant fees and they should look at this as their cost of doing business. Why should broadcast companies (CBC, Global, CBC and Chek News) have to give their product for free to the cable companies? There is something fundamentally wrong about this.

I am for fee for carriage and would willingly pay a fee, provided that it is regulated by the CRTC in a fair fashion and that the cable companies can not up that fee at their own discretion. They should not punish consumers for the fee, and should consider it a cost of doing business, cable is making money on this already. Local television stations make up the landscape of Canadian programming and should be highly valued for their input of Canadian content.

Flag

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facebook-703086860 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Having to pay more for my television would certainly cause me to drop several specialty packages, and possibly drop cable TV entirely. I have been looking at my cable bills as of late, and I'm not happy with how much I'm spending vs how much I get.

Since I have a PVR I've been able to produce reports on what I watch, and on which channels I watch them on. I do not watch any local programs. Most of what I watch is available on the Internet on some form or another.

Local TV does not need support. It needs to provide something worth watching. A local newscast is such a low density way to transmit information. Two pages of the Winnipeg Free Press has more local news than a 30 minute newscast.

Flag

Like



Wayne ★ [1 month ago](#)

The problem is I don't really watch the local channels except for news. Usually the shows and programming are horrible and now you want me to pay for it?

And I pay too much already. I may quit subscribing and it's not because I'm poor.

No thank you.

Flag

Like



GW ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. We already pay way too much for the service we get from the cable/satellite oligopoly the

CRTC has sanctioned.

2. Any measure that directly effects the cable and satellite companies' bottom line would automatically be passed on to the consumer as higher fees given the oligopoly you have authorized and maintain. (Cable and satellite companies in the U.S. would love to make the incredible profits that Rogers, Bell and the like are making.)

Remember when you used to regulate what the phone companies could charge for long distance? The phone companies grew fat at the feeding trough you created. Deregulation changed that.

I think the problem is the regulation. The problem you are seeking input on would be solved if the CRTC got out of the regulation business and allowed market forces to regulate the market.

We Canadians don't need you to protect us and our culture. Of course you are probably on your way to becoming obsolete as technology improves. We won't need the cable and satellite companies when we are able to stream content through our internet providers in the future. Just like with natural gas, we will be able to buy our content from anyone and the cable and satellite companies will only be able to charge for the distribution using the infrastructure they now have in place.

[Flag](#)

Like



Gene ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not in favour of bailing out local TV. For better or worst I believe in supply and demand market driven forces controlling the fate of local television, not political sentiments. Do I know someone that may lose their job, yes I do and I would say this straight up to them, yes, if your company made vinyl records would you be surprised to lose your job. My opinion is partly driven by lack of trust in the Cable companies. Give your heads a shake, if local television is in dire straits bite the bullet and help support the local networks that have helped you be the mega corporation you are today and not threaten raising fees because it takes a nip out of your bottom line. To me it's a family feud and if the cousins can't get along dammed if we should do their dirty laundry.

[Flag](#)

Like



debi_sidneybc ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV should automatically be included in the current cost structure, the reaction to increased costs to provide this coverage would be extremely negative. We already pay more than enough for the services of either Cable or Satellite.

2. Advertising is the usual source of revenue for most media and this should be further promoted on the part of the service provider. A tax credit could be supplied to local business's to help support the service providers efforts to promote increased advertising revenue.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kevin ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would have to argue that "local" TV, besides being a misnomer, is already subsidized by the cable networks and the CRTC through mandatory carriage at a preferred location on the dial, and signal substitution so they can take the advertising revenue from an American station (this is provided by the cable and satellite operators). The corporations that are asking for even more preferred status are not exactly helping themselves; an example is CTV's Grey Cup coverage this weekend. Rather than getting advertising revenue on this event on their supposedly money losing CTV network, they put it on the profitable TSN which has fewer subscribers.

In many markets the only "local" TV left is the news and current events programming. The Global network coverage in Ottawa is non-existent; it is simply a transmitter for the Toronto station. I really don't care about the morning traffic on the DV Expressway...

Flag

Like



Tim Bilida ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't see why a product that is distributed free OTA should be paid for by me or the cable companies that help distribute it. If they are going to charge me for them, I should be allowed to opt out of receiving them by cable and instead I can get them with an antenna. I have also read that some networks buy programs they do not intend to show as a means of preventing their competition from buying them. Am I supposed to help these companies that spend money in such a fashion? They have to live within their own means and adapt to the new realities of the information age, just like the auto industry and everyone else.

What is local television defined as? 10 minutes of news between 10:50 and 11:00?

I can get my local news on the internet or a newspaper. If it is some morning show, I'm not interested.

Flag

Like



larryheald ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay too much! The issue is that I pay for channels I do not want in order to get the ones I do. There should be much more flexibility in channel selection. I think that there is enough money to go around with what I already pay.

Local TV should not be subsidized.

Flag

Like



stevenkoning ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations and TV networks should be able to charge Cable companies for the local signal and for the network signal, and the funds so generated need to be allocated strictly to local Canadian programming production. This measure should be bundled with another one which is that all channels on cable TV should be able to be subscribed to individually, there must no longer be packaging or bundling of channels on cable TV. Alternatively, if cable does not have to pay for network or local TV signals, cable must not be allowed to substitute or add their own commercials into these programs. Cable TV may be allowed to excise the original network and local TV commercials, just as an over the air watcher would do with his/her recording device.

Flag

Like



Gerry ★ [1 month ago](#)

Broadcasters are among the loudest of whiners and cheapest group of 'entrepreneurs' that have set foot in shoe leather. Their employees are mostly poorly paid, while a small group largely reap the benefits of revenues generated by sales. Managerial types in the above mentioned industry have been largely generating false panic through their own industry by suggesting closure of outlets due to a lack of revenue. This has been a phenomenon that has been allowed to proliferate due to a crisis managerial mindset prevalent since late in the last century and blamed mainly and wrongly on the Internet. Arguments can be and have been cleverly couched placing blame on a declining revenue pie. Granted, outlets in smaller centres have closed, however this can be attributed to a declining population in part due to a shifting move to an urban setting. If, as broadcasters say, extra revenue is necessary to remain in operation, they will see this form of funding also dry up. The consumer, hammered by increasing costs and taxes just to live, will prioritize their spending and thus tell local broadcasters to peddle their story elsewhere. Local television largely consists of two newscasts per day along with a news-magazine program to fulfil commitments spelled out by the federal regulator. Quality in many areas has suffered, along with journalistic integrity. Broadcasters need to be told in no uncertain terms as to how, when and where rules and regulations will be adhered to. The Canadian content law of the early '70s was just such an example. Broadcasters of the day whined and hand-wrung endlessly over their inability to deliver, yet it was done and the result was an industry that moved from stagnation to among the best in the world. If local

programming and ultimately stations fall by the wayside, let it be. There will be others more than willing to pick up the remains and rebuild. The arguments generated by nattering nabobs have worn thin and are as transparent as their promised proof of performance.

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[stevenkoning](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Gerry](#)

I agree, local news is mostly "accident" and crime news, not in depth coverage of the pros and cons of wind-turbine placement or the effects of unsettled land claims on local economic development, or the harm done to respect for law and order when there is one law for natives and another for non-natives.

[Flag](#)

Like



[wineisfine](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since I can pick-up Global, CTV and CBC off air on HD, why do I continue to have to pay for this services with SHAW. I would like SHAW to adjust my monthly billing so that they are able to delete this service package from my monthly billing report.

Paying away to much with this supplier.

Note: Just a simple antenna can get you these signals at no cost to you.

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[Rob](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be inclined to cancel my cable as it has already climbed beyond a reasonable price.
2. Cable needs to be unbundled. There are so few channels that are worth watching but I still end up paying for them all. There should be a much more a la carte approach, allowing people to select bundles or only individual channels if that is their preference. (Right now, even the basic packages are too pricey and filled with channels we don't watch.)

Only if people are given a better means of choosing channels are we going to be able to continue to support local TV. Yes, the cable companies (and their subscribers) should pay for signals if they wish to receive them through their cable. To offset the potential price increases, it should be easier to cancel channels you don't want so you only pay for what you do want.

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Like



[stevenkoning](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Rob](#)

I totally agree with unbundling cable. The sooner, the better. When opinions are foisted on us via bundling, then we live more in communist China, then in free Canada.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Rod](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in the Niagara region where we have no local TV because the CRTC would not grant a license. My local TV comes from Hamilton or Buffalo.

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Like



[michaelpogor](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay a HUGE price for local TV, just look at the numbers of commercials we are made to endure! Maybe if those stations/networks stopped paying such crazy amounts for American shows, they would have more money available for local news etc.

Maybe the major networks could get together and launch ONE satellite for their own purposes.....send their signals out via this satellite! Or, stream their channels via the Internet.

Then, everyone could either purchase an inexpensive FTA receiver or use the internet to watch the locals for free. Many people, if given a choice, would dump their current satellite/cable providers if they could get a reasonable number of channels without having to pay a fortune for them.

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[Harry from Halifax](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. It would be upsetting to pay a "double fee", since local TV has paid advertising which, if managed professionally, effectively and aggressively, should be sufficient to cover its costs. Perhaps they should take a hard look at their manpower situation. These days we are inundated with duplicate ads to the point that the "Mute" button and the "Last Channel" buttons are "weapons of choice"! We are already enormously overcharged by the TV industry in general. It is quite amazing that every year we can count on a regular increase in cable/satellite services, which carries no justification or regulatory constraint. They've had a free ride for far too long! Most importantly, the CBC, being funded by "the taxpayer", shouldn't even be at the table in this silly dispute/money grab! Frankly, it's time to get rid of the CBC.... it's way past its "best before" date.

2. Given that local TV also broadcasts over "open air" and, can go where cable and satellite may not be able to go, should make it more enticing for advertisers and, thus more sustainable for local TV. Stop crying and, work harder or you're going to fail!!!

3. Most importantly, let the consumer choose the programming that he/she wants through the selection of individual channels. We are paying for far too much superfluous subsidized programming that few people actually watch. Has anyone ever checked the stats to see what the viewer ratios are on various programs? It's pretty shabby when we the end-user have to advise corporations as to how to run their business when they don't appear to have a clue! Wow! I have no sympathy for them whatsoever!!!

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[Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Harry from Halifax](#)

Just response,

1. If you look most of the channels you watch on cable also have paid advertising why should local or should I say "Canadian" Networks be disadvantaged. Check out BBC lots of ads or virtually an of them even the Movie channels flog something.

2. You probably live in a city and dont understand that the vast majority of Canada dosent receive the free signal. You are asking the Canadian systems to live in the past.

3. If I took away half of your ability to earn an income and then told you to buck up and work harder when you couldnt pay for your bills would you think that is fair? Thats effectively what you are doing to the Canadian networks.

[Flag](#)

Like



[dinmadoc](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

For many years over the air reception of TV signals was free.

Then came the Cable?Satelite companies whose only mission was to offer the same useless programing on as many different stations as possible and thereby maximize profit to the detriment of the consumer.

As far as I am concerned, if the cost of my basic package goes up again I will do what i have done in the past and reduce the number of stations I subscribe to. I suppose that eventually I will be receiving none this way, but with few exceptions quality of programming is non-existent anyway. I won't be losing anything!

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Like



wadecomer ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local broadcasting of any kind is the broadcaster's responsibility to provide as a free service in return for using public airwaves. Payment should not be required to receive local broadcasting.

[Flag](#)

Like



rs ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that Local TV Stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing programs. However, I believe the cable and satellite companies should not be able to pass that along to the consumers, and they should actually eat the charge through there massive profits.

[Flag](#)

Like



tom51 ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the rate was reasonable I would not mind paying but there is a big condition, I should not have to pay for local stations that I do not want to watch in other words on basic cable or satalitte I should be able to choose those stations that I am willing to pay for. In the Ottawa area this might mean 3 stations. I am tired of subsidising digital stations that I don't want in simple terms having to take and pay for a package of stations that I don't want in order to get the station that I really want. By only paying for stations I want consumers would dictate who survives and who doesn't not the cable companies

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Like



Bill Truscott ★ [1 month ago](#)

Also I have a problem with the CRTC using this process to simply avoid the issue. Cable has been hammering this issue in their ads for weeks. They have lots of money and profit hugely from the networks signals so they can do that and it affects public opinion. CRTC please dont get sucked into cables PR campaign do the right thing stand up for our rights as owners of the CBC and for the owners of CTV and stop cable from stealing our signals by not paying for them. It would lessen the need to subsidize CBc and it would fairly compensate CTV for their investment.

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Like



Slim ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not object, provided that the channel no longer had advertising. The argument is that the advertising business model is broken, so I would gladly pay a fee in place of being subjected to advertising.
2. How about providing local content. All of the major television providers have been increasingly lax in providing local content. This began in the 1970's and continues to degrade.

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Like



dave__k ★ [1 month ago](#)

1: Any increase in current cable fees would result in cancellation of service. I already pay \$30 a month for "basic" cable; an amount that has steadily increased despite no improvement in service and a complete failure to transition the signals I receive to high definition broadcast as well as a denial of support for digital tuners already built into modern TV sets which results in additional fees for hardware which would otherwise not be required.

2. Functionally, the readily apparent problem is that, through regulation and the denial of competition, we've created a broadcast industry that is both not interested in creating content

nor much interested in being in the broadcast business anymore ; as evidenced by their regular requests to decrease Canadian TV requirements and their upcoming plans to kill OTA signals in markets across the country, particularly rural and small communities, deemed unprofitable for making the HD Digital transition.

The best ways to combat this are as follows:

1: Baring requirements to service English/French communities in those areas where signals might otherwise not be available (French outside of Quebec, and English within), Cable and Satellite providers should be under no obligation to carry or provide a networks signal, nor maintain simulcast, to consumers in markets in which an OTA signal is not available.

2: Given that our conventional programmers are no longer interested in providing Canadian (they've argued regularly against it in front of your Panel) or "Local" (ie: of the community in which they are based - which, as established, will die in many small communities with the transition to Digital OTA), programming then they are nothing more than affiliates of US Networks in everything but name. As such, there remains no logical reason to continue to prevent ABC/NBC/CBS/Fox et all from setting up 100% ownership of Canadian branches provided they are willing the meet current content guidelines for broadcast within this country. These companies already produce substantial amounts of programming within Canada, still base their business around the creation of content instead of just airing it, and have demonstrated regularly to have both the resources and knowledge to advance and produce local Canadian content that they can leverage on both sides of the border; especially in the field of Children's Programming. Even better, given that Cable/Satellite providers already pay for US Network Feeds, if a subscriber fee were implemented replacing CTV with, say, ABC Canada would be entirely revenue neutral to the end user.

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Like

 *Robert V Stull* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i am already paying for local tv by watching their commercials. i WILL NOT under nay circumstances pay for local channels. this is all the fault of poor investments by the companies concerned. go ahead and out the tv tax on my bill. i will cancel, most of what is worth watching is available on the web anyway.

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Like

 *Zach* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Simple... no additional tax for cable subscribers. If you bill the cable companies that's fine, but make sure they cannot pass this onto us.

Local TV is usually the last thing I watch besides news/weather. And news/weather programs are so inexpensive to produce. If you want to support local television, sell more ads!

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Like

 *Bob Fleming* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't believe that local television requires any further support. I would be offended if I was asked to pay extra for local tv. What guarentee do I have that after paying for local television for a year, the big corporate entities won't just decide that it's not profitable anyways and close the station and leave my area? If they can't afford to run their business, they don't deserve to be in business.

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Like

 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Bell Express Statalite TV sucks StarChoice is a joke. When you try to cancel your subscption they keep sending you a bill forcing you to call them back again and again until you send in a registered letter telling them to stop. You can always just refused to pay those bills but then

they can put a complaint into your credit rating. Since that experience and because Network TV is totally crap. I suspect eventually it will be replaced by hundreds of independant TV show producers that will sell their content online directly to Us the people who after all are looking for Entertainment. Network TV has stopped being entertainment along time ago and act like they are a utility bill something that us Canadian cannot live without. I cut my TV off years ago and will not give them a dime more of my money. I get my Entertainment from the internet now it's 1000 times more realistic and actually you pay for what you want. What better way to keep TV shows and Entertainment quality alive, cuz crap don't sell.

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Like



michaeldharris ★ [1 month ago](#)

Please please please "do a Solomon" and find a way to punish both of these groups equally. For example - give the networks 1/2 of the amount that they say they need. Impose regulations that ensure that all of this amount goes to either local TV or Canadian productions. And then forbid the cable companies from passing it on. That should do it. Nobody should get richer off this scheme.

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Like



Zach ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Justen ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the modern ad-revenue model is dead. Therefore a new model based on online streaming needs to come in effect and/or the cable companies must pay their fair share for carrying this mainstream stations. If cable were to not carry these Canadian networks their viewership would likely drop to nil due to the fact that the local networks pay for American programming to bring it across the border as well as provide some Canadian programming. If I were asked to pay a marginal amount for local tv I probably wouldn't flinch. But isn't that what the Basic package already is? It includes all the local networks yet they don't see a penny.

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Like



Stephen ★ [1 month ago](#)

I had always thought that local channels had to pay for the providers to broadcast their channel. This would in turn allow the local channel to have a greater coverage across Canada. As it turns out this is done for free by the providers. If local channels are not profitable on their own, shut them down. We already pay too much for cable and sat tv.

Local channels can be picked up for free with off the air (OTA) antenna. Next thing we know the local tv channels will want the CRTC to allow them to charge OTA users.

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Like



Slim ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not object, provided that the channel no longer had advertising. The argument is that the advertising business model is broken, so I would gladly pay a fee in place of being subjected to advertising.
2. How about providing local content. All of the major television providers have been increasingly lax in providing local content. This began in the 1970's and continues to degrade.

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Like



Teena ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I'd cancel my cable. The local programming is not worth extra money. In the digital age, don't these guys realize people will simply download what they want? Take the Dexter series, for example. Why did a local network purchase it but not air it? Lost money!
2. Balanced budgets, less extorbant spending, involve the local community to aide in fundraising - if they care.

[Flag](#)

Like



James Delaney ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV does not matter to me at all. We do not have a local TV station in my city (pop 150 000) and I don't see why I should pay extra for Torontonians (the nearest city) to get their local TV. Our only local TV here is staffed and run by Rogers Cable volunteers, who provide local news and features. No steps should be taken - the CTV, Global and other stations have large enough profits. If my cable bill is increased I will either cut out some channels or go with a "Rabbits Ear" over the air reception and pay nothing.

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Like



Lissa Lo ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Cable/satellite companies are already paying local TV the network TV signals. Why should we pay extra? If local TV network wants more money, then layoff their newcasters. Having 3 people doing news, sports and weather is ridiculous! I don't watch local TV that much except for the news. But then, I could always check the news on the internet.

2. If they can't compete efficiently, they get out of the market.

[Flag](#)

Like



D.Slack ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local Tv is an integral part of all Canadians lives. It is important that we support and nurture local programing not only in the major centres but in outlying area as well. I am thoroughly disgusted with the prices that cable companies charge and the gouging that occurs. Every two to three months the cable bill increases usually for something I do not want or need. The cble companies and satelite entities were given the rights to operate in Canada without paying any fees except for having to carry local broadcasting. To guage the extent of the profits being earned one only has to look as far as your mail box and see the offers the companies are offering to get you to switch. I am sure their fees for the switch period cover the costs paid to the broadcasters that are included in basic programing so I assume the additional \$20 is profit. From this profit it would be reasonabl to expect the service provider to pay \$3-5 a customer to a load broadcasting fund. The local broadcaster would be accountable for the amountwhich should not be used to pay ridiculous salaries for on air talent. I as a customer should not pay more in fact the CRTC should prevent cable providers from offering loss leaders for short periods to

hook customers for longer periods.

My measures would be \$3-5 a month per subscriber paid to a local production account. No additional fee to the consumer. If the service providers do not agree then open up the market to the US providers providing they carry local programming on a no charge basis to consumers. One only has to look south of the border to see the better choices, better equipment or ease of use, and the commitment to local broadcasting.

[Flag](#)

Like



BigBar17 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Technology should make TV cheaper not more expensive. I DO NOT support any government measures that would increase cost to consumers. Recently the Alberta government surveyed Albertans as to whether they wanted the option of fancy license plates and the re-introduction of front license plates. Citizens overwhelming turned down the idea. The status quo is affordable and they work, 'nuff said. If this results in some small market TV stations closing, so be it.

[Flag](#)

Like



jim_BC ★ [1 month ago](#)

I find that the cost of cable is ALREADY way too expensive. I think the best way to solve the problem is to charge per channel. I don't need 50 channels, as I typically watch maybe 3 or 4. I would rather NOT have access to all the other ones and just pay a smaller fee for what I do watch. Basic cable needs to be BASIC, and let the customer pick what they want to watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



CrazyIvan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Because of the silly threat of carriage fees I cancelled my cable & went with OTA. Why should cable/satellite/consumer pay such fees for signals that the broadcasters make available freely. Fees should only be paid by cable/satellite/consumer if the signal isn't available locally. For example, a Calgary CTV station in Halifax. the shows are any good then they will survive on their own merit.

If local television wants to survive than offer programming that can survive on its own merit without handouts.

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Like



Ryan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable/Satellite fees are already ridiculous, Canadians are billed too high for all their services when compared to European and American consumers. If ATV, CanWest, and especially CBC think they need a slice of someone else's revenue stream to keep their local stations in business, then they need to go out of business because they do not have a sustainable business model or revenue stream. Local TV that cannot make money on its own to fund its own future, has no future because its local market is not in need of its services.

I am strongly opposed to any money being taken from cable and satellite revenues and given to local TV, because this will give plenty of reason for them to increase their already outrageous rates.

I currently pay \$108.88 for basic digital cable/phone/internet service from Eastlink and they are making a profit, they have local TV commercials and a local TV channel. While I still feel that anything over \$100.00 for cable/phone/internet is expensive, this is a company that does it all and has a local channel covering local TV events (university graduations, town hall meetings, etc) and is a profitable company. Why should this company be forced to pay for someone else's failed business model?

Ryan

Sackville, NB.

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Like

 *Rich* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Question 1) Local TV is important to me, I would react very negatively if asked to pay "MORE" for it. I say "more" because I already pay for it in my overpriced basic package, but without any other options I deal with it. Obviously no consumer wants to pay more for anything. If I am to pay more than I should have the option to opt out but why give me the option to opt out of local services when I am forced to take some other useless channels as part of a package.

2) If consumers were able to select a pay per channel service I think you would find many Canadians choosing their local stations as one of their options. This would create a value for local television and the cable/satellite companies would then want to pay for this service as they can then sell it to their customers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mhuntermike* ★ [1 month ago](#)

No subsidies for local tv. Frankly, our cable company provides a much better local service than the networks. The major Canadian networks give no indication that they know or care about where I live (in BC's 3rd fastest growing city - Nanaimo. When are our local TV stations (if Victoria is local) going to get with the HD revolution. Why would I watch their programs and advertisers in Standard definition when I can watch in HD on my local US networks? I suggest you get rid of all the restrictions, open our satellite market to European and US providers. Local TV, if it is worthwhile, will survive if it produces useful information and entertainment. Shaw does, CBC and CTV just don't count.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Kevin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Satellite companies charge ridiculous \$\$ for their service. Yes they should pay the local stations for their signals that they turn around and rape us for. All of their "Value bundles" just rape us more for more that we don't want just to get the one channel we want. No I won't pay these legalized cons any more money, in fact i've cancelled all tv.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Randy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The CRTC website states that the CRTC requires Cable and satellite companies to distribute local TV.

The CRTC is studying the option of having TV stations charge cable and satellite companies for distributing programs.

Therefore, the CRTC would require cable and satellite companies to carry local TV, and to pay for it.

Customers would therefore likely be required to pay for something the CRTC has required cable and satellite companies to distribute. If the customer did not choose this, it is simply a devious tax.

If the government already subsidizes local television, then an additional tax is wrong.

Customers should not be required to pay for services they do not specifically request.

Customers should not be required to pay for services that are available free via antenna, or on the internet.

Is the CRTC considering that TV stations should be required to pay a fee to cable and satellite providers for the distribution of their signals and advertisements?

No evidence has been provided to show that local television requires additional support. Why has the CRTC posed questions with bias that implies additional support is required?

I strongly oppose any action that will result in additional costs to customers.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Brian Millward ★ [1 month ago](#)

An additional charge for local tv on cable is unnecessary and unaffordable. What kind of business model are local tv stations/networks using that entices them to impose what can only be described as a "tax" for their business to survive without adapting to the challenges of modern broadcasting?

No measures should be taken to support local tv stations. If they cannot compete with their present resources, including the largesse of the government (i.e. taxpayers) in the name of Canadian content, then their day is "over".

[Flag](#)

 Like

daven28 ★ [1 month ago](#)

To Question 1. I would not support any extra fees over and above the current fee structure to support local TV.

To Question 2. Perhaps we need to revisit how we support TV in Canada in general? The CBC should be funded in the same fashion as the BBC in the UK. Also they should not be allowed to drain advertising dollars away from private broadcasters at all. I would also allow unrestricted access to all foreign TV channels (if they do not violate hate laws, etc). I would also support a system that carries the "new" CBC and allows me complete choice for anything else and not the current defined packages of useless and duplicated programming

[Flag](#)

 Like

Louis ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay for commercial stations unless I choose them myself. CBC is a publicly founded institution which offers adequate local content, be it radio or television. The problem is that there is a lot of garbage on TV that we subsidize thanks to CRTC. The theme packages that the cable and satellite Co's are offering are pathetic. We should be able to buy what we chose to buy without anyone imposing upon us something else. Choice is the name of the game and in this house, my wife and I, no longer watch tv - unless the two, three hours a week count.

What CRTC and the government must realize is that they may impose all sort of idiotic policies and regulations upon the media carriers and producers, they surely cannot force anyone to watch or listen to them. The market place is too fractured in specialty interests to dump on everyone the same crap. "Married with children anyone?"

I think the cable and satellite companies should pay for the programing they transmit. The producers should be paid according to the amount of access a station gets. The more popular, the more payment...

[Flag](#)

 Like

Shawn ★ [1 month ago](#)

Regarding what measures could be taken to support local television:

-The Broadcasters already receive revenue from the sale of ad time on the local television stations(Too much in my opinion). They also receive funding from the CRTC to produce local programming.

If Broadcast revenues are being affected by the current economic conditions this is the result of normal business cycles. Why should the consumer or the tax payer be asked to bail these companies out. If the economy improves are we going to stop having to pay? I doubt it.

As well the CRTC policies require the cable companies to carry the local stations and consumers have no choice as to whether they want them or not.

If I was asked to pay for local TV (on top of what I already pay for cable and satellite services) I would expect that I would have the option as to whether or not I wanted to receive those channels. I would also expect the CRTC to end the bundling of channels and allow the consumer greater choice for their money.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*lawsper* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why cant the cable companies pay a small per user fee for carrying the netwaors that could then be specifically to pay for local TV.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Andrew* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable services UNLESS i was able to still GET my cable services, without HAVING to get the local channels. If you make it so we HAVE to get local channels, then we really dont have a choice in the matter do we? BUT, if you put this charge, but let US decide weither or not we even WANT local channels (which i do not) then I would be fine with the fee.

2. I support local television, but as I said, NOT if its being thrust upon me. If it is MY decision to get the cable package which INCLUDES local channels, then I would be happy to pay for it. And if I DONT want the channels and the extra fee, then I can still get the channels I do want (ie sports, movies) WITHOUT having to pay the fee!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*mdunham* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not prepared to pay more money to support the networks. They have made choices and added debt through expansion and mergers that is now a problem for them. It is not the public's duty to finance them.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Shahzad Qureshi* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why is this even a debate? Why are the cable and satellite companies allowed to pick up a service on air for free and then charge us for it? and why are they allowed to "pass the charge" to their customers when the govt. decides to put a levi/tax on them? are they going to charge us when govt. increases their corporate tax as well? are they going to lower their charges when the govt. lowers their corporate taxes?

I do not want to pay even an extra penny to my cable company since they're already racking up billions and are doing completely fine financially. I believe that they should pay the local channels but out of their pockets and NOT from their customer's pocket.

I don't have a choice to NOT get those local channels if i choose not to pay them this new fee they're threatening me with. I can get those channels for free, so why should I pay for those? i really don't understand why the cable and satellite compaies are even allowed to charge their customers for something they should be paying for

OR give me an option to not get those channels. I'll just get them off the air for free anyways

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*edward_oakville* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) There are very few programs presently broadcasted on TV that are of any interest to me. My interests are the News and Canadian Sports, and as far as other available programs, none interest me in the least. Presently, I am paying far too much as it is, and for programs that are of no interest to me. I should have the facility to pick and choose what I want to watch and not be saddled with a costly package that I don't want. I am totally against paying anything further to a cable company in support of local TV.

2) Local TV needs to get back to objective reporting of the news and political programs, if they wish to continue to attract/retain viewers. When a political commentator (Mike Duffy) is elevated to the senate because of his history of unabashed biased reporting in favor of the Government in power, you know that something is not quite right with Local TV. Local TV should not be a mouthpiece for the government. This is but one example of the many faults of Local/National TV. Local/National TV is broken because of their mistakes and I have no interest in paying to fix it. Local TV Networks pay enormous amounts of money for programs and series that viewers won't watch, then charge Advertisers enormous amounts of money to pay for the programs. Even the advertisers are smart enough to know that the current model is broken and that viewers have stopped watching. The TV Networks now want to make the public pay for non performing programs that advertisers have stopped paying for. In closing, I would add, that should I be charged one penny more for the junk that I am already paying for, to support Local TV, I will cancel my Cable Subscription.

Flag

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 *RJGO* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. For me local TV offers a moderate amount of value. mainly through local news broadcasts, which I watch maybe 2 times per week. (most of my news, local or otherwise I read online)

I see local TV as providing access to the more popular American shows for those who do not have a cable package. I understand the issue with local broadcast rights, so while simulcasting is an annoyance, it rarely impacts me.

If I am forced to pay for local TV which mainly only offers duplicate programming, I will likely cancel my service. (Technology has reached a point now where I can receive what I want, when I want it without a cable subscription)

As well, if local TV gets their way and blacks out US feeds, so they can choose broadcast times, I will also cancel my service.

Flag

Like

 *baderks* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not have cable/satellite television. I spent \$1200 for a UHF antenna & installation (HD or non HD, does not matter). I had the installer run the cable directly to my HD television and the result was 25 digital channels and 1 analogue only (TV Ontario). Most of the signal received is from Buffalo, but still receiving good Canadian stations as well.

High Definition Television is a free service by all the broadcasters and available to all viewers with a simple UHF antenna. I am quite happy to enjoy many sporting events, movies and television programs in high definition and, absolutely free. It took less than a year to 'pay off' the antenna and installation when compared to cable rates.

What I would like to see is the availability of this service promoted more to the general public. Most Canadians do not know that they can get this kind of service for free and many are paying for services that they don't even use thanks to slick marketing by the cable/satellite companies.

Flag

Like

 *Richard* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not support paying extra to support local television stations. It would be one thing if local stations were purely local content. In my view, local TV stations have very little local content (mainly news) and spend the majority of the time regurgitating American programming. (Who would support paying extra for simulcasting?) I do not mind supporting Canadian content such as the CBC. I think it is important to broadcast a Canadian perspective thru informative and dramatic programming.

Flag

Like

 *Mike Walintschek* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be outraged. I would do my best to find an alternative to an overpriced Canadian source. Cable/Satellite companies already charge too much for their "services". This would create a huge black market for pirated signals as people such as myself will become more and more apt to find "affordable" entertainment.

2. Advertising revenue. Or perhaps mandate that local programming must be supported by both the broadcasters and the cable/satellite companies. While we're at it we should legislate caps on what the broadcasters can charge the cable companies and what the cable companies can charge the consumer. Canadians already pay too much for 2nd rate telecommunications.

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 *Tom* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion, the reason why CTV/Global are in financial trouble during the current recession is because they made bad business decisions during the good times. Global overpaid for Alliance Atlantis couple of years ago, which started their trouble. CTV out bid CBC on the coming winter Olympics. They even paid a million dollars on the "Hockey Night In Canada" theme song. These were bad business decisions when times were good.

If they want to charge us consumers on the TV signals like other cable channels, make them cable channels so that we can choose whether to subscribe them or not. In my case, I definitely not subscribe these local stations. There are only a few cable channels that I view regularly anyway. I read the local news from the internet most of the time.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Barry* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to Tom

Tom, I'm not sure if you're in Toronto, or elsewhere, but your second statement is inaccurate. CTV did outbid CBC, but that has no impact on local television programming, which is the issue here. This is about the finances of the individual stations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mike Walintschek* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be outraged. I would do my best to find an alternative to an overpriced Canadian source. Cable/Satellite companies already charge too much for their "services". This would create a huge black market for pirated signals as people such as myself will become more and more apt to find "affordable" entertainment.

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 *Al M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am against consumers having to pay more for their cable TV, I already pay too much for too little, the cable companies do not seem to mind cranking up their rates with no say by the people paying. For me it is NO to it ALL

[Flag](#)

Like

 *robin anderson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't get any truly local television in my area (the Yukon), but I can tell you that I am

categorically against any increase in my cable bills. I currently pay \$150 per month for my cable and internet services. I can not and will not spend any more. My cable company will see less money from me as I will decrease my services if there is an increase in fees.

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[rickdilorenzo](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think Cable Providers should be paying local television for their TV signals. It seems extremely unfair that cable providers get the TV signals for free, and then turn around and charge their customers for channels that are currently free.

Without fee for carriage it's going to make it costly for regular television stations to remain free. Cable companies should be paying.

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Like



[Jon_Q_Public](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to rickdilorenzo](#)

But the TV stations generate their revenue via advertising. The cable companies provide the TV stations with eyeballs for FREE. If anything the TV stations should be paying the Cable Co's.

[Flag](#)

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[simonsr](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not support paying extra to support local television stations. It would be one thing if local stations were purely local content. In my view, local TV stations have very little local content (mainly news) and spend the majority of the time regurgitating American programming. (Who would support paying extra for simulcasting?) I do not mind supporting Canadian content such as the CBC. I think it is important to broadcast a Canadian perspective thru informative and dramatic programming.

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[Bernard H.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Simply put, I want my local programming to continue to be provided by my cable company. My cable company should pay for the content that the local TV provides. And this payment should be taken from the already expensive fees my cable company charges me for a basic subscription. The basic cable package that I pay for includes only local TV channels and little else. Over \$100 a month for basic cable and internet is getting to be expensive. Enough already.

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[pattymchatyn](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Personally I am thinking of cancelling my cable package since I can hardly justify paying the \$69. a month - for very little original content. The one thing that keeps me on cable is the ability to access CBC news channel and the CTV news channel. For the other two shows that I regularly watch they are on my local TV station and the times are the same so cable has no impact. I am certainly a huge fan of local television and I was disappointed with CBC taking its news cast out of Saskatoon which means that if I watch CBC news it is generally Regina based. So most days I vary which channel of local news I watch - in order to keep informed.

If local stations are actually of need of money to keep running then I for one want them to continue. Moreover if money is an issue for many Canadians they should have access to at least a minimum number of tv channels in order to have a basis of understanding.

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Paul ★ [1 month ago](#)

How does one define Local TV ?

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



FreeTheAirwaves ★ [1 month ago](#)

With today's affordable and simple to use video technology this is a "smoke screen" covering up the real issues of individual freedom of expression.

Ask yourself: why do our televisions only work via cable and not through the airwaves as they did before?

The reality is that if our televisions still worked via VHF and UHF it would be comparatively cheap and easy to establish a local television station (assuming you can afford the license, which is another topic).

It is too politically dangerous to allow small groups of individuals to produce television programs independently. Therefore the powers that be limit access to a wire that unless you are part of the "club" you won't be heard.

The arguments found here only cover up the real issues relating to freedom of televised expression.

"3 hostile newspapers [and television/radio stations] are as dangerous as 1000 bayonet's."
-Napoleon

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Dave ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion the cable/satellite companies have been stealing local signals forever it seems and it is only right that they pay in the same way they expect their customers to pay for the signals that they distribute. If I were to steal their signals they would be upset. One thing is certain and that is not a tax. Of course at the same time the requirement that they have to carry any service whatsoever should be removed. Let the market speak for itself. The time is over for bureaucrats to tell us what we can watch.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



dongibsonednasobchuk ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not agree with paying more for local tv ,their quality has been declining steadily.I only watch local news and this has been reduced to shorter news casts and evenings only on weekends and stat holidays and the content is below standard .

If they cannot attract sufficient advertising revenues to support them , then let them shut down .

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



tomsteadman ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel any local TV charges if they are applied. The CRTC has consistently refused, however, to give me choices in all other channel selections so I'm very skeptical I'd have any choice here.

2. There are 3 logical actions here: (1) let the TV stations charge for their local content (2) allow cable services to choose which local content is good enough for inclusion and (3) let me cancel those damned CRTC-mandated channels (in packages) that I do not want.

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 [toareafan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were asked to pay for local TV the same way that I now pay for, as an example, Fox Sports World Canada without also being given the same choice (ie. do I want to receive it or not) then my reaction would be negative. I do not resent paying for any television service but I do/would resent being asked (forced?) to pay for a service that i did not ask for in the first place.

I think if Canadian channels were no longer able to shift the commercials of American Broadcasters off of shows that were being simulcast that would create a more even playing field for Canadian shows. Right now, the economics seem to be skewed giving broadcasters an financial incentive to buy American as opposed to producing Canadian.

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Like

 [Zanny Kuchta](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THE CABLE COMPANYS SHOULD PAY LOCAL STATIONS FOR THEIR SIGNAL.

THEY SHOULD NOT CHARGE THE CONSUMER ANY ADDITIONAL FEE SINCE THEY HAVE ENORMOUS PROFITS.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Jace](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Fewer and fewer individuals are watching TV. So the question is not only whether people are watching cable or satellite but whether they are getting their entertainment/news/information from completely different sources such as the internet. None of my local information is gained through local TV, but a mixture of local news radio and the internet.

Local television is going to have to figure out on their own whether there is a need for what they provide. In many cases the answer will be "no"; but other media opportunities will exist for video on the intranet that can be locally focused.

So...

1. I would move further away from television entertainment.
2. Encourage them to find a business model that will work in this time of changing media. Local media, not local television.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [lance](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hello

RE; ongoing debate between Cable and Networks;

I do not want to pay a TV Tax, this will only add costs to my monthly bill.

I would recommend the suggestion by CBC at your recent hearings;

Offer a basic package (National & local network and local cable, at basic fees) all other cable to be offered at fee, a la carte.

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Like

 [Rcik Renard](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is about local issues, the CRTC is Federal, My only comment on this is to eliminate the elephant in the closet, namely the CRTC, and let the market decide as to issues of availability, this issue can be best judged in a simple, if you want it, pay for it , and let the market rule. The CRTC is a useless entity, it represents only the shareholders, not the people of Canada. If we can't stand on own feet, we don't deserve to be in the mix.

[Flag](#)

Like



G. Archer ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy as we pay to much already for channels we don't want.

Local TV should be self supporting and abandoned if it cannot measure up in a free enterprise system. The internet carries all the local information I need.

[Flag](#)

Like



Chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable service.

[Flag](#)

Like



Robert Katzer ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is not important to me. For local news, I listen to the radio and read the newspaper.

If I was asked to pay for local TV, I would cancel all of my television subscription - as the cable company would simply pass on the tax as a levy.

If local TV is to be funded, it should be funded by subscription and you should be able to 'unsubscribe' so that I don't have to pay for things that I don't want to watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



Disgusted ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no such thing as Local TV. All "Local TV" stations are wholly owned affiliates of a Network. As I said in an earlier post I have already discontinued my Cable tv subscription and do not intend to reconnect it as long as it has advertising. I read the news from the internet via news services Reuters et al. I find my Local News pinned to the bulletin board of my Public Library where I go for my other "content" DVD movies, books and Periodicals. Television over the past thirty years has done a terrible dis-service to Canadians making them fat and complacent and driving us all into a consumerist frenzy of ignorant couch potatoes. Sure we all salivate on cue to whatever pap the pundits create as the story of the week and our politics are muddied more and more every day by Torontonians who are part of the chattering classes. A pox on all their houses. And I hope there is no Vaccine for this one.

[Flag](#)

Like



woody ★ [1 month ago](#)

I just read most of the comments and if the CRTC doesn't get the message now they never will!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable service.
2. Make the cable companies pay for them from their \$2Billion in profits.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bill MacGregor ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very angry but since I have no alternatives (There is no real competition in Canada) I would be forced to pay up.

It's time to allow real competition in Canada for TV, the internet, and mobile phones.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Colin Bisset* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Well, if there actually were any local TV, especially local news, I would be glad to pay for it. I live in Oshawa, and theoretically CHEX (CBC affiliate, Peterborough) is providing local TV, but practically it isn't, or is providing it on a spotty and unpredictable way. I would be very angry if forced to pay CTV or Global for "local TV", as they don't provide any.

2. The obvious way to support local TV is to allow us a method to provide feedback to the local producers. That is best accomplished by allowing us the option of paying, or not paying, based on the content and quality of the service. If we like what is being offered, we'll pay. If we don't, we won't, and they'll have to change their programming. This "support mechanism" works for the visual arts, literature, and breakfast cereal. Why it wouldn't work for local TV isn't at all clear.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*S. Smith* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since I get local television only through my cable company (I have tried the "pauper TV" route and reception is absolutely terrible) I feel that I am already being asked to pay for it. The local TV stations should have insisted on payment from the beginning. They didn't and now we are supposed to pay for their lack of due diligence.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Stuart Lyon* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Maybe I am just another dumb Canuck who gets hosed for every service and fee. I cannot understand, if the TV signal is broadcast into the ether and picked up by cable, why the TV stations feel they must levy a fee for the broadcast. If I had 'rabbit ears' to pick up this signal, are the TV stations going to come to my door to ask for a fee? Surely they get their operating cost from advertising revenue. If this is not enough, then they must examine their business plan rather than get the public to pay for mind numbing and un-intelligent programs. If the TV stations expect cable to pay for the signal, then I would request my cable provider to remove that signal from my package. Let's see how the TV stations would fare then! Enough is enough---no more charges!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*bradai* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think local tv has a place in my home, and i would be furious to pay any money out of my pocket to keep them afloat. I as a local business owner will not advertise with my local station as they are so opinionated and negative i feel they would hurt my business. So as with anything there is a cost, if they feel it is more important to have an agenda then it will cost them. At this point they should cut costs to match their expenses. brad

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*D Icton* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that you should first define "local". My closest TV station is just over 100km away so I have no local stations and this would also apply to many other regions that are outside of the local area of the station. I do not want to support local content of another community and the idea of the Canadian networks wanting to charge cable and satellite is akin to robbery. Today I really have no choice in programming thanks to you the CRTC, please allow me to cherry pick what I want!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *Darryl Olthoff* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is some value to having local news, but news reporting now in general has a terrible bias and isn't particularly in depth. TV is already too expensive and charging more for local stations would leave me no choice but to cancel tv and download what i want to watch for free. Would it really be a lot to ask for the cable companies to give something out of the billions in profit they collect each year to help them out. I am tired of having to pay a little more here and there while corporations collect record profits.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Tracy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not care for most of the local tv channels available. These channels operate as a business, not a community service and therefore should be treated like any other business. If no one wishes to purchase their product the company should be allowed to perish, not propped up by socialist government policies.

IF the CRTC wants me to pay for services that I do not want they should enable a fair market place. Local channels can charge for their product but fair is fair. Cable/Satellite operators and individual Canadians should have the option to reject this service.

You want it, pay for it. I do not want it, and should have the option to refuse to pay for something I do not want. Especially because it is a business trying to make money like any other business. Rather than propping up failing businesses with socialist business models and government restrictions it is time for the CRTC to allow individual Canadians the chance to choose.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Aimee* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Personally, I have done freelance work for both Rogers and TV Cogeco Cable as a reporter and seeing as both are cable providers and own their own local stations, as do Shaw and other cable providers, I think it's a joke that they cannot fund these operations themselves. I was a a volunteer and so were the other crew members that I worked with. We did so happily and I continue to do so, as it is a community service to give back to the communities we live in. But when I am paying over \$100/month for home phone, internet and cable (I have HD, all the tiers and lots of specialty programming), but I do NOT feel that the cable companies should be able to offload any additional charges onto the consumers when over the years they have consistently raised their fees already.

They own the stations AND collect the cable fees... THEY can fund the local cable. End of story. In the case of CTV, Global and those stations, let them go public and do an IPO to raise equity and raise public funds if they need money. Then they can be responsible to their shareholders for their operations and not simply hold out their cap for money. They can't simply keep begging for funds because if they get cash for carriage, it will be inevitably be the consumers who pay in the end. We are the very people who are unemployed, suffering from the horrible state of the economy and simply cannot afford these additional costs.

If asked to pay additional costs for cable, I would seriously consider cancelling many of my specialty services and watching more television online where it is already available free. I can also get local news via the internet albeit in text form but that is an alternative.

The customer simply has to come first here. We're being gouged enough. Local TV should be looked at like the CBC, an essential service - in my opinion anyway. If the cable outfits can't find advertising revenue, it's not ok to find the missing money from consumers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *eefc* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The only thing s remotely required for local television is local news. I see no other "Canadian" content of value on TV that is worth paying for nor do I see the need to subsidize any entertainment projects just to pay rtists to work.

The part I can't understand is; if by law the CRTC say that local stations must provide thier service over the air, and I can get it for free, why would I want to pay for it. 90% of what I see on Canadian networks is purchased U.S. programming anyway. And do to the subsim rules they plugin CANadian advertising wich is supposed to be thier revenue anyway.

CTV and CBC have thier News networks that they get a carriage fee from. I can go go thier for my canadian news. I don't need to pay for it twice

[Flag](#)

Like

 [cmlondon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

NO for the "TV TAX" a.k.a. we don't know how to run a company, please bail us our tax.

Just Solve the Problem:

- Large Corporations Can NOT Own ALL the stations, Locally Owned Network Affiliates do VERY well in the USA and Canada too just look at Corus's CKWS and CHEX-TV, I hear their doing pretty well! Put a Cap on how many stations can be O&O's.

- Primetime Should be Canadian Produced Programing and call it TV/Film Studio's of Canada Stimulus. Enough with Spending Millions of Dollars on becoming CBS of the North (cough CTV, Global)... Something tells me this is how you got into this mess. If you can't make shows we want to watch (Wasn't Battle of the Blades one of the most popular shows of the fall... wait that was on CBC, Wasn't it?) then CRASH and Burn!

- DTV Transmitters. Here in London I get SUN-DT on Channel 19, and It Looks Amazing OTA. If our other stations move to DTV in 2011 (CRTC, DO NOT MOVE THIS DATE, they have had MORE then enough time to get ready for this) then I would likely cancel most of the household Digital Cable outlets which would remove my access to American stations, thus forcing me to watch our Canadian channels. Can't really do this now since if the Computer or Radio or Microwave... is on my Analogue channels are a snowy ghosting mess.

- Local Focus, in Emergency's how can my Portable TV tune to CP24 when the power is out? Watching re-runs of Entertainment Tonight is great and all. But when the sky looks green, I rather know what's going on.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [tonyguy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Because to get the specific services that an individual subscriber may want it is nessessary to obtain "packages" that contain content a subscriber does not want. This is a useless survey designed only to ensure that any comments fit your prescribed parameters. We should take NO measures to support local programming. It is NOT worth paying dollar one for.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [murman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I can Not afford television. I rely on local television broadcasts.If there is no local television broadcasts.I will have no television at all

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Daniel Cohn](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I suppose a fee for carriage of over the air signal is inevitable and a modest one would probably benefit Canadian content. I would not object to paying a couple of dollars more a month to fund CanCon. However, I suspect that if you do grant this, then you will have to allow the over-the-air US channels similar consideration. If you don't the whole issue will end up in NAFTA hell. So now we are talking about a much bigger fee. Keep the monthly hit under \$2 a

month and most people will support it. Keep it under \$5 a month and the majority will still be with you.

Having said that, I must admit that I am completely opposed to other portions of the proposals made by the broadcasters.

The most obnoxious proposal they have made is the expansion of the present rules requiring cable companies to block US signals during simulcasts. The broadcasters propose that cable companies be required to block US signals whenever they own the rights to a US produced program, whether they are showing it at the same time or not.

While the overlay of the Canadian signal during a simulcast is an acceptable compromise to support Canadian TV, what is proposed above will be a massive inconvenience for viewers, and frankly, flies in the face of the increasing moving to on-demand viewing that is revolutionizing entertainment.

Please do not allow them to do that, both for the good of viewers and yourself.

Imagine what happens the next time an election, the Olympics or some other event causes CTV to cancel someone's favorite program. Then the person switches to a US channel and all they see is a test pattern and a notice stating that: "due to CRTC regulations: this channel is now blocked." I really cannot think of anything else that would create as much displeasure among the public since the "negative option billing" fiasco.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *stuart D* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I cannot afford the existing cable rates that have been given to me. since they added bundles with phone, internet and cable tv its been almost impossible to afford \$140.00/month fee. I watch local tv mostly and a couple of special interest channels but there is no way i could pay extra for local tv. what i hate the most is when shaw tell you they have a free month preview of a specialty channel and then they expect me to call them at the end of the month to cancell the channel now that its not free. they hustled a fee hundred bucks out of me for that one.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Aims* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Both Rogers and TV Cogeco Cable are cable providers and own their own local stations, as do Shaw and other cable providers, I think it's a joke that they cannot fund these operations themselves. I am paying over \$100/month for home phone, internet and cable (I have HD, all the tiers and lots of specialty programming), but I do NOT feel that the cable companies should be able to offload any additional charges onto the consumers when over the years they have consistently raised their fees already.

They own the stations AND collect the cable fees... THEY can fund the local cable. End of story. In the case of CTV, Global and those stations, let them go public and do an IPO to raise equity and raise public funds if they need money. Then they can be responsible to their shareholders for their operations and not simply hold out their cap for money. They can't simply keep begging for funds because if they get cash for carriage, it will be inevitably be the consumers who pay in the end. We are the very people who are unemployed, suffering from the horrible state of the economy and simply cannot afford these additional costs.

If asked to pay additional costs for cable, I would seriously consider cancelling many of my specialty services and watching more television online where it is already available free. I can also get local news via the internet albeit in text form but that is an alternative.

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Like

 *William* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My concern is overall cost of cable services. Paying additional fees for Local TV just isn't of

interest and I would react negatively - I don't understand why all of a sudden we are going through this process at all.

No changes should be made to fees, the real issue is I can't get access to the channels I really need or want with buying a "bundle" of channels. I do not want to pay for another "bundle" called Local TV and don't see why I can't simply purchase one channel at a time over and above basic services. Channels and broadcasters that do not survive fall victim to the fact there is little demand/interest.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bill Chalmers ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Can't get money from a stone, I pay nothing for TV and will continue to do so.
2. Pay for individual local channels via the internet once some competition in the ISP markets frees up some bandwidth to allow the service a chance. Local advertising and becoming more visible in the community. Less money spent on Jeopardy type programming and bad, terrible reality TV from the US and more spent on local content.

[Flag](#)

Like



X. Z ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I don't even watch tv much, the most local tv I watch is news. I already pay high enough fees for cable tv only because I would like the choices to watch all the other programmings and US TV that cable tv provides, so why should i pay additional fees for local tv that I barely watch? We shouldn't be forced to pay additional fees for what we don't watch. Local tv stations is a business, so should operate like a business to compete with other businesses as well on their own!

2. Provide more interesting programmings would help gaining support.

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul S ★ [1 month ago](#)

My view is simple. I've already notified my service provider that ANY increase in my monthly cable bill will signal my request to cancel my account. Frankly, I am tired of paying more and more for programming that continues to deteriorate. The value simply isn't there any more.

[Flag](#)

Like



smithery ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't watch local TV so why should I have to pay for it. It offers me nothing of value. I am more than willing to pay for stations I watch. I really dislike paying for basic cable especially when I do not watch 1 second of it. The lowest on the dial I go is Discovery channel. All other viewing is done on HD channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



jonathankline ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Satellite companies should be obligated to distribute local television. The public has an interest in maintaining our culture and heritage, not to mention our interest supporting our arts community and the other jobs that local television creates or maintains.

The cable and satellite distributors have only their shareholders' best interests at heart. Only the CRTC can protect the public interest. Thankfully, this country isn't a corporation, and it doesn't have to be run like one.

[Flag](#)

Like



robmcmenemy ★ 1 month ago

Essentially, I believe as a start that anybody who produces content should be compensated for it by anyone using it. If cable companies carry local content and continue to not pay for it, then they must not be able to sell and switch in their own advertising - The local producers could then charge more to it's advertisers for these programs if the cable distributes them further - the cable or satellite provider get their subscription fees. If however Cable/Satellite providers are allowed to profit them carrying these services (other than subscription fees) then they must provide recompense for the producers. They should also be forbidden to call this a tax - as that is clearly an attempt confuse people into to believing the government would force them to pay a tax. That is a lie.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tom ★ 1 month ago

I am fed up with high Cable rates for Channels that I don't need or want. I am forced to pay for channels that I don't care.....

Customers should be allowed to select individual channels..this way the market will select the winners and losers..Local programming is also very important for me..but let me select them....

In addition in Toronto Bell/Rogers also own local content (CTV, CityTv, etc) so money is just being shifted from once account to the other...

[Flag](#)

Like



John Watson ★ 1 month ago

If you move to an a la carte model for cable/satellite subscribers, then local TV can be priced into the market and I can choose whether or not I want to pay for it. Failing that, I don't support an additional charge for local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



georges_deux ★ 1 month ago

I do not support a fee imposed upon intermediate service providers such as the cable company to which I subscribe. If a local programming product is not feasible, companies cannot and should not be compelled to offer it.

The fee for service relationship between the cable company and the subscriber has remained largely unchanged for decades. On the other hand, if traditional television stations and networks are to benefit from a fee paid by cable and satellite providers -- as proposed by the TV stations and networks -- what increase in value are they offering cable companies today compared to thirty years ago? Quite frankly, I cannot find any justification for such a fee.

While I can understand that companies in all industries are forever looking for new sources of revenue, and while I can understand also that this most recent economic downturn has proved troublesome not only for television stations and networks but also for companies in many industries, it is up to the television stations and networks to balance their books by managing expenses effectively. If they are unable to do that, why?

Any consumer who believes that a fee imposed on a cable or satellite company is okay if it isn't passed along to the consumer is naive. Companies pass on costs to consumers and add a margin for profit. Period.

Any regulator who feels that, ultimately, consumers should pick up the tab for money-losing television stations and networks and pay a hidden fee is missing the point. What the CRTC ought to be doing is not increasing fees but rather examining what options it can make available to Canadian television companies and networks to make the environment conducive to their making money. The old model is broken. This is not the fault of consumers or cable

companies: please do not prop up a flagging industry on their backs. Rather, I urge you to find a new model, a new model without fees that will be hidden from consumers and a new model that will not be paid involuntarily as would be the case if the fees being proposed here were to come into effect.

[Flag](#)

Like



miguelsaitua ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not convinced that local TV is important enough to pay extra for it. If I have to pay for pay for local TV I would re-evaluate the TV service that I have in order to cut the total cost of it.

Local TV broadcasters should re-structure their business to make it economically viable without asking for handouts.

[Flag](#)

Like



brucebenson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay one red cent more for so called local TV. If fees for Carriage are passed, cable will pass on the additional costs to me, therefore I want to have the choice on what signals are carried to my house. Give the viewer a choice. I feel that Local TV benefits greatly by having Cable carry their signal. If Cable did not carry the signal, local TV would have much fewer viewers. There is only one thing that is local about our TV stations and that is basically local news. The rest is all American programming and I sure as hell don't want to have to pay for that. Besides that, I can watch all the American crap on other cable channels. If local TV can't make it on their own, they should close up shop, no questions asked. This amounts to another damn tax and I'm sick of it. In closing, please don't allow local TV to get away with another rip off. If we are forced to pay carriage, give us the choice to pay for local TV if we want it. In other words, if I want local TV, I will pay for it or I will put up a set of rabbit ears or I simply won't watch it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Larry Brettingham ★ [1 month ago](#)

Consumers are already paying for local tv in the cable basic package and cable operators should pay for what they are reselling. However I object to the concept of a basic package of cable services. We should only have to pay for what we want to watch. I get my news and weather from the internet. I don't want to pay for it again from the television.

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I don't have a problem with a fee being charged for local TV stations; however, the flip side of that would be that all channels beyond the basics (there are only 3 local stations I would be willing to pay for - CBC, CTV and Global) would become de-bundled and I would be able to choose exactly which ones I want to subscribe to.

2. Local television could easily be supported by either increased advertising time or by a fee for having the channels on cable. Any channel which has a fee associated with it on cable whether it is a local channel or a specialty channel should have restrictions on how many minutes of advertising is allowed per hour which are tied to the monthly fee for access on cable (the higher the fee consumers pay the less advertising time the station is allowed to sell).

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Like



Darryl Olthoff ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is some value to having local news, but news reporting now in general has a terrible bias and isn't particularly in depth. TV is already too expensive and charging more for local stations

would leave me no choice but to cancel tv and download what i want to watch for free. Would it really be a lot to ask for the cable companies to give something out of the billions in profit they collect each year to help them out. I am tired of having to pay a little more here and there while corporations collect record profits.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *localtv* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are paying for it already by paing for packages ie; basic pacage. Let as choose (subscribe to) channel by channel. ... and see post by susan D.....

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *michaeltaylor* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would strongly object to being asked to pay more for basic cable which like most I DO NOT watch. I only buy it because I have to to get the premium channels I want. Premium channels that by the way provide QUALITY Canadian content like The Movie Network and Showcase. Not drivel like Corner Gas, little Mosque on the Prarie, Royal Canadian Air Farce and rip-offs of US trash TV like So You Think You Can Dance. If Local TV wants fee for carriage I have absolutley NO problem with that but the CRTC must allow cable companies to offer them as an option and not as a mandatory part of basic cable.

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[Like](#)

 *periklis* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There was a day when we could watch man land on the moon for free!!!. Bell and Rogers cry the blues while recording record profits. CRTC you have missed the mark. You have done little to support the average Canadian over the years. It strikes me as ironic that you should ask for our opinion when at the end of the day your track record suggest otherwise!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I want five or six channels. Only one is not Canadian. CRTC cable TV policy for years has forced me to pay for many channels I don't watch and frequently don't approve of. The CRTC deems they're good for Canadian culture. I don't believe the programming is good for anyone except the pockets of a small group of owners. Regardless of the local TV argument, I am very close to cancelling my cable subscription entirely (as a neighbour has done) and living with over-the-air TV. I only watch from one to three hours a week anyway.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Mary Lou* ★ [1 month ago](#)

While I would probably miss the 6 pm local news that I view for maybe 10 minutes before it moves on to other news I wouldn't pay extra for it. I would rethink the packages that I have and drop some channels and see if maybe I could afford it or get along without it. Other than watching the news it is a channel that I very seldom watch and is fairly useless.

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 *FreeTheAirwaves* ★ [1 month ago](#)

With today's affordable and simple to use video technology this is a "smoke screen" covering up the real issues of individual freedom of expression.

Ask yourself: why do our televisions only work via cable and not through the airwaves as they

did before?

The reality is that if our televisions still worked via VHF and UHF it would be comparatively cheap and easy to establish a local television station (assuming you can afford the license which is another topic).

It is too politically dangerous to allow small groups of individuals to produce television programs independently therefore the powers that be limit access to a wire that unless you are part of the "club" you wont be heard.

The arguments found here only cover up the real issues relating to freedom of televised expression.

"3 hostile newspapers [and television/radio stations] are as dangerous as 1000 bayonet's."
-Napoleon

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Like

 [Frameboy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) For every dollar I am charged for this, I will lower my rogers cable service by \$2. So if they charge me \$10, they will lose \$20.
2) The cost of doing business on local television should be factored in by BOTH the networks and cable companies. You cannot charge somebody in Toronto \$xx so somebody in North Bay can watch North Bay news.

Maybe CTV and CanWest should have thought of that before they spent hundreds of millions on newspapers, the Olympics and specialty channels.

The money we pay already should factor in the support of local television... if that means I have to watch US tv on US channels... so be it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [tonyguy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will not pay for "Local TV". It is not local 99% is bought content and the 1% is "infotainment". Newspapers do a better job.

Take no measures to support local TV. It is a business. If they provide content we want we will buy it. Supply and demand don't you know.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [swadams](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is all but extinct in Hamilton, Ontario.

CH's conversion to all news (repeating a short loop for stories) focuses heavily on national news and so, is a poor substitute for existing network news. Where it varies, it can be replaced with a short read through the newspaper. With very little original content focused on this region, why pretend that local programming is anything else? News blurbs do not constitute original programming. If local television is to exist at all it should focus on the region it exists in. 15 minute featurettes about the history of the area, businesses (not 15 min. infomercials) or activities of public interest are examples of local programming, in my opinion.

I would not pay extra for local TV. If this tax passes, I will likely cancel my cable service and focus on online news and programming to supplement movies and features on dvd.

These stations claim they are feeling the economic crunch. So are we.

Consumption taxes are avoided by not consuming and that will be the exact response if this measure passes.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [steve_in_st_johns](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Except for supper hour news, local TV is of NO IMPORTANCE to me and I am not willing to pay one cent more to support NTV or CBC (thats the only 2 "local" stations in St. John's. As I see it, the CRTC requires Rogers to carry NTV all across the province, so that means NTY are exposed to a larger market then the signal they broadcast, that means they are charging more for advertising because of their increased exposure because Rogers has to carry them. Hum, sounds to me that local TV is being subsidized already, maybe they should be paying the cable and sat. companies a fee for prodcasting them!!!! So what measures to take, simple, NONE, let then live or die on their own.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [whooda thunkitt](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I absolutely refuse to pay any additional fee for local TV. The stations are freely available over the air and I already pay my cable company to deliver the signal.

The case that local TV needs support has not been made. Local TV is owned by private corporations aside from the obvious exception. Consumers should not be required to provide additional support via legislation or increased regulation or any reason for that matter to private broadcasters. If private broadcasters business model is no longer providing enough revenue to fund operations, that is not my concern. They should be allowed to fail as any other industry.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [bp](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I don't think I should have to pay more for local broadcasting on top of what I already pay for cable tv as it is I pay far too much for my cable. I would most likely seek Satellite tv if I was asked to pay more for broadcasting since if I am going to pay more I might as well get more than what I get right now and I can get much more with Satellite than I can with cable for what I pay.

2. I think we certainly need to support local TV but I can't justify paying more to Cable companies for that privilidge it seems like another money goudge to me especially in these very tight financial times for everyone. If they haven't been charging for it before they can certainly keep on broadcasting local TV for free now and frankly cable companies should be paying Local TV to be able to broadcast their programs they charge us, the users, enough to do so.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [tedmeyers](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems to me that TV companies (Global, CTV et al) are their own worst enemies and have come to the situation they say they are in, not because of cable companies, but because of their own mismanagement. The cable companies do not have a say in which channels are in operation. The channels - and all the Specialty Channels- are privately owned or are owned by the TV companies and the cable companies include them either because they have to as mandated by the CRTC or because they serve the Canadian content rules in force. Cable costs enough as it now and any further increase in fees in order to supplement the TV owners will be only another tax burden thrust upon viewers. The CRTC should tell the TV commercial companies to start managing their business affairs properly and stop trying to freeload off others. I, for one, can live without TV so it would be no great hardship on my part to shut down my TV set as I only watch it anyway for about two hours an evening. Radio is still my preference.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



Mary Lou ★ [1 month ago](#)

While I would probably miss the 6 pm local news that I view for maybe 10 minutes before it moves on to other news I wouldn't pay extra for it. I would rethink the packages that I have and drop some channels and see if maybe I could afford it or get along without it. Other than watching the news it is a channel that I very seldom watch and is fairly useless.

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Like



Dean ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think since the average Canadian no longer has access to locally transmitted signals, cable and satellite companies have eliminated the need for antennas, that these signals should be transmitted by cable/satellite as part of a basic package that is offered at no additional charge to the consumer but as a customer service. Cable and Satellite companies should pay the Canadian tv stations to distribute their signals just as they pay American and other Canadian services for their product.

[Flag](#)

Like



Lorne Hussey ★ [1 month ago](#)

Speaking for NE Ontario, I don't believe that local TV (MCTV) and the like should receive any support from satellite or cable companies... Why, because the quality of programming is so poor. I am not willing to pay for it and I don't see the failure of the service as a loss. We get far better news coverage from CBC locals, local papers etc...

Local TV has lost their revenues I believe, due to poor programming. If added to my satellite fees, I'm seriously considering dropping satellite TV completely and get my news from the web...

[Flag](#)

Like



robmuir ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were forced to pay for the garbage now being shown on CHCH, I'd cancel my cable. I am offended every time I see a simsub (Canadian stations allowed to insert their commercials over American channels when broadcast at the same time). The over the air networks were given simsub and mandatory placement on the cable/sat lineups, and now they want us to pay more to make up for their lousy management decisions? Let 'em all go bankrupt. How do you save local TV? Break up the networks and give local TV back to the community. Allow me to choose whether I want to watch (pay for) their channel, giving them some incentive to put a quality package on the air, not simply repeat most of the stuff available on the American networks.

[Flag](#)

Like



Andrew ★ [1 month ago](#)

In regards to question 1, I already pay for local programming. It's called a basic cable package and it includes channels like CBC, CityTV and the like. That being said, cable prices in this country are atrocious. If this were new technology I might (emphasis) be able to understand the high prices, but this is ridiculous.

To the second question, local television should look into local sponsorship. I shouldn't have to support something that I have no desire to watch. Local channels should be treated like specialty channels are: those who want them, pay for them. Cable customers aren't charitable organizations. We don't want to pay for junk.

All this aside, Canada needs more competition in the communications sector. Our cable/cell/internet/land line bills are among the highest in the world. Why you ask? Because the CRTC won't allow competition. It stands behind the protectionist policy that does little to promote Canadian content and more to drive up costs for the consumer. Enough is enough!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Bill* ★ [1 month ago](#)

One big issue is the "basic" package we are charged for. I want choice. The basic package should only include the channels we as a people consider as essential. CBC would be one of those as would virtually any public system. the weather network for example provides a basic public service. Privately owned systems should have to be out there competing and shouldnt perhaps be part of that basic package. I then want to be able to pick and choose which channels I want and especially do not want. i dont have a problem with bundles but id I wan to add just one I should be able to do that at a reasonable cost.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*johncurrie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

tv programing is becoming so expensive no-one is going to be able to afford it much longer and the price keeps going up .the service from bell is terrible and most of their service tech support is not canadian yet you protect canadian content. if want to help the consumer then open the market to everyone or at the least make cable and satellite sell their channels individually not in packages with channels no one wants.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Shawn B* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Charging cable companies to access/distribute local content signals doesn't make much sense to me. There's no doubt the cable companies would simply pass on the extra costs to their subscribers and that wouldn't sit well with me. Shaw cable carries local channels across the country but I can't access that "free" content unless I am willing to pay more on my monthly cable bill to subscribe to this time-shifting "service." Obviously a local Halifax signal is not local in Vancouver and yet these signals are considered acquired without charge for the local market and included with the basic cable packages. Satellite feeds carry time-shifted local content as part of the basic package for free.

I question what makes local tv so local. Apart from the morning, lunch and evening news, there's really not that much local content on my local tv stations. They are all controlled, owned or directed by a corporate broadcaster and are remarkably similar in terms of content, across the country. The local news spends roughly 5-10 minutes per hour covering local news and the rest seems devoted to a mix of national, international and entertainment focused news that has little or no local connection. Shaw's community cable station (channel 4 in Vancouver) offers more local coverage than most of the local tv stations.

My cable fees are already too high and like many other commenters here, I'm not interested in seeing them go any higher. So, how do we support local television?

Local television coverage is completely at odds with network television. So, why force local tv to be part of the network system? If we increase access to community TV channels such as Shaw Channel 4 and make that content also available online then do we really need local TV? The TV network environment is changing. Less and less people are tuning in...so why make us pay for something that has a shrinking audience? It just doesn't make sense.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*markowen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Here in Wawa, Ontario, a rural area, we have no local TV service. I am not willing to pay extra for a service of which I will receive no benefit.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *R H* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't watch TV, so this won't impact me at all. I don't care about local news, and I hardly keep up with national news (via online newspaper). I have better things to do with my time.

Philosophically, I believe that less government intervention is usually better and that more flexibility is preferable. Let the local TV stations charge if they want.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jason* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local tv wants to have us billed via the providers they should be disconnected from the government Nipple's of support, only in Canada would we have our television limited because we are Canadian and everything is controlled by local televisions companies and the crtc.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *WILLIAM* ★ [1 month ago](#)

MY SOLUTION ANALYZE THE DIFFERENCE IN THE OPERATION OF CBC VERSUS GLOBAL AND CTV. REDUCE CBC WAGES TO THE SAME AS THE OTHER TWO. CHANGE CBC PRACTICES OF HAVING TWO OR THREE TIMES THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE AS THE OTHER TWO TO COVER STORIES. GIVE THE SAVINGS FROM OUR ANNUAL SUBSIDY TO MANSBRIDGE AND COMPANY TO CTV AND GLOBAL. THEN AND ONLY THEN HAVE THE CABLE COMPANYS PAY FOR THE FEED BASED ON CUSTOMER USAGE AND ONLY ALLOW THE CABLES TO CHARGE FOR ACTUAL TV STATIONS THE PUBLIC WANT. IF WE END UP NOT WANTING CBC, CTV, OR GLOBAL THEN LET THEM GO THE WAY OF THE STAGECOACH WHICH WE ALSO DO NOT BUY THESE DAYS.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dan_H333* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) Local TV makes little or no difference to me. Not being in a major market (i.e. Toronto/Montreal/Vancouver) any breaking news or other important information is found on the radio or online. I rarely if never watch any local TV programming, and when I do it is on the Shaw Community channel rather than one of the 'local' affiliates. Given that my overall impression of Canadian network television as mindless parrots of US programming I would be fine having the option of removing them (and the corresponding costs) from my cable bill.

I believe that I would re-evaluate my existing cable packages and make reductions in the TV portion while leaving internet the same to balance out any additional fees for local television.

2) I believe that if there is to be any artificial support for these 'for profit' corporate entities they must expand their local news coverage and not continue closing down regional areas for feeds out of Toronto or Vancouver. They lose any right to block out or otherwise interfere with any 'repeated' programming from a non-Canadian affiliate. So if they choose to not air a program in parallel they cannot block the broadcast or force a substitution of programming on the other station.

These channels should be provided a la carte, and not as part of a bundled package.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *drgonzoi* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Thanks for the opportunity to provide input to these important matters.

1. I could cancel my satellite subscription and use my OTA antenna to receive free "local" tv transmitted OTA and expect that the broadcasters would still have a business interest in providing a sufficient coverage signal with proper PSIP data instream for the date, time and programming information. If they are willing to let things go so far that they will let the agencies governing television to be forced to impose "fees" to boost the profit lines of corporations that

do hold valuable broadcasting assets (ie. specialty channels), as well as conventional assets that have had a "bad year", I say let the market decide. Observe cities where stations have shut down already (for example, Red Deer, Alberta). The broadcasters should reflect on that and desist with the threat of more fees before they commit suicidal business practices.

2. There has to be money available to them in the profits the BDUs have declared. If fees must be charged for local tv, let the consumer opt out if they do not want to pay for them. Let it be market driven.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ryan ★ 1 month ago

I will not pay any more \$\$ for TV (local or other) than I am currently paying.

Actually, if this new proposed fee structure goes ahead, I will be dropping my Satellite TV subscription completely, then I will access US based channels instead. Enough is enough.

Local television needs to survive on advertising revenue alone. If it cannot, then there is not a valid business case for it to exist.

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Like



T. Lee ★ 1 month ago

Let's think about what 'local' means, first and foremost. Is it simply regional newscasts? Or are we talking about 'Canadian' or 'big-city Canadian' television series'? Producers seem to pick and choose what local means. But do we honestly need three hours of 'local news' every day, at the expense of world news coverage? Please don't tell me that 'local TV' means insipid variety shows that no one watches. I'm consistently surprised by the lack of creativity and foresight local broadcasters exhibit, and infuriated by some of their tactics:

*Broadcasters have been known to 'buy and shelve' TV shows so their competitors don't pick them up;

*As for series', Vancouver and Toronto have had some great TV shows, in particular Intelligence' and This is Wonderland, based in their respective cities, which were cancelled in spite of their general popularity.

Local broadcasters need to think outside the box (and redefine what that box is), whilst the cable companies need to recognize that they've been riding a lucky wave for some time, by not having to pay their fair share.

Answering the above questions more specifically:

1. I don't pay for cable. I refuse to give money to cable companies with mediocre, over-priced service, who don't allow me to get only the channels I want. (And yes, I would choose a local broadcaster or two, especially if they were relevant.) In the meantime, I watch the local broadcasters (if only they'd stop holding some of the great TV shows hostage, and think less about their political mandate and more about wide-scale viewership).

Currently, the Internet provides enough options for my television needs.

2. I can support a local TV station that provides intelligent, honest in-depth journalism about local and world news. I can support a local TV station that engages more with the community, allowing viewers a platform to engage with one another, and with the content (public forums; cross-platform; etc). When viewers are engaged in their community, they have a vested interest in it, and will respond by watching more of it.

It behooves me how/why broadcasters can't figure this out for themselves.

[Flag](#)

Like



Average Joe ★ 1 month ago

Before I had cable TV I didn't watch very much television because there was not a lot of content on the 'free over-the-air' channels that I was interested in - maybe the local news and the odd

sporting event and I was probably better off for it ;) This content was free and the local stations seemed able to sustain themselves on revenues from advertising (commercials). Why is it that now these same local TV stations cannot support themselves via the same business model?

Cable/Satellite companies have come along and changed the delivery method for television content, they have completely revolutionized to the point that the average Canadian viewer cannot get any content unless they subscribe (pay large monthly fees) to the content providers AND purchase/rent proprietary equipment that will allow them to unscramble this content. As much as I believe that the Cable and Satellite providers are taking advantage of Canadians, I don't see how why they should pay local television stations for content that up until now, has always been provided freely to viewers.

If anything, I would like to see the CRTC force cable and satellite companies to provide a new class of Basic Programming that would include just free local content and make it available for a minimal monthly fee to cover the infrastructure costs that they have tricked us into being so reliant on. Alternatively the cable and satellite companies should provide commercial free content because we are forced to pay so much for the content that they provide.

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Like



Bill Carruthers ★ [1 month ago](#)

Who gets the advertising revenue? I don't want to pay for channels that I don't watch. Can you make it so I can pick the channels that I buy through the cable provider. I don't want to pay for Toronto news channels that don't apply to my area-BC.

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Like



petersmith ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Canadian public is public should be given a simple breakdown of the costs.

Local programming improvement fund created by the CRTC in 2008 to my knowledge has never publicly shown proper figures. We do not know how much has been collected, and how much is being paid out.

We do not know exactly what percentage of our cable and satellite bills actually goes towards this fund. As this is now a public debate by the Government of Canada, we should be shown this.

As the cable and satellite companies are already supposedly paying the existing 1% (not sure what that 1% of?) To the fund, we as Canadians should know exactly how much of our existing bill is put towards the LPIF and that the cable companies to date have met the requirements for that 1%.

That 1% is already contained within our existing build structure and has not been considered a justifiable reason for increasing our bill.

If we can clearly see how much we are paying towards the LPIF then we can all clearly decide if adding another .5% is acceptable to us, and whether or not we will accept a .5% increase in our cable and satellite billing.

The fact that the CRTC in the Public Notice 2008 -100 (paragraph 357) <http://www.crtc.gc.ca/eng/archive/2008/pb2008-1...> states that there is no justifiable reason for the broadcasting distribution undertakings to pass along any increased costs (estimated at \$.50 per month cable and satellite subscribers). Although considered to be in the public domain the average consumer is not going to do as much work as I have it down to this level. Burying this information has allowed debate spiral up to where it is today.

Put this up front where it can be clearly debated and seen.

With the conflicting information that is out there should be a clear link online where we can go to see the chronological history of events, the amounts collected by cable companies, the amounts

paid to date by cable companies, the amounts that are being requested for future support of local news and information and public affairs.

Break it down into clear and concise figures for the average consumer compare to their bill.

I as a consumer find it extremely distasteful that the government has not posted this information for clarity. Having to rely on those that control the airwaves (note that we all feel government lost control of them a while back), to put out their own biased slant, means that the public debate is using highly skewed information.

Please post public notice 2008 -100 paragraphs 349 through 358 and clearly explain them in language that the average will understand, and clearly show the cost to the individual consumer.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *surely57* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay for basic cable, therefore I am already paying for my local stations. So as far as I'm concerned, the cable stations are taking my money to pass on something that they get for free. If the cable stations asked me to pay again on top of what I already pay, I'd cancel my subscription to cable and get rabbit ears. Which would do me fine until we have to go digital! Seriously, it seems to me that cable companies make gobs of money and to pass on extra charges to the public because they don't want to share their gobs of money is just pure greed.

One of my local stations here in Victoria is NOT part of a network, and is trying to survive independently. I know they would benefit greatly from the added revenue, so if there is no fee-for-carriage, perhaps there is some way of determining the audience size and giving them a piece of the pie that cable stations are paying into the fund for local production.

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Like

 *Bill Carruthers* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Who gets the advertising revenue? I don't want to pay for channels that I don't watch. Can you make it so I can pick the channels that I buy through the cable provider. I don't want to pay for Toronto news channels that don't apply to my area-BC.

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Like

 *Mike* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that if they are allowed to charge the cable providers, then the consumer should have the choice to order it or not. I would just order ABC, NBC, CBS,ect. Why would i pay for the Canadian version, i could get form the basic American networks. It's not like the Canadian networks are bringing in anything new. and if i had to pay the extra fee. I would just download it off the net and watch it for free. Seems like everyone just wants more money all the time eventually we will not be able to afford it so. I say just download it off the web and watch all the Canadian companies fall. greedy people.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *joe average* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. we already pay an obscene fee for the number of channels we receive and the limited shows available. no more money for you...enough!

2. market will dictate who lives and dies...let it be.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *brian* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay any more than I already am paying - I believe it costs too much for cable now! Local TV stations should scale back - there is no need for one hour of local news each night, 30 minutes would be plenty - even then, most of it has been available all day- via radio, internet, etc.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Unhappy_in_Ottawa](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already paying FAR TOO MUCH for cable TV. If you force rates to go higher I will be VERY unhappy. I think our Canadian rates are already EXCESSIVE. You should be exploring ways to force prices DOWN, not up.

I don't want many of the stations I receive but I have no choice, since they are forced on me, apparently by the CRTC(?). Don't force me to support unwanted TV stations any longer.

If ANY corporation can't afford to stay in business it should be allowed to fail. You must not force me (the taxpayer) to bail out any more businesses than I have already been forced to rescue. Local stations must examine their costs, and if they cannot cut their costs enough to survive without being bailed out then they must be allowed to fail.

Only ONE local TV station is necessary (in my opinion), and I think that's a responsibility for the CBC to fulfill. You seem to be of the opinion that we MUST support ALL local television. If they are in need of funds to continue they must raise those funds from businesses, advertisers, donors, or by campaigning in their own inventive ways. Don't place that burden on the service provider who will only pass it along to me.

The recent financial meltdown has been very difficult for the public (including MY investment and pension income) and this is NOT the time to be raising taxes or fees for services. As you should be aware and take into consideration, it will take years for those investments to return to normal (some NEVER will). So, deal with your problems and face up to the solutions you KNOW must be made without passing the burden along to me.

It finally looks like you care about listening to public opinion. I think it would be nice if you had occasional questionnaires distributed that would provide you with feedback that might help you make difficult decisions.

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Like



[G.P.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

To pay for local content on top of current charges would be the straw that broke the back. I would cancel all cable subscriptions and most likely bring my dish and receiver up from my home in the US.

Local television could be supported better by cutting the bureaucratic bs they themselves have created at the top of their own corps.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Sarah](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would strongly disagree paying for local TV; I too will cancel my cable service.

2. Advertising? Have cable share revenues. Fundamentally, I receive my news from internet and although I do like local news channels, I don't think it's necessary to have as many regional ones as we have today. Many can be amalgamated into fewer entities. Aside from news, I don't watch any local programming (wasn't aware there were any). As one respondent stated, it should all be driven by the market (supply & demand).

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Like



[Rick](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think I should pay any extra fees. The cable/satellite companies have been protected by the CRTC for long enough at the expense of the Consumer. Please don't tell me that the Shaw family have sacrificed (ha,ha). It should come out of their ROE. Better yet, the CRTC should either force the market to preserve local TV at their own cost and if they don't then just open wide the market to any participant. It does not matter anymore under this scenario. The CRTC would be irrelevant.

[Flag](#)

Like



[allenlarsen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

While thinking of the importance of local TV to myself, I must admit that while my television and DVR get far too much use, my consumption of local television is negligible. There are many reasons for this and I understand that I am part of the problem. However I currently pay far more for my cable service than I like and the bill keeps going up with little wanted additional content.

My reaction should I have to pay more for local TV that I rarely watch would depend on the choices I was given. If it were done in such a way as I could offset these costs by ceasing to receive other unwanted content, then I would have no complaint. However the rate schemes are currently structured such that I cannot eliminate the unwanted content without losing something that I wish to receive. If these (non-)options remained along with the new charges then I would grumble and likely pay. Still I would not watch local TV any more than I do today.

As for measures to support local TV, all I can suggest is to allow them to provide the programming that I watch so that instead of watching US television networks or cable channels I will watch local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Max S](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is available at no charge simply by the installation of an antenna. Digital TV is available by way of an antenna attached to a computer - no charge. A fee for local TV on top of a cable or satellite charge is no more than simple greed and avarice. The cable and satellite companies should be allowed to provide local TV signals only as an option to a customer. No, I do not wish to pay extra charges.

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Like



[Leaf](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable - its already too expensive for useless channels with shopping commercials all night and Rogers keeps raising the price while reducing both channels and signal quality (pixilated digital artifacts - give me back the old NTSC analogue).

2. Cable companies make too much for doing less than the minimum - make them pay the local TV out of the amount they take from us now and share the wealth taken from us - they can easily carry the on air stations as part of the right to do business in a given area (the basic overhead to have the monopoly).

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Like



[maritnrudner](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am VERY strongly opposed to the notion that local television channels should impose an additional cost on cable viewers over and above the price paid for cable/satellite services. As a matter of fact, the advertising revenue earned by the local TV stations ALREADY takes into account their audience rating, in other words the cable/satellite viewers ALREADY represent part of the advertising revenue base of local TV stations. There is no case to charge us more.

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Like



acshun ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a first step, local TV stations should charge cable and satellite companies a discounted fee for their programs--however, given the huge profits of the cable and satellite companies, the cost should not be passed on to the consumer. Provide motivation to local TV stations AND cable/satellite companies to work together and innovate.

[Flag](#)

Like



DWA ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have to say, to get a wide variety of channels and choices, my monthly cable bill is in excess of \$80. In this cost, is a flat fee for the 'basic' cable package, which consists of approximately 30 channels (I think). On Rogers, this starts at \$30/month, which is their lowest price point. If the cable companies 'must distribute' these signals as part of their basic service, why is the cost so high? I would have assumed that this cost included fees for all of the stations that were broadcast.

In addition, if I had to pay extra for these 'included' channels, I probably would not be too excited about it, and would try to cut costs where I can. I could also see a lot more people moving to download their entertainment from the internet, where there are plenty of choices and ways to get it, at a much lower cost. For a small monthly fee (\$9), for example, I could stream movies and television programs directly to my television through my PS3. The extra fees - I keep hearing about a 'TV Tax' for Canadians of \$10/month - may even convince me to get rid of my cable service all together.

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Like



James ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Unacceptable. We already pay far too much for advert-filled programming.
2. Grants from Government not money from the consumer who must view regardless as part of basic package.

[Flag](#)

Like



davidgibbons ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is not important to me and I don't want to be forced to have to pay for it. I believe that only people who want it should pay for it. If someone wants to watch local TV they should pay for it. The Local TV station should charge the Cable/Satellite company which in turn should charge the customer that is interested in the service.

I am appalled that we have this non-market approach to entertainment in Canada.

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Like



Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

A reasonable cost for a basic cable package is \$20 to \$25 a month all costs in. Allowing the Networks and the Cable companies to charge more for a basic cable package is allowing these monopolistic companies to steal from millions of Canadians who just want the basics at a basic price.

The CRTC needs to regulate these companies for what they are monopolies.

[Flag](#)

Like



billhadden ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would stop getting cable and watch the Free air tv I already get from the US.
2. Make the so called local(Run and Owned From Toronto)Stations suport and buy more Canadian content. Most of what we see comes From toronto and I'm tired of it. There is more of

CANADA west of OTTAWA and I want to see more of it.

[Flag](#)

Like



kevinpetri ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would reduce my programming to reflect the increase in fees. Under no circumstances would I pay more for what I am getting. Also if I am forced to pay for local channels, I would like the option of not receiving them.

[Flag](#)

Like



Neil - Montreal ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am not willing to pay extra for local TV. I am already paying too much for a basic package of stations that I don't watch but I am obliged to pay for just to have access to the stations that I really want to watch. I live near Montreal and never watch local programming from Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver etc. but they are included in the basic package.
2. I would support more competition and removing the "basic service" package that I am required to pay for. Then and only then I would be willing to subscribe to CTV Montreal to watch the local news once per day, however I am not interested in paying basic service and paying again for local TV. It makes no sense!

In addition, no one should be paying anything for CBC TV broadcasts. CBC already gets government funding. Paying for them in a basic package, means that we are paying twice for a mediocre broadcaster.

Allow more competition!

[Flag](#)

Like



Don Nickerson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it's simple, if the cable company's don't have to pay to get the basic cable we see then they should not be able to charge for it, seeing how they charge us for it, they should have to pay for it, but there's no way they should be allowed to charge us more for that service, as we are already paying them for a service they get for free. The simplest solution for us, is there should be no packages, we as consumers should be able to purchase any channel we want to, and those we don't want we don't buy, that way they can't bundle a bunch of crap with one or two good channels.

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Like



ts ★ [1 month ago](#)

Badly managed business models should not be "bailed out" by tax payers; This seems to be a trend within the business communities. I am already reconsidering if the cost of cable channels is worth while and at some point may consider switching to US satellite if costs continue to go up. Local TV should be self sustaining just like my business does. In a time of economic depression putting additional taxes on services is not the solution since you will lose more of your customer base further reducing core income.

[Flag](#)

Like



dingusamongus ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am already considering canceling my satellite services due to the high cost, with little choice and convenience despite what sales spin they try to put on it. I would definitely cancel if there were to be added cost.

2. I believe in supporting the arts, as an artist, but it shouldn't just be content for content's sake. We shouldn't be forced to watch or fund programming that we don't want.

A good show/program will do well - period. If a show for the U.S. or Britain will do better by having more interest and desire, then so be it. We are such a small populated nation in the world, and while we have lots to offer, we should stop being so protectionist with other world media, and that includes the U.S.. Canada cannot be asked to fill every station with constant programming, this is unrealistic. Look at how thinly spread most of our stations are now, with the speciality channels being the worst.

Many of us have already been watching U.S. channels over the airwaves for years and guess what? There are Canadian programs I still like and watch, and America has not crushed my nation or changed the way I feel and understand that I am a Canadian. In fact it helps better define me, as I am not what I necessarily view!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [lenmatthews](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay any more to get so called local stations. If the CTV, Global and CBC cannot make it let them fall by the way side.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [David Egan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I strongly object to the idea that Canwest Global would be able to levy what is basically a government condoned tax and then spend the money on US based reality television. Consumers should have the right to opt out of any fees. If Canwest Global wants to yank the channel, so be it. The quality is not good enough for me to open my wallet.

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Like

 [acshun](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

local TV stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies a discounted fee--however, given the huge profits of the cable/satellite companies, they should not be allowed to pass the fee on to consumers--make it a new cost of doing business, just like the proposed HST is a new benefit of doing business

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 [DAVE CARNAHAN](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV SIGNALS ARE SENT OUT FREE TO LOCALS AS A METHOD OF SELLING ADVERTISING. TAKING WHAT IS MEANT TO BE FREE TO THE PUBLIC AND REBROADCASTING IT FOR MONEY IS THEFT OF SERVICE OR AN APPROPRIATING OF SAME .. CABLE COMPANIES HAVE LONG AGO PAID FOR THEIR INITIAL INVESTMENTS AND HAVE LITTLE OR NO COST OF GOODS TO JUSTIFY CHARGING WHAT THEY DO FOR THINGS [SIGNALS] THAT ARE NOT BOUGHT INTO INVENTORY . THEY ARE SELLING AIR . NOT EVEN THEIR OWN .

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Will H](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.
I would not appreciate the extra charge for local broadcasting. Local broadcasting offers nothing other than a morning and nightly news. The shows that are aired are US based and can be seen on other stations. Any Canadian made television that I have seen in recent and past memory have been low budget and not worth extra charges on my Cable bill.

2.
Measures that need to be taken are unknown. These companies need to trim the fat and make

themselves profitable. We have seen many large media companies struggle in recent past. Maybe it is time these companies evolved. Rid themselves of unprofitable areas such as newspapers and focused on one thing. Those who specialize usually are able to make a better return on investment then those who spread themselves to thin.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [ronmacdonald](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm tired of being over charged by cable television. I live 10 miles from the U.S. border, add the tax and I will cancel my subscription and use the savings to purchase an expensive antenna system.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [cablesubscriber](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

This tax is pure socialism. Please save them from us
Down with the tax

[Flag](#)

Like

 [stewart](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Do not wish to pay for local television since satellite is expensive enough without extra charges

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Malcolm Wright](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not agree that the consumer should be made to pay for local TV. Local TV stations have used a business model that allowed them to exist in the past without tapping into the consumer. Now that advertising is down, the Stations want us to make up the the shortfall, but I doubt they would provide a rebate when advertising is up. Some content providers got over their heads with too much debt and consumers should not be expected to bail them out.

Local television should continue to receive the traditional level of support and if that does not work they should close.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [markauberemorrissey](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We do not subscribe to cable television because the cost to benefit ratio is too high - regardless of the ratio the cost is too high - and because any subscription involves a package which does not appeal to us.

Braodcasting and telecommunications are overpriced.

We subscribe to the internet and even that is over priced but we can do without cable tv but not without the internet.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Ken D](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Unfortunately, the government has allowed a system that has become too dependent on profits for there existence. Even the CBC has become a profit oriented entity and not a beacon for Canadian culture. Is it not your mandate to make sure at least some of the programming on CTV and Global are Canadian based reflect our culture and have a decent production value. The CRTC allows to much of the money spent on programming to be used to buy American shows. Where is the will to take some of the money I spend on my programming and make Canadian

shows made in this country, employing Canadian actors and production crew and are interesting to watch. Take some of the profits at these companies and mandate it to local television. Stop using the consumer as the only source of monies when these companies threaten to close local stations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [peterbatek](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

No additional charges should be warranted. There are so many more ads now than there were a few years ago; it's disgusting. Furthermore the ads are blaring at about 25% higher volume than regular programming. Very annoying. Seriously considering cancelling cable altogether

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Randall Sky](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have absolutely zero desire to pay for local tv...its irrelevant in this day and age of digital media. Its production quality is the lowest of the low.

If I were asked to pay, I'd be furious with our current government and do all I could to ensure they lose the next election !

Any new service I'm asked to pay for I should be given the right to opt out of receiving the service and not pay.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [jasonschoepfer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay for different packages from Shaw. I would expect that local stations are part of the package options- thus allowing me to choose the package if I feel it is worthwhile. I do feel that local stations would be better served if the cable/satellite providers offered their channels as options to add to ones bill. I would rather pick and choose for all the channels and only pay for the ones I am interested in. I would likely pay for local stations as I value the news and some other programming. The cable/satellite providers do not offer such an extensive program option- make them offer this and allow me to pick each and every channel I want to pay for.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Rob P](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be extremely disappointed and would likely reduce my satellite package to save money. There are too many channels that are irrelevant to my and my family's tastes.

2. Consumers should have a choice in selecting the channels that form part of any package. It is simple supply and demand -- if you have interesting content that appeals to an audience, they will subscribe to your channel/program.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Earl Reed](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is a PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. Why should I support a privately run enterprise with what amounts to a TV tax? They already get their revenue from sponsorship. I do not agree that the public should have to pay extra money to prop up these failing TV networks. If the satellite and cable outfits already carry their signal for free then why should they be entitled to public money to keep their businesses going? What's next, a tax to help failing grocery store chains?

[Flag](#)

Like

 [johncurrie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

i hope the crtc is listening - most comments say the same thing , we pay enough and the bundling of channels is a rip off . for once do the right thing and really protect the consumer.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [luke m](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

the canadian local tv channels are to be copywrited products which is paid by local or international service providers.service porviders should pay into the canadian copywrite tax.make it a service tax to cable providers and not the general public.inforce protected clauses to the viewers that there bills will not increase due to the fact it is a yearly tax to large companies providers.canadian broadcasts are under fire by u.s.also keeping cbc an analog feed across canada.we are not the u.s and giving all our feeds to u.s digital network is giving away broadcast freedoms.freedom that are not to be given to any outside our nation.protect copywrite tax and keep canada free from digital control.....

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Like

 [Richard](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV news is fairly important but not much else, there are plenty of places other than TV to find local news, and probably more extensive coverage than local TV stations have or will ever provide. I am not interested in paying one cent more for the already overpriced cable TV service. If my cable cost increases at all beyond where it is now I will switch to a cheaper plan but if it doesn't offer to value for the money will cancel my cable service altogether. Don't get me started on the cost of broadband internet, the service in Canada is abysmal.
2. Leave it to market forces. It is pointless trying to force the TV market through excessive regulation because all that does is drive up costs.

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Like

 [Ryan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable/Satellite fees are already ridiculous, Canadians are billed to high for all their services when compared to european and american consumers. If ATV, CanWest, and especially CBC think they need a slice of someone elses revenue stream to keep their local stations in business, then they need to go out of business because they do not have a sustainable business model or revenue stream. Local TV that cannot make money on its own to fund its own future, has no future because its local market is not in need of its services.

I am strongly opposed to any money being taken from cable and satellite revenues and given to local tv, because this will give plenty of reason for them to increase their already outrageous rates.

I currently pay \$108.88 for basic digital cable/phone/internet service from Eastlink and they are making a profit, they have local tv commercials and a local tv channel. While I still feel that anything over \$100.00 for cable/phone/internet is expensive, this is a company that does it all and has a local channel covering local tv events (university graduations, town hall meetings, etc) and is a profitable company. Why should this company be forced to pay for someone elses failed business model?

Ryan
Sackville, NB.

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Like

 [ianshamilton](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

All I want is the choice of each individual channel. Give me a price for each one and the freedom to make my selections.This business of packaged channels is a complete scam. We are

supposed to be a democracy-let,s keep it that way

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Brian* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) Cancel my cable.

2) Shut down the CRTC and the CBC and let the marketplace work.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *brentt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would refuse to pay for local TV in addition to the normal market of advertising that exists presently; whereby local businesses buy advertising and pay for it out of the profits realized from the products I buy locally. IF I were required to pay for local TV in addition to what I am already paying, I would INSIST on having those channels dropped from my service. Of course I would also insist of being freed from signal substitution over US channels that presently wreaks havoc with top-of-the-hour switchovers and the associated loss of sometimes vital programming at the beginning and end of the shows I enjoy.

2. Local television could gain support by providing more quality local programming, rather than simply acting as distributors for national network programming.

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Like

 *Jerry P* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do want to support local programming, and would be willing to pay for it if I didn't have to pay for the stations that I do not watch. I have digital cable. Is the a la carte option possible? If it is, I would be quite willing to pay \$1 to \$2 per month per channel if the channel is of my choice. Make the local stations a mandatory part of cable at \$5 to \$8/month, and all others at a reasonably priced option.

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Like

 *Rob P* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be extremely disappointed and would likely reduce my satellite package to save money. There are too many channels that are irrelevant to my and my family's tastes.

2. Consumers should have a choice in selecting the channels that form part of any package. It is simple supply and demand -- if you have interesting content that appeals to an audience, they will subscribe to your channel/program.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *dcg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Paying more when a consumer has limited choice of bundles is not acceptable. I pay too much already.

2. Bundle up the local stations, some good and some bad, and have the cable and satellite companies purchase them and operate them with the stipulation that they cannot cut back or close them and they must do this to continue with their cable and satellite businesses.

Maybe they will know how their customers feel about the way they bundle the services.

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Like



Martin ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations should get their revenue from advertisers (thus indirectly from viewers) not directly from viewers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Don ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have already chosen to drop cable and return to OTH transmission. That's fine with me. I'll get my news on-line and from CBC Radio One.

The cable community channel was set up to provide local television programming and until they strayed into pretending they were broadcasters, offered all sorts of access and programming of local value.

Perhaps there is too much local news and features within that block in large cities and the networks are not providing enough dollars for better small market newscasts.

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Like



Jarod ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Definitely not paying more for cable. The best way that I see paying for local TV is to give consumers free choice over what channels they want to watch. I don't watch so many channels that are offered -- I don't speak Chinese, Arabic, or French and could care less about what is on. Why then am I being forced to pay for these channels when I would rather just pay for the ones I want. That IS the solution. Allow fees to be paid to local TV, but, allow the consumer to opt out of so much of the crap that is given to us. Let me choose what I want to watch and pay for those channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Florin ★ [1 month ago](#)

In your opinion is it OK to pay more for something that I barely watch or don't need to watch on TV, giving the fact that local TV news is presenting "old news" already? I guess your answer is as mine. It seems that everybody here shares the same opinion: we are paying already TOO MUCH for what cables and internet providers forced us to have (basicpackages and so on.....) I don't mention the technical quality yet... Sorry, I rather go FTA than pay on top of what I pay now for this... As to the internet quality: simply sucks in terms of quality vs. what we pay. Brake the monopol and we'll do better. Can you?

[Flag](#)

Like



worst TV on the planet ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm canceling my cable TV and buying an antennae.
I can also access streaming video from around the world on the internet.

By forcing Canadians to pay for specialty channels they will never watch, specialty channels that program nothing but Air Farce re-runs, promos for Rogers which interrupt broadcasts, "progressive" points-of-view, anti-American opinions, Muslim sitcoms, newscasts with a dozen weather updates... and the CRTC expects me to pay for this?

Broadcasting is dead. Canadian television is unwatchable. And the CRTC is totally irrelevant. The CRTC has no business being in the TV business. the market will decide who succeeds and who fails. There is no interest in Canadian liberal stories.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *tafsir* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies should pay the local TV stations a certain percentage of fees collected from subscribers. They charge us for the local local channels anyways. For instance, when Shaw charges \$20 for a basic package comprising of all these local channels, why should the whole \$20 go into Shaw's coffers when the programming was provided by CBC, CTV etc?

It makes sense to pay local stations a percentage of my cable fees (without raising them)

[Flag](#)

Like

 *E-Willy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I found this on the internet because I have given up on T.V. The CRTC just dictates what we can and cannot see on our TVs in this country and I am sick of it ! Our government wants to control too much of our lives. They want to control what we see so that we will think just what they want us think.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Rick* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable package entirely. I'm this close to using an antenna due to cable costs already. Why does the CRTC always seem to exist for broadcasters/distributors? I always thought their mandate was to protect the interests of citizens. If that were the case, people could purchase only the channels they wanted.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Victor Aker* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As part of my cable bill, I expect to get local programming, as it is relevant to me. I also expect that my local cable company pays for the local channels in the same way that they pay for the speciality channels which I am subscribed to. Both local and speciality channels earn income from both advertising, corporate sponsorship, and delivery of the channel to the consumer so I honestly don't see why the cable companies are spinning this like its a tax, when its nothing more than one company being forced to finally pay for something they've been getting for free. Its called equalization. Parasitic relationships always end up killing the host, so if this parasitic relationship is maintained, ultimately it will be the local channels that suffer.

The cable companies are there for one purpose: To deliver content to the consumer. Its time they realized that and started paying for the content they are delivering to us.

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Like

 *John Doe* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is of NO importance. If incremental fees are applied, I'll stop subscribing. The current fees are too high for the quality and services currently being provided. Increased technology has permitted the expansion of the number of channels, but the content has diminished accordingly. Local TV is one more straw that will break the horses back. If the fee structure were appropriately allocated, 9 out of 10 of the network channels would disappear due to lack of interest.

The CRTC should drop all support for local TV and stick to regulating the technology.

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Like

 *stephen2* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be willing to pay for local TV on top what I already pay for my satellite services, but believe that cable and satellite service providers should also be paying for local tv signals by

sharing a reasonable portion of the monthly subscription fees they charge. It wasn't too long ago that these providers waged aggressive PR and marketing campaigns aimed at stopping Canadians from "stealing" the signals of US satellite providers (e.g. DirectTV) that they weren't paying for. I wonder how that's any different from them reselling local TV signals without paying for them in the first place.

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Like



Richard Booy ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I am within the over the airwaves broadcast area of the local station, I refuse to be charged to watch that material on cable. If I am outside of this area and want to watch this material via cable, I should be allowed to add the channel on an a la carte basis with corresponding charges.

[Flag](#)

Like



dorrel ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would choose to pay \$1.00/month for CBC HD only.
2. Optional cable packages for a fee

[Flag](#)

Like



FedUp ★ [1 month ago](#)

If they want to raise the prices, I am out. Bye, bye, see you later. The Internet will suffice (note that neither Shaw nor Rogers ISP will ever see a single cent from my pocket).

[Flag](#)

Like



leilalustig ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is very important to me. I would strongly object to paying for local TV on top of the already exorbitant fees charged by my cable service.

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Like



Dan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would only support additional funds for local TV if conventional broadcasters made a significant commitment to increasing their Canadian programming content investments and spent less funds on the rights to high-priced American television series. If they diverted half of the \$700 million dollars spent on American shows to local programming and Canadian content, their local affiliates would not be struggling financially.

Advertisers pay premiums for placement during prime time American programming but this programming does little to make conventional networks viable producers of Canadian content.

Any mandated fee on consumers for local programming should include a caveat requiring conventional networks to increase their Canadian content and limit their ability to purchase the rights to American shows.

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Like



Colin Bisset ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I wouldn't mind paying for local TV, if it were available, and worth watching. It is neither. I live in Oshawa, and I don't consider Toronto "local", so if CTV or Global (neither of which even pretends to cover my city) succeeded in tacking on a charge for "local" TV, I'd be very angry. CHEX (CBC affiliate, Peterborough) theoretically produces local TV, but does so fitfully. Right now, I wouldn't consider it worth paying for.

2. The best way to support local TV is to allow me to pay or not pay based on the quality of the programming. Right now there is no feedback mechanism, other than the indirect feedback of advertisers, to tell producers that their material is good and useful, or not. Networks need to abandon advertisers and connect directly to their viewers. The CRTC can best facilitate that not by adding crutches, but by taking them away.

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Like

 *Freddy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV's have all the rights to charge the cable services. It is just a matter of business transaction. Why should government bodies like CRTC have to be so involved in it?

If CRTC should be involved, it should stop cable companies from bundling all the different channels together, but allow a-la-carte selection of tv channels. This will send a better signal to the local tv's if we customers like their programming.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *leilalustig* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would strongly object to being asked to pay for local TV on top of the already exorbitant fees charged by my cable service. The cable service can - and should - pay local TV stations for carrying their signal WITHOUT charging an additional fee; their profits are already enormous.

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Like

 *Kalvin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local T.V.!! Other than the 1 hour of local news what is local about these stations anymore! They hardly cover anything in the area or Canadian content. I would have no problem paying a couple of extra dollars if the local t.v. station had weekly shows about My area, or at least Canadian made sitcoms, documentarys, something. These networks are crazy if they think they have the right to charge for "local T.V." when the majority of the programming they offer is made in Hollywood and that is where the money is going!!!

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Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be perfectly furious at the prospect of having to pay a significant amount of money to support local TV. They should not be allowed to charge for their signal. If they want to shut down let them. They can join the pay-tv option if they want to be paid.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *walterst* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay too much for digital cable. I hate watching USA channels and seeing US commercials. I suggest local TV channels show their commercials on all foreign channels. This should increase Canadian local service with extra revenue. And the really small TV channels may have to go like the Red Deer channel which was lousy.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *robertmacintyre* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already in the process of finding alternatives to broadcast television. It is too expensive and too limited in options. \$80 a month is too much for the amount of broadcast TV I watch. Local stations need to be supported, but the cost should not be on the consumer. I will certainly drop my cable/satellite service if there is any additional cost.

[Flag](#)

Like



kidbozo ★ 1 month ago

The Local stations should not be able to charge the cable companies for carriage of the broadcast signals. In simple terms, cable companies are mandated to carry local broadcast signals and the ability of the local broadcasters to charge advertisers is somewhat based on the number of cable subscribers in the broadcast area. Give the cable companies and subscribers the option to carry and subscribe would be fine by me.

[Flag](#)

Like



Brit ★ 1 month ago

1. I would be upset and attempt to cut services or find alternatives
2. Local Ads, Greater competition.

If anything the government should be looking at the fees cable companies charge and promote competition in the market. Giving the consumer more options.

[Flag](#)

Like



Gerald Nangreaves ★ 1 month ago

I pay Bell Expressvue for my tv services, included in the fee which I pay each month I have made a selection to have the US stations.

I do not understand that as I pay Bell for US programs why do the Canadian networks cut in on the tv stations and as a result do not show the American commercials. I do pay for the US networks.

I would prefer to watch these programs on the US channel and not on CTV who I think are not very good business people.

[Flag](#)

Like



John ★ 1 month ago

Here we have two businesses competing for our dollar, and who ends up paying? Enough already, isn't it enough we have to endure up to 16 mins advertising per hr (incl advertising programming) and consistent adjustments to volume through those ads! All this with poor repetitive programming!

[Flag](#)

Like



patrick kolter ★ 1 month ago

I would like to know if the broadcasters and the TV and satellite providers think the public is dumb. This false media blitz has been a big farce, the cable and satellite providers are one in the same. Bell owns CTV, and so on....

I would like to have the chance to cancel my television stations that I don't want and have the option of buying only what I want.

[Flag](#)

Like



Gerald Nangreaves ★ 1 month ago

I pay Bell Expressvue for my TV services, included in the fee which I pay each month I have made a selection to have the US stations.

I do not understand that as I pay Bell for US programs why do the Canadian networks cut in on the TV stations and as a result do not show the American commercials. I do pay for the US networks.

I would prefer to watch these programs on the US channel and not on CTV who I think are not very good business people.

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Like



Brent B ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) While I do feel that local TV does or can add value in my life, I do feel pinched financially and based my freedom of choice. Based on my location of my home, receiving over the air transmissions is next to impossible without a large tower and antenna. When we move to digital, I suspect over the air reception to be impossible. That means, my only alternative is cable or satellite and they already like to overcharge, with my payments going up significantly higher than inflation. If I had more of a choice I may be willing to pay for it, but with my lack of choice, I feel the cost is already to high.

2) Give the people a choice. Let them pick the channels they want and those people who pick local TV can pay for what they deem as value.

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Like



CB in BC ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be furious if I had to pay for local TV. I have no use for local TV, and it's only on my system because the CRTC insists local TV has to be carried by providers. Competition must prevail. If you change the rules and enforce an extra charge for local TV, you need to make local TV an option, not mandatory.

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Like



nicholaswb ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable subscription if the price increased substantially to cover payments to TV providers. It's just not worth it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Chris Richards ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is very important as my access to current events and entertainment. I pay my expensive monthly fees to SHAW for access to CTV, CBC and others channels because those are the channels I enjoy watching. I don't watch the local SHAW cable news channel for information but it seems that this is what the cable companies want. This is conflict has more to do with viewers than the choices they have. Allowing cable to distribute these channels for free is nothing more than allowing piracy of content. Media producers like CTV, HGTV and CBC should be paid for the content they produce, let the consumer decide with their wallets if its what they want.

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Like



Sam Katz ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is vitally important that local TV stations remain viable. We need local stations for news, weather, social programming and current events. The current system of advertising based revenue is not working in the era of cable TV and the local stations need a broader revenue base in order to maintain viability. Charging the cable operators, who have had a free ride for years, a fee to retransmit over the air signal is really the only option available to local TV. That is unless you want to subsidize CTV and Global with your tax dollars the way we do for CBC.

[Flag](#)

Like



dcjennings ★ [1 month ago](#)

We prefer to have the CRTC reinstutite REGULATED package pricing for a BASIC package for both Cable and Satellite providers, as it used to for cable. We seem to be forced more and

more into batch channels. If Cable and Satellite providers choose not to compensate CTV CBC etc for airing their programs, at least give consumers the ability to have a basic price regulated package.

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Like



FedUp ★ [1 month ago](#)

To whom are cable companies going to sell 'basic packages' made of non-existent local TV programming? Remember, these 'basic packages' are their bread and butter since they get them for free. It is in best interest of the cable companies to make the local TV going, other wise they would be digging themselves in a deep hole. What do they hope, that the viewers will bail them out by paying for their greed? Maybe some poor souls will, but it will not be enough. I cannot wait to the day when Shaw, Rogers, and others go under for being greedy.

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Like



Sarah C. ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't watch local "Canadian" television at all. In fact the only Canadian channel that I knowingly watch is the Women's channel which does have good and original programming that I enjoy. And I see no reason why cable tv customers should be required to pay for local television just because they receive it via a cable when people who stick an antenna up get it for free. Local tv stations are being greedy and frankly speaking, if Canadian television is so bad that no one is willing to pay for it, then it is time we replaced it with something people will watch and pay for, or get rid of it entirely and replace it with American and British television. Personally, I would prefer the latter.

What would I do if I got billed for it from the cable company? I would cancel my cable immediately and then I would put up a digital antenna and watch American tv only. I might even be tempted to get an American satellite and put it up...and I don't even care if that is legal. These days, there are very few good Canadian television programs around...most are American rip-offs and I would much rather watch something on BBC Canada or Turner Classic Movies. As far as I am concerned, "local television" can go under as soon as it pleases...I will never ever pay a single dime for any local channel...and the only Canadian channel I am willing to pay for is the Woman's channel and that is that!

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Like



Bob ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. No, I do not want to pay more for a service I rarely utilize. If the service cannot support itself through advertising because of low viewership, is it really necessary? Most people are doing fine now without it if the numbers tell us anything.

2. Maybe local television should relook at their business plan and determine if they are viable. Enough with the bailouts.

[Flag](#)

Like



lewiscoulson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am forced to pay for many channels I don't want or watch. I would like to subscribe to the channels I want at a price I can afford. I would support the CBC and TVO but never CTV or Global.

[Flag](#)

Like



H Smith ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is not affordable. We have limited choice regarding the predefined programming you can watch, more than half I have no interest or desire to watch. I would love to build my own

basic cable package to accommodate programming I would and do watch. Even if that meant I have fewer channels at my disposal. If Cable prices increase I will seriously consider canceling my service for the limited amount of TV that I watch.

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Like



[guyamini](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Commenting on the importance of local TV is like commenting on the importance of drinking water. There is no discussion. Local TV is absolutely important and one need not debate its necessity in our daily lives. It is the extent to which we, as consumers and taxpayers "support" local TV monetarily that is up for debate.

Under CERTAIN circumstances, asking taxpayers and consumers to pay more for local TV can be justified. However, asking this when cable companies are gouging the large majority of consumers to access local tv while paying absolutely nothing back to the local broadcasters is unconscionable. I will not pay more unless the cable companies have been forced, for an extended period of time, to give the local broadcasters a share of what is rightfully theirs: the massive amounts of profits reaped from years of double-digit increases in cable package pricing.

This "stop the local tv tax" campaign is misleading and deceptive. So much so, the CRTC should play a larger role in informing the public of the truth.

(No, I do not work for or benefit, in any economic or personal way, from the success of local TV. I am just an objective consumer disgusted with cable companies)

[Flag](#)

Like



[Sarah](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to guyamini](#)

"Commenting on the importance of local TV is like commenting on the importance of drinking water. There is no discussion. Local TV is absolutely important and one need not debate its necessity in our daily lives."

- This is just your opinion; judging from viewership stats, it's deceiving to compare it to drinking water. Seriously now; come on!

" It is the extent to which we, as consumers and taxpayers "support" local TV monetarily that is up for debate."

- A true debate should assess all issues impacting it. And many of us do believe it's time to assess local programming.

Again, let the market (supply & demand) speak on this issue. I'm glad that the CRTC is taking this initiative. Prior to this, I had always thought it 'ruled' in isolation of the market.

Thank you CRTC.

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Like



[Paul](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should include more than just local news/weather/sports. Currently there's only about 1-1/2 hours maximum local news per station (CTV, CBC, Global/CHCH) not including commercials.

Part of the Cable requirement is a certain amount of local programming. I would be willing to pay the same amount for the same provision - other than current news/weather/sports

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Like



[john](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

why doesnt crtc get as much from each party as possible negotiate hard for the

consumer, promise each party what they want give it to them and make 40% of cable bill tax deductible. families need computer for education t.v for entertainment and the whole industry grows peace out

Flag

Like



larry_o ★ [1 month ago](#)

When I first heard that cable and satellite companies do not currently pay a fee for local TV signals, I was shocked and surprised that this was true. I don't see why cable and satellite should get a free ride on the backs of Canadians when the local stations run on advertising for no charge and cable and satellite both charge through the nose for something they don't pay for? Sure they have operating expenses, but doesn't everyone. I feel that if cable and satellite lowered their rates they would get a larger audience, hence a lot more money, and there would be a lot less thieving of cable and satellite signals if people could afford to pay for it. Don't get me wrong, there is value in all these mediums of entertainment, but I think, and the CRTC has to accept responsibility for some of this mess, that it all should be de-regulated and see what comes out of the dust at the other end. There have been major changes in technology in the last 20 years or so, and there is more and more use of the internet for entertainment purposes and commercial free I might add. When are we going to start to regulate the internet because it is interfering in the profits of cable or satellite or even the local TV stations? Bureaucracy builds on itself until it is the problem we have to deal with. The CRTC has done what it originally was set up to do, protect the entertainment industry in Canada from being gobbled up by the Americans. We now have Hollywood quality movies coming out of Canada world quality television programs produced and made here too. The CRTC should become a thing of the past, or drop some of its duties such as radio and television and call it something else. Just my opinion. To shorten all my rambling, I say yes to locals getting paid for their product and no to increasing fees to consumers. Thank you for the opportunity to get some of this off my chest .

Flag

Like



R O ★ [1 month ago](#)

I disagree with paying for local TV just to get it on satellite or cable, since it is already available for free over the air.

If local tv channels want to be paid for their channels being offered by satellite/cable companies, they should be an optional, paid subscription. Free over the air, X number of dollars per month, per channel for local stations. Let the public decide.

Flag

Like



CM Farr ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. My first reaction would be to start looking at other options for accessing programs currently delivered by television. That is, I would be inclined to cancel my service and use web based access.
2. If I could order channels a la carte, I could spend my money on service that I value. I would be less negative about increased fees.

As it stands, I think it is offensive that local TV must be purchased in bundles, and that one must buy it in order to have access to digital specialty channels.

Flag

Like



londonbill ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I don't subscribe to cable, so a levy would not affect me.
2. Stop forcing local stations to convert to digital. This is costing them millions that they don't have (or their owners like CTV or CanWest won't give them).

How about this: instead of charging consumers more money for less services, why don't we leverage online tools like YouTube and social networks to create our local news and information

services? Oh yeah. We're already doing that.

Let's face it: the push for additional charges for local TV services is a response to a failed business model perpetuated by our larger broadcasters as they have tried to keep competition out of the market since the dawn of television.

Caving in to them now would be akin to giving horse buggy makers a break in the dawn of the car age.

[Flag](#)

Like



newsmith ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If all the local channels were in one bundle, I would have to pay extra for them just so I could get the one local channel I actually watch. I would be annoyed, but me cancelling my cable probably wouldn't change anything. Maybe I just wouldn't get the local channel bundle if it wasn't worth what they were charging.

2. Better advertising I suppose, but if they aren't hosting many shows people want to watch... They won't be watching the Ad's either.

My answers aren't very helpful, sorry. I'm not a huge fan of local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



Vancouverite ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we as Canadian consumers have been ripped off constantly by the signal carrier in various form such as channel bundling and also signing contract to commit on a specific term. We have only limited to only a handful of signal delivery companies to choose from and they are work together to provide similar type of rip off package. compared to US, we Canadian have paid a lot more for less channels which translates to being ripped off.

[Flag](#)

Like



ErnieRichards ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Cancel all tv related services, local tv is already part of and must remain part of the basic cable package. Now we need to get the satellite providers to also offer the local channels, because I cannot find them on the satellite service I have use in my apartment building. Also, we need competition in cable providers. Currently if I want cable, I can only have Rogers. I should be allowed to choose whatever cable provider I want.

2. The measure to support local tv must come from the broadcasters. They are the ones pulling all of the funds from local stations back to HQ for overpaying their senior management and wasting on US programming.

[Flag](#)

Like



Interested in BC ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be against paying extra for local TV. At present the local TV station provides about 2 hrs per day of local content. The local cable channel provides more content. Most of the prime time content on the local channel comes from a central distribution, that small portion which is not just redistribution of US shows. These can easily be provided by a cable channel that I can either sign up for or not.

2. A truly local content channel can be offered for subscription. Otherwise if the channel is broadcast, advertising revenue should cover it.

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Justin ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is not at all important to me, at least not the selection that I have today. I certainly am against being forced to pay for a product that I do not consume. I am against being forced to pay for any Canadian content that I do not watch. If these Canadian BUSINESSES want to stay a float then they should produce content that will interest me and then I will consider paying for it.

No measures should be taken to support outdated business and production models. CTV, Global, CBC, none of them currently produce a network of news or drama that I am willing to pay for. I can find better content online or on a select number of cable channels. I am already considering dumping cable tv and going 100% internet and if the CRTC forces us to pay for local crap, I will end my subscription there and then.

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bkanderson ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies should pay broadcasters for their signal. Cable companies are already a license to print money. They have no mandate to produce quality Canadian programming and Shaw especially has cut back on its local programming in recent years replaying a few programs many times a day.

Local broadcasters produce Canadian local news. Cable companies produce nothing of value to the community.

Local broadcasters have had Canadian content rules to maintain. Cable companies simply take signals from cable producers for a fee and send them down their pipeline with no added value. Now they want to charge consumers for their theft of local broadcast signals which they added to their line-up.

Cable companies have never had to comply with consumer choice by offering only the channels wanted by consumers on a per customer basis. Instead, customers get all kinds of channels they don't want and according to cable will have to pay extra for the channels they do want. This does not endear cable companies to consumers. We pay too much already for channels we never wanted.

The CRTC should enforce its requirement of at least 30% or more of Canadian programming from local Canadian broadcasters but require all cable companies to pay broadcasters a percentage for their signal.

Cable companies already overcharge for the channels they deliver. There is no need for them to pass on the extra charge to consumers.

Give us fewer channels (ones we choose) for less money.

Local programming and news are essential to a nation. Cable channels about cooking, shopping and pets are not.

[Flag](#)

Like



Patrick Shay ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay for local TV. I would only support the CBC for hockey night in Canada. All other local tv stations do not warrant incremental fees. Stations such as CTV, global, city tv have too few "local" shows to warrant an increased cost. The only decent programming that these "local" stations provide is the Canadian version of American programs. If I was forced to pay an incremental fee for local stations I would cancel my tv and download those shows online.

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carriem ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If the cable companies ask me to pay more i will cancel my cable. They are already getting this for free. They should be paying the locals for their signal. The CRTC should make sure the cable companies DON'T pass on the fee.

2. We should be able to chose the channels we want and pay for them. If we want to support local TV, we can pay for the channels individually.

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 Like

Mac ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.

I believe that most local TV provides little content (100 minutes of news daily, and local major league team games) that I would not be willing to pay more for. The Toronto sports teams are losing, so all we watch is news. I can get more content on the web for local news, or watch CP24 which I already pay for as a minimum package.

Local TV's business model has been designed to get its revenue from local advertisers. If the market cannot provide enough advertising revenue, then it should not be in business. You do not set up a store, if there are not enough consumers. Simple business case.

That said, I would be angry to be forced to pay for local stations. I believe the carriers should absorb the cost as they do not add much value for local stations (especially as the stations broadcast in HD and the carriers don't for the basic package), and carry them as loss leaders. The cable companies currently overcharge (considering that they don't pay the local stations for their content) for the basic package which is what you can get over the air. Alternatively, a single national network station should be carried for free, and the local stations be sold as specialty channels.

2.

Alternative 1. As stated above, local stations can change their model to a specialty channel. Then they would need to produce far more local content of interest to that region's viewers such that they would be willing to pay to watch.

Alternative 2. Local stations can broadcast on the web, accelerating the decline of the other carriers.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Michael Fletcher ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think I would be annoyed at having to pay for local tv over cable.

Let the tv stations broadcast in high definition over the air without a lot of extra fees. Allow more local stations. Let the tv stations broadcast over the internet. That way I wouldn't have to even buy cable I could just get the tv directly.

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Chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.) If I were asked to pay for local TV on top of cable services, I would cancel my cable subscription and put up an antenna to get the American and Canadian stations in digital format over the air (OTA).

The importance of local TV in a major centre like the Greater Toronto and Hamilton area is little. They are mostly repeaters of American shows. Plus, I can get reruns of those shows on specialty cable channels. What incentive is there to keep local TV? I find that there is none. In fact, the local cable company provides a much better local TV on its cable access channel. How is that for irony?

Plus, if I were to rely on local TV for news, I would be very ill-informed because if there are no visuals, there is no story. I can rely much better using online sources.

2.) I thought the cable companies already provided value to the broadcasters by adding a bigger audience and better quality signal than over the air. That value is what drives up advertising prices. As I see it, it's a symbiotic relationship. However, the cable companies probably could drop local TV and still keep most of its subscribers, whereas the broadcasters would die from the loss of the audience.

I think if the broadcasters are truly correct in asserting that Canadians want their service on

cable, simply create a mandatory separate tier called "Local TV". You can subscribe to basic cable, which is everything you already get except Canadian local TV stations, then you could add "Local TV" to the plan like any other tier for a separate fee. It's an opt-in service rather than a forced cost. Because, if I have to pay extra, I will drop cable, and get the service free of charge over the air. What good will that do for the broadcasters and cable companies then?

Flag

Like

 Gary ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. ADD A FEE BUT ALLOW USERS TO NOT TAKE LOCAL TV. NO BUNDLING
2. FIRST CHOICE - LOCAL TV SHOULD BE PAID FOR BY LOCAL ADVERTISERS

Flag

Like

 Jeff B. ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.
I am already paying too much for Basic cable TV. I don't want to pay more.
I have pulled the plug on Cable TV in the past because of cost issues.... I just may have to consider pulling the plug again...

2.
If the Gov't is mandating the carriage of local TV over cable, then perhaps the Gov't should be chipping in to cover that cost. However, we all know that when the Gov't subsidizes something, it comes out of my pocket anyway...

Therefore, cable operators should not be required by the Gov't to carry local TV and it should be an optional add-on for which they "may" charge extra for. However, they may find that most people may not want to pay the extra costs... If we aren't willing to pay the extra, we shouldn't be required to pay the extra either.

Let the "Market" decide what we want to pay for, or not.

Flag

Like

 enough_vancouver ★ [1 month ago](#)

Another tax to support local TV programming? Excuse me, but isn't that already a part of the Canadian broadcast system called the CBC. Our tax dollars support that black hole already and the programming is pathetic at best. Now you wants citizens to pay for all the other Cdn TV networks as well? Does the gov't then get to dictate their programming choices too through bureaucrats and needless paperwork?

Cable already supports local stations and programming by programming the multi-channels mandated by the CRTC. So many hours of "free" airtime are supplied by cable companies in support of the local community. Why should anyone have to pay tax money on channels they'd never receive?

Network programming, like anything else in the world economy, is based on supply and demand. Namely, if local programming is not competitive, then why our tax dollars support lousy programming? If the food is terrible in the dinner, I'm not coming back for seconds. Let networks fend for themselves in a free economy!

Otherwise I'll go satellite!

Flag

Like

 mikedennison ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not approve of charging a fee. This is a problem of the CRTC's own making because you have allowed so many specialty channels that make the size of the divided viewing audience too small to be profitable. Let market forces prevail and those stations that can not turn a profit should close. (you must have known that would happen when you approved all those specialty

channels)

Introducing fees for local TV will just give us cheap programming that we don't want. (if we wanted it we would be watching and the stations would be making a profit) Introducing fees will cause local stations to limp along in a sad attempt to make people happy (and the reality is most people will be unhappy, very unhappy and we still won't watch) If there is a real need for local programming, let the cable companies expand their local service to fill this gap. They deserve a chance to see if they can make money at it without imposing fees we can not afford in these difficult economic times.

The cable companies should not be forced to pay a fee to these local channels either. We no longer need to instal an intenna on the roof that broke every three years due to harsh Cdn winters. We also get a clear and reliable signal. For this we pay a fee. And that fee keeps the cable technology up to date so they can offer best quality picture, sound and internet access. Cable companies should not pay for local TV either. It makes no sense.

And a word of warning. If you impose a fee you better unbundle all those channels and let us pick the channels we want. I want to select the channels I watch not all those stations you force on me. Fair is fair right?

Flag

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buddbratz ★ 1 month ago

I pay to much for television as it stands right now. Why not allow the American satellite or cable companies into Canada and then you will see prices drop to the satisfaction of the Canadian consumers. Competition is the spice of life.

prices drop to the satisfaction of the Canadian consumers. Competition is

Flag

Like



Vlad the Inhaler ★ 1 month ago

I already pay for local TV. It seems the cable companies opt to simply allocate these funds to profit instead of passing along a fair portion of revenue to the channels themselves.

I would not pay additional fees to my cable operator simply to maintain their current profit margin. I would rather cancel my cable TV subscription, subscribe to a geo-server to bypass CRTC restrictions on international TV available via the internet and leave the whole mess behind.

Flag

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finmacdonald ★ 1 month ago

I will not pay extra for local TV.

It is time for the CRTC to re-impose controls on the cost of cable tv service.

Since the controls ended Shaw has, in some years, raised rates twice. Rates have risen by a factor of 4 to 8 x the inflation rate. Time to rein them in.

Flag

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anef ★ 1 month ago

We already pay too much for our television service. the Bundle concept is ridiculous for viewers. We are paying for channels that we NEVER watch. I would prefer fewer channels and better quality. Canadian content is not important to me - quality is what counts. There are local stations that would not be missed if they folded. The whole industry is so over-regulated - the CRTC has created a monster - There should be more freedom and flexibility and the

competition allowed to determine who survives or falls. We watch less and less TV because of the lack of good programmes.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Florida_Snowbird](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are currently forced to receive cable/satellite services from an oligopoly in which most of us have a choice of one of two carriers (some have no choice), yet these carriers are relatively free to set their rates and charge consumers for signals they get currently get for free. If broadcasters are regulated, cable/service providers should also be regulated. The CRTC should set rates for providing the service and adjudicate how the fees will be divided between the carriers and the broadcasters.

The other alternative would see consumers able to choose whatever channels they wished to receive and pay for only those they want. Currently broadcasters are in fact subsidizing "obscure" channels consumers are forced to take with prestructured packages. I don't like to pay more for service, but currently, cable companies are taking advantage of broadcasters' free signals, and that is not fair.

Ultimately, I would like to see more cable/satellite companies in the market and allow consumer to fully customize their channel choices at a reasonable price. US prices (at my condo in Fla.) are much cheaper, I suspect, largely due to increased competition and the American public refusing to be "gouged" by the carriers. Perhaps we could benefit from adopting some of their rules in Canada. Ultimately, we need more choice in our program structure and more choice in cable/satellite providers.

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 [Ian M](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

"Local" stations charge their advertisers for time - if we were to get the signal off the air there would be no charge - if a cable company picks it up for re-broadcast it probably will reach more people than the over the air broadcast - so why should the cable company have to pay the local company to give it even more coverage. Surely the local company can use the cable subscriber count in it's calculation of coverage to sell it's advertising time to even more clients. I do not feel cable companies (and their clients) should have to pay the local companies at all. (Here in Grey-Bruce, Owen Sound, Ontario, we have not really had any "local" tv for several years anyway - and why specifically should we support "local" if that doesn't mean Grey-Bruce, Owen Sound?

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 [Donnie McLeod](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television is an advertising driven business. This issue is about those business with money to spend on advertising not interested in spending for local television. If local firms with advertising budgets cannot or will not pay for local television than market forces are working as they should be. The market is saying local television is not a viable business. The government has no business attempting to distort the bigger issues in advertising by picking a looser like local television business and supporting it. The government already has a viable world class publicly supported broadcaster, the CBC. The forces that got the government into a public broadcasting in the first place are now killing local private business advertising supported television production. Without the CBC the problem might be hidden but it will not disappear for very long. The problem is the disease of higher cost of service. It is the same disease that makes nursing, police and teachers a ever larger portion of every Canadian's pocket book. It's the same disease that will make tough on crime unbearably expensive. There was an article in the New Yorker a few years ago that included the words "Cable-TV prices have risen sixteen per cent since 2000." Local TV has just got a bad case of what some Economists know as the phenomenon of "Baumol's cost disease," . See attached article to understand what I am trying to say.

<http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2003/07/07/030...>

[Flag](#)

 *fung0* ★ [1 month ago](#)

How would I react, if asked to pay for local TV? If ASKED, I'd politely decline. If FORCED, I would be outraged, and would seriously consider canceling my cable contract entirely.

When I go to the rental outlet, I'm not FORCED to rent a Toronto movie with every three made in Hollywood, or the UK, or Japan. Ditto for book stores, libraries, music stores, etc. In fact, I can't think of any type of product where I'm FORCED to buy the local item, even if I don't want it.

As for question 2, "what measures could be taken to support local television" - I'd have to say none whatsoever. If anyone really wants local television, they should be free to subscribe to it. If that's a viable business, then local television will survive, and cable or satellite operators will be eager to carry it. If not, then presumably no one needs this so-called 'service,' and no amount of "support" will change that.

[Flag](#) *Sarah C.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't watch local "Canadian" television at all. In fact the only Canadian channel that I knowingly watch is the Women's channel which does have good and original programming that I enjoy. And I see no reason why cable tv customers should be required to pay for local television just because they receive it via a cable when people who stick an antenna up get it for free. Local tv stations are being greedy and frankly speaking, if Canadian television is so bad that no one is willing to pay for it, then it is time we replaced it with something people will watch and pay for, or get rid of it entirely and replace it with American and British television. Personally, I would prefer the latter.

What would I do if I got billed for it from the cable company? I would cancel my cable immediately and then I would put up a digital antenna and watch American tv only. I might even be tempted to get an American satellite and put it up...and I don't even care if that is legal. These days, there are very few good Canadian television programs around...most are American rip-offs and I would much rather watch something on BBC Canada or Turner Classic Movies. As far as I am concerned, "local television" can go under as soon as it pleases...I will never ever pay a single dime for any local channel...and the only Canadian channel I am willing to pay for is the Woman's channel and that is that!

[Flag](#) *Alex Paterson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

"I, first, would be angry at the CRTC and the government for allowing this to happen. Then I would drop the services responsible for the fee increases. If I cannot drop them, I will drop others. Ultimately, I will use the Internet more and TV less."

I couldn't say it any better myself

[Flag](#) *Barry Walker* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies and satellite operators of this nation have had free access to over-the-air signals since the beginning of their operations. At the same time, they have charged consumers for access to these signals, which have been the basis of their services until the advent of specialty channels. Now that the over-the-air broadcasters are seeing a reduction in revenues due to unrestricted competition from the specialty channels, it is reasonable that they should receive some compensation from the cable and satellite operators. What is not reasonable is that the cable and satellite operators should attempt to pass this cost on to their subscribers. We have already paid a basic fee for access to the over-the-air channels and it is immoral to suggest that we should pay twice for the same service. If the cable and satellite operators want

to charge for over-the-air signals, there should be a corresponding reduction in the basic access charge so that the consumer cost does not change.

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George Whitter ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Both cable and satellite companies have marketed the access to local stations across Canada and the resulting ability to time-shift as a valuable aspect of their service. Obviously, they've been able (at least in part) to command extra charges. Given the profit margins of the satellite companies, which have been sufficient to allow them to become heavily involved in the ownership of specialty channels, I would suggest that local stations are indeed entitled to receive compensation for their services. Additional charges on satellite and cable bills are totally unwarranted and, if the CRTC grants any additional charges, they should, at best, be miniscule (i.e no more than \$1 or \$2 per month at the very outside).

Incidentally, the satellite companies already charge a modest fee (\$1) for additional U.S. network local stations and certainly when they add a specialty channel, the fee often rises.

2. It would appear from 'Local TV - a primer' that only local stations whose signals have been co-opted might benefit from any payment by the satellite/cable companies (i.e. CTV Regina is carried on Bell, but not CTV Saskatoon -- yet CTV Saskatoon is side-swiped as well). It's apparent to the writer that if the issue is the general health of local TV stations, then a formula must be put into place that distributes funds paid by the satellite and cable companies on a reasoned-out basis to local TV stations on a basis of market strength and the proportional impact this has on local stations. The cable industry's wildly exaggerated 'tax on your TV' campaign is a disgusting example of business ethics at its worst.

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joestyles ★ [1 month ago](#)

Deregulate the industry and let the open market pick and choose what happens to local tv and to the cable companies. This protection racket you run costs money. I no longer watch TV or or Cable and will never support such a system again. The CRTC Ruined our broadcasting system in this country and we all had to pay for the privalige. If you continue to regulate solutions to what should be an open and free market system you will continue to have these problems and find the need to regulate further. The thought that deregulation would cause some cultural catastrophe is laughable. The rates would go down on all braodcasting as soon as the CRTC went out of business. Free market would put the freedom to choose in the hands of the consumer where it should be. I am appalled to think that you know what is best for me to consume on tv when you cannot think of a good solution to this problem on your own.

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John ★ [1 month ago](#)

Sometimes I have no satellite or cable, service is down, weather, whatever. Sometimes I am sick of paying so much for the service. It is nice to have the choice to just put up an antenna and pick up a station with local weather and news for free. Right now I only have the antenna and 4 channels. If i went back to satellite or cable I would choose one with my local channel. I am assuming others choose that channel so it contributes to the profits of the satellite or cable company. Give some of the money back to the local channel to stay viable.

[Flag](#)

Like



elainemcewen ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Ridgetown, Ontario (Chatham-Kent). We do not, to my knowledge have any "local" TV. We have a satellite dish and pay for movies through Bell. I don't like having to pay monthly for many stations that we NEVER look at - especially very many adult sex channels. I would much prefer to pay only for the channels that I want - PBS, HBO, CTV, CBC, Military Channel, Movie channels, Discovery, History, HGTV, Oasis, Equator, National Geographic, Rush.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Concerned in Cornwall* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no room in my budget to pay extra for local channels. We pay more than any other country because there is no true competition and blatant price fixing between the carriers. I would cancel my television service over this and just use an OTA antenna and watch what I want online for free.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*rjr* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. We should NOT have to pay additional fees to receive local programs. At one point Canadians could receive whatever 'broadcasts' were available - depending on their geographic location, strength of signal and antenna being used. Technology and Government have changed this and consumers end up paying for what, at one point, was completely free. Consumers always seem to get caught in the crossfire of big business and even more bloated Government.
2. Local television should be supported through the tax revenue already generated by those working and living in a particular locale. To not have a local broadcaster robs Canadians of what they once obtained for free and are now paying for.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*brentt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have always thought that the local TV stations should be paying the cable and satellite companies with gratitude for distributing a clean signal to millions of households who might otherwise have a crappy over-the-air signal.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Ken Power* ★ [1 month ago](#)

First I would like to remind you that at one time all our TV stations were free to us. We had a TV antenna and received more than enough stations. The stations received their money with ads and made money. Now I pay big dollars for cable and I still have to watch all the ads. In reality we now pay twice. Do I want to pay more for the local stations NO. I seldom if ever watch them. It also appears to me that the local stations are getting AD time on many other U.S. stations. They are dubbing in local ads from local stations. Who gets that money? With digital the cable companies get total control and nothing will be free.

I now have about 300 channels and actually watch about 10 to 15. They are packaged so that I must buy 300 to get these 10. Maybe they should be required to charge a connect charge and a fee per channel. I do believe this is all totally out of control.

Ken Power

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*elainemcewen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Ridgetown, Ontario (Chatham-Kent). We do not, to my knowledge, have any "local" TV. I only want to pay for the channels that I actually watch - CTV, CBC, Oasis, Equator, PBS, HBO, Rush, National Geographic. Why do I have to pay for adult sex channels that we never ever look at?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*rjr123* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. We should NOT have to pay additional fees to receive local programs. At one point Canadians could receive whatever 'broadcasts' were available - depending on their geographic

location, strength of signal and antenna being used. Technology and Government have changed this and consumers end up paying for what, at one point, was completely free. Consumers always seem to get caught in the crossfire of big business and even more bloated Government.

2. Local television should be supported through the tax revenue already generated by those working and living in a particular locale. To not have a local broadcaster robs Canadians of what they once obtained for free and are now paying for.

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Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Would cancel cable service.
2. Local advertisers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Barry Walker ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies and satellite operators of this nation have had free access to over-the-air signals since the beginning of their operations. At the same time, they have charged consumers for access to these signals, which have been the basis of their services until the advent of specialty channels. Now that the over-the-air broadcasters are seeing a reduction in revenues due to unrestricted competition from the specialty channels, it is reasonable that they should receive some compensation from the cable and satellite operators. What is not reasonable is that the cable and satellite operators should attempt to pass this cost on to their subscribers. We have already paid a basic fee for access to the over-the-air channels and it is immoral to suggest that we should pay twice for the same service. If the cable and satellite operators want to charge for over-the-air signals, there should be a corresponding reduction in the basic access charge so that the consumer cost does not change.

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Like



Doug Edgar ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV needs to develop a new business model just like newspapers and radio. Should the model be subscription fees? If yes, then cable and satellite subscribers should be given the choice to opt out. Otherwise, local TV will keep returning to the CRTC looking for ever increasing mandatory subscription fees from cable and satellite customers. There will indeed be a TV tax. A rose by any other name...

[Flag](#)

Like



gardezbien ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is our link to our individual communities. It is a vital link in the democratic process. It must not be allowed to succumb to the Free Market forces that would most likely make Local Broadcasting unsustainable.

Cable companies will gladly prefer to lower their costs by any means. They are using public bandwidth to transmit and must abide by our Canadian laws no matter what the bottom line dictates.

[Flag](#)

Like



Peter - rural BC ★ [1 month ago](#)

Dear CRTC,

I would support paying for local TV ***ONLY*** if you allow the providers to stop packaging channels together into tiers. I only want to pay for channels that I watch. Channels should survive purely on supply and demand. I am absolutely sure that there are many specialty channels out there that would (and should) fail if they were not propped up with fees collected from being packaged with channels that people want. I probably only watch 10 channels on my

satellite TV, but in order to get those 10 specific channels I am forced pay for additional programming that I choose not to watch and would prefer not to support if I could.

While I would pay for some of my local channels, others may choose not. That is the beauty of pay service! Heck, you might even spur more creativity as channels fight for customers rather than collecting handouts!

The technology exists. Please wake up represent the people! That is your job isn't it!?
Thanks,

Peter, rural BC.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Avi* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it's really all quite simple. Both sides are wrong...well for the most part.

1. Local television already does make it's money from advertising and yes cable and satellite operators do add revenue by carrying those channels. This enables these channels to be provided freely over the air at no costs to the consumer. So asking for additional revenue from the cable and satellite providers makes no sense. At the same time if someone else is streaming my content and making a profit from it, I wouldn't be too happy about it either.

2.Yes carrying those definitely adds to the revenue stream of the channels and due to CRTC regulations, cable companies must carry some of those channels, but charging the public for something that is already being provided freely to them as part some package is wrong! It is the equivalent of water bottle companies that charge money for bottle tap water that my taxes are paying for! Essentially, that is theft. Maybe more people should put up equipment to capture satellite signals and resell the signal! Don't worry, revenue stream you'll get from word of mouth of how good your service is will make up for it!

I think the small point I made is the big issue: CRTC Regulations.

If you're going to force cable and satellite companies to do certain things, then you're going to have to be more clear and concise on what goes where and who gets what, cause in the end nothing is free and the consumer pays for everything.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mike* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Up in the Sault we have NO local tv so why do I want to pay for places like Toronto to have local tv. They will never put local tv back here.If they put this through I will be cutting of my cable completely and use the internet .

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Rick* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my COGECO cable IMMEDIATELY.

I am not willing to pay for local TV...have you seen it?...it SUCKS.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *kevinmyers* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is critical to the well being of communities. Cable and Satellite companies thrive on delivering specialty channels that have in most cases, absolutely nothing in common with the community the broadcast enters. I won't pay for any increases, and I don't pay at all - I use an Over The Air antenna.

Local TV must be supported, and I don't understand the logic of allowing cable and satellite

companies to broadcast a signal which is not theirs in the first place.

[Flag](#)

Like



mikedawn ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we are already overcharged for tv, If the cost of cable or satelite increase , something else has to go, be it food , telephone or cable. we are already budgeted to the limits. Local Tv would need to better budget for there programing, or they could do like public access and fund raise once a year.

[Flag](#)

Like



Peter ★ [1 month ago](#)

I subscribe to Shaw Satellite TV. The cost of this service is outrageous. The "packages" are designed to extract as much money out of the consumer as possible. As an example, If I want to subscribe to A&E. I need to buy a package called Prime Time which is bundled with 8 other channels that I don't want. Why can't I a la carte individual channels? Why should I pay for local TV, if I can get the channel with an outdoor antenna?

[Flag](#)

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Donnie McLeod ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television is an advertising driven business. This issue is about those business with money to spend on advertising not interested in spending for local television. If local firms with advertising budgets cannot or will not pay for local television than market forces are working as they should be. The market is saying local television is not a viable business. The government has no business attempting to distort the bigger issues in advertising by picking a looser like local television business and supporting it. The government already has a viable world class publicly supported broadcaster, the CBC. The forces that got the government into a public broadcasting in the first place are now killing local private business advertising supported television production. Without the CBC the problem might be hidden but it will not disappear for very long. The problem is the disease of higher cost of service. It is the same disease that makes nursing, police and teachers a ever larger portion of every Canadian's pocket book. It's the same disease that will make tough on crime unbearably expensive. There was an article in the New Yorker a few years ago that included the words "Cable-TV prices have risen sixteen per cent since 2000." Local TV has just got a bad case of what some Economists know as the phenomenon of "Baumol's cost disease," . See attached article to understand what I am trying to say.

<http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2003/07/07/030...>

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Russell Whitford ★ [1 month ago](#)

One of the fellas from Quebec has already given you the answer on how to remedy the situation. If you deregulate the industry, none of us will be able to afford to watch television period. I use Alberta's deregulation of natural gas as an example, we're now burning firewood.

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spbrunner ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we already pay too much for cable. The Cable companies are making a profit from the broadcasters' signals, and should share that profit.

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willz64 ★ [1 month ago](#)

The bottom line is that companies (producers and distributors) will continue to pass all costs on to the consumer and keep all margin to themselves in an uncompetitive system. It is only through true competition that companies take on more of the costs to lure customers with a less expensive offering than the competitor. Three television channels and a handful of distributors do not make a competitive environment. Open the entertainment market to competition and this will become a moot argument. Unfortunately it is not likely to happen and the producers and distributors will continue to get fat off the back of the consumer. So let me pose a question? If a large number of consumers move off the traditional platforms and start to pull their entertainment through internet channels, will the distributors (who also have interest in cable distribution) have free reign to shut these customers down? The recent CRTC decision on throttling suggest as much.

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Linda Jordan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do NOT wish to pay over and above what I already pay for cable services (which is highway robbery considering many people cannot afford the fees). But I DO think local TV should be receiving funding "from the cable companies" for their programming. This should be accomplished not by raising rates or charging an increased fee to the public, but in a similar manner to that of other channels that currently receiving a percentage. Make "basic" cable truly basic, with a much lower price to reflect that and give the local programming a cut of the savings from the fee already being received like the other television companies receive.

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bill m ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay the highest prices in the world for the worst service. Why would I pay more for local content that I do not want? The cable company can pay a fee from existing revenue. As far as I am concerned, when I went to the cable co. and inquired about their service and rates for said service I was given a list of TV stations that they would supply for a set fee. Can you imagine my surprise one night I tuned in to watch one of the American networks I was paying to receive and I was getting a local Canadian station instead. So next day I call my cable provider and inquire about this and I'm told it's not their fault it's up to the Canadian network whether they can block the signal and substitute their own. They even have a title for the person who does this job, they are called a switcher. So I reply to this by saying we have a deal you will provide me with the stations you list on your pamphlet and I will pay you so much a month for this service and you didn't mention that the Canadian networks could substitute any time they want. They reply that it is the CRTC's problem and I should get in touch with them if I don't like it. So I did and never received a reply. So to the CRTC who are conducting this online consultation perhaps when you are looking for ways to resolve this dispute you can also take a look at fixing some of the other issues that plague this industry

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dixonstalbert ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I believe local TV should have the right to charge, but only if consumers are given the option to purchase their service or not.
I think it is worth noting that when cable TV first came into the Edmonton area in the 70's, it was marketed as a way to greatly improve the picture signal quality; i.e. you were not getting something that used to be free- you were paying for the service of getting a nice clear picture on your TV. I do not think cable companies should be made to provide this service for free by handing over the money they collect for providing this service to 'local TV'.
I think it is also worth noting that most of my 'local TV' is no longer provided by the local network affiliate, but by the cable companies community programming channel. The only exception is the local newscast and I prefer to get my local news from the local radio stations and their websites as these are more timely and have more in-depth coverage.
2. I believe local network affiliates stations are probably no longer economically viable in most Canadian markets. They are not worth propping up artificially by forcing cable providers to

subsidize them or by forcing all cable consumers to pay for them when they don't want their product. For me, I can get the same content they provide from the cable community channel, from local radio and from the web. I would not be interested in purchasing their content if I had the option.

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Eliisa Ollila ★ [1 month ago](#)

First, I'd like to say that I live in a small Northern Ontario community and unless there is a major story happening here, the only sources of local news I have now are my local newspaper and radio station. Thus, paying extra for 'local TV' for me would mean paying extra for next to nothing.

Is there a real need to pay more for this programming? Cable and satellite companies are making their case in the media much better than the local stations are, and it would seem that the answer is no. I'm already paying for my satellite subscription and if what I would be paying for is more programming from the States, I vote no.

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Wynn ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be very upset, as I am already with regard to Canadian content rules which, IMO are impossible to make viable given the modern Internet age which has made national borders for information increasingly irrelevant.

2. Local television, like all forms of TV, should ****not**** be supported, subsidized or interfered with in any way. If the world has changed such that local TV is no longer a viable business, so be it.

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hartlandbridge ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Hartland, NB and I don't have either cable or satellite TV. I refuse to pay for service which should be free. At the present time, the only TV signals I get which are clear at CTV and Global. The CBC signal, which by the way is paid for partly by my tax dollars is weak and cannot be viewed. I have to view all CBC shows I want to watch via internet streaming. I don't get proper TV service for what my tax dollars pay for and I will certainly not give either TV stations, cable or satellite companies any money.

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David Driver ★ [1 month ago](#)

CRTC should be disbanded. Let the free market decide. Canadians pay far more than most of the world for telecommunications. Get rid of the CRTC.

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bill24 ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies in this country have a total and complete monopoly which amounts to a licence to print money. As a customer I have NO choice with whom I must deal. Without competition we all get crappy service for very high prices. If there were real competition (as in the phone industry) this discussion would not even take place. Since this discussion is taking place, it could easily be resolved by the cable companies being required to either pay every source of what they distribute or they pay noone: one arrangement or the other, no in between.

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[2moore](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

cable/satellite carriers should pay the producer. it would likely be less than 0.60 c per channel

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[Tony C.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Is this really a question of whether ALL cable and satellite subscribers should pay the bill for keeping stations in small places running?

Stations that broadcast "content" that is of interest to only such a small amount of people

-market- that it could not possibly generate enough business to sustain such stations by itself?

It sounds like a waste of money and resources to me. Lots of money in, with little output -only a handful of people as audience.

The answer is no, let's not subsidize these "economic inefficiencies"

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[russellsawatsky](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I had to pay more through my cable service, I would be inclined to accept that because cable firms should not be able to obtain content free of charge.

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[Kenneth Mulders](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite should pay to carry Canadian broadcast TV, as they have in the US since 1993. Also, the cable/satellite should be required to provide the highest-quality local broadcast as part of a basic package. For instance, I get all Canadian network broadcast channels in HD (for free) via antenna in Toronto, but ShawDirect does not carry any of CityTV, Global, CHCH, SunTV, or Omni in HD at our country place north of Belleville, less than 200 kms east.

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[Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I cant understand Why I need to pay for something that is broadcast over the air.Local TV seems to air more American programs that local.I pay to receive CBS and CTV broadcasts over the CBS channel,forcing Canadians to watch CTV.

The locals get money by selling ads,if that cant make enugh then They should stop broadcasting and sell the station to a group that knows what They are doing.

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[InHalifax](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I don't watch local television now. I'm completely against paying more for something I don't watch to subsidize the paltry few that watch local television. If they can't support themselves, then they need to compete.

One of the most pervasive problems in Canadian entertainment (TV's and movies mostly) is that they have been subsidized into mediocrity. Particularly in Canadian programming, they often come across as mediocre in comparison to their US counterparts. This programming is hoisted on anyone who has basic cable, and networks are sending their programming dollars down south.

2) Thanks to the internet and already established local media (major and minor papers for example) a local network tends to have a phenomenal cost vs value. Rather than continuing to prop up these bloated and inefficient local offices, we might see local television save itself if there's enough demand for it.

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vicswan ★ 1 month ago

I will probably cancel my cable service if I have to pay additional for local tv. Our local stations in Victoria mostly carry American programs, and local news can be picked up from Black Press websites.

I would suggest a basic fee for cable connection to my house then let me add and pay for the channels I will watch.

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gordjeffery ★ 1 month ago

I do not support a tax, or fee for viewing local TV. Locally broadcast television stations have always survived by rates charged for advertising and it should remain the same.

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Like



Kirk Doward ★ 1 month ago

We live in a rural area. We use Expressvu. There is no cable available to us. I don't even know if there is a local TV station.

Expressvu has already alerted us that increases are coming in the new year. I'll cancel the darn thing when it does. Expressvu is the same price per year as my auto insurance. I'll use the internet.

Let the free market allow the local broadcasters to fall where they may.

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emly ★ 1 month ago

consumers should not pay any more for tv... its already too expensive. Local broadcasters should be paid by the cable service providers (ex: Bell, Rogers)

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frankhodder ★ 1 month ago

1. Local tv is important to me and I`m am more then willing to pay what ever the CRTC felt was fair to keep local tv on the air but I also do not trust either the tv networks or the cable/sat providers to decide if I should pay more or how much its the crtc that must have a final say on this matter.

2.If the crtc decides help is needed to protect local channels I would gladly pay a fee to keep their service providing the fee was in the 5 to 10 dollar range any higher then it would be unfair to the consumer.

The company I subscribe too is Shaw Direct they could/should be offering more local signals from CTV, CBC, ect it is amazing to me that I can not get the local cbc station(CBNT Newfoundland) but I can get 2 west coast feeds of the U.S networks Spokane & Seattle since both Spokane & Seattle feeds air the same U.S network programming at the same time why not drop one of these west feeds and add more locals such as cbnt?

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Kirk Doward ★ 1 month ago

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[A Lahey](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay for local tv. I actually believe I pay too much for cable but I believe there is more depth of programming with cable. I would cancel my cable entirely if I have to pay for local tv. Additionally, the only true element of local tv in my area is the news. I can access that online and rarely rely on local programming for information or entertainment.

I think if the audience isn't there to support local tv then the tv stations have to make hard and fast decisions about their budget. I am not prepared to support local tv.

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[Bryan Keown](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If this tax is incurred by subscribers I will readjust my package to lower my price by the amount of this "tax". The cable and satellite providers have a very healthy revenue stream and they should ultimately shoulder the tab. I think its discusting that im already paying for local tv and they are just keeping the profits. In Canada we seem to be charged for anything. In the USA I can receive premium shows for free on the internet and we still pay 2 times what they pay.

2. We need to limit the amount that Rogers & Bell purchase from south of the border.

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[Daniel Jorgensen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think we need a fee for carry local tv on cable system and we do need to have all canadian tv station flash convert to ATSC Digital HDTV by Aug 31 2009

Even if they don't hike up the cable rates by an extra \$10, I don't even want to buy a monthly cable services while i get 4 free channels in nova scotia.

I do believe that i support local tv like CTV and Global but why the Extra Fees or forcing cable company to block US Shows on OTA US Channel requested buy CBC, CTV and Global.

I don't mind Sim-Sub but Blackout Shows on US TV or Removing US Channels from Cable TV, I will not support it.

That my 2 cents

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[ericsoulliere](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very angry if I had to pay extra for basic TV service. The local stations broadcast their content over the radio waves and anyone can receive this for free. Those of us that pay for premium content and digital signals should be able to also tune in for free. The local channels need to diversify their marketing and revenue strategies to maintain an independent and successful business. Besides any current government subsidies they currently receive, they should be responsible for generating revenue just like any other business.

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[vicswan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be forced to cancel my cable subscription if I was to be charged additional for local

channels. In Victoria our local stations carry only American programs except for local news. CBC news can be obtained over the internet, local news can be obtained from Black Press newspapers and website.

No measures should be taken to support local television. If they provide programming that people will watch they will be able to sell advertising to businesses who want to reach those viewers.

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 [MissingRealLocalTV](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Both sides in this dispute have misrepresented the problem, quite blatantly so. With that said, I believe that there really isn't "local" television anymore, with very few exceptions. Since the so-called convergence movement, programming decisions are largely made centrally, and purely to the benefit of networks, and not the communities in which they operate. Quite simply, the tv stations/networks and pseudo networks took on a faulty business model. There needs to be a return to local ownership with affiliation. They must also move into digital tv and provide service over the air, as they do in the US. I miss the days when there when, for example, a local car dealer could sponsor a late night movie slot. Not always great, granted, but now we get packaged late night movies from coast to coast. There's no local personality to the programming.

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 [imann123](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Our TV, Internet and Mobile services and fees are incredibly high already. The CRTC is directly responsible for not only inhibiting the technology and pricing structures we as consumers have available to us, but apparently are fielding another idea to stick us with yet more fees for something that we may or may not want.

The facts are simple... the providers will pass these fees on to subscribers who unfairly get the short end of the stick yet again. We are stuck in the middle of greed and the mighty CRTC gets to decide if we will get the shaft again.

I have an idea... let's eliminate the CRTC and all their regulations and introduce competition that will ultimately benefit consumers and drive the economy. Perhaps I can save some of my well earned tax dollars employing this sham of a Government department.

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 [slimpaul](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies SHOULD have to pay to local TV. Why? Because they never ever share their profits at all. They should be ashamed on themselves for gouging Canadians and for act like a greedy pants. And now they want to tax on cable bills to pay local TV. That is most ridiculous and most retarded thing of all. Besides, we already lost two local TV stations because the cable companies never help them at all. One was in Red Deer, AB (CHCA-TV) and another one in Brandon, MB (CKX-TV). Shame on them and shame on our federal government for doing quick enough to regulate cable bills.

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 [Sara P in Toronto](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

At the end of the day, my household currently spends upwards of \$100 per month on cable TV when all items are factored in - PVR (rented from the carrier of course), HD Channels, specialty sport channels, etc. It is completely vexing that a company such as Rogers Communications (I believe it was 1 million in Net Income at the end of 2008) can't seem to find an extra \$10 in order to graciously 'cover' the cost of bringing local TV into our homes. We pay taxes to maintain the CBC - which for anyone reading this is where I truly believe our Canadian identity is best preserved - not through US programing on Canadian channels like CTV/CITY & GLOBAL -

why do I need to pay more for news that I can get online, through my Blackberry, on the radio or from the local paper? It just doesn't seem to make any sort of sense.

In terms of supporting local TV, at the end of the day doesn't CTV News pay for itself through advertising sales? Why do they need the money and WHY now? As stated previously, there is PLENTY of Canadian content on the internet and through the CBC that I don't really need CTV, A Channel, CFTO or any other station's News. I really think that the only local news stations that likely require support (other than the CBC) are the multilingual broadcasts. We have many new Canadians that rely on the information from these stations and they are a valuable tool for newcomers.

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 *John Norwich* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Let the local station charge the cable networks, BUT the cable companies should have a choice if they want to carry the local station.

Also when a US network is broadcasting and it is re-transmitted by the cable companies they should not block out the U.S. signal in favour of the Canadian signal as they do now. If I want to watch "U.S. commercial" that is my choice.

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 *acadianweb* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes, I think they should be able to charge the cable companies for providing their programs. Otherwise, how do they stay financially viable?

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Like

 *Brian Christiansen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it is ridiculous that Canadians should pay more for television. The cable and satellite companies already make excessive profits so why should I as a consumer pay more to cable companies just because I would like to see local news. The whole television industry needs to start operating in a different way. Revenue for local tv stations is likely down due to the economy and reduced advertising revenue in the first place. If they can't operate within their budget that's their problem but I do agree with them that cable companies are profiting off of the free signals and generating revenue for themselves. I can't imagine many Canadians wanting a cable package without some local programming so why can't they sit down and come to some agreement. NO TV TAX.

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 *Catalin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable-Tv prices grew much faster, in the past 10 years, than inflation and cost of living... That says a lot about cable company greed (and profits).

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Like

 *evenhitters* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am against giving the networks more money for local TV. They have totally mismanaged their business and should have the tax payer bail them out. Quite frankly I feel my cable bill is too much now. The programs are manipulated in groups where if I want one I have to get other ones that I may not want. We should be able to pick and choose each channel that we want I'm sick and tired of listening to these two big corporation entities, what about the customers the public don't we get a say? I think local TV is fine but the networks stopped showing that along time ago and the cable companies are right they do show a lot more local tv than the TV networks.

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acadianweb ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think it should cost any more than it already does. I think a long hard look at the cable industry should be taken. Their fees go up every year and I don't think the consumer should have to be burdened with ever higher fees for their monopolization of the industry tactics.

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Mike D. ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite companies are simply going to pass this fee onto their customers, and as a separate line item on our bills, just like all the other fees, so this another tax for the consumer. I watch little Canadian Television other than the news and a couple series. Other than the news I could live without Canadian programming altogether, frankly.

My solution is this. If local TV stations must charge for their signals and pass that cost onto me, let them, it's their right. However, I want the option of receiving (or not) these local stations. I also want the use of simulcast (substituting Canadian networks over American networks) stopped.

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Adam S ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.) I would cancel all local programming channels due to the poor quality of programming offered on local TV stations. Local programming is obsolete and ineffective. I get all local media information from the internet when I want it; not when local broadcasters decide to show it. There is no value to me in the services provided to me by local media that I can't currently get online.

2.) Allow me to subscribe to individual Local Channels that I may occasionally watch. Do not bundle them so that I have to purchase an entire bundle when I may only occasionally watch 1 local channel.

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Mike Nelson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have for years paid for local channels, the company that supplies the signal hasn't paid. They have continued to increase charges saying better programming but no one has seen that yet. I think it is about time the Cable companies start paying up for what they take, like anyone else. And as I stated if you get basic cable you are already paying for those local channels so the Cable companies have no right to try to pass there cost on to us. In fact we should ask for a repayment, we thought we were paying them for a service that was a cost to them, turns out that wasn't the deal all along.

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louismohacsi ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important to most viewers, and we have had discussions on this topic at work. Like most I feel that cable rates are already sky high, and I would not be willing to pay more. However that said I also feel that the cable companies have been selling us the local signal for years, and paying nothing for it. They, the cable companies should have to dip into their overstuffed bank accounts and pay the local stations. They should not however be allowed to pass this on to the consumers.

Also the consumers should be able to pay for only the chanelns that they want and use, and not have to buy bundels. It says a lot about a service that has to be bundled with others to get suport otherwise it would go of the air. No one bundles independent businesses to keep them in business. If your product does not sell then you should either produce one that does, or get out

of the business. I for one am sick and tired of the government (crtc) forced programming.

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mare ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel. I am not paying for local TV on top of what I already pay especially when I am already paying for channels/stations I don't want.
2. Local affordable advertising.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dan R ★ [1 month ago](#)

I wouldn't like any new charges of course. They could easily drop some of the specialty channels I never wanted. I already can't believe what they charge for. I would end up cutting my service as most of the content is garbage anyway.

Not sure on the local tv side. There shouldn't be a handout, advertising worked for ages until the cable/satellite companies started dictating things.

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art richards ★ [1 month ago](#)

what local tv.? Tv londons line up Degrassi, TMZ Gossip girl, twomen Big bang castle . News, 15 minutes of news, 30 minutes advertizing for NHL, CFL, NFL, 20 minutes of American health stories or add rebroadcast.

If they want me to pay for it let me choose each channel I want. If I don't select it, I don't pay for it. No packages, just individual channels.

Cable is way over priced with very little service.

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Michael ★ [1 month ago](#)

Nothing but commercials anyway. Just cancel it all.

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Don ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the Cable TV giants want the local programming to remain free, then it's very simple! Any company that advertises with the local programmer would not be allowed to advertise over the cable network. How can the cable TV big boys expect the small broadcaster to make money when they are in direct competition for the advertising dollars? As long as the cable companies continue to make money by selling ad space to the same companies that the locals sell to, then they have no right to charge us extra, and have no options but to pay for the local feed.

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rob ★ [1 month ago](#)

I can access local TV via an antenna. I don't need to subscribe to cable or satellite in order to get it. With this being said, I would be unhappy if they tried to charge be for a service they get for free or can access for free. Cable and satellite are allready to much, it would be criminal and gouging the consumer to ask for more money. As far as support for local television it should be up to them to get sponsers that cover their costs. If they can't do that than they should go out of business like any other business that can survive in there market.

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S Hamilton ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV has been free to receive over the air since it's inception. Any attempt to begin charging for this service would lead to loss of customers by the cable systems. The cable and satellite companies charge only for the distribution network they operate and special satellite channels. Those satellite channels are owned by the same media companies which now want us to pay for their local TV channels. If they had not been so eager to get involved with so many side channels in the first place, they would not find themselves in the current predicament they are in. The current downturn in the economy should not be justification for increasing consumers costs. Just as consumers have had to belt tighten, so should these media giants learn to live within their means. Local stations are mandated by the CRTC to provide local programming as part of their licence. Failure to do so should force them to relinquish those licences. If they need to find revenues to provide those services then let it not be on the backs of the consumers, who after all are the reason they are in business in the first place.

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Mary Caldwell ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not want to have to pay Cable extra for Local TV. The cable fees are far too high now, as we are on a low income salary. I value the Local TV for the local news and events happening in our region.
2. The cable company should support the local TV stations out of its already profitable income, and not pass the charges onto subscribers.

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Like



Doreen ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay around \$60 for satellite tv...no movies...no sports channels. We enjoy local news and would object strongly to paying Bell satellite any more. I don't think we really understand what is happening here. We're getting so many mixed messages about who pays for what, or doesn't pay. Perhaps instead of crtc asking for our opinion they could lay out in simple terms why ANYONE should increase their fees. Greedy....that's my opinion!

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W. Sutherland ★ [1 month ago](#)

Bell has already started charging me extra for the local channels. Considering they do not carry my local channel I feel I am being ripped off. I complained to the CRTC and they tell me it's not their problem. This is BS.

[Flag](#)

Like



RichS ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am responsible for my my cable as well as my mother's and I have tried to find different options of getting my TV signals. The fact that Rogers (my current provider) is already charging me for local TV, I wasn't aware this was approved already. This has made me upset and I will continue to find ways of watching TV rather than pay this additional fee. The price of Cable is outrageous as it is, and using the internet might be my next move.
2. I believe that customers should have the option of choosing which channels they want to watch. If each channel was worth 20-40 cents we would pay for each channel that we want and those cent's would be split between the cable company and the Network.

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David ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't watch and should NOT be forced to pay for local TV in any way. Especially NOT via my satellite provider to whom I already pay more than enough.

Measures that local broadcasters should take start with a HUGE improvement in the quality of the programs they broadcast.

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 *philsaunders* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not in favour of paying local TV stations more money until they clean out their own house first. Most TV stations have far too many employees that we see on a regular basis such as news/weather and sports. Why do they need a different person or persons to report the different topics. I can remember not too many years ago when one person reported the news, the weather and the sports. Now many stations seem to think they even need a meteorologist on staff rather than going to the environment canada web site for information. let get back to basics. One person reporting news weather and sports, not a number of people. Yes some people may lose their job, but thats no different than most other industries. Everyone has made cutbacks except the local TV stations.

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 *Brian* ★ [1 month ago](#)

First of all, I in no way trust the cable / satellite providers in this matter. The over-to-top ads only lead me to believe that they are trying to cloud the issue.

I also believe that local television stations need to stand on their own, but should be able to directly charge for the service. If such a charge is implemented, cable / satellite providers should charge for these stations independently; I in no way support the continued pricing structure of in-demand programming supporting programming that no one watches.

Finally, I fully agree with taxpayers supporting CBC / Radio-Canada, including these local stations. However, I never watch these stations since the programming is poor, and would support a complete overhaul of the system.

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 *douj35* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't mind paying for local TV as long as pay for local channels I watch. I live in Hamilton On and do not want to pay for Toronto channels I don't watch. Why not make all tv channel packages and let pay only for the tv channels I watch.

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 *christopherbeauvais* ★ [1 month ago](#)

First off I would like to say that I have basic cable that I think am paying way to much for..I get basic nothing other then my local tv for a price that I could get for free with an antenna..Myself I think that these people are already taking advantage of the paying customer..It is hard enough now to make ends meet with the nothing that we get..If they were to raise my rates again I would have to cancel all my service and the post office would be busy again with mail as that would be my only way to communicate..

I would like to know how THEY can charge you a resonnable fee for the first 12 months then jack it up to almost double afterwards...

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 *Clyde Elliott* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I believe that both cable and satellite providers make more than enough money to be able to pay a fair price for local TV.

2I think that local TV should be supported by satellite and cable companies. If necessary then a charge could be added based on your postal code to cover local TV in our area.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [joemurray](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it's important to have local TV content, especially local news. Most people get their news from TV. Local democracy suffers without local TV coverage of local affairs. I would be pleased if cable subscribers were required to start paying to support local TV programs that they are receiving. Given the objective of strong local coverage, the issue is how to pay for it. With the fracturing of the media markets, it seems like the ad revenues are no longer sufficient to provide a profit in local TV. I am not sure there are enough cable providers in any, never mind most, markets, for there to be a non-monopolistic free market (I seem to recall markets require at least 5 significant players in theory to make them likely to be efficient.) The same goes for local TV productions: I don't think there is going to be enough competition. In other words, I don't think it is reasonable to require local TV content providers to bargain with cable companies - the bargaining will not be efficient on either side (though there are more possibilities for entrants to content provision than to cable service provision). So this indicates to me a good area for regulation, which brings its own problems.

In terms of objectives: cable companies should not be able to free ride on local TV in terms of generating subscriber revenue without paying for the content that helps to produce it. But I don't know how much the local TV content is actually driving people to subscribe. From an efficiency perspective, it seems that people should be able to opt out of paying for local TV content. But I suspect that that would lead to few subscribers for local TV content, possibly dooming it and the public benefit of an informed citizenry.

So this is a case where governments can and I believe should play a role in addressing a market failure for an important public good. While I'm reluctant, I wonder about a price-setting regulatory structure, say \$x / subscriber or something.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [disgustedbellcustomer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

For number of years, I've been using rabbit ears to watch television. They get most of the local channels, with great programming. Then 2 years ago, I got duped in signing with Bell, with a promise of a good price for a package of telephone, internet and TV. Now when the first bill comes up, it's a whole lot more from the initial offer of the scrupulous bell associate. Reason, because I chose some special programming which I was asked to do when the satellite was getting installed. But well HELLOOOOO!, WHAT'S THE USE OF SIGNING UP if I will get only the local channels! That is the basic package of these cable and satellite companies. THEY SHOULD BE PAYING THE LOCAL TV! NOT THE CONSUMERS! I WOULD RATHER GO BACK TO MY RABBIT EARS to watch local news and then DVDs if I want movies! Believe me, with my rabbit ears, I can watch CTV in HD, but not in my current satellite connection!

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [Ron](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think Rogers and Bell make lots of money from broadcasting signals from local stations. I understand that they do pay for some American station signals. I do think that Rogers and Bell need to share the wealth to give all Canadians access to local TV. 2 Billion in profit seems like a lot of money. If they don't want to share maybe TAX their profits and give some of that money to help support local stations. Greed shouldn't pay and think of the number of people that will be put out of work if the Local TV stations close their doors. thanks

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [mikethomlinson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be happy to pay for local television as part of my cable package ONLY IF I also have the option of dropping local television from that package.

TV stations shouldn't have it both ways - they can't force us to include them in our package and then force us to pay for it.

[Flag](#)

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Bob ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in a rural area (Kootenay, BC). We really don't have ANY local TV. So, why I'd want to pay for "local" TV from either Vancouver (a 10 hour drive) or Calgary (a 6 hour drive) I don't know.

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Simon Bevan ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) Local Television does not matter to me. I would not pay extra for it as most Canadian networks just rebroadcast American programming.
2) None.

[Flag](#)

Like



mikestott ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay anymore than I do now. It is not that I wouldn't pay for local TV, its just that I am forced to pay for many stations that I don't watch and I can't afford anymore. I would rather they give more choices on channel packages. Then I would probably choose a group of channels that included local TV

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James Staples ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be reluctant to pay for services that are available for free over the air. I feel that local television stations have made poor decisions to buy enormous amounts of US programming that is not of any value. I would definitely change my viewing habits. If Rogers can somehow manage to fund an over the air station given the current climate then CTV and Global and the CBC should be able to do so.

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august guillaume ★ [1 month ago](#)

my view is that if cable companies take the signal off air they should not pay for it. If the signals are sent to cable companies electronically the cable companies should pay for them. The costs should be fair, so that customers should have minimum additional costs.

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ecampbell ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch no local programming and think it is absurd that I have to pay for it as part of my cable package, even if I don't want it.

A primary reason that cable/satellite providers carry local programming at all is because it is mandatory (CRTC regulations).

This is a cash grab by Global etc. If they can't compete in the marketplace, then too bad. Why should they be allowed to reach through the cable company and into my pocket?

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Like



S Hamilton ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV has been free to receive over the air since its inception. Any attempt to begin charging for this service would lead to loss of customers by the cable systems. The cable and satellite companies charge only for the distribution network they operate and special satellite channels. Those satellite channels are owned by the same media companies which now want us to pay for their local TV channels. If they had not been so eager to get involved with so many side channels in the first place, they would not find themselves in the current predicament they are in. The current downturn in the economy should not be justification for increasing consumers costs. Just as consumers have had to belt tighten, so should these media giants learn to live within their means. Local stations are mandated by the CRTC to provide local programming as part of their licence. Failure to do so should force them to relinquish those licences. If they need to find revenues to provide those services then let it not be on the backs of the consumers, who after all are the reason they are in business in the first place.

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georginascott ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that local independent stations should be given free distribution by cable networks.(they need to get the signal to the cable system but do not have to broadcast their signal) I believe that national or international networks are already charging for their programs on their specialty channels. They are making large amounts of money which they do not pass on to their local affiliates and seem to use pre made US programming rather than making Canadian television. Support CBC do not support CTV, Global american clone networks.

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CableCompaniesMonopoly ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think we are getting our money worth..cable/satellite companies are charging so much for worthless channels and now they want to add on top of it tv tax which is really ridiculous for the channels are most watched. I think the reason of this is not enough competition...Rogers & Bell only two companies providing the tv services. We need more competition which should bring the cost down.

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James Staples ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be reluctant to pay for services that are available for free over the air. I feel that local television stations have made poor decisions to buy enormous amounts of US programming that is not of any value. I would definitely change my viewing habits. If Rogers can somehow manage to fund an over the air station given the current climate then CTV and Global and the CBC should be able to do so.

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adam wood ★ [1 month ago](#)

No measures should be taken to support local TV. Local TV should be run like a business. If they "can't afford to stay on the air" as their commercials would have us believe, then so be it - let them turn off their station.

What I disagree with most is the fact that the CRTC MAKES cable companies carry local channels and is now considering adding an extra charge for this. I DON'T WATCH local tv and don't think I should have to pay for it. If I DID watch it - why not charge me for it?

Tv is NOT A BASIC RIGHT people - it's a privilege and should not be treated like a charity contribution. If the "local stations" - which are all owned by large corporations I might add - can't run their businesses to achieve profitability then it should abide by the laws of business and adapt or cease to exist.

Regular TV watchers/subscribers shouldn't have to shoulder the inability of middle management to run a business in the form of a proposed blanket bailout tax.

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 *pedror* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay for local TV programming as part of my cable package. It's not like I could get a cable package of solely local programming for free! I pay more than enough for TV programming and the provider should either be passing some of that on to local providers, or not providing those channels at all.

[Flag](#)

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 *scott1515* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Question1: I would not support this, because it's not paying for local TV, it's paying for network broadcasts, and there is a significant difference.

I feel this way because the broadcasters:

- 1) already make revenue off advertising. If they can't make enough, that's not my fault.
- 2) have been systematically gutting "local" television for years, because they can't make enough money off it. In 1990, under CTV and its predecessors like Baton, Sudbury, North Bay, Timmins and Sault Ste. Marie all had local news from local stations. Twenty years later, it all comes from Sudbury, with a few local bureaus. The CRTC allowed it.
- 3) I believe if the broadcasters are allowed this fee, they will just take the money and run. If guarantees regarding local programming are made, the CRTC won't enforce them.
- 4) It will just be the beginning. The broadcaster will want to increase the fee regularly.

Question 2: In my view it's far too late to do anything for genuinely local television. The broadcasters are camouflaging the question as about local television, but in fact local television has been steadily dying for the past ten years. What remains will remain only so long as the networks think they can afford it and only so much as the networks think they can get away with. This is not about local television, it is about returns to shareholders and regular Canadians don't need to subsidize that.

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 *kevingabel* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that local stations need the extra revenue to help keep their programming local. I am a strong supporter of local stations and I would have no problem paying for local tv. I would like to see the big cable companies reinvest some of thier profits in our local stations!

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 *Kent* ★ [1 month ago](#)

What I am wondering is who benefits from the advertising revenue on local TV, local TV or cable? Also,good programming brings more viewers and more viewers should bring more advertisers. I am not in favor of a tax on local TV.

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 *glens* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is provided by networks as a condition of license renewal. If they can't provide a

product that is profitable-TOUGH! They make plenty on their specialty channels and there is no reason to come to us, the consumer (because that's whose going to pay in the long run) and ask us to subsidize THEIR operation. It's like the grocery store, what you loose on the apples, you make up on the bananas. Let the networks do the same!!!

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kraffty ★ [1 month ago](#)

Our satellite bills are already high enough as it is. Bell already said there is a rate increase Jan 1/10. On our bill we are already pay for Local Programming Improvement Fund(LPIF). We pay for bundles of channels, half of which we never watch. We should be able to pay for the channels we want to watch. If they start charging us anymore for our programming we will be down grading our package or cancelling all together and going to an HD antenna.

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afergua ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should we pay again for stations that are part of the basic package? If I have to pay to get them, then the cable companies should be paying to send them. I have gone through the various packages and gone without cable off and on over the years and have learned to appreciate the local channels more.

How to support local tv more? Maybe allow them access to a broader range of advertising dollars?

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jgmack ★ [1 month ago](#)

The CRTC will likely approve this fee and tell us it is necessary in order to preserve Canadian content in television. In my opinion, Canadian content is not that great. If this fee does go through I recommend the cable companies get rid of their bundles completely and let consumers pick the channels they want to watch. And if fewer people choose Canadian networks, so be it. Perhaps, if they improve their programming, more people would watch it. This fee is nothing but a cash grab that should not be allowed. I'd like to know how many millions of dollars these broadcaster rake in from the numerous commercials we are subjected to.

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Michael Vincent ★ [1 month ago](#)

Regarding local TV, the networks have gathered all these channels, if the business model doesn't work then they should give the channel over to local people to run the stations. As for the cable companies, if they are taking the signal and profiting for no expense, and also changing the advertisements the networks attach to each program then the cable should not change the commercials but run the networks adverts. With these two idea in fact, then I would suggest that if a network wishes their signal to be not broadcast and the public asked to subscribe then this might be an option. I am not sure how many people want to pay very much for the network channels. Advertisements and being made to pay should be only an option and no one should be forced to take them.

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spindle123 ★ [1 month ago](#)

let me start here soon there will be no analog television signals tell me this for the longest time we had three channel we could get on analog the channels were channel 3 global channel 8 saskatoon -ctv and of course the great cbc channel 11 here in saskatoon my opinion on this is this since this really is boiling down to almighty dollar and lets face reality here cable companies like shaw are great they say they sponsour this and that so they do and thats just great they

make enough profit to commit to that well bell and shaw quite saying the big networks want to put a tv tax us come on now get real with the consumer and quite throwing the bull around and blaming the networks sure your doing a good job at consumer level with sponsorships and what ever let face and come out clean you do net have to put a tv tax on anything thats completely misinforming and you no it your profit line has been up there so lets have some true talk insted of miss nforming the people that pay the bills and give you a pay cheque every two weeks a 10 dollar tax come on now. as for the networks well there advertizing revenue is come on now mine is to cut somewhere else like most companies do hears my two cents probably not worth that put her it is analog was free to me for years and years and years three channel and of course a french channel i picked this up with my aerial i put on my roof -BASIC CABLE SHOULD BE FREE FOR ALL SIMPLE AS THAT ILL TELL YOU ONE THING AND IM SURE THERE'S ONE HECK OF A LOT OF US IF THE CABLE AND SATELLITE COMPANIES CHARGE ME THIS SO CALLED TV TAX I WILL BE DOWN SIZING QUITE CONSEDRABLY SO CRTC PUT IT THIS I HAVE TO DOWNSIZE WHEN I CAN NOT PAY MY BILLS THEY CAN DO THE SAME I DO NOT HAVE A CHOICE I HAVE TO GIVE UP A LITTLE OF SOMETHING TO PAY MY BILLS WHY THE HECK CAN'T THEY DO THE SAME A TV TAX ABSULUTLEY NOT . HERE IT IS AGAIN WHO SUFFERS THE CONSUMER AGAIN -COME ON GET REAL.

[Flag](#)

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wilmottjk ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no reason for Cable/Sat companies to charge more for their services. The basic service income should be shared between the Local TV stations and Cable/Sat companies without any increase to the viewer.

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randallcase ★ [1 month ago](#)

Stations get there money from advertisers if cable and satellite were gone tomorrow the stations advertising revenue would be just about wiped out. There is no way stations should get any handouts from the cable companies. You know damn well the cable company will just pass on the fee to the customer. If you do go down that route then you should force the stations to cut back on cheap American shows and get off there rears and produce more Canadian programing(This does not include showing reruns of King of Kensington or Beachcombers). If you have a good product people will come. If the stations are not getting the viewers and revenue the think they deserve then maybe they should look at what they are doing instead of blaming everyone else except themselves.

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Margrit Neuenhagen ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV gets money from advertising, with that they should manage to run there business, if they can not do this, then it is time to get out of business, they have no right to ask the consumer to pay for their short comings.

Any other business that can't make a profit will also have to close the doors,and they can also not ask the consumer to give them financial aid to stay in business.

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Mike ★ [1 month ago](#)

In isn't enough competition more like monopoly's. And ever sence the CRTC dropped the amount of Canadian content in programming all we have been getting are things like the View on 12 channels. Our cable companies try to sign us in to larger and larger programs trying to escape the crap they get. There is no option at least from Shaw to go basic and only limited other channels to cut down the costs and to get rid of the repeats and fillers they give us. Lets face it the CRTC has dropped the ball for years protecting the people of Canada and if this problem hadn't gotten so much air play they still would be alsleep at the wheel.

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 [sandman_sm37](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would make every effort to cancel the local television part of my cable package. There is nothing worth watching on local television and I do not watch it. I get my news online and all interesting television is shown on American TV.

2. No measures should be taken by the taxpayer to support local television. Viewers should be able to choose to pay to watch local television. All television should move to pay for what you watch.

[Flag](#) [Mark C. Gibbesh](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I rarely watch local TV. Local news is available from other sources (radio, new websites, etc.). As I have a PVR I choose what to watch and when.

For decades TV signals were, and still are, available free of charge with the use of an antenna. No tax was proposed for airwaves. How is it that now television programming producers feel the right to ask for more.

On a different note, I object to the packaging of channels in groups. How about letting me choose each channel that I want to pay for individually?

[Flag](#) [Ela](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I can count on one hand how many times a year I might watch local TV. The odd time I might tune into local TV is for the news 6:00 p.m., but that might be once every couple of months. I usually I just go on-line and get my news. I already pay enough for cable - I don't want to pay any additional fees on top of that (my cable bill keeps increasing, why would I want to pay more?). Off the top of my head I really don't know why I personally need local TV. I just have basic cable, and mostly watch A&E, CNN and TLC. What exactly is on my local TV (other than the news at 6:00). Mostly the shows on my local TV are the same show on the neighboring USA channel - and I don't watch either station (i.e. realty shows). It would be great to pay for the stations you actually want (in my case, A&E, CNN, TLC, Home & Garden). I can flip through 80 stations every night, and end up watching one of these four - so why not pay for the stations you actually watch, instead of 80 stations you never watch! If the only local TV I watch is the news at 6:00 every 4 months, why would I pay for that - I will just get my news on the internet! I know I haven't paid much attention to this, and my facts may be misguided, but these are my thoughts as of today.

[Flag](#) [jballem](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV does matter. What bothers me is that broadcasters in Canada are using the recent economic slowdown, along with complaints that BDU's are making record profits, as justification for a bailout.

It is my contention that local stations are failing because they are poorly managed. CTV Globemedia owns several profitable specialty channels, yet they expect Canadian consumers to bankroll their smaller market channels.

Canadian BDU's already pay hundreds of millions of dollars into the LPIF, and the CBC receives a huge taxpayer financed subsidy. Evidentially this isn't enough.

I DO NOT support fee for carriage. Asking consumers to foot the bill for mis-management is simply wrong.

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 *Ralph* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Question#1 I have already cut my programming way back in response to this stupid proposal.

Question #2 If local programming cannot support itself now why should we have to pay more for its faulty buiseness plan?? Local programming is horrible and we never watch it. Can always buy the local paper or go on the internet. Also unless I am missing something, don't the cable and satellite companies have to include local programming in their basic packaging that I have to pay for already and as you can tell I have no interest in in watching?

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 *SuckItUp8797* ★ [1 month ago](#)

First off i will not pay more money because of the fact its to expensive already as it is i have Cogeco Cable in Hamilton,Ontario and with Cable/Digital/and movie station i pay \$124 a month and i was reading that Networks are saying we will still pay for it because we love our t.v! NO WAY! i will go buy something else and pay cheaper if i have to because this has become highway robbery! \$124 x 12 = \$1,488 i pay a year for t.v <<<Now that is crazy As far as i am concerned they can stick it! Without us they are nobody and will go out of business. I am already thinking of leaving and going to another source.

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 *Gary N* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am willing to have local TV supported for their programming by letting them have some sort of compensation from cable/sat companies but with more On-Demand now being made available on cable with original ads still in place allow cable/sat to resell these times slots with their own ads. So cable pays for "local TV" but recoups that money by reselling ads on their "On Demand" products

[Flag](#)

Like

 *timlocke* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The only "local" broadcast tv I watch out of Rogers cable many channels are TVO which I'd happily pay for and City-tv. There is a non-broadcast Guelph community channel but I don't watch it. So I'd have to say that I don't really care.

Note that I was brought up in the UK with no local tv at all.

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Like

 *Typical Canadian* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite have been charging already for services that they take from broadcasters for free. I for one would cancel my services if I am charged any more for these services.

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Like

 *ggay* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. As a person who does not receive cable services, in part due to how those services are marketed and sold, I cannot comment directly based on my own use. Despite that, I can say that it would be unethical for cable/satellite companies to make money off of local content without having to license it from the local providers.

2. Local television should be funded and supported by the government, those who consume it, and those who profit from it. Thus is ought to be funded through tax revenues ear-marked for Canadian programming, advertising revenues, and through licensing fees from alternative providers like cable/satellite.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*schooner2000* ★ [1 month ago](#)

More of these stupid fees are going to drive me back to a US sat subscription sooner than later.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*the_sam_malone* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel local TV stations should be required to be self-sufficient and gain their revenue from advertising, not from the cable companies that rebroadcast their "over the air" signals.

I don't feel any measures should be taken to support local television. If it can't sustain itself then so be it. Let it fail.

Cable/satellite rates are already exhorbitant. They should be required to lower them not forced (allowed) to raise them.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*gavrielsierra* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very upset to pay more than the currently inflated price. I would because the service is being limited more and more, fees are going up and I am sick and tired of commercials.

Local television should be on their own, they don't need the crtc to be profitable, they are a business and as such should support themselves. If I have to pay any more I am cutting off my cable and downloading everything.

All of the companies involved in this dispute must realize we cannot keep paying, it will blow up in their faces and they will lose business, why don't they restructure to save money? Or how about distributing their services online, like hulu and charging a subscription fee per household instead. Move into the 21st century,

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Todd* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch my local news every evening because I want to know what's happening in my city but after that they just air broadcasts of american shows which I can watch on any other channel. What I would like to see is a basic package of local channels at a low cost for people who don't watch much t.v. or can't afford it and then the ability to choose the cable channels individually which I enjoy watching. Right now because I watch a couple of channels which are in a more expensive package I am forced to pay for channels which I have no interest in at all. I'm tired of prices for everything going up and up with the value of what I'm paying for getting worse give me the choice or see ya!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*D Brown* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important to me. I depend on the local over-the-air signal and value the local content that is available. I do not subscribe to cable because it is not inexpensive. Since my primary interest is in CBC, CTV and Global, I cannot justify paying some 30-50 \$/month for many channels which I won't watch anyway.

I think that in all fairness, local channels should be paid for carriage of their signals since the cable companies benefit from those who watch them using cable. I think local TV is an essential part of a sense of community and needs to be supported in a world where there are so many things which make strong communities difficult to maintain.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



Blair Burke ★ 1 month ago

I was under the impression that the reason we are subjected to commercials (which appears to be approaching 20 minutes per 1 hour of viewing) is to pay for the programs we are watching. I understand that cable companies charge us for the use of their equipment, the building of the infrastructure, etc.. I don't understand why the local TV stations want to charge more when we already get the exact same programming on other (American) stations. I'd suggest to the local stations that if they wish to refer to themselves as community minded they need to act more community minded and offer programming that is of interest in their particular region other than local news.

As a general thought the user should not have to pay for yet another completely mismanaged industry like the automotive industry. If they can't compete perhaps there is no need for them.

[Flag](#)

Like



John ★ 1 month ago

It's a balance. I feel that I already pay for local TV in that I watch the commercials that they air and where appropriate support the local sponsors. (I also pay the BDU for the convenience of their providing local channels without my having to have an additional OTA system at my home.) If I am now to pay an additional fee to local channels, to eliminate an antenna, then I would expect something in return... for example fewer commercials.

If the local channel charge has no return for me (e.g. no commercial reduction) and has no "opt out" option, then I will be angry, feel cheated and feel let down by my federal government. That said, I'll probably continue with my current BDU as there is no other reasonable option and I will not do something rash.

Personally I think that all of this stems from OTA broadcasting being treated as a poor stepchild by previous CRTC decisions. For example, "pay" channels get subscription fees and compete with broadcasters for commercial revenue. It sounds to me that broadcasters want their de facto "subscription fees" to level the playing field. Had the cable channels been told "fee or commercial, not both" from the get go by the CRTC, then I suspect this issue would never have come up. Leveling the playing field will help local TV more than a fee.

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js ★ 1 month ago

the following three principles are what i believe should guide the decisions of the crtc on television (and cable and internet and phone service):

- less regulation not more regulations
- support more customer choice, not less customer choice
- protect consumer rights, not corporate profitability

based on those principles, i feel that local tv is of only average importance to me. but more importantly is that currently i do NOT have a choice on having local tv or not. it is forced upon me and i must pay for it to get the higher channels. i believe this is limiting customer choice. that means that i do NOT want to pay more for local tv. in fact, i would rather not pay for it at all and not receive it.

i do not support any measures to support local television. the crtc's job is not to protect the profitability of businesses. they should succeed or perish on their own merit. regulation will only cause companies dependent on continued regulation for their survivability. local tv's "unprofitability" and "unsustainability" are issues that must be worked out between them and their customers and suppliers. yes they have choices to revoke services to the cable companies. yes they can get into legal agreements with US carriers to prevent shows they purchased to be shown on cable. let them do it - it is there right and their folly. consumers will revolt.

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 *Brian* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Do we need 3 or 4 local stations giving us essentially the same type of newscasts? I would return to the US Grey market if my cable bill goes any higher.

2. Advertising revenue.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Earl2002* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We do pay way to much for cable, internet and telephone, both land lines and cell.

I'm seriously considering going back to an aerial. We would get US channels in high definition and whatever Canadian signals we could pick up. Both my wife and I would miss the following specialty channels, Home and Garden, TLC W, BNN, CNBC, and the sports channels (TSN, Rogers Sports NET). That comes to ten channels or so plus US and Canadian Networks a far cry from the 200 or so that we get now and support in one way or another through satellite fees in excess of \$80 per month. We long for freedom of choice.

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Like

 *urbanranger* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have little to no interest in "local TV" and I certainly don't want to have to pay more for it. Those who are interested in local TV could perhaps subscribe. Then the 12 people who watch it can pay for it themselves.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I want five or six channels. Only one is not Canadian. CRTC cable TV policy for years has forced me to pay for many channels I don't watch and frequently don't approve of. The CRTC deems they're good for Canadian culture. I don't believe the programming is good for anyone except the pockets of a small group of owners. Regardless of the local TV argument, I am very close to cancelling my cable subscription entirely (as a neighbour has done) and living with over-the-air TV. I only watch from one to three hours a week anyway.

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Like

 *Adamg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Given the option I would cancel ALL my canadian channels. Simply put I dont think any of them (canwest, ctv nor rogers) are honoring the spirit of the broadcast act. The word local tv implies that there is local programming - however at present outside of the larger metropolitan areas it doesnt exist beyond a couple of hours a week.

Above which the networks simply use commonized news (since there are almost no local shows) and rebroadcast us programming.

I believe that enough is enough - if they (the large networks) dont want to honor the spirit of the broadcast act as opposed to what they are currently doing the optimal solution would be to simply sell off all the OTA networks (or refuse their license renewals) and allow US networks such as NBC,CBS etc to buy the channels with a condition of producing canadian news.

I will not pay 1 cent more to these parasites and you can call this whatever you wish "fee for carriage" "value for signal" it amounts to the same thing - paying more so channels that provide almost NOTHING to canadians can continue to buy US programming. For every dollar my bill increases I will be cancelling 2 dollars of programming. I can get everything off of the net and dont need to continue to put up with this.

If we are going to continue to attempt to generate Canadian content (and local content) then specific requirements need to be set in order to gain a license renewal - 1) no toronto, montreal, vancouver, calgary license without meeting a requirement to update OTA to digital for less populated areas like Kitchener/Waterloo, Hamilton, Kamloops etc. 2) Simulcast rights need to be earned and should not be universal - for every hour of PRIMETIME (ie 7-11pm M-F) locally generated programming 3 hrs of simulcasting can be purchased, for every hour of cancon 2 hrs can be purchased. No more simulcasting for free.

This isnt a matter of paying for local tv - canadians already are. There is little to no HD OTA in canada, yet its universal in the US. Almost all canadians are forced to purchase cable/sat with a required package and no opt outs for \$30+ a month. We shouldnt have to bear this burden since the networks have done this to themselves by purchasing ever increasing quantities of US programming while at the same time fragmenting the canadian market with specialty channels simply to ensure the US equivalent channel could not enter the marketplace.

CTV recently chose to air the grey cup on TSN2 a limited access speciality channel. The grey cup is one of the most watched canadian sports venues yet many were shut out. This artificially propped up the revenues of TSN2 while making CTV OTA look less profitable.

Enough is enough.

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Like

 [js](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

the following three principles are what i believe should guide the decisions of the crtc on television (and cable and internet and phone service):

- less regulation not more regulations
- support more customer choice, not less customer choice
- protect consumer rights, not corporate profitability

based on those principles, i feel that local tv is of only average importance to me. but more importantly is that currently i do NOT have a choice on having local tv or not. it is forced upon me and i must pay for it to get the higher channels. i believe this is limiting customer choice. that means that i do NOT want to pay more for local tv. in fact, i would rather not pay for it at all and not receive it.

i do not support any measures to support local television. the crtc's job is not to protect the profitability of businesses. they should succeed or perish on their own merit. regulation will only cause companies dependent on continued regulation for their survivability. local tv's "unprofitability" and "unsustainability" are issues that must be worked out between them and their customers and suppliers. yes they have choices to revoke services to the cable companies. yes they can get into legal agreements with US carriers to prevent shows they purchased to be shown on cable. let them do it - it is there right and their folly. consumers will revolt.

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Like

 [Simon Bevan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

- 1) Local Television does not matter to me. I would not pay extra for it as most Canadian networks just rebroadcast American programming.
- 2) None.

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Like

 [Luke](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it's important we define who exactly is local TV. Is local TV CKPR Channel 4 in Thunder Bay, Ontario? Or is it a private CBC affiliate owned by Thunder Bay Television, a division of Dougall Media. Without having a cable box growing up I could tune into this channel with a basic antenna. I will not and will never pay a fee to watch local TV. I am already paying for numerous channels I have no interest with my current service provider.

In order to support local television programming they should be provided with the means to support themselves. (ie. tax breaks, grants & scholarships, partnerships with media colleges).

Let evolution take its course.

Flag

Like



Margaret Lounds ★ 1 month ago

Currently my cable supplier gouges the customers and makes obscene profits (Shaw Cable). During this year alone, there has been an 8% increase in fees, none of which came with any explanation nor response to being asked specific questions regarding the increases. They spend TONS of money supporting American programming and VERY LITTLE in support of local or Canadian programming. In fact, Jim Shaw has led the charge to stop supporting Canadian program funding and development. The bundling (bungling!) is a joke. We have to pay to receive 7 or more channels when there is only one in the bundle that we watch. They have all the power, get all the money, and do not provide good customer response to legitimate queries. They should be forced by the CRTC to meet their obligations and/or we need to be provided with alternative providers of cable service. Telus operates in our area but until recently they were unable to service this building because of a contract with Shaw that limited Telus' access to our building. Local television is important for communities to be able to access. Shaw's own channel is quite amateurish, ACCESS has been reduced to carrying American programs during most of prime time. Local CBC, CTV and Global all work hard to ensure Calgarians have access to local issues, some do it better than others but there is still a choice. If CBC gets anymore cuts to their budget they may have to make the decision to regionalize their service (which was tried several years ago). It was not successful. If Global dies due to their parent company's financial problems, we will be left with CTV, a group that does good work in some areas but does not generally do investigative programming of any intensity. We will be severely depleted as a community without local programming options.

Flag

Like



kenstvital ★ 1 month ago

1. I would strongly considering canceling my cable service if I have to pay for local TV. I am already paying too much for cable. I do not see why Canadians should have to give money to Canwest and CTV to buy more US programming (this will happen even if they they it won't) so they can ruin the US networks we are paying for.
- 2a. It would help a lot of CTV Winnipeg went back to it call letters CKY. Same for Canwest Global - use CKND. This seems minor, but people need to identify with their local stations, not a national corporation.
- 2b. Don't charge FFC, but charge per US network. The US networks should be optional whereas locals continue as mandatory. In return, the networks would be required to relinquish simultaneous substitution and/or blackout rights. They should be putting local and Canadian programming on, not making themselves clones of CBS or Fox as they do now.
- 2c. Local advertisers - people would watch commercials if local businesses could advertise specials. And tell Canadian Tire to put different commercials on once in a while.

Flag

Like



bc ★ 1 month ago

I can't afford to pay more for Bell or Rogers. I will cancel my subscription if the rates go up and watch TV via the internet online websites for no charge.

Flag

Like



John Palmer ★ 1 month ago

Basic "package" or service MUST include all stations normally available within antenna range of subscriber and such stations MUST be compensated. Most subscribers have done away with antennas because of the availability of their local channels on cable or satellite.

Eliminate "bundles"/packages. They make the subscriber take junk in order to receive one or two decent channels. Allow subscription, by channel, at rates competitive with other countries.

[Flag](#)

Like



MattyinPEI ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it's important that private broadcasters be REQUIRED by the CRTC to provide a certain level of local news coverage before anybody pays more.

I'm in Prince Edward Island. We get no local news coverage from the private broadcasters, especially from the networks looking for us to pay more. It's called Global Maritimes. That's a laugh. Global has absolutely NO reporter, camera person, or VJ in the province. What little PEI coverage they have, they pick up from the wires.

CTV isn't much better. They have one VJ in the whole province. CTV is a ratings winner in the region. But yet, they only have 1 VJ here...who's covering our legislature for CTV? No one. Who's covering our courts for CTV? No one? Who's covering crime in our province? No one again. The private networks do not deserve another cent of my money because I get nothing in return. That being said, I don't want to give my cable companies another nickel. They make way too much money now. EastLink continues to increase its bills, but I get nothing new in return. I like the idea of a smaller minimal package of channels. I get a bunch of sports channels I never watch. But it's part of my package. Meanwhile, there are other channels I want that I have to pay more for.

The whole industry needs intervention.

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Like



johnwinsor ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am tired of the Canadian gov. interfering with radio and television. I am not willing to pay extra for substandard programming. If a station provides what customers want it will be profitable if it does not or cannot then let someone else fill the void who can.

[Flag](#)

Like



Linda Jarrett ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with local broadcasters that cable/satellite companies should be paying for their signals and NOT increasing fees to consumers to offset these payments. Cable/satellite companies have been getting a free ride for decades and need to now step up and pay.

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't have cable and will not get it. I have an antenna and that gets me my local channels just fine Thank-you. If they cut off the signal Oh Well. Cable Internet and Satellite are all over priced for what we get. The CRTC is or should be responsible for getting us a better deal. Like us getting value for \$ will happen, look at cell phone rates. Good luck.

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Like



Jaemon ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my subscription, as I already pay taxes and service fees which should support CANADIAN business, talent and entertainment. If I was asked to pay more to receive programming from any other country, it would be my choice (hopefully) and I can accept having to pay for it. But I already pay for something I should be getting, local television to help me stay connected to MY community.

2. In my view, we should cut back on the expensive foreign providers, or charge a premium for that service, instead of sacrificing our few outlets for CANADIAN culture for profit and popular opinion. Personally, I am appalled by the influence foreign television seems to have had on our culture and I think maybe its time for less foreign influence.

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Like



Luke ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it's important we define who exactly is local TV. Is local TV CKPR Channel 4 in Thunder Bay, Ontario? Or is it a private CBC affiliate owned by Thunder Bay Television, a division of Dougall Media. Without having a cable box growing up I could tune into this channel with a basic antenna. I will not and will never pay a fee to watch local TV. I am already paying for numerous channels I have no interest with my current service provider.

In order to support local television programming they should be provided with the means to support themselves. (ie. tax breaks, grants & scholarships, partnerships with media colleges).

Let evolution take its course.

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Like



Storm ★ [1 month ago](#)

I want to PAY for every single channel that I watch. It is only fair.

However it is UNFAIR that I am FORCED to pay for services that I do not want to have.

APTN, VISION, WTN for examples.

[Flag](#)

Like



Doug Edgar ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV needs to develop a new business model just like newspapers and radio. Should the model be subscription fees? If yes, then cable and satellite subscribers should be given the choice to opt out. Otherwise, local TV will keep returning to the CRTC looking for ever increasing mandatory subscription fees from cable and satellite customers. There will indeed be a TV tax. A rose by any other name...

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Like



Hal ★ [1 month ago](#)

I firmly believe that local TV should be paid by the cable companies out of the money that they currently receive. The Cable companies are already experiencing the benefit of showing the local channels on their cable service without paying a dime for it while we pay a fee to receive them. Why not make them give up a portion of what they receive to support local TV and not ad the cost on to the consumer. Local TV is a vital part of every community. They keep people informed on what is happening in their local area and support local charities by covering their activities. How much does local TV add to these organizations can't be seen directly but I can tell you from my experience as a fundraiser that local TV always helped to boost the number of people coming out. Support our local TV.

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Like



Jim Gaffney ★ [1 month ago](#)

It has always seemed ironic to me that public networks ask for financial support when I already pay a small fortune to the cable company who essentially hijacks that broadcast signal and sells it to me. The cable and communications industry is a profanely profitable industry and they should be diverting some of that profit to the stations whose signal they capture and sell to the consumer. It is not lost on me that this situation has been allowed to fester under the watchful eye of the CRTC. The consumer has been gouged by these industries for decades; it is time to change this formula.

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Like



pyzo ★ [1 month ago](#)

It should be obvious that loss of revenues currently experienced by local TV stations is a result of market dilution. The time is long past when station choice was limited to twelve channels. With the choice now in the hundreds of channels advertising dollars can go where the viewers are.

Providing welfare to TV stations that have lost their viewers will not increase viewership, it just perpetuates a failing business model.

Perhaps these local TV stations should plead their case for funding directly to the public the way that PBS in the United States funds their stations.

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Dan ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. To start with, here in NB, we have very little OTA channels. If I want to see what's happening locally, I read the local newspapers. We have ROGERS cable and most of the time, we watch specialty channels or US HD channels, rarely anything local. We already seem to be paying way too much in fees of all types for channels that we don't even watch but must pay for. Supporting the local channels will not be any different. Why must I pay for channels like The Shopping Network, Vision, and so on and so forth? Why can't we order what we want to watch? Same thing will apply for the local channels. Take them off cable, I wouldn't care. Going back to "Grey" or even "Black" market is looking better each day. In that case, everyone would lose: local, ROGERS and all the specialty channels. I would be willing to risk it anytime should they start charging me for it. Come to think of it, am I not paying \$1.63 already on my cable?

2. If local TV was doing fine before, why would they need a handout all of a sudden? Take them off the cable/satellite and see how long before they start losing money...for real. How many people are using rabbit ears nowadays? Probably not a whole lot.

With that in mind, maybe it's time for you, the CRTC to split the channels that we, the customer, wish to watch. If I order a pizza, I order the ingredients that I want, not what is already there. The same should apply to my channel watching. Then, if I want to have Global, then I'll ask for it.

Instead, to watch the 10 or so channels that we regularly watch, I am forced to get all the packages in order to sort the one I want from those that I am not interested in. Thanks a lot.

[Flag](#)

Like



brian_in_kelowna ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy if my cable fees were increased to pay for local TV. The major Canadian networks get their money from advertisers that should be used to develop, enhance and produce local content. If the Canadian networks cannot survive through their advertising dollar, then they should be allowed to close and let others try to make a go of it. The Canadian networks are clearly trying to get a NEW revenue source to pay their shareholders. CBC has programming that is entirely Canadian, why aren't the same requirements put on CTV and Global? Because they are not utilizing the money they receive to develop ANY Canadian content!

Local TV is already supported by the advertising dollar. If they want MORE revenue, they should be required to PRODUCE more local content that would be of interest to the local viewing audience. More viewers = more advertising = more revenue. Stop asking the viewers to support a PRIVATE enterprise!!

[Flag](#)

Like



sickofrogers.com ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Pay more to the cable providers? Seriously? Why not just send my paycheck directly into their CEOs bank accounts?

I would be forced to cancel my cable subscription.
2. Get the cable companies to support local television.

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[Like](#)



Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have seen the ads put out by Shaw and local TV networks, which present diametrically opposing views. The networks say the consumer is already paying the cable companies for access to local TV and that this money should be paid back to the networks. Networks threaten if they don't get payment from cable companies they will not be able to continue to operate. Shaw says local networks are 'free' on their system and if they have to pay local networks for broadcasting their stations, then they threaten to pass this 'extra cost' on to the consumer. Apparently, regardless of who ever is right, the consumer is going to lose in the end. I do not want to lose local TV programming, but I don't want to end up paying any more for cable than I currently do (which I already think is too high) for the privilege of watching it. This is where I expect the CRTC needs to represent the consumer and mediate a reasonable and sensible resolution to this cable/TV station propaganda. All companies have the right to make a reasonable profit, but profiteering and misleading consumer ads is not acceptable. P.S. If I could get Telus TV service in my neighbourhood, I would discontinue cable immediately.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



jimf45 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is critically important to me (I live in a community that faces loss of same) and relying on outside sources for news is totally unsatisfactory. Local TV deserves additional funding and the overpriced cable companies should contribute to this. Passing along any costs to the subscriber is what the cable company does best and should be prohibited from doing so in this case. Cable companies are no more than transmitters of signals they pick up mostly at no cost to them then nickle and dime the subscriber for each and every opportunity they get. At one time they used to charge extra for colour service, now they charge extra for HD which every network will be required to provide eventually. I understand the cable company scramble their HD signals thereby requiring the subscriber to rent at a hefty price a box designed to descramble HD signals. And after paying the extra subscription to provide HD service I discover it only covers some of the channels i.e. TSN is only available at yet an additional charge. How do they get away with it????

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[Like](#)



ADA ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television stations should be able to charge cable companies for their feed. If cable companies elect to charge more for their service so be it, customers can decide if they want the service or not. If enough people walk prices will come down.

The CRTC is a waste of taxpayers money. We would have much cheaper services for cable, internet and telephone without the government meddling in the market place.

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derekkoch ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay any more than I already do for my cable television. That stated, this is not about whether I want to pay more. This is about how the amount that I pay is distributed amongst service providers. It has been a "gentleman's agreement" that cable and satellite companies don't have to pay to copy and redistribute local Canadian television. These same cable and satellite companies do, however, pay for American content. Why are we putting our Canadian local television stations at such a disadvantage? Because the law permits it. The local television companies are simply looking for the same benefits that American local television companies already have with our own cable and satellite companies. It's insane to think that a part of my cable bill goes to the United States to support local television, but not a dime of it

goes to Canadian television. Insane.

[Flag](#)

Like



blazedupuis ★ [1 month ago](#)

No no no , no new tax on tv , if anything you guys should be stepping in and stoping the prices now ... we are charged a month ahead for a service they can NOT insure will be always provided want us to pay more cause of hd too.. like come on lets speak up speak out and let these guys know we want it reduced and stop stealing from the local providers and not paying rich get richer as always .. anywa lets just stop this tax and work on the rest crtc .. !!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



L. Silaj ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think you have the question backwards.
We already pay for local tv through advertizing.
Cable takes the signal for nothing.

[Flag](#)

Like



L. Silaj ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay for local tv through advertizing.
Cable takes the signal for free.

[Flag](#)

Like



juliemcneice ★ [1 month ago](#)

We do not currently have any television, local or not. We refuse to pay "top dollar" for a cable package which we do not want. The channels we want include both low package programs as well as others that force us to pay for the 3-rd tier cable group package. I like CSI and detective shows and some comedy. I also like some food and gardening shows. My husband likes western shows; we both like movies and science shows such as National Geographic and Discovery channel. We are content to watch the little sports we do on CBC. So, rather than having to pay a high price for the television shows we like to watch, we've chosen to have no TV at all. I will download if there's something in particular we want to watch.

2. Put our favourite shows on local television as well as good news service, and we'll watch it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Grant_S ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable, if they passed on the cost of local programming. The lack of advertisers is not my problem. You can't change the rules just because there has been a shift in how the tv business has gone.
2. If local television can't figure out how to sustain their business model, then they should close up. With the world being so close these days, I can watch national tv channels and be informed/entertained etc.

[Flag](#)

Like



Anita ★ [1 month ago](#)

The price of basic cable is too much already. If there was a fee for local tv as well, then I would have to move to other means (ie online, or through a digital antenna) There is no reason for the fees to be as high as they are.

[Flag](#)

Like



JZ ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay enough now. No More fees.

[Flag](#)

Like



jeff ★ [1 month ago](#)

cable is expensive enough as it is. why not give decisions making directly to dolton mcguinty. i'm sure he could figure out a way screw everyone before we get a chance to change that dial...

[Flag](#)

Like



Ron G ★ [1 month ago](#)

The only reason that I watch local TV is for local news, sports and weather. I feel that I am already paying for this service and should not have to pay an additional fee.

[Flag](#)

Like



PAR ★ [1 month ago](#)

Charge for all the TV channels but make absolutely sure the public can choose what channels they want to buy. The public should be able to purchase only the TV channels they wish to view. If I had to purchase 20 magazines to read the one I actually wanted I would be very upset. Cable TV should be treated the same as magazine subscriptions, buy only the channels an individual or family want.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rustyone ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I must concur with a majority of the dialogue thus far. That we as Canadians pay far more, than any other person in the world.(literally). Admityly, I do enjoy the local T.V flavor for the one hour of it I watch every day. So, with that 1 hour of local T.V I am to be subjected to another fee? I am on the basic package now for cable and find the quality of programming poor at best, especially the channels I do not want. I, like most other commentors receive most info and entertainment via the internet. It is the way of the future and I only see this as a pathetic attempt to gain more revenue for sub-standard service. I think the CRTC has done a disservice to Canadians by allowing this standard of delivery services ,be it Cable, Internet and Cellular Service(that's an oxymoron). We are just not going to pay one dime extra for this sustandard service anymore!!

2)

Local T.V. is not really local in the truest sense of the word. All programming comes from elsewhere. Sadly, only the people in local T.V. are local. I think we are witness to the demise of our local shows and local programming, I mean really, all of what we read, watch and listen to is all subject the CRTC involvement. So we are "asked for our opinion" but if the cable companies do not get their tax one way,... can you say "slight rate increase" instead. It is because of the CRTC to a large extent that we pay as much as we do. Lobbying from the cable companies is alive and well in Ottawa.

[Flag](#)

Like



terryr305 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in an area of Canada where a local signal is unavailable - rocks and hills block what is a fringe signal.

Local Stations are in trouble because advertising money is not coming in to support what is for the most part a poor product. I prefer to start my morning by accessing news on the Internet. By evening the "local" TV news is old and fillers (fluff pieces) waste my time. Other than news,

local stations don't produce much in the way of programs that I want to watch. I would like to see more quality shows produced in Canada but local production days are gone. I would not support paying for local TV that does not exist for me.

[Flag](#)

Like



Richard Fox ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is only so much money to go around. The chances of the broadcasters and carriers agreeing on a cost sharing solution is slim to nil. As this is a regulated situation it is the job of the CRTC to apply a binding settlement that insures the survival of both the carriers and broadcasters. I blame the CRTC for allowing Global to go bankrupt while the carriers thrive. This does not serve the broad interest of the country - which is the CRTC's job to protect. The signal carriers claim the broadcasters are asking us to pay more for television. That is factually incorrect. The reality is the carriers want the consumers to pay more by passing their costs along to us. As in many cases with the media these days, the truth is being grievously misrepresented. I believe the lack of credibility is the essence of why viewership (and readership) is down. We aren't as dumb as they think.

[Flag](#)

Like



allan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I dont feel that we should have to pay for local channels.In my opinion the cable companies are mandated to carry these signals on their basic cable package and therefore we are forced to watch these channels.If you give the broadcasters a fee for carrige for their signals i feel that the customer should have the option of not paying the cable company for this service.If you implement a fee for carrige i think the broadcasters will lose alot of revenue as the consumer is fed up with these companies gouging the public.The cbc gets a tremendous amount of money from us and they turn around and by american programing.You are putting the cable companies in a very difficult position.If you imose this tax on the consumer they will be very upset

[Flag](#)

Like



chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.I think it's insane they want more money if I ran my business bad I would have to go bankrupt.To ask me for more money for some cheesy programming I don't watch I would cancel my cabel completely!!!!!!
2.Fundraising,let the people that want to watch it pay for it.

[Flag](#)

Like



christop ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.I think it's insane they want more money if I ran my business bad I would have to go bankrupt.To ask me for more money for some cheesy programming I don't watch I would cancel my cabel completely!!!!!!
2.Fundraising,let the people that want to watch it pay for it.

[Flag](#)

Like



William Holden ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't have a problem with having the option to pay or not pay. I do have a problem with it being one or the other. This is the third time that this issue has been dealt with by the CRTC. The last two occasions it was rejected. Nothing has changed in that time except for the state of the economy. All businesses have suffered as a result of the global downturn. The media industry is no different and should not be propped up on the backs of the public for the sake of shareholders and profits. To pretend that the business model is broken is simply a ruse and should not be accepted as a valid argument.

Flag

Like



Denis ★ [1 month ago](#)

The CRTC should deregulate all forms of telecommunication in this Country. Dont stop at a pay-for-service, and unbundle all channels. We need more competition in this country in all forms. People should have the option to pay for what they want, and not be forced to pay for "local tv" that they dont watch. If "local TV" wants to survive, they should update their business models and make a product that people want to watch, then advertisers would pay to advertise on their channels. This issues is a joke as both Rogers, and Bell have subsidiary channels that are fighting to get money from their head company. One subsidiary is going after the other in order to exploit more money from the consumer. Cable TV is already too expensive to begin with and there are too many useless channels that shouldnt be included. Deregulate all forms of cable, media and telecommunications. Dont stop at this issue, we need more competition in terms of a Cell Phone Market, Cable, Phone, and Media Companies. Do not allow these costs to be passed along to the consumer.

Flag

Like



kirk ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe i already pay for my local programming. If you look at the content of the basic satellite service, the majority is local programming, picked up for free by the likes of Bell and they charge me for it.

The cable and satellite companies bleed the consumer for substandard service. We are forced to pay for minority specialty programming yet the very basic of their service they pick up for free. If it wasnt for TSN and World Curling, I would dust off my Direct TV.

Its about time the CRTC caught up with the times and helped provide excellent service most other countries already enjoy. Be it TV, internet or phones.

Flag

Like



bellguy24 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television already gets its revenue from selling advertising. The larger their audience the more they can charge the sponsors.

Cable & Sat companies must by law carry these signals as part of basic service.

Therefore local tv benefits from this arrangement. Should they (local tv) not be paying the Cable/Sat companies?

Flag

Like



Mike In Ottawa ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be highly motivated to eliminate my cable subscription, and at the very least would reduce the service level of my cable subscription to at least match or exceed the cost of the increase. And considering that currently the bulk of our TV watching is on the analogue channels, I would drop my digital service. It doesn't really provide any value, and exists only as a temptation to purchase more services at inflated prices.

2. Force cable carriers to pay for local TV signals out of their own coffers without passing the cost on to their subscribers. What we pay for cable and internet services is ridiculous. There must be enough there to pass on to local TV and local TV deserves it.

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Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would consider it an additional tax and that the current broadcasters were seeking to turn themselves into taxpayer funded corporations of which we already have one. The TV signals themselves are free over the airwaves so why should cable viewers have to pay for them. I

would cancel my cable and obtain the signal through an HDTV antenna. Alternately my consumption is changing anyways and I am already shifting my preferences to internet video and news. Broadcast TV if it is to continue must come up with a new modus to compete with the internet and not rely upon an old technology. I think it the proposed tax is akin to taxing car drivers so that buggy manufacturers could stay in business.

As for what measures could be taken to support so-called local television.... I'm not sure there is an issue here. Certainly some communities cannot afford to have a full service news delivery process. I am not terribly concerned if smaller communities learn to deliver their new content through emerging technologies like the internet and neighborhood blogging. I find it very difficult to believe that major centres are pleading poverty though. Toronto, Vancouver Montreal, Edmonton, Calgary should all be able to afford their own ad supported local news until the paradigm shifts and their citizens adapt to other means as well... but in the meantime they are PROFITABLE.

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ROn1 ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay too much for a basic package as it is. Satellite basic package consist of for the most part, the major Canadian and US networks whos programming basically contains talk shows and news. AND the few specialty channels include with the basic package is not much better.

What I feel is going on here is that the major networks are shifting all their better programming to specailty channels that they have created and own and, along with the satellite and cable providers, are bundling them in packages and are forcing the viewer to purchase 5 or 6 channels that we do not want so that we can get to one or two channels that we do. This should not be permitted. We should be allowed to create our own bundles for a reasonable price.

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John Vroom ★ [1 month ago](#)

no more charges please if my cable goes up I may strongly think about leaving cable tv completely .

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SickofThrowingMoneyAway ★ [1 month ago](#)

I only want to pay for what I like. I don't go to the supermarket and buy milk and get forced to buy orange juice and soda to go with it. Get rid of the packages. Over the past several years I have decreased my subscriptions to satellite companies...the more fees they add the more channels I drop. Tell you the truth, I find myself on the Internet more often than ever before. I get my news, local content, etc. Why pay extra to these already over paid gloats. Be very careful or both will lose.

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dean ★ [1 month ago](#)

If such an increase in passed on to the consumer (me) i will be cancelling all my services and going to antenna

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Like



dharmapolice ★ [1 month ago](#)

The problem with paying local stations to continue broadcasting is that we'd be paying them to show us the same US programs every other channel has - not to mention they currently pay millions to US broadcasters for the rights - that's bad business. These folks need to face a reality in which the consumer demands (and has) the choice of which programming to watch.

In an oversaturated market where quality programming has given way to making a buck off the next big thing, the way for local stations to survive is to actually go local. Show us what's happening around town, broadcast the local events our wonderful canadian cities proudly support, bring back the local newshour.....i might not watch all the time, but i'd watch a lot more local stations than i do now. My cable company has a local station that is more local than any canadian network owned station.

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Like



josie erent ★ [1 month ago](#)

Like most Canadians are am absolutely fed up with the CRTC ramming Canadian content down my throat. Canadians have to deal with oligopolies regarding expensive cable, expensive cellular service, slow internet service compared to other countries yet the CRTC does not to address the concerns of Canadian consumers who feel we are being price gauged by both cable companies and Local Service Providers. The information being provided by both parties is very misleading and confusing.. We have one of the most expensive cellular phone rate in the world. We have one of the most expensive cable rates in the world This issue is about more than local programming. This issue boils down to control by the CRTC to focus programmers to produce programs that Canadians do not want to watch or pay for. I am sick of tired of this discussion of lies between the cable companies and the service providers including CBC who are all ready subsidized by Canadian Taxpayers.... Great charge fees for more horrible service.....I will simply cancel my cable service...Democracy is about the freedom of being able to watch what you want and what is reasonable in terms of a fee. It is not about some idiot government bureacracy made of up people who are not hired....but selected through nepotism and stupid government bureaucracy who want Canadians to pay and watch Canadian Television CRAP. The CRTC has caused this problemWe do not want to pay more for services and programming that we see no value and simply do not watch. I do not support the Cable Companies' position but because of few dominant players (oligopoly) consumers like me will be forced to pay more cable fees for programming I do not watch....because the cable companies have really no competition. Yes enough is enough.....It is time that the CRTC stop ramming Canadian Crap content down people's throats and give us the choice to pay for programming and channels we want to watch..

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gerry bukovinsky ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hamilton's tv station has been gutted, sold for nothing to who knows who, showing bad copies of 2 star movies. This tells me local T.V. is in trouble and should be able to charge for their signal . Otherwise, there will be no local programming in Hamilton.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mark Bowling ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Sat companies are to blame. Let them charge more and I'll dump some of the other crap they have to balance out my bill. It is a no win situation for Cable or Sat so wake up, and play nice.

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Like



Chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local TV cannot survive without subsidies, then it is a poor business model and should be allowed to die a natural death.

[Flag](#)

Like



Patrick Mallette ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV holds nothing special for me at all. If I was forced to pay more for even more

channels I don't watch I would be one step closer to ditching cable forever. Being able to choose the channels I want to watch is far more important an issue than this, but sadly I don't have a choice so I get Canadian content, French and other specialty channels I NEVER watch. Thanks for wasting my money CRTC. Let us choose the channels we want and let the market decide.

2. Any measure to support them, if they can't support themselves, is a waste of time and money. Let the market decide and these stations will either make something worth watching or they will fade into history.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *libiec* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My satellite provider does not provide my local CTV (CKCO Kitchener) signal as part of my package. Why should I pay for something that I get for free with my antenna.

I get many local programs for free over the air including American digital HD stations with all the American commercials. Some Canadian stations out of Toronto and Hamilton are also broadcasting in digital HD that I pick up for free.

If I'm already getting my local programming over the air for free, why should I have to pay my satellite service provider?

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Like

 *Jim Thomson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would refuse to pay a subsidy for local television. If they can not succeed by providing viewers with what they want to watch then too bad. If local television wants to exist they have to be competitive and provide something viewers will support. If they can not do this without a subsidy then they might as well wind up. Subsidies only delay the inevitable.

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 *Pierre* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Our cable fees are already high enough, so to tack on a fee for local TV is not appropriate. If the cable company wants to add a fee they should make local TV part of the optional coverage and the subscriber can pay an additional fee if they wish to receive the channel.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *WayneA* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important for several factors;

Local News and stories of Human Interest/Lifestyle reported by the Local Stations are very important to every community. Look at the great job the local stations did covering the HI Ni flu clinics and vaccine distributions. When a significant news story is developing (big storm/natural disaster) we turn to our local TV stations for the latest update and count on them to provide this information.

I do not want to pay more on my cable bill.

I think we need to re think the whole cable/satellite billing system. There should be a basic package that includes all local/regional stations along with several national stations like the Weather Network. Above this a household should be able to select each individual channel they would like in addition to the basic package for a per channel fee. No Theme Packs or bundling of 5 channels that no one wants with one good channel. This almost seems to be illegal.

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Like



[jmhm2003](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is free over the air. If the cable companies are transmitting it for a fee to the end user, then they should be refunding that charge to the Local TV stations. Cable providers should not be able to charge for a signal that is free to begin with.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[W.L.Graham](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were asked to pay more in my monthly cable bill for local tv, I would cancel other cable tv services, particularly for those speciality channels owned by CTV/Global. It would be criminal to allow the CBC to charge for local tv as they are already government funded. CTV/Global already profit from signal substitution and contribute next to nothing for Canadian content. To allow them further profit for their local signal (which I could get over the air if desired) is sheer nonsense! If the CRTC wants to support local tv, allow the consumer to opt out of the fee for carriage scheme or allow the cable/satellite companies to drop the must carry provision.

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[jackmcleod](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay an additional fee to support local TV. We do not have a local station in Whitby and I don't feel I'm missing anything. Tv stations are having problems because too many stations are airing lousy programs so loaded with commercials that many people refuse to watch them.

The solution- fewer stations putting out better programs with less commercials-more people will watch increasing the advertising revenue that can be charged

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[Rob W.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadians seem to be over charged for cable, satellite, internet and cell services. Here is another example of that. Big business crying to the Government and trying to sting us with a so called 'tax'. I pay far too much now for my Television and internet service now, ANY increase no matter how large or small is not acceptable. I always thought that 'local' television once it left the broadcast tower was part of the public domain. I have an over the air antenna, how will CTV, CBC, GLOBAL CITY and so on charge me for watching or will they disadvantage the 10 percent of the population who still get their TV this way and disable the broadcast towers? Don't the cable companies and Satellite companies just redistribute something that is already free to us over the air anyway.

Maybe Canada should adopt the US policy of only offering Designated Market Areas (DMA) Example: If you live in the Toronto area you only get Toronto locals, no east coast, west coast and all the other locals from various cities across the country. This way your locals get the full viewership from within your DMA. Advertising dollars may be worth more for the local station, increasing their profit and help their bottom line. If they know you are watching their ads here rather than ads from say Vancouver or Calgary.

I would agree with establishing DMA'S along with the total elimination of simultaneous substitution (simsub) of US channels. (this is why I have a OTA antenna that complements my paid services to get around Simsubbing that is forced on Canadians by the CRTC.

I think it would be a travesty to be forced to pay for something that some people may not even watch (local tv). If CTV and the likes of others want to charge, then the CRTC has an obligation to allow cable/satellite customers to pick a programming package that doesn't have locals in it if they don't want to pay for them.

What this country needs is MORE competition in the Television, internet, telecommunications industry. Canadians pay some of the highest fees in the world for substandard products and services. Canadians use to be the leader in high speed internet. We have fallen way behind Europe and the USA now in both service and price.

It's time for a big shake up in this industry. Time to let Canadians pick what they want to watch

and who and where they get it from. Not to be dictated to by a quasi monopoly business or a Government body who thinks they know what Canadian culture is. It's also time to break up Television providers who also own local and pay channels. It's a huge conflict of interest to be a service provider and a channel owner to make valid arguments over price increases yet still looking out for us the consumer of these services.

Maybe the CRTC needs to offer a free and open border on channels and services and open up competition from foreign companies to give Canadians real choice and better prices in the TV, internet, phone and cell phone industries.

I hate it when Canadian communication companies like to whine to the regulator to protect there quasi monopolies. Here is one more example of that. Canadian companies like CTV, Global Bell, Rogers always seem terrified to be exposed to real and true open markets. The CRTC should show some true grit. If they allow a fee to be charged for locals then open up the communication industry for competition from outsiders. With increased and true competition then rates for TV, internet and phone would hopefully fall and offset any increases from our current providers.

I always found it very distasteful that companies have to run to the Government to be 'protected' Let the market decide ! If Local channels are important to people they will watch them. When CTV, CBC, Global, City can pay hundreds of millions for US shows then locals must be doing ok. If they were not then we would have a lot of paid advertisements or reruns of the beachcombers.....

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 *Tom* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am against the additional tax. This is nothing but a bail out of the TV industry. The only reason is that because of the financial crisis last year, ad revenue is down & which means the TV networks are not making as much money as in previous years. We, the tax payers should not bail out the tv networks. They should have to cut expenses, like most other industries.

Thanks.

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Like

 *johnmorgan45* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This would be fine, as long as the cable and satellite companies allow us to individually choose the stations we wish to subscribe to. In other words, get rid of the packages and let us pay for station we wish to watch. The basic package of local stations should be the only ones that we buy as a condition of the service, and let the chips on all the specialty channels fall where they may.

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 *B T* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am struggling to pay for basic cable. I will have to cancel and find alternate means to keep informed and be entertained...e.g. Radio

[Flag](#)

Like

 *JS* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My local TV station (CKX) just went out of business. However I wouldn't have paid a dime on top of my already exorbitant cable bill to keep it going.

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 *ribstonefred* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I for one have viewed cable and satellite companies for years saying they have 150 or 200 channels available in order to lure subscribers. When we do sign on, guess what, most of the so called 200 channels are the free local networks which the cable/satellite company now charges me to have through their fees. This has gone on for years, its time the local networks were paid and no additions on my cable/satellite bill they have been paid for years.

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[andrewmitchell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadian cable companies deliberately skew their packages in order to force customers to purchase more packages — e.g. popular sports channels or lifestyle channels are separated into different packages so you have to pick one or both. Local channels are included in the basic packages because they are free, but I understand that could change when local television stations start to charge cable/satellite companies for their content.

The only answer is to mandate carriers to carry local stations for a set fee that is part of a capped basic package. After that the only fair solution for customers is a la carte pricing where people can select channels individually for a fee — companies could still offer packages and discounts to people that order a lot of channels, but we wouldn't be forced to pay for a package in order to get the one channel we want. We should have the choice to get the HD or regular digital channel — under the current system we have to pay for both, which no doubt has slowed the conversion to HD and digital televisions in general. It's also ludicrously expensive at twice the cost for a basic HD package as for a basic digital cable package. I pay that extra money for CBC hockey and that's it — \$360 a year to watch HD hockey is a lot.

There are several reasons to compel companies to carry local channels. There are issues of safety, response to local disasters, local news that people need (like school closures, etc.), an avenue for local businesses to advertised that won't be provided — and that people won't pay extra for, even if its in their best interest — by the cable and satellite providers. Local stations also pay for networked programming which is important to our cultural identity, are sensitive to time zones and regional weather and conditions, and can respond to the needs and preferences of the market. It's the difference between watching sesame street at 6 a.m. or 8 a.m.

If the fees are introduced and my cable bill goes up \$10 per month as suggested I will consider cutting back to basic digital or cutting my cable altogether. I would use that money to boost my internet connection and watch television and movies online, or spend the money to watch hockey at the local pub. I really hope it doesn't come to that but my family is on a budget - as we all are these days - and I'm not willing to sacrifice my future to the tune of \$120 a year (plus \$360 for HD) so I can watch television.

Our cable companies are incredibly profitable for all their moaning about the cost of providing the infrastructure. Something like 85 per cent of all Canadians live in urban areas where those costs are small and easy to recoup, while rural customers are already on the grid by this point. I have no problems with cable/satellite companies making profits but I believe their margins are out of scale for the level of service they provide, and the complete lack of competition in the marketplace. On one hand they rely on the CRTC to protect their monopolies, and on the other they reject the CRTC when they attempt to regulate the service to protect local programming, Canadian content and consumers.

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[Renate](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

- 1) TV programs are only viable or valuable if they are watched by a sufficiently large audience. If not enough people watch local TV stations, they should be shut down as they are obviously not wanted by those for whom they were intended.
- 2) Cable and Satellite companies should not be forced to carry local signals.
- 3) TV services should be unbundled. People should be able to choose the channels they want to watch, rather than be forced to subscribe to channels they are not interested in. By allowing people to choose individual channels they want to watch, the cable/satellite companies would soon know which channels are popular and which are not. They can then concentrate on carrying the popular channels, which may even lower the monthly fees. Most people have their favourite

channels which they consistently watch. The hundreds of channels currently available are for the most part useless to the vast majority of viewers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Pauline J.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is very important to our family. However, Cogeco no longer operates a service in Northumberland County, countering the cable companies' argument that they do invest in local news or programming. Satellite has no local programming.

Meanwhile, at the main networks, local news has been cut back.

Your question assumes that paying additional dollars for local TV is the only route. Surely, the cable and satellite companies could absorb some of the costs.

Measures to support local programming should include increasing the government grant to the CBC, a grant which has decreased in real dollars over the years. Diversification of ownership might be another portion of the solution. Didn't Global end up in financial troubles partially because of the debt caused by its acquisitions?

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Like

 *Ahan* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The first thing that I would like to say is that the CRTC has no point to exist. What have you done for the people of Canada- NOTHING. It's like you are owned by all the big Companies and you bend over forward each and every time they want something. We have the most crappy service I believe in the developed world. Even countries of the third world have better and cheaper service than us. You don't allow competition from other companies who are trying to implement ere hand we consumers are caught in the middle and can't do anything other than getting gouged by those blood sucking companies thanks to the blessing and complicity of the CRTC. My whole point is that the CRTC SHOULD be disbanded, competition should be allowed to set up here and the Govt should regulate companies like Rogers and Bell whenever they decide to force consumers to pay for more for the same crappy service. If the price of cable is being imposed upon us I would have no other option other than canceling my service and look for cheaper options on the U.S market.

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Like

 *Doug Fairbairn* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The so-called surcharge to protect local television is a sham. If the TV stations receive more money there is no guarantee that the "extra" money will be put back into local television. It will likely end up in general revenue and local television will continue to suffer.

Overall, our local television station is not worth the time to watch.

Local television can only be improved by the quality of the news/sports/weather it presents. i do not see how a surcharge on my cable bill will improve that situation.

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Like

 *JS* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My local TV station (CKX) just went out of business. However I wouldn't have paid a dime on top of my already exorbitant cable bill to keep it going.

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Like

 *Garry T.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel all my services.
2. I would go to the U.S.A. and buy their services.

[Flag](#)

 Like*Rick C.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I have little interest in so called local programming and therefore would not be interested in paying more for something I wouldn't want to watch in the first place.

2. The government should get out of the television business. If canadian "culture" and local programming is important, it should be able to survive on it's own, without more fee or worse, taxpayers money.

[Flag](#) Like*Sharon Bloom* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Considering what the cable and satellite services charge they should be paying for local tv stations programming without charging the consumers any more that the outrageous costs they already charge. The satellite and cable companies in my opinion are being greedy and have been greedy for quite some time. It is about time they started to contribute to the community and quite taking from it.

[Flag](#) Like*Ontario Joe* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1 - I have no concern about being charged for something I want. But unfortunately, the Canadian programming distribution system is governed by the CRTC that forces consumers to pay for stations they don't always want(ie. Canadian Content rules, Cable packages, etc..). There doesn't seem to be appropriate competition among all parties to ensure desired service for a price the public is willing to pay.

But to tell private stations they can not receive revenue from their content is wrong.

2- I would allow the market to determine what local television is worth and private business will determine is there is a business in it anymore. That means the cable companies should have to negotiate with television stations for their content. The cable companies are getting revenue from their customers for having these stations.

Why should the cable companies not pay for something they are charging for?

[Flag](#) Like*vassellebarber* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think I would like paying more for my cable service, but I do believe in supporting local television. While I understand why local television providers want and need a fee structure to ensure their viability, I think the preservation of local TV could be handled in another way. As with Canadian content requirements on the radio, I would implement a similar policy for local television content. I would require that all cable stations devote a percentage of their airtime to local news, weather, and sports. When I say "local content", I include municipalities with less than 100,000 people, not just big cities. So a broadcast based in Toronto should have, let's say, at least 5% of its content devoted to municipalities such as Oshawa, Hamilton, and Barrie. That would ensure more diversity in content, and give residents of those areas some "local" news. Also, the language of a policy such as this would have to stipulate that the content cannot be allocated to just one theme (like weather).

[Flag](#) Like*Kathryn* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already feel that we pay too much for TV. In most cases we are paying for channels we don't use already. I would much rather pick a few channels, including my local channel, which does not exist technically because they closed it a few years ago and moved it to another community a few hours away. I would definitely choose to get rid of TV if asked to pay more.

[Flag](#)

 Like *perryc* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't wish to pay more for television channels most of which I don't even watch. I would prefer ala carte and only purchase what I actually want. Bruce Springsteen had it right with his song 57 channels and theres nothing on. Only now its 200 channels. I also don't want to see too much local TV lost, the networks should be required to provide a certain level of local service as a requirement of their license to broadcast.

[Flag](#) Like *jmhm2003* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Any local TV that is available for free, "over the air", should be free from the cable transmitters. It is absolutely immoral for Shaw to charge me for CTV, CBC, Global, et al, when I can have them for free by hooking up my "Rabbit Ears".

[Flag](#) Like *Richard Murray* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that without their signal being carried now, local stations would have folded long ago. The revenue that they receive now due to viewership that primarily comes from a cable audience.

Our kids, one a teenager, and their friends do not watch TV.

Unfortunately for the TV industry times are changing and the stations are going to hurt. Adding a charge will just delay their demise, not stop it.

The cable companies themselves will be in trouble as people stop watching. It's not unusual to hear "we just got rid of cable. It's just not worth it." We buy our TV shows and movies on DVD and watch them on our schedule.

The end of both local television and cable TV is on the horizon and industry is going to have to learn how to deal with that.

[Flag](#) Like *Rudy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Need to support local TV and have the Cable Provider pay from their profit. Cable providers are greedy want to get for free while they charge their customer expensive bill.

[Flag](#) Like *nicholas dewkinandan* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Cable companies make money from everyone of us. I used to work for Rogers Cable Communications Inc. and Bell Canada. I know that local tv can survive without any extra costs. These major telecommunication companies make millions of dollars off of their consumers. Any extra costs to the consumer will be ill-mannered and the companies showing that they just want more money from us. Rogers Local TV gets lots of funding from local advertisements. The companies who say they have budget issues pertaining to costs and other expenditures, should maybe take a look at their paycheques. A host on a show gets lots for just reading a teleprompter and looking good. I will cancel my subscriptions and just watch my good old US Dish network feeds. If there is a fee put in place, the Canadian Media market will suffer.

[Flag](#) Like *BOB* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In Calgary there is 3 local stations plus the CBC all carrying the same news. Stupid. To many stations one or two should be shut. There is no competition in Cable at all. Price is to high now, plus we have to watch those crappy Canadian commercials when they intercept the US feed.

What about the Superbowl commercials we do not even get to see them. Have to watch the crappy Canadian ones.

I will cut off Shaw right away. All Canadians should be allowed to get Satellite from the States. Their is competiton. I won't pay a cent to watch the local Canadian stations on cable. Will cut cable off right away. If these privately owned companies can't make it , close them down.

[Flag](#)

Like



Don Walker ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have a number of comments with regards to this topic.

First. It is my understanding that YOUR rules force cable companies to carry local cable signals. If so, change these rules so that consumers are not forced to take local stations as part of a base cable package. We all can then decide individually whether we want local stations on cable OR whether we will forgoe local stations OR whether we will get our local stations the old fasion way; using an antenna. To be more precise I want a guarantee that we will not be forced (in any manner, including bundling local cable with other services) to take and pay for local stations in any way shape or form. After all, we can get them over the airwaves (as many others do).

Second. Allow local stations to negotiate rates subject to the first point. As long as I'm not obligated in any way shape or form to pay for local stations. Then I am a happy camper.

Third. Local service is supported currently by ad revenue that is unavailable to cable companies. In these economic times the local ad revenue may have shrunk, however, this should result in FEWER local stations rather than government mandated support through cable fees. In my area I receive at the least 2 CBC's, 2 CTV's and 2 Global's if not more. I certainly do not need all this local coverage. Let the marketplace make sense of this. It will.

Forth. Stop cable companies from CLUTTERING their cable offering with local stations from all 3 networks from all over the country. They have taken advantage of this "free-mandated" service situation to help in create this situation.

Lastly. Do us all a favour and bring COMPLETE AND UNFETTERED COMPETITION to the cable environment. The current regulatory regime should be scrapped AND open competition should be encouraged. This "boys club" of cable providers creates high prices and low service levels.

When the government learns that competitive circumstances with the internet, cable services and newspapers can best be dealt with by the market, individual Canadians, we will all be better off and better served!

Don

[Flag](#)

Like



Rudy ★ [1 month ago](#)

Need to support local TV and have the Cable Provider pay from their profit. Cable providers are greedy want to get for free while they charge their customer expensive bill.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jill Edwards ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe local TV stations are very important, essential to me. We especially need local news. I do not have neither cable nor satellite TV; I still use a TV antenna with tower by choice. I believe I have adequate programming through the few 4 channels I receive (CBC, TVO, CTV and Global (I miss the PBS I use to get)). I don't believe that there is much more of worth watching on TV if I were to purchase TV service through another company (cable or satellite). CBC and TVO (and use to be PBS) where the most important stations to me. I am looking for good, knowledge based, quality programming, not the typical crap that is on most TV stations. Hence I feel that public broadcasting is the best and most important type of programming and

put my support here.

I support local TV stations asking for money from cable/satellite companies. If they pay all the other stations, why should they not have to pay local TV? Subsidy should not just be governmental.

I also believe that cable and satellite companies should be required to carry local TV stations to keep the public informed of local news, politics and businesses etc.

Our worlds continue to get bigger and bigger with information readily available from all parts of the world. Someone has to provide the local information. Otherwise people with loose perspective on what is happening locally, what they can do to impact the world from a local perspective. This may go along with that saying "Think globally, Act locally" There are many more and other sources to get the larger/global information and perspective. Local influences are also important wither they be political, social, business or leisure.

Finally the perspectives/influences of larger governments, organizations and business have plenty of other avenues to get their messages out. Lets keep part of our influences local.

I also believe that TV should continue to be available over the airwaves free, as is radio. Many people cannot afford the extra cost of cable/satellite, or may choose not to afford it (as is my circumstance).

I also am not very excited about digital TV. I think the USA was surprised by the number of people who still used TV antennas and also had old TV sets that were not able to receive digital signals. I think Canada would find much the same. I still use an old TV set purchased in the 70's and 80's and have no desire to purchase a flat screen TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



Gordon Hatt ★ [1 month ago](#)

What is called "local TV" is only nominally local. On my local CTV affiliate, CKCO, the majority of the programming is produced in the United States. Only the news at noon, 6 p.m. and 11 and two weekly current affairs programs are local. If local TV was truly local, (e.g. featuring programming content that was local, regional provincial or even national in character) then I would unhesitatingly support it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kathy m ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable/sat companies should be paying for the channels and NOT passing it off as yet another tax, like the CRTC tax. It's all the greed of these companies coming to a head. So give a choice, if we have to pay more than I want to be choice not to subscribe to them and keep what I want. The cable companies have been charging a basic rate for the last 40 years so we have all over paid as far as I'm concerned. I'm sure if global cut off Shaw they would be ready to deal as soon as there phones started ringing off the hook.

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Like



Colin ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cost of cable services are already high enough. If the cable companies are making big time profit from the backs of the consumer and basically stealing local broadcast signals, then I think the cable companies should take from their profit to pay for these signals. If the cable companies want to charge the consumer, then the rich cable companies will continue to get richer and the average person will be screwed again.

[Flag](#)

Like



allan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will not pay extra for local tv.the local stations make there money by selling advertisingThis is insanity .The cable companies do a huge favour to local tv by carrying their signals.If local stations want the consumer to pay for there local signal the consumer should have the right not to pay for local channel ie they should be able to call their cable company and cancel the local channel.We should not be forced to pay for something that we dont want

[Flag](#)

Like



Liam ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no reason why I should have to support a failed business plan. I have had to adjust to new circumstances, which includes less money coming in... So should they. The extra costs would be added to basic cable costs which is all I can afford. It makes no sense and is absurd to pass the burden of paying for these stations to people that are husbanding their finances...

So my reaction is if asked I would refuse... but if this is imposed I am not being asked... I would be forced to pay if I wished to keep basic cable..

To support local TV the companies should economize just like everyone else.

Flag

Like



Nick ★ [1 month ago](#)

While I am sympathetic to the cause of local TV stations, I believe that it's time to bring the regulated monopolies of cable/satellite TV to an end and open the Internet to transmission of all types of content. It's not open to that now, of course, because the cable companies throttle the bandwidth of their potential Internet based competitors, a classic case of conflict of interest. The fox is in charge of the chicken coop, and it's time for the CRTC to act on behalf of the consumer & innovative producers, and recognise this. 'Net Neutrality' should be enacted, and let the market & the public decide what they want to watch and to pay for. I always want to know what's happening locally, and if there's local content, I'd like to access it without asking permission of the cable co. Imagine what it wd be like if the roads were owned by shopping mall operators: there'd be a freeway to the mall, and gravel roads (if any) to other stores. This country is falling further and further behind in technology because of the misguided preoccupation of the CRTC with protecting so-called Canadian telecoms companies. When did protecting an industry ever encourage it to innovate? Here in British Columbia we had the worst wines in the world while the industry was protected by tariffs - since that ended we now some of the best.

Flag

Like



Glenn D ★ [1 month ago](#)

We involuntarily pay enough for media. If there is to be a new fee for "loca tv" we should be given a choice for the subscription. If this nonsense goes through I will rethink US satellite access

Flag

Like



gerargcoma ★ [1 month ago](#)

Generally speaking we pay too much for what we get now. That might have to do with our smaller population in relation to other countries where they pay less. The cable companies pay to carry other TV signals, I guess you could make the case for them to pay for local ones. But given that I am not happy with what I am paying now, I am not sure how you would get us to agree to pay more. If the local programming was interesting and entertaining, I might consider paying a bit extra (but there are limits). But the quality has to be there, because what we get now is lacking in quality.

Flag

Like



Julian ★ [1 month ago](#)

My television viewing has decreased markedly since I got a computer and "discovered" the internet. I only watch the specialty channels now and would resent having to pay (more) for channels I don't watch. As it is, I could easily do without Cable TV and the "TV tax" could be the

straw that breaks the camel's back.

I don't believe that any financial measures should be implemented to support local television but less regulation and red tape would help.

Flag

Like



jmusic_man ★ 1 month ago

1. While local TV can be relevant and entertaining at times, I could not justify paying a premium on top of already expensive television service fees. There simply isn't any value, for me, in the content of local television programming.

2. If local television was creating a product of value, the financial side could take care of itself. Perhaps it's the government-dependant business model that is driving local TV into the ground. With a re-defined business structure, more closely emulating that of say, Google, they could generate revenues from targeted advertising. After all, television is moving to all digital; the hardware decoders are in place as set-top boxes for users - it's simply a software matter to implement targeted advertising based on the viewer's preferences and consumer habits.

Flag

Like



Mark Anthony Pauls ★ 1 month ago

I am fine with local TV channels seeking revenue by charging for the signal. I would also suggest that local stations should be removed from basic packages and sold as an optional package. That way people who want them could pay and people who don't wouldn't have to. At least they would get more revenue than the \$0 dollars they are getting today. It is also my belief that 75+ percent would request the local channel package. This allows for the strictly opposed to drop the local channels. I think this is the fairest option. I would also like the option to drop french programming. I am not french.

Flag

Like



Larry D. ★ 1 month ago

I already pay enough for cable tv and do not support paying more for local television. We are a one tv station city, the only local programming on the local television is the one-hour newscast from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. weekdays and 6:00 to 6:30 on weekends. The same local news is reported on the radio, in the community newspapers and Rogers Cable 13's local newscast. The rest of their programming is available on a number of other stations. It's no surprise that any charges the cable/satellite companies incur to pay for local tv will be passed on to us. If this is to be the case, the CRTC should allow the cable/satellite companies to offer it as an option for viewers. If the consumer decides not to subscribe to the local signal, they would not be charged for it. Local television can't have everything. Right now, American programs are simulcast to the Canadian station if a program is on at the same time, obviously for audience numbers which translates into ad revenue. Due to this, our right to choose is taken away as viewers. Local channels are given preferential treatment as the CRTC demands local tv must be available on basic cable first, ahead of the others. So, local television likes the "protection" they receive and now want to turn around and have us pay more for it too. Also, my understanding is the cable/satellite companies do not pay for over the air US channels we receive from Detroit, Buffalo etc. Yes, they do pay the for the specialty channels, movie channels etc. and we in turn subscribe to those if we choose. Local television needs to realize they are a business and like any business, must provide what the consumer (viewers) wants. If they cannot do this, don't ask the public to pay more for something they are not interested in having. I do not, in any way, support paying more for local television on my cable bill.

Flag

Like



rr ★ 1 month ago

Broadcasters have not adapted to the internet taking away advertising revenue. This is the main reason broadcasters are loosing money. They are not competitive. Paying for something that has always been free is hard to swallow. I do not want to pay a dime more than what I am

paying now for satellite channels. The CRTC should not allow any charges to be passed on to consumers. If the CRTC grants a penny, then this is another corporate welfare program on the backs of consumers. I hope the CRTC is not going to listen to the whiners looking for a bailout.

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Like



Stephen Busch ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think you should let the networks charge what they like, but at the same time the cable and satellite providers should have the option to drop the local networks from their lineup if they do not want to pay the networks fee.

[Flag](#)

Like



robingrundberg ★ [1 month ago](#)

I like having local TV, but I dont need every news station in Canada. When we sign up for any TV signal we have to take every station in Canada. Also why do we pay triple the amount that they pay in the US. Between TV and cell phones Canadians are tired of being screwed.

[Flag](#)

Like



Stevan Zupanic ★ [1 month ago](#)

The reality is I like having TV, so I would not just cancel everything. What I would do is remove as many packages as needed to suck up the cost.

No measures should be taken to support local TV. Also, if local TV can't support themselves then, just like any other private company, they fall.

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Like



Barry ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the cable/satellite companies are required to carry the local programming, then I think the cable/satellite companies should be able to charge the local stations for distributing content without sharing in the advertising revenue. Having multiple channels carrying the same programs (other than news) is silly. If the local stations want a fee over and above the advertising revenue, then the stations should also accept the possibility that consumers do not find value in the local stations and consumers should be free to decline the Canadian channels.

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Like



Ross ★ [1 month ago](#)

Allow subscribers to choose individual channels, currently they can add individual channels, let use choose all individual channels without "packages" first.

[Flag](#)

Like



adriantel ★ [1 month ago](#)

Where I live, local TV is unimportant. I do NOT, ever, watch CJDC TV in Dawson Creek, BC. It is amateurish and lame. COLlege broadcasting students can do better.

Other than that, I have a choice of Edmonton or Vancouver TV signals- that's it.

So is having local signals available to me important? Absolutely not. I will not pay for them. It's sink or swim time. Deregulate the whole lot.

[Flag](#)

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[K-1066](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable if the cost got any higher. I went without it for a few years, and did not feel socially deprived. As evidenced by this comment, I have access to the internet, and frequently use it for access to several local news sources. I don't believe that raising the cost to the consumer is the answer. If only half of the people that say they will cancel their service do, the loss would far outweigh the gain made by a tax. This would force an increase to the tax and more people would drop their cable. It would cost more in the end for no positive result.

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Like



[john](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

What will be, will be. If the technical forces indicate that some technologies or services won't survive, so be it. You won't be able to save newspapers and you won't be able to save all the local tv stations. Besides, it is a cable company, eastlink, that provides much of the local content in my area.

I would cancel my cable if forced to prop up a dying industry.

I also believe that it is innappropriate for the government of canada to be involved in this issue.

The tax payers of Canada already pay too much to keep State run television (cbc) on the air.

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Like



[rr](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Broadcasters have not adapted to the internet taking away advertising revenue. This is the main reason broadcasters are loosing money. They are not competitive. Paying for something that has always been free is hard to swallow. I do not want to pay a dime more than what I am paying now for satellite channels. The CRTC should not allow any charges to be passed on to consumers. If the CRTC grants a penny, then this is another corporate welfare program on the backs of consumers. I hope the CRTC is not going to listen to the whiners looking for a bailout.

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[ThinkRationally](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. As in understand it, these "local" networks MUST be carried, and now they want to be paid for it. How can they be allowed to have it both ways? Guaranteed carriage AND a fee for that carriage that the consumer cannot opt out of is giving them the best of everything.

2. What is local television? That couple of hours per day that's sandwiched between shows carried across the country or the continent? I think they're overplaying the amount of "local" programming they provide. Most of us watch the local or regional news, and we may choose to keep the Canadian networks if we had an a-la-carte selection of channels. It's clear, though, that the networks don't want to take that risk. They want it all, with no risks.

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[Eku Malcolm](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is extremely important to me as the channels I watch most are local+local time share. However, as part of a 2 student household, I can't justify spending more money on TV. If I was forced to pay for local TV, it's quite likely I would cut my services significantly in order to accomodate the additional price.

2. I think it is important that the cable companies compensate the local networks as long as the local networks are putting it toward maintaining operations and not using it to boost their profit margin.

[Flag](#)

 Like *jc* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV has always been complete crap. Years of public funding has not improved the content. I remember always being cursed by local content which only served to raise ignorant youth. Fishing shows, political news and religious programming covered the air ways along with the littlest hobo. All crap. I was glad when i finally got cable in my area i never watched local programming ever again and NEVER will. They need to compete or die in my opinion. If they are given free money they will continue to produce crap in my opinion. The gravy train needs to stop here. On top of that if the local channels have to compete so must the cable stations compete and the CRTC needs to let in US satellite providers and open up Canada. We need to join the rest of the world. The internet has made the whole world a global village. Protectionism does not work. Its time the bird left the nest. You either have to get rid of the protectionism or we get rid of the CRTC. All my life you people at the CRTC dictated the crap that went into my eyes and my ears and I want to be FREE this country is crying to BE FREE. GTFO CRTC and stop getting in the way. You wont be happy until you raised a society of ignorant Canadians. Thank god the internet has disintegrated all the power the CRTC ever had.

[Flag](#) Like *Peter* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be extremely annoyed if I had to pay more to support local TV. If local TV is not a viable business because expenses exceed advertising revenues then shut it down just like any other failed business would have to do. This proposed increase is a money grab by the rich corporations and the feds must not permit this.

[Flag](#) Like *blackbane* ★ [1 month ago](#)

deregulation of all things related to TV is the only safe bet. Let local fend for themselves and let cable suffer with US Sat, providers. After reading a number of the posts here it looks like this is something everyone wants to see. It will be interesting to see if the CRTC ignores what is obvious to me to be a flood of public opinion from people who would prefer US sat providers then have to deal with both the parties in this mess. I personally will just download what i want to see commercial free. Cya later Rogers/Shaw/Bell/Canadian TV stations. Only thing i will be happy to pay for is the CBC the rest of you all i have to say is good bye.

[Flag](#) Like *Al* ★ [1 month ago](#)

At no time did I ever hear of local tv stations who broadcast their signals over the air try to get money from consumers who use an antennae to pick up their signals.

I am appalled that networks and local tv stations seem to believe their woes is due to Cable. They suffered b/c they haven't they have not adapted to the changing environment of media and news delivery. I think it is disingenuous of the Networks to blame local tv station woes on the cable industry. It is also disingenuous to suggest that Cable should give their profits to them. In the end, the consumer will suffer as we pay for the profits of the Networks or Cable. I can tell you that local stations produce very little programming outside of news +/- local programs that has poor production values and limited appeal to the majority of the population. These same Networks produce specialty channels that recycle many old shows of which I have to pay for??? Where is the innovation? Where is the leading edge of media? Sooooo.....HELLO Networks and local TV, why should I pay more for you to make shows I don't watch.

Cable is not squeaky clean either. We the consumer have been at the mercy of their pricing structure and channel packaging. The Cable industry is putting limits on broadband access on the consumer thus restricting consumer access to video on demand over the internet or legitimate streaming access and thus force the consumer to choice their own VOD service. Cable

creates packages that forces the consumer to pay for multiple channels of which I may only be interested in 1 or 2. I do not understand why the CRTC is not protecting consumers. Why should I pay for a specialty channel I do not want.

In summary, I the consumer am opposed to paying more fees to cover the spat between Networks and Cable industry. I am opposed to paying for local TV channels that suffer b/c of poor management, bad programming or are too slow to adapt.

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Like



William Yale Waldon ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV has been a mainstay of my TV viewing since the mid "50's. The availability of "Superchannels" is a welcome "recent" development in TV as have been the channels higher than 2-13. The availability of all or any channels is a good thing, especially for people who are handicapped like my Quadriplegic wife.

Now to the crux of the matter. Cable and Satellite providers SHOULD support ALL the channels that they carry. If this means a 0.5% increase in their costs then SO BE IT!!! They should be prevented from passing this MINOR expense on to their subscribers.

This "battle" between TV stations and Cable is irritating enough to drive me to cancel my cable and give up TV for good! I quit smoking after 24 yrs so it'll be easy!!!

Thank you,
William Yale Waldon

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Like



jerrynewman ★ [1 month ago](#)

I simply don't get it. I don't watch the local TV programming (primarily news) because I get what I need from the local newspaper. As far as I concerned, the big networks are providing me with mostly US shows anyway.

Why should I pay extra for TV that I don't watch? If you want to charge a fee, make it optional and I will simply opt out!

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Like



austin00709 ★ [1 month ago](#)

If cable companies were forced to charge for the "TV Tax" or the "fee for carriage," I would proceed to drop my cable service for good, and resume US Satellite selection. It is not difficult to obtain US Signals, and paying more for Canadian content and local channels will bring the cost of Canadian television to a new high. I am not prepared to pay for channels to which I am not interested in watching. If I need local news, or access to local channels, I simply read the Internet.

In my opinion, Canadian channels are not nearly at the same level of program quality—they are second tier shows. I am forced to select these shows (in 'convenient' channel clustering) even when I do not want to watch them. We should have free selection to select the channels individually, rather than clusters or groups of stations.

If a local TV station cannot financially support itself, then let's clean house. The consumers should not have to bail out big business/broadcasters. We need to stop this tax and stop future surcharges. We all know that if "fee for carriage" is approved, the consumer WILL pay the difference, not the cable companies.

To support local television financially, consider making advertising more affordable and accessible for local business who would like to advertise on cable, but cannot afford current high rates. Drop advertising rates and increase advertising sales!

[Flag](#)

Like



William McMillan ★ [1 month ago](#)

The CRTC dictates what is on Basic Cable. I would like to have the choice of picking the

channels I would like to subscribe to.

I live in Ottawa and I do not consider Global, City TV, CHCH, Omni to be local Channels and I am not prepared to pay for them. If you take the time to view those channels you would not see one commercial for Ottawa and no local news.

The consumer should be given a choice for local channels as is done for Speciality channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



josie erent ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable. Canadians pay one of the highest rates for cable and cellular phone rates.....Why should I watch Canadian Crap and pay for something I do not want to watch. CRTC you are the real Problem

[Flag](#)

Like



rr ★ [1 month ago](#)

Don't give the broadcasters any money. I don't have any money for beggars. CRTC should be looking out for consumers not for companies.

[Flag](#)

Like



jerrynewman ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the whole idea of an extra charge is a farce.

I don't watch the local TV news, and get the local information from my newspaper. Why should I pay more for cable so they can use my money to pay more for imported shows.

If a charge is imposed, I want the right not to receive the local TV feeds. I don't need or want it.

[Flag](#)

Like



GeoSv ★ [1 month ago](#)

There needs to be a basic cable for no higher than \$8. Cable started lower than that. Basic Canadian and US channels, that's what it's for.

Stop thinking everyone earns the salary you do. This is for everyone.

No additional sports, music, Newsworld, Aboriginal etc imposed.

(No, not \$8.95)

Then no rate increases allowed as soon as the CRTC dozes off.

[Flag](#)

Like



Stan ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is, in general, very little local programming on the TV stations. They mostly broadcast US programs. All channels, including local channels, should be optional if the consumers will be charged for them.

[Flag](#)

Like



Shanyyn ★ [1 month ago](#)

My biggest concern is the satellite and cable companies deciding which local stations are carrying too much duplicated programming and then dropping them from the packages - that means less local TV for subscribers with no relief on price. I do think they should pay for local TV stations and ensure that each subscriber has access to ALL the local stations in their region. I pay for satellite TV through Shaw (formerly Star Choice) and have been constantly disappointed with their changes to programming, lack for forward movement on requested programming and their disregard for local TV except where it causes them too much 'duplicate' programming.

Local TV should be supported with dollars tagged for it alone - not for purchasing of out of country programming. If I had to choose between a Manitoba station and BBC, I would pick a Manitoba station first. No question.

[Flag](#)

Like



[k1066](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable if the cost got any higher. I went without it for a few years, and did not feel socially deprived. As evidenced by this comment, I have access to the internet, and frequently use it for access to several local news sources. I don't believe that raising the cost to the consumer is the answer. If only half of the people that say they will cancel their service do, the loss would far outweigh the gain made by a tax. This would force an increase to the tax and more people would drop their cable. It would cost more in the end for no positive result.

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[Andrew Oshier](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay too much for cable TV already. DON'T RAISE MY CABLE BILL.
IF my bill increases, I will be forced to cancel or reduce my cable package!!!!!!

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Like



[smcwhinnie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If there are too many TV stations that can be successful in a market area, some will have to go out of business, the same as any other business where supply exceeds demand. The ones remaining should pay the cable and satellite companies to carry their signal to increase their market reach for their advertisers.

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[murrs](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I've given up on conventional media for most of my information and use the internet instead. As much as I'd hate to see my local stations go (for purely nostalgic reasons), I don't want to support a business that is no longer relevant to me.

[Flag](#)

Like



[sharon0806](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not like to pay more for local T.V. I think we pay enough for the T.V. we have as it is. We seem to have more American channels now than actual Canadian shows. I don't believe our "hard earned" dollars should leave our country.

2. Local T.V should be able to support themselves with the commercials they have, etc..Better business is an asset to those who do it well!

[Flag](#)

Like



[andrewoshier](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay too much for cable TV already. DON'T RAISE MY CABLE BILL.
IF my bill increases, I will be forced to cancel or reduce my cable package!!!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Don Cafferty](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are being robbed as it is now; and, absolutely refuse to pay more for the trite that is being

served.

There are no winners between the cable/satellite companies and the networks. They are all robbers.

[Flag](#)

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[andyvan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I still don't understand why we even have to pay for TV. If you watch a 30 min program you are stuck with 8 minutes of commercials, 16 min if it's a 1 hr program, or that 1 1/2 movie you missed on the plane is now 2 hrs plus with commercials.

So why then are asking me to pay to watch commercials and even pay more to watch local commercials. If the medium and distribution can't be a sustainable business then why should I have to pay for an unsuccessful business model.

Maybe we should follow the lead of the US banking bail outs and ask the future generations of Canadians to pay for useless programming.

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Like



[Tim W](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were to pay more just to have those channels turn around and use the money to buy american programming, I would be very disappointed. However, If I were asked to pay a reasonable fee to ensure a significant increase in Canadian programming (played during prime time) AND if competition was introduced into the cable industry I would be very supportive of the move. Introducing competition is necessary - very few Canadians, if any, have more than two choices for the provision of cable or satellite services. The Rogers/Bell, Shaw/Bell, Cogeco/Bell regional duopolies have encouraged the gouging of the consumer while the quality of programming continues to decrease.

[Flag](#)

Like



[a/2245](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay nearly \$1200 a year for cable services from Rogers, they nickel and dime everything, it is like they have a vacuum hose directly into my bank account. I think basic cable should be available for a very low cost, and include ALL Canadian services, such as cable sports and news. Raise the rates on U.S and other international signals, and provide a portion of those fees to Canadian broadcasters for program development.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Ron Gieck, Courtenay, BC](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

For most people the only way to access any television signal is via cable or satellite. Times have changed for local TV stations as they try to compete with the specialty channels and the internet. Advertisers are being given more choices of advertisement mediums. I believe that Cable is using the signals as part of the package that they use to make a profit. The stations providing the local programming should be given a reasonable share of that profit. I support the local TV networks in their quest for fee for carriage of their programming by Cable.

[Flag](#)

Like



[pensioner](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in a smaller community, where news is rarely reported by the large conglomerates. As such, local news is very important to me. But, if it meant a higher cable bill I will cancel cable and get my news/information from the internet!

The large conglomerates have already bought up all local TV...should they not support their satellite stations?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*LoriH* ★ [1 month ago](#)

For the high price we pay to have satellite through Bell, it is my belief that the CRTC should be forcing companies like Bell & Shaw to pay the local broadcasters AND that no increase of fees to we the consumer be legislated. Bell & Shaw have pilaged for years and it's time they pay the for the signals they have profited from for all those years.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*philgrouchy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable and satellite industry PAY a nominal fee for taking (using stealing) the local television companies signal. While they both rake up huge profits to charge the us to the hilt. Making these companies pay local TV will in turn allow them gouge us to death with a higher monthly fee. Perhaps the answer is they pay and absorb the costs. As they could financially. Of course they will try to pass it on the the consumer.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*sharonbrophy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is of use for only local news. All other programs can be had elsewhere. I assume advertising still supports local TV and of course if on cable and satellite would still be in front of eyeballs. If I were to be charged for just 1hr a day for local news I would not subscribe to local TV. I get most of my news on the internet now and I pay an exorbitant price for lousy download speeds and capped at 20gb content a month. That today is laughable. We are just flat out ripped off in this country for all manner of telecommunications services.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*The White Wolf* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Satellite Providers 'shouldn't' be allowed to heap Local TV tax on subscribers. In order for them to be 'protected' in the Canadian market, this should be something they are proud of doing (protecting Local Canadian Programing) not something to bitch about.

2. Understand that local television means local jobs that provide a service - support 'that' or support Fox News and CNN. Think about it.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*jackhoffman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Quebec. My cable company (videotron) has an obligatory charge (\$40.00) to me for a bundle of local news channels..

I do understand the obligation for cable companys, in the days of early T.V., to offer (subsidize) local channels but I do not understand the need to pay for what I do not watch!

I would like to have the option to not buy a package and have the option to pay a fee \$1.50 -\$2.00 a month for the ones I want.

I have heard the adverstising debate between the cable companies and the "local " channels. I feel that the cable company should negotiate with each local Channel (perhaps under arbitration) a fee to carry the channel and to charge a nominal fee per channel (like the U.S. or specialty channels to the cable subscriber. With advertising on the local TV channels going down from years ago, I understand why they want to re-negotiate the original imposed government formula.

As stated above I do NOT want to pay for what I do not watch.

I do not watch the French channels. Why should I subsidize them?

If Francophones do not want to watch local English channels, why should they.

I want to pay for what I watch.

I refuse the Cable companies threat to charge or pass on an extra charge for local programming. The present one is exhorbiant and should be abolished. If a local channel cannot attract enough viewers to pay for it on cable,then it should give up. I do understand that the English population in Quebec is small. There are at least four major ones. Let them fight it out with better programming.

The cable companies must be paying the U.S. channels (ABC, CBS, Fox, CNN, etc. to carry them and are charging me a fee for each one I want to watch. I believe the same should be for Local T,V. channels.

Flag

Like

 *paulgent* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is important in some ways for example, local news coverage. However it does not warrent a charge / tax for this. TV stations, like all businesses, need to make or break themselves in an open market. Local TV stations ALREADY get money for Canadian programming and show huge amounts of advertisements, for which they also receive monies. Asking people to pay a fee/tax on top of this income is basically subsidising a failing business. If they cannot break even, they should cut costs or go bust and let someone else fill the void. All the local TV stations should have their expenses and books thoroughly reviewed in public so we can judge if they are running their businesses well enough to deserve a handout... I say NO to paying more for a poor service. If the service was better no one would have an issue.

2. See above, but any cable or satellite service carrying these channels should not be able to change the advertisements shown on these channels to their own. This will give the local channels a good incentive as advertisers will know they are hitting the widest possible market and it may be possible for the local TV channels to increase their advertising rates. There are FAR TOO MANY advertisements already on Canadian channels, but revenue from these ads, should all go to the local channels.

Flag

Like

 *dave604* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already do not subscribe to cable or satellite because they are just too expensive and set top box prices are prohibitive. If fees go up, cable and satellite service just become even more overpriced.

2. Create non-profit or even subsidized transmission authority to take over local digital transmission of channels OTA. Transmit a basic set of regional channels in every town over a certain size in each region, all towns currently served the minimum. Switch all current funds and fees to this authority. Give local channels regional blackout rights for any material they purchase for broadcast.

Flag

Like

 *Hugh D* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay more for TV services but local TV is a necessity.

Cable/satellite services carry public channels for free and rebroadcast them in many areas that are not local. They should have to pay for any channels they carry to communities outside of the local area where that channel can be received without cable/satellite. Local advertising only has value in those communities where local viewers would use their services.

Flag

Like

 *kjm838* ★ [1 month ago](#)

C'mon people, local t.v has been providing quality programming since before most of you were born it's an important institution in any Canadian city or town that they broadcast from.Cable

and satellite company's have hi-jacked the t.v market with no regard for local stations or us as subscribers, its time they wre brought down a notch. As for higher fee's, if need be I would be willing to pay a little more.

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Like

 *MD* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would seriously consider canceling my cable and relying on internet to access the TV programs I'm interested in. With the exception of some sports programing, network television is providing increasingly poorer product (mindless US shows aimed at low attention spans). Outside of news broadcasts, there is no "local" programing on the big networks.

2. The only visible local programing in our area is provided by smaller independent stations, not by the major networks. The major networks seem only interested in using "popular" US programs to gain a larger share of toilet paper advertising.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Angelo Dodaro* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I will continue to NOT subscribe to TV service because I think it is already WAY too expensive and has been for years. I work for one of the largest cable companies in North America, have previously been employed by Bell and Rogers Communcations selling these services and I'm constantly appalled at the gouge that is taken into customer's wallets.

2. In the digital age perhaps we should reconsider the budget allocated to TV services when the internet can do it faster, cheaper and more conveniently. I live in Kelowna, BC and we get our local news through [Castanet.net](#) which is the central hub for trusted news in our community. I could care less about local TV!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *sharonbrophy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay for local TV on my already highly priced satellite service. I already get local news off the net and pay an exorbitant price for a lousy service there too. They seem to think 2.5mb download speeds is highspeed and cap my total content up and down at 20gb a month. That today is laughable. So much for using my bluray player's streaming capability. We are so ripped off in this country for all telecomm servcies. I still don't have a data plan on my cell because of the data rates. If you decide to let the satellite and cable companies charge for local TV I will not subscribe to that content. Assuming I am given the choice to subscribe or not. Knowing how you operate I will just be charged for something I don't want.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Elvis and CBC have died* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I SHOULD NOT PAY ON TOP OF WHAT I ALREADY PAY. Go to a la carte menu. Local stations already get tax support for Canadian content. End subsidies to CBC. I can choose to support it if content is good. Right now they offer Hockey and The Border. When the season ends for both I stop watching CBC for the year as their news shows are are left wing drivel out of TO and there is no interesting drama or great comedy.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Timothy D. Neelin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think satellite or cable consumers should be asked to pay more. If networks are allowed to charge for their channels, the satellite and cable companies should be forced to absorb these costs, and not pass them on to consumers. We are in a long-lasting economic crisis here in Canada, plus the huge Baby Boomer generation has just started to retire (I am one). Many

Boomers will soon be living in drastically reduced economic circumstances.

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Like

 *Marcel de la Gorgendiere* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think local tv is important for its news.there is a difference between local tv and the local paper. One needs both. As long as the CRTC protects cable from competition in a local market they should have to carry the local service and pay enough for it to make it viable. The CRTC has access to all the financial information and should be able to decided who is getting enough money from the public. We are paying enough in my opinion that the cable or sattellite carriers can eat the cost.If the carriers are allowed to raise fees then I will have to consider what bunle to drop .

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Nasir Khan* ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV TAX? No way. Please CTV and local Tv companies to pull the plug. We dont want to watch "Desperate Housewives". Come on give me a break, where is the Local Tv here. Desperate housewives? I dont if local TV pull the plug and build there own network and come back to us and then sell their so called Local Tv. We'll buy it if needed or whoever needs it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Ray* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My current cable monthly bill is already at the tipping point for cancellation for the quality of programming I am getting. An added fee for local programming will result in my cancelling my cable service. The fee pie is big enough. Cable providers and local TV have to figure out how to divide what is already there. If they cannot figure it out themselves then the CRTC should figure it out for them.

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Like

 *max orion* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't get any local stations over my satellite subscription, so why should I pay extra? I would be ready to pay more to support canadian produced tv programs if there were not any channel substitution.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *stephenb2* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Bell,Telus bills are far to high right now. CRTC should force them to lower their fees. I will not pay to watch the local TV stations When i can Watch them for nothing without cable. Gouging the consumer.Poorly run businesses the local TV stations if they need money from the public. Tell the management to take a pay cut or close some stations down. CRTC should allow more competition in the cable business also.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jay P* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the local tv is currently available over the air to anyone for free why would we have to pay for it just because we are getting it through our cable / satellite provider? Considering the fact that these local channels that are, so they say, starving for money, why are they spending so much money to purchase so many US tv programs? A nice cash grab for companies that are suffering like everyone else during this recession. Why do we need to bail them out too?

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Like



saugaking ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will cancel my cable services.

Why does the Canadian public always have to suffer by paying more taxes?

Is it not the Cable Provider or Local Stations job to have TV programming funded through Television Commercials and other Advertising.

I have a solution:

Canadian Corporations should create Television Commercials for their businesses and pay the Television stations to have their commercials paid for? That way everybody wins. The businesses can benefit from the exposure, the TV stations get their money and the Canadian Public can enjoy Local Programming AND advertising from our Local companies instead of watching the same commercials from Rogers and Bell all day long. Not to mention this may encourage Canadians to support Canadian companies and help out our Economy.

Asking the Canadian Public to pay a TV tax, is a slap in the face considering that many Canadians have lost their jobs this year. Not to mention, Rogers will be laying off another 900 employees.

Who wants to pay another Tax?

Right after this letter, i need to hop onto another website to petition paying the Harmonized Sales Tax.

So needless to say, if I need to pay another \$10/month to watch tv, you bet I will be canceling my TV Services.

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Like



Tony Chug ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not in favour of paying any fee on top of my cable fees for local TV programming. Local TV signals are FREE, therefore, cable companies should provide these FREE of charge. If cable companies are asked by local TV operators to pay fees, they should absorb this additional cost because the basic package they provide to their customers really are OVERPRICED. If cable companies are TRULY NOT FINANCIALLY BENEFITTING FROM FREE TV SIGNALS, then they should provide a FREE BASIC PACKAGE that is made available to anyone who connects his/her TV directly to the analog cable connection, without any requirement to any subscription.

The cable market is an OLIGOPOLY and the industry providers have ABUSEDLY TAKEN ADVANTAGE of the consumers with the NEGLECT of the government agency meant to protect the consumers.

It is a sad state of Canadian consumerism. The same holds true for telephone service --- landlines and wireless and for internet. Double the fees Americans pay, yet we think Canadians are smarter???

[Flag](#)

Like



David McCann ★ [1 month ago](#)

Question 1; I would be EXTREMELY UNHAPPY as this is just another cost passed on, why does the government process always look on the consumer as the gift that keeps on giving?

Question2; There should be nothing done to support local television and let the marketplace decide survival. Again why do you think that there is an endless supply of money out there?

[Flag](#)

 Like *Trancend* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would expect to see a significant reduction in the number of commercials if the price for programming is passed on to the consumer. Also, regardless of who is paying, please regulate the volume levels these commercials intrude at! I do not consider re-branded US programming local. I do not consider US programming good and Hollywood does not provide this at reasonable pricing. Perhaps we should consider more overseas content without the high US price tag. News is a broadcasters obligation. If they can't do that much, then they should not be granted a license to broadcast in Canada. Give it so someone that can do the job with a business model that works. Give the consumer the right to choose. If I dont want to receive locals on Cable or Sat, then that should be permitted.

[Flag](#) Like *johnmilic* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. The importance of local TV is minor. As for paying for local TV. I dont think that anyone should be forced to pay for if they do not want the channel. And considering, having cable with a bill of 64 dollars a month already for cable, the whole industry, cable companies and networks are complaining for money, when they both already make alot.

2. Local TV should be supported by the amount of consumers that want it. I would not be willing to pay to support it.

[Flag](#) Like *Roger BC* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Please define what you consider is local TV

[Flag](#) Like *Dave* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my satellite subscription at the end of my term. Why, because, firstly it is costs increase that we cannot afford. Secondly, it is a tax to pay for a company that should not be in business, if it needs to be subsidized, it would be unjust and socially irresponsible to make us pay for such a thing.

Local television has to be able to stand on its own feet, from its own revenue sources, times are changing, and they need to be allowed to go out of business just like any other local service that cannot survive without a tax payers subsidy. If we start subsidizing them, then where does this stop?

[Flag](#) Like *Stephen S.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If forced, I would likely cancel my service too. Why would I pay for that which I can receive at no charge off-the-air with an antenna? Watching commercials is the "payment" I make to broadcast TV for the enjoyment of their programs.

Failing that, in return for broadcasters' rights to charge for local TV on cable and satellite, I would expect a reciprocal right to opt out of receiving and paying for these same signals, as with any other cable offering.

2. In this interconnected world of satellite TV, internet, YouTube, etc., the role of (and need for) local TV is greatly diminished. Local papers and radio can cover local news. Anything else can be picked up from the major centres. Let's face it, they're recycling popular American TV shows and some Canadian productions. These are not local dependent, and the reach of cable and

satellite actually expands the audience for these shows (and no, I'm not a shill for the cablecos.)

As a final thought, I have satellite TV. I have often suggested to friends with their own businesses to advertise on NTV out of St. John's. On some of the most popular shows, they are still airing music videos during commercial breaks presumably because they can't sell the airtime. With the national reach of satellite, one can reach a national audience through a smaller market station without paying the rates of a Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver.

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Like



Clint Buhr, Vernon ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that cable stations are making sufficient profits to pay for local signals which I also believe the cable stations should have to provide. I do not think additional costs should be passed onto the customers as I believe that the cable signals we pay for already provide more than a decent profit to the cable companies and therefore they should assume this additional moderate cost.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ted ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Clint Buhr, Vernon](#) 1 person liked this.

Cable and Satellite company profits should have nothing to do with this discussion.

If you go to a Deli for a sandwich, the Deli pays Company 'A' for Tomatos and get Lettuce included in the price. Now the Tomato industry is suffering, they decide to start charging for Lettuce.

How can Company 'A' or the gov't force this Deli to absorb this cost and not raise their prices for said sandwich???

[Flag](#)

Like



garfmarf ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable costs are too high but only because o the forced channel situation. There should be no extra charge imposed on the customer nor should the cable companies be forced to swallow it. Simply allow the customer to choose the channels they wish to purchase if the networks insist on sharing in more revenue. I think they will back off this position quickly.

[Flag](#)

Like



geminimichael ★ [1 month ago](#)

Perhaps the CRTC has outlived its usefulness and should quit mandating what we, the Canadian public, are allowed to watch.

If I HAD to pay for local TV then I would have to cancel cable and rely on over the air TV or illegal US satelite TV.

Of course I'd probably write my local MP and question why our elected government allowed the non-elected CRTC to (1) tax me without representation and (2) dictate how my television viewing habits.

I think every Canadian should be contacting their MP and let the government know that we are not prepared for another tax grap to bail out commercial television networks.

ALTERNATIVES: Allow Canadian networks to charge a fee for carriage BUT make Canadian network television OPTIONAL. Viewers then could drop all the Canadian networks if they choose to do so. I have a funny feeling that making Canadian network TV optional would result in less revenue for the networks.

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Like



TV Watcher ★ [1 month ago](#)

This new fee is unacceptable. The cable/satellite companies are not required to provide fees to the broadcasters for two reasons: first, the channels are available for free over the air and second, the cable companies are required to carry them. The broadcasters have overpaid for these local stations and, because they are engaged in competition with each other, they are overpaying for their U.S. programming. We should not be forced to pay a fee because these broadcasters have proven themselves unable to run their businesses competently. The solutions are to let these stations fail if they're going to fail so they will be bought by new businesses better suited to run them efficiently. Or impose the fee but give every cable/satellite customer the option of not receiving them and not paying for them. The loss of viewers and reduction in ad rates caused by the mass exodus of subscribers would be far more devastating to the broadcasters than the undeserved increase in revenue they would receive from the fees. Both of these solutions are in keeping with the principles of a free market. Owning a television station is not a guarantee to make a profit. Profit is earned through prudent management of your company.

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Like



max orion ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't get any local tv station over my satellite subscription, so why should I pay more for a service which is already too expensive?

If the hundreds of millions spent on US programs would be spent on producing quality canadian programming instead, then I'm sure we can compete with the USA on a equal footing for what we want to watch.

Channel substitution should be stopped, carrying US made programs does not promote our culture or our film/program industry.

[Flag](#)

Like



Doug Derouin ★ [1 month ago](#)

NO I do want to pay for local TV. If local TV needs coin they should raise the rate they charge for advertising. The fact that the sheer number of people who get to see the local Channel far outside the normal over the air broadcast markets means they can charge more and probably are failing to do so.

As far as measures to help the locals. Well in my Home town Brandon where we lost CKX the coin-- the 100 million or so that is part and partial yearly of the current buy local money pot should have helped the single station markets from the grass roots up. The mandate to go digital should have meant in Brandons case a chunk of coin directly going to the single station(not networks that take a huge cut off the top) to buy the equipment. This Brandon station if it had gone digital-- could have made it. The possibilities re broadcasting digital are endless Net broadcasts for starters that can do a work around both cable and sat!!

In the end if local stations want to be paid then package it and sell it to the highest bidder. Cable and sat are nothing but glorified broadcast antennas/towers. They simply know how to package and sell and make money off all the money they put into the hardware. The locals have a in many locals want the product.

[Flag](#)

Like



JonF ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I'd cancel my cable. I have no desire to watch 'local' stations. If they can't make a business of surviving off of ad revenue like other tv stations, their licences should be given over to a group that can.

They are *already* subsidized by the CRTC requirements to air 'Canadian content', as well as

many other indirect government subsidies and protectionist laws.

2) None above and beyond what are already present. It is ridiculous to expect Rogers or Bell to have to *pay* these stations for the privilege of delivering content, that if offered a la carte, wouldn't have any subscribers. Add to this the fact that local stations got by for years giving away their content over the air, and getting by on ad revenue.

That said, it would be fair to *require* Rogers/Bell to carry the stations. That cost shouldn't be passed onto the consumer there. There's a duopoly of media providers. Any cost Rogers/Bell incurred by carrying these local stations should be considered in light of the fact they have a practical monopoly on media distribution. Quite frankly, they can suck it up.

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Like



Ppaatt ★ [1 month ago](#)

If viewers are made to pay (through higher cable or satellite subscription fees) for local broadcast channels, then we should have the right not to subscribe to the ones we don't want. Support local television by increasing the requirements for local news and programming and Canadian content.

[Flag](#)

Like



A. Nony Moose ★ [1 month ago](#)

There's no legitimate reason to pay extra for local TV.

How the business model workis is this: Your local station broadcasts a signal to everyone within their broadcast range for free. To meet their financial needs, they sell advertising spots during their broadcasts. Your cable company takes the broadcast signal and provides it to more people and at a higher quality than the normal broadcast signal for no extra cost to the broadcaster. The cable company pays for this service given to the broadcasters via your monthly bill. And by providing this service, it allows the broadcasters to command that much more money in advertising. Capitalism in action.

Now, if the broadcasters broke the model by allowing their expenses to consistently exceed their costs, well that's not the fault of the cable companies, or of you or me. What reasonable person would conclude that financial mismanagement entitles you access to someone elses's bank account? And if broadcasters really want to change the model, are they then going to give the cable providers a cut of advertising revenue? I mean, that's only fair, right? And the broadcasters are just seeking fairness, right?

Also, just curious: if CTV is allowed to 'withhold' their service (which is just a simulcast of the American feeds with Canadian ads inserted), does that mean we would get to watch a American feed like we did in the 80's and earlier? That might be pretty good; we won't have to watch those Local TV Matters spots that are taking up so much of the space broadcasters could be selling to advertisers.

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Like



DR ★ [1 month ago](#)

I currently pay over \$80/month for my cable fees. This is a package that includes little more than the basic cable. This amount, as is, is exorbitant and offensive given the quality of the programming on television.

Even a suggestion that an additional fee should be levied to my bill is insulting. This is a blatant money grab by the TV stations which will alienate, further, an already strapped consumer.

In a free market economy, the price and business survivorship is dictated by laws of supply & demand. TV stations fully know that they would never be able to compete on these terms, because very few want what they have to offer.

But even if there are some, here is a compromise: let those who support the idea of extra fees for local TV programming pay for it and black it out for the rest of us who don't want it. Give the

consumer a choice in the matter.

Also, I support some of the prior comments: If an extra fee is levied I would cancel cable and get my news from the Internet and my entertainment from Blockbuster.

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Like



Chris S ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy. I don't rely on local TV stations for information because it has been traditionally very low in quality. They are simply delivering viewers to their commercial clients at as low a cost as possible. The local product is grudgingly produced only to the minimum level that is required to satisfy licence obligations.

[Flag](#)

Like



peekabo0 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since I have switched to OTA, this is a mute point for me. However if I was still a TV subscriber, I would at least cut back my services to the minimum!

[Flag](#)

Like



Mark M ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Hello. I believe that local TV channels should be able to charge its services to cable & satellite providers *only* if those providers are not forced to air that content in the first place. Forcing Cable & Satellite providers to air certain canadian stations is incompatible with asking them to pay more for it!

2.

I believe that subsidies payed by the tax payer are OK to support local news channels. If we want to push Canadian content, the cost should be shared by everybody (as oppose to content providers who are being forced to provide the service).

While I fully support public financing and promotion of canadian content, I strongly oppose CRTC regulations that ultimately limits consumer selection by forcing content regulations on providers and creating barriers to entry for competition.

[Flag](#)

Like



melissa1982 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think basic cable is too expensive and not enough choice. we are forced to have too much local and canadian content. I only watch CTV for the news and I would be content with the information with online news and news papers. if we have to pay more then they should make darn sure the channels cannot be picked up by black market satellite/antennas. I will cancel if i have to pay more. I want to choose what i have

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Like



DR ★ [1 month ago](#)

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But even if there are some, here is a compromise: let those who support the idea of extra fees for local TV programming pay for it and black it out for the rest of us who don't want it. Give the consumer a choice in the matter.

Also, I support some of the prior comments: If an extra fee is levied I would cancel cable and get my news from the Internet and my entertainment from Blockbuster.

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 *Jim* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would assume that cable and satellite services kick back some their subscription fees (or ad revenue) back to the local stations already.

I would like the choice to have the local station or not. If the cable and satellite services charged me extra for it then I better hope they are giving a large chunk of that revenue to the local TV station.

Mandate that cable and satellite services give the access for a CRTC set fee to the Local station and make sure that at least 70% of the cable and satellite services fees for carrying that local station go back to the local station. I would tend to think the cable and satellite services mandate fee should be capped at 10 cents a month per subscriber.

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Like

 *barry* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is currently no local TV in the area where I live and I do not want to pay for local TV for some other city's local programming. If the local population want a station, let the community rally around it and support it themselves, such as CHCH TV in Hamilton Ontario did.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Walter* ★ [1 month ago](#)

if local TV cannot stand on it's own two feet with the revenues they generate from advertising then they should fold. i see no reason why my money should go to support them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *omar_tahir* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not want to pay more for local TV on top of what is already paid as I feel local TV is good enough as it is now. I am assuming that the status quo is sustainable.

If it is not sustainable and we are somehow at risk of losing local TV, only then would consider paying extra as it is a valuable and necessary service. But only if its absolutely necessary to maintain what we already have today.

I also do "feel" as if cable and satellite companies make use of the limited competition environment in Canada and squeeze unreasonable profits out of consumers. So if they absorb any necessary costs instead of the consumer, that would "feel" fair to me. But I haven't done any research into hard numbers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *barry* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like

 *zwolfe* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be totally unwilling to pay for local TV. Personally, I do not watch a lot of "regular" TV, and prefer the Rogers HD lineup I subscribe to of sports, movies, and On Demand. I already pay for 60% of channels I don't watch, and combined with my high speed internet fees, my monthly bill is hefty. I would prefer that cable and satellite were forced to allow consumers to choose which channels they want, without bundling local or other unwanted channels in. I am not interested in any measures to support local TV. It's really just a fond memory that people hang on to (i.e. Regional Contact, no offense). If people were able to choose to receive that content, and it's subscribers aren't ample support along with ad revenue et al, then too bad, everyone else has to sink or swim, and it's time Canadians said no to bailing out flailing industries with our hard earned tax dollars.

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Like

 *Nando Fernandes* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We, the viewing public, should not have to pay more for TV programs regardless of whom carries whom. As it is we pay too much already. And besides, it is not as if TV programs are not full of commercials.

Secondly, viewers should be able to choose individual channels, from any provider, and pay for them individually as opposed to being 'bundled' (scammed).

I do quite a bit of travelling and see that in Canada only a few things are more expensive than in other comparable western democracies. One of those things is the price of TV programming of course (others are mobile phone plans, beer, women's haircuts, dry cleaning and clothes).

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Like

 *darylberry* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television and radio have been making money through advertisements since they began. I think that this should continue as their ONLY source of income.

I believe that only the government is allowed to impose taxes. Am I wrong?

This whole argument between the cable companies and TV is a disgusting display of greed and nothing more. I do not want the CRTC to allow the cost of cable to increase by ten dollars, or even a penny.

Please tell both parties to grow up. This greedy little ploy, as I have already stated, is disgusting. The point was worth repeating.

I strongly urge the CRTC to stand up for the average Canadians who can't afford more fingers dipping into their near empty wallets.

Thank you.

[Flag](#)

Like

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Like

 *Gary Stoutenburg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The only way I would consider paying extra for local television is if I had the choice to have it removed if I did not want to pay for it. Just as I have this choice right now with other subscription channels.

I can't understand the TV networks point. They already have preferential treatment on cable systems already and because of this have a far larger distribution than they would otherwise.

[Flag](#) [Stephen S.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If forced, I would likely cancel my service too. Why would I pay for that which I can receive at no charge off-the-air with an antenna? Watching commercials is the "payment" I make to broadcast TV for the enjoyment of their programs.

Failing that, in return for broadcasters' rights to charge for local TV on cable and satellite, I would expect a reciprocal right to opt out of receiving and paying for these same signals, as with any other cable offering.

2. In this interconnected world of satellite TV, internet, YouTube, etc., the role of (and need for) local TV is greatly diminished. Local papers and radio can cover local news. Anything else can be picked up from the major centres. Let's face it, they're recycling popular American TV shows and some Canadian productions. These are not local dependent, and the reach of cable and satellite actually expands the audience for these shows (and no, I'm not a shill for the cablecos.)

As a final thought, I have satellite TV. I have often suggested to friends with their own businesses to advertise on NTV out of St. John's. On some of the most popular shows, they are still airing music videos during commercial breaks presumably because they can't sell the airtime. With the national reach of satellite, one can reach a national audience through a smaller market station without paying the rates of a Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver.

[Flag](#) [RG](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the CBC should take over all local tv since the big Broadcasters can't afford it. we already have gov't money going to our public station maybe they should get more .Also maybe local stations need to transmit their signal better so people don't have to get basic cable as an antenna.Maybe the cable industry should charge the broadcasters a carrying fee and those funds can help keep the average joes bill down .On second thought to hell with the networks I think I'll just download my favorite shows off the net and watch what I want when I want

[Flag](#) [Grampa john](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think we should have to pay more for our local TV. Forien content (including USA) should be at a "fee for service" Our Canadian culture is being Americanized by all the american programing.

[Flag](#) [Gary Stoutenburg](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The only way I would consider paying extra for local television is if I had the choice to have it removed if I did not want to pay for it. Just as I have this choice right now with other subscription channels.

I can't understand the TV networks point. They already have preferential treatment on cable systems already and because of this have a far larger distribution than they would otherwise.

[Flag](#) [V Valente](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would only pay for local TV if the cable packages were not packages, if I could choose exactly what channels to get.

Since I know the above is utopia, I would not pay an extra cent.

Would cancel my cable service and wait until fibre to the home becomes available...oops wait a minute that's not available until....another utopian thought!

2. Local television has become irrelevant, the only programs worth watching are the local newscasts, however that information can be attained in so many different ways, national TV with good Canadian content is sufficient.

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W_W ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would look for any means available to reduce the cost of my bill. Forcing me to carry channels I do not watch and then charging me more for them is one of the most foolish ideas I've heard in some time.

If you allow local stations to charge a fee, then you better ensure customers can pick and choose ONLY the channels they want. Do away with the bloated channel groupings that do little more than subsidize substandard broadcasting.

2. They can live and die by the same means US stations do, by coming up with good programming. Why subsidize a dying industry? I'm sure the CRTC will find a way to force Canadian ads over US signals anyway, so some fat exec will still have his finger in the pie regardless.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ted ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television in the St. John's, NL area consists of programming under the CBC flag; the NTV flag (private company); Rogers Cable and for a few households, Bell Aliant digital TV (I don't even want to go into Bell's service history with my telephones at this point). CBC already uses my money since it is publically funded. Rogers already uses my money since I pay handsomely for their limited product and NTV comes up third in quality (however, it is a private company and I want the right to say whether I agree to pay some private company for local programs). I pay a high charge to Rogers and am at their mercy whenever they decide to increase their fee structure (I have yet to hear that the CRTC ever refused a rate increase - and I mean \$0.00 - not a reduced amount from the inflated rate request in the first place). Our household has already decided that if we are required to pay an extra fee for local programing (or any other diabolically devised scheme to suck more of my hard-earned money into its endless vacuum), we simply cannot afford to do so and we will definitely cancel any and all cable services. I think that we have reached the limit. Incidentally, our household spends more time on the Internet (and we pay handsomely for that privilege too). Maybe it is time to revert back to the old rabbit ears and pick up a couple of stations for free (although I am sure that benefit will soon be scrambled with digital becoming the only party in town).

Further, cable/TV suppliers should not be allowed to package a number of useless or at best, specialized channels - call it basic TV and then charge through the roof for the 'real' channels that Canadians actually want. I believe that I should have right to choose ALL of my channels - perhaps I could make do with 6 or 7 (which is perhaps all we watch in our home anyway). When I go to the supermarket I am not forced to buy several packages of cereal when I only want corn flakes.

The cost of basic TV is getting like new automobiles - out of the reach of the poorer population.

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Peter ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Not an issue anymore since I cancelled my Rogers service last month. The "repeat rate" for most shows is way too high. I'll save over \$600 each year; that'll cover the cost of my DSL internet service and a CPU upgrade each and every year! The few shows that I watch are available online. As for the CBC, I must admit, they're website is amongst the best. The short 20 second commercials that precede each broadcast certainly beat the 5+ minute adverts that I

once endured on cable. I'm using "digital bunny ears" now ... FREE ... sweet!

2. I think that the local TV stations should abandon the cable carriers altogether. The real future resides in cyber space anyway. CBC's website is pretty good. I suspect that most local stations will be doing similar things in the next few years.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rick Beardsley ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is about choice for me. If I have to pay, I want to be able to select the channels I pay for. Global is not a local channel for me and I do not want to pay for it, for example.

[Flag](#)

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Kelly ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am very much against paying ANYTHING for extra channels. I am already paying enough. I think if the decision is made to give the networks anything then as consumers we should either be able to A) opt out of those channels or B) have some sort of ability to cancel our services without penalty (for those of us who are under contracts with cable providers)

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larrylau ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) Local TV is not important to me and I do not support a new local TV fee. I would be upset and angry and revert to free over the air broadcasts to receive American programming carried on Canadian Broadcasters if a new fee was introduced.

2) No measures should be taken to support local TV. It's a free market and they should live or die according to advertising revenue, not new fees

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Like



dave ★ [1 month ago](#)

1 probably get satellite

2 change to digital now for a better signal

[Flag](#)

Like



Al B ★ [1 month ago](#)

The recession has hit all media, not just television, and as a print journalist, I am completely opposed to the idea of paying more to help electronic media operations survive.

[Flag](#)

Like



michaelhenry ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm opposed to extra fees for local TV channels as part of my cable package. Most modern TVs are switchable between air (antenna) and cable therefore it is not inconvenient for me to switch between the two sources. I would prefer the choice of excluding local TV channels from my cable package and receiving my local programming via antenna. Why should I be forced to pay extra for something that I can obtain for free?

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David Harris ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I had to pay for local TV as part of a cable or satellite television package, this would not concern me. I already pay for such services. If Rogers (my provider of choice) had to raise the fee for the basic package to include an additional fee for the local broadcast stations it

re-packages and re-transmits to me, I probably wouldn't even notice.

My bet is that they would just eat the cost out of their (healthy) profit margins.

I would be less happy if there was a special mandatory surcharge for local TV. I would much rather have a complete choice of which channels I wanted to pay for, rather than packaged deals. (That way I could, in fact, pay for all the local TV I watch [most of my TV watching in fact], and avoid paying for the rest of the crap Rogers forces on me.)

I believe this sort of arrangement should be sufficient support for the current crop of local TV stations. Otherwise I believe a BBC-style funding model would be acceptable if the current local TV stations either couldn't make due with direct revenues, or we felt more choice was needed. (I would strongly be in favour of this, and wouldn't think twice about spending \$150CAD/yr for BBC-quality programming.)

Thanks,

Dave

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[Like](#)



[ron](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I've read but a few of the comments here, but I'm sure many are suggesting that local TV be taken out of the basic package and offered as an option. If the option allowed subscribers their pick of local stations, I'd go for that, because one is all I'd need for the local news.

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[MM](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Go ahead and charge all you want for anything you want. I could care less. I have no tv, I have all the entertainment I want on the internet. All you people that are bitching about 10 more dollars a month, If you don't like it, cancel it, that's what I did!! Until you hit them where it hurts, they're going to charge you whatever they want so either suck it up and pay or cancel your service. And another thing, why is it you have to watch commercials on something your paying 70-100 bucks a month for. Think about it. Its all a rip off!!

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[mrobertsa](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not support local television if it meant paying more for my cable bill. Local news/television is already readily available on the internet, so paying extra for it seems absurd.

[Flag](#)

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[Brian Biggings](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no way I should have to pay for any tv containing commercial advertising. I believe that cable/satellite companies should pay the broadcasters but subscribers should have the option to opt out of receiving them. Those of us in southern Ontario get superior digital reception off air.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[avshook](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

It all comes down to quality of programming. If local commercial television stations want to increase revenue, they will have to sell more advertising time for more money. In order to do that, they will have to produce programming that more viewers want to watch. If broadcasters produce shows that the public demands to watch, they can charge as much as they want for

advertising time. Any subsidy for local television station only promotes poor quality programming.

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 [JBLee](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is completely irrelevant. As Canadians, we pay more than any other developed country for cable and internet; asking me to pay more for the "privilege" of watching local television is akin to asking me to pay to be stopped by the police for speeding.

There is absolutely no need for us to support local television. Like any other service provider that exists in the Open market (a concept it seems CRTC is not comfortable with) today, if they cannot support themselves, they should be allowed to close.

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 [stephano112](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I for one dont want to pay more for channels that i dont have a choice in having. I dont even watch local tv yet in every package I am forced to have it. Why should I pay more for what I dont care about.

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 [David Fremantle](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

For years the local TV stations were very profitable. Now, for the first time in many years, these stations find it necessary to economize. Those that do so will survive. As for the others, let them die. If the stations bleated less and cut overhead more they would have no problem. It is bad enough we have had to bail out GM and Chrysler, now let's stop feeding corporate welfare bums. I have one FINAL comment. What these stations want is discriminatory. They want to TAX those with satellite dishes or cable subscriptions, but they won't touch any consumer still trying to access their signals with an old-fashioned antenna.

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 [brian_in_kelowna](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to David Fremantle](#)

why are you repeating what you already said?

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 [John Watt](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am opposed to any increase in my cable fees. My wife and I live on a fixed income and strongly object to paying my taxes to support private TV companies. Our cable fees are already inflated enough by our having to purchase programming that the CRTC have forced me to support, enough is enough.

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Like

 [David Fremantle](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 Like*mrobertsa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would absolutely not be willing to pay more for "Local Television" especially when news, and other programs of interest are readily available via the internet.

[Flag](#) Like*Frank* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Paying for free channels makes no sense. I don't know why the local channels agreed to it initially. Now, that it doesn't work for them they want us to pay for the channels. Forget it. Paying for Cable, Internet, Cell Phone and telephone already costs a fortune. Now pay for free tv? What really makes me scratch my head is the cable companies own some of the local free channels. How much do these guys want? Not to mention many of the programs on cable get bumped over to the free tv channels so they don't have to pay for another program to put on the air. It seems like I watch the same program several times a night, because one of the media outlets happens to own a few cable channels and a few local channels. It amounts to me channel surfing trying to find something to watch, but it's all the same. How does that offer the consumer more choice? I bought into the idea of paying for channels that had to be developed early on when new cable stations began to expand. Now it seems all these channels get a piece of the pie and more dum channels are being created every day. Why doesn't the CRTC reclaim that money that is used to subsidize the start cable channels and give it to the local channels. Then consumers wouldn't have to pay more and we wouldn't be inundated with more dum cable channels that have content that is of no interest to anyone.

[Flag](#) Like*SCF* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadians have some of the worst cell phone services and the worst television services and it's the CRTC to blame. Let the market resolve these issues. Let consumers decide. Stop trying to regulate these things. If Canadians want to pay for local TV, let them decide in an open market place, don't bundle it in their cable bills, giving them no say in the matter.

[Flag](#) Like*brentwilliams* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a customer of Shaw Direct Satellite I would have to say over the past 30 years the product they are providing has increased much more in cost than it has in quality but as a citizen of this country I have to admit it is like most everything we are charged more for less and if we do not like it we can leave it which is quite likely what we will do.

[Flag](#) Like*fromyk* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I don't think there should be an extra charge for viewing local channels on cable. Why not just share the extra add revenue that is already generated as a result of being on the cable system
2. Local television is certainly an important part of information and news gathering on a local level. But perhaps if the local stations would make an effort to become a little more efficient they would not need any more support. I am from Winnipeg and there is this competition to hire the "best" from the competitor. Well, I don't know if the price that is being paid for the "best" is really the answer.

Also, to help support local television, perhaps if the local broadcasters would be less tempted to go away from the "entertainment" part of reporting they might get more viewers. I really do not see the use of making a show out of news. Let's get back to the basics and give us the news without all the fluff. Could it be that we would actually be able to hear/see more news this way?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[Ryan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm against any new TV charges/taxes as I feel that:

- 1.) If local TV is truly important to Canadians, they will choose to watch. More viewers = more ad revenue.
- 2.) TV Networks (Global, CTV, etc) have choose to run there business with Ad's revenues since the beginning of TV. As this is a recession, everyone (including TV Network) should learn to cut back there business if profitability is an issue.

If the CRTC decides to allow TV Networks to charge a TV Tax for local programming, we, as consumers, should be allowed to opt-out from any programming that we do not wish to pay for. This would be a fair trade off.

I find my local programming in Calgary as to be of little to no value.

Ryan

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I do think that the cable companys should pay a small amount but it should come from their profits not the consumer.Canwest Globle dug their own hole by expanding too fast and the other stations only play American shows. There is not much choice on the west coast when it comes to TV. Cable is a monopoly and they also own part of the satilite service too. With the cable company's bundles with internet and home phone the price is hard to beat. But like I said there is really no other choice..

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[RB Armstrong](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

There should be no TV Tax !!!

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1. Local television is of little importance to me. This is because these so-called 'local channels' normally have two to three newscasts totalling maybe four or five hours of 'local' content, and the rest of the time these channels broadcast American shows, be it talk shows, dramas or movies. This is not creating local content, this is simply regurgitating American content. Also, over the air local television was made free in the first place because they could support their services through advertisements. Instead of cable providers doing the correct thing and paying the local channels from their pockets, they insist that consumers pay for something they receive for free!

2. I don't know, but local television has to change from simple rebroadcasting of American shows to actually showing Canadian and local content, other then just the news.

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If asked to pay more for television service, I would cancel my service and fire up a US satellite dish. That, said, local television certainly deserves to be compensated by the cable/satellite providers for the content they provide, but Canadians already pay ridiculously high rates for cable and satellite TV, so we're already paying for local stations. The cable and satellite companies just aren't forwarding that money to the content providers. Why are our rates so

high? Because we're under the thumb of a virtual monopoly, and because YOU, the CRTC force them to show Canadian content, and with very few exceptions, Canadian content means "some terrible programme nobody wants to watch".

I'm not really saying anything that hasn't already been said here, so I'm just writing to agree with people who've said that enough is enough. We already pay too much, but we want our local news. The CRTC needs to step back and deregulate Canadian TV, encourage service provider competition via new providers, remove the mandatory Canadian content rules, and let local channels provide the shows that people want to see.

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 [bobmccully](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local tv news is important. perhaps they could drop some of the garbage channels and add local instead. Personally I am in favour of open skies policy, let the USA stations compete on even ground and let the best winner survive. Most of what we want to watch is US produced anyway. Do away with protectionist policies.

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 [Barrie Woodey](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The large companies bought up all the local stations, and gutted them. My local station only actually produces 2 newscasts a day, 90 minutes of programming week days and 60 minutes on weekends. They do not cover live local sports, high school, or semiprofessional, only providing the result and a 30 second clip on the NEWS. The results are available on the local radio stations or in the daily newspaper in more detail. They do not produce any entertainment, thus employing local actors and musicians, their entire "programming" is what is fed to them by their owner network. As a matter of fact Rogers local channel carries local sports, has discussion programmes, the arts, cooking, and provides some multicultural programming, and is for all intents and purposes a "local" signal. I feel that we should not "bail" out CTV and Global, who have over stretched themselves the same as the automotive companies, and actually employ a lot less people. The loss of "local" news would be covered by local radio and newspapers and would probably reach more people. World events are covered now by BBC news, CNN, and the CTV and CBC news programmes, which are carried as a basic service by the cable companies. I do not want to get into the cost of cable, which I think is high, with all the add-ons for system access and boxes for "digital", HD etc. I do feel that the customer should be able to buy the programming that they want or the service should offer smaller "specialised packages", that may fit not only the customers budget, but their viewing desires.

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 [levendis](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV was free when it was delivered via antennae and loads of ad revenue was available. It should continue to follow that model and be CREATIVE. I would not support an increase in pricing. If local TV should fail, something or somebody will replace it. As it stands, I can stream most anything from the internet to my MAC and then deliver content directly to my TV. I can access local news and other programming via web interfaces on either a computer or my iPhone. Let them compete or perish

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 [T in AB](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

While i don't have cable right this moment, I have and will again at some point I'm sure. I feel cable companies should not be carrying a service free, when they pay for the other channels we get. They all advertise pretty much, so why should this be different.

That said, I'm tired of paying insane prices for cable, and we need more competition. bring in some more satellite companies... the big dogs have been bought up by the small ones too long, it's time they had some real competition.

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 *Guy C.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. TV commercials interrupted by insipid programming. I would drop my cable subscription in a heartbeat if this idiotic "tax" idea is approved by the CRTC.

2. The big networks, who now own most local TV stations, are already trying to drop local programming. Costs too much, they say. What's to support?

This cash cow is about to run dry...

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 *Guy C.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 *Jon* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would just watch TV online.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *crtccomments* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it depends on how you define 'local TV'. If it's a little one town unaffiliated station then I'm not sure. I probably don't watch the station except for things like elections where you might want to hear from your local candidates. Or if I feel like watching news about my home town. Beyond that if they can't figure out a way to survive as a business then oh well. I wouldn't agree to paying to help subsidise a business.

If you define local tv as the affiliated station of a network in a large centre then definitely not. Perhaps 'local' stations could be supported by how many stations are in their network. If they're a small town unaffiliated broadcaster maybe their license fees could be very small. As their network grows then they pay more in relation to how many stations they have in their network...not just multiplied by how many stations they have.

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 *JG* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. We already pay too much for cable. CRTC should open the cable market to other cable companies such as DirectTV and Dish to promote competition and lower rates

2. Local programming is lousy - the local news can be heard on radio, newspapers. If advertising doesn't support it - ELIMINATE it.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *horemans* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV? in Mississauga? There is no station housed in, or reporting in Mississauga. Rarely the "local" Toronto stations acknowledge the existence of Mississauga.

How can I support something that does not exist? or expect me to pay for Toronto centric "local" reporting?

I am racking my brains to try to remember the last Mississauga coverage I have seen... maybe coverage of an event at the Toronto International Centre, housed near the airport in Mississauga??

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Like



Jon McBride ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies are doing these useless Canadian broadcasters a favour by delivering their signals across the land. Plus they have to carry out simsubs for them because the likes of CTV and Global can't come up with their own shows. They don't deserve a penny more for thier mismanaged ways!

[Flag](#)

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eastwester ★ [1 month ago](#)

Well, I'm only a taxpayer. I don't really know what I think, or what I'm supposed to think..... Could the CBC perhaps run a series of special informative documentaries on the subject so I could better be instructed on how I'm supposed to think about these issues. I need guidance here, and direction. (At taxpayer's expense, of course)

I do know that, in the end, it's imperitive that we don't place any undue burdens on any corporate stakeholders, in these tough times, we must not in any way take any actions that might adversely affect any segment of the economy. The economy is important, even more important than our health or our families.....I know this is true, I saw it on TV.

Also, we must insure that all unionized government employees involved in the regulation of this crucial sector are not faced with the possibility of any threat to their job security or pension benefits. These devoted public servants have sacrificed, in some cases for years, in order to insure that we citizens receive only the highest quality of the programming that they decide we should watch on TV. I'm willing to lay down my life, and the lives of my children if required, to show my deep appreciation of the dedicated, selfless services these wonderful people provide for us all.

Will my taxes need to be increased? Will my cable rates rise? Will the services I receive in return decline? Probably the answer to all these questions is, "Of course they will. I'll pay more, I'll get less."..... But that's ok. The freedom to sit in front of my TV and watch what I'm told to watch is a privalage that I cannot expect to come cheaply. I want local TV and I want my cable service..... and I want my fellow citizens to have them also..... If I gotta live in cardboard box in order to be able to afford it, I'll make that sacrifice, like I'm sure we all would. I'm willing to pay any price whatsoever to hold onto these treasured parts of our national identity.

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Dave M ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that we are already paying enough for cable. Also indirectly through using the advertisers, we are paying for local TV, the cable companies in essence are asking us to pay three time for the same service, once through advertising, once through regular access fees and again through the proposed Local TV fund.

On the other hand the local stations must be truly local, not repackaged national or network rebroadcast. In south western Ontario this seems to be the case with the local station only providing very minimal local coverage with the majority of the news being repackaged programming. As an example high school sports is seldom covered and it seems to only be one or two schools that get the coverage.

Local TV is very important if it truly provides a service to the community. Without the locally produced programming it is no longer local TV.

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[crtccomments](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Wendell M](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would likely cancel my Satellite service (Shaw Direct) which doesn't even include our local CBC news, which is appalling considering what I pay for their service.

2. Local Television has stopped being local television years ago, which is why local advertising doesn't support it anymore. Local television needs to return to it's roots and stop trying to be the American broadcaster. Why should I give local Television more of my hard earned dollars, so they can Simsub more of the American network shows? I don't think so.

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[georgepapadapolis](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

the crtc allowed the networks to take over local tv, ultimately giving them a oligopoly on programming. the networks are doing exactly what oligopolists do. they collude together to squeeze the consumer.

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[Bruce Thornhill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

On the one hand, local networks are lined up cap-in-hand asking for money from the cable companies because they can't make a go of it on their own...

Then in the next breath, companies like CTV take a highly valuable franchise such as the Grey Cup and transmit it only on their cable specialty channel. Why should we even entertain the thought of subsidising local channels when the networks are deliberately starving them of high value advertising opportunities, not to mention depriving millions of Canadians of the biggest game of the CFL season. (i.e. the 10% of us that choose to use an antenna because it offers the highest quality of HD programming)

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Dave Trautman ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Bruce Thornhill](#)

I could not have said that any better.

[Flag](#)

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Fed Up ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have basic cable and I counted 14 channels that I can get with an antenna. Why am I forced to pay for something that I can receive for free. Also, why is there no choice in the channel line up for basic cable. I have Rogers and I'd say 1/2 dozen of the channels are owned by Rogers. I agree with the other posters, please allow us to choose what channels we pay for without being forced into an overly expensive Rogers VIP package. FYI, the Grey Cup was broadcast on TSN which isn't part of the Rogers basic cable plan or available via an antenna. Why isn't the CRTC standing up for Canadians and making sure the Grey Cup is accessible to all Canadians. Since when are shopping channel (channels 19 and 21) part of basic cable?

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Randy ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not be pleased having to pay for local TV. Local TV is broadcast for free to anyone who can receive it. It's free. Period. But there is very little I can do about any forced payment, because I have to pay the bill if I want to have the satellite (or cable) channels that I do want. There's no opt-out. But I would resent it, and I would contact my MP, PM, and other officials to get it repealed. I can get my local TV signal from the rabbit-ears anyway. Why should I pay extra to get the same thing on satellite (or cable)? I'm already paying for the satellite (or cable) service itself, which adds value by providing a clear signal. If I have to pay, there should be no ads. If I have to pay, it shouldn't be the same show as 20 other channels. If I have to pay, it should not be mostly re-broadcasts of US shows I already get on US channels, or other foreign shows. Frankly, I almost never watch either of the local channels in my city. They aren't worth having at all. If it comes to it, I can probably watch the important stuff online anyway. And that is as it should be.

2. I strongly feel that local television is an obsolete concept. There is not enough local content to support a station, and there never has been. The only thing I think it's reasonable to pay for is a combined channel that contains 20-minute newscasts from local news-gatherers around the country, and broadcasts them all day and night. For example purposes, in Eastern time, 6:00 AM/PM might be Ottawa, 6:20 AM/PM might be assigned to Toronto, and 6:40 AM/PM might be London/Windsor, 7:00 AM/PM might be Barrie, etc. The point is to record it and watch at your convenience. Ideally, I'd like to see this style of local news network created by CTV and CBC, to replace their local channels. Then I'd like them to create East and West channels (like HBO Canada) for their national content. Local broadcasting should go away, replaced by the 20-minute news. They already cannot afford the switch to digital that the US has completed. And the digital switch mostly results in fewer channels because the signals are harder to receive and require total clarity. It's a step into the past. The future is online, satellite, and cable. Not air.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



James Fram ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am only interested in local news. And I believe it is self sustainable. Local advertisers will buy spots. And no, I do not wish to pay more for local broadcasting.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



TM ★ [1 month ago](#)

I canceled cable a long time ago because it was too expensive for not very much content. I know you get hundreds of channels, but there really isn't that much on and the commercials are out of control... I'm not going to pay through the roof to be marketed to... The only way I would consider signing up for cable again is if I could choose my exact channel package, I'd have about 10-15 channels that I want and that would be perfect. I will not pay for 500 channels of

garbage, especially when you can now pull in high quality digital TV channels with a good antennae...

[Flag](#)

Like

 [1700nomad](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

we already pay too much for television in this country just like we pay too much for internet and cellular phone service so.....yes i am against paying yet another fee on top of what i already pay

if the networks are really in financial trouble it is because they fell for all this convergence b.s. and or do not really know how to run a business (leonard asper)

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Like

 [Gary](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) In the beginning, it was local tv that 'made' cable because it was the starting point. Local tv gave for years and watched everything grow, but them. Profits are already there for cable, etc. If they just pass it on and not absorb it, I will cancel cable.

2) Support the people by regulating excessive profits.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [ed_c5](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The broadcasters should be treated like any other business. During good economic times, the broadcasters spent large sums of money to gain the rights to US shows and try to take a larger share of the pie from their competitors. Now that the economy is in the middle of a downturn, the broadcasters are paying financially for their aggressive business strategies. If the proposed fee is levied on the service providers, 100% of the fee will be passed on to the consumer from day 1. The system access fee for cellular phone service is a perfect example of the service providers finding ways to have the consumers pay for a CRTC mandated fee.

I am very concerned by the fact that the broadcasters are unwilling to disclose how the proposed fee would be used to maintain local TV service. There is the very likely prospect that they will simply use the fee to help with their financial results.

I do not think consumers should have to pay for local programming especially when the signal is available free over the air. Those who have chosen to use over the air antennas would continue to receive the signal free while cable and satellite consumers who already pay monthly fees would be penalized for being a paying customer.

It is very likely that those consumers who currently support the broadcasters in their "save local TV" campaign have no idea what kind of increases they could expect on their monthly bills.

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Like

 [jennifer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel if Rogers and the other companies that use local television station signals can charge us the customer for it, then Rogers and the other companies should take some of the money they charge me the customer and pay for the signal they take for free now. UNDER no circumstance EVER should Rogers and other cable companies should be allowed to charge me extra money for local stations. I think it would be a shame if all local stations across this country close down because of the pure and unadulterated greed of Rogers and other cable companies be ever allowed to NOT pay for what they use. I use Rogers I am not allowed not to pay for using their service, so why is big business allowed?

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Like

 Gary ★ [1 month ago](#)

- 1 - I would reduce my cable services to maintain the same amount / or lower cost for cable services
- 2 - local TV should be paid for their signal and consumers should have a choice to select exactly what channels they subscribe to for cable and satellite service - no forced bundles

[Flag](#)

Like

 1700nomad ★ [1 month ago](#)

if the networks need more money it is because they fell for all that convergence nonsense and don't really know how to run a business (leonard asper are you listening)
we already pay way too much for television and internet and cellular service

[Flag](#)

Like

 Stella ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I have no intention of subscribing to cable nor can I afford to subscribe to such luxury. Those who are not content with the free programs available from local TV stations and prefer to pay a subscription fee for upgraded television service always have the option to not renew their subscriptions should the cost become prohibitive. It is only fair that a company which charges its customers for services provided should pay its suppliers.

2) If local TV stations are supplying signals to cable companies that are packaging these signals with others and charging subscribers a fee for this service then the local TV stations have a right to share in these revenues. Cable companies should not be permitted to profit on the backs of local TV stations. If cable subscribers cannot afford the fees for cable service they have the right to not renew their subscriptions. Cable is a luxury not a necessity.

[Flag](#)

Like

 colinbrittan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Woodstock Ontario, and do not have a local television station. I would vigorously object to being forced to pay for a 'local' TV station because I do not have one, but you would make me pay for London or Kitchener, neither of which would provide 'local' TV service for Woodstock. If forced to pay, I would reduce my Rogers cable programming by an equivalent amount as an appropriate way of objecting to this additional cost.

So called 'local' television is, like all Canadian industry and commerce, suffering from a downturn in the world economy. For decades, local TV was perfectly profitable returning more than a fair share of profits to it's owners. Now times are tough, and they want me to pay because their advertising revenues have declined. And they will want me to keep paying when their ad revenues recover. What you give today you will never be able to take back tomorrow.

'Local' TV needs a new business plan.

Don't make me pay for what I do not have anyway!

[Flag](#)

Like

 Evan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I cannot believe how ludicrous this is. you are hitting fixed income Canadians harder than ever and the service and content are crap

more than one third of the time is advertising already and these stations can not make ends meet without sticking their hands further into consumers pockets than the taxman.

Get rid of regulation entirely and let the US providers take a crack

At least the US has affordable TV

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Like



Rick Templeman ★ [1 month ago](#)

Frankly, I feel the cost of cable television is high. In fact, I pay typically more for cable services per month than I do for energy. My family relies heavily on local television for news, weather and local interest programming. I chose cable over satellite honestly because the satellite did not offer local television.

I feel that the local television stations should be compensated for their programs. I also feel that it should be included in their basic cable channels with no additional charge to the user. I find that the cable packages offer duplicate programming. There would appear to be no real reason the consumer cannot choose which channels they want in any case. My provider offers some choices, however, when you call to change the programming, they ultimately sell you packages, as the cost is less expensive, and I find myself compromising on the channels due to the cost.

There seems to be an erosion of Canadian content these days. There are so many more choices from foreign programs. It would be a shame to become Americanized so readily. While much of the local stations' programs are indeed American themselves, the local features are very useful and, in my opinion, necessary. The CRTC should support these stations, and ensure they receive an income from the cable stations similar to what they would pay a competing station. I feel the cable providers are showing a fine profit and it wouldn't hurt so much to have them spend a little of that to support their community and customers.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rob C ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable TV fees are expensive and I personally think that we as consumers should have the ability to pick and choose which TV Stations we would like to have access to instead of having the cable companies bundling TV channels together where most of the channels are not what we want.

Broadcasters has always had the opportunity to generate revenues via advertisers and now advertising revenues are either cut back or starting to be spend in different media such as online.

If Broadcasters are granted the extra fee, we as consumers should not be punished by having to pay additional fees to subsidize Broadcasters. Cable companies are making a lot off of the general public and they should have to pay the broadcasters to air their services over the cable lines.

If fees are to be collected then let the consumers select which channels they are willing to pay for which can then be split between the Broadcasters and Cable companies. Also I would like to see the simulcast of TV shows to remain the same so we do not get behind the US with TV shows only to find out the outcome of a show via the internet or other media sources.

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Like



Anthony2009 ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV varies depending on where you live in this Country. If you are in Toronto it could mean CFTO, CITY TV Toronto, CBLT, TVO. To others living in Edmonton it could mean CFRN, CITY TV Edmonton, Global TV Edmonton, KSPS. We all pay for a "Basic Package" that started from Channels 2 - 13 in the old days and subsequently expanded. These were over the air broadcasts. Something that could be picked up with an antenna. The premise of local TV is the delivery of basic and pertinent information to Canadian in a efficient and effective manner. In fact, this was the basis for the formation of the CBC. It is every Canadian's right for information that is pertinent to their lives delivered to them without sacrifice and compromise. To be fair and equal to Canadians, how can you offer as part of a basic package television stations to a greater populous; meanwhile offering an ultimatum that you either pay extra to see your local TV station in Kitchener or we shut you down? Adding an extra charge for "local TV" is not the

answer since outside of a subscriber's jurisdiction everything is "not local".

2. The support of local television stations has to be taken from a pro-rata basis of population. Starting with the total subscriber base (Cable and Satellite population) and the respective subscribers in each region defines the pro-rata share of the basic cable revenue for local viewers. If costs must be shared, revenues must also be shared between the more populous areas and the less populous area to keep local interests alive. The reduction of local television stations should only be the result of an amalgamation of two or more stations that will continue to serve the total population of the amalgamated stations. i.e., if CHCH and Global TV Toronto were to amalgamate, the amalgamated station must carry local Hamilton news alongside Toronto news. In addition the program plan must carry a pro-rata share of Hamilton programming along side Toronto programming.

The alternative is the elimination of the "basic package". In its place is an a la carte system where "local television" stations are purchased selectively by the subscriber.

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Like



[Dave Trautman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Anthony2009](#)

I like your logic.

Just a quibble. KSPS is not a local station in Edmonton. It's from PBS in the U.S.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Ian](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. With the advance of internet, how Canadian receive information has changed substantially. Local TV plays a less and less important role as an avenue for community communication and information than before. As such, it is understandable that they are challenged. It is best leave it to the market place to determine the survival of local TV's. 2. If Canadian TV networks wants to charge for their signal, Canadian consumers should have the choice of NOT paying for them. They should not mandatory for carriage on cable / satellite systems. 3. I will not consider paying for Canadian network TV programs.

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[CCCC](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be willing to pay extra for local TV. A TV station - like any other private business - must make it's profits on sales of it's product or service. Just because the economic conditions today have resulted in decreased advertising revenues for these local stations does not mean we as consumers should pay what could be viewed as another tax to provide a form of corporate welfare to these failing broadcasters.

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[Craig P Windsor](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would feel betrayed by the CRTC. My understanding is that the CRTC was established to protect media that was Canadian in content. Local TV not only promotes Canadian content but also creates it with local news. As a resident of a border city, my choices for a news source are great and varied. However, what I want every day is my local newspaper in the morning and my local TV news program at night.

Clearly, the CRTC has an obligation to insist that the Cable/Satellite providers enter into negotiations with local TV Stations.

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[Brian Fredericks](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already pay for local TV, My provider required me to subscribe to "the Locals" before they would sell me any other channels. Now the cable/satellite providers are trying to call "the Locals" an access fee, If thats what it is, That's how it should have been presented, not as subscribing to "the Locals" so again, We are already paying for local TV - not even sure why we are discussing this.

2. Broadcasters need to re-think how they do local TV. They put all their effort into Local News. Local News is THE most expensive local programming to produce. It requires tons of equipment and staff! Plus only about 15-20 minutes of a 60 minute show is actually local, the rest is syndicated National and world reports, the same thing on every channel! So in the CTV/A case, let the local stations do a half hour on local news/weather/sports, then produce one National/world newscast that runs on all channels(may need some regulatory changes in order to do this). After all we all trust Lloyd!

This could save the local stations money plus with money from the LPIF or from fee for carriage, they could get back to producing, local kids shows, local talk shows, local events(ie parades etc.) things of interest to the local communities. There is so much more happening in our communities other than car crashes and fires!

Flag

Like



Hratland ★ 1 month ago

I live in Whitehorse, Yukon and right now only have one company that provides cable service to me that is Northwestel. They are a sub company of Bell Canada so stations like CBC, and CTV are included in basic cable right now and as far as I'm concerned our cable bill is high enough. If they are told that they have to start paying for those "Local Stations" all they will do is recoup their costs by raising my television bill. So I say no to that extra charge, and I would show that in canceling my cable service.

As for supporting local television where do they get the money now? If they get it from advertising and such which would be based off of how many viewers they can say will see the advertisement, but their viewers keep going down that tells me that they can not provide the types of shows we like to watch. So why would I want to pay for programming I don't watch?

Flag

Like



Susan O ★ 1 month ago

Canadians have reasons to be concerned. Not only do satellite and cable companies want to preserve their "free-ride" by not paying a cent for the use of local TV programming, but they want customers to pay more for local signals they are already paying for as part of the basic service. The CRTC should take action to protect Canadians from double-billing and regulate the rate for basic service. That will ensure affordable television for consumers and a sustainable model for the TV industry.

Flag

Like



markradowicki ★ 1 month ago

who cares about local tv--they mismanage their money and funnel millions for us programming--no buy out by government and no more fees from customers--if you can pay Cam Wolley a quarter of a million dollars to be a safety announcer on CP24 then you sure the hell don't need more public funding--when is this insanity going to stop--they go under then let it be so they suck anyway--mark radowicki ayr ontario

Flag

Like



melsey ★ 1 month ago

1. I thought I was already paying for local TV as a basic package. I do like to get my local news however I do not want to pay for it on Television I will get it elsewhere if I need to. I do feel that my satellite costs me too much money already for what I am receiving. I'm forced to have duplicate channels so that I can watch my stations in HD. I feel that Television should be a more affordable service for the content and entertainment we get from our homes. The reason I

feel this is I do not have a choice but to pay for basic programming on top of HD which provides the very same channels. The packages that are available are set up so that you cannot pay for just the channels you want. Some are not available without the package. and the ones you can purchase as individual channels are too much \$\$\$. I purchased HD televisions and receivers and in order to use them I pay again and again through Bell each month for many stations I do not even watch.

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Like



Al and family ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not wish to be charged more for my satellite television. If the local broadcasters cannot make a go of it then they should close down. I understand that they are paying millions for certain television rights and then they claim that they are not making enough money on the local television. I can do without local television.

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Like



Joel ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local TV stations are able to charge for carriage on cable and satellite services, then it should be up to the cable and satellite services whether to:

- a) offer the channel at all
- b) allow customers to unsubscribe to the channel and not pay for it.

I do not watch any local TV stations as I don't find any value in their programming. I would not choose to subscribe to the local TV stations if I didn't have to. The fact that for the most part local TV stations simply resell American television shows provides no value to me. I can subscribe to the American station and get a higher quality experience (picture & sound).

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Like



Ted ★ [1 month ago](#)

When we pay for television through our cable the assumption is that the money goes to fund the products we receive, as well as the distributor (cable) company. However, that this is not universally true disturbs me. That the cable companies have been able to exploit local television and consumers this way unchecked is horrific.

The government needs to act, allow local TV stations to negotiate compensation for their work. It is also critical that the consumer side needs to be addressed. Currently prices are high, and the cable companies threaten to raise prices more if they cannot get local signals for free. Either the government needs to regulate the cable companies or take a hard look at the competition to see if free market principles are actually in effect.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ron D ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I think local TV is essential but as far as I'm concerned, I already pay for it under the fees I pay for "basic cable". I don't think I should have to pay more for local channels when I already pay almost \$100/month for cable.

2. The cable companies should be responsible for paying for the services they retransmit and they can easily do this from the "basic cable" fees they charge their customers. I was always under the impression that was what I was paying for under "basic cable".

[Flag](#)

Like



Viewer ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should be available for free to everyone. Cable or satellite should not be billing the

customers for them.

I would cancel my services and listen to the Radio, they have better programs anyway.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave Trautman ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Viewer](#)

Local TV is available for free. Just not a very clear 'over the air' signal.

[Flag](#)

Like



Patrica ★ [1 month ago](#)

I hope the CRTC will step in to "stop the Bleeding" of the barely surviving as it is consumer. We can choose not to have cable service at all. If enough people rally together and cancel their service, another negative impact on the economy would take hold. We the People all agree that our local news and current events are just as important as global events, and we cannot again be told to "PAY " more to continue to receive this content.

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Like



The Wizard ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Our family budget is now stretched to the limit. We recently reviewed our bill for cable services and managed to reduce somewhat. Any increase in fees will have to be offset by further reduction in services, as I cannot afford to pay more money..We hardly watch any local TV and fail to see the logic that we will have to pay for these stations. The cable TV operators are making very large profits, for distributing TV signals. Make them pay, cause one thing for sure is I WILL NOT PAY ANY MORE.

[Flag](#)

Like



Stephen B ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is a no brainer. The cable company is charging me for channels they're not paying for themselves. That's not right and it needs to stop. I'm also insulted by the cable company's misleading ad campaign, trying to muddle the facts and save themselves. Fair is fair.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave Trautman ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Stephen B](#)

So who is going to pay for the wire? The clear signal I get from the wire. Who paid for that? Who maintains it? Who keeps my signal clear?

Local TV is on cable because it increases the potential audience for Local TV and is mandated in a Cable operator's license. I subscribe to the wire. Arguments about what's on the wire aside I don't think my cable operator is getting something for nothing. Someone had to put in the wires. And I'm paying for them. I'm using THEIR wires. Kinda like the phone company. If only there was a meter I could invent which measured what I watched. Then it would be a real pay-per-view situation.

Local TV has been hollowed out by the networks and now they want us to let them charge a fee for it. Hardly a fair business proposition to me.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tono ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations are a public service, whereas cable and satellite companies are corporations looking for ways to get high paycheques. These companies should be definitely charged by local

stations for carrying programs.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave Trautman ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Tono](#)

Local TV has never been a public service. In my city local TV has been a great source of 'printing money' until the networks came calling.

[Flag](#)

Like



vicshaw ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have to agree, cable and satellite tv costs way too much. And there's too many channels in the basic packages that people don't want, that only drive up the cost of the basic package. Cable is much cheaper in the US and almost every channel is available in HD and is not compressed as much as our companies compress them. We want lower rates and more HD!

[Flag](#)

Like



Peter ★ [1 month ago](#)

I realize that it is a dog-eat-dog world, and everyone is out for their own; but this is getting ridiculous. Consumers are already being charged for local television, and the cable companies are pocketing every cent of it. Unfair doesn't even begin to describe a cable price hike for the consumers when the cost of cable is already four times the cost of living.

[Flag](#)

Like



Travis ★ [1 month ago](#)

How can Cable and Satellite basically steal local programming and charge us the consumer 4 times the rate of inflation? It just doesn't make any sense?

[Flag](#)

Like



MrMcGoo ★ [1 month ago](#)

"Cable and satellite companies do not currently pay a fee for local TV signals and must distribute them as part of their basic service."

I can appreciate the logic of requiring the Cable and satellite companies to provide local TV signals to permit the stations to reach a wider audience than would otherwise not receive a clear signal (i.e. direction apartment faces, building construction obstacles and distance to transmitter), but to ask the consumer to pay more on top of the currently HIGH cost of cable would be asking too much for some. Basic Cable with Shaw (my provider) is currently \$35.95 + tax and to ask anymore would be robbery so why not force the cable/telephone/satellite companies to provide just local stations at the cost of programming for the stations and then add \$5 for distributing the signal. This should total no more than \$15/month and that would be more reasonable for people who are on a tight budget.

[Flag](#)

Like



OTA ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies are not helping any province by charging more fees. Companies need to learn to stop being greedy with the excuse that they want to protect themselves. Cable is clearly ripping off all the communities.

[Flag](#)

Like



MichaelvdB ★ 1 month ago

1.) Since I live in Chatham, ON, I don't have the liberty of "local TV." Even when A Channel London and Windsor were available, I still did not get "local TV" because it was usually 99% from those regions. If I was asked to pay for a service that I would not benefit from, I would reduce my 6 months of Shaw Direct per year to ZERO. Other then the fact that there are other ways to use my time, TV in general has become meaningless. Canadian channels that use up all their time slots showing American programming and throwing in the "Canadian" news, sports, weather, and odd Canadian show does not convince me of the need to support local programming. If I want local news, I listen to the radio. If I want national news I look to the internet.

2.) No measures should be taken to support local TV. If it can't support itself, then it fails. Channels should be available by a-la-carte programming only and each channel should have the chance to survive under that. No extra money, no bail-outs...just a sound business model.

[Flag](#)

Like



Damean Ravichandra ★ 1 month ago

1) I enjoy local TV. Its specific, current, community-based, accessible, and the programmers, staff, and reporters are easy to communicate with. Would I want to preserve it? Yes. Would I want to preserve it on top of costs that I have no way of tracing, such as my cable bill? NO. If I had my choice, I'd pay for the local stations I support, maybe with a SMALL premium to whatever national or provincial umbrella they fall under, but thats it. Like some others have said, the bundles that are formed for us when ordering cable packages are stupid, and do not always contain every channel I'd choose to watch.

2) Change the pricing structure on a channel-by-channel basis. First, run a community-wide poll (door-to-door, phone calls, newspaper inserts with free postage, whatever it takes) and see what channels people like, and in what order. With that knowledge in hand, streamline local TV offerings in package-free pricing, or packaging that allows completely free selection of channels.

And have local TV stations plan their finances better, either under or out of their umbrellas.

[Flag](#)

Like



walsh_w ★ 1 month ago

Most countries have monthly license fees charged to support television programming. Unfortunately, most of the local programming is through government controlled broadcasters. Without license fees for programming, most local or regional programming would not be developed. Being a broadcaster, receiving income for broadcasting is an issue as advertising oppertunities are few are far between and very few financial institutions will loan funds to broadcasters.

I support television license fees provided that the fees are dispersed across the broadcasting spectrum to both over the air and speciality / cable broadcasters. Canadian content is important and has a place in the international market, this of course can only be done if the finance is available.

[Flag](#)

Like



Will C ★ 1 month ago

1.) As cable service in my area seems to start at around \$35 a month for "basic" I would not be willing to pay more for local content. Local news and perspective is greatly appreciated but the rising cost of television service (especially combined with internet and telephone services which are nearly essential now) is already a burden.

2.) Local television could be supported through a tax on carriers (a percentage of the advertising they are allowed to insert into american broadcasts for example) however they must not be allowed to increase bills because of it. Or it could be supported through arts and culture funding. If we had any.

[Flag](#)

 Like*Reg Stewart* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Because of the amount I already pay for cable tv, adding a tax on top of it may be the final straw and make me go back to the antenna. Two people at work have already gone that way and though both miss some of the sports channels they are happy with the HD quality and are getting along fine. The only problem one is having is not being able to pick up all the Canadian stations anymore but getting more US ones to replace them.

[Flag](#) Like*lindami* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would also cancel my shaw direct tv. As it is now we pay way to much for so little. I think the cable and satellite companies should give a portion of their high fees they charge us to the local tv stations.

[Flag](#) Like*Mark* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is a major issue in this entire discussion which seems to be overlooked by everyone involved. Two of the very largest (and most profitable) carriers are also owners of LOCAL television stations. BCE owns a stake in CTV, and Rogers owns the CityTV stations, amongst others. CTV, Bell and Rogers are THE major drum-beaters in this entire debate. How is it possible that we are even having this discussion? Are we really having a national debate in which the owners of local television stations are arguing with themselves in public about how much money they get from consumers? Please!? Why are the CRTC and Competition Bureau not stepping in and requiring the full public disclosure of these cross-ownership interests as part of this debate? Why are we as taxpayers and consumers even being asked to fund this exercise in systematic corporate greed and abuse of process? It is absolutely sickening to sit and watch executives of CTV and Bell argue against each other in a public hearing, knowing (yet not being required to disclose) that at the end of the day they represent the exact same corporate entity. The private shareholders of these companies are laughing at us.

[Flag](#) Like*paulmoffatt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that local TV stations are whining to much. Although I agree that it is harder for them to raise money through advertising, they are really looking stupid, trying to make Cable and Satellite providers seem like the villains. Life changed for them, not for the distributors of their product. It seems to me they are being unfairly confrontational. They are trying to bully the CRTC, and the distribution system, to getting their way. They need to grow up.

My suggestion would be for the local channels to get back to basics. In the past we had a lot of independent local channels. Then, Global started buying them up. Now they are starting to divest again. CHCH, and CHEK are better channels again.

Finally, the CBC is in the fight? Give me a break. The most heavily subsidized stations are looking for more money? It just stinks.

[Flag](#) Like*Ronald in Ottawa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

When television first became available to the public, there were very few commercials, and the stations were able to operate. Then the number of commercials kept increasing to the point where cablevision was offered to us. We were told if we paid for cablevision, there would be no commercials because the money we paid for cablevision would support it. After a while cablevision said they weren't getting enough money and they would have to go back on their

word and introduce a few commercials to break even. Soon there were so many commercials on cable that we were told if we paid extra for specialty channels, then there would be no commercials on them. Now most specialty channels have lots of commercials which add to their revenue, but that is still not enough for cable and satellite. Now we are paying the LPIF and, in addition, we are being asked to pay even more for local TV stations who want more money. The "powers that be" must think that we are either lacking in intelligence, or that we have a very short memory. I have had enough of this manipulation and deceit. The cable and satellite companies can find some other sucker to pay good money for watching commercials all day.

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Like



AI R ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations earn income from advertisers. If cable/satellite companies retransmit these ads, the advertiser benefits. And so should the local channel, which should include in their advertising fee the entire audience watching the program, whether it is direct from them or through another service.

Our cable costs are too high already, and we already get about 80% useless channels. We don't need another fee hike.

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Like



Matthew Harris ★ [1 month ago](#)

Currently "local" tv is barely that. While I appreciate the local news provided by these channels, they appear to be horribly underfunded or staffed. Local news is filled more and more with puff pieces on local businesses rather than the issues and is rapidly losing relevance. Networks are not doing a good job and I'm at a loss as to what I'd really be supporting.

Honestly, where is the money in truly local television? This does not seem to be an area best served, or even adequately served by the current providers. The best avenue for this would in my mind be placing that money back into the CBC to fund or reestablish their local offices and stations with a firm understanding that these are done for the good of Canadians, not for profit. Even a public-private partnership between the CBC and the networks to create local programming would be better.

I do not support funding the current local TV situation as I give it a failing grade in most non-metropolitan areas of Canada.

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Like



woodsebear ★ [1 month ago](#)

I like the local coverage. I think cable should offer separate package for local tv only and able to opt out

[Flag](#)

Like



StanL ★ [1 month ago](#)

The networks already have enough money to support local television in even the smallest markets. Of course, they would have to spend less money on American programming to accomplish this so I can understand their reluctance. It is easier to beg Father CRTC for more money than budget responsibly.

If the CRTC was serious they would limit the amount available to spend on foreign programming to a percentage of revenue.

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Like



Catherine ★ [1 month ago](#)

Having to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay is wrong if the local TV stations are not receiving a portion of that money.

If cable companies expect monies for local TV stations, then at least 65 % of those monies should be sent to the local channels.

Flag

Like



John Scott ★ 1 month ago

1. I would prefer a transparent fee structure that supported my local TV stations first, and a package that did not deluge me with hundreds of channels I never watch but which clearly pay Shaw Cable a lot of money to carry them. I would not object to a flat fee add-on to basic service to cover local tv, but think that the cable company has already made millions off being a monopoly in my cable area. The old rabbit ears and antenna were mine, not theirs. We are captive now.

2. I think the local TV stations, including the CBC and CTV and Global, need to be supported as Cancon on the remote. We have a bizarre situation, unique in the world, of sharing a language with a country that produces massive amounts of product 24hrs a day for TV. We are swamped with the stuff, and without support and protection from the CRTC, we will lose our cultural and mental independence. It is not a problem in Europe, where language protects Croatia, for example. But we are at the outfall of a vast city, cabled into homes at all the wrong times - we on the west coast need a TV station that respects local time, and does not broadcast porn and violence at children's hour, as eastern US stations do on cable. Local TV in my time zone would protect and educate and inform Canadians of all ages. CBC is our version of PBS, and I could live on just those two channels, almost.

Local TV stations should be paid by the Cable monopolies as a basic start, and by carrying their signals they ensure a local audience for all the other stuff they sell. It may be necessary to charge a fee with each new TV sold or a licence fee as they do in Europe. But the fees we pay cable companies should include a portion for the Canadian local industry, to be remitted by them monthly. Stable funding...

Flag

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N.M.N. ★ 1 month ago

1) Thinking about the importance of local TV to you, how would you react, and why, if you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services?

I would react negatively to being asked to pay more for local TV content. I would be very angry if I was forced to pay for local TV (such as something akin to the TV license fee found in Britain.)

Broadcast television is an endangered species that essentially knows that its time is nearly come and gone, to be replaced likely within five years by Video On Demand and independent news gathering sources. If these companies were permitted to start sucking at the government teat as it were, what will happen in five years when their entire industry finds themselves completely extinct? Will we bail them out again? Why should we invest in something we know is going to fail?

2)In your view, what measures, if any, could be taken to support local television?

None. And we shouldn't try either. This is a business, perhaps not as small as the local cafe down the street, but a business nonetheless.

Flag

Like



Don S ★ 1 month ago

Why the need to pay more? It strikes me the cable & satellite providers have been free-loading on local TV for years, making a profit in part on signal for which they never paid. If radio stations played music tracks and didn't pay the royalties, there would be trouble. Why is cable different?

Make cable companies pay for local signal. And let them charge for it accordingly. But do not bundle these with any other services. Let consumers choose which, if any, local channels they

want.

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[johndstrang](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already PAY for basic Cable. I always thought Evil Videotron kicked some of this back to Local stations. I can't seem to get any useful signal from local stations over the airwaves (rabbit ears or otherwise) anymore. It should be illegal for cable/satellite companies to charge for free content. Aside from that, I don't see what difference it makes whether I get a free local channel over an antenna or cable connection. I'm just about fed up enough to ditch all TV providers entirely and take up golf (I hate golf but not as much as videotron).

[Flag](#)

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[Don S](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why the need to pay more? It strikes me the cable & satellite providers have been free-loading on local TV for years, making a profit in part on signal for which they never paid. If radio stations played music tracks and didn't pay the royalties, there would be trouble. Why is cable different?

Make cable companies pay for local signal. And let them charge for it accordingly. But do not bundle these with any other services. Let consumers choose which, if any, local channels they want.

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[tomsouthon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay an extra cent for local TV. I pay too much for too little as it is right now. If local television is being pushed out perhaps they should ban together and create some kind of Cooperative.

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[R J](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Please don't add more taxes! I already pay an arm and a leg for my cable. If local TV need more money, well, like any private company, they should find ways to deal with it themselves. Why should I pay for it?

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[Dee](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Satellite companies have been relaying local TV without paying fees and have been making RECORD profits over the years. They should be made to pay for same and it should be deemed ILLEGAL AND FRAUDULENT to pass that fee on to the consumer. We are ALREADY paying huge monthly fees for this service !!!!!!! and the profits have been going into the cable and satellite company pockets.....It's time CONSUMERS got a break. Let them take pay cuts like the rest of us and be satisfied with a lower bottom line profit !!!! they certainly WOULDN'T be posting a loss.

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[anonymous123](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable television is already an expense for my household. A local tv tax would mean that each year I'd be spending more on top of all my other necessary expenses. In that case, I would choose to cancel all cable packages related to the tax because the HST is already an increase in spending for me, a tv tax may just be too much for my household to afford in the current

economy.

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 *peter b* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already paying for it.
Cable services should be paying for it.

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[Like](#)

 *J Hirst* ★ [1 month ago](#)

It would be very unfair to consumers to add another tax onto already over-priced cable TV.

Local broadcasters have traditionally obtained their revenue through advertisers, and as years go by, advertising seems to occupy an ever-larger percentage of view time. The cable TV companies are already AIDING local broadcasters by distributing their signals (complete with advertisements) to a larger audience.

We don't need more CRTC interference and yet another bailout at the public's expense. If the local broadcasters can not make a profit, then they should not be in the broadcasting business. However, that said, I enjoy local material, and do hope that they can continue to make ends meet.

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 *hansvanginhoven* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that cable companies have had a licence to print money. They flood us with American channels with little meaningful investing in Canadian programming. It would be appropriate to have cable companies share their revenues with the Canadian channels they carry and with those companies that produce Canadian programming. I am not as concerned with preserving local programming as with growing significant Canadian content.

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 *Hooman K* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable TV is already too expensive. Adding an additional fee for local programming, would be tantamount to the forcing me to pay for a service I hardly ever use.

The only local programming I would consider watching the news, and even then when going over my viewing patterns, I would say I only use it once or twice a year since I tend to watch the national newscasts instead.

I therefore am not very sympathetic to a mandatory tax for local programming. It would tantamount to forcing me to pay for a service I don't use while making cable TV even less affordable than it is today.

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 *b woronchak* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be pissed off as hell! Why should I pay a fee for television I don't watch to begin with? If local tv wants viewers, they should can the pap they have been shovelling to Canadians for the last 55 years. I have a brain. Local tv is a waste of my time!

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 *b woronchak* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Support Local TV? Why would I want to do that - I have a library card!

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Like

 *Adam* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cable and satellite services are already gouging us for the services they provide and was amazed to learn that they don't now and haven't in the past paid our local TV stations for the service they then resale to us. I think it is outrageous that they are considering gouging us an additional service they've received free in the past and not only should they pay the local stations and absorb the fees, they should compensate the stations for the past services they received for free all these years.

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 *Dave Trautman* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Adam](#)

Do you think the Cable operators should then charge the TV stations a fee for "using their wire" ? It's free over the air. But not on cable. There's no gouging going on here.

But what compensation would you offer local TV for the cannibalizing of their revenue and the movement of their source of revenue to the networks' specialty channels? Think Grey Cup game. Local TV can't carry it and the CTV network insisted only cable and satellite subscribers were allowed to see it.

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 *16573* ★ [1 month ago](#)

While I rarely watch local TV (CHBC) I would probably pay a minimal fee to have their service in case of emergencies (Kelowna fire). Would like the ability to individually choose which channels I receive rather than in bundles

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Like

 *bob r* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable & satellite folks shouldn't be so greedy. With the fees we already pay, there should be plenty of money to go around. I am sick of paying a fee for specialty channels, only to find them showing infomercials for 4 hours a day. Isn't this form of double dipping? Greedy and arrogant.

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Like

 *alfredf* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If had I had too, I could live without TV period. It's a lifestyle luxury. If the price goes up this option much might become reality for many people. Then the cable companies and TV networks would have less viewers and less income. If Canadians revolt and cancel their services for even 2 or 3 months the whole industry would collapse. Its a lot easier to keep a customer, than regain one.

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 *LittleViewer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The question regarding the support of local television assumes that all local television is worth supporting. One way of determining which stations are worth supporting would be to set a fee and give the consumer the option of selecting or refusing to subscribe to that station. As it is now, the stations have the Product: Shaw has the delivery system: I pay for the Product and the Delivery system. Shaw and the stations are negotiating but I am left out of the equation and yet, I am the one who pays. This is comparable to me going to Safeway and having my cart

arbitrarily filled and then charged a set price. Moreover, from time to time, Safeway would decide what product is available and would dump it in my cart whether I wanted it or not. I have no control over the groceries in the same way, I have no control over what comes down the cable. Yet, I have to pay for someone else's decision. I have some control over Hydro, Terasen, Telus by reducing the use of the product or service but I cannot do that with Cable. Furthermore, my control is further reduced because I am not at the table during negotiations. I can agree to pay for the cable Delivery system in the same way that I agree to pay Terasen for the delivery system. I need control over the product that is delivered. Terasen wouldn't dump more gas than I need so why should Shaw? Shaw needs to come to me and ask whether I want a particular station and if I agree they can ask me to pay. The charge made by the stations should be set by the station and each should be allowed to vary their price so as to set up a competitive market. Don't ask me to pay for something that I did not ask for and don't need or want.

Flag

Like

 *chriscoleman* ★ 1 month ago

I will cancel my Shaw service if any further increases are forthcoming. We are already paying for local TV in the basic cable programs. Cable companies continue to increase fees and provide less service, make arbitrary charges to programming without notice and blame any disruption of service on anybody and anything but themselves.

The large TV networks are poorly run business's but like pigs to the trough will simply try to extract income from where ever rather than fix their in-house problems

Flag

Like

 *Earl* ★ 1 month ago

I pay \$23 for telephone, \$31 for Internet and over \$60 per month for cable. I understand I am getting content but quite frankly cable is reaching the limits to what I can afford on my pension. If cable is forced to carry the local signal then I don't know why they should pay for it. However, why? Why not let local tv charge and cable will have a choice to carry the signal or not. If the product isn't worth paying for then it will die. However, I can't afford another \$10/mo on top of what I pay. It is not worth it when so much is free on the internet.

Flag

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Flag

Like

 *dianluco* ★ 1 month ago

The local stations are entitled to a royalty from any one using their proprietary content. If the cable/satellite companies' cost of service at reasonable rates of return is increased as a result then I have no problem if my cable fees go up by \$5-10 /month.

Tax BS US content like Nancy Grace, Fox news, Larry King and support the quality Canadian point of view.

Flag

Like

 *Blue* ★ 1 month ago

We have satellite TV and as such do NOT have access to our local TV station. Much has been

made of the profits of both the cable, and satellite industry, and local TV (meaning CTV, etc.) My questions are: Why is it acceptable for either of the cable and satellite companies to have such obscenely large profits and then claim they can't afford to absorb the cost of paying for local TV?

Why can't the profitable local TV help the non-profitable stations, to a certain degree, of course? Why can't both sides contribute to a larger established fund to help defray the costs of this particular matter?

In the economy of today, posting such tremendously large profits show us just how greedy companies are. Attempting to pass these costs onto the consumer is obscene, in my view. No matter how it is portrayed in the media, as always, the consumer is the one who gets the hit, directly in their pocket book. It's time that these money grubbing companies were forced to play fair and start absorbing some of the cost of providing local TV to the consumer, and to not be allowed to pass that expense along to the innocent consumer. We need stricter regulations with regards to pricing and hiking rates. Eventually we Canadians will not be able to afford even the basic packages provided. As it is now I pay an average of \$115.00 per month for the satellite package I have subscribed to, but I am in the process of scaling back in order to save some money.

To make this matter even more repugnant, executives are getting their bonuses, and that is just unacceptable. Cut the bonuses and absorb the cost that way. As consumers, we are the ones who are footing the bill for these ridiculously large bonuses, and why should we if we are also going to have to foot the bill for this particular matter.

Maybe we should just all drop our support of TV all together and go back to listening to the radio. After all, it's not like there is much on anymore that is worth watching.

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Like

 [dianluco](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

No problem with \$5-10 / month.

Local television should get a significant royalty from cable/satellite for using their content.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [kevin.d](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why aren't the Cable Companies paying for local programming? I cannot understand why this issue has not been resolved. It is simply unfair to pay my cable bill including these channels and find out that the Cable Companies get local signals for FREE! Now you want to charge me \$10.00 more on my bill to compensate the TV NETworks. I do not agree with this and will find other methods to get my programming. Please do not do this.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Trevor](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. The only importance to me of local TV is local news. If told I would have to pay a premium to watch local TV. I would hope I could Opt out of having them on my service. Of course I am aware that is never going to happen, as such I believe I would have to cancel My Service as it is already too expensive for what we receive.

2. I believe Local TV get's its Revenue from Advertizing. If they are not making enough money to bring in all those American shows perhaps they should drop them. Of course that would cause no one to watch, advertising too drop, and the demize of local TV.

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Like

 [dscott](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Any charge to cable and satellite will obviously be passed on to the consumer. TV stations have been making loads of money for years, why all of a sudden are they in financial ruin? Canadian stations need to shift focus away from purchasing American programming and need to instead use that money for local programming as well as developing original Canadian programming.

CRTC also need to regulate and control the costs on TV service provided by Cable and satellite. Companies are making record profits, yet prices seem to keep going up.

Any one more note stop simsubbing. Its not helping anyone.

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Like

 *dscott* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Any one more note stop simsubbing. Its not helping anyone.

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Like

 *concerned consumer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have no problem paying a little more to support local TV the cable companies have been charging insane prices for all their bundles and every HD channel I had to my package seems to cost me more and more. I'm going ot drop allmy HD channels and let the cable companies figure out a way to lower their retarded 129.00 a month fee they charge me. It's absolutly gouging at it's best. Then they complain when the networks want a piece of the pie.

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Like

 *markmiddleton* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have satellite and I already pay 100 dollars per month, and receive what I feel is a very limited selection. There are many channels, but many play the same program at the same time, and there is often not anything that I am interested in. I mainly continue to pay for the service for 3-4 programs per week that I would only receive with the movie network or hbo. If there is going to be a fee for local channels, then the consumer MUST have the option not to receive these channels. I am already overpaying and refuse to pay more.

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Like

 *akm1akm* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not support any additional fee from viewers for local channels. The current fee charged by Rogers has steadily increased with no additional value to viewers. It is a rip-off, paying for channels you don't even watch. Viewres must have a say and a choice

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Like

 *James C* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The idea that the public needs to be asked whether we want to pay extra for local content is beyond absurd. Do we really require a federal body to ask questions with obvious answers? No, I do not want to any more than the \$178 dollars a month my cable provider charges me for TV and internet. While we're at it, I also don't want to be waterboarded; I don't want to be locked in a small room full of violent clowns; and I'd rather skip the whole stomach cancer thing if you don't mind. Anything else you want to know?

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Like

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Like

 *Woodenhead* ★ 1 month ago

Local news is very important. That said, the internet works well for me in that regard. I may pay for it, but it depends on the price. And I want the choice; force it on me, and I will simply cancel my subscription. I can go elsewhere.

Keep in mind that local TV has a different impact on a smaller community than it has on, for example, Toronto. Having lived in a small community within the Toronto broadcast zone, I certainly appreciated having a local TV news source - Toronto news never touched on much locally, in that regard. (just food for thought)

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Like

 *Rob McIntyre* ★ 1 month ago

There is absolutely no reason for me to pay more for local TV !

The cable and satellite companies can easily absorb a reasonable compensation rate and have profited from local television for decades.

If it weren't for local television being on their line-ups I wouldn't have subscribed to their services, nor would I have rented their cable boxes and paid for extra outlets.

The only reason this has become an issue is because the cable companies aren't compelled to absorb these rates in order to compete with other companies.

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Like

 *Barry* ★ 1 month ago

A majority of Canadian content is a joke, so why should have to pay more for it?

Stop subsidizing. Give us an a la carte system and give local content a percentage of money from the stations that carry it. If they can't stay afloat then it's obvious that nobody is interested in their product.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *jameswright* ★ 1 month ago

I subscribe to "off air" local television. The cable and satellite companies are an oligopoly that have, are and will continue to make considerable profits, while contributing very little to Canadian culture. As a consumer of "off air" local television, I would like the CRTC to ensure that local television survives and prospers. It's an important alternative for those of us who refuse to pay for cable or satellite.

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Like

 *KD* ★ 1 month ago

If local tv wants to be on the same platform as specialty channels, then the same rules should

apply consistently. Signal providers have the technology and ability to provide individual channels now and the same logic should apply to ALL channels. Those that wish local TV to be delivered from a cable/sat provider can subscribe to THOSE channels and pay the appropriate fee. This is OPTIONAL on the part of the subscriber. Local TV can set whatever fee they wish and the signal provider simply provides that channel to the viewing public for that fee. Under no circumstances should some channels get special consideration (i.e. mandatory carriage). ALL channels on cable/satellite should be available as individual subscriptions rather than mandatory packages that you must subscribe to (e.g. Basic Service must be obtained before you can get channel specialty xyz).

This way the local TV station gets revenue from the people in their viewing area it provides service to. If they provide poor service, their revenue stream will reflect that; they may even go out of business but that reflects their business decisions and what they provide.

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Like

 *Eva and the Cats* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will not pay an additional fee for local TV. If a local television channel can't generate enough revenue from advertising, then perhaps it should be allowed to fail.

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Like

 *Mike Howarth* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a retiree/pensioner, I would definitely be against any charge for local TV. The current arrangement whereby cable/satellite companies are "required" to distribute local TV signals as part of their basic service seems equitable to me. Market forces should prevail, with unprofitable stations allowed to fail. Perhaps we are "over represented" by local stations chasing scarce advertising dollars? If I were forced to pay extra for local TV, I would cut back on my service package by eliminating a local TV channel if given the option!

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Like

 *ericmartin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If a TV station is available freely over the air (local TV), a cable operator is just a shared antenna and it should not pay a fee to the TV station. A local TV is supposed to live off its advertising. If a cable operator simplifies the access to a local TV, it actually helps the local TV and it increases the value of its advertising.

If the business model of a local TV, based on advertising is not viable anymore, than local TVs should just close. We should not subsidize them.

In general, I would like to see the CRTC interfere less with business models. Except for ensuring service to remote regions, the CRTC should allow more natural competition. I think the CRTC interference is causing the Canadian rates to be higher than rates in other countries.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Les* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In rural Canada, "local television" long ago disappeared to be replaced by programming from cities that dominate the regions. In news programming, the views of rural Canada are not reflected because there is no reporting and no coverage of rural issues from a rural perspective.

There should be no forced payment from consumers designed to support "local programming." In particular, rural Canadians should not be asked to pay for a "benefit" that they do not receive.

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Like



drac ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I am forced to pay the extra ammount for local stations I will cancel my cable tv. I do not watch ANY local stations and only stop to watch CBC once in awhile, and since CBC is already funded from my taxes, I should not be forced to pay more for them.

Unfortunately, I get a strong feeling that no matter how many million Canadians say they will cancel their cable or are angry and upset about this proposed deal, the deal will still go through for the extra money anyway....this is just all smoke and mirrors so the CRTC can say "hey, we asked Canadians what they thought, aren't we great and wonderful" *roll my eyes*

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Like



don griffiths ★ [1 month ago](#)

Paying the local tv stations for their broadcast's seem's reasonable, since they pay for the statiolsn they receive from the satalite company's.
Thier should be a total review of how they distribute the feeds and the pricing of these so called speciality channels that are over and above the basic services.

Living in the country is a hassle just to get a TV signal and the pricing of cable is rediculous. I would not want to pay anymore for local stations as the cable companies are making a fortune now as it is, and that is the problem. all they are concerned about is that bottom line,money. The cable companys are writing the rules and they seem to think that they are above the rules and regulations. 'With this local TV issue, they came back with a statement saying the consumers will pay for it in the end. I find the statement from them, is way of black mailing the consumers into saying "NO" to this payment to local stations.

Make the cable company's pay for the local stations broadcasts and let the cable companies absorb the cost of it. Sounds good ,but the cable companies will just do it another way. Remember, they write the rules.

STOP THEM FROM WRITING THE RULES AND HOLDING THE CONSUMER HOSTAGE, SO TO SPEAK TO GAIN WHAT THEY WANT.

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Like



Ian Wood ★ [1 month ago](#)

The only time I watch kocal TV channel is for local news and even then is not a regular occurance. The rest of the local TV channel programes have no interest to me and are not watched. If you asked me would I pay extra on my cable bill for local TV Channel, my answer is a resounding NO. Cable TV charges are already too high and choices regards selection limited because of package program contents.

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Like



mrpister ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will not pay for local TV. I have put up an antenna to watch the US networks. Canadian television has become a sad joke unfortunately. I am also looking at getting Dish Network or Directv and will cancel my Canadian provider. Enough is enough.

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Like



David Moulton ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is NOT ACCEPTABLE that the CRTC should force me to receive local tv channels, regardless of who the carrier may be. I accept that local channels may be allowed to charge a carrier to deliver that channel, but I do not watch any local channels so I REFUSE to pay for them. I have no use for local channels, so I do not care what sort of support they may get.

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Dave ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Satellite companies need to support the local media outlets first and foremost. This cost should not be tacked on to current over-charging by cable/sat providers.

CRTC - do your job and REGULATE the cable/sat industry, they're robbing us blind and destroying the viability of our local content by freeloading, and charging for it as part of a basic package.

Cable/sat subscription service regulations need an overhaul.

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David Kister ★ [1 month ago](#)

The history of broadcast, radio or TV, is that it has been paid for by advertising, grants, etc., and that one and all are able to receive their signals at no cost. In the early days of cable TV, these same broadcasters welcomed this new re-broadcaster as a means of reaching even more of their audience. None of this has changed. Broadcasters sell their advertising, get grants, etc. to fund their operations and hope that their audience will watch and listen. What has changed is that there is now competition for that same audience from services which originate within cable TV. The traditional broadcasters are losing market share. That is the way markets are supposed to work -- compete openly, win or lose, grow or fall away. Now broadcasters want government regulation via the CRTC to distort that model and force the public, via their cable TV provider, to subsidize their business. Giving broadcasters a mandatory stipend will distort the market, take choice away from consumers, and encourage broadcasters to do even less than they are now to keep themselves relevant. Putting broadcasters on welfare is a mistake that will linger and fester for years to come.

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Local Gary ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would first of all like a definition of "local television". I live in Thomasburg, Ontario. There is no "local television". So, except for the CBC, my local TV is the Canadian networks that spend millions of dollars broadcasting US TV shows at the same time that the US networks have them on. Will I be allowed to get only the US stations and not have to pay for the Canadian networks that show the same shows? How long before the US networks demand that they are paid for the cable/satellite companies carrying them also? Under NAFTA they are probably entitled to the same fees as Canadian stations.

1. I would only agree if I could choose which ones I wanted to pay for.

2. Real "local television", a small station in a small community, is mostly important only to those who work there. They provide, for perhaps an hour a day, local news and weather that is available in a few seconds over the internet at any time. If profitability is an issue then they should negotiate with management to keep their jobs by demanding less in pay and or benefits.

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Jamie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am so sick and tired of being nickel and dimed to no end. I am frustrated with the cable/satellite companies taking advantage of every opportunity to increase the monthly fees. They will stop at nothing.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



johncramer ★ [1 month ago](#)

My basic satellite package already covers local channels. We are forced to take channels that I

have no interest in. The government doesn't allow us to legally use satellite systems that bring USA signals that we could pick up.

If local broadcasting cannot survive on the income from the sales they generate then they should cease to exist as any other enterprise would.

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Like



Harry DeYong ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm not sure what the answer is, but more cost isn't it. We now have to pay a substantial monthly amount AND spend up to 30% of our time watching advertisements. If this TV tax comes to pass, I'll probably get rid of my cable and watch a few things on my computer. The quality of most TV has gotten so bad, I don't watch that much, anyway.

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walta ★ [1 month ago](#)

I rarely watch local programming, only to get news and weather as circumstances arise. I prefer to get my local information from my local newspaper where there is more in-depth information and focus. I certainly do not need a local station to broadcast world news that I can get from other sources.

My cable bill is already in excess of \$115 monthly including taxes. In anticipation of government meddling that will result in my paying more for nothing better, I have begun to reduce my discretionary selections. I will reduce even further if this proposal is passed. I will reduce Canadian content first because it's dull, boring and useless and no amount of forced content by the CRTC is ever going to change that.

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Like



Ted Sheckler ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my service. I already pay through the nose for Cable. I'll download my tv shows off the internet.

2. Reduce their fees, tax breaks, etc..

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul J ★ [1 month ago](#)

Listen, simply said, we already pay too much

[Flag](#)

Like



Scott ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television networks is the least important of all the networks that I actually do watch. Given the fact that most shows on the local network are also on the U.S networks, this would not affect me in any form. Who it will affect is the local networks. If they do start to charge for the free service that has been around for many years prior, I and many more people would just stop watching the locals and start watching the U.S networks for the same price that we pay now.

So in effect what will really happen is that once local networks start charging for their free service, they will in effect be shooting their own foot off and have to go back to free subscription or turn themselves off completely eventually.

I and everyone I have talked to will not pay for local networks just because they can't figure out how to run a business properly. I say shut them down and let someone else pick up the pieces.

[Flag](#)

Like



Wayne Eichenberger ★ [1 month ago](#)

My opinion is that if the local TV station is willing to broadcast their signal over the air, free of charge for anyone with an appropriate receiver to view the content, there should never be any charge to the cable operator for carrying the signal.

[Flag](#)

Like



Frankly... ★ [1 month ago](#)

If we want to use the service, we pay the fee. Would it be nice to not have to pay? Of course. Our employers would like to pay us a whole lot less as well.

If you don't like the fee, save yourself hundreds of dollars and stop watching TV. Get off the couch, get outside. TV is not that important.

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The future ★ [1 month ago](#)

What local television? They just play fluff and american press releases. Adapt or die. Only old people watch local news as they cannot figure out to change channels over 13.

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Like



Rob Potter ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important to me. It is not, however something for which I would be willing to pay an additional fee, or conversely, have other services reduced by my provider in order to compensate for paying said fee. If the CRTC feels that there should be additional compensation made by the cable/satellite companies then I for one would object strongly if the regulatory model is not revised accordingly to remove the requirement for carriage in basic tv packages. I would very much consider alternative sources for my entertainment dollar in that scenario.

Further, as CableCo's are compelled by CRTC regulation to carry the signals and have made significant investment in their infrastructure (digital signals, expanded coverage areas) without compensation from the TV broadcasters, I would suggest that it is the broadcasters who are in essence getting a free-ride. This position is 100% contrary to what they are espousing in their advertisements (local tv matters).

It is my belief that broadcasters benefit far more by the current regulatory climate than the cable/satellite companies. I doubt very highly that a significant portion of the population would be willing to spend the money to purchase additional "over-the-air" receiving equipment in order to watch local tv channels if a decoupling occurs, so it is no great stretch of logic to say that the broadcasters are receiving significantly more "eyeballs" for their advertising market under the current arrangement. This should be factored into the business plan of broadcasters, and it obviously is not.

In summation, this is an instance where I believe that the market conditions should prevail. If a broadcaster is not willing to change their model for conducting business, then they should be allowed to fail and the cable/satellite providers should be allowed to fill the void with whatever product their customers want (be it Canadian or International).

Thank you.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ed ★ [1 month ago](#)

Bell ExpressVu currently charges me \$24.99 (plus tax) for the "Locals" package. This contains Canadian Broadcast Channels, it DOES NOT contain any US networks. Several years ago they

added a \$5-\$6 "System Charge" because I choose NOT to subscribe to the US channels. I now pay over \$30/month for "Locals" programming. How can they justify a third charge? When was the last time that anyone other than cable and satellite companies could rebroadcast someone else's product without compensation?

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 [JJ Gowland](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would NOT pay. I seldom watch some of the LOCAL channels now while they are so-called 'free', so why would I pay for something I don't want.

Since the broadcasters have collected money from advertizers to distribute the ads, the broadcasters should pay me to watch the ads.

Broadcasters want money from me because their advertizing salespeople aren't doing their jobs.

Measures to take: Make more interesting programs, Stop buying US programs and use the money to produce Canadian shows, improve quality of shows, shut down broadcasting during off hours. (ie midnight to 6 am), Descriptions of programs are extremely helpful and these could definitely be improved.

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Like

 [Richard A. Bonato, Ph.D.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is becoming increasingly irrelevant in the modern digital age. Internet access and multimedia is available everywhere these days - even at local coffee shops. For those who want news, both local and across the country, other online options are available including a wide variety of online Canadian newspapers at www.canada.com. I do not believe it is appropriate to ask those who do not watch local television to pay for it. Canadians already pay once for biased CBC broadcasting through general taxation revenues. To ask us to pay twice is ludicrous. Local broadcasters should raise revenues through advertising fees.

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 [jgmack](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The idea of a fee for watching local broadcasting infuriates me. These broadcasters rake in millions of dollars each year through advertising and this cash grab is totally unnecessary. It's nothing but greed. We already pay enough to the greedy cable companies and now we may have to pay to watch CTV, CBC and Global? The only reason I watch these networks is for the American shows. I get local news from the internet. If these networks were not included in my channel bundle I would not miss them. I am all for preserving all things Canadian but when it comes to gouging me, I say no way. If these networks cannot make enough revenue through advertising, let them die a slow death.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Tom Tas](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my satellite sub. immediately if I have to pay for so-called local TV. Networks like CTV, CBC, Global local programming are endless hours of 'local weather', repeated news stories and American TV shows.

The technology is there. It would be fair for viewers to pay for whatever local TV they "REALLY" watch i.e. like pay per view. Right now the "local" Canadian programming is embarrassing and endlessly repeats with cheap commercials.

Look at the US PBS model (which I do watch and it doesn't even have commercials). And isn't CBC with its 1 billion dollar tax subsidy supposed to supply local TV (which it does a lousy job of btw)?

Maybe give the 1 billion CBC dollars to PBS and get them to run a Canadian network.

[Flag](#)

 Like *Steve W.* -- *Belleville, Ont.* ★ 1 month ago

Like many Canadians I am unwilling to pay more for local programming. I believe that any local programming that is of interest to me would be picked up by the networks. I also believe that local stations may be better served by broadcasting over the internet where they would reach a more focused group with less burden on the networks that serve the country.

Service providers such as Bell, Rogers, Cogeco, and Telus have a captive audience and they have failed to provide the necessary support for local content while at the same time have been pocketing huge profits for many years. Deregulation of the industry, to allow US and international telcos access to the Canadian market while maintaining the current requirement for Canadian content would create sufficient competition to reduce costs to consumers and improved choices.

[Flag](#) Like *guytessier* ★ 1 month ago

In my opinion, the cable and satellite companies are becoming a monopoly where the cost of subscribing to their services is becoming excessive to low and medium income families. Local programming is a necessity to build local communities, local business, local understanding of what is important to our close surroundings. I believe that local TV MUST remain free to local viewers. We must keep our local identity as the world revolves around these communities and without proper communications, isolation of local information can be a detriment to our global growth and development. Centralization of our networks has eroded our capability to communicate relevant local community information to our viewers and listeners. The Internet is now integral to our way of life and is fast surpassing TV and Radio communications. Our youth are using different modes of communication and TV and Radio is at a pivotal point where wrong decisions could further erode its capability to reach its audience. I believe that the CRTC must first and foremost consider its citizens' real needs vs companies and their profits.

[Flag](#) Like *L Reid* ★ 1 month ago

If we are going to be asked to pay more for local channels, then we should be given the right to "opt out" of them and save the additional costs. Why should I be forced to pay for something that I will not watch?

In that vein, why not make local programming something that I would give a hoot about? For example, I would pay a small fee to continue receiving CBC television because they broadcast interesting programming. But how much should I have to pay? I think one of the reasons that people are so upset about an additional fee is that there is not a lot of perceived benefit.

[Flag](#) Like *Bill Western* ★ 1 month ago

If the local stations have become unprofitable, then the broadcasters need to re-visit their business models. A public bail-out is only warranted IF they are legally obliged to keep the local station in operation, which I don't think is the case. If I were running a business where, for whatever reason, it became unprofitable, I would either continue to lose money, or close shop.

[Flag](#) Like *Tom Tas* ★ 1 month ago

1) I would cancel my satellite sub. immediately if I have to pay for so-called local TV. Networks like CTV, CBC, Global local programming are endless hours of 'local weather', repeated news stories and American TV shows.

2)The technology is there. It would be fair for viewers to pay for whatever local tv they "REALLY" watch ie like pay per view. Right now the "local" Canadian programming is embarassing and endlessly repeats with cheap commercials.model (which I do watch and it doesn't even have commercials). And isn't CBC with its 1billion dollar tax subsidy supposed to supply local TV (which it does a lousy job of btw)?

Maybe give the 1billion CBC dollars to PBS and get them to run a Canadian network

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Like



terryjs ★ [1 month ago](#)

I value local TV. The cable companies should not be allowed to steal the network signals and then charge me for them. The CRTC should mandate that the cable companies pay for local TV and that they NOT be allowed to raise their fees. The cable companies are hugely profitable on the theft of signals and charging for the network signals. The CRTC has been negligent in not regulating the cable compnaies' monopoly fees. Finally, the networks should be obliged to improve local TV programming and delivery.

[Flag](#)

Like



MARGARET SAWCHUK ★ [1 month ago](#)

IF THE LOCAL STATIONS WANT TO DISCUSS CHARGES, THEN LET ME DISCUSS WITH THEM ON HOW I HAD TO INCUR THE COST OF BUYING A SATILITE SYSTEM SO THAT I COULD HAVE TV. 15 YEARS AGO I COULD PICK UP ALL THE LOCAL EDMONTON STATIONS ON MY TV USING AN ANTENNA. NOW THE ONLY WAY I CAN RECEIVE TV IS IF I USE A DISH SYSTEM. I DO NOT LIVE 200 MILES FROM EDMONTON WHERE A SIGNAL WOULD WEAKEN THROUGH TRAVEL, RATHER I AM ONLY 65 MILES AWAY AND CAN RECEIVE NO ANTENNA SIGNAL. IF THE LOCAL STATIONS WOULD GO BACK TO USING A HIGHER OUTPUT SIGNAL, MOST OF US WOULD NOT HAVE SATILITE DISHES, AND WOULD GLADLY PAY A SURCHARGE. BUT I AM AGAINST HAVING A SURCHARGE ADDED TO MY SATILITE BILL BECAUSE THE STATIONS THAT I USED TO GET ON ANTENNA HAVE MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO RECEIVE A SIGNAL.

[Flag](#)

Like



timothyClethbridge ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am paying an excessive amount for cable as a whole right now. My family watches maybe 10 hours most months so that is about \$2.50 per hour. Very little is local TV. I would object to paying more unless it became commercial-free. My family never watches local TV; we get our local news from CBC radio and the web.

Regarding funding local television through fee-for carriage, the merits of the arguments made against it by cable companies and for it by TV stations are both clear. But they both cancel out and favor the status quo.

It is clear that the 'old' national networks and local stations benefit from cable carriage by exposing their ads to a larger audience, and cable companies benefit by having them as 'content' to distribute. This would seem to be mutually beneficial. If a change were made to require one party to pay, then it would seem that this should only be justified if the mutual-benefit balance has fundamentally changed. I don't see that any fundamental change has occurred that would justify fee-for-carriage.

I could also imagine the opposite request: That the cable companies charge the networks for access, so their ads are distributed. This, after all, is what happens with ISPs distributing material over the web that is produced by content providers. I think the cable companies are therefore being disingenuous.

If the CRTC does make a change, it should be done in a way that benefits the consumer both in terms of freedom-of-choice and in terms of available choice. I would favor a gradual movement towards all cable carriage being 'on demand' by the consumer, so that I can only pay for what I want, but can choose from the full selection

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Andrea ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies are already receiving the money from the consumers, and it is unfair to the local networks that they do not receive this fee. The money has already been provided. I feel the cable companies need to hand that amount over, not charge us another fee so they do not have to take it out of their profits. I will not pay another 10 dollars a month for these services. Times are tough for everyone right now and I do not see the benefit of continuing my cable services if the cable companies start charging more. Buck up Shaw, Telus etc and give the money to those who need it to continue providing local TV.

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Like



stephenpodetz ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television should be supported by both cable companies and by the networks. Based on number of subscribers, the cable company supporting a region should allocate funds to local stations - funds that cannot be charged back to consumers. Cable operators are granted a monopoly for a region - and are all profitable as a result. Providing funding for local television (and not the "community channels" they currently operate) should be the cost of being granted that monopoly.

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David Deeming ★ [1 month ago](#)

Due to bundling TV packages are already way too expensive. I watch 4~5 hours a month of TV and it costs in excess of \$88.

Any increase is totally unacceptable

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Like



MBABEAR ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is essential, especially for news in emergency situations. If we eliminate local news think about what would happen the next time a power plant explodes, an airplane crashes in your community, you need an H1N1 vaccine clinic update. Without local programming/news the phone lines will be jammed with people in panic mode looking for updates and answers.

2. Cable companies are making profit today from local TV providers without paying for it. In my opinion, they have some obligation to pick up at least part of the tab. A reasonable compromise would be to split the cost, raise my bill by \$5. But in the end I would rather pay \$10 more to ensure I have access to local TV news when I need it most.

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Keith ★ [1 month ago](#)

I always assumed all the commercials we have to endure while watching TV pay for the cost of running that station. I also always assumed the cable bill paid for all the infrastructure to deliver the signal to my house. If the station needs more money they would increase their advertising rate and the cable company would increase the consumer bill if their costs increased. Given that I still think someone is making too much and we are paying too much for TV. It's TV for God's sake. We used to get our 2 channels free with an antenna.

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Like



Michael C ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a senior, I find current pricing is not affordable for my fixed income. I can only rely on the

few stations that I can receive via antenna which only include a few Canadian stations and a few from Buffalo

Service packages as sold by Bell and Rogers force you to take channels you really don't want just to get one or two that you do

[Flag](#)

Like



Michelle ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would rather have the chance to pay for a local channel that I watch than be forced to pay for a package where I don't want half the channels. We should be able to pay/order per channel and there's no reason why that money can't be shared between all parties involved.

[Flag](#)

Like



gregnablett ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local television is unimportant to me. I have no need to get soft news from television. I get my news from the newspaper and the internet.

2. No measures should be taken to support local television. The broadcaster sells advertising to support their programming. If they are unable to sell programming then it is unprofitable and they need to make a different program.

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Like



Bruce Ray ★ [1 month ago](#)

As far as I am concerned I already pay for local TV in my basic Bell TV rate. In Ottawa we have already seen reductions in Local News. With the move to digital signals the off air service will be cut and make cable the only solution. The times have changed and the cable providers need to pay for what they have previously received for free. The CRTC needs to regulate basic service to ensure affordability for Canadians and viability of local TV stations. Any move by Bell TV to increase cost and we will cut back on service. We are retired and are taxed to the max and with HST, Gas prices and Property taxes there is just no more room in our back pockets for increases in Bell TV rates.

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nursedude ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Unless I am allowed to choose what local stations I wish to view I would not support paying for local TV (which by the way is free if I use OTA equipment). I would probably not subscribe to cable if forced to pay for local stations I don't watch.

2. Local TV needs to stick to representing their communities. They should not be competing against major networks by running expensive prime time shows. If they cannot live within their revenue streams then it may be time for them to die off.

[Flag](#)

Like



andrewada ★ [1 month ago](#)

I value local programming and wish it to continue. However I think that if the broadcasters are allowed to get a fee for carriage which is then passed on to cable and satellite subscribers then viewers should get something in exchange for paying the fee. I suggest that the CRTC should cut the allowable commercial time per hour of local broadcasting should be reduced by at least 50%. I don't think that the broadcasters should be allowed to collect fully both ways (both from a fee for carriage and by selling commercial time). I would be willing to pay more if there were fewer annoying commercials especially during feature movies.

The broadcasters could save some money by laying off some of the staff that sells commercial time.

Flag

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Jonathan Bocknek ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. The problem with answering this question is that the issue has not been adequately explained to us, the general public, in terms and using language that is fair, unbiased, and clear. The war of words being waged between the cable/satellite providers and the TV stations tells us nothing about the issue; it only gives us a psychological profile of the war-wagers (and I must say that it doesn't make me feel favourably to the cable/satellite providers at all). In general, however, based on my limited understanding, I would be willing to pay to support local TV, as long as it could be demonstrably proven that the money truly goes to the support of local TV. Thus, defining what that means, specifically, must be done.

2. I don't currently have an answer to this question.

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Jonathan Bocknek ★ [1 month ago](#)

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2. I don't currently have an answer to this question.

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craig ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think in the end it comes down to this: The cable and satellite companies are charging customers to view signals from the local companies and are not paying the local companies for the signal yet make money from them. that is in my opinion wrong.

Flag

Like



Jim ★ [1 month ago](#)

I use an antenna to get TV. I think that the cable and satellite companies should have to pay to rebroadcast any TV channels. Why is it considered theft if I receive a satellite signal with out paying for it, but cable can rebroadcast with out paying anything. To me the over the air broadcasts are for personal use only, and rebroadcasting is a form of piracy which is much worse than the piracy of a few private citizens. Cable companies should have to pay to rebroadcast any channels, and the cost should not be passed on to the consumer. These companies have been getting a free pass for years, reselling a service that they don't pay for, and cutting into the ability of the networks to raise advertising revenue. If the CRTC is not going to protect consumers from cable and satellite companies, it should at least give us the option to get our service from who ever we want, including American satellite companies, at least then we would have some real competition.

Flag

Like



Otto ★ [1 month ago](#)

For me, local TV is only important for daily news which I typically get anyway from radio and the internet. This is a two-sided issue: cable TV charges far too much for their services (witness their huge profits) and yet does not pay for all the channels it carries. I will not pay more for local television. Regulate and cap cable fees and force them to pay their share. Also, the large networks (CTV, Global and CBC) should be subsidizing their local stations. They too make

massive profits and give little back to the local markets.

[Flag](#)

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roberttomas ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies should be forced to carry that cost, not the customers. Local TV is important and the cable companies do NOTHING to support it, while their revenues and profits keep on growing. Canadian live in a virtual stranglehold of monopoly of the cable providers - they should be made to pay for that situation

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Del ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would probably install a U.S. satellite provider and cancel Starchoice if this became a reality. I totally resent having to pay more to keep the likes of CBC and CTV operating.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Brian A ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am going to aerial service. This is just a cash grab. The networks have the power to override simultaneous US border station broadcasts and plenty of money to buy US garbage. No need for further soaking the consumer. If you think that this won't result in more charges, I've got some land for sale in the everglades. Let's talk!

[Flag](#)

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albrackley ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is a segment of society who are on a fixed income. They may not be in a position to petition an employer, or go on strike for higher wages, to cover increased costs. Professional sports and other forms of entertainment have been denied to many simply because the exorbitant unaffordable cost. Lets not destroy all forms of family entertainment simply because it has been priced outside the reach of many families.

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Gordon and Elizabeth Fifield ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local programming will always be of importance to the community since by their very nature it keeps the citizens it serves informed of local events. Should cable and satellite companies have to pay to broadcast these signals absolutely, there is no such thing as "free" in our society these companies already make millions from advertising revenues, to threaten consumers with an extra surcharge will do nothing to endear them to their customers, it could bring a backlash should clients choose to reduce their programming choices to make up for the extra charges.

On the topic of advertising, I don't know about other consumers but personally I have just about reached my tolerance level with the amount of advertising that constantly interrupts the "very few shows" that we do like to watch, who needs for example two advertisements playing twice each back to back as if our retention level was that of a gnat.

The shows that repeatedly play about 3/4 of the year but they don't call it repeats they call it "time shifting" a few new shows in the early Fall and then it's back to playing them repeatedly over and over again, but we don't get a reduced rate no sir we get to pay the same fee every month.

Consumers pay high monthly charges to watch the same shows that were available to them six months ago all the while the cable and satellite companies continue bombard us ad infinitum with commercials collecting millions in revenues and collecting millions in fees from consumers. In a perfect world they should be paying us to sit through this constant bombardment.

It may be a two hundred channel universe but quantity certainly doesn't mean quality. Many years ago say thirty to forty we were limited to a very small channel selection but the shows they

carried were always new, advertising was minimal and less intrusive, something has been lost along the way as consumers have been treated like cash cows, very little quality from an overpriced commodity.

I foresee a future where consumers should have a choice, pay extra to have commercial free entertainment, pay a little less for commercials at the beginning or end of a show and lastly regular programming with constant commercials during the show as we have now, then we could honestly save we have a choice in television programming.

[Flag](#)

Like



michaelshaver ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I can get local stations off air for nothing (except to view those stupid commercials) then why should I have to add to the high rates I pay my cable company? The cable companies make plenty of profit. They should pay local stations a reasonable amount for the signals which they now "steal" off air for nothing.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bernie M ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV service is overcharged. I believe that cable cos. should pay for the local TV out of the current payments given to them.

We have no choice as to the selection of cable provider. We need a choice to select our service provider - as in telephones.

[Flag](#)

Like



Keith Gibbons ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV has a limited demographic audience. If you under the age of 25, the odds that you might watch local or "loser" news is minimal. The appeal of local news is to an older generation that have not yet been weaned of their appetite for folksy news. It is not however in the realm of cable and satellite providers to dictate local broadcasts. My present cable bill is already outrageously high for the minimal service it provides. I will not, under any circumstances, pay more to receive local TV broadcasts. Cable and satellite providers must quickly recognize that their audience may also change once their avarice is quickly recognized.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jan ★ [1 month ago](#)

The price of cable is constantly increasing, we are pay for channels we do not want. We are being nickled and dimed to death. Whatever is decided it will be the consumer who pays for it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tommy ★ [1 month ago](#)

The first question is why now? Cable has been around 30 years? satellite pushing 20 years? So why all of a sudden is this an issue. Years ago I buy a Antenna for \$150. and no viewing fees, and I could do the same today. The problem today is a recession, lack of advertising revenues and internet competition. Deal with the real problem.

The solution being suggested is a bailout similar to the auto bailout. The gov't doesn't want to be nailed with another bailout so they are telling the CRTC to charge direct to the public that takes the gov't off the hook. Like any business if you can't cut it get out. Additionally it is worth noting that most of not all subscribers to cable and satellite feel that they already pay for these channels in their basic fees of 25\$-30\$ a month. What happens in 2-3 years when the recession is over and the advertising revenues return, is the CRTC going to return the new fees to the user or just allow the Local Channels to reap the excess profits??

The simple solution is to do the same as they presently do; pay by channel. I would not object to say \$0.50 a month per channel for my Local channel selection. I would take only one the CBC. Then we will find out which channels are viable. If no one subscribes, for example to CHCH, then they go under. Survival of the fittest. But a shotgun affect of one fee for all the channels to be shared is not acceptable and is nothing more than a bailout.

The bottom line here is that the CRTC is under the gun to find a solution - what the public wants is a fair solution.

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 PWC ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that local TV is already subsidized by Public money and any further request for money by local stations amounts to extortion. I have also noticed a huge increase in the quantity of commercials on these stations. It's not only a turn off, but is driving people away from television completely - thus a loss of ad revenue and likely why they are losing money. Fix the management model of these stations and stop piling good money on bad.

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Like

 Tommy ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 vlad ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Why should we consumers be forced to pay for the local TV stations if the general public is not watching them nor has any interest in these channels? Not only is this dumb but also counter productive.
2. No measures should be taken to support the local television. If they cant find a source of revenue that means they dont have adequate audience. If they dont have the audience, then why are these channels still operating?

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Like

 Jeff D ★ [1 month ago](#)

My Shaw Direct bill clearly outlines that I pay approximately \$55 a month for my "basic service" which includes my local channels and an additional fee for specialty channels that I have

selected. Why should I have to pay again for the channels I'm already paying for just because the cable and satellite companies have been sending me these signals without paying for them in the past?

If I download movies or music from the Internet and distribute these files for a few I am in violation of piracy laws. Is this not what the cable companies have been doing for years now? I will not pay higher fees simply because the cable industry is facing charges for the programming they have been distributing without compensating those that actually produce the programming.

It seems to me that the cable industry have been lining their pockets with my money in their already high charges with services they have not themselves had to pay for.

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Like

 *morris8* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The quality of cable and internet service is already so bad and expensive that if they increased the price I would cancel the whole thing,

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Like

 *Dave* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The acrimonious battle being waged between the conventional terrestrial broadcasters and cable interests is a clear demonstration of how the wheels have fallen off the business model for an advertising based television service. The movement of viewing from conventional to specialty viewing is a further demonstration of the decay of the traditional model. Media consumption is clearly evolving from broadcasting to narrowcasting and regulators would be wise to encourage the technologies that underlie this evolution. Increased access to internet bandwidth and use of existing wireless technologies for digital transmission of programming materials on a consumer demand basis should be encouraged. Use of the existing VHF and UHF television spectrum in this manner eventually might be more productive. My consumption of electronic media has increased, primarily through my internet access. The value I attach to conventional television access has diminished markedly and I would be reluctant to pay more in subscription fees for content of considerably less value.

Local television production is being challenged from a technological perspective by newspapers with their increasingly frequent updates, video and audio clips and entertainment links supported by banner advertising. These partnerships, with a proper set of checks and balances, should be encouraged from a regulatory perspective.

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Like

 *David MacNearney* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that cable companies (or other rebroadcasters) should pay for all of their content just as they charge for all their content whether you want it or not. They can and will pass on any additional cost to the consumer and add an upcharge that is related to the value they add and/or their desired profit margin, tempered by the consumers perception of value versus cost. This is consistent with the intent of copyright laws in that One is allowed to reproduce for personal (or educational) use but not for redistribution or profit.

Personally, we choose not to subscribe to cable or satellite. I would appreciate the cable companies paying for all their feeds so producers of those feeds can afford to keep producing them. I want my "free" signal (I have to watch ads to pay for it) to be subsidized by the people who pay for their signals. I know that in the near future I will have to pay for everything I watch but I will also only have to watch only what I want to. The internet will allow every individual to have what they want when they want it. The traditional broadcasters need a financial cushion to weather the coming transition. Satellite and Cable companies also provide internet access so they have a foot in the door, so to speak, and they have the profits to reinvest, so they don't need "a leg up".

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bklanac ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't know why as a taxpayer I would agree to pay twice for local programming.

As I recall, access to the airwaves by broadcasters was granted without fees in exchange for those same broadcasters providing local programming. Did this change? I don't recall that it has. As such, the broadcasters collective whine to viewers asking for payment for local content is entirely dependent on those same viewers not being aware of the original agreement.

They should be ashamed of themselves for trying this lame gambit but shame currently appears to be in short supply with Canadian broadcasters.

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gsmithdgjkdffh ★ [1 month ago](#)

Paying more for tv shows you can get for free with an antenna does not make sense if local stations need more revenue charge advertisers more on the other hand rogers just offered me a free notebook to sign up for cable and Internet. They seem to have enough money so why not have them pay a small fee to support local tv. I would suggest the crtc force the two sides to negotiate a solution which does not raise the consumers bill for satellite or cable or the crtc should open up our markets to US competition. Do we really need the crtc to protect good Canadian content? If it I'd truley good won't it be profitable without the crtc regulations. The only benefit the crtc seems to be adding are unnecessary jobs in administration and government while protecting mediocre programming. Hit shows like The Rick Mercer Show. being Erica and Flashpoint. Exist because they are good quality not because of the crtc Canadian content. Maybe it's time fir the crtc to step aside and increase competition in the Canadian broadcasting industry

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Ralph Meyer ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would consider buying an american satellite dish. This local TV matters is plain bull. Where was local TV during the Grey Cup Parade?? Not here in Alberta or or in Montreal or Sask? We checked all across with our local and national feeds? Same with the Stampede Parade. They were all absent. Maybe we need to go to Hollywood, to ask CTV AND GLOBAL and Ottawa for CBC, PLEASE sirs, could you run this local programming event??? And When I watch Superbowl, I will be forced to watch local advertising instead of original USA advertising. How can Local TV survive, when the owners are spending their profits in the USA or elsewhere. Take care of your business first, then we will look at it!!

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Like



Don_G47 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Everybody is missing the point of this debate. It's not about keeping CTV or Global News on in Kitchener. "Local television" is much more than that. The question should be, if you could not watch "House" or "Desperate Housewives" would you continue to pay for cable? The prime time US shows drive the revenue for local stations, and the cable companies do not pay for the right to put them in your homes, but they collect monthly fees from you. The broadcasters who pay for the Canadian rights to these shows are asking to share some of the revenue generated by the cable and satellite companies. It is the cable and satellite companies that say they would pass any fee on to the consumers, not the broadcasters.

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roKKor ★ [1 month ago](#)

State run TV and Radio should be free to the consumer. CBC gets public funding, so it should be free for the public to receive. However, if a comercial provider redistributes lets say CBC on Cable and charges money for it (part of basic package), CBC should get a part of that basic

charge.

Those locals TV stations, have to be free for the public to watch other than that I can see them going down in a hurry. That brings me to a question: why is CBC on C-Band Anik F1 encrypted? I don't don't subscribe to anything, because the services you get from any provider is not worth it even if they cut 50% of the service fee. That's why Bell never made any money to this point since it went on air! You get hundrets of channels if you have satellite... sure I do, but there is no word said how many duplicate channels are (besides cable). On top of that I'd have to pay more \$\$\$ for a premium movie. Sorry, after all it is cheaper to start my V8, pollute the environment a bit to go to the movie store and rent one for 3\$. Money is tight and I'll do my best to keep it in my pocket. CRTC, look at the european market how it's done. From providers to FTA. You have to sort out and regulate the market, as otherwise there will be big consequences on viewer ratings and subscibtions and on the end it will hit the TV station. Which company would pay for a commercial space, if it can't be watched? Everything goes down hill from there.

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Mark ★ [1 month ago](#)

My Satellite bills are much too high, and I already have the cheapest option package. if I were forces to pay more, I would cancel my subscription outright.

The industry should be regulated to protect the consumer, my bill has increased year after year for no reason.

Flag

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laurar ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe it is the responsibility of the utility (cable, satelite) provider to absorb the cost of the local broadcasting channels in each area that the subcribers have chosen. The cable company is providing a service and it simply is the cost of doing business. I don't feel the customer should take on additional fees to have access to local news etc. Rogers, Bell, etc. have chosen to provide the television service and therefore, need to take responsibility and support local television stations as they are doing a job that helps ensure each customer in each area are satisfied with the provider of their choice.

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pat mcmillan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will cancel my cable subscription and buy an aerial as I prefer local to the garbage Rogers is already charging me for and theb to increase rates for local? No way! And I think we should have a number of packages to choose from- I have digital and don`t need 800 channels- they are mainly repeats any way- It is WRONG the way they have a strangle hold over my choice.

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Paul ★ [1 month ago](#)

1- I am cancelling or cable due to the excess cost of the service. This had nothing to do with Local TV, just plain old dollars and cents. These are thought times and as many families out there, our had a choice; TV or dinner, we picked dinner (mostly for the kids).

2- Local TV needs to re-invent it self. It needs to bring the viewers back, more viewers would allow them to collect more revenue from the advertisers. They call it local but it's always the same American shows playing. OK the news is local but really...

Just stop forcing the cable and satellite companies to distribute local TV as part of their basic service and make it a package option. Then if someone wants local TV and is willing to pay for it, they can just selects that package, a cut of the revenue can be sent to the locals TV companies. Problem solved...

Ho that's right, probably no one would select the local package and the local TV station would die anyways. I guess Darwin covered that in the evolution of the species. If a species doesn't

adapt with the times it is doomed to die off.

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Like

 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Of course I don't want to pay for what I can get now with rabbit ears. I would drop my satellite service.

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Like

 *elissbeth* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i'm sick and tired of the cable companies.they just care about their profit and they provide us with a lot of garbage to watch.it's not a year when we don't get an increased and our channels are the same and we don't get the chance to choose what we want to watch and if we agree to have another increase.if something better will come in the future i'll say goodbye to rogers tv.

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Like

 *Robert* ★ [1 month ago](#)

CRTC serves no usefull purpose and should be terminated!This proposed additional TAX is just another government hand in peoples pocket.

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Like

 *Viewer from NF* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm not sure of what "support" these local stations already receive from either tax payers or subscribers, but it seems to me that they should be given a choice. Either they can continue to enjoy their placement and current supports, or go out on their own and charge for their signal. One or the other. Either compete or die.

Provide a compelling product and I'll pay, but I want a choice, not another charge heaped upon me for the same local crap I get now.

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Like

 *Robert* ★ [1 month ago](#)

CRTC serves no usefull purpose and should be terminated!This proposed additional TAX is just another government hand in peoples pocket.

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Like

 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with the comment that we should not pay for what we can get now with rabbit ears. Local TV should not work that way.

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Like

 *Dan Di Rocco* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay for local TV or CBC which I already pay for in taxes. If I have to watch commercials why would I have to pay additional money to providers. Do not raise fees.

There is no competition in Canada because our providers work as a team to keep rates high. When I compare rates all the companies are charging exactly the same price. Your job is to protect us. You are not doing a very good job.

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 *Tom in Osoyoos* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The media (television and radio) was established as free-enterprise businesses and staff got paid from the commercial revenue except for CBC radio which is government funded. The Canadian system under control of the CRTC.

Both cable and satellite carry many repeat channels and for many Canadians, there is no local channel on TV. I do not consider CTV out of Vancouver as a local channel for me situated 250 miles inland as it does not contain local news or sports.

Newspapers addressed their needs by using the internet to distribute their news and carried ads on the internet page that pays their staff and operating expenses.

We cannot run to the consumer every time a business finds itself in trouble.

Will I support more money to a satellite or cable company to pay for local programming...not on your life!

I don't mind paying for channels that I watch as long as I don't have to pay for stuff that I don't watch either for language or cultural reasons.

If there is an extra charge for local programming, then I will get all of my viewing from the internet in future and watch only what I want and cable/satellite/television companies will receive no money from me.

The technology is now here and I will use it.

[Flag](#) *Les Kerekes* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable TV is already to expensive without having to pay extra for local stations I never watch.

The only thing on a local station I can't get off the internet, or in HD is local news, and even then, I can read my local paper online. I most definately would not support any decision that raises my already ridiculous monthly bill. History however has shown time and time again that the CRTC will not do what's best for me, but what's best for the major players, Bell and Rogers.

[Flag](#) *Name Rick* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My thoughts are that I'm currently paying for local service and that my provider is pocketing the money. Obviosely eveyone want to make make as much as they can and cable a Satalite providers make nice and dime us at every oppertunity..

Local TV needs support from the the carriers that are selling the signal.. What local TV gets sould be fair for everyone.. At the end of the day the client is going to pay because cable and sat providers will charge us..

[Flag](#) *Johnny B* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cost of "basic" cable/satellite service, in my understanding, since the providers have to provide such channels should be there to support the local channels as part of that cost. I don't know how, nor do I care how such funds are distributed, all I know is if they're not being distributed, then the providers should be forced to fork over a percentage of the basic fee to support the local channels being provided. I also think that the providers should be "forced" to provide the local channels in all markets. Currently such providers as Shaw, does not, for example provide a local Global affiliate for the Atlantic region. They used to, but when all of this "fee for carriage" started, they dropped it from their lineup. I now do not subscribe to Shaw's satellite service because of that.

Local TV is important, but I do not think I should have to pay extra for it because I believe I am already paying for it in the "basic" service costs, therefore I shouldn't have to pay for it again.

In my opinion, the basic cable fees should be regulated, somehow, and the fees paid for this service should be broken down as to how much goes to the provider for their service and how much goes towards a "local channel" programming fund, whereby all local channels derive a

percentage.

If I am forced to pay extra for local programming, I will cancel my cable/satellite service outright, and get what TV programming I desire directly from the internet and rely on public radio for "local" information.

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 *Rolly* ★ [1 month ago](#)

No, we are nickel and dime to much in this country.....

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 *Andre Wilson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have access to hundreds of channels. I watch maybe 10 on a regular basis, 4 of which are CTV, CBC, RC and Global. So to answer the questions :

1-I would consider downgrading my cable package or cancelling it. I probably watch more TV via Internet than I do on traditional TV.

2-Offer more flexible cable packages and provide financing to the stations chosen. For example if cable companies offered 10, 20, 30 ... 500 channel packages that users could pick according to what they wanted, then financing could be directed to what Canadians actually want. Also, the stations themselves shouldn't be financed. We should focus on financing Canadian content (multiplatform - Web, TV, etc) and possibly tax American programming. Therefore, there would be an incentive for stations to purchase or produce Canadian content rather than buying American TV rights.

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 *phoenix78* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the Cable Companies (in my area Shaw) already receive money from me in my monthly cable fees for the local stations. Certainly when I read the description of 'tier 1' it includes CTV,Global,CBA,Access, etc. If they're going to take credit for it in my billing, then they should be responsible for passing on, even \$0.10 per account per station to the Canadian Networks.

[Flag](#)

 *sylvaing* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable service completely.
2. Local television sucks. Let it die - nobody will notice its passing anyway.

[Flag](#)

 *tyronne* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I presently have VIP digital with Rogers (along with internet, home phone and cell). Needless to say, I'm paying a hefty amount right now. I do watch some local TV (primarily City and CP24) I should not be forced to pay extra for this. Our broadcasting must be based on supply and demand. If the station in question cannot provide programming that will interest viewers, then why should there be an extra fee to keep it afloat. Part of the problem are the restrictions that Canadian TV must operate under (i.e. Canadian content as one example). Perhaps the CRTC should consider removing these restrictions and allow the local stations to offer the programming necessary (whatever it's country of origin) that appeals to its target audience.

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 *May* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We have already cancelled our shaw cable. We got tired our our bill continually going up without notice. We are not sport fans and we read whatever news we want over the net, and watch the programs we want that way as well. It is much cheaper to subscribe to legal internet download sites then to subscribe to shaw cable monthly. For the most part we'd rather read a book or go for a walk anyway and enjoy the outdoors, yes even in the winter, it is much better for us.

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Like

 *alexginou* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television should stand on its own merits. Yes, they should receive a fee from cable and satellite services, but not on a mandatory schedule. The CRTC should remove the need for the cable and satellite services to carry their signal because they are a local television station. No more basic packages. User fees for whatever you wish to watch. Digital signals and tv on demand make it ludicrous to charge people for programmes they never watch. Pay for what you want. The technology is here. Also ,open up the cable lines to competition. You made Bell give up their monopoly in phone service, so do the same to all these cable barons who are treating us like serfs in their kingdoms. This would have a positive effect on lowering our fees.

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Like

 *Niloufer Engineer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that currently with the economy the way it is, the AVERAGE Canadian is being SQUEEZED to the maximum, i.e. TTC fare, grociers, the forthcoming HST and we should not be charged even 1 cent over what we are currently paying for the cable services. It is unfair when salaries do not go up for the average Canadian that these charges should be levied.

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Like

 *Bernie M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV service is overcharged. I believe that cable cos. should pay for the local TV out of the current payments given to them.

We have no choice as to the selection of cable provider. We need a choice to select our service provider - as in telephones.

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Like

 *Bernie M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like

 *johnnybman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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In my opinion, the basic cable fees should be regulated, somehow, and the fees paid for this service should be broken down as to how much goes to the provider for their service and how much goes towards a "local channel" programming fund, whereby all local channels derive a percentage.

If I am forced to pay extra for local programming, I will cancel my cable/satellite service outright, and get what TV programming I desire directly from the internet and rely on public radio for "local" information.

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Like

 *Ravi R* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Internet access charges in this country are outrageous (the same applies to cellular phone services): they must go down, not up as is being proposed. While I consider local programming to be of some value, I would not be prepared to pay more for these services. Why not mandate the cable and satellite carriers come to an equitable revenue sharing agreement with the content providers, and hold the line on prices?

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Like

 *Stacey* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would react badly. Local tv is something I can and do access for free over an antenna. Any attempt by my cable company or anyone else to charge me for local channels will lead to me no longer using that service.

I believe that since cable and satellite providers currently pocket approximately seventy percent of their charge as profit (that is, over and above the pittance they pay to specialty channels) they should pay to carry local signals and that payment should not increase the fee consumers are charged.

I am fully prepared to do with out cable tv when and if this charge becomes fact and know many other people who plan to do the same.

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Like

 *WD Terry* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very disturbed if asked by the cable companies to pay for local broadcast. Local broadcasting is a vital service in my opinion. Cable fees are extremely high (and profitable to the cable companies); networks foot the bill for production costs, and cable companies reap the benefit. The cable/satellite providers should be required to pay for network content, just as they do for specialty channels, and NOT pass the cost on to subscribers.

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Like

 *SK* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I have no intention of subscribing to cable nor can I afford to. Those who are not content with the free programs available from local TV stations and who choose to pay a subscription fee for extensive television service have the option to cancel their subscriptions or to not renew when contracts come up.

2) It is only fair and good business practice that a company which charges customers for services or goods it offers for sale should pay its suppliers or the creators of that which is being sold. If local TV stations are supplying programs to companies that are packaging these programs with others and charging their subscribers a fee for this pkg, then the local TV stations have a right to a share in these revenues. Cable companies should not be permitted to profit on the backs of local TV stations. If cable subscribers cannot afford the fees for cable service, they have the right to not renew their subscriptions. Cable is a luxury not a necessity.

[Flag](#)

Like



adambalkovec ★ [1 month ago](#)

I certainly don't envy the CRTC's prescribed task. The key is to find some viable means of supporting local TV while at the same time dissuading cable companies from raising their rates to a prohibitive level. Local television builds culture in individual communities which, in turn, combine to compose a culturally strong nation. At the same time, cable companies have made it clear that they are beyond doing a public service in this area and absorbing themselves any kind of fee increase they would experience. While this is not wholly unreasonable on their part, it is irksome to think that, as a consumer, my cable fees could increase dramatically for no similar increase in the service I receive. Perhaps the solution, inglorious though it may be, is to hold regular PBS-style funding drives for local TV.

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Like



Scott ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have not watched any local TV in a very long time. The major networks only show US programs anyway. Local news is pointless since I've already read about it on the Internet long before the news comes on.

TV is already too expensive, an extra tax will only make it that much easier to cancel and these stations will end up getting less money in the end.

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Like



ana2009 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is already supported through my tax dollars, this is yet another tax. If cable has to pay for the service, then it is reasonable that they will have to pass along the cost. However, as a consumer, I want the choice to opt out. Let local providers become more cost effective and deliver more interesting programming. I am amazed that local providers have such cool buildings in pricy neighborhoods and then claim they are broke. I budget to what I can afford - so too should they.

[Flag](#)

Like



chris carroll ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we already pay too much for cable TV. The quality of the programming is awful - basically a race to the bottom, in terms of content. A surcharge for local programming would add insult to injury, price-wise. Perhaps there's too great a concentration of ownership in broadcast media/ cable companies. Local TV is not all that important to me, personally. I believe, to a larger extent, in the free market principles that would either grow or extinguish non-viable broadcast entities. Having said that I'm also a fan of the CBC but believe there should always be strong accountability in terms of taxpayer dollar expenditures. It's not a bottomless pit.

As for supporting local TV I can't think of any measures at this time that would help. I am simply not in favour of paying extra for something I don't value.

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Like



Steve ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay a cent more to my cable company for local service. If the broadcasters in my area cannot make a business of local TV then so be it. I can always watch local on the cable channel. We pay more than enough subsidies and taxes to our broadcasters who may finally have to change their business model to adapt to a new world. They still seem to live in the 60's. The internet is their big threat and they will have to figure out how to live with it sans more of my money.

[Flag](#)

Like



John Soares ★ [1 month ago](#)

It should be an individual channel option to pay to receive or not. Should not be forced upon us. That way viewers will decide how much it is worth. And CBC should not have the subsidy advantage over the other local channels like they do making it harder for them to compete.

[Flag](#)

Like



Chris in Loretto ★ [1 month ago](#)

We live in a rural location (cable not available), and are not interested in paying for television at any length. The local (off air), channels supply us with all the pertinent information regarding happenings and events that are occurring, and keep us informed on a regular basis. We also get all the popular programs that are offered on cable, except specialty channels (of which, very few are worth watching, according to our in-town friends with cable). We receive 3,5,9,11,19 and 57, plus all the Buffalo channels on our little 'Rabbit Ears' on each television set, and find that this is more than adequate for our needs. I will also get a converter when required.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sheila Hart ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel it is really important to support local/regional/national TV. I would be willing to pay more although the providers (cable and satellite services) should have to rationalize the charges.

[Flag](#)

Like



Taras ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local stations cannot make a go of it based on advertising, given the opportunity to not only carry foreign programs but also dub in commercials, etc., they should go down.

Local stations are no longer broadcasters...they are merely re-transmitters riding on the back of the cable television company's technology.

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SK ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I have no intention of subscribing to cable nor can I afford to. Those who are not content with the free programs available from local TV stations and choose to pay a subscription fee for more extensive TV service have the option to cancel their subscription or to not renew when contracts come up.

2) It is only fair and good business practice that a company which charges customers for services/goods provided should pay its suppliers or the creators of those services/goods. If local TV stations are supplying programs to companies that are packaging these programs with others and charging their subscribers a fee for this, then local TV stations have a right to a share in these revenues. Cable companies should not be permitted to profit on the backs of local TV stations. If cable subscribers cannot afford the fees for cable service, they have the right to not renew their subscriptions. Cable is a luxury, not a necessity.

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Like



Dan Jurak ★ [1 month ago](#)

None of the broadcasting networks should be allowed to charge a fee or tax us to remain profitable. Newspapers aren't allowed to do that and they are hurting badly. Radio stations don't get to tax us. Why should giant television networks be allowed this welfare?

My opinion is that the problem with profitability is because CTV and Canwest are tripping over each other to outbid for American programming. If they wouldn't spend too much buying foreign content instead of creating watchable content there probably wouldn't be a problem with their

balance sheet.

Canwest offers lip service when it says it is important to the community. Here in Edmonton, other than the morning, noon and dinner news shows there is little to no local content generated. Everything is bought or syndicated. Why should we pay them more money to buy more content?

In short, no extra money for the networks. These are private for profit business. Let the owners act responsibly and not outbid each other for American programming and then cry that they can't survive.

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Like

 *worried* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i think by reading the growing comments ...you`ll see (crtc) that were as tax payers upset and said enough is enough. NO MORE PAY HIKES !! Canadains have so little to choose from to begin with...Cable company`s make way too much money for the service they provide.It is our right to get local tv! with the troubled times we have financial burdens with local news papers....cost of doing bussiness..going out of bussiness...then how do we keep up with what is going on in our community and our province....cble companys should provide it for free.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Russell McOrmond* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV comes down to individual programs, not channels. We should be expanding things like the Local Programming Improvement Fund to fund not only cable access programs, but also Internet distributed programs.

I am willing to pay (directly, or in taxes) towards truly local programming, but find that I am looking online, cable access, and public stations (TVO) far more often than the so-called "local" channels of the major television networks. I already pay in taxes for the CBC, and am opposed to CTV, Global, A, etc receiving special treatment for channels that have minimal "local" content simply because they offer these same channels OTA (Over The Air). If we want an OTA subsidy then make it an OTA subsidy, but don't claim it is about "local" programming.

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Like

 *puddy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. In this household we have trimmed our viewing packages as fees seem to be escalating without meaningful service in our estimation. At one point friends in Kingston who used Sympatico were unable to access the local news station CKWS unless they unhooked their cable access. Meanwhile my daughter who lives in Atikokan On and my son who lives in Sioux Lookout were able to view the CKWS station. What was that about? On the other hand many local stations cover the news in a funeral atmosphere which does not attract viewers. So let the customer CHOOSE what it wants to watch.
2. A household is not able to choose packages that would be meaningful to their viewing needs. Your stuck with whatever the cable folks cleverly put into one package and dangle a popular choice in another which forces the customer to pay for two packages.
3. When doing business over the phone one later finds out that the services chosen are yours for one year. When one hears X\$ for one year, nobody says you HAVE stay with that selection and apparently there is no way out.
4. The main argument here is MONEY. Both want more money and that will just be passed on to the consumer under one disguise or another. I thought advertisers were paying BIG bucks to show their products on TV.
5. We will all have to pay more money for our magic boxes, more money for this, more money for that. It will never end.

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Like

 [Martin J](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have already cancelled my cable service three years ago because they kept increasing the cost without a corresponding increase in service!

I think that a reasonable solution would be to have everybody pay an annual TV licence fee (as in many European countries) for access to their basic local cable service. The money so raised could be collected by the CRTC in each province/territory for distribution to the cable companies as the CRTC thought fit.

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 [md98](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not want to pay any additional fees to the cable company or the local broadcaster. They already charge higher fees than that of US companies and for less service.

2. The broadcaster is like any other business in Canada. If it is losing money it should adjust its business plan.

They been sheltered for years and if they were forced to compete with the US Networks they would lose.

I am not sure why the CBC needs more money when they are a crown corporation. They are fully funded by the Canadian government.

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 [Ken L](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If advertiser-funded local TV is not sustainable then let it die. The CRTC is contributing to local TV extinction through archaic Canadian content regulations which are obsolete in this age of global connectivity.

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 [vjv/51](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Do I watch local TV (news, events, etc) on TV? No. That is my choice. Do I want to pay more for what I don't watch? No. Do I watch Canadian programs? Yes. Would I pay for them? Yes, as part of a bundle package.

Do I think local TV should be paid for their programming? Yes. Everyone deserves to be paid for what they produce. Bundle the local channels together or add to existing bundles and then the people that want to watch local channels can choose to subscribe to that bundle. If the local channels are watched by enough people, then they will thrive. If not, then it is time to change or stop producing. In other words - let the market determine what is available to watch and what is not.

I'm not a big fan of the Canadian content requirement. Canada produces some excellent programs that stand on their own merits. Canada will continue to produce programs that stand on their own merits even if there is no Canadian content requirement. The other programs (for Canadian content) will shut down if they do not attract enough viewers. That is the way a market driven system works.

If there is not enough programs available that I want to watch, then I will cancel my service. TV is not a necessity. As things stand, I am forced to watch almost 10 minutes of advertising in every 30 minutes of viewing time. I don't want to watch more advertising nor do I want to pay more for my service.

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[Like](#)

 [puddy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



James ★ [1 month ago](#)

No No No... CTV and Global have purchased shows they cannot afford. In CTV's zest to be kings of the heap, buying every Chum/CITY product to have a downtown connection, they now cannot afford it.

Too bad. Sell your stuff... STOP BUYING U.S. SHOWS, THAT YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR.

***** WHERE IS YOUR LOCAL TELEVISION? CTV only has News, Morning show chatter and reruns of Corner Gas. They are over run with US shows.

Too bad. Get out of my wallet.

Don't be fooled by "Local TV Matters"... CTV has very little of it. It obviously doesn't matter to them. Get out of our wallets and find a way to pay for your own stuff.

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Like



jmurrie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not believe cable and satellite services should charge extra for local tv. As a consumer of satellite TV, I will basically have no alternative source of TV signal, therefore regardless of the decisions forthcoming, the consumer is not likely maintain or reduce TV signal costs.

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Like



Diane T ★ [1 month ago](#)

I subscribe to Bell and on my last two bills the last thing showing is a \$1.07 charge. They show this as a charge by the CRTC. I called about it and could not get an answer. All they did was read a prepared speech. I looked on the CRTC website and it was an increase of .5% for something. The CRTC stated that they did not tell the Cable and Satallite providers to raise the price by that \$1.07; they just did. I guess making millions is not enough; they need more money from us. It's plain and simple. We now pay for the local channels so the cable and satallite providers should give local program the money we pay now. They pay for the American channels. WE SHOULD NOT pay twice for something we pay for now. I find it amazing how much GREED there is.

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Like



blackwalnit ★ [1 month ago](#)

I shall cancel my cable. I will put up a HD antenna,

If the local stations can't be profitable put the station/license up for sale or close it

[Flag](#)

Like

 *colpoy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch my local TV stations on a regular basis and would be willing to pay a reasonable amount (e.g. the \$10 amount cited in ads) more per month on my cable bill to maintain local TV service. That said, I think cable customers should have the choice of whether they want to pay for and receive local channels. That way, if someone doesn't watch local TV they aren't forced to pay for it.

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 *ndoggy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am OPPOSED to local TV collecting from the cable/satellite companies!!! The local companies have been broadcasting for free for years and NOW they cannot live without an infusion of money?! Do the local stations not collect money from advertisers? Why can they not continue to do as they always have? Why are they any different than any other business? This is a ridiculous argument. I really think that local TV has just seen a way to make money without lifting a finger!

I feel I pay too much for my satellite however I would be willing to do away with the local Canadian content rather than pay for it.

If you make a recommendation to allow this, the cable/satellite companies should be allowed to make the local channels a package so that we can decide to pay for it or not.

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 *EdR* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am disgusted with CTRC for the way the TV, cable and satellite industry has been handled. The cable and satellite companies are making a fortune and you CRTC are allowing them to take more. Local TV stations are important but if they can't make a go of it from advertising they should do like and other unsustainable business and fold. If they can get funding by other means fine as long as it is not off the backs of the taxpayer. Perhaps CRTC should be reminded that they work for the taxpayer and not the Cable/ sat providers. Any further increase in fees will result in my dropping all these services.

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 *Tom* ★ [1 month ago](#)

No we should not have to pay for local channels,
But I should be able to pick and choose which channels I want on my cable / sat
not force fed tiers or packages, so I only pay for what I watch, and if I want a local channel then I would pay for it and they should get part of that fee back from cable/ sat providers.

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 *donaldifgraham* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i will cancel my cable service completely if there are any more charges added to my account. We are already overcharged for cable services. More charges will break the camels back.....

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 *David Hamilton* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If cable increased my rates (again), I would cancel my cable subscription and switch back to an antenna to get free over-the-air signals (which local stations are supposed to be anyway). Cable and satellite can easily pay, from their revenue, broadcasters a fee for the local signal, however, I don't think they should. It's a two-way street; conventional broadcasters would not have the huge audiences they enjoy without the distribution of their signal by satellite and cable; at the

same time, cable and satellite distributors would not have the numbers of subscribers they have without the programs supplied by the conventional broadcasters. I believe that Telus had the most reasonable solution and that was to sell the 2 minutes of 'local time' on US cable services ie. BET, A&E, etc. Telus had indicated, I think, that 70% of revenue would go to broadcasters and 30% to the carriers. I believe that 100% should go to local television, however, that 100% must be tracked to ensure that those monies are spent on local programming and not to purchase foreign programming or for use for any other purpose, ie. marketing, on-line, etc.

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Like



James ★ [1 month ago](#)

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baywood ★ [1 month ago](#)

No way should any payment be forced on the non- local signal distributors. I think that if they had a choice they would choose not to carry some local broadcasting due to low or non-existent viewers.

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Like



Dennis ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I am to be charged by my carrier to carry local TV stations, I want the ability to choose which TV stations I want to pay for, rather than the current system of bundling them all together. I want to make my own decision rather than be forced to take receive stations I never watch.

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Like



Rob ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television isn't important to me. If cable companies have to pay for the feeds then they're going to pass those fees along to me - and I don't want that!

[Flag](#)

Like



Dennis ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I am to be charged by my carrier to carry local TV stations, I want the ability to choose which TV stations I want to pay for, rather than the current system of bundling them all together. I want to make my own decision rather than be forced to take receive stations I never watch.

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Like



Jim Jackson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't care whether the cable companies or the TV networks pay but one thing is clear...I AM NOT PAYING A CENT MORE. It seems to me the TV networks should pay the cable companies to carry their signals (and all their commercials, promos, and whining ianti-cable messages). If they didn't spend millions of annual dollars on American programming they might have money

for local programming. As for the cable companies, they already charge an ever-increasing top dollar for customer service which is slow, and programming which offers little choice in packaging. If I have to, I will switch back to aerial use!

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Like



lindamd ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not pay for local TV in addition to cable services.
2. The cable and satellite companies should be paying the local TV stations a fee or royalty to re-broadcast their signals. And that fee should be absorbed by the cable and satellite companies within the fat rates they already charge. If I, as a private individual, was "stealing" a TV signal and selling it to someone else as my own, how long would it be before the police would be knocking on my door??

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Like



robbparsons ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV in my market (YYT) has good and bad points, probably like anywhere. If the CBC, which is a public TV station could reduce the local news to 30 minutes, obviously the CBC didn't care about local markets. Oh, I know they eventually changed that, but only because NTV hired more staff and clobbered them in the ratings. Did the CBC learn its lesson about local TV. No, of course not. They took Land and Sea which was one of their more popular programs in these parts and put it on at 12 noon on Sundays. And what did they replace it with? An American game show! I don't see that talked about in the silly advertising about how important local TV is by the CBC. NTV has proven that by hiring more local talent and focusing the news on local events (i.e. not endless coverage of Michael Jackson) they can build an audience. They're not perfect, but they are hiring staff and getting more of their own content on the air.

I most strongly disagree with the proposition that simply because a local consumer chooses to get their local content over a cable as opposed to rabbit ears, we should be charged for that. This is madness. Local TV was given exclusive spectrum on which they can broadcast anything they want. So the fact that most choose to waste that privilege on imported TV should not be further exacerbated by a backdoor tax on consumers. I for one will cancel my cable (more on this in another thread)

The national channels like CTV, Global et al have gotten into fiscal trouble by trying to take over every frequency they can. I haven't seen any productivity or creativity increases coming my way. The small independents that they bought out were concerned with local and managed to survive all kinds of technology advancements over the years.

2. If you cater to your viewers and produce a product that is unique, you will get an audience and from that audience, you will get advertisers. And specialty channels should not be permitted to have these endless infomercials. There's no specialty in that.

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Like



M.Daley ★ [1 month ago](#)

I now have to pay for stuff I don,t watch. I will not pay other cent for crap tv the CRTC should let us pick what we want to watch and bill me for that, not all the other crap I am stuck paying for now. I will cancel all services and watch the net.!!!

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Like



mike ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. It's not worth anything to me so I would not be happy.
2. Local Advertising as well as cable companies not having local channels for populations that can't support them.

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Like



mdaley ★ [1 month ago](#)

I now have to pay for stuff I don,t watch. I will not pay other cent for crap tv the CRTC should let us pick what we want to watch and bill me for that, not all the other crap I am stuck paying for now. I will cancel all services and watch the net.!!!

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Like



Jan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the whole discussion is a waste of time. These are all major corporations that are in a profit driven industry, why are we even considering paying extra to support more profit for the big guys? TV is not an essential service and is not in any way necessary, in fact it would probably be better for our society if we didn't have so much television and people could learn to think for themselves.

Having said that, I would not mind paying more to pay for local stations and therefore local employment if there was a reduction in advertising on those stations.

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Like



Al G ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local television aired something useful other than talk shows and reality shows it may be worth a few dollars.

Unfortunately, as a subscriber who already pays a cable company to provide me with programing, I do not have the opportunity to add a tax to something to increase my income to cover costs of companies that maybe would not have a financial problem in the first place if they learned how to manage their businesses and be innovative like many other successful companies.

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Julia Yeung ★ [1 month ago](#)

Contrary to what a Rogers representative said at the CRTC hearings last month, I, a longtime Rogers subscriber (by necessity, as that company appears to have a monopoly on cable TV in my region), would welcome a "skinny basic" package of local Canadian channels. I feel that the cable and satellite carriers use their exclusive position to force certain channels and features on Canadians that, given the opportunity, I would opt out of in order to reduce my overall bill.

I would definitely consider paying for a "skinny basic" package, assuming the carriers will not be allowed to arrange it in a way that is detrimental to the broadcasters (e.g. timeshifting costing extra, channels placed in inconvenient number ranges).

I would also like to say how much I appreciate being given the opportunity to comment personally on this issue, particularly in light of the remarks made at the hearings by both the broadcasters and the carriers, which presumed to speak for consumers when in fact none of the companies has made any effort whatsoever to consult with actual members of the consumer public.

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Like



djmacpherson ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television has a responsibility to the area they serve. To inform the public of what is happening around them. That includes everything from public services announcements regarding weather and major disasters to local politicians banter for reelection. I live in Dartmouth NS and most certainly need to know more about what is going on here than what is going on in Montreal, Toronto or Vancouver. Those people who do not support local content are

certainly more interested in entertainment than information about their neighbourhood. The CRTC has a responsibility to these Canadian communities and duty to enforce these regulations. I for one cannot understand why the CRTC is asking the broadcasters where they plan on spending these funds instead of telling them where they must spend it. Fees collected in the Maritimes should be spent in the Maritimes. I to am very angry at the increase in my cable bill every year. My bill went up 5% last year to off set their cost for digital TV and I don't have digital TV. I did file a complaint with the CRTC regarding the increase and was informed that they didn't regulate cable and I should talk with my cable company, lots of luck with that! When it comes time my cable will be dropped and I will be looking for and off air local signal, will it be there?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jim* ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV service is already unaffordable based on the service we can get. Don't really care how this issue is handled, but there better not be an increase in my rates.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bob W* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Shaw cable increases my invoice way too often and for what I do not know. I am starting to think satellite may be better. I only watch the local news on the broadcast stations and really do not care about their other programs.

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Like

 *Jim* ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV service is already unaffordable based on the service we can get. Don't really care how this issue is handled, but there better not be an increase in my rates.

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Like

 *David Wohlfahrt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should we be forced to pay a fee to subsidize the private broadcasters over extended debt load? These broadcasters have expanded their empires over the years into Newspaper chains and overseas networks for their own profitability, not ours. As a matter of fact the CTV Bell Globe Media empire is 40% owned by the Thompson family who have assets in excess of 23 Billion dollars! Bell Canada has soaked us for many years and are not going broke. The Can West Global network is owned by the Asper family and had assets in the Billions before the passing of Izzy Asper--has this been disclosed to the public? As a private business operator I have gone through 4 recessions in my business life and had to fend for myself. I do not qualify for unemployment benefits as a business owner. These are the risks of being in business, I cannot charge my clients a separate fee to pay for my bad investments, or short comings. I have to pay my own bills from my own pocket and so should these Billionaire broadcasters! In the case of the CBC they are owned by the Government of Canada and should not be put in the same group.

COME ON CRTC, why are you getting us to debate this issue? The CRTC is not a tax collector for private business!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *nicketynick* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. This is a rather ludicrous question, as in major markets, which represent a huge majority of the audience, they get local TV over cable/satellite, and I'm sure that most people would have assumed (prior to all the publicity) that they were paying for it! In my case, I don't get my local Kingston channel via the satellite provider, which has always seemed strange to me, I would have thought they were required to carry it (and collected a portion of my bill as well!) So to

answer the specific question, I would be somewhat surprised to see an increase in my bill for a service I thought I was already paying for, but given the situation, I don't mind a small increase if it means I actually will get our local channel! but.....

2. Therefore, I think local television should be getting paid for their signals by cable/satellite (albeit a very small amount). I think that cable/satellite has been getting a free ride, and that the specialty channels have basically been subsidized by local TV - they are being overpaid for their signals! It's time that the playing field was levelled. If the cable/satellite business wasn't an oligopoly, I'm sure it would all get straightened out without an increase in consumer's bills, which are already too high.

In closing, I suspect the live horse has already fled the barn. I foresee that within 3-5 years, I will no longer have cable/satellite 'TV', I will get the same content via the internet connection (or wireless, thanks to the looming demise of the oligopoly), on demand. So I'm not sure why everyone is so intent on flogging the dead horse.....

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Like



TomTrottier ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should local channels be treated differently than other signal sources? Yes, "local" TV stations should be compensated. (But what about US signals?) The local channel should set the rates they want. But subscribers should be able to choose exactly what channels to pay for, not be clobbered with a flat rate and packages which include stuff we don't want - eg, in a language we don't speak.

The digital box can do that, channel by channel. Let the cable companies offer an internet (or set-side) page where you can choose what channels you want, month by month. Payment can be for the channel, with discounts based on how many channels you choose - you can't watch all of them at once.

For analog service, set the rates every year to similar amounts, but further discounted because subscribers have less choice - and a lesser signal.

The cable companies have a monopoly. They should start transitioning to a "signal delivery" service like our utilities have, with subscribers choosing what source and paying for it.

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Like



RWU ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable operators may be required to carry local stations as part of the basic cable programming, but they are getting the local station signals for free and have in turn charged their customers for something that gives them 100% profit, they will certainly not complain about the current arrangement of getting something for free and make money from it. The CRTC should remove the basic cable rule for cable operators with the exception of CBC as they are government sponsored and thus allow customers to choose to have basic cable or not and reduce their monthly bills. If the cable operators charge for basic cable, than they should be required to share their 100% profit with the local stations which they are offering as part of their basic cable package. Municipalities charge water bottling companies a fee for using what is essentially a free service for repackaging water to make a profit from it. This should be no different for cable companies that use what is essentially a free service and repackaging it as basic cable and making a profit from it, but are currently not paying any fees.

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Like



DowntownNB ★ [1 month ago](#)

Although this will never fly, I would suggest that the "top dogs" take a hit on their "bonuses" or "golden handcuff share packages" instead of passing this cost onto consumers. I'd rather fund my local TV station than their retirement.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dennis ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would like to select what channels are available to me to watch rather than take many that I never watch. I don't want to pay for stuff I never look at.

[Flag](#)

Like



Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

My local TV is CHCH in Hamilton. It broadcasts over the air as HD but Cogeco sends it out as if it were a poor quality analogue. Why would I want to pay extra for lesser quality when I can use an antenna and get it free and HD? Also why can't I cherry pick and pay for only basic channels that I watch? We need more cable competition. Cogeco has a cable monopoly. They shouldn't be able to own the distribution hardware. They need to be broken up like the American baby bells. Pay per use would allow more accountability and funds to directly go to local TV stations, if they are worth watching. We should not have to pay extra for HD broadcasts either. Will TV signals be throttled next? It's a crime and invasive. I think the cable companies control the CRTC.

[Flag](#)

Like



Robert Millan ★ [1 month ago](#)

1- We should not pay more. The cable companies are already charging enough that they can pass something to the local stations. Although the local station is free in the air, very soon everything will be through cable or Internet.

2- The local station can be one of the 2 or 3 basic channels offered by the cable company. Everything else should be left to the people to decide what to watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



richardharbert ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) Local television is not really local, just the re-broadcast of the American programs they buy. Their local component is primarily news and similar programs and I get all of my news from the Internet, it is faster, more direct and has less advertising. Local programming, as it has become, is essentially worthless to me.

2) To fix this problem, drop the US broadcast networks from cable and satellite. The local Canadian stations already buy the rights to every American made entertainment program for re-broadcast in Canada. They buy the right to a program, for a market, yet have to compete with several US feeds of the same thing. Canadian stations even program these shows to directly coincide with the closest US feed, which essentially means the US networks program the Canadian channels. Drop ABC, CBS, FOX and NBC and let the Canadian stations benefit from the product they pay for and their offerings will become an indispensable part of the cable company's offerings. They should be able to both increase their own add revenues and generate the money to create Canadian programming that goes beyond inexpensive news shows.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jan ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Having said that, I would not mind paying more to pay for local stations and therefore local employment if there was a reduction in advertising on those stations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Steve Humphreys* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would consider alternatives to satellite and cable.
2. Free market.

Local TV should be able to charge fees the same as their US counterparts. Whether cable companies can afford to absorb the fee or need to pass it on should be based on competition. I find it shocking that the cable and satellite providers make massive profits and yet all agree to pass on the cost to the consumer. Sounds to me like we need more competition in this space.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bonny Kooh* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that satellite and cable companies should be paying for local TV and not be allowed to pass that cost on to the subscribers since Roger alone, according to the newspaper, currently has operating profit of 1.25 billion dollars.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *koshka42* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my services immediately. Not one more penny would I give to them.

As for supporting local television, leaving it analogue so I could actually watch the local stuff without needing to give cable providers any money would do me just fine. They can run ads to make money just like other channels do.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mike* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay way too much. I will cancel services and then we'll see how well the cable companies do because I am sure a lot more will follow.

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Like

 *George* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I was made to believe that if I buy the "basic" cable/Sat. package, one was paying for the channels that I was seeing (ie channels 2-28 in Toronto) I had no idea that ROGERS in my case, was simply bouncing the signal. So that I was paying \$40/mnth for a handful of American channels.

I think that the whole answer to the argument is simple. If you the CRTC/Government require Cable/Sat to carry the "local" channels then the government should be subsidizing those channels. If the CRTC/Government does not require the carriage of said channels then the cable/sat companies have been carrying and charging for these channels since the beginning. And should continue to pay for these channels without charging the customers further.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dennis* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Fees are too high with poor selection. I am investigating getting satellite TV directly from the US and discontinue satellite current service. It seem the Demographic the satellite company wants to get is not a senior citizen.

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Like



Carlo ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would never agree to pay for local on-air broadcasts over cable.
2. Cable should freely exchange some of it's programs in trade for local broadcasts at no charge.

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Like



Lloyd ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay too much already for too few choices.
The vast majority of the choices are NOT interesting to me.
Local news is very important.
TV stations and carriers should be forced to work it out with out asking for any more money from Canadians.
I do not want to pay poorly managed corporations to make up for their mistakes.
Nor, do I want to see corporations rake in exorbinant profits
CBC is a special case and should be dealt with differently.
CBC is the ONLY real Canadian view on TV. It must be supported.
The vast majority of advertising on TV is dreadful -- it is insulting, annoying and just plain lousy. Advertisers seem to think repetition is the way. How stupid. I will watch a good commercial, but there are so few.

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Like



Keith ★ [1 month ago](#)

If we have to pay to have local stations on cable (that are free over the airwaves) then we should have the option to not subscribe to them on cable. If we are forced to pay fees for local TV on cable then this is truely a tax.
For once please look out for the consumer in this case.

[Flag](#)

Like



Garry Sommer ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe both cable and satellite companies in Canada are overcharging for their services. They also provide few choices and flexibility for the consumer to choose what they want to watch. As I have not option but Satellite, the companies should carry local tv at no cost to me if they want my service. They already overcharge for the limited selection.

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Like



Rick ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in the London Ont. area and we have already lost our local morning news show and our local noon news broadcast. Several stations have closed in the area. I miss our local news but I am not willing to pay more to receive it. The cable companies and the big TV networks already make a huge profit every year. I have been a Rogers customer for over 10 years and in the last year I have battled with them over incorrect billings, rates that were incorrectly increased without notice, poor reception, and an "I don't care attitude". I am researching satelite service out of the US as a much cheaper alternative.

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Like



Craig Chisamore ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm not against paying for local TV....BUT not on top of the fee I currently have to pay the Cable company for the "packaged" programing they currently deliver.....much of which I do not want, and much of which is the same programming only on different channels. In other words I would like to see ALL channels (including local TV) individually offered, individually priced so that the

consumer can select as many or as few channels as they desire with no "packaging", and no duplication. It's my guess that almost all Canadian households would select a number of local channels. IE: I live in Burlington Ontario and I would definitely select CHCH Hamilton, and CITY/Global Toronto under the process I've described. The current situation has bloated the bottom line of the cable companies. The recent TV "Tax Ads" paid for by the cable companies really showed their true colours. Talk about misleading! Bottom line.....Menu-price all channels. No more packaging.

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Like



iwsbarker ★ [1 month ago](#)

As far as I am concerned, the cable/satellite companies are already charging us for local TV. If you do not subscribe to cable/satellite TV, you cannot receive the local stations over the cable outlet or satellite dish for free. I think the debate is talking about the wrong thing - we should be discussing whether or not cable/satellite companies should be forced to provide local TV for free, without a subscription. Personally, I think cable/satellite companies should be forced to provide local TV over cable/satellite for free. To charge for something they are receiving for free is and always has been ridiculous. Unfortunately, I doubt the CRTC will entertain such a notion. In that case, local TV should be allowed to charge cable/satellite companies to carry their signal, and the CRTC should explicitly disallow the cable/satellite companies from passing the charge on to consumer, who have been effectively paying for a free broadcast all along.

As for funding local television, the government should provide subsidies to news programming if necessary to keep the news on the air. I am personally willing to have a portion of my tax money go towards keeping the local news on the air. All other local television programming should be left to fend for itself with advertising - if the programming is any good, viewers will watch, which will translate to a healthy market for advertisers to fund the broadcasts.

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robert millan ★ [1 month ago](#)

1- Cable should pay to the local station the same they pay to other stations or channels. The local station is important for the community. Everything else should be left to the customer selecting which channels they want to watch and pay.

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Like



Carlo ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would never agree to pay for local on-air broadcasts over cable.

2. Cable should freely exchange some of its programs in trade for local broadcasts at no charge.

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Andrea ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If I were asked to pay for local TV in addition to our cable and satellite services I would be outraged. I do not think it's appropriate that just because the local television stations are losing ad revenue (because of the economic conditions) that they are able to start charging the cable and satellite providers, which ultimately results in the consumer bearing the impact. When we come out of the recession and the local television stations start generating more ad revenue will they then remove the charges to the cable and satellite providers? Likely not. Therefore, I believe the local television stations should not be allowed to charge the cable and satellite companies.

2. I say sink or swim. The quality is so low on local television that I wouldn't be sad to see them dissipate.

[Flag](#)



marc ★ [1 month ago](#)

we already pay cable for their stuff. this is the cable companies bill. they make billions and want to pass their bill on to the consumer. if they do we will cancel from your wild cowboy. we do have other choices now. no longer are cable companies a monopoly.

[Flag](#)



TJ ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be angry if asked to pay more for what I already received. I would look at alternative means to obtain tv signals.
2. I understand that local TV already receives support as a condition of broadcasters licenses - that is enough.

[Flag](#)



Mike Stasiuk ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV broadcasts have been carried for free since the cable and satellite networks were built. Now that advertising revenues are shrinking, the national TV networks are demanding payment. Their demand should be turned down because they did not protest or take legal action when cable and satellite initially began carrying their broadcasts. Personally, I have already purchased and installed a new TV antenna and will cancel my satellite contract if rates go up one cent because of the threats by the TV business.

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Derek ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay any more for local TV. I also resent having to pay for stations such as ethnic channels or other stations I do not want. There should be complete freedom of choice. We need to abandon support stations which are not wanted, Chinese or Aboriginal channels for example should be self supporting or taken off the air. Cable and satellite can then afford the local channels watched by most.

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Maya Cain ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV supplies specific newscasts but rarely does it supply specific programming for a region whereas, in my case, Shaw does supply region specific programming not just newscasts. I would be more than willing to pay extra for local TV if local TV would produce interesting and exciting programming.

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DAN ★ [1 month ago](#)

let's look at this. CTV bought chum june 2007. Then sept 2008 they increased morning shows on 'A' by an hour. in march 2009 they cancel these shows and say that conventional tv model is broken, no future for it. What?! then why did CTV rebrand the 'A' stations, AND create new morning shows for these stations. CTV MUST OF SEEN A FUTURE FOR THEM. This makes no sense! CTV has bitten off more than they could chew and now they're crying poor. So no, we should not pay any extra fees for local tv. This is CTV and CANWEST problems.

[Flag](#)



jeffreya ★ [1 month ago](#)

I personally feel that tv packages are far to overpriced, with rates seemingly going up yearly. Secondly i feel that canadians should have a choice on whether or not we would like to recieve canadaian, as as such whether we should support it

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Like

 *pfaucher* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would drop whatever package contains local TV, because I have no use for it. Let consumers decide by having cable companies package local TV seperately - see how many Canadians actually buy it. This would force local TV to become relevant, or bust, like any other product on the market.

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Like

 *mdaley* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am now paying for crap I do not watch, it is there choice not mine.I will not pay a penny more for for local programing. I would like to pay for what I watch! The CRTC should let us chose what we want to watch and save a few bucks.Ya right, I will cancal my service if they stick it to me again! The net is cheeper and I can watch what I want!!!

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Like

 *Thopurath Joseph* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I just want to watch what I want to watch and pay for it ,instead of getting all unwanted channels. We just want local channel and some other channels we like. At present they group all unwanted channels with only few ones we want and we pay for all those. Is there any possibility to pay per channel,so people can take want they want and pay for it?. Now they have the technology to so that. All ready lpaying too much now for the cable now . If it goes up again ,we may have to cancel it.

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 *DoctorJ* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would take a serious look at the channels I get and cancel some of them. I already pay a minor fortune for cable; paying more for channels I rarely watch is not appealing.
2. I personally don't see much value in local television: I rarely watch it. If I want to know the weather, I look on-line, which is also my source for local news. If the CRTC wants to go in this direction and charge for local programming, there should be restrictions placed on the local channels, requiring them to provide a higher level of original, Canadian programming than they currently do. I'm not sure why I should have to pay for channels that mostly carry programming I already get from other channels. Or, if there aren't any requirements for what these channels have to carry,t hen at least give me the option to decide whether I want to subscribe or not.

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 *groze* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is not that important to most people- it is a niche product. I never have had a discussion with anybody about anything they saw on local TV. I don't know anybody who watches it. Personally, I think the issue of "local TV" is just a stalking horse for the Canwest and CTV networks to try get money. There are so many ways people can reach a local market now that is not necessarily TV (e.g. you can post your "local" cooking show or whatever on youtube). If the "public good" at question here is the ability to broadcast "disaster warnings" to a local population there must be a less expensive way to do it than subsidizing CTV and Canwest for millions of dollars.

2. We already have a public broadcaster- the CBC. If local TV is truly a "public good" which cannot be efficiently provided through the private market then the provider should be the CBC

since it receives funding from the general tax pool.

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[gworgemills](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay well over \$100.00 a month for TV --HD including rental of recvr. I am stuck with Cogeco as I live in condo where I can't erect a dish. I regulairly watch about 4 stations - no more. Sometime 'local' but seldom. I would like to be able to buy to watch only the channels i want, with ability to add a channel, at a cost, when something special is on to my liking. ggm

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[Shane Parsons](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Although I, like most Canadians, am not overjoyed at the thought of paying more for my Television Signal. I accept that some money needs to be directed to keep local TV stations alive. I do support a small amount of money \$2~\$3 a month be directed to fund local programming. But the caveat is this would be my limit. No more than that. That amount could only be increased to keep up with inflation, no more than that.

I've read enough about this issue and have taken great offense at some of the 'alternatives'. Like blacking out shows that broadcasters have the right to, but are not airing. Or blacking out show on an American feed because the Canadian station will be carrying it at another time. The blacking out of any feed would cause me to sever all ties to Canadian TV distributors and broadcasters. On principal alone, encountering one blacked out show would cause me to find alternative means to watch the programming I want, when I want.

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[Marla DiGiacomo](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes I would be willing to pay extra for local TV.

In the new multi channel universe it is more imperative than ever that each local region retain its intrinsic identity and how better to do so then through local television programming which reflects the unique culture of each place back to the larger Canadian audience. It is important for Canadians to have the opportunity to peer in to share in the local cultures of different parts of the country to enrich, educate and create empathy for each other while celebrating the uniqueness of being Canadian. Empathy for each other bonds and unifies us as a people; local television promotes this.

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[davidwohlfahrt](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Marla DiGiacomo](#)

TVO and CBC do enrich our local communities, however, CTV and Global compete with each other for American syndicated programs such as House , or Heroes, or American Idol, for example. TVO and CBC are already funded by our governments and TVO has annual fund raising drive to help with proگرامing budget shortfalls. CTV is 40% owned by the Thompson family(23 Billion in assets) and Bell Canada and the Teachers Pension plan. Global is owned by the Asper family (Billions in Assets) The proposed fees you are endorsing will help these families through tough times so they don't have to pay out of there own pockets for their bad investments.

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[Renato Pinto](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

What we pay for Cable/Satelite televesions services in Canada is already far too high. (don't get me started on our ridiculous Internet service rates) While I believe that local stations should recive money from cable companies, that money should come from the cable company and not from us (in the form of another rate increase).

If my rates were to go up I would simply cancel my TV subscription as I am fed up with constant rate increases with zero improvement in service.

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Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Most channels are similar/same, and we're paying too much and just watch specific 3 to 4 channels. The basic has too many channels already, which we never watched. I will cancel all TV subscription when the price goes up again.

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Like

 *jaaristone* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am for local programming and will support it

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Like

 *Renato Pinto* ★ [1 month ago](#)

What we pay for Cable/Satellite televisions services in Canada is already far too high. (don't get me started on our ridiculous Internet service rates) While I believe that local stations should receive money from cable companies, that money should come from the cable company and not from us (in the form of another rate increase).

If my rates were to go up I would simply cancel my TV subscription as I am fed up with constant rate increases with zero improvement in service.

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 *michael41* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the first question is a bit misleading. For me, living in a rural part of the country, local TV does not mean CTV or CBC. It means community cable. And I have to say that the regional cable company does a pretty good job of making sure there is local content on the channel. CBC has a very good provincial newscast but I would hardly call it local to me. As for CTV and Global, I find very little of their content can be called local or even Canadian. I believe another poster mentioned that having one strong national Canadian network is a great idea. It is an idea I would support and even pay for. However, I am in the "choice" camp when it comes to all other services.

How about this...a simple fee (tax) on TVs when you buy them. Similar to the enviro fee you now pay. That would go directly to CBC providing they have no regularly scheduled American programming. Then let the other channels fend for themselves by forcing them to appeal to viewers in order to stay in business.

Also, force cable AND satellite companies (or any signal provider) to supply at least one local signal to your area. Similar to what cable does now, but strengthen the regs a bit when it comes to local content. Also make the CBC and at least one local channel mandatory but free to all subscribers.

After that, a true pick-and-pay system for all other channels. Only the strong will survive and the rest will fall to the wayside allowing channel space for the strong. Radical, I know!

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Like

 *Unhappy with TV price* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Most channels are similar/same, and we're paying too much and just watch specific 3 to 4 channels. The basic has too many channels already, which we never watched. I will cancel all TV subscription when the price goes up again.

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 Like

Susan Schneir ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy about paying for free TV on top of my cable package for several reasons:

1. I do not want to bail out our independent broadcasters because they have irresponsibly overextended themselves in a buying spree and are now burdened with debt.
2. The independent broadcasters are already paid for their signals from their ownership of all the cable networks.

3. They have rarely acted responsibly in producing local television and have opted to buy programs from the US. I do not believe they will change their behaviour.

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 Like

Glenn ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. your site is not user friendly.

2. The ads about cable providers should pay the local TV stations is miss leading. This ad was run on a sunday afternoon on ATV Atlantic during an NFL football game. Where can I go to an NFL game with in a 30 minute drive (my definition of local) from my home.

Eastlink, my cable provider has at least 20 hours or more a week of local progamming. The TV stations has at least 90% (my estiment) showing programs from other countries. Only the news programs are produced with some Maritime content.

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 Like

rswood ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Niagara (close to a half million people). I do not have "local TV" and any attempt to bring "local TV" to this area has been blocked by networks. I do not want to pay a premium for something I do not receive. If they give me the option of paying for the major networks or losing them, I will wave goodbye. Recycled American programs and poor quality Canadian "fill ins" are not worth paying extra for.

[Flag](#)

 Like

ianboyd ★ [1 month ago](#)

As long as the cable carrier or sattelite carrier are forced to carry the local television signal as is (including commercials), i think they should be able to carry it for free. If the carriers modified the local signal in any way (including censoring, blackouts, pre-emptying or replacing programming or commercials) then the local stations should be compensated.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Jason ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite companies already charge too much money for their services. Cable and satellite companies should be the ones paying the local TV stations for their signals, not the consumer.

[Flag](#)

 Like

josephinearistone ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is necessary, and I am willing to pay for it in some way or another

[Flag](#)

 Like

 [steve macsuga](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Other than news, which is available by internet, there is nothing "local" about these stations as they all seem to broadcast CSI and stuff. I can not afford to pay more for things I do not watch or want. Dealing with providers is a Mafia like organization. 2nd question...who cares?

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 [saltorio](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

To put my comment in context: I don't currently subscribe to cable or satellite TV because the cost is already far too high. The providers create bundles of channels, which always seem to include the most popular channels separated into different bundles, so you have to pay the most possible to get the few channels you actually want. I also went through the Television Broadcasting program at Algonquin College giving me a vested interest in the local TV industry.

1. Regarding local TV: it has little importance to me. Much of what the local stations broadcast is network programming produced in Toronto or the U.S. For the most part local programming consists of the daily local news programs at 6 and 11pm, and those I can easily do without as local internet news sources are more up-to-the-minute and conveniently accessible. I would not pay anything extra for access to local TV, and would not mourn it's loss if it disappeared, as it seems to have lost most (if not all) relevance over the years.

2. If local TV is to survive, it needs to become relevant. Local stations need to severely cut-back on their network programming and produce local content of varying genres. Local news can remain in such a case, but programs showcasing local events, people within the community, and history need to become the majority of the content on these channels. Otherwise they are little more than a network station with a local news shows for 90 minutes a day (as they are now), and that's not worth our time or money.

Finally on a side note, I'd like to mention that the CRTC is supposed to be looking out for the Canadian communications consumers, and not just the big-money networks and broadcasters. This is a job you have been neglecting for some time, as Canada now stands as having some of the highest TV and Cellular rates in the world, while we continue to fall behind regarding such technologies. You need to take a stand for the consumers in this country, or the result of this hearing will mean little and Canadians increasingly decide to simply disconnect.

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 [Ross Jeffery](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the networks should update their business plans to conform to today's reality. Every other media type in Canada has had to do so. In other words, I think their problem is a management issue

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 [Adrian Wolf](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch my local TV news daily -- both in the mornings with a coffee and in the evenings when I get home from work. While I also have access to "National News" networks such as CBC News Network (aka CBC Newsworld) that service does not provide me with content specific to my locale. Naturally, the US News stations have even less coverage that pertains to my local region.

As with some of the other commenters, I am considering dropping my Cable TV service entirely due to the inflated pricing. The classic Bruce Springsteen song says it best -- "57 Channels and nothing on" -- except that there are now hundreds of channels and yet nothing is on. So why am I paying for it?

The only service that is still keeping me there paying these bills is Internet service -- which is not yet a competitive environment and is where the CRTC should be helping to promote competition and new services (TV over IP please)

I would almost certainly drop my Cable TV service were they to add yet another charge to my bill -- but I would continue to support local TV by watching it "over the air" instead.

In my opinion, the Cable and Satellite services are stealing a freely available resource and re-distributing it for their own profit. They SHOULD be forced to pay or come to some sort of agreement with the networks.

If they want to add a new charge to my bill then I will simply vote with my feet -- and walk away. Enough is enough!

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Like

 *n goodale* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be reviewing my services and removing ALL stations that I don't use or use very rarely. I would also be looking into other stations (satellite from U.S.A.) as many others do now. All these people want is MORE MONEY from us to satisfy their SHAREHOLDERS AND OWNERS, nothing more one more way to SCREW the public.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *exsudburyguy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would react by reducing the number of specialty channels I subscribe to, to offset the cost of the payments to the networks for local channels. So, if they charge \$10 a month for local TV, I'll cancel a digital channel package which is costing me at least \$10. I don't think that will help the networks, since they receive subscriptions for the digital channels. I don't think it will help the cable company. And it deprives me of choice.

Local television could best be supported by removing the incentives networks like CTV and Global have to air U.S. television shows. If the networks lost the ability to simulcast, they would be encouraged to compete against U.S. broadcasters by producing their own shows (and selling them to the U.S. or to specialty channels.) That would do more to boost local television production than any government-imposed mandates, or taxes.

Joe Schneider

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Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1 - I wouldn't pay. Cost are so ridiculously high right now that I am about to drop my Rogers Digital service, and I am also strongly considering dropping my cable services entirely.
2 - The current TV model is broken and I shouldn't be forced to pay for it to be fixed. If Canadian Television companies, local, regional or national, can't make money using the time tested advertising model then they should be forced to adapt, not me.

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Like

 *Bill Bennett* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cable suppliers should be funding the acquisition of local signals - frankly, they have too much power shaping what is available to us with their cute "packages" which can eliminate access to some stations which carry items of broad Canadian interest, like Canadian Football Games but deliver U.S. programming to fill up their offerings. We need local tv to actually have a local forum, local news and an eye on our community. There has been a distressing movement by networks like City and CTV to centralize their stations - and this does no good for the communities they still purport to serve.

Bottom line - make cable pay for what's putting food on it's table and ensure they don't get to just 'pass it on', and stop the cable gurus from playing games with the consumer by selective and consumer-abusive 'basic' services. We really aren't given a choice - we're herded into paying more and more!

[Flag](#)

 *Bill* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Satellite and Cable rates are already way too high. I would be looking to cut my service if rates jumped significantly.

2. There are no measures to fix this broken model except for the local broadcasters to fix their own house. Without restraint, any customer supported handouts just provides more money for them to spend on American shows. If they don't control their own spending, then no amount of money dumped into their coffers is going to fix the problem. A couple of years down the road they will still find that revenues are not enough to pay for the shows they are buying.

[Flag](#) *gordmacdonald* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local Television and radio has, since inception, been broadcast free to everyone in the local area. Please do not change this. Stations have always planned on this and this budgeted accordingly. If we allow a charge for local television now where will it stop? What about local radio rebroadcast over cable?? If anything please focus your attention on how to reduce consumer costs - not increasing them.

[Flag](#) *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1 - I wouldn't pay. Costs are so ridiculously high right now that I am about to drop my Rogers Digital service, and I am also strongly considering dropping my cable services entirely.

2 - The current TV model is broken and I shouldn't be forced to pay for it to be fixed. If Canadian Television companies, local, regional or national, can't make money using the time tested advertising model then they should be forced to adapt, not me.

[Flag](#) *Allan Coates* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. No No No ... to any new fee. The consumer is already swamped with too many taxes and fees as well as sky-high monthly cable rates. Haven't you heard, there is a recession going on. The CRTC has already said "no" on two occasions to the broadcasters money grab. Say "no" a third and final time.

2. The broadcasters are owned by companies that also often own various profitable specialty channels. Let them transfer money from their specialty operations to their broadcast operations rather than use the power of government to extract fees from consumers. Listen to the consumer for a change, not the corporations. If the CRTC continues to ignore the consumer and imposes the tax (it's a tax for all intents and purposes, not a fee), at least stipulate that a) the cable companies can't pass any of it on to the consumer and b) make it a condition of licence that the broadcasters must spent 100% of the money so raised on Canadian programming.

[Flag](#) *james* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'd cancel my cable and satellite services if I were asked to pay more than what I currently pay for my current services. This new suggestion is simply known as gouging the end user of television stations. Have the local advertisers take care of local stations's revenues just as all other stations need to do. I think that different cable packages which are currently offered need to be reformatted... rather than offering a few packages of tv channels, more individual channels should be available at individual costs... but be certain to not increase cable charges in the reformatting of these cable packages. I will not tolerate an increase in cable fees for channels I do not want nor use.

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Like



G. Miller ★ [1 month ago](#)

First, why can't OTA Television broadcasters recognise cable as their Best Friend. IF cable companies elected to NOT carry them, the OTA's would be out in the cold.
Second, if OTA broadcasters are not getting the profit level they want (even with greater exposure through cable), it is simple business accumine to change their business model and adapt. For example, a direct cable feed would negate any need for a physical transmitter(s) and associated costs.

Third, if consumers are asked to pay for what was traditionally free, the OTA's will continue with their same-old expectations (profit and operating) with no incentive to change. As time goes by, consumers will be asked to pay even more while all the while, receiving less.

Fourth, asking consumers to prop-up a "for profit" industry goes against the principal and foundation of free enterprise.

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Like



esehn ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I will not pay any more for local TV. I am paying enough already for a lot of poor quality TV service.

2. If local TV can't make it in the environment then it should be eliminated.

[Flag](#)

Like



wgary ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is a profit centre within larger corporations and it is up to these organizations to decide on their value. If they decide to cancel or cut back so be it. If we as citizens then decide that it is a required public service we can turn to the CBC model and pay for it with public funds. The CBC is a non profit model, the rest are for profit. The CRTC should simply step aside and force the players to work it out as adults.

[Flag](#)

Like



lowertaxes ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't watch local T.V. I don't want to pay for local T.V. I pay far too much for content I don't watch or want. Make the system user pay and we can select only for those channels we want.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jeff ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have to disagree with Heather2223 "The problem with your argument is that you are failing to take the social benefit of local tv into account. Local content and local news is important in maintaining a Canadian identity, an informed public, and a healthy democracy".

Local TV or TV in general does not shape my Canadian identity. When I want to be informed I go to Canadian internet news sites. A healthy democracy is where businesses run on a supply and demand. No demand for local TV so be it. Maybe the local TV suppliers need to re-examine their product.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jean-Pierre Centeno ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have canceled my satellite service 6 month ago.I refuse to pay over \$ 80.00 plus taxes, a

month for TV. Three quarter of the programming I do not want, but to get what I want I have to get a Package.

We should be able to select what we want and pay accordingly.

Local TV should be paid by Cable and satellite service provider without any increase to the viewer.

Open the cable and cell phone service provider to any company that want to get into to business. Enough of the cable, satellite and cell phones service MONOPOLY. Strangely enough there are the same companies in all the services.

Competition is the best deal for the consumer and for the local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



Muneer ★ [1 month ago](#)

I currently subscribe to Bell Satellite services as I live in a rural area. I personally feel that Satellite companies in Canada would operate more efficiently if we had the choice to purchase DirectTV. DirectTV is available in 3rd world countries but is not readily available in Canada. I don't know the reason but I suspect DirectTV does not conform to the CRTC's rules for broadcasting in Canada.

I feel the CRTC should make it easier for all signal carriers to operate in Canada. If this means loosening the rules, I am ok with it.

I do want to allow local Canadian channels the opportunity to thrive. I think they should be allowed to have their signals carried for free as the marginal additional cost for doing so would be negligible. However, I think the definition of "Canadian" channel needs to be examined. A lot of Global and CTV's programming is television purchased from the US. I would argue that purchasing that much American content does not make them "Canadian" even if we get Canadian commercials in between.

I am all for giving consumers the choice of purchasing Canadian programming however the American channels have a bigger market so bigger dollars to draw on. There needs to be some method of equalization but the levels of equalization have become excessive.

Open up the market to more options by limiting the rules and provide local stations with more restrictive rules on their ability to buy American programming and "upcharge" this to Canadian consumers. I personally don't care if I'm watching American Commercials if I can save a few dollars.

The approach should be phased in over 5 years to allow Canadian channels time to innovate and adapt.

The idea of soliciting public feedback is a great one. The CRTC has a role to play but it should not be the role of a king maker.

Thank You.

[Flag](#)

Like



andykrupski ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would reject it and cancel.

Manage their busines to deal with the new advertising model

[Flag](#)

Like



Richard ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is a complete misnomer.. The name is major TV networks in the present and unless you live in a major city they carry nothing local unless someone gets murdered... In Durham Region for Community events you tune to Rogers Community Channel..

[Flag](#)

Like



billwhite11 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I personally feel that the price of accessibility to be overly expensive already. I personally pay well over \$100.00 per month and other then the sports I could care less. My wife likes to watch the network programing and she will regularly watch the local news. I do not think that we are underserved in the least if anything there is too much available. If there is a problem in television its that we can not decide what we want to recieve for ourselves. I am not sure why we have to get ten channels in order to get the one channel that we want. Anyway you split it the price to watch tv is already too expensive. I ca't believe we have to have this conversation. Compared to the USA, not that I advocate for their system, we already pay double for an inferior service.

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michealking ★ [1 month ago](#)

I find it appalling that a business group (the broadcasters) can keep going back to the government, even though previous reviews have gone against them, and waste our money trying to squeeze more money out of the consumers.

These companies are major corporations and have unfortunately made a lot of bad investments or choices that hurt them when the economy tanked. But how can they have the gall to continue to mislead the public by saying local tv will be lost without this "tax"? But do they not already recieve hundreds of millions of dollars from the Roger's, Shaw, Bell, etc, in current subsidies? And they don't even promise or mention that this new "tax" will go to local programming. This is completely wrong!

GREEDY, GREEDY, GREEDY!

Now I understand the they want to introduce blackouts of shows that are broadcast at the same time on their stations and american stations. They want to have the consumer get a black screen and force them to view only their feed!! How faciast! How can these greedy people think that they can trample on others right to choose?

The CRTC and its chairman must stop this waste of time and money! They must tell CTV, Global, and the other private broadcasters (plus the sneaky CBC who are already publicly funded and would profit from this "tax") to forget it and stop buying foreign TV stations, newspapers, magazines, and spending hundreds of millions of dollars on foreign programming. Be a smart business and work with your brains and not your greed!!!!!!

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rking018 ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I think between the amount paid to the cable companies to carry the service and the amount paid to the networks for advertising that there will be enough to support local media. Billions of dollars are spent each year on advertising and to believe that not enough of this is getting to local tv is ridiculous. As long as networks are operating with profits then this should not even be an issue.

2. a restriction stating that a television network based on size must support a certain amount of local programing, just like what is done to protect Canadian content. If CTV and other networks abandon local programing because they are not profitable then they are losing a large part of the advertising market. This problem is one for the networks, rogers makes huge profits because it runs an efficient business model. CTV would not be able to sell advertisements if its channels do not reach the public.

i think the networks have to suck it up and dish out for local programming based on the fact that advertising is the life blood of the industry and local programming is a key way to reach local target markets.

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gordontibbles ★ [1 month ago](#)

Located in Sudbury, the costs are significantly higher than in the larger metropolitan areas of Southern Ontario. Subsidiary services are likewise on a much smaller scale. Coincidental services such as "movies/programs on demand" are greatly reduced and the original programming at higher cost.

We certainly do not need additional costs added on top of what we already pay. Especially for local stations which do little more than belated news casts, sports and weather reports . . . all of which have previously been reported elsewhere.

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Like



Dennis Michael ★ [1 month ago](#)

I could care less for local TV. I watch whatever on whatever station I have no bias. Asking me to fork over another chunk of money to get access to local stations and I will opt out of it. We pay enough money already for cable and satellite tv. This is corporate greed. I will NEVER pay to have access to local tv. It is no different than any other station.

They have some nerve asking for money when in fact these stations buy up programs they have no intention of broadcasting so that the other stations don't get them. Now if they were to either NOT buy them or BROADCAST them, then they wouldn't be losing money, allegedly.

These stations can stick it.

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Like



Warpdriv ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with the following statement:

If the CTRC is going to agree to fee for carriage to support local programming then the money should go to a fund and not directly to the broadcaster. The fund can then be used for the development and maintenance of local programming and the broadcaster would have to show proof of performance to access this fund. The fund should also only be accessible to underserved communities. (programs and communities that can support themselves should not be funded) Local Producers not associated with the Broadcaster should also be able to access the fund for the creation of local programming. Programs funded this way should not count toward the Broadcasters' Canadian content obligations.

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Russell Rose ★ [1 month ago](#)

No, consumers should not pay for local tv signals. Cable/satellite should be forced to pay.

[Flag](#)

Like



Russell Rose ★ [1 month ago](#)

no, consumers should not pay for local signals. we already pay the cable/satellite providers for these signals. why pay twice?

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Like



Dale ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm already paying what I consider an inordinately high rate for basic analog cable (\$32) which I assumed included compensating the local channels the same as the other channels on basic cable. Now it appears the local channels are not getting any of my \$32 a month, and they should be considering that is about half the reason we get TV at all.

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Bonnie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I see no reason for us to pay more because we already pay very high costs to the cable and satellite companies for access to various programs, including local channels. Cable and satellite companies should be compensating networks/broadcasters for what has been free to them up until now, even though they charge us for them.

It is time that the cable and satellite companies part with some of their massive profits (made on the backs of consumers and broadcasters) and start paying so we can keep local channels. We have been paying for 30 years, the cable companies have not.

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Like



Rick D ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay "again" for Local Television. The big problem with local television is it's not local. The CTV's and Globals of the world haven't been local in years....let's face it the only thing local about any of the local stations is the news. Everything else they air is bought from the states because they know that the bigger the audience the programming generates, the more advertising dollars they can garner. I feel that the entire paying for local programming issue is nothing more than a way for the big television networks to put more money into their coffers. The issue is not paying for local programming but more on how to run a business and keep it in the black. For years local tv networks have made ends meet without receiving a fee for their signal and all of a sudden things get tough and this is their only solution. How about running a leaner business, cutting back, making smarter decisions, holding back on purchases. These are basic business practices which other businesses must implement in order to stay alive during the tough times.

The message the CRTC should send out to these guys is "Change their business models not pass the buck!"

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Bill ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television stations should be able to negotiate with cable/satellite service providers for a fee for service. This cost should NOT be passed on to the consumer but come from the cable/satellite provider's existing profits.

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Like



billhodes ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television should not be sheltered. In business, the weak cease operation and the strong continue. Television should be no different. I would consider cancelling my service if I were forced to pay an additional fee for local TV.

[Flag](#)

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Kelli ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already won't pay for either satellite or cable because it is overpriced and the service is terrible. There is a monopoly on this market and until television becomes a reasonable price I won't pay a cent for it.
2. The current providers are raking in lots of money, they have to learn to live with it. Let them pay for it.

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mn101 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would definitely cancel my cable subscription. I've done it before and wouldn't think twice about doing it again. The CRTC has allowed cable companies to rip off consumers for a long

long time. Rogers is making billions in profit and now you want to allow them to bill us even more. No freakin way. Local TV should generate revenue like any other ... local tv ads.

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[rking018](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be pissed! and would probably cancel my subscription. In an age of piracy another fee to watch TV is only going to make downloading TV shows more popular. I think between the amount paid to the cable companies to carry the service and the amount paid to the networks for advertising that there will be enough to support local media. Billions of dollars are spent each year on advertising and to believe that not enough of this is getting to local tv is ridiculous. As long as networks are operating with profits then this should not even be an issue.

2. A restriction stating that a television network based on size must support a certain amount of local programming, just like what is done to protect Canadian content. If CTV and other networks abandon local programming because they are not profitable then they are losing a large part of the advertising market. This problem is one for the networks, rogers makes huge profits because it runs an efficient business model. CTV would not be able to sell advertisements if its channels do not reach the public.

I think the networks have to suck it up and dish out for local programming based on the fact that advertising is the life blood of the industry and local programming is a key way to reach local target markets

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[nahcyrag](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the broadcasters want to give away the signals for free, it is their choice & their decision to make their business case. CRTC should stay out of such discussions or imposing rules to whichever parties to do it the government way.

The broadcasters also need to be consistent with their approach. If the signals are free to the off-air reception, they should also be free to cable & satellite. To be fair, if the broadcasters are going to impose a fee for their programming, they should scramble their off-air signals. People who want to view their programs, off-air/satellite/cable, should pay for it the same way.

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[Riny van Someren](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since our "local" stations are 500 km away, they have little relevance to me. I certainly would not want to pay extra to watch them. If the fee was optional, I would not be willing to pay it. If it was mandatory, I would likely cancel my cable and revert to on-line sources of entertainment.

I must question the "fee-for carriage" idea. Seems to me that if the cable company is getting the broadcasters signal into more homes, the cable company is doing the broadcasters a favour and if anything, the broadcasters should be paying the cable companies a "fee-for-carriage". Right now the cable companies are carrying the broadcasters' product to market for free.

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[S. J. Gerard](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already paying far too much for cable. The worst part of paying all this money is that I have to pay for many channels in which I have no interest. Out of the 66 channels, I watch, perhaps, 22. Of those 22, I watch about 15 regularly - which includes all local programming. I have no choice but to pay for these "extra" channels as the cable companies use "tiers". Giving up one tier would only save about \$6/mo. Does that make sense? Not to me. If cable companies pay other stations for their signals, they should pay local stations as well. It's only fair. Cable companies do not offer their customers the choices they want and they just keep increasing their "pass-it-on" costs to their customers. However, if local stations are having problems with their advertising revenue, how can I, as a consumer, change that? Perhaps one

should look at all the ways stations and cable companies operate financially. Right now, we do not seem to have a lot of choice but to subscribe to cable. We are the ones caught here!

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Like



Dave L ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If the cable rates went up I have a simple response, I will cancel my cable service. As an experiment I recently got an indoor antenna for my TV that works in my condo to pick up a number of channels, living in Toronto I can even get a number of the US channels. Having the cable service is a nice luxury for the wider variety of channels available but hardly a necessity. With internet and free over the air signals I could easily see myself living without cable services. A part of the pricing structure for cable is based on what the providers think the market will bear (ie.: what we the consumers are willing to pay), so Cable / Satellite service providers will have to ask themselves if they are willing to alienate a segment of the market by pushing prices up. Yes they can play the blame game and say that its the fault of the local broadcasters, but ultimately their name is at the top of the monthly cable bill.

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dv ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel.

Local TV is not that important. You can get this service / info from many other sources. If they can't survive as a standalone business, then so be it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jim ★ [1 month ago](#)

The last thing consumers need is another fee. Local TV is not an essential service. Local TV needs to find ways to be profitable without asking for assistance from the tax payer. It is bad enough that we have to support the CBC which no one watches. If viewership is so low that local TV is no longer viable then it should not continue. If certain individuals feel that local TV is so important they should make individual donations like those to PBS in the US.

[Flag](#)

Like



Glen ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local t.v. is important to us as consumers and we are already paying for these channels in our basic cable subscription so the cable companies should subsidize the local networks and not expect us consumers to pay twice for the same service!

[Flag](#)

Like



markpmarkp ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems fair to me for Cable to pay for TV that they take and pipe to subscribers. If people don't want those channels, then Cable Companies could make them an optional service. No need for a blanket cable fee increase. Another cable co. excuse for more profit.

[Flag](#)

Like



jackmox ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not mind paying for local TV. However, I do not want any "BASIC" package. I want to pick and choose 100% of the channels I want. No "package" of any kind in any way shape or form - 100% choice on a channel by channel basis chosen from ALL available channels - including analog/digital and HD! THANKS!

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Like



catcass ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that it is very important to have local TV and I would be willing to pay more to have it. What I would really like to see is the greater ability to choose what stations I get from the cable companies. I would much rather not have American network TV and have the money that would normally go to them go to Canadian networks.

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davi ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If the cable rates went up I have a simple response, I will cancel my cable service. As an experiment I recently got an indoor antenna for my TV that works in my condo to pick up a number of channels, living in Toronto I can even get a number of the US channels. Having the cable service is a nice luxury for the wider variety of channels available but hardly a necessity. With internet and free over the air signals I could easily see myself living without cable services. A part of the pricing structure for cable is based on what the providers think the market will bear (ie.: what we the consumers are willing to pay), so Cable / Satellite service providers will have to ask themselves if they are willing to alienate a segment of the market by pushing prices up. Yes they can play the blame game and say that its the fault of the local broadcasters, but ultimately their name is at the top of the monthly cable bill.

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davehorton ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would want to cancel my cablevision account and use the internet and radio instead.

2. Local television should live or die on a commercial basis and mainly through sales of advertising. Cable/satellite should still be required to carry & distribute local tv without charge.

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Like



Jackie J ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with many of the comments already posted here. The perception I had was that local tv was already being paid for by me when asked for basic cable. When you review the line-up on Rogers; basic cable is required and local stations are included in that cost. Why is Rogers alone not responsible for paying local stations is beyond me. I would be most upset if another cost is forced onto the end-user; I already pay for 100+ channels that are useless to get only the few I want. I beleive local stations should be subsidized by local cable operators and local advertisers. Wait till the HST comes into effect next July and not only could be faced with additional cable costs, but we will also need to pay an additional 8%. Enough is enough - we don't all have fat endless money wallets!

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Like



Jay ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would look to cancel my service or reduce - but that is really not possible because everything is bundled and we are unable to pick and choose channels we actually want a-la-carte.

I do enjoy my local news but I already pay for these channels. To pay more than I do right now and get nothing extra doesn't make sense. If I had the option to drop other channels that are of no interest to me to balance out the extra cost - I would.

2. I think a subscription based approach - like the specialty channels. Allow the consumers the ability to pick and choose what channels they want to recieve. Cable/Sat companies could then

determine how many viewers and pay back the local stations accordingly. I don't wish to be charged more and have it go to local stations I don't watch or in other areas.

A fee on top of already INFLATED cable charges is not the answer - and leaves the consumer no options when they are tied to a contract...that's a whole other issue.

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Like

 *Roger* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is important to me. The local TV industry and Cdn made TV shows, although not always the best, are important. Personally I would not want to only be able to watch American TV.
2. More local stations should be available OTA (over-the-air).
3. My understanding is that TV stations generate revenue through selling advertisement time. That said if Rogers or another cable company wants to resell the Local TV product they should have to pay for it like they pay for US programming. How and if they pass on those costs is up to them but it's not fair to charge for something they get for free. But there may be more layers to this onion I am not aware of.
4. I will only pay for TV if it is commercial free. Why should I pay to watch commercials?
5. It's also not fair to force Cable to distribute local TV and charge them so perhaps remove the mandate and allow local TV stations to charge for their product.

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Like

 *Brett Gillam* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is now free to anyone with antenna but they want cable customers to pay for it. How can anyone say such a system is fair? If a charge is introduced to cable customers for local TV, I would like the option to drop the station(s) and save myself the cost. There is no way that I am paying for something that others get for free.

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 *Douglas Day* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The present arrangement has been working successfully since the first TV signals were broadcast. The TV network Moguls have latched onto just another way of making MORE MONEY on the backs of the viewers at large. Any additional charges anywhere in the present system will always just be passed on to the public domain, & taxing the public already burdened with Federal & Prov. taxes. The networks should spend more time looking at their programming & provide only what they can afford from their advertising revenues.

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Like

 *Richard* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable is high now. If I have to pay more for TV I will cancel cable. There is a roof antenna available for \$200.00 plus installation which will give me 24 channels. No monthly fee. These networks make a fortune on ads. Perhaps these TV personalities should cut their salaries by at least 63 percent. Then no conflict will be around.

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Like

 *Richard* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable is high now. If I have to pay more for TV I will cancel cable. There is a roof antenna available for \$200.00 plus installation which will give me 24 channels. No monthly fee. These networks make a fortune on ads. Perhaps these TV personalities should cut their salaries by at least 63 percent. Then no conflict will be around.

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Steve ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I will cancel my cable TV service and get an antenna. Cable TV is expensive enough as it is, I'm not willing to pay anymore, as it already is poor value for the money.

2. Advertising

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Like



bwimperis ★ [1 month ago](#)

I should not have to pay my Satellite provider for local TV. I can still receive the local signal free, if I choose, via antenna. There should be no special support for local TV. If people do not want to watch those stations and advertisers reduce their spending then they should go out of business.

[Flag](#)

Like



nicholaswb ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the cable rates increase because the cable providers have to pay for the signals they carry I will cancel my cable subscription.

It's just not worth more money.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ed ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the public networks are trying now to have it both ways. To be a public broadcaster, and to be a speciality cable channel. They would like revenue as both, and to change the broadcast business model.

The CRTC should decide if the public networks have contributed significantly to the cable companies revenues, and if so, by what amount, and to return that share to them. This should be a redivision of cable vs. network revenues issue, and cable companies should not be allowed to add their losses to the cable consumers' monthly bill. (Especially as cable companies are a monopoly, and consumers are in no position to choose among them).

The cable companies undoubtedly will charge higher fees in the end, but the public will know it is only them asking for more money and be better informed to consider other options.

Consumers should have the option of subscribing to a very basic cable service that includes ONLY public broadcasters and cable networks that have no claims on cable revenue sharing. (The CBC, TVO here in Ontario, and CITY in Toronto, and most US networks, come to mind).

Other contentious issues include US broadcasts and satellite TV. Canadian networks should not be allowed to prevent broadcasting by US networks of shows that Canadian viewers would normally be able to see, though they would still have a right to preempt US advertising.

Satellite TV should be resolved in a way that does not allow them to escape the equivalent revenue sharing with public networks. All other non-contentious issues can probably be handled with the current broadcast business model.

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Like



NecessaryEvil ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems to me if the local networks don't have enough money to operate, then maybe they should figure out a new way to do business. I feel no obligation whatsoever to pay them money for programming I don't watch, especially considering I can get local news on the internet now.

Measures have already been taken to support local television and they still can't hold their

heads above water. I can't think of one Canadian show I enjoy watching. Let them drown.

[Flag](#)

Like



Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV stations have made a business of charging for advertising and the public pays them by watching the advertisements. If they can't make money anymore it is not my responsibility (nor the cable companies) to subsidize an unsuccessful business. TV stations should do what everyone else has to do, trim the fat!

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Like



David Rose ★ [1 month ago](#)

Charging for local television is gouging the public. Advertising revenue is down, so what? Isn't this a business problem for the company? We pay too much now in a protected monopoly for cable. Any additional charge, by the cable or the stations end up for me to pay. ABSOLUTELY a rip off.

A lot of people have to be thinking of alternatives and sooner or later, pushed enough, consumers will revolt or withdraw completely. It's like another added tax and we've had enough of taxes.

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Like



Tom ★ [1 month ago](#)

The CRTC should put the interest consumers first and keep cable rate increases to the rate of inflation, or lower, regardless of the reasons being given by the providers.

[Flag](#)

Like



C Loucks ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am a cable subscriber. I pay approximately \$80 per month for a package which includes HD Digital.

The fact is that I always thought that part of what I pay to Rogers was being used to pay for all of the content they provide. ie: I knew they paid American broadcasters, and specialty cable providers, and I assumed that they paid for the Canadian local content. I also knew that they are obliged to provide the Canadian content, so I would have assumed that their payments for this content might have been lower than otherwise. I would not have assumed that local content would be totally free for cable providers, just because they have a regulatory obligation to provide it to viewers.

Local content is important, in theory, but in practice there is almost no distinction between local stations, in my opinion.

In my opinion, local stations are typically unable to derive much revenue from local advertising, because of low demonstrated viewership.

I see more advertising from Atlanta Georgia than from Waterloo Ontario, because I like the cable station that is coming from Atlanta. And I bet its watched heavily there too.

1) Cable should pay for local content

2) Local content providers should negotiate for the rates they will get paid.

3) If local content is not worth buying then the cable providers should have an option to opt out of some local content purchases. ie: if the local station is basically a repeat (80% of more) of another local station's content, that is already being broadcast on cable, then the cable company should be able to negotiate with both and select one.

4) Cable should have been paying something for this all along, so there should be no increase in cable rate payer's costs due to this.

5) Canadians are overcharged due to the enforced regulations that the CRTC has already imposed. Canadian Cable companies are given effective local monopolies that allow gouging. There are so few cable companies that they are able to act as oligopolies when it comes to national issues. Just look at their cooperation on this campaign! In the US I believe that they would have run up against trade law that would have protected us from this coordinated group action.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Raffie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my satellite/cable in a heartbeat and look elsewhere.
2. Cable and Satellite can start paying local TV for what has been a free ride for them for years.

If Cable and Satellite services are not reined in then they need to be regulated. Their "no ceiling policy" in regards to pricing is simply arrogant. These companies can well afford to absorb the cost of local TV signals without passing the charges on to already overpriced consumers and lower our bills at the same time.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*John Timmis, Milton ON* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that local TV in it's current format has become a broken model and I would resent being forced to pay for it's continuation on top of what I pay for what I want. If there are enough viewers who care enough about local TV (doubtful), they should be prepared to pay for it themselves perhaps by making the investment necessary to receive freesat. Don't ask me to give money to the broadcasters to continue local TV, I'm tired of being asked to pay for what special interests want.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*AdamInONT* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If I had to pay for local tv on top of cable and satellite services I would immediately cancel my services and look to Free-to-Air signals, and the internet (if I can't get free-to-air, I can download free-to-air that a fellow Canadian has been so kind to share!) Why would I do this? Its simple really, the service bills are high enough! Furthermore, beyond the CBC for Hockey Night, I don't watch much in the way of local tv, as its regurgitated American broadcasts. If someone's going to try and force me to pay for something that I can get for free somewhere else (in this case, an antenna), why would I even consider it?

2. Well since the traditional framework of TV consumption is on its deathbed, I'd suggest some open forums to come up with ideas to help the local television stations adapt to the new world of media consumption. Maybe starting with a little less greed, better programming, oh and actually having local content (10mins of local news during a 1-2hour news broadcast doesn't count)!

All of this does not mean that I am in support of the greedy monopolies currently controlling our access to media (Yes, I'm talking about Bell, Rogers, etc.). Canadians get a raw deal to be quite honest. We pay more for TV, phone and internet then 90% of the developed nations in the world... and don't for a second think that thousands of people canceling their cable/sat services would mean a damn thing... Those who control cable/sat services are also the ones that control the internet. This means when they start losing money on one front, they'll just start charging more on another... i.e. Losing money on TV = Charge more for internet... and don't even get me started on these ridiculous bandwidth caps, their just an alternative way to get the money that used to come in from tv.

Stop the greed!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Patricia Astley* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay extra for local TV. I already pay too much for my cable. If I was forced to pay I would honestly have to consider cancelling some or all of my service.

I don't know what can be done to support local television. It is my view, however, that the local stations could manage their finances much better. I would feel that an added fee would just be paying for the extravagant upgrades that both CTV & CBC made to their studios. CTV -

Toronto's new studio is beyond belief at a time when they are begging for money. It does nothing to enhance the news broadcast and why do they have so many people reading the news? I hate to think I will be expected to pay for all this extravagance.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [scottsthoughts](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

"Local TV" is a miss conception. Local in New Brunswick is Fredericton. The only true local for me is Rogers Cable broadcasts from Saint John about Saint John. I already pay for CBC through income taxes. I will not pay any more for them or for the other broadcasters that apparently can't survive in an open market place. I wish them luck and say goodbye. If their request is granted then I should have the option as to whether or not I wish to suscribe. With respect to CBC, that is a no brainer; let them supply the service (such as it is) that I already pay for at no additional cost.

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 [ddrose9](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Charging for local television is gouging the public. Advertizing revenue is down, so what? Isn't this a business problem for the company? We pay too much now in a protected monopoly for cable. Any additional charge, by the cable or the stations end up for me to pay. ABSOLUTELY a rip off.

A lot of people have to be thinking of alternatives and sooner or later, pushed enough, consumers will revolt or withdraw completely. It's like another added tax and we've had enough of taxes.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Pat](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If this goes ahead, you bank that I will cancell all my programming.....

Take it out of funds already given to these greedy companies

[Flag](#)

Like

 [bobhashadit](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a pensioner, I am constantly pushed to make difficult spending decisions. Every time a little more tax for this and a medical surcharge for that is imposed, it is again time for a reorganization of my spending priorities. In essence, who gets scratched off my want list to make room for my need payments. In the case of local TV programming, I want the option. I'm going to miss my local provider, but I'm convinced the multitude of options I currently enjoy will more than meet my needs.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [jimackie@shaw.ca](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I thinking the cable companies are raping their subscribers.

Subscriber should have choice of individual chanelns and not have mainipulated groupings rammed down throat

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Jax](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If they are going to charge for local channels, give us the choice to opt out. Put them in a separate package, not included in basic. Let us pick and pay only for the channels that we want

to watch. Satellite is already much too expensive. Give us more choice over what we get for our money.

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[Like](#)



Mercury ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be outraged. The complete concept of being forced to pay for something I do not want is unacceptable.

2. Local television obtains funding from advertising. If insufficient let them seek additional funding from those who support them.

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bert ★ [1 month ago](#)

you wanted comments..so here goes.., a big venting.

i'm sick and tired of all media companies , whether cable, phone, internet ,cellular.

and you guys helped create this mess imho.

i know many cdns feel the same way.

i'll just stick to talking bout cable for now.

i hate them , cable...in a nutshell.

(i have nothing against cdn tv stations tho.)

always changing their statements to me, constant bombardment

via telemarketing calls...my letterbox stuffed up.

always trying to up my bill .

the cable companies are just money grabbers trying to enrich a few execs.

HERES MY SOLUTION..WHAT I WANT IS WHAT MY MUM IN UK GETS..

you pay ONE TIME for a BOX. eg in uk 40 buks.

for the 40 buks you get lotsa channels with NO MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

yes i'm ANGRY. i'm sick of being nickel n dimed every month.

if i was prime minister , there would be a one time charge like this.

let me add its no wonder consumer spending has tanked/recession.

tween the phone n cable n internet n cellular bills..these guys are sucking up peoplles incomes.

dont even get me started on other utilities like water n electricity n gas.

in summary STOP THESE COMPANIES RAPEING CONSUMERS !!

thats all i have to say cept its forcing people out of canada due to living costs.

but i'm sure i'm wasting my breath anyway. youll do your surveys n nothing will change.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



loranb ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am a Bell subscriber. When my bill arrives every month, it reminds me of how annoyed I am at the charges I see. A Digital fee, a donation to some CRTC fund, which I have never agreed to donate anything, the increases I have incurred over the last number of years. It certainly wasn't because of the cost of living. It is always because these companies want to pad their bottom line. This country has gone money mad and tax insane. Most of the infrastructure has been paid for by tax payers to begin with. I find it unbelievable that the CRTC would be so chicken as to not implement the rules already in place when it comes to regulation. Why are these people dictating what is happening at these hearings. It's like the tail wagging the dog. Of course, there mustn't be an appearance of the CRTC allowing more increases to the public. It's not only the effects of increases on the consumer, there is also the added taxes to these increases. We are already taxed to the limit. Stop this insanity. It is incredible to sit here and watch giant corporations blatantly fight over the spoils of consumer increases. Local television isn't providing entertainment value except perhaps "News". If it comes down to a price increase, then do not allow the cable and satellite networks to carry the signal and decrease our monthly

bills for the reduced service. I am at almost at the point where I will give up my viewing service and go strictly on line for my entertaining. I have a large screen tv that is computer friendly. And, I don't have to put up with all the information channels that Bell has, and tells me that I am receiving X number of channels when in fact I am receiving a portion that are actually entertainment viewing channels.

Flag

Like

 *dknee* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not be in favor of an additional charge for the reception of local signals. The airwaves are owned by the people of Canada, not the broadcasters, they have been allowed access to them for a fixed term. If they cannot provide programming of interest to the people that allows them to sell advertising to recoup their costs, then like any other private business, they need to either restructure their business or fail. It is not my responsibility to subsidize publicly traded companies through fees or taxes. My reaction would be to seek an alternative to my current cable package and or provider. This would be local phone service and high speed internet, the television aspects of my existing cable package are irrelevant to me. I could do without them and be as informed and entertained as I am today.

2. I feel the broadcasters view local programming as unpopular and unprofitable. Unfortunately the only way they will ever "support" it is through license conditions via the Commission. They should have minimum monthly requirements over and above their existing news, talk show and "so-called" reality TV programs. Educational and Children's programming should be high priority along with more funding for drama and comedy. At the moment I feel the best job of local television is presently being performed by the cable companies "Community Channels". They are the ones out broadcasting local council, high school sports and a multitude of other events you would never hear about via any of the conventional open-air broadcasters. Perhaps the Over-the-air broadcasters should be mandated with a requirement to allow Community Based access programming in their schedule for a certain number of hours per week and not all relegated to between midnight and 6 AM ?

Flag

Like

 *martintuori* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Media reports suggest that Canadians already pay more for cable, satellite and phone services than consumers in other developed nations. We separately support Canadian content through CBC funding (I approve!), Canadian content regulations, film and TV production subsidies, etc., etc. etc.

In the older, closed systems of broadcast radio and television, government regulations to protect the Canadian identity and cultural industries MAY have made sense. In the newer, open system of the Internet, protectionism will fail.

By way of illustration, observe the behaviour of generations X, Y, and Z. They increasingly opt for mobile phones over land lines. They choose the Internet, and personal media devices over broadcast. They watch less TV than the boomers. Broadcast is dying a slow death. Keeping it on life support by adding more fees will drive more consumers away from cable and satellite.

As a consumer, I would like the freedom to choose which channels I pay for. I resent being forced to pay for local stations, on the thin premise of protecting the Canadian identity and culture. If the government decides to grant broadcaster the right to charge the carriers for their signals, let's recognize this for what it really is - a move towards an open market - and allow consumers to choose which channels they subscribe to.

Flag

Like

 *Jackie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I was asked to pay an additional amount for 'local' TV, I would seriously considering cancelling my cable subscription. The programming from local TV is dismal and frankly, if they were putting a quality product out there we wouldn't be having this discussion. It is time for

these stations to consider offering value to their customers.

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 [Gordon Quinn](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no reason for cable companies to access local content for free when they currently pay many American networks for an array of programming that is not worth two cents. I believe that the cable companies should provide fair reimbursement for the local content and I will cancel my cable if they try to pass this on to me. We currently pay more for cable and for wireless communication than most other countries. If they try to pass it on open up Canada to American options like Direct TV and I will pay for local separately.

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 [erikagreen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I'll probably cancel altogether. CRTC currently allows the monopolies to get away with highway robbery. Nobody's right on this one, and the consumer is always the loser. Who needs TV anyway? I'll go to the library & read a book.

2. CRTC should do its job to protect the Canadian consumer & REGULATE an affordable price for local services, with local providers, local staff & local advertisers. Get it, CRTC? A small, cheap, LOCAL package for those who want it, and freedom of choice (a la carte) for everybody else.

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 [Dean Mathison](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is the most important part of my television viewing! Cable companies should have to provide local programming free of charge. It is absurd that I am now paying Bell Expressview a surcharge on my bill to cover their payment to local television. Nothing has been resolved yet as far as I know. This is just outright theft.

It is also ridiculous that I have to pay Shaw for a basic TV package when all I want from them is an internet connection. I'm paying 2 companies for my TV needs.(I had the Bell from an acherage I lived on before I was able to access cable) These companies are pricing themselves out of the ordinary citizen's budget! We need more competition and options to rein in these large companies charging what ever they want.

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 [James D](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I plan to cancel my cable/satellite subscription if I have to pay more for the sevicees they offer already today.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [James D](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to James D](#)

Further to this, I should have stated that an evolution (let alone a possible revolution) is in our midst, and you'll see all of the subscribers cancelling their cable / satellite TV driving demand for greater online broadcasts / podcasts. Even though they are already available, it's not as economic to follow your favorite TV series this way (unless it streams for fee) and the local broadcasts aren't always rock solid. I think that the demand will encourage those services to improve and become more cost effective, and provide the users the choice and flexiblity that neither the cable nor satellite companies fully offer today.

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Like

 [Peter](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Every Canadian should have access to local news and a local station without cost. The local Itv station should be given funds to support local programming and local news. If you want CNN or FoxNews then charge a fee for that, but not local, close to home ews programming. We ned to support our communities

[Flag](#)

Like



Chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

Many local TV services have very poor signal strength for reception by air. The only reason they exist is to be picked up by sat or cable so that the US feed is replaced by their feed of the same show. They are already getting the benefit of having their commercials in place of the US feed commercials.

If their business model does not work, then they should die.

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kenhalenb ★ [1 month ago](#)

In Woodstock NB I really do not have any local TV available to me, what I am currently offered by CTV is network programming from Halifax NS. Bearing that in mind I would have to say that local TV is not important to me at all. I watch the news and see all the reports of gang violence in North Preston, but seeing that this is 600 plus km away from me it hardly is local.

If I was required to pay an additional fee over and above what I already pay I would request not to be subscribed to the Canadian channels and if that was not possible I would cancel my subscription with the satellite provider and get a grey market satellite out of the US.

If local TV in any area is suffering from reduced revenues due to oversaturation of the market by multiple broadcasters then that local community should choose to either support that local station or allow it to go off the air. Let's be practical not every market needs every broadcaster to be present and not every community needs a broadcaster, as evident by the way TV is provided in Atlantic Canada. A local TV station in lets say Ontario or Alberta that is having problems should be supported by the viewers in that geographical area not by another province that does not view the content of that local broadcaster. If local TV really matters to people then those people need to pay for it. I personally do not want to be paying to keep a station in Manitoba on the air if the economics of running that station make no sense let it go off the air. I won't miss it and I am pretty sure the folks in BC won't either.

If the CRTC really is going to consider a fee for "local" TV providers then the whole can of worms should be considered and the prospect of licensing fees be it over the air or on satellite need to be considered. See what the response is from the viewing public to that. If Networks cannot make their stations viable with the contract that they have entered into with the Canadian public for the use of the public air waves, then it is time to completely renegotiate the terms of these licences including their content requirements and broadcasting quality requirements for those of us in rural areas. I thought that the mandate of the CBC at least was to provide quality programming to all Canadians regardless of their location.

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Like



shaunmckinnon ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) My cable bill (Rogers, Toronto) is already 1.5 times higher than it used to be (Shaw, Winnipeg). For this money I receive fewer stations, poorer quality, and rude customer service. I do not wish to give cable more money.

2) Let networks charge, and remove regulation requiring cable to carry them. I don't get charged and only networks that deserve to survive will.

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Rob ★ [1 month ago](#)

de-regulate. This "walled garden" of channel bundling the CRTC created is over. The cable companies have priced it over the line. Canadians are sick & tired of paying for channels they don't watch. A-la-carte is the only way. If I want to watch local, I'll pay for it. Let me pay ONLY for the channels I want to watch, local or specialty. I legally pay for DirectTV, so I can watch US college basketball. The CRTC has determined on my behalf, that ESPN is bad for me. Since I don't agree, I found a way around the CRTC. We will all find ways to watch what we want, if you don't allow us free choice to pay for what we want, not what someone deems best for us

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Richard ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay a cent more. In fact I believe the local TV stations should be given money by the Cable and satellite companies out of what we already pay for Basic cable (isn't that why we buy basic cable for info on what is happening locally). The same cable that is used for Internet services etc. Make the cable companies support local broadcasting and prevent them from increasing our bills to pay for it.

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Like



Gordon Quinn ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no reason for cable companies to access local content for free when they currently pay many American networks for an array of programming that is not worth two cents. I believe that the cable companies should provide fair reimbursement for the local content and I will cancel my cable if they try to pass this on to me. We currently pay more for cable and for wireless communication than most other countries. If they try to pass it on open up Canada to American options like Direct TV and I will pay for local separately.

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LittleRed029 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think its ridiculous for them to expect US to pay extra for local tv stations when we are already paying the cable company or satellite company for those stations. If that's the case then these cable and satellite companies need to start making it very clear to US the customers what it is we are paying for. These big companies such as Eastlink and Rogers are making more than enough off of US there is no reason in this world why they can not take some of the big money that they make off of US and pay the Local TV companies themselves for broadcasting there stations without hiking up the cost of what we are already are paying. If they do decide to up the price and charge for Local TV then I will cancel my cable. I went 6 years without having cable before and I can certainly do without it once again. They will not get another penny out of me for the 3-4 channels that I do watch out of the 60 crappy ones that they have.

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Like



crymeariver2009 ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is almost comical. We are provided with a forum to discuss among other things: affordability, choice and access. How can any of these happen when the CRTC has made it possible for a MONOPOLY to exist in the distribution of video and audio home entertainment - ie. Rogers, Shaw and Bell - aka the Triad. Customers receive programming that is mandated by these corporate giants, at a price determined by the same group - and we the customers, are stuck without real alternatives or choices; Or rather we have the choice of getting screwed by one regional monopoly or the other. A duopoly, makes not a free market either. The real choice is between low-end programming at a moderate cost or full-access programming at an astronomical cost. And the CRTC should be proud of helping to contribute to this mess. Now, the local program content providers are realizing that their archaic business model is not providing sustainable revenue - hence eventual bankruptcy. Nothing is free so they want to charge the Triad for their services. In turn the Triad warns they will pass the buck to the customers. But has the Triad not already included any such sort of fees into their pricing already? What exactly then are we paying for in the basic level service? Their infrastructure? That's been in place for many, many years and probably depreciated long time ago. So then customers have simply been

padding the wallets of these organizations. Considering that the CRTC has been artificially protecting these institutions from external competition, it's hard to feel sorry for them if they finally need to take a bit of a pay cut in their revenue because they now have to pay for the content they have been charging the customers for all this time. Cry me a river...

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Like



Peter ★ [1 month ago](#)

No, Thank you. We do not need anymore tax.

Why should we pay them if the local TV station do not make enough money due to recession? They are not the only one that do not make enough money these days, me too. But look, whenever they make so much money they bough some other business like magazine, etc. Sell those to investment to compensate the income.

[Flag](#)

Like



Cory ★ [1 month ago](#)

I worked in the industry for years and it was well known the scalebacks we received year after year in the newsroom was due to Networks acquisition of big name US programs. I know the big 3 Networks spend millions on those licenses. Now they need a subsidy. They threaten blackout...but that would never work as those programs are needed to deliver their advertising impressions to Canadians. The system is not broken! Networks are looking for a handout. If they cant afford the big name CSI's...dont buy it! They need Canadians to watch their programs that get them their prized advertising impressions...so dont anger the consumer or we'll press the remote!

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Like



Carl B ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I shall not be paying for local TV. When I moved to my current location, the cable company wanted a \$75 "installation fee" to leave a cable TV connection already in place from the previous tenant subscribed. I declined and used the money to buy an antenna. I receive 11 channels of OTA TV in Kingston ON, seven of which are digital subchannels of Watertown stations. That none of what's on the four remaining channels (except for one local newscast on the CBC affiliate) is genuinely local is a reflection of the low value placed on Canadian broadcast localism - the other channels are just repeaters of Ottawa or Toronto, not locals.

2. Canadian broadcasters are being hamstrung by CRTC regulation. Every digital transitional television license has conditions written directly into it prohibiting the use of the digital subchannels to carry more than a couple hours per day of anything that isn't on the old-fashioned analogue channels. These stations, meanwhile, must compete over-the-air with broadcasters from huge US metropolises (Watertown NY is population 28000, seven channels from three stations) which are using the extra channels to provide additional programming which isn't otherwise available. PBS member stations typically carry three of four channels, with the extra content being used to provide documentary (World), how-to (Create) and regional programming. If you want stations to embrace digital TV, let them use it to provide added value - then it may be worthwhile for them to use advertising revenue to build digital facilities.

[Flag](#)

Like



martin fay ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable package. The company's make a ton of money already. There fees should be regulated, so as to keep the cost to the consumer down. The company's should have to pay a fee to local tv, so as to keep them going. I feel that there should be more options available to the consumer to create good competition. Like allowing American sat company's into Canadian market.

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Like



alex ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local, as well as national, content is of utmost importance to me. It is through local programming that we develop a sense of place and identity as Canadians. It is totally necessary to maintain and encourage more local TV content.
2. There is no way I should be asked to pay more for our local content. The cable & satellite services should have to pay the broadcasters for carrying local TV signals. The cost to them should be the same fee as they pay the American networks. In turn this fee would be passed on to local broadcasters to help pay for local content. In no way should this cost to the cable & Sat. services be passed on to the consumer. Their profit is large enough already and they are part of the blame for the erosion of Canadian content. If they want to play in this game they have to contribute more to legitimate Canadian content.

[Flag](#)

Like



darrellforbes ★ [1 month ago](#)

per channel choice is needed if a per channel price...nothing fixed without choice or your days of crtc adding fairness will end soon in your removal and replacement by control of public opinion....this is the start of the end....must distribute has to be removed

[Flag](#)

Like



antonioconte ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the costs of cable or satellite services are already way too high for what they provide; therefore any increase in cost that get passed down to me will lead to the cancellation of the entire service. You need to find a way of allowing Canadians to choose local television packages as an option so that costs can be minimized especially for people on fixed income. Thank You for allowing us the opportunity to comment.

[Flag](#)

Like



John ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a resident of Newfoundland and Labrador, local television is extremely important to me. This province is a very unique place, rich with culture, a vibrant political scene as well as some of the greatest attractions in this country.

A local perspective is vital when it comes to broadcasting to showcase this diverse region. I fear the day when a national news broadcast from Toronto is the only news we may receive if local television is not there.

Our stories are important, a local and regional perspective is important, and local television's survival is extremely important.

I have no problems supporting local television if I had to, because their role is so important, based on news coverage alone. But the recent announcement of funding for local programming is a good step to enhance the capacity and diversity of local programs on our networks. We might be able to get a more uniquely local perspective on these networks on more than just news alone with this funding upgrade.

Local television is extremely important, and I have no problems supporting it in any way possible.

[Flag](#)

Like



I_download_because_I_can ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay the most out of every other developing nation for Cell phones and Internet, why not be number one all around and charge us the most for Cable and Satellite? The CRTC needs to fight harder for the average Canadian consumer!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Michael Grosney](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable and satellite companies have been charging consumers a fee - which is constantly increasing - for services and channels they do not pay for. They have been "poaching" the signals and charging us for years. I firmly believe the networks are entitled to a small payment and the cable companies should NOT be able to pass this fee on the consumers.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [notvtaxplease](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

No tv tax!

If you are going to put a tax on to see CBC, Global and CTV--which I never watch-- I want the option to cancel them from my cable so I do not have to pay, particularly a second time for CBC. There is nothing on CBC, Global nor CTV which I want to watch, unlike PBS and TVO. CBC is not worth the money and the sooner I can delete it from my cable, the better!

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[Like](#)

 [Connie Miller](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am almost ready to cancel my satellite TV anyway. I have the smallest package allowed by Shaw Direct. I get no local news but I get CBC News Network which I watch the most. I get multiple locations of the same channels and one PBS channel (the only U.S. channel I watch). Sadly, I don't even get TVO. I complained to Shaw but they did nothing about TVO. I pay \$24/month which is enough for my small retirement pension. Can't I just get a few Canadian channels at an economical rate?

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[Like](#)

 [mikeberi](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.The whole issue of "local TV" is a red herring. The business models of the broadcasters (BC) are failing. From overpaying for US content, growth through acquisitions (Canwest), competition from the Internet, overpaying for Olympics and falling ad revenue the BC are using the CRTC as a means to make up lost revenue. The BC already have FTA broadcasts so how will they resolve the FREE of FTA while charging everyone else? The print media has no such agency to hit Canadians with a tax increase, they just have to find a model that works. The BC just seem to want to make this about "local tv" with hokey commercials that eat up their own revenues which are supposedly in decline???

2.If a station cannot make a profit then it should close. That is the way it works in the real world.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [geraldinemitchell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important to me.

I do not think that the customer should be asked to pay for local TV on top of what they already pay.

Local TV stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs. Cable and satellite companies should have to pay for local TV signals. Period.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [pcb4](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would immediately purchase an over the air antenna for approximately \$60.00 and cancel my cable subscription, not even a question in my mind about that.

2. Local television is a private business and, as such, has to survive in a market place as does any other private business, with the apparent exception of two car companies. Sell advertising, provide decent programming.

Flag

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[ats33](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Is the mandate of CRTC to serve the interests of media corporations or to protect the interests of the general public? For the moment it seems CRTC is on the side of media corporations. CRTC should make decisions based on the interests of the general public.
2. Allowing TV stations to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs, and allowing the distribution companies to impose those charges onto the general public as a compulsory fee is a TV tax.
3. TV tax for TV stations only breeds incompetence, complacency and bureaucracy for the TV industry, because they have secure source of income via taxation, that secure source of income will remove any incentive from the TV industry to produce programs that general public wants.
4. More new TV stations will be created to demand funding via TV tax. The amount of TV tax allowed now is only the beginning, it will increase, and eventually it will kill the TV industry as well as the distribution industry.
5. The media industries in Hong Kong is vibrant, they thrive by producing programs people wants, not by relying on the taxation. HK has way smaller population than Canada. It's a matter of competence to produce good TV programs that people wants.
6. Cable companies forced basic package full of garbage that nobody watches to the subscribers, then gouge subscribers for the programs they want to watch. CRTC must ban this practice and provide the freedom to the TV viewers to pay what they want to watch.
7. After abolishing the compulsory basic package fee, local TV stations can charge fees like those specialty programs. It is only fair for viewers to bear the costs for the programs they want to watch.

Flag

Like



[meyert](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I side with the networks.
I think one problem is lack of competition.
When there is none, the cable companies can charge what they want.
They have a protected business and can charge what they want.
In my case, I can take Rogers or nobody.
It seems to me that the cable division of Rogers is turning a profit.
Global isn't.

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[criticalreview](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Additional fees because of local TV would be a bad investment:

I don't see any value in local TV. In a globalize world where individuals work in urban centres and live in suburbs and communities that are as far away as 150 km from their workplace, the attachment to a 'local' community is lost. There is just no relevance of local TV stations any longer.

The only value one could argue for remains in provincial/national broadcasters. Issues that influence the region will be portrayed through these news outlets.

Furthermore, the digital age brought a new reality to the forefront. We no longer rely on the six o'clock news for our updates. We obtain information from face book, you tube and other 'national' newspapers minute by minute. If we require specific information we consult with the organizations or institutions. No need for local TV.

To summarize, local TV is a residue of the past. Although there is some sense of nostalgia we

should not waste our (sparse) resources supporting something that lost its relevance in this day and time.

In the meantime, other venues could be supported (e.g. internet news services etc.). We need to remember that we are in the 21st century - hurrying back to the 20th is not progress (especially in an international comparison).

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 *camerak* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't see any point in supporting local programming. These 'local' networks spend the majority of their funding on bringing in international content from the UK or the US to provide us with entertainment. If we were provided with more great Canadian content like Little Mosque on the Prairie or The Border I wouldn't have a problem paying a small fee for local programming. But as we are mostly inundated with programming from the States what's the point. If I wanted to watch American content I would watch American stations. As it is, I mostly do watch American stations due to the lack of decent Canadian content besides hockey on CBC and TSN and the odd shows as mentioned above.

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 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

What is the CRTC really hoping to learn here?

Let's face it, it is just another forum for the great uneducated to spout opinions based on zero facts.

This adds absolutely nothing to the discussion.

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 *asusan* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Our local stations have a huge amount of advertisements for every show. What on earth are these people doing with the advertising dollars? What else do they plan to do with these extra funds other than line their own pockets?

Do what the rest of us have to do: if you don't have the income - don't spend the money! We can't afford to keep paying higher prices and higher taxes. Stop the madness!

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 *pcb4* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would immediately cancel my cable subscription and purchase an over the air antenna for approximately \$60.00, no question in my mind about that at all.

2. Local television is private business. Can't make it in the market place? Fold like any other business that can't cut it (except for a couple of car manufacturers).

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 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable and satellite companies should pay a fee for local programming and this fee should be absorbed by the cable company. The prices that Rogers currently charges for its tv packages are abhorrent and it is no surprise that more and more people are canceling their cable services. If there was greater competition in the market, Rogers wouldn't be able to charge such high prices, more viewers would sign up for a tv package and profits from these extra viewers could be used to pay for these local tv signals.

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1. Is the mandate of CRTC to serve the interests of media corporations or to protect the interests of the general public? For the moment it seems CRTC is on the side of media corporations. CRTC must make decisions based on the interests of the general public.
2. Allowing TV stations to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs, and allowing the distribution companies to impose those charges onto the general public as a compulsory fee is a TV tax.
3. TV tax for TV stations only breeds incompetence, complacency and bureaucracy for the TV industry, because they have secure source of income via taxation, that secure source of income will remove any incentive from the TV industry to produce programs that the general public wants.
4. More new TV stations will be created to demand funding via TV tax. The amount of TV tax allowed now is only the beginning, it will increase, and eventually it will kill the TV industry as well as the distribution industry.
5. The media industries in Hong Kong is vibrant, they thrive by producing programs people wants, not by relying on the taxation. HK has way smaller population than Canada. It's a matter of competence to produce good TV programs that people wants.
6. Cable companies forced basic package full of garbage that nobody watches to the subscribers, then gouge subscribers for the programs they want to watch. CRTC must ban this practice and provide the freedom to the TV viewers to pay what they want to watch.
7. After abolishing the compulsory basic package fee, local TV stations can charge fees like those specialty programs. It is only fair for viewers to bear the costs for the programs they want to watch.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[glenmacdonald](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Satellite subscribers should not be asked to pay for local signals unless all viewers - even those who receive broadcast signals - are also asked to pay. Either all viewers pay, or none should pay. It's interesting to consider that local broadcasters and networks do not believe advertising revenue can sustain their businesses any longer. But if this is really true - the Government and CRTC should not impose a fee on only a subset of viewers of local TV.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[andrewp9](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think if I re-broadcast the cable companies signal without payment I would shortly be in jail. Why should cable companies should not pay for local TV?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[Mike Russell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to andrewp9](#)

The cable companies are doing the local channels a favour by carrying them. It allows them to be more widely distributed, enabling them to increase revenues by charging more for ads.

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With today's technology, it is bizzare to think of adding cost to cable and satellite services. The Internet has broken down barriers to information including broadcast signals making these more accessible to all Canadians. Any increase in the fee I already pay for cable service would prompt me to consider reducing my service or eliminating it entirely.

To support local television, it would be wise to relax the regulations to allow local stations to provide programming from world wide sources in addition to Canadian. Cable providers especially should provide the consumer with much greater flexibility in selecting channel preferences - their large package offers include access to programs that are unwanted. Satellite providers appear to offer greater flexibility in the packages available to the consumer. With the technology and its ability to be programmed to do virtually whatever we desire, program selection for the consumer should be completely open so the consumer can pay for the very programs they desire and prefer rather than being forced to take packages that fail to meet their needs.

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 *Don Campbell* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Where I live, Brighton Ontario, there is no "local" tv. Further, the development in which I live does not allow antennas so the only source (s) for TV reception are cable or satellite. The networks should curtail their spending and live within their means, as individuals must. They have had a ride on the "PUBLIC" air waves for a long time and it is time to work within their existing income stream. If it goes up that is one thing, if it shrinks, cut back. If that means they can not buy US programming, so be it.

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 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

What is the CRTC really hoping to learn here?

Let's face it, it is just another forum for the great uneducated to spout opinions based on zero facts.

This adds absolutely nothing to the discussion.

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 *isaiahkyler* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are charged too much money paying \$60 for 200 stations when we only watch 20 stations is pointless. We are only getting 10% value because the CRTC has designed it this way ... there is no real competition shaw, starchoice, Bell ExpressVu are virtually the same with the same packages there is really no difference between pricing or options. TV in this country as it stands right now is not worth the money and therefore I will not get onboard until there is real change in this industry!

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 *RLM* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should be able to operate as a business and look at solutions to remain viable. At the end of the day, they are not going to go away and the consumer as usual will pay. The issue is at the other end where the cable and satellite providers have a license to print money. Increases are consistently higher than the rate of inflation and rarely offer any added value. To add insult to injury there is little to no flexibility on programming choice. I looked hard at reducing my costs but could not even save a toonie without sacrificing stations I do watch while at the same time paying for a plethora of stations I never look at. And this CRTC is your fault. You created this environment. So now I'm asking you to fix it. If I'm going to pay and we always do, I want better choice and flexibility for the money I'm dishing out.

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 *douglaslangley* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadian cable TV is too expensive and not competitive internationally. The bundling concept is

not fair and would not occur in an open market. CRTC please allow Canadians to watch the TV they wish at more competitive rates.

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Like

 S.M. ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes, local TV should be able to charge a tax to cable and satellite companies.

Unfortunately, this could result in cable/satellite companies increasing their fees as a response. There are two issues here:

1. Local TVs charging cable companies
2. Cable companies upping fees because of the charge

Whereas I don't agree with cable companies upping their fees, I do believe that local tv stations should be able to charge a fee to the cable/satellite companies.

I agree with Noel J, Vance and the like who point out that local TV deserves its share of \$\$ from the cable co's that make money off them in the basic cable package and retain all the profit.

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 Mark ★ [1 month ago](#)

10 years ago, there was a news bureau in my city which was run by an independent station in a city three hours away. They did an excellent job covering news, sports, etc from all over the region. That station was purchased by one of the corporate broadcasters and promptly proceeded to shut down all of the regional news bureaus. This has happened to local stations across the country.

The closest thing we have to "local" television now is a community tv service provided by the local cable company, under mandate from the CRTC. Satellite customers do not receive this signal. This local service is already funded by cable customers through their cable bill.

The closest broadcast channel is located a two-hour drive from the city in which I live. Events in my city are never discussed in the news or sports segments of their news broadcasts, and there is no detailed weather forecasting.

In short, I have no local TV service. The same is true for the geographical majority of Canada. With very few exceptions, "local" coverage in this country consists of a corporately owned station which receives most of their content from the central network, and adds local news from the immediate metro area in which the station is located. There is no way I should be required to pay support for broadcasters who already abandoned my region. Why should I be required to pay what basically amounts to a subsidy for stations in far away cities who don't even care about the region in which I live?

Based on this, I guess the answers to the discussion questions would be:

1) Since my local TV was taken away several years ago, how can I be charged a fee to support stations which do not serve my locality in any way shape or form?

2) For the most part, local television has already ceased to exist in this country. Why are we discussing financial support for a series of corporate entities who have overspent and over-leveraged their balance sheets in an effort to build multi-media conglomerates? The issues faced by "local" broadcasters such as CTV and Global are rooted in their poor business decisions, and their past over-payments as they went on acquisition sprees in an attempt to build "convergence" between print, television and web-based media. In the process, they have gutted what used to be local television in this country. I cannot endorse a subsidy in the name of "Canadian culture" which is nothing more than a handout to compensate for poor business decision making.

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Ken_Layfield ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television in my opinion typically makes up for 20 percent of viewing time by the local subscriber when you factor in the local news, weather etc. If the cable companies devoted 20 percent of ad revenues (maybe even showcasing local produced ads) then maybe it could support the local station. Locally produced shows also have funding available at the provincial and federal level as well. Making the subscriber pay for the local station only protects the profit margin of the cable company and doesn't demonstrate that the cable companies truly care about the local stations.

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Shawn44 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't have an issue with paying for local TV, it only makes sense as I watch local news daily. The problem with the Canadian television system is the overwhelming lack of choice. I should be able to choose the over the air and specialty services I want to view and pay for, rather than be force fed packages with stipulated channel rates that are outdated. For instance, I don't watch sports but as a consumer I have no choice but to pay for TSN. Do they really need my money? I should also be able to choose my cable company, rather than put up with the poor service of a monopoly carrier. In Ontario, as a consumer who wants phone, internet and television, I really only have two choices - Rogers land based service or Bell's DTH service, assuming I have the site line to see the Expressvu satellite. This is not competition, and as a consumer I am very frustrated.

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Frank ★ [1 month ago](#)

First-I believe we have too many TV stations showing unworthy programs. It would be a great Idea if few of them would close indefinitely.
Second- I believe that cable companies are stealing tv signals. They should be paying for those signals, but not at the expense of cable customers.(I would immediately cancel my cable)We are paying too much for cable packages being shoved down our throat that we do not want. As for TV stations, it seems to me that there is an increasing number of them that turn 20 minutes news into one hour and one half show with two or more anchor people repeating the same things all over again. They could save money if they go back to the old style, having one anchor person to read the news, weather and sport. (stop crying poor)

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davidwohlfahrt ★ [1 month ago](#)

The really bad news in all of this is that this problem is much bigger than the mandate of the CRTC. The problem stems from a problem that the super wealthy people and businesses face today world wide. A wealth redistribution problem is now facing the wealthy. For years the system has worked the way it was set up by the original pioneers of Television and advertising around the world where by advertisers would pay a fee to promote their products to the masses in TV land (us) The problems facing the Billionaire networks now are the fact that the advertising dollars are evaporating. The causes are many and are incurable. The internet has now taken over for the networks as the most profitable entities in our economies for advertisers around the world. Social networks have essentially driven the final blow allowing us to freely advertise our services and products online. The CRTC is merely giving us the bad news that the accumulated wealth of the broadcasters and there owners is more valuable to our economy than us simple working class couch potatoes and are merely debating the issue in front of us because we are a civilized society and we will listen to the mighty word of the government.

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steve449 ★ [1 month ago](#)

First. Not everyone has cable TV. If local broadcasters shut down due to lack of revenue, the

screen goes black and the TV is junk !

Second, Why should I pay for what I can get for free.

Third, The reason we're all typing here is that the CRTC ONLY backs big business. We are no longer protected from monopolies.

It should be the PRTC.....pussy radio& telecommunications conspiracy !!!!!

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 *CDubya* ★ [1 month ago](#)

- On top of??? Nuh-uh! IMHO, cable should not be mandated to distribute local tv signals. Then follow through with a reduction in cable rates.

- Minor/struggling (so called 'local') TV stations would likely benefit from teaming up with neighbouring larger/stronger 'local' stations - carrying local news/features of interest to their combined viewership. Seriously? They'll be fine.

Then, we'd make a more informed choice from the options of paying for:

- either
- none or
- both.

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 *Brian M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would reduce the packages I pay for. I have to pay for channels I will NEVER or rarely view and a large number of French language stations I don't access. Let the free market dictate what stations survive and let me choose all the stations I want to watch.

Local stations must survive on their own by advertising, donations, etc. They mostly provide US based programs - because that's what the Canadian public wants to watch. We don't need multiple local stations to provide local news, sports and weather, that can be added in on a national network. Don't force another charge on a costly and flawed cable/satellite service.

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 *Pedro* ★ [1 month ago](#)

the rate of increase for cable bills has gone up higher than the rate of inflation. It is very expensive to maintain these monthly charges. Whichever decision is taken, it cannot be at the cost of the consumer. I find it ironic that there is a topic for choice of service- where is that. If i want cable, my only choice is Rogers-where is the competition? how can we allow for this.

Satellite is a whole different choice.

Enough is enough. Let me choose the channels i want instead of being forced into a list of channels that bring no valuable content.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *STEVE SMITH* ★ [1 month ago](#)

IF THEY CHARGE ME THIS TAX I WILL DROP THE SERVICE AND PURCHASE DIGITAL ANTENNA AND USE INTERNET FOR ALL TV CONNECTIONS .I CAN GET ALL MY LOCAL NEWS ON LOCAL RADIO FOR FREE THANK YOU.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Great to see my comment has been removed. Democracy at its finest on these boards. Let's try again. I originally questioned what value this could possibly have. You could sum up the answers in one post:

1. Noone likes the cable companies - we all pay too much.
2. Local TV is a misnomer. There is almost NO real local TV anymore. Even local news is predominantly national or international stories, even when you live in a big city.
3. 90% of comments will be from people who have not educated themselves on the current state of the system and so are spouting opinions with NO factual basis - sadly, this is the fact of ALL online message boards.
4. There is no-one on the side of the consumer - that boat sailed long ago. Musings from government ministers (this means you James Moore) about protecting the consumer are meaningless. What are you protecting us from James? So far your concern means only price. So, you are saying it is ok for Canadian broadcasters to serve us up the cheapest possible programming with no thought to any social or cultural benefits to society.
5. This post is just as useless as all the rest!

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Herman ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I am required to pay for local tv chanel, then they MUST be optional. If they are forced on me I'll cancell my cable rather than see them get my money. I do not believe in subsidizing poorly managed businesses.

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Like



Alissa Poulin ★ [1 month ago](#)

Personally, I don't like local tv. It's boring - and the news is depressing. However, perhaps it is this way because there is no money.

I think that the price I pay for cable should include the fee to local TV stations. Its up to the satellite providers to absorb this cost.

Look at their financials - they can definitely afford to take on this cost at nothing to the viewer.

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tridus ★ [1 month ago](#)

First of all, let me say that I'm glad to see this type of discussion taking place.

TV service in this country is already very expensive. Making it even more expensive, especially at the most basic level of service is going to result in some customers being unable to afford it and cut off. It will also cause many who can afford it to refuse to pay more for channels they don't watch.

Let the local stations charge if they want to. If they do, let the customer decide to subscribe to those channels or not. That will result in true choice. The current proposal is terrible, nobody has a choice to subscribe to these channels right now. CRTC rules force them into the basic package which customers MUST take.

Why should CTV/CBC/Global get money from me when I don't watch their programming and don't want their service? That's taking money away from channels that I do want to pay for.

If these channels are going to remain something that all customers must subscribe to, then they should not be allowed to charge us for the privilege of being forced to have them.

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platonwerbicky ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay an additional fee for local TV through my cable connection. I can receive local TV over the airwaves and do not understand why an additional charge should be made. The only thing local TV gives me is the local news which I can receive through the newspaper or

on the internet which I already pay for with an additional charge. Other than the news, I can receive the same programs from local TV on other stations that I already pay for. If I want more Canadian content then then I watch the Specialty Channels that I already pay for and are mostly owned by the Canadian Networks. Canadian Networks generate considerable revenue from the all too numerous commercials that they bombard us with and have in my opinion become ridiculously long and repetitive. Again, I do not understand why I have to pay for something that comes over the airwaves and I have to pay with my attention when I see the all too numerous commercials. Poorly run networks need to fix their own inefficiency instead of making us pay for their poor business decisions. If the CRTC grants this tax to the local networks then I feel I should have the ability to opt out of local TV with my Cable Programming.

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Like

 *Scott A.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We're already paying too much for cable and satellite TV. Since cable and satellite companies do not currently pay a fee for local TV signals and distribute them as part of their basic service, I believe that they should have to pay for these signals. Also, since they have been benefiting from these 'free' signals all along, I don't think it's fair that, should the CRTC decide to allow local TV to charge for these signals, that cable and satellite companies should be passing these fees along to subscribers.

They gouge the consumer enough as it is.

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 *craighuckerby* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't see any need for consumers to foot the bill for local tv when in reality local tv only exists in large cities. Northern Ontario for example is served by ONE tv station "locally" and that's CTV Sudbury. Even with that, local tv programming is reduced to a few minutes of regional news - not local - nor is there any otehr type of local programming. The CRTC should allow for several new locally owned community television stations to serve their communités with real local programming - I would not have a problem funding such an operation on my cable bill.

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 *Michelle* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My preference would be not in paying for local TV. I currently live in a community of over 80k which does not have local TV available nor any over air signal. For TV we must choose either cable or satellite. I do not believe I should be forced to pay for what classifies as local TV out of Edmonton or Calgary. The amount of local news for our area is abysmal. For many of our rural communities across Canada we are really paying for provincial coverage not local coverage. At least those in the cities have the choice of over air for free.

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 *Ed* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Cancel cable immediately. This because the CRTC has not considered a revenue sharing arrangement between cable companies and the public/local networks, and simply allowed the cable companies to pass whatever the TV networks are asking for their local broadcasts onto us.

The CRTC should redivide current revenues if the broadcasters are indeed contributing to cable revenues, otherwise not.

Networks should not be allowed to stop US broadcasts, though they may still preempt the advertising. A very basic service should be offered to cable consumers consisting only of broadcasters and cable networks that do not charge cable companies for their transmission.

Consumers can pay extra for local broadcasts (including, those of national networks) and specialty cable channels.

The redefinition of the national broadcast business model is a huge issue, and should not be allowed to resolved with a quick fix in this way for which the consumer will shoulder the whole burden.

2. First ask, do we need to support local television to the point where cable consumers must carry the whole cost of supporting them. I think that networks should not be required to supply local broadcasts, and this should be left to specialty channels.

At the same time, the CRTC should deregulate the cable and broadcasting industries enough to allow local broadcasters to operate relatively inexpensively, and provide their transmission to those that want them.

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 *consumer12345* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite service fees are too high but a BIG part of the reason is mandatory carriage! Fee's are unreasonably high because consumers are forced to buy a lot of channels they don't watch and don't want.

ALL TV Channels must stand on their own merit in an open market place.

As to local TV getting paired for channels that are free off of the air I will support charging for them ONLY if the consumer is given a choice over whether they subscribe to them.. If local TV wants fee for carriage they must surrender mandatory carriage in return.

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 *Steve Cook* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies should be forced to pay for all content they carry. The cost of content distribution is fixed AND pales in comparison with the cost of content production. I am not generally in favour of television regulation, because I believe the CBC should provide for Canadian specific needs, but since we have regulation and cable operators are huge beneficiaries, it is time for them to give something back.

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 *Rob Kelly* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for cable as it is (Roger's VIP). I do not support increasing fees in any way. I do enjoy local programming but there should be a way that both side can benefit and consumers can still get access to local television programming WITHOUT paying extra. The cable companies and the TV stations make enough money as it is, but are very free in passing any new expense on to the consumers. Its time that people realize that most consumers do not have a bottomless pit of money available. I would like to see a system where consumers can select only the channels they want, make up their own TV packages and not be restricted in choice in any way by either the CRTC or the cable companies. I enjoy sports, for example, but if I want both TSN and Roger's Sportsnet HD channels I have to subscribe to two different sports packages, getting other channels I may not want. It would be nice to be able to select only the channels I want and make up a package without restrictions.

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 *dlkmlk* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My preference would be not in paying for local TV. I currently live in a community of over 80k which does not have local TV available nor any over air signal. For TV we must choose either cable or satellite. I do not believe I should be forced to pay for what classifies as local TV out of Edmonton or Calgary. The amount of local news for our area is abysmal. For many of our rural communities across Canada we are really paying for provincial coverage not local coverage. At least those in the cities have the choice of over air for free.

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Aldy ★ [1 month ago](#)

In the Philippines, TV stations air their programs on their own and cable networks pay for airing TV programs and those consumers who want to subscribe to cable pay the cable networks. We don't pay a cent to watch local TV programs in the Philippines. Isn't this supposed to be like this here in Canada. Where the hell do you know a business do their business from other businesses and not pay for it? That is what's happening with the TV networks here, they are being dried up by the cable networks and these cable networks charge too much to consumers. The CRTC should regulate these Cable networks and let them pay for airing TV programs from TV networks and regulate the cable fees. TV networks and us consumers are being made MILKING COWS by the Cable networks.

[Flag](#)

Like



Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable TV suppliers should supply a package price for the number of channels and allow the client to select the specific channels from the total offering from suppliers.

Local TV offers nothing for our family and make the CBC private and a part of the competitive private industry.

Let the locals sell themselves or fail.

[Flag](#)

Like



Derek Morgan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should be supported by advertising sales and Local TV should be thankful that their signal is broadcast nationally. I am not in favour of paying any additional fees to support them.

[Flag](#)

Like



John M. McLeod ★ [1 month ago](#)

we live in a signal area that does not provide local tv - our cdn.stations are 400km away - why should I support them? local tv has also been mismanaged, advertising time and program promos are excessive, am I not already supporting local tv by viewing them? cable companies are also providing a poor service at excessive prices, many unwanted channels must be received to obtain a few channels which are of interest. in short, viewers in canada need and deserve a much better and affordable television service, do your job CRTC and make it happen , before we all turn off and turn on the internet.

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Like



E Saunders ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are already paying too much for our TV services. In my opinion we are forced to take channels we do not want, which really amounts to censorship and increases prices dramatically. I suggest the CRTC should probably be disbanded and let the whole electronic industry compete for their market. Lastly, the huge subsidization of the CBC is grossly out of date in terms of requirement and causes a large share of distortions in prices.

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Roman A ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local tv news matter as well as I want to see what is happening around my area and more.. should be able to have that shown and also show other news from other parts of Canada and all over the world with good timing and etc. It would be terrible to lose my local tv channels for

news like CTV Winnipeg, Global Winnipeg and others and have to look at the generic news shows and etc... that wouldn't be good business for the local Winnipeg channels to have to deal with it.. and if they need to charge for that, they will have to show they have to do it necessarily to earn the revenue for paying for everything.. they must show their books and prove it... I would want to have local tv channels there for the main reasons to watch news, other tv shows and more.. the speciality channels are okay but really needs to be lessened somehow.. I can only hope it wont cost so much to just to subscribe to satellite or cable for these channels...

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lisakirkland ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not want to pay any additional fees for local television. I feel that the television stations knew that a requirement of getting a broadcasting license is providing a prescribed amount of local television and that they should provide this without additional fees. The local stations are looking for more money because they made poor business decisions, eg. Global's expansion and financing of the expansion. The local stations were greedy and wanted to grow too fast, now they want consumers to bail them out of their poor business decisions. If local stations want to save some money they should decrease the American shows they buy. If local stations are run properly, advertising revenue should provide enough profit to them.

If cable companies are making too high a percentage of profits, their profits should be limited and cable fees should be decreased - not passed on to local television stations.

2. Local television should be supported through the continued requirement to provide local content as part of broadcasting license not through additional costs to consumers.

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Like



Kevin ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. To answer this I first have to question how much local TV I get from these stations anyways. Outside of news broadcasts I would have to say next to nothing, although I do consider local news broadcasts somewhat important. In the end I believe in a free market. If any station actually fails then the market will adapt and other competitors will become stronger and new ones will come into the fold. These corporations don't have an implied right to exist and if cable companies don't want to pay them then that is up to them.

2. These "local" tv stations are also have significant stakes in the specialty channels they like to complain about and they have the resources to launch expensive PR campaigns. I don't believe they need any support.

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Like



James ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not pay anything and in fact may cancel my subscription if I am forced into such a tier.

What we have seen in Canada is an on-going coddling of arts & entertainment with increasing costs to the public. In my opinion there is little benefit if no one actually consumes the product or service -- if there is minimal demand then it should not be publicly funded.

With advancements in technology costs of producing and distributing content can come down dramatically.

2. Measures to support local "television":

(a) Build out internet connectivity across Canada

(b) Provide *some* public funds to severely under-served areas - enough for a digital camcorder and an internet connection. Then let local volunteers / students produce and distribute content as they see fit via Youtube and other popular content hosting mechanisms. There is absolutely no need to pay for a studio, engineers, etc for small audiences. I look forward to the "Magnetawan Channel."

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[davidegli](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not expect to pay more expenses for local TV. The cost of TV is already too high for very little value.

Why is local TV so important.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[jeffbbintl](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have read many of the comments and do agree with all of them. We as Canadians do get screwed because we do not step up and demand change. Cable and cellular rates are a joke. If you are on a contract and need something, they say sorry but a new subscriber gets all they want so that they will subscribe. There is no loyalty. I pay for basic cable plus for HD. I am paying over \$100 a month for this which is crazy!! I am then being told by Rogers they will bill me more if they have to pay for local stations when I am already paying a fee for this in the basic package. Are they for real!! I just hope that the CRTC, which is a body that is there to protect Canadians and maintain Canadian programming, will have the "balls" to do the right thing instead of allowing us to be screwed. They haven't done a good job with the cellular market so let's hope that they do for television. I am not against companies making money but I'm against the fact that we have no alternative cable supplier. Rogers has taken over...why is there a monopoly?? This should also be looked at by the CRTC. Rogers may be more willing to pay for local stations versus losing their monopoly and subsequently revenue.

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[Dan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not pay for that, like most people these days I get my local news from the Internet. I believe in the future there will be no need for local TV.
2. In big cities (not my case) where local TV makes sense it should still be free to consumers and paid for by local/national advertisers.

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[Alexa](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. The only 'local' programming normally done by our stations in this City is the noon, supper-time and evening news. I'm not prepared to pay additional for this; and I'm certainly not prepared to pay exorbitant fees for cable. Basic cable is all I need and can afford.
2. Local television advertising has never been cheap; and again, I cannot afford to put more monies in their pocket.

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[al_w](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Broadcasters are ignoring the free distribution benefits and the substitution rights which they are already getting ... however, they certainly use these advantages when selling advertisements. If they are so adamant that they need this fee, give them a choice, either the present free distribution and substitution rights, or "fee-for-carrage" with a clear choice for the consumer as to which of the individual channels they want to subscribe to.
2. Unlike what the large networks have said, a lot of the small stations have always made profit. When the large networks take over the small stations, the first thing they generally do is to sell all full network ads from the headquarters (makes sense). However, the small stations are still running the ads on their station as before, but the ad revenue is now attributed to the Headquarters (making the small station look less profitable).

The small stations often ran some religious shows which paid for themselves. The networks saw this and yanked the shows away, to move them to the larger stations (supposedly more audience). The larger stations had different viewers requirements and thus these revenue streams were eventually dropped.

Small stations do well in the inovations because they can't afford the extravagence of large stations. They can make shows, community activities and ads cheaper (but still of high quality). Some of these shows have then been shown Canada wide (with highly inflated reports as to their original cost).

The networks then strip the small stations of their equipment and operate them remotely over questionable infastructure (usually no backup). By doing this, the networks have also fired a majority of the local contacts for the community involvement.

The networks are now suggesting that fee-for-carriage will restore the local station. Sorry, there is now insufficient staff and equipment to accomplish this, and I would suspect any fee would find it's way to only help the main large stations, or possible to continue their questionable purchasing history of other companies.

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[billybobzz](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I like how this site is hosted on page which seems to have connections to both HBC and AirCanada.....

Anyhow, 1) I'd just watch the American channels if I had to pay for the Canadian ones, assuming those ones where free.

2)There really doesn't seem to be local programming anyways so they should keep on doing what they are doing now.

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[TJ Stevens](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies charge for their BASIC cable, which is primarily our local tv stations. A portion of THAT fee SHOULD be paid (already been paying) to the stations they are providing in their basic cable package.

We learn very early in life, we don't get something for nothing & the cable companies have been charging us for viewing CTV, Global, CBC for years & I've always assumed that they have been giving these networks a portion of their cable fee for the PRIVILEGE of the use of their signals. ROGERS has already put a small increase on ALL of our bills now, they say to pay the Canadian networks.....yet, they haven't paid a cent.

They make ENOUGH off of us ALREADY & they've been RAISING their RATES almost EVERY YEAR.....it's time to step in and regulate these cable companies NOW!!!

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[hambone](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Now, granted, I work for a 'local' television station, one more local than most and they seem committed to it but the fact remains that 'local' TV consists of news, and that's it.

I personally reject the notion that BDUs and broadcasters should be allowed to negotiate fee-for-carriage or any other sort of financial shell game that would be passed onto the consumer.

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[rapman50](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local stations already sell advertising space which is how they should finance their operations. These dollars along with viewing totals determine their income. They should not be artificially

propped up by Cable/sat funding. This only support mediocrity.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [johncormier](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

SIMPLE....ALLOW SUBSCRIBERS TO PICK ONLY THE CHANNELS THEY WANT TO WATCH, if not, i will go back to my antenna.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Brent Hughes](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not take kindly to being charged for local television.

For too long the cable companies, granted a monopoly in this country, have profited from the fact they do not have to pay for the local feed. Their objection is based on protecting those profits and has noting to do with treating Canadian consumers with fairness. Cable looks to the CRTC to prevent the local fee at best and at worst to pass this fee along to the consumer....either way their profit margins are protected.

Local television on the other hand is not into upgrading or expanding services in order to foster competition as they fear the cost of changing to the newer technologies. They want their outmoded business model protected as long as possible as it too is profitable....at least for now. No hide off air for Canadians, outside of Toronto, as it's too expensive.

The CRTC should let the chips fall where they might and let the local guys fish or cut bait. This is supposed to be the age of the entrepreneur but these arguments are nothing more than corporate welfare and more protectionism for an industry that has so far refused to change willingly and has let the consumer down. Consumers cannot go elsewhere as there is no choice so the providers seek further legal entrenchment of their so called right to make a buck. Meanwhile the Canadian television viewer is left out in the cold with no where to turn to.

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 [B. Hengen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

the local channels are commercial. As such they make their money from advertisers, same as Radio.

Cable/Sat providers charge for service, therefore they should be barred from showing commercial. if they go commercial, then they should NOT charge for service.

Why is TV different than radio? Are you not RADIO and Television Regulators?

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 [Richard Backs](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay more than \$60 per month for fairly basic satellite TV. I actually want less than 1/2 of the channels offered, but have to buy unwanted channels in order to receive the educational / learning channels I value most.

Local / Canadian television should be offered as part of a basic cable / package offering for all Canadians. We already have too few companies in Canada controlling "points of view" when it comes to news reporting - let's not make the problem worse.

If this means I have to pay more for "basic" Canadian programming, so be it. That being said, the cable companies should be mandated to revise their subscription practices such that all other channels are available on a "cost per channel" offering.

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Like



robhaze ★ [1 month ago](#)

i will get rid of my telus tv if my bill goes up any. we as canadians pay to much already for tv, to be charged for more, is just plain stupid...i will steal tv off the internet From the USA if these crooks decide to try and charge me more money for tv.. these greedy crooks... TV TAX MY ASS... I already pay for basic cable WHICH INCLUDES LOCAL CABLE FROM CANADAS CITYS THE MONEY IS THERE SHAW BELL ROGERS AND TELUS STOP STEALING FROM US OR WE WILL Stop paying you. the internet has many other forms of TV then YOU. i watch hulu in canada, if i am asked to pay more i will only watch american HULU and pay u nothing, TV TAX THIS you crooks.
[Flag](#)

Like



jwm1999 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with Susan also, all of the communications/cable/satellite companies seem to think Canadians are made of money, they're kind of like our governments that way. We need more competition in this market and I say the same as everyone else, I will cancel my subscriptions before I will pay for local programming. I am fed up also.
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Like



Monique Mili ★ [1 month ago](#)

For me, local TV means news about what is happening in my area and in the country. It also includes drama/comedy/documentary that reflects my experience back to me and helps me learn and understand my immediate world. I feel that I already pay for local TV either through my taxes or by enduring endless, mindless advertising. I would however be willing to help fund local TV much in the same way that the community of WNED in Buffalo does. In fact, I have often donated to WNED and to TVO because I appreciate their programming and the enjoy the absence of advertising. Up until recently, when this issue came to the fore, I was not aware that cable companies, in my case Rogers, did not pay for programming they get through local TV stations. It amazes me that they are allowed to do that. To me, it's like robbery in broad daylight! I figured that the price I pay for cable reflected fees they paid to local channels! I am also unhappy with the fact that I have to pay for programming I never watch in order to access those channels that are of interest to me. I understand why they "bundle" programming but I think networks should be able to stand up on their own and not rely on being part of a "bundle" in order to survive. Finally, it is beyond my comprehension as to how Rogers manages to stay in business given the poor customer service perception and the amateurish presentation of their Rogers On Demand service. The interface is slow, difficult to navigate and ugly. If I were a Rogers executive, I would be embarrassed to be associated with such an amateurish product. If I had a choice, I would not be a Rogers customer and despite telling them that, they continue to operate with the insouciance of a monopoly. Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to vent my frustrations and to let you know that if it weren't for my PVR and the movie channel, I would watch very little television. It is no longer the magnet it used to be and the advertising has definitely ruined it for me. Now, when I am not at home and am faced with the option of having to channel surf (such as in a hotel room) or doing just about anything else, the remote does not get picked up. It's just not worth the time.
[Flag](#)

Like



Mary Jane Gallow ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Canadian Networks benefit from being carried on cable TV. With a larger viewing audience advertising revenues should be higher. The amount of local programming from CTV and CBC is minimal. I live in the Waterloo Region and Rogers does a fantastic job of providing local programming. I would not pay more to receive local channels.
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Like

 *Frank in Collingwood* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not want to pay just to support local TV.. If a business (any business) can not support itself with normal revenues it should not be subsidized. Internal change should be required to continue in business. Cable fees are now too high and the claims made about service are entirely unbelievable

[Flag](#)

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 *no_loco* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Red Deer. We had CKRD here for decades, until CanWest Global bought it and turned it into garbage, CKHA I think it was. It was full of "E-Now" and other entertainment news and other nonsense, which quite rightly, no one was interested in. Then, due to low ratings they closed the station. Now we have no local TV at all.

How would you prevent this from happening? Why would I care to pay any money at all to anyone? It won't bring back what we have lost, so to me it's an additional tax for no benefit. Answer this quandry and you'll be closer to solving the problem.

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 *T. D. Lavineway* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) Cable companies are receiving free signals from local TV and have been charging the consumer for years, so this is nonsense that cable needs to add an upcharge if local TV begins to charge them.

2) Years ago consumers were encouraged to switch to cable and assured that we would have access to local TV. If cable is allowed to charge additional charges for local TV, there will be many consumers giving up their cable and switching back to antennas. (As far as I am concerned this is a step backward in time.)

3) I believe the CRTC must consider regulation of fees as we Canadians pay very high fees already for our present cable. Please remember cable TV is a luxury item, and will be first to be cut back by consumers if fees continue their upward climb.

My suggestion would be for the CRTC to regulate a fee that cable must pay to local TV for the use of their signals and that this be absorbed by the cable companies and not passed along to the consumer. If cable threatens to cut back their service, well their customer service is already lacking and is a misnomer. Cable especially in Saskatchewan has had it easy since inception as their cable lines were all installed by Sasktel and to my knowledge, given to them for a nominal fee or free.

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 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I had to pay separately for local tv and cable tv, I would subscribe to local tv only.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *andrevare* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Where I live, I receive:

NBC
CBS
ABC
FOX
PBS
CBC
CTV
Global
CHCH

SunTv
 CFMT I and II
 City
 CTS
 FOX
 CBS II
 US Independent.

All of the above are with an antenna and digital signals. The last two are available on cable at all.

Increasing cable fees will only make cable less significant to more people as they return (if they are old enough) to using antennas for what broadcast television they do watch.

Thank you.

A. Andre Vare

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ellamai ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm already being charged an exorbitant amount by Rogers Cable to carry these local channels. Rogers should have to pick up the tab for the local channels, but not charge the consumers more. They already make so much profit, they don't need to gouge us any more. Do not allow Rogers, Bell, and the like to keep charging whatever amount they feel like. The CRTC should be protecting Canadian Consumers!!!

And yes, I value local television programs and news very much. I do not want to see them go out of business. Rogers and Bell are making profits off the backs of these local stations. Time to make them pay up!

[Flag](#)

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Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we are all missing the big picture here. On one side we have 2 groups of people wanting the same piece of pie. However no one is talking about the illeage sat. Issues in Canada. From what I have been told its going to be a bigger problem for these groups. so maybe instead of bicking with each other they should be getting together to find a better way to serve there customers or otherwise there customer base will dissapear with FTA.

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Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I had to pay separately for local tv and cable tv, I would subscribe to local tv only.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



James ★ [1 month ago](#)

The idea that we need to further fund over powerful cable and satellite services is insane. It is the CRTC's responsibility to look to the overtaxed, overcharged, under-served consumer and keep him or her safe from further abuse.

The limits that cable and satelite service are inflicting on Canadaian society are going to impact the communications and cultural needs of this and the next generations.

The short-term gain/greed approach that currently seems to be the standard operating mode of allowance of the CRTC towards these providers is impacting us everyday in holding back Canadians forward-looking advancement in new technologies and information/communication delivery

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*PFilipowich* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV does NOT matter. TV networks get their money from advertisement. If their product was worth watching then they could get better rates. Network TV spends their money over bidding on foreign shows and then complain that they have no money for local TV. Regulate how much they can spend on non-Canadian TV and they will increase their profits. Also, what guarantee will the networks give that they will spend any extra money on local TV

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*wayne* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable & sat., have been making money off the local channel for a long time, Local channels are part of what they sell us. They should be paying the local channel providers with compensation (CABLE & SAT PRICES ARE TO HIGH NOW)

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Ed* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The broadcasters should stand on their own. The cable and satellite companies are doing them a favour by carrying their programs and thus increasing their audience and advertising revenue. If anything the broadcasters should be paying the cable and satellite companies to carry their programs

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*ryangw* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be outraged to pay for local programming.
2. I feel that local television is a business. If the business is not successful they have the choice to reevaluate their business model, or throw in the towel. I am tired of being a doormat for Canadian business bailouts.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*David M.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am totally against a fee for carriage to be paid to the broadcast networks.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Lexman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would deeply resent any increase in fees for this purpose. I pay too much already.

No special measures to support local TV. It must sink or swim on its own.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Lexman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I strongly oppose any fee increases for this purpose.

Let local TV sink or swim on its own

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



Peter Whiteley ★ [1 month ago](#)

Here in the lower mainland I would be very hard pressed to name a local TV show with the exception of the news. You can get the news anywhere. Just because the economy has slowed and the execs don't want to lose any wages or bonuses they think the public should pay. NOT!!!. The cable and satellite companies have invested a lot of monies for infrastructure and upkeep of the system(s) so these TV stations are able to broadcast to homes across the area. I still need to know how these stations will make any profit if the commercials are not broadcast to these same homes. The other problem is what happens when times are good again??

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Like



gwallis ★ [1 month ago](#)

No measures should be taken. The local TV model was developed and funded by advertising and the local broadcasters need to adopt their programming to reflect that funding model.

[Flag](#)

Like



angeliqu ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that we already pay too much for basic tv. Seeing as how the cable provider is not paying for these stations, the entire fee is simply to provide the lines/wire/dish through which we see them. I would like to know where that money is spent. From the state of the wiring servicing my building I can't imagine it's all for maintenance. Thus, I think the cable providers should pay for local tv signals and NOT be allowed to pass on the cost to consumers.

I also think we, as consumers, should be able to choose what channels we want to subscribe to. This would provide incentive for local channels to give the consumer what they want and charging more for American channels would also promote Canadian TV. This would also make the system more fair, as channels would sink or float on how much Canadians enjoy them.

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Like



GG ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we must ensure we keep 2 things in this new media transformation era. We MUST keep local television stations providing local content to local viewers. We MUST also keep our reporters in the field to report on international, national and important events, in a fair, balanced and impartial way. I think this whole TV tax campaign by the cable companies is a load of bunk. Referring to any costs they might have to accept and passing them off to consumers and calling it a tax is ludicrous at best. Hopefully Canadians are bright enough to figure out bunk when they see/hear it. The cable companies would have been wise to stay away for illusionary language. It puts people off and puts them into the local television camp. As for how the restructuring of costs be redistributed...I am sure the CRTC will be fair to all parties, including and particularly consumers. We get gouged enough by the cable companies for services and add-on fees that make us sick with the greed, arrogance and dispassion they display about their customer base. That being said the CRTC must be impartial but ensure we receive the coverage and programming we want and MUST have. The digital component is emerging and needs to be factored in as a 'choice' rather than a if/or. I am sure the cable companies and television stations can bundle their advertiser packages for conventional and digital exposure and the cable companies should pay for their fair share of carriage.

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Brett ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to GG](#)

Must have? Why must we have local stations and local coverage? If people are not willing to pay for it, why must they be forced to pay to keep these stations going? People should have a choice.

[Flag](#)

Like



RH ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be willing under any circumstance to pay anymore for local TV on top of what I already pay. Whether the broadcasters or cable companies pocket the profit is irrelevant to me. Either way it should in no way increase my cable bill, as the profit is being reallocated from one entity to another.

I don't think any measures should be taken to support local television, it should stand on its on merit. If people are unwilling to pay for it, so be it.

To be honest what we need is more competition and less regulation, which costs us as consumers.R

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Like



Sphunter ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe the fair way to settle this is to remove the requirement from cable/satellite companies to carry the locals in their basic package, and make them offer it as an option like any other type of programming is offered. Then, just as they do with the other types of programming they need to pay the local stations a fee for every customer that subscribes to the "Locals" package. This way the locals success or failure will be based on the quality of their programming and the number of customers they draw the same as all of the other programming providers.

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Helen ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies and local broadcasters need to work together to create more options. The current option of fees being charged to cable companies by the local broadcasters and ultimately paid by us, the customers, lacks creativity. There are talented people in these companies, surely they can do better than a price hike.

What if the cable companies could stop producing community programming as is currently mandated? Could the money earmarked for community programming be used to support the local broadcast channels?

Maybe the local channels could consider being content with fees of less than \$.10 per month per subscriber. Maybe cable customers should get to choose and pay for only those channels they want to receive. Maybe the local broadcasters could provide households with antennas so their signals can be received without the need for cable. They might even be able to sell them if the price was right.

The cable companies and broadcasters need to create more options

[Flag](#)

Like



Doug ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If I had to pay for local TV on top of current service costs. I would probably move to a free to air satellite system where I need not pay anything.

2. Local TV should be supported by the current service providers inflated profits, the CRTC should force these providers to pay similar for what they pay for American programming, but make it illegal to pass the cost direct to the customer. In other words cap what the cable and satellite companies can charge as service fees.

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jlorik ★ [1 month ago](#)

I enjoy viewing local television via rabbit ears connected to my hdtv. I particularly appreciate the

CBC and the service it provides to Canadians as our public broadcaster.

I refuse to subscribe to cable service. I looked into it and quickly realized that there is no basic low cost package available. I don't want or need a multitude of specialty channels. If I could pay a reasonable fee for a cable package that includes nothing but my local channels, a news channel, and the major american networks, I would consider it, but such a product does not exist. I don't mind the occasional fuzziness considering the fact I don't get a bill.

The fact that the cable companies rebroadcast local signals without paying for them and yet still charge the consumer for them is ridiculous. Also, I believe that the television networks have been overspending on american television series' to the detriment of Canadian television production. There needs to be some financial incentive for networks to carry Canadian-produced programming instead of rebroadcasting american tv.

[Flag](#)

Like



barbkitzan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay for local TV to the cable companies, I should not pay again

[Flag](#)

Like



Tom ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's past time we did away with the archaic CRTC. Let Canadians choose for themselves what they want to watch on TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



Frank in Collingwood ★ [1 month ago](#)

Like most comments below, I am completely dissatisfied with the makeup and delivery of cable service. Companies should be regulated as to the fees they can charge, standards of service and false advertising..The public should be compensated (refund) for down time, poor transmission and false advertising.

[Flag](#)

Like



Peter ★ [1 month ago](#)

Having to pay extra along with the fact that we are forced into the bundles picked by the cable company is enough to get me thinking of cancelling my service. The cable companies need to start adapting and giving the consumers a choice. If someone wants a local channel then should be able to pick it as an individual station and pay just for that station.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tony den Boef ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have both Shaw cable and Bell satellite concurrent services. Why should I have to pay for "local" stations when my neighbours can get the local stations for free through over the air service. Even in a digital environment, their ATSC tuner can pick up over the air digital HD signals.

[Flag](#)

Like



DY ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will not pay to watch crappy T.V.
Local T.V is the worst!! CTV... GLOBAL... CITY haha wow..

Worst shows ever..

Canadian TV sucks.

and yes cable bills are to much. You pay all that money for movie chans that play movies that dont make theathers and ones you never heard of...

SCREW THE CABLE COMPANYS!!!!!!!

Flag

Like

 *Amber Shilling* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is exceptionally important to me, especially as a Canadian. Our country is vast and diversified and that is unique part of Canada that should be celebrated rather than marred with greed. I think it is pivotal that the cable companies compensate local TV stations at a fair rate, but it is not fair to place this burden on the consumer. As we struggle in this economy, the fat cats in the huge corporations like Bell and Shaw are doing fine-- Much better than the majority. The cost of what I pay per month to get Digital TV is absurd, and more than enough to ensure that local stations can be compensated the corporations can still get richer. If the choice is between no local tv or a tv tax, well I choose no tv at all. Thanks to the internet, I can make that choice. Supporting local TV because it is the right thing to do is the only way I will continue to subscribe to cable at all.

Flag

Like

 *Barry Thomas Ewing* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Whether I watch the news, weather, sports, or my favourite TV shows, I always have to put up with those annoying commercials, and many of them are annoying. These commercials are supposed to pay for the programming. Cable doesn't offer programming, but the variety of channels not viewable normally. They are completely different services, and I will not pay more for my cable bill. I have watched the quality of TV degrade over the years with a saturated "reality TV" era, and feel they need to find other ways to come up with their overpaid staff/management.

Cable should not be have to pay the TV companies!

The quality of my local TV has been bad for years, the news pathetic. I am not willing to pay more for cable to support poor quality TV.

2. If they can't make the business work, with all the commercials during the programming, then let them go!!!!

Flag

Like

 *Susan* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I abosolutely do not want to pay any more on my satellite bill. They are far too high as it is. I want to continue to see my local TV on my Bell dish. I believe Bell, Rogers, Cogeco and others should be paying the local stations to air their programs, but I don't believe they should pass that cost on to us. They make more than enough money as it is, and could well afford to help out the local communities.

Flag

Like

 *Barry Thomas Ewing* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Whether I watch the news, weather, sports, or my favourite TV shows, I always have to put up with those annoying commercials, and many of them are annoying. These commercials are supposed to pay for the programming. Cable doesn't offer programming, but the variety of channels not viewable normally. They are completely different services, and I will not pay more for my cable bill. I have watched the quality of TV degrade over the years with a saturated "reality TV" era, and feel they need to find other ways to come up with their overpaid staff/management.

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2. If they can't make the business work, with all the commercials during the programming, then let them go!!!!

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Like

 *Laura* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable fees are already too high. The mere idea of a TV tax is absurd, exactly who's pockets will be filled with this so called tax. With cable companies making billions of dollars profit they can pay for services of local TV. Nobody gets anything for free anymore, except for large corporations. Consumers are going to be the ones paying for any decisions made. Guaranteed my cable bill will be going up, the cable companies are just going to add administrative or delivery costs etc. Either way consumers will be paying more. This is greed pure and simple and its the little people who will pay the price

[Flag](#)

Like

 *richardlaidlaw* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There should be no additional charges on my cable bill to allow for payment to local TV. There should be no action taken to support local TV. Have the companies promised to keep local the local TV we now have if they get their new fees?

The companies that own local TV have failed to address their current business model and now want the public to bail them out.

The only option I would consider was if:

Cable customers were allowed to pick the stations they want. That might allow local to get paid but the overall bill to the consumer has to remain the same.

P.S. There should be an end to the ridiculous cross border substitution of US signals.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Greg M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If there is a Demand for Local programming it will survive with out the need of tax dollars to keep them from going out of business.

Either there is no demand for local TV, or people think there is no demand for local TV .

Regardless We should not bail them out with our money as they will either survive with their own business model or go Bust thats how business works.

TV is not an essential device that everyone is entitled to.

Police , fire , Ambulances , Healthcare & Banks to some extent they all Deserve Bailout money from Canadians , I cannot justify an Entertainment sector needing any money at all as its not an essential or critical service & if they cannot survive on their own then they should just go away.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dennis Williams* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Here's the deal. Local tv is included in the basic pkg. If they want extra money (tax) let them have it. But they no longer must be in the basic pkg. Give cable company's the option of making them a theme group and let us vote with our wallets if we are willing to pay extra for these channels. As they say, be careful what you wish for.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Greg Trainor* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be impressed if my bill went up at all for local channels.

As a subscriber we have choices on the themes or packages we choose to select and pay for. The locals are bundled into the basic package. So if I have to pay more for them, it should be my choice what channels I want - even right down to the single channel.

I am also VERY upset with the laws out there now which exist that override US channels with Canadian ones. I am paying for a premium US channel, it should be my choice as a subscriber to choose if I want to watch that program on US or CDN channels. This is a major issue come Superbowl or any or national sporting event, I want to choose to watch the US feed with US commercials so be it! Who are the CRTC to tell me what I can or can not watch - especially after I PAID for it!!!

Flag

Like

 *jsmythe* ★ 1 month ago

1. It is NOT important to me. I live in a small rural community and like a lot of Canadians do not have local TV. I get local news, community events and weather from local newspaper, radio and internet.

Cable/Satellite fees are already too high!!. For a senior these packages are more than 10% of the OAS pension!

2. If the economic model for local TV no longer works than the networks can fix it or shut down local stations. DO NOT LOAD the BURDEN on CONSUMERS!!!

Flag

Like

 *briene* ★ 1 month ago

I oppose the concept of a "Fee-For-Carriage" on a number of levels as follows:

1. Global and CTV (Bell Canada), especially Global, have gone into enormous debt acquiring The National Post and Specialty Channels etc. and want Canadians to bail them out through a tax.

2. The CRTC has recently approved a "Local Improvement Programming Fund" a 1.5% tax that has been added to our Bell TV monthly bill. Fee-For-Carriage is just another tax. Taxpayers are already subsidizing CBC every year. How many taxes do we have to pay for the CBC and private broadcasters?

3. It wouldn't be a stretch to refer to CTV and Global as American Rebroadcasting stations. With the exception of news and a bit of public affairs programming, these broadcasters fill up their schedule with American programming. This tax revenue could be used to bid higher against each other to acquire top American programming. If this tax was approved, I have no confidence the CRTC would be able to assure the tax payers the tax was being used exclusively for local programming.

4. I find this add campaign being run by the broadcasters, as a minimum, as being misleading. As one example, CTV (Bell) supports the tax while at the same time Bell TV (Bell's satellite company) opposes the tax. Where is their credibility in this matter?

5 This tax would make satellite/cable less affordable. As it stands now, if you want HD programming, the average monthly bill with Bell TV is approximately \$80 and in many cases subscribers have to pay twice for the same programming. Subscribers must first take a certain number digital themes (SD) and the pay a second time to subscribe to many of these same channels in HD. Now the industry wants an extra tax on top of that. Enough is enough!

Flag

Like

 *peekabo0* ★ 1 month ago in reply to briene

Hang on there. The OTA's have not once asked that FFC be imposed on the backs of the

Canadian consumer, they have asked the CRTC for permission to be paid directly by the BDU's just as specialty channels get paid carriage fees now. The CRTC's LPIF was meant from the beginning to be paid by the BDU's.

See below:

In light of the performance levels of the BDU sector and the benefits accruing to BDUs as a result of other changes being made to the regulatory framework, the Commission is of the view that there is no justification for BDUs to pass along any increased costs relating to the LPIF - estimated to be on average approximately \$0.50 per month - to their subscribers.
source -

<http://www.crtc.gc.ca/eng/archive/2008/pb2008-100.htm>

FFC is NOT a TAX!! It is a request by the OTA broadcasters to be paid by the BDU's, NOT the consumers. The CRTC would NOT collect this FEE and by the way, a tax refers to taxpayers paying monies to their respective government. Please show me where in this debate consumers have been asked by the OTA broadcasters to pay this proposed FEE!!! Yes CTV and Global both broadcast alot of US programming, but city tv is just as bad in this sense. In fact under Rogers ownership they show even more US content than before. See the link below and you can see how proud Rogers is to broadcast, mostly simultaneously, US primetime content.

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/June...>

The Stop the tv tax ad campaign is laughable at best and is an insult to the average Canadian whom they believe, and hope, to be very gullible.

Nice try DTH exec.

Flag

Like

 *briene* ★ 1 month ago in reply to peekabo0

Anyone that uses "DTH" in their response is either an employee of the television industry or is being paid by them. You seem to be spending a lot of time responding to anyone that doesn't support your industry's position. And no I have nothing to do with satellite or cable industry but I am not gullible enough to believe the half truths that are being put forward by your industry.

Flag

Like

 *Paul* ★ 1 month ago

This form is being over run by both sides pushing their agenda's. ie Satellite services and Local TV. The CRTC just needs to make a fair deal for Canadians. There are strong points on both sides. In the end it will be like a Divorce settlement50/50.

Flag

Like

 *Wayne* ★ 1 month ago

No extra feea .All television should support it self, with the regulator controllong content and not distribution

Flag

Like

 *Allan Beattie* ★ 1 month ago

Local TV should be part of all Cable and Broadband networks. The signal should be paid for by these companies, such as Rogers TV, my cable provider, so TV stations such as CTV can

continue to provide service. TV signals should be paid for by the network that sends out the signal. If any increase in cost occur it should not be passed on directly to the subscriber but should be part of the operating budget such providers need to pay. If they pay for US programs they should pay for local as well.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *delerious1* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Stop all the subsidies and go to a free enterprise system. Stop funding CBC and Canadian film producers. Drastically reduce or eliminate the role of the CRTC. Canadian content rules are ridiculous. Television does NOT determine our culture. It is just entertainment. Don't take yourselves so seriously. Let the market set the rate of what we pay for entertainment.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Sue Mander* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The term "local" has many meanings depending on where you live. What CTV and Global mean by local is their regional TV stations, which they are threatening to cut. Since I live in Toronto where most of the English programming originates, I don't have this concern. However, local can also mean programming that reflects your culture and your heritage and should refer to more than just news and informational programming. It can mean comedies and drama which seemed to have disappeared from our networks. Whenever I decide to watch TV which is less and less these days, I find nothing but U.S. shows which makes me feel like Canada is a second rate nation.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bill paton* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since I live in a small town that does not have any local news on television and I already pay a substantial amount for my satellite television service, I would seek to recover the fee increase by reducing the number of packages I subscribe to. In addition, I will be looking for more content on the internet, where I already get a lot of my news and weather.

What seems to be missing from the discussion is why local stations are not currently being paid by the cable and satellite companies for providing their content. I can only assume this is because of CRTC legislation; if so, this should be changed and they should be allowed to charge a fee for carriage.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mark .O* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I should not have to pay for local T.V. I already support them by bying the goods and services they advertise for on their stations , which the companies advertising pay for airtime.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Lisa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not want to pay any more for my cable service. I do not want to be charged an extra monthly fee for channels that I may not watch. I am already forced to pay for channels I don't want in order to get channels I do want.

2. I don't know.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *johnbd66* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I'll answer your question with a question. How do the broadcasters believe that they are the only industry in the world where a middle man on the distribution of a product/service can increase the cost to their customers and not expect it to be passed on to consumers?

Contrary to the ads that the broadcasters have been running, I am not paying my cable provider for their "free" channels. If I had a "basic" package I would be paying them to provide me with ~30 channels and the free tech support and Service calls that they provide to all customers. The basic cable package is primarily "local" channels that the cable companies are forced to provide to me, however I am sure that, given the opportunity, they would gladly let me select my own 30 non-network channels and provide me the same level of service for roughly the same cost.

2) Local Television gets tons of support through the various funds that the CRTC has set up to try to promote programming that is made in Canada. Unfortunately I have my doubts that they are using the money effectively (or even for its intended purpose), and the real question is how can local television be saved from the mismanagement of the broadcasters?

[Flag](#)

Like



Bryan G ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my view Canadians should not be forced to pay, through their tax payments, for the operations of CBC TV & radio. I am already displeased about having to pay for a broadcast service which I don't watch. I am not forced to pay for a newspaper which I don't wish to read, why should broadcast services be any different? I am already unhappy with the bundling of channels offered by my cable provider. Again I'm paying for channels which I don't ever watch, however the channels which I do desire are bundled with undesired ones. This practice should be made illegal. I am not forced to pay for dentistry services which I don't want nor need, why should I be "forced" to pay for cable channels which I don't want nor need. To summarize the points made so far, I am paying for 2 types of broadcast services which I don't watch. So called local TV stations (few, if any, of which are actually locally owned) are now demanding that they be paid for their over air signals. This fee of course would be passed on to cable & satellite subscribers! I understand that cable & satellite specialty channels are currently paid by cable & satellite companies for their signals. I would be supportive of "local channels" converting from broadcast signal to cable/satellite channel, PROVIDING THAT THESE CHANNELS WERE MADE AVAILABLE ONLY ON A "A LA CARTE " basis to subscribers. Doing so would however deprive these broadcasters of their over air viewers. It would seem that these few remaining over air viewers must not be held in high esteem by advertisers. That's clearly one of the reasons why these so called "local stations" are trying to pick my pocket! I am not happy with the staus quo, however the suggestion that local stations be paid for their signal would worsen an already unacceptable situation.

Local television can be made more popular to viewers only if it satisfies the demands and needs of viewers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Denise2929 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not watch local tv so I wouldn't want to have to pay more on my cable bill.

The cable bills are too high. Consumers should only have to pay for the channels they want, they shouldn't be forced to pay for a bunch of channels they don't want.

Local tv should be paid for by the people who want to purchase that channel and have it added to their bill. Don't forget they also get money from ads.

We can already watch local tv for free if you have an antennae.

The real problem is the tv networks have run their businesses poorly through mega acquisitions and debt, it shouldn't be the consumer who bails them out.

I tell all my friends to cut off their cable or satellite and watch the internet for free!

Flag

Like



David Fenske ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not watch local TV and so I am opposed to paying more for it.
2. The CRTC could stop regulating TV completely and allow individual stations/networks to fail or succeed based on their own merits and appeal to individual customers, just like most other businesses in a free country.

Flag

Like



leejeor ★ [1 month ago](#)

If "local" stations can't make a go of it selling ads then so be it, they shut down like any other business. The only reason I get basic cable (now almost \$40 a month with tax) is to receive the major US networks. Most of the US prime time shows are substituted on cable anyway as the Canadian stations make use of cable networks requirement to do program substitution. Canadian stations/networks want cable users to pay to watch Canadian stations, that's what it boils down to. they have no way to charge the off-air users but they can use the cable companies as the "nasty" bill collectors.

I say , run a telethon if you want to raise some money, if people "really" care about your station they will send you money directly. If they don't, you close shop. I'm sorry, no bailout.

Flag

Like



Jason ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I already pay too much for the cable 'service' I receive now and have been considering cancelling it. Since the discussion about the 'tv tax' has come out, it has only made me want to cancel my cable immediately. A lot of people watch Canadian television shows, but not nearly enough to generate any type of profit for local television. Which is part of the current discussion. I watch a handful of shows regularly, a couple of which are Canadian specialty channels, with the remainder being US programming. The cost of watching a handful of shows is ridiculous since there is no choice in the packages you're required to purchase if you want to watch particular programming. I believe I'll just keep my internet and access all other media sources for my entertainment.

2) Better content would help support local television. CTV news should stop trying to sell death, despair, tragedy, etc, etc. (This goes for all news agencies actually, not just CTV) Who wants to be depressed every night at 6, television is for entertainment.

Flag

Like



kenlawson ★ [1 month ago](#)

All I know I'm not going to pay more, television is already far too expensive and more livestreaming must be provided!

Flag

Like



Richard ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do want to pay more for local TV. That's what the commercials are for. If there is not enough revenue for TV commercials to support all the channels, then Canada has too many local channels. Check out the local channels in Winnipeg. At least half of the evening programming originates from outside of Canada with Canadian commercials overlaying the US commercials. And the evening news is a joke. We actually get more weather updates than real news. If the CRTC forces me to pay for local TV, then I should have the right to opt out of all the channels I do not wish to support. (I may support one out of all the local channels we get in Winnipeg.)

And finally if Cable TV & Local TV get too damn greedy, technology will come to the rescue. Once upon a time CDs sold for more than 20 bucks. Then technology allowed people to copy cds from around the world. Now the record companies get about \$13 a cd and are happy to get it. TV will go down the same road.

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Like



Gerry ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV:

I believe that the cable companies add value to the local stations by carrying their signals to a larger audience, resulting in a more attractive advertising service. Cable companies should not have to pay local stations for improving the local stations' advertising service.

I do not believe that I should have to subsidize local TV. If I am forced to, I should have a strong voice in what they show and how they spend their resources, and, yes, including their cost cutting initiatives.

If a local TV tax were imposed on me, I would strongly consider a satellite TV system from the US. I am tired of being overtaxed in Canada.

2. Local TV stations should not be regarded as a "sacred cow." If they cannot survive on their own, then let market forces prevail. I believe that this whole proceeding is about the local stations creating a new revenue stream based upon smoke and mirrors. They should be stopped!

[Flag](#)

Like



Karen ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be very happy if I had to pay extra on top of what I am already paying for cable. The cable companies and satellite distributors are generating enough money to be able to share with the local stations, especially since they have been receiving station signals from them for years without paying. The cost of supporting these stations should not be downloaded to consumers. We are overcharged for the service and have limited choice. We either have to pick packages they choose or go without.

Local TV stations are usually owned by parent companies who would be able to support them. Some stations are also funded with public money (CBC) and I don't want to give them any more.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sheldon Philp ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the real issue here should be that we be able to buy what we want to watch. That means for either local stations or big time channels such as HBO. The problem is you currently have to buy six or eight garbage channels to get one you actually want to watch. I think you need to change the rules and for these providers to let you purchase the tv you want. Then you might find people more receptive to pay for quality programing, local or otherwise. As for my provider Bell satellite there is about 15 channels I watch both local and theme and in order to get those channels I pretty much have to purchase their complete package. Pretty smart way to rip everybody off and subsidize the garbage. So I guess what I am saying is as it stands, No I am not interested in paying for anymore TV. If I were allowed to actually pick the channels I want, I would be. Thanks

[Flag](#)

Like



Bill Dixon ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay too much for cable.

If we have to pay for local TV I want the right to not receive those channels and thus not pay for them.

[Flag](#)

 Like *chriskutryk* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the cable companies or myself are asked to pay for local TV, then it MUST be an option to have those channels. My local station in Red Deer was recently closed, and I feel it offered nothing of value to the community. I feel it closed down due more to poor quality programs more then anything else. We should not be forced to pay for things we do not want, and/or offer no value to the community.

[Flag](#) Like *larryhallatt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe local TV broadcasters should have priority listing on cable and satellite providers and that they should be compensated fairly for use of their content.

As a consumer I feel the CRTC should set a fair compensation rate for these signals and that the consumer should have these signals placed in the basic package of cable and satellite products. The fee for basic packages should be set at a very affordable moderate rate. Premium or non basic packages that are non Canadian content or origin and which are and not free signals like that of the BBC, and other free national broadcasters like Deutch V or PBS should be assessed the new fee burden to ensure Canadians receive both Canadian and a broad International package of culture and news.

[Flag](#) Like *James Smith* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am fundamentally opposed to paying additional charges in addition to my cable fee to support local television. Television broadcasting is for profit, private business and forcing consumers to subsidize this enterprise is outrageous.

You are assuming a "given" in that local television must be supported. Why? Because the CRTC says so? the ultimate decider of whether local television lives or dies as it currently exists - and I stress as it currently exists - should be the consumer. In short, if the consumer thinks its of value they will voluntarily pay for it. if not, it will die. Why should television broadcasters receive this support when local magazines, newspapers and radio stations don't receive it? Newspapers do a much better job at delivering local news and they must compete for the same advertising dollars as a tv broadcaster who is subsidized. The end result is to weaken local news by supporting a dying broadcaster.

[Flag](#) Like *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

you have to be fair and the content provider must receive a pay and this does not have to come from current subscribers. if the cable providers decide to pass on this cost, then it is fine.

[Flag](#) Like *prattjw* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think cable companies are making a lot of money on cable services alone because of network fees they have to pay. I think they make more on internet, phone and pay per view. To me, the demand isn't high enough to charge everyone for local television. I can get the same information from the radio or online.

I'm not convinced there is a need for local television. Those who are passionate about it can source information online. Based on free-market concepts, if there is enough of a demand for local television, either broadcasters or others will start a site and advertise. That's if I want a visual, otherwise I can get info from the radio or newspapers. Let's let market demand decide

for us.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Raymond Lopes ★ [1 month ago](#)

Consumers should be able to choose what channels they want . I am against paying for local channels without a choice. Local television channels have a greater viewing audience because of cable and satellite companies I am against paying more fees for local television.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Gerry ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hi,

I didn't know cable and satellite must carry local TV.

I do not have local CBC, Global, or CTV TV and I don not want to pay for nothing.

I guess this is the end of TV and the sky will go black.

I want to watch HDTV.

I have to go now.

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DB ★ [1 month ago](#)

There should be no new charges or subsidies for local TV. TV stations must adapt or die. In the past radio, newspapers and movie theatres had to adjust to the introduction of TV. Now it is TV's turn to adjust to changes arising from the internet and the explosion of specialty channels.

I also find the issue of local TV to be a red herring. There is very little local content. Most of the content consists of national broadcasts of sports or programs. 99% of local content is the local news broadcast and a good deal of that consists of national news, pro sports coverage or weather forecasts. In addition, many local news broadcasts (I'm, in the GTA and see Barrie, Kitchener and London news) aren't very good - the production values are poor and the anchors amateurish.

The only measures that should be considered are a reduction of any regulations that hurt small markets. Otherwise it is up to the TV stations to figure out how to evolve.

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[Like](#)



Bryan G ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my view Canadians should not be forced to pay, through their tax payments, for the operations of CBC TV & radio. I am already displeased about having to pay for a broadcast service which I don't watch. I am not forced to pay for a newspaper which I don't wish to read, why should broadcast services be any different? I am already unhappy with the bundling of channels offered by my cable provider. Again I'm paying for channels which I don't ever watch, however the channels which I do desire are bundled with undesired ones. This practice should be made illegal. I am not forced to pay for dentistry services which I don't want nor need, why should I be "forced" to pay for cable channels which I don't want nor need. To summarize the points made so far, I am paying for 2 types of broadcast services which I don't watch. So called local TV stations (few, if any, of which are actually locally owned) are now demanding that they be paid for their over air signals. This fee of course would be passed on to cable & satellite subscribers! I understand that cable & satellite specialty channels are currently paid by cable & satellite companies for their signals. I would be supportive of "local channels" converting from broadcast signal to cable/satellite channel, PROVIDING THAT THESE CHANNELS WERE MADE AVAILABLE ONLY ON A "A LA CARTE " basis to subscribers. Doing so would however deprive these broadcasters of their over air viewers. It would seem that these few remaining over air viewers must not be held in high esteem by advertisers. That's clearly one of the reasons why these so called "local stations" are trying to pick my pocket!

I am not happy with the staus quo, however the suggestion that local stations be paid for their

signal would worsen an already unacceptable situation.

Local television can be made more popular to viewers only if it satisfies the demands and needs of viewers.

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[greggchamberlain](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local T.V. is how I find out local news and community events. I suspect that if cable and satellite had their way, they would not bother giving any air time to these items because it mean not able to air some crap reality T.V. show which is cheaper and provides a bigger revenue return on advertising.

So I want my local T.V. news and such and as far as I am concerned, if the local station is providing cable or satellite access to my T.V. set then cable and satellite should pay for the privilege.

BUT...that does NOT means that cable and satellite then get to charge ME extra for what amounts to a business expense for them.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Jon f.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is interesting. The first thing I saw when I arrived to this sight was a you tube video. I also heard about this problem of supposed local tv issue on the internet. Though I subscribe to basic cable for basically tree house and YTV most of my watching comes from downloads off the net. Why haven't Local tv providers moved on to the new medium? Build a website with adds to pay your bills and get the local stories out that way. I know not everyone out there is tech savy but I can tell you that the generation I am raising now has know fear of tech, and the best part is the CRTC doesn't control my viewing habits or should I say censor.

[Flag](#)

Like



[larryhallatt](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel it is very important that Canadians have access to local broadcasting content as well as International news and cultural content from free International state broadcasters. Local broadcasters should receive more funding from fees accummulated by the cable and satelitte carriers from rebroadcasting their signals. The CRTC should ensure local broadcasters and free International Public Broadcast channels are provided at affordable low cost to the public. Cable and satelitte carriers can charge and make their profits from added packages.

For our cultural survival All Canadian need to be aware of local Canadian news and content about or nation and have a broad awareness and appreciation of International Cultures.

As a consumer, I feel the CRTC should able that we the consumer can purchase an individual added channel from the cable and sat carriers on a fee for service basis and not be forced to block purchase specific groups of channels in the non basic, add on packages.

With current technology cable and sat equipment can be programmed to allow select additional channel purchase and consumers should not be forced to subsidize foreign stations they do not wish.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Jack Robinson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

While, in my estimation... the quality of local programming in London is sadly lacking due to Station Affiliate owners dismal perception of their audiance's concerns and intelligence... the prospect of it's demise due to Fee for Carriage issues here or anywhere else amongst Canadian communities is appalling to me.

Surely, the CRTC must appreciate that Canadians are entitled to broadcast media connectivity regardless of it's increasingly profit-hyped technical formats... and that news, current affairs, political commentary, arts and culture are the essential fabric of our society.

That Rogers, Shaw, Bell and other crass content carriers want to shape, control and profit from a once protected, fundamentally 'open' source of communications both sickens and scares me... compelling this reluctant Luddite to pull the plug and haul out my trusty old rabbit ears... at least while our imperilled tradional airwaves are still free of Greedgeist static!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Glen Magnusson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am 100% against the fee for carriage tax. It is up to the local broadcasters to improve their product in order to attract more viewers. They should not ask us to pay for an inferior product.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [mattwatson37](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local news cannot support itself with ad dollars let it go under. There are many sources other than TV for news. Arguably too many and that may be part of the problem. The cost of cable and or satellite should be going down (especially HD) not up.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [David](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If we are forced to subsidize and pay a fee for the big canadian networks then the big canadian networks should be restricted from purchasing and rebroadcasting big US network shows. We already have access to the us networks with our satellite and cable, and subsidizing to have the shows rebroadcast on a canadian channel makes no sense. If the canadian networks claim that this would be unprofitable it will help affirm that the current model works. Alternatively, just deregulate and have a small surcharge to support candian tv programming rather than a fee to support a particular business (canadian networks) that may not be needed. I want to see rates go down and not up. You can't simply raise a fee and expect we won't pay for it in the end. No more taxes/fees.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [ericinmississauga](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. We would strongly oppose paying extra for local TV. We pay the cable companies for the convenience of bundling these stations. They are available free to anyone who has a TV antenna. There are no "local" stations showing anything that cannot be found on other channels.

2. Just because the television networks have had a rough financial year - like everyone else - why should we be asked to subsidize them further? Let them sell more advertising and wait for the upturn. Don't penalize the rest of us.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Leif P](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do find local stations valuable from a community standpoint and with the cutbacks and the amalgamation of stations, I have found the community side of the news hurting. When the cable companies started the fact they had local stations too was important. It helped them get customers, without having to pay for the feeds they were carrying, it added to the profit margins and helped them expand. Now while we loose local news and events, the cable companies a saying it will be a tax on the consumer. No, it is not a tax but it is the cable companies not wanting to cut into their large profit margins. Calling it a tax is just a way to hide what it is. I

suspect if the CRTC says they need to pay the local stations X amount of dollars, the so call tax will be $X + y$ (dollars) to increase the profit. The cable companies have on a whole overcharged consumers for cable, internet and telecommunications. Anytime they are taken to task they do it breluctantly and pass the cost to the consumer at a profit.

[Flag](#)

Like



tom scharf ★ [1 month ago](#)

My opinion is that I will not pay anymore for any television programming.I pay too much now and do not have choice to choose all my own programming.

Let the consumer market decide the fate of tv. programming.I f it's good ,people will watch.If not let it die like any other business.I really believe the C.R.TC. is out of touch.

Do Canadians really need this much regulation?

[Flag](#)

Like



James Sullivan ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would reconsider if TV is really worth it. Paying for content I do not need nor I watch is not fair.

2. A local television is a business like any other. If they cannot remain competitive then they should go out of business and another one will take over. The subscribers should not have to pay for poor management and an unsustainable business. Any unsustainable business should leave and make room for a better one.

Let people watch whatever they want, that includes satellite TV, radio, etc. Monopoly is bad for public but good for companies. Who are these decisions made for? Look at the telecom/wireless market especially... Some good things happened recently (see the number portability) and hopefully they will continue!

[Flag](#)

Like



ronaldcormiermonctonn ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am opposed to the conventional broadcasters' (CTV, Global, CBC, etc) request for a fee to carry their signals on cable or satellite. Cable rates are already too high and any additional fee will be passed on to subscribers. The conventional broadcasters want more money from the cable companies but are unwilling to give up their privileges: their signals are mandated as part of the basic service (cable companies don't have a choice of carrying them) and cable has to replace American network signals when shows are telecast at the same time.

As a consumer I should not have to pay for the past questionable business decisions of private conventional broadcasters who make tons of money with their specialty channels (they own most of them).

As for the CBC putting its eggs in the same basket as private broadcasters, I am already paying for this service with my taxes. I do not want to pay twice for the same television programming.

Any fee charged to cable subscribers for a TV signal which can be captured with an antenna is discriminatory.

The CRTC will probably find itself in court if it decides to impose it. There are already consumer groups who are willing to go to court.

The conventional broadcasters are jealous of the profit margins of cable and satellite companies... maybe theirs would be as great if they hadn't set up all those specialty channels who took away a large part of their revenues from commercials.

NO WAY IN HELL should we, as subscribers, have to fork out money for free TV signals.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dennis ★ [1 month ago](#)

ths is ot just a ee to be applied, but wll alsocarry the burden of the HST heni comes into effect. no onder the goernment is all for it.

[Flag](#)



petermredith ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Satellite companies shouldn't be responsible to pay a fee to local television stations for distributing their programs and I as a consumer shouldn't be held responsible to pay any additional charges to help keep local television stations in business.

[Flag](#)



maydd ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not be willing to pay for local TV on top of existing cable/satellite services. If they are obligated to pay for the signal, then they should not be obliged to carry the signal and subscribers should be allowed to opt out of these local stations to save money, i.e., remove local TV signals from the basic service package.

2. Their current strategy is, in my opinion, correct. Cable/satellite providers should be obligated to carry the local signal without fee.

[Flag](#)



jimcrompton ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable is expensive enough right now no increase is warranted or should be allowed. There should be more flexibility in cable allowing me just the channels I want.

[Flag](#)



Ernie ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. The local TV stations get a lot more exposure from cable and satellite providers than off air broadcasting which should mean that their advertisers get more exposure. This should lead to more revenue if they have the right contracts with their advertisers which I doubt that they do. Local TV stations are basically lazy - their newscasts sometimes appear that they get the content from the newspapers.

2. All the local TV stations, via their network affiliation, get to simulcast any programs from the US which provides them with further exposure for their advertisers which should lead to more revenue.

3. If cable and satellite companies have to pay for local TV coverage we, the customers, should have the option of whether we want the service and pay for it. Added to this the local TV stations and their respective networks should not be allowed to simulcast US programs. I get very tired of seeing the same commercials from Leons Furniture and the Brick, etc.

4. I find that our TV industry just likes to take the easiest way out of their problems. There does not seem to be any move on their part to be innovative.

[Flag](#)



Karl Sucholotosky ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important as it has been the local link for TV viewers and their communities since the first broadcast.

1. I would drop all but local channels in my cable subscription...Oh Yeah...I "have" to have those other channels as part of a "package" even if I don't watch or want them to get local TV. (Over the air is not an option where I live anymore thanks to cable companies already.)

2. Cable should pay a fee to show those channels same as they do for any other specialty channels. They used the access to free local signals to "hook" us into subscription channels. Time to change that.

[Flag](#)





Ryan ★ 1 month ago

I don't see the point of paying for these channels. Aren't the tv companies forced to provide them to me? Where is the logic in forcing someone to provide a channel, then forcing them to also pay extra for it?

No thank you. If a charge is implemented, then give me the option to not subscribe. Which is fine since I never watch them anyways.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave ★ 1 month ago

I am opposed to paying for local TV, on top of my current cable TV service, for several reasons.

- * Outside of major municipalities, local TV barely exists. The networks have already shut down local production in most markets.
- * Local, over-the-air broadcasts are advertiser supported. That is the business model that the networks used to get their broadcast licenses.
- * Cable TV carriage of local TV actually extends the reach of the local station, putting it in front of more viewers.

If it is deemed necessary to charge for "local" TV, force the broadcast networks to give up mandatory carriage by cable providers and fight to make themselves attractive to customers.

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Like



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If it is deemed necessary to charge for "local" TV, force the broadcast networks to give up mandatory carriage by cable providers and fight to make themselves attractive to customers.

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Like



Andrew Bogora ★ 1 month ago

I am Canadian. 100%.

In terms of what it means to be Canadian, let me decide, please!

Let my neighbours and I choose (a-la-carte, channel by channel) every element to be included in our subscription.

Please, don't force feed us channels that we DO NOT want, and should not have to pay for. Let us choose each and every channel that we subscribe to.

If a provider fails to receive sufficient support from Canadian viewers, allow them to go out of business.

After all, Canadians should be able to determine what it means to be Canadian.

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Like



greggt ★ [1 month ago](#)

Both the Cable Companies and the Networks have been remarkably disingenuous (to the point of outright lies) in their publicity campaigns on this issue, but it boils down to this. Local television has never been stronger here in Hamilton since our local station was released from the grip of one of the national networks - in this case, Global, who had eliminated virtually all local programming from the station and filled the station with bland, insipid American infotainment programming... and then wondered why it lost money hand over fist.

It is an outrageous lie to suggest that CTV and Global do not profit from their signals being carried over Cable, as this is what allows them to simulcast American programming and show their own commercials on both their own spot on the dial, and the originating US network. The "Canadian" broadcast networks have lived off this for years, and even now, their threats of withholding their signals are completely empty unless the CRTC grants them the power to black out the US programming they carry from the originating networks as well. CTV, Global and the CBC have failed utterly to create their own original programming that will speak to Canadians in any way, in spite of generations of taxpayer handouts to help them to do just that. They have skirted the rules and obfuscated their obligations at every opportunity and now want yet another hand-out.

Their argument that the Cable Companies should absorb the cost themselves is a public relations stunt. Their posture that this issue is in the slightest degree related to Local TV is an outright lie. This is about the networks' . failed business models, legacy of terrible programming and unmitigated gall to crawl back to the trough.

The Networks have done what they could to destroy local programming for years, as Global did in Hamilton and elsewhere. Things have never been better here since they got out of town. If you grant them this money in any form it will not go to support local programming. It will not go to create Canadian programming. It will go towards the purchase of more American programs to rebroadcast, in the belief that if what you're doing now isn't working, you should do a lot more of it.

What is more, by giving them this money now, they will become completely dependant upon it. It will become yet another entitlement that these privately held, for-profit businesses demand in perpetuity.

I urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to deny the petulant demands of the broadcasters. I urge you to forbid them to block the originating signals of programs they rebroadcast, and let them pull their signals from Cable companies if they wish. No one will ever miss them, and they have no one in the world to blame for that but themselves.

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peekabo0 ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to greggt](#)

Hmm you didn't mention city tv. Do you think they do more for local TV than ctv or global? I agree ctv and global limit their "local tv" to news only, little that it may be. However city tv is just as bad, and at least CBC produces Canadian content, granted at our, taxpayer, expense.

[Flag](#)

Like



Andrew Bogora ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am Canadian. 100%.

In terms of what it means to be Canadian, let me decide, please!

Let my neighbours and I choose (a-la-carte, channel by channel) every element to be included in our subscription.

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us choose each and every channel that we subscribe to.

If a provider fails to receive sufficient support from Canadian viewers, allow them to go out of business.

After all, Canadians should be able to determine what it means to be Canadian.

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Like



D Muffin ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the local broadcasters should be paying the Satellite and Cable Companies for broadcasting their signals to parts of the country that local on-air signals cannot reach. Their broadcasts are reaching many more people and they are receiving the benefit of their advertising reaching thousands of people who would not otherwise receive it by on-air local broadcasting. If the Cable and Satellite are required to pay the local broadcaster, and allowed to pass the charge to the consumer there is no question they will suffer through cancellation of services. We are now paying much more than we should to watch the endless, repetitive "high volume" commercials. We should also be allowed to pick only the channels that we want to watch.

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Like



Steve ★ [1 month ago](#)

If asked to pay for local TV, I would evaluate the local TV stations for the amount of quality original programming they offer, and would pay for only those I deem worth it.

Local television needs to be supported by removing financial incentives to rebroadcast nonoriginal programming, like simultaneous program substitution. In a market where consumers will decide to carry local stations based mainly on the original content it provides, the incentive to create more of that content (and make it of high quality) is obvious.

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seymoursears ★ [1 month ago](#)

I only have local TV, no cable. There is a large part of the population who have no option or can not afford Cable/Satellite TV. Below are my views:

1) I consider it a right as a Canadian to have access to TV and radio without having to pay Cable/Satellite fees which are unreasonably high to begin with. That means I support local broadcasting and feel that those who choose to subscribe to Cable/Satellite should also pay for the delivery of local broadcasting. This should be required as part of the "Canadian content" rules whatever they may be.

2) If cable/satellite companies do not wish to pay for existing local broadcasting then they should be regulated to provide a full local station (completely at their own cost) in each of the regions in which they operate.

3) As a Canadian I expect my government to enact legislation that guarantees local stations are available for those of us who either have no other alternative or are not in a financial position to pay for programming that is mostly imported from the USA etc.

4) If the big cable/satellite companies do not wish to pay the local stations for their programming then these companies should be forced to provide everyone with a cable connection at no cost which will allow everyone access to these channels.

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gg ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local tv already benefits from the increased exposure of cable. If asked to pay extra for local tv

I would insist on the ability to opt out of receiving local broadcasts.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Jack G* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is already getting advertising revenue from advertisers - If cable or Satellite dropped local channels, how long do you think the local station would remain with just over the air transmissions? The advertisers would abandon them immediately to other local stations broadcasting on Satellite or Cable. I do agree that satellite is ripping us off on pricing and that CTRC should either force the Satellite or cable companies to lower their pricing; or force them to share current revenue locally. There should be a maximum fee cable or satellite companies can charge.

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 *derekfrancis* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy to have to pay for local tv on top of what I already pay my cable provider. The business model for local tv stations is obviously in difficulty but I think it is foolish of local broadcasters to simply turn to a captive consumer to make up for this. I believe that it is up to local tv stations to look at all their options. As a consumer I am not asking anyone to subsidize my desire to have available a local newspaper - if the newspaper can't make it financially it goes out of business. As consumers and taxpayers we seem to be the first in line when a business fails and starts looking for subsidies. If people want to subsidize their local tv station via cable charges then I want to be able to select, channel by channel, what I pay to receive over my cable connection. I don't want to find myself paying for a multitude of local channels that I don't watch (such as a Victoria BC local channel), in which I have no interest and which are not "local" to me.

[Flag](#)

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 *legends* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The local TV stations benefit already from the added exposure on the cable service. This boosts their numbers and in turn allows them to charge advertisers more.

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[Like](#)

 *ScoteDog* ★ [1 month ago](#)

CRTC have some balls, you are supposed to be regulating the industry and setting price increases. First decide whether the tv networks are right in charging the fee for service based on supporting local TV stations and whether or not they are making money. If they do not get this funding from the cable and satellite providers will they fail. Second if you decide the fee is warranted then the next question is should the cable and satellite providers be allowed to pass this on to their consumers. Again take a look at how much money these companies are already making and see if it makes sense for the cable and satellite companies to absorb these extra fees. In my opinion if the TV stations are going to fail without then they should be able to charge the fee to stay alive. Our cable bills are already too high so I think the cable companies and satellite companies should absorb these fees.

These are two separate issues and should be looked at separately. The CRTC has the information to make a fair and proper judgement in both cases. Stand up and do what you are paid to do regulate your industry.

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 *Heather* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree that Canadians have been forced to pay too much for Cable! But I also feel that local TV should support themselves on ad money alone. Ad money should provide adequate funding for a local news broadcast, for which local TV is predominantly needed. This would encourage

the local channels to stop spending money on supurfulous American trash. I think a local news broadcast is important and vital, however I do not think that the cable companies should Provit from this in any way, to carry the signal as a community service free of charge.

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Like

 [johnollivier](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

In the early days of Cable Television, local broadcasters were grateful that they were added to the offerings of broadcast undertakings because their distribution range was enormously widened, and the signal provided to the consumer was more reliable and stronger. Thus, they could charge advertisers more for commercial time, and would not have considered charging the viewer for these added benefits. Therefore, after decades of profits and for the added concessions of extremely profitable rights to simultaneous programme substitution, and because the local networks failed to plan for the changes in viewer options, they should have no expectations now for charging customers in addition to the profits they have made over many, many years.

Networks and local television stations should now expect that consumers should pay only for stations they wish to actually watch, and not to have to pay for those they do not want. In our household, we do not watch Global, nor CTV, and thus they must be optional choices for us, and we should not be required to pay for channels we do not intend to watch.

These networks must depend on revenues from their specialty channels. If their local stations cannot be sustained, then they must be allowed to fail and therefore be shut down. One can be sure that the marketplace will prompt other entrepreneurs to take their places for profitable operation serving local markets.

The consumer must not be required to bail out broadcasters who have paid only lip service to the CRTC requirement to provide quality Canadian programming, which they have dismally failed to do in favour of purchasing cheap foreign programmes in order to take advantage of simultaneous suubtitution requirements.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [peekabo0](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to johnollivier](#)

From the beginning, the OTA broadcasters have asked that they be paid a fee DIRECTLY from the BDU's, NOT the consumers! The BDU's are using lies and scare tactics to hood wink Canadians to believe otherwise.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [legends](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the cable companies refuse to pay the local stations does this mean that we will be longer be subjected to the local stations covering over the US programs? If YES, then I'm in!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [earllevi](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

It my view that subscribers to cable TV should not have to pay for access to local programming. If any thing, local TV stations should be paying a fee to the cable providers for carrying their signals, since this then subjects us to listening to their commercial messages for which they are being paid to broadcast. If the broadcast networks had not squandered their treasure on US programs and Newspapers theywould not be in this boat. I would much prefer to watch US programs on US stations with their commercials and not have to suffer simulcasting.

I would not want to pay any more money to keep local TV in business. They don't even understand what "News" is all about.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *lawrence1957* ★ 1 month ago

Local news and events is very important to me and I am willing to pay at least indirectly for that. I am not happy about paying more for other local programming that I mostly don't watch.

I think however the age of over the air broadcast is nearly over. I don't think you will be able to get digital TV outside of major cities in the foreseeable future. So for most of us cable, satellite or the internet will be the only viable conduate for delivery. I think the the internet models of direct subscription where I pay per show or for a season of my favorites shows with nor or limited ads and the google ad model where the cable companies inject ad's and collect the revenue and then pay the for producers for the eyeballs that watch the shows where the ads are shown. With current technology you can see exactly what is being watched and collect the statistics.

I think the CRTC's job in this future is to ensure that there is access available to all Canadians and that the local news, local access, city and parliamentary channels remain available to allow for some semblance of keeping us informed and allowing for some true democracy if we choose to partake.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *KH* ★ 1 month ago

1. I would be happy to pay extra if the quality was greater. Some of the TV is pretty Hokey.

2. Local TV should be free-to-air. Presently I pay for a cable company to repackage what free-to-air channels there are back to myself. In the UK you can buy a reasonably priced Digi Box (\$50 inc tax) and then pick up any free-to-air channels in perfect quality. That should be possible here too. The cable companies in theory should pick up the extra expenses if they are repackaging the free-to-air. Local TV should provide programming to a range for different cultures and age groups and should be free to all without the meddlings of the Cable/Satellite companies.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Alireza Rajabian* ★ 1 month ago

1-Local TV is the only thing we watch through air antenna.

2-You would better impose a fee to satellite and cable companies. they are fat enough to absorb such a cost. And for your information we got so much fed up with bell and rogers that abandoned both of them and will never subscribe back to any of them for TV channels. I have a land telephone line with bell only because of necessity. that is all. and I personally think crtc has been very lenient towards the aforementioned companies!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *allenhayes* ★ 1 month ago

Not interested in paying any kind of fee for TV. The TV networks complain that the cable channels capture their signals without paying, and then charge customers for the "free" programming. If the cable operators think this is fair, then why not just compel the cable companies to provide their programming to the TV networks, also free, so they can be rebroadcast and the TV folks can sell more advertising to regain profitability? Seems like the cable guys could hardly object when they're doing the same thing.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *zakholmes* ★ 1 month ago

The question is different depending on where you live, city or rural area. In a city I don't put

much importance on local TV. We have too many stations providing the same local news. All other programs are syndicated or produced from Toronto; there are no local television programs produced regionally excluding news. The networks want more money; I say shame on them. Global and CTV over the past decade has continued to purchase every independent broadcaster, specialty service provider across the country. Now they claim they have no money. Television is a monopoly and we the consumer will not bail out these giants (CTV, Global) due to their desire to buy up their competition. Let the market take care of its self. If they need more money to honor their commitments, then sell some of the specialty stations they had purchased. We need more broadcasters in this country not less.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [CanadianEh](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Subscribing and paying for these so-called local networks is fine IF I can choose not to subscribe to any or all. AND not have anything blacked out on an American network because a Canadian network I do not subscribe to is carrying the same broadcast.

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Like

 [Jake Daynes](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a person who grew up in a small town, and had mainly local TV to watch while I grew up, I have come to realise that not only is local TV unrealistic, but having them pander for a handout tells me they should either a) get out of the business, or b) completely restructure. Cable providers pay licensing fees already, adding another \$10 to that a month is not only absurd, but will kill TV in Canada.

If the CRTC wanted to increase competition in Canada, and keep us out of the dark ages in regards to consumer protection, pricing, and availability, they would allow more Cellular, Cable and Internet service providers to enter Canada.

Jake Daynes
Leader of the Pirate Party of Canada
Parti Pirate du Canada

[Http://www.PirateParty.ca](http://www.PirateParty.ca)

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Like

 [ogstonb](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe strongly that local TV has been paid for over and over by the public with decisions in the past by CRTC about who could or could not be licensed. If a public, local television station can not make it on local advertising as well as the national advertising it's network receives then it should be closed.

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Like

 [Chris](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I thought there were two models for tv - advertising-supported or viewer-pays. It seems to me that the cable companies are helping the broadcasters in this case by providing them with more eyeballs, and hence increasing the value of the advertising.

I can see that you might give the cable companies the choice of whether to carry local programming and allow them to negotiate the price if they decide to do so. I can't see how it would make sense to continue to make it mandatory to carry this programming but to also force them to pay for it.

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Like



Hamiltonannie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I still don't understand how this tax is supposed to work. Will we have to pay it even if we never watch TV (if we are forced to pay for something we have no interest in getting, we will protest)? Or is it going to be appended to cable bills? My household hasn't subscribed to cable or satellite for fifteen years. We got free local television for most of that time, but hardly ever watched it; since we moved we can no longer receive local stations, and with our new TV (welcome to the digital era) it's moot anyway. What we will pay for: high speed, high bandwidth internet -- this is how we get our news, weather, and entertainment -- DVDs, and games.

[Flag](#)

Like



dejavu1 ★ [1 month ago](#)

What is really flippin annoying is Bell is playing both sides of the fence. Bell Globe Media owns CTV, A-Channel, Bell Express-Vue and a host of crappy specialty channels. It is a win-win situation for them no matter what the decision is. The CRTC is responsible for the terrible TV we are subjected to in Canada. If it deserves to exist it should be on merit not being forced upon the consumer. Feel like pulling the plug on Bell Express Vue, TV over the air reflects what it is worth which is basically nothing!!!!

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Like



Jon T ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local Television stations are already paid by the advertisers. No need for cable companies to pay them as well.

[Flag](#)

Like



bobbi32 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in a market with decent online local television. The websites are a mix of advertising, community forums, classifieds and news online print and video. If mega corps can't figure out how to deliver things I want and make \$ in the process let them wither and die. They charged a insane amount of cash in near monopoly conditions for crappy service choices for years.

With no ability to choose my channels I choose NONE. Got that big cable and CRTC NONE. Go online and get my attention like a real business not a government sponsored media mafia, and I might tune in.

I do pay for my entertainment - I buy seasons of shows that I like after having seen snippets on the internet, buy music and movies on Itunes and support my local advertisers first.

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Like



Jacqueline ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local channels want a fee for their service then that have to come off of the basic tier. They can't have the best of all worlds (must-carry, subscriber fees and national ad sales revenues)!?!?! If this is the case then every channel would operate locally - they would be stupid not to. Agreed???

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Peggy ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would prefer not to pay extra for local signals since I am already paying for it. HOWEVER, local television is really important to me and to my community and I would pay for it if necessary. Someone has to stop the cable and satellite giants from ripping off consumers. They are already getting paid for local service in basic packages and should share some of the revenue they receive with local stations to help support local programming.

2. Negotiation for value seems to make good sense. Why not pay for what they are using. Any monies raised needs to go to support local programming; hopefully once a rebalancing takes effect hopefully local stations will be in a position to increase local programming over time instead of continually facing cutbacks until there is nothing left.

Flag

Like



Don Booth ★ [1 month ago](#)

We should encourage local programming. However, local stations need to change and no one knows, yet, what the new paradigm will look like.

My feeling is that local stations that are owned by networks (like ctv or Global) should be on their own. A large organization has enough resources to experiment.

I feel that local stations that are not owned by a network should receive some sort of incentive. But a very, very modest incentive.

Consolidation has meant the loss of some of our most innovate local programming. CITY TV is a good example of a local station that provided unique programming. They no longer do this.

Flag

Like



Gabriel ★ [1 month ago](#)

The fees for TV are obscene! there is no other word for it, "basic" package is nothing more than the free to air channels available, and for the "premium" package - nothing digital just channels 30 and up it is 60 or so dollars - a month! and there is no way to opt out of some of this programming.

In the states more than double (maybe triple) channels and choice is available for 25 - 30 \$ US.

There really is no Canadian programing left, other than CBC's shows - and God knows they are awful - I cannot think of a Canadian show - period. So, let's skip pretending we care about Canadian content, buy US programming, make the carries slash these ridiculous fees or open up the competition to US or other carriers.

I will switch to anyone with an "a la carte" menu of channels or a decent price, until then I refuse to go to either Bell or Rogers and live with whatever I can get (thankfully a lot) in the GTA over the air.

Flag

Like



kim ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think I should be able to view local tv such as council meetings without an additional charge as a taxpayer. My cable/internet bill is outrageous as it is. I am constantly looking at alternatives.

Flag

Like



peekabo0 ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to kim](#)

Seriously consider OTA. The setup is incredibly simple. No recurring fees and typically better, or at least as good PQ as cable or sat as well sealed the deal for me.

Flag

Like



Mike J ★ [1 month ago](#)

CRTC, if you are planning on making changes make the right ones first. As a consumer I am willing to pay reasonable cost for what I want, not what a company forces me to buy or watch. Allow all consumers to select and pay for the individual channels and programs that interest them local or american. Local content,news, weather is very important to me as well as the educational Discovery, TLC, History. If I am forced to pay more money for what I currently

recieve I will cancel all my services and use over the air and take what is aviable or just use the internet. Supply and demand has been the model for economic success so if the companies don't give the consumer what they want then I can see alot more folks doing the same. You talk about revitalizing the industry now is your chance to make changes.

[Flag](#)

Like



Wayne B ★ [1 month ago](#)

As I understand it the local TV stations offered their signal for free to help the cable industry to get started. These companies are now making large profits. Why can't they return the favor with out charging the consumer.

[Flag](#)

Like



RP ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am sure this had been said a bunch of times already, but the fact that the CRTC has to set up a website to ask the public what they think on local television and cable tv shows that the CRTC is behind the times and out of date.

Time to start to think about replacing the CRTC as well!

[Flag](#)

Like



DARRELL GAUCHIER ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I have no problem paying for Local TV, since it is the most watched channel for me. If I have to pay for the dead weight of other channels, then I can certainly understand Local TV wanting a fair share. If you don't want to pay for Local, then you can opt out, but be prepared to lose shows to which the U.S. Networks have NO Canadian rights to.

2. Make cable pay their fair share.

[Flag](#)

Like



Denman Sowery- ★ [1 month ago](#)

According to my contract with Bell ExpressVu I'm already being charged for various local services as part my basic and HD programming packages, so I am against paying more.

In addition, I should have the flexibility of deleting tens of channels I never have viewed no ever will view for a substantial credit.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bill Johnstone ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no question that cable and satellite companies are treating local stations unfairly, while reaping windfall profits for themselves.

The cable/satellite companies have made those large profits for many years, and their profit margins clearly show that it would be unfair to let them surcharge viewers for local TV.

Moreover there are legal implications if they were allowed to charge for something that's available free to people who aren't their customers.

To help local stations, the CRTC really should push the federal government to increase funding for CBC television, with that extra funding earmarked for local CBC stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



okanaganguy ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very displeased if asked to pay for local tv on top of satellite costs, which are in my opinion, too high already. Would consider revising program package if this happened. If people

wish to have access to local tv, they should make this an option and they can pay for it separately.

If local TV can sustain itself as an economic entity, it should close its doors just like any other business that cannot make a go of it. Get their funding from advertisers.

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Like

 [reinhardschlosser](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations provide their signals for free to anyone wanting to put up an antenna to receive their signal. Revenues are generated through sales of advertising. If these stations are now no longer viable because they are unable to attract viewers and therefore advertising revenue they should close. If they are so important to local viewers more would be watching. I do not support subsidizing a failing business. Too much of that is going on in this country.

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 [JZA](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Of teh many many channels I get I only watvh a few of them - Most of the channels give repeat programming and - I am not getting the value for the money.

I think we should open it all up allow us the choice to choose the channel we want to watch and pay just for them (except for CBC since we all pay for them from our taxes they should nto be included in any decision at all). If I do not want CTV but want ABC then I just pay for ABC - etc...

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Like

 [mstephen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Please Commissioners: Do not get hoodwinked by the TV networks! Local News is NOT local programming. There is no locally produced programs on CTV Ottawa other than Regional Contact. No one put a gun to CanWest to force them to be over-leveraged. Nice crying act by the Network Brass at the recent hearings...and they aren't even ACTRA. And not to mention the big dollars spent on American lawyers brought in for assistance. The score is zero for extended local coverage of city affairs and sports by CTV in comparison to Roger-22. Shutting down CTV stations in Manitoba and SW Ontario is all part of a convincing ploy to exact public sentiment for the networks' cause, and Canadians aren't buying it.

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 [Dwayne](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The reality is that any fees assessed to cable and satellite providers will immediately be passed along to the consumer.

If local television can't generate sufficient revenue through traditional sources, such as advertising, perhaps they shouldn't be in business. Subsidizing their business model, through additional monies, seems fundamentally flawed. If the media environment and the television landscape is changing, then they must change as well. I just don't think it's not reasonable for local television stations to expect compensation above and beyond what they receive already. For the most part, my local television stations are just recycling U.S. purchased programming that I can obtain elsewhere. With the exception of local news, I see very little local programming.

Cable Companies and Satellite providers have invested in infrastructure dollars that local television stations have not. These companies understood that the landscape was changing. They took on ventures like InterNet Provider Service, Telephone Service, and other things to augment their basket of activities. Local television stations really haven't changed their business model...

If the way we watch television is changing and traditional media is going through an upheaval -

then those that rise to the challenge, should be the ones that are successful. The old way of thinking and throwing subsidies, and other lifelines to companies like local TV is from a bye-gone time. So, let's challenge them to step up, be creative, and find solutions beyond hand outs.

[Flag](#)

Like



eleanorjohnson ★ [1 month ago](#)

Both the cable company and broadcasters have proven unreliable during this process. Why should consumers pay more for the same product? The cable companies have a monopoly and a license to print money. Consumers are stuck with a system that is not consumer friendly. In what other system must I pay for products I don't want. Who represents the consumer in this process? The CRTC has

it's own agenda. Once again the consumer takes it in the neck.

[Flag](#)

Like



reinhardschlosser ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not want to pay for substandard programming. The CRTC already ruined the digital channels by forcing them to show junk under the guise of "Canadian Content". If it's not worth watching I won't watch it regardless of who produced it.

2. If it can't make money on the free market don't expect the viewers to subsidize it.

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Like



wseibel ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's about time "local" was put back in local television. The last ten years has seen the broadcaster sneak away from the programming commitments by producing nothing but news and are now cutting back on that. More and more money is spent on American leaving nothing for Canadian writers, actors, technicians to make our own programming. If broadcasters can take hundreds of millions of dollars in local and national advertising revenue from local communities they MUST put something back. The CRTC needs to do its job and enforce the Broadcasting act which mandates local reflection and voices. This is the time to stick up for citizens, after all, WE own the airwaves. Not the broadcasters and cable companies. They cannot be trusted to act in any interests but theirs. Regulation saved the financial system and banks from the excess and greed that caused the recent recession. Tell Konrad Von Findestein, Chair of the CRTC, to do his job and not reward the greed of broadcasters and cable companies. And no, I will not pay a surcharge on my cable for local TV. They have hiked our rates over %90 in the last ten years and make me take stations I don't want.

Thanks

Sick and Tired

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Like



paulgreen100 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I should have a choice in deciding to buy local television. I would have no problem paying for a local channel if I have a choice as an add on. I find the idea of increasing my cable or satellite bill so local programming can be included whether or not I want a particular local channel offensive, unacceptable and undemocratic. What happened to freedom of choice?

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Like



indy500 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I rarely watch local tv stations. I think it is unfair to expect consumers to pay more on our cable bills. The premiums for cable packages is overpriced as it is. If rates would increase I would likely cancel my cable subscription.

[Flag](#)

 Like *lab60* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV has been protected by the CRTC since the inception of cable TV. Cable operators were forced to carry all locally available off air signals and give them relative prominence on the channel line up. In addition, they have to protect programming by overlaying shows that appear at the same time on the US networks. Local TV has had it very good for a lot of years and should have invested in the future when times were good. To ask the cable company, or its subscribers to be forced to pay for local TV is wrong. Those signals are all available off air and I believe as part of their license, they must continue to be available off air, even in the new digital world. To have anyone pay for something that is free off air is just wrong.

2. It is a free market, and if local television delivers the programming, it will survive. Maybe markets don't need 3, 4, 5 or more local television stations. Maybe one or two will have to be sufficient. I believe they can survive and will thrive as long as there are not too many for the size of market. Also, I believe the local stations could put a price on their signal, and the cable and satellite companies should have to pay. However, the cable companies then should no longer be forced to carry the signal, and consumers should have the right to opt out of the signal and not pay the charge. Each station would have to decide what to charge keeping in mind that consumers may switch to off air signals, or avoid their signal all together which would leave them less viewership and smaller advertising dollars.

At the end of the day, the strong, efficient stations will survive and the weak will perish, as they should.

[Flag](#) Like *Bruce K* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Pay for what you use. If local tv can't make it a go without a hand out then let them go black. If there is a demand for local product then someone will provide it and figure out a way to make money off of it.

Don't make it mandatory for Shaw to carry them.

CRTC is also a large part of the problem. Open up the air waves and let the consumers decide the fate of all (CBC included.)

[Flag](#) Like *Jon* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Do not want to pay for local tv, I already pay \$35 for my basic package as it is, and this is basically for channels that are free somewhere. This should be illegal. Why do I have to subscribe to this package before I can add any other packages.

[Flag](#) Like *davidfeeley* ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems as many local broadcasters are having no trouble but their big parent companies are the ones in trouble. Perhaps they need to visit their business model to see what is draining their funds. I would rather pay for what I watch, don't need all the "Local TV" stations just MY local one. If negotiations are to be imposed, they need to be just that, negotiations, not fees and if the cable co and broadcaster don't see eye to eye, they can drop the service.

[Flag](#) Like *trumpetnotes* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would probably buy an antennae to take HD channels off the air.

Alternatively, I would reduce the number of specialty channels to compensate for any added

cost.

As an aside, I find the commercial channels to be generally void of any broadcasting that cannot be obtained over the internet or at the local video store.

The only two channels worth watching on a regular basis are TVO and WNET

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Like



walther ★ [1 month ago](#)

Sirs:

As a single retired person, aged 80 years, I find the current monthly cost of cable service much too high.

I use a regular TV mounted antennae and receive satisfactory reception of 6 local channels.

I had cable service in the past (10 years ago) and found the service unreliable. cable service providers changed programs delivered at will, cable providers dropped channels, programs, and/or substituted other unwanted programs, asked for extra higher fees for popular programs which had been dropped. The whole Cable Service Industry has developed into a monster of very poor high cost to consumers. The industry pays for all outside channels and programs but will not pay for Canadian Broadcasters CBC CTV ITV ??? Why???

Present cable subscribers will not buy cable service if local Broadcaster are not included in the service, That is my prediction.

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jimguelph ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be pleased if I were asked to pay an additional fee with no added benefit to me. The cost of basic service is already significant. The so-called "local service" is to a large extent U.S. programs for which I assume the TV companies earn substantial advertising revenue.

We live in Guelph and currently use Expressvu and our local news is only carried by the Kitchener CTV station which is not available on Expressvu. For the U.S. networks we are also forced to only get Boston stations not Buffalo which we would much prefer.

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Like



Mohit ★ [1 month ago](#)

Not happy not at all happy....not aware of the whole scenario, the arrangement between CRTC-Cable Companies (Bell/Rogers) and the local channels

Cable itself is very expensive, basic cable with regional channels cost almost \$80 a month+no choice in service (scarborough region facing North) have to be with only Rogers.

It is shameful that with HST tax,TTC fare increase,Inflation in economy,increase in internet charges(from Jan 2010-notice from provider), instead of stream lining expenses, more effective budgets & restructuring the whole system the CRTC is taking the easy way out, ask for more money.

I am 100% confident that there will be no improvement in cable services atleast for another 2-3 years and it will keep on increasing (the cable bill)due to lack of local broadcaster's competition (i say monopoly).

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Like



indy500 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe we are being ripped off by the cable companies and the CRTC is to blame. These companies need to be regulated more closely. I don't want to pay for local networks. If I am

forced to pay for local networks I will cancel my cable subscription.

[Flag](#)

Like



shahmezkhimji ★ [1 month ago](#)

At the moment non of the cable & satellite companies are paying for services that they resell to their customers from Canadian Media. They are making enough money as it is & customers should not have to pay for it. They pay the US providers so why not the Canadian providers? Their commercials are very misleading about tax, this is not a tax, it is something they are already charging their customers for the content but are not being fair.

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Like



Leese ★ [1 month ago](#)

I find my cable bill too expensive as it is. To add more charges to it is out of the question. I'll just watch TV online and get rid of my cable altogether.

[Flag](#)

Like



rongolemba ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is essential to good citizenship. Although I could pay extra for this (cable) service, many Canadians cannot. Cable TV should absorb the cost, at least in part as part of their commitment to Canadian content.

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Like



Rick Templeman ★ [1 month ago](#)

Frankly, I feel the cost of cable television is high. In fact, I pay typically more for cable services per month than I do for energy. My family relies heavily on local television for news, weather and local interest programming. I chose cable over satellite honestly because the satellite did not offer local television.

I feel that the local television stations should be compensated for their programs. I also feel that it should be included in their basic cable channels with no additional charge to the user. I find that the cable packages offer duplicate programming. There would appear to be no real reason the consumer cannot choose which channels they want in any case. My provider offers some choices, however, when you call to change the programming, they ultimately sell you packages, as the cost is less expensive, and I find myself compromising on the channels due the cost.

There seems to be an erosion of Canadian content these days. There are so many more choices from foreign programs. It would be a shame to become Americanized so readily. While much of the local stations' programs are indeed American themselves, the local features are very useful and, in my opinion, necessary. The CRTC should support these stations, and ensure they receive an income from the cable stations similar to what they would pay a competing station. I feel the cable providers are showing a fine profit and it wouldn't hurt so much to have them spend a little of that to support their community and customers.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion.

[Flag](#)

Like



vicmas ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I was asked to pay for local TV, in addition to the fees that I am already paying, I would likely cut back the services that I am paying for. Cable TV rates have gone through the roof in the past ten years and I am unwilling to pay any more on top of what I am currently paying. There is such a wealth of entertainment available on the internet, that I may consider cancelling

my TV services entirely.

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Like

 *Phil* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV has always be funded by advertising and the signal is free to all, If a tax is imposed I will stop watching Local TV and watch more US Channels. It seems like all these companies seem to think their service that us the consumer will pay anything for local TV well thats not true. Also the Local TV providers have a lot of customers watching their channels. I think Cable and Satellite should stop supplying local channels on there systems and then see the problem that creates for local channels, They would go broke. Local TV has stations that should not be running ans again thats poor business. If this tax is implemented there will be many more losers that winners.

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Like

 *Bruce Flemington* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will NOT pay more for local TV. If my cable bill is raised, I will drop services by the same amount (or more if necessary).

[Flag](#)

Like

 *S Cardwell* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not pay for most of the local TV in my city.

2. I don't think any measures should be taken to support local news and current affairs television. Newspapers, radio and local web sites already provide this type of information.

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Like

 *highland66* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Very little interest in local TV. Would react strongly in a negative way if i had to pay for local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Edward and Norma Meade* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As our "local"tv originates in Halifax and is biased to N.S topics In do not feel that we in New Brunswick have a local tv station so we should not be forced to sponsor one

[Flag](#)

Like

 *edkargl* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I can receive local TV over the air why should I pay for it on my cable? Local TV should get its revenue from advertising as that's what has funded local TV long before cable was available. As an example, when I watch Jopardy or Wheel of Fortune on cable it immediately switches from the US channel to the CBC. No problem but almost every commercial is a promo for a CBC show. Why don't they sell this valuable space to a paying advertiser instead of just running annoying promos over and over again and then crying poor.

In my opinion, the CBC gets way too much money from Canadian tax revenue already, they don't need money from the cable companies too!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Edward and Norma Meade* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a resident of New Brunswick we do not have "local" T.V. service,our local channel are from

Halifax and biased to Nova Scotia news and current events
As such I would not be in favor of supporting local T.V. in this fashion

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 [johnwinnipeg](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not wish to subsidize every TV show, I like to have a choice.
Until that happens I do not subscribe to cable, MTS tv or satellite.

Shaw will not get one iota from me, unless I get taxed by the Gov.

Internet is all I need, which I am paying too much for so little.
Nothing like freedom of choice.

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 [dennisking](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Is it not strange that the same companies that deliver cable and satellite TV signals while not giving a solid service, can offer & deliver cel phone service to the same locations. The interuptions of signal by satellite are too often. The fees that are charged for TV deliver are "over the top" because in many cases there is no competition, thanks in some part to the CRTC.

Bell can send e-mails to cell phones " on the move" but cant get the TV signal into my home under conditions of rain or snow. And then they cant offer me anything better than dial-up on the internet.

They make too much money doing very little, and they should be obliged to render local Tv stations, without additional cost to the consumer.

As it is now my cost for communications, exceeds \$200 per month. STOP !

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 [Lloyd](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We watch HD TV 95% of the time, and do not watch local channels except for the evening news. If I have to pay for it, I would prefer to opt out of local TV as I can get the local news on the computer or newspaper. I believe the owners of the local stations have gotten into financial problems because they have made bad business decisions by expanding into other fields which unfortunately have not been successful. Now they want us to bale them out....not in favour of this!!

We should be able to watch what we want, when we want and not pay through the nose to do it.... we already do allot of this already using the PVR.

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[Like](#)

 [DC](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very upset to have to pay more for local TV. I do not watch local tv now, why should i pay more? I went to satellite TV for a reason = LOCAL TV SUCKS!

Face-it, local TV cannot compete with the big companies.

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 [davl](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

2 Taking the title of "local TV" has an implication that as I am supposed to feel some sort of loyalty to my locally based stations but I have a bit of an issue wrapping my head around this. I can appreciate a small broadcaster sending a signal over the air, limited to the region within range of its transmitters, calling itself "local" but as soon as that signal is included as part of a cable or satellite transmission its no longer "local". On my basic cable service in Toronto I can

get "time shifting" channels all the way from Halifax to Vancouver, in which way are these local?

With the current revenue model a TV station gets its money via the sale of advertising (with the exception being the CBC which has a large chunk of its budget coming from the government via our taxes), the larger the audience for a show the more they can charge for an advertising spot. To use an analogy; A show is akin to bait thrown into the pond to attract the fish, so they can increase the audience in two ways;

I) make the bait really appealing (better shows)

and/or

II) throw it into a larger pond with more fish (more powerful transmitters or give it to a cable/satellite provider to disseminate).

If the broadcasters seek to alter that model to include fees for the signal and that gets passed onto the consumers does that mean now we will get better local programming? less advertising?

I may be willing to pay for the signals for so called "local" TV via cable if I was given a choice of which ones I wanted to receive. Not given any choice and the prices went up with no benefit to how I spend some of my free time I would cancel my cable service. heck we could all use less time in front of the "boob" tube

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Pearl ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV used to be "FREE". Now, you need a second job just to pay the cable bill. Local TV supports the Local People, and supports the ones working on local TV, ie: JOBS. We have to pay and pay and pay and PAY!!! People that ARE at home WATCHING TV, and people who CANNOT AFFORD TO BE OUT AND ABOUT TOWN, AND TRAVELLING THE GLOBE. We are the Working people, who, after a hard days work, making barely enough to pay the UTILITIES AND TAXES, not including food and clothing. TV watching is our only way of entertainment. Is this a crime? Go ahead, raise the rates, I personally, will have to cut TV OUT, as I cannot AFFORD IT! I and many other I know, work hard, barely can pay the utilities and taxes, and now, TV is going to be for the wealthy?!?! I doubt the WEALTHY are home watching TV everyday. I know many people who have ALREADY cut out cable tv, due to high costs, and find they are getting books read, hobbies done. There are many people who are alone, have no one, and look foward to watching TV each day. Raise the rates again...okay. I have tons of books and hobbies. Good bye TV, loved having you!

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Like



David Ch ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not support any additional fees on top of what I already pay for my cable services.
2. The Canadian television industry currently spends significant sums of money buying programming from the United States on an annual basis. The industry can re-allocate a small percentage of that spend to provide local TV services without having the public pay more.

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pjb ★ [1 month ago](#)

In free, democratic and capitalist society the wholesaler/retailer buys from manufacturers and sells to customers, adding his costs and some profit. If I go to store to buy milk, I am not forced by retailer to buy bread as well. Somehow, this concept is not understood by CRTC and cable companies. I am willing to agree to pay some additional TV tax, providing that I have completely free choice to pick up only the channels I wish to watch and none others! Until then I do not and will not subscribe to any cable service, even if I sacrifice the access to some cable channels.

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Gordon McLeod ★ [1 month ago](#)

Of primary importance, I do not want to any more for my television services! It is already too costly. If you let us pick and choose each individual station that would be fine, then everyone could decide to pay for their local stations or not. I find it difficult separating local tv from the networks. What are the mandates of the the networks? Maybe reducing Toronto on air personality salaries should come before closing stations in smaller centres. Many businesses have to change their activities and business plans to accommodate changes in their business environment - why does this not apply to tv networks as well? They seem to think they are privileged, however, if regulations are so restrictive then this is not a fair comment and is something we in the general public cannot fairly comment on.

Asking the public to keep paying more is the wrong way to do it.

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harryjrollo ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am quite willing to pay for local TV and any other broadcast services that are of interest to me.

What I resent paying for are channels in which I have no interest at all!

Why are cable and satellite companies allowed to create bundles containing channels customers do not want in order for them to get the channels they do want?

What grocery chain tells customers they can't buy eggs unless they also purchase bacon?

Monopolies and oligopolies invariably lead to abuse and I would urge the C.R.T.C. to put a stop to practice of bundling and allow viewers to select the channels they want to watch.

If this was done, the reduction in most customers' bills would offset any reasonable compensation paid to the broadcasters for the product they provide.

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Elizabeth McAlister ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the costs keep going up.... I have done without TV before and could do it again. I really feel that we should be able to pick and choose what we want to view. What is the sense of subscribing to all the Canadian channels if you have 12 that are duplicated in your bundle. I want to be able to pick and choose what I watch. As for local TV.....we really don't have any decent local TV channels in Victoria.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *Sacket* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV can pay for itself as it has done in the past, if it can't then there are reasons beyond our control. We should believe in competition, being competitive, you fail you fall. Satellite TV is crappy in Canada and we as Canadians MUST pay through the nose thanks to the CRTC and their wimpy rulings always taking the side of big business and screw the taxpayer. Bring in competition, Canadians love it. If I am forced to pay for local TV that I don't watch, then I will cut back on paid programming, where the heck is the common sense gone.

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 *Oliver S* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a Toronto resident, my local TV is, to a great extent, National TV. I do, however, watch TVO and very occasionally watch Rogers 10 for local sport. I do not watch the network news programmes (except for some documentaries), but I do pay for BBC World in order to get a more balanced picture. I get other news through newspapers and magazines, and feel that the user should pay. It seems that the technology should be able to support more intelligent distribution.

I should not subsidize someone else's viewing habits

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *janwoodhouse* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is the thread that connects large and small communities in Simcoe County. It provides information and entertainment that is relevant to our residents. Without local television we would lose the connectedness we have with our neighbours. I am in support of local television. I wonder why cable and satellite companies do not have to pay to broadcast local t.v. while I have to pay to have those stations included in my basic package? It doesn't seem fair.

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 *James Mabb* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would refuse to pay and cancel the service if necessary.

Local television should be self funded by using the public broadcasting model, ie. TVOntario

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

 *Frank Lee* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be angry if asked to pay for local TV on top of what I pay for satellite. I view local TV stations using this tactic as another money grab. They get advertising money which should be sufficient for them. Enough is enough. We pay too much already for our TV and I envision a popular outcry forcing government to order the CRTC to say no to these extra fees.

2. Let local television survive off advertising revenue. If they can't survive on that then let free market forces lead to their corporate demise.

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 *P. Earl Muise* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in south western Nova Scotia & supposedly my "local" news comes from CTV in Halifax. They have no correspondents in this part of the province so all the "local" news concerns the greater Halifax metropolitan area, northern/eastern NS & Cape Breton. We had a murder in our area several months ago & the coverage was a Google map showing the place where the murder

occurred. There is no reason to pay more for a service we presently don't receive.

[Flag](#)

Like



tvshouldbefree ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not either pay for cable or satellite signals. I look at local TV. I feel that the companies that advertise pay for the programs. I also have a dish and look at free to air programs. I do agree that you should allow the local TV stations to charge for their programs. The cable companies and others that use their signals should pay for that right. I do not agree with the idea that we should pay a TV tax.

[Flag](#)

Like



birch ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not like to pay for local tv. I feel we need it to show local news but other than that they only offer any other local programming. I would be happy if we got rid of local tv stations and forced the Canadian broadcasters to set aside x number of hours a day to local news.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not know where in the process of becoming a Government that the members of parliament lose the idea that at one time they were little guys just like us. I do not know where and when the taxes inflicted upon every Canadian has reached the point of being absurd. In their mind one more "little" tax levied on Canadians is nothing and we should shut-up and take it. Forget it! This is a payout to fat cat broadcasters that look at the pool of viewers that satellite and cable companies have and they drool at the money they can extort from same viewers. Again I say Forget it! Stop being lazy - Go out and get your advertisers - do some work and stop looking for a hand out.

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Like



Robert K ★ [1 month ago](#)

If there are local channels that are free to air, I do not see any justification why these channels should be allowed to charge cable companies per customer. It is for my (customer) convenience to have these channels as part of my basic cable package, so I do not have to deal with the additional antenna.

If that became reality, I would request my cable company to remove these channels from my package and had to think about the antenna. -- it does not make any sense from customers' perspective.

[Flag](#)

Like



David, Stratford ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is very important. It provides a sense of community and of course provides local information to the community. To increase the charges from my cable provider would be disgusting. Rogers already charges too much as it is for the services I am receiving. Rogers should be made to pay the local stations for their signals (which they have been receiving free of charge for years) without passing on the charges to their customers. Rogers has a virtual monopoly for cable service and they know it. It's time for our government to knock them down a peg or two. I am forced to take and pay for channels (in packages) that I am not interested in. I should be able to pick channel by channel what I want to receive and pay only for those channels. As indicated by others Canadians pay the highest fees for cable, internet and wireless services in the world and we have little choice.

On top of all that I am forced to take term plans (which I detest) - I should be able to pay monthly without being tied by contract - it's like a monkey on my back. FIX THIS MESS - you can do it - STAND UP!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [paulbrett](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

i pay enough for tv, LOCAL TV as well call it equates to may 2 - 3 hours of programming maximum a day. Local news and a few speciality shows. The rest of these challenls are simply rebroadcasts of US networks.

The entire canadian content/ local content debate is a farce...

if local tv braodcasters were forced to create and support canadian content, then the CRTC might have a role. A Canada might be able to have access to true canadian content.

Until that happens, the CRTC will protect the Globals/CTV/CBC.. and the list goes on companies that mostly rebroadcasts american TV (which we pay for in our US networks) throw in a few canadian news programs (to satisfy the CRTC) sell advertising and we the consumer pay for crap!!!!

not that im bitter :)

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 [Raffi](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. It would put in concrete my stance on television subscriptions, which is that once I move out I will not sign up for one simply because it is already ridiculously expensive and limited as it is. I am not interested in 80% of the channels that I am force fed as part of "packages".

2. Local television stations should be (and are already) supported by advertisements. The consumer should not be paying anything more than they currently are for these stations, and if the broadcasters and cable companies cannot come to an agreement, I will simply not stand for being treated as the "easy way out".

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 [Leo VanLeeuwen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the cable and dish companies should re-imburse the local stations for carrying their programs.

Having said that I strongly believe the way cable and dish companies are bundling their packages is dead wrong. Especially the packaging idea should be abolished all together as in under present conditions I am forced to pay for channels I don't want in order to get the worthwhile programs I really would want to watch, but cannot afford on account of having to pay for the channels I don't want.

Thank you for your consideration.

Leo VanLeeuwen

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 [nukdoc](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

There should not be any additional cable charges for local TV.

Local TV broadcasters should be encouraged instead to have multiple subchannels and to decide if they want to have 1 high definition broadcast channel and 1 standard definition subchannel, or up to 5 standard definition subchannels. They should be encouraged to compete actively with local cable companies so that local channels in major metro areas could compete with cable, and ultimately replace cable and receive the advertising revenues directly themselves. The policy of substituting Canadian carrier advertising over US programming should end - the CRTC should encourage local advertisers to pay for local channels. Cable and satellite have grown fat and stifled competition and innovation through guaranteed CRTC monopolies.

You - the CRTC - are in bed with the cable and telco and satellite companies. Open the market up to true competition, and let the consumers decide if they want to watch upgraded local TV stations or pay \$100 plus/month for much of the same free programming on cable/satellite/telephone. Also the prohibition on Internet distribution of US or foreign television shows in Canada should end.

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[brucedietrich](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have a satellite service as the local cable is lousy.

I am annoyed that I must get the basic package, for which I am paying a significant fee. In that package I get the rest of Canada's local tv, but not mine! I live 100 km south of Kitchener and cannot get that station, yet I get Barrie, Peterborough etc.

Now your thinking of charging me more for something I don't get! NO Thanks!!

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[Gordon Pierce](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Please remember that every television station in Canada benefits from a license for their coverage area that is a monopoly position. Once a license has been granted, competition drops to zero.

The basin of available clients for the advertising isn't diminished by cable TV; if anything, the broadcaster benefits from increased access to clients at no extra cost.

Often, broadcasters have refused to play fair with local coverage. A case in point is the Global Television license, originally granted to access the Quebec City area. Once the license had been granted, "local production" was moved to Montreal, and our benefit from the broadcast license diminished to zero.

I believe that any network or local station that wants to be paid for carriage by the cable company should forfeit their broadcast monopoly.

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[Terry_K](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Would I pay? Absolutely not. TV networks have been reaping the benefits of importing and simulcasting U.S. shows for many years, providing Canadian content usually only as part of their license mandate, and then often as cheap to produce game shows, or local programming with very low production values. It has been very obvious for many years that, aside from a handful of shows, Canadian television networks, other than CBC, have had little interest in providing quality Canadian programming.

TV stations seem to have forgotten that much of their growth is due to cable. Cable brought better quality pictures into homes across the nation, expanded the coverage areas of many stations, allowing them to charge higher rates for advertising.

If there were to be any contemplation of having cable companies pay tv for airing their programming, then other 'ules' should be re-examined. If I end up having to pay for local tv, I want choice. I should be free to pay only for those stations I wish to see. I should be able to view a program broadcast on an American channel if I wish, with no simulcasting. Canadian stations should definitely not be allowed to black out American broadcasts of programs for which they hold Canadian broadcast rights, as they are apparently now lobbying to do.

Let the cable companies be free to decide which stations they will carry or where on the channel spectrum they will put them.

I think the TV stations will quickly come to understand that they and the cable companies are two like-minded parasites who rely upon one another fairly equally to pick the pockets of Canadian taxpayers most effectively. Let TV show some signs that they are attempting to control costs, beyond merely closing under performers. If they are truly networks, the stronger, more profitable stations should support the lesser performing ones. I'd guess CTV, for example, could fund a small market channel with not much more than they pay to keep their Toronto helicopter flying each year. Stop wasting money doing 'remotes' outside your own front door or from your roof. A little belt tightening here and there would probably yield substantial savings and eliminate the need for them to come picking our pockets one more time.

[Flag](#)

 Like*mikebeath* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local news incorporated into regular national and international news is important to me. Local programming is not. I do not want to subsidize small local TV news. Today we are all so strongly connected via internet we are overwhelmed with news.

Our monthly charges are already much higher than most countries, and we are still, I firmly believe, in the middle of a recession. More money? Bah humbug I say.

2. Local stations should be viable by themselves. Those few who want it should pay for it. It is up to the stations concerned to generate support directly.

3. Why does Canada not have any public channels supported by direct donations as they have in the US? If I used it, I would be happy to donate.

4. If the viewing public of these stations want to keep them, form a non-profit organization, organize, and raise money.

5. Enough of my money goes to subsidize the CBC now. NO MORE!

[Flag](#) Like*ryanlucas* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already canceled my cable and satellite service in lieu of over the air signals. Quality is better, and the price is FREE! I already watch commercials and buy products that I see on TV so why should I pay to have content delivered to my house? The return on my investment in an antenna was pretty darn quick (less than 6 months of cable tv fees).

2. Local TV should be just that LOCAL! The US satellite companies use spotbeams to ensure only local people get local TV. Why do I need to watch the edmonton version of a TV show if I live in Toronto? If I want edmonton news I'd hit google.ca and read about what's happening there. if I want time shifting, i'd buy a tivo and record the shows at an earlier/later hour and watch them then. If you want to support local television, buy products being advertised on local TV. If your car dealer is in Toronto and you are watching Toronto TV, buy a car from Toronto. Don't drive to Windsor because you can get one for \$100 bucks less just because you saw an ad on a local Windsor station you are getting from a sat feed out of Detroit.

[Flag](#) Like*RT* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local news / content is important, but higher cable bills should not be tolerated. These companies keep raising their rates for everything and should be told to support their local content without dipping into our pockets once again.

[Flag](#) Like*Sherrie Stephenson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is very important to us and we have only one station reporting it. If they aren't able to continue due to fiscal constraints we will have only the radio. We have already lost one station in SW Ontario. We don't want to lose more and don't think we should be asked to pay more.

It is my understanding that the cable and satellite services pay for U.S programs. I don't see why the same shouldn't apply to Canadian programs. I understand that they must make a profit but what happens if the Canadian stations close? Where do they get their programs then?

[Flag](#) Like*David Fogg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not welcome paying for local television since it actually adds very little if anything to day to day life. Television is a business and as such it should be allowed to stand or fall on its own merits in a competitive market place. If we are to pay for local tv stations on cable/satellite then we must at the same time remove the obligation to include the same channels in the television package we pay for. When we pay for digital or US channels it is optional and therefore the

consumers' choice. It should be the same with the local channels. When Global/CTV argue that the cable/satellite providers get their signals for free they should also remember that those companies are obligated to carry their signals, in prime spots on the "dial" and sim subbing their local signal over the American stations. All for free. It also has allowed Global/CTV to avoid expensive upgrades to their equipment at their smaller local stations.

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Like



[Gail Ennis](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that local TV is very important and if the cable and satellite companies want to charge extra I would reevaluate how badly I need their service.

Local TV should be funded like any other cable channel - paid for by the company buying their signal and/or gov't funding.

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Like



[g.j. Halpern](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

i BELIEVE WE ARE BEING BILLED AT THE MOMENT (HIDDEN IN THE FEES) FOR TELEVISION PRODUCTION. This was a big topic a few years ago. I am a senior who can not afford another fee on the cable bill which is quite high at the moment. (We just had an increase a month or so ago). The TV stations should pay the cable cos. for making their product available to thousands more viewers than they would otherwise have. I believe many seniors living on fixed incomes will eventually have to cut cable altogether when the fee increases again. Remember next summer the HST will force the bill higher.

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[carolnmj](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay for local TV on top of what I already pay, in fact, I'm ready to give cable up period! It is already more expensive than it should be! If local stations need support they can go about it the same way everyone else does: donations, fundraising and corporate sponsorships!

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Like



[gjhalpern](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[TM](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies like Shaw should ABSOLUTELY pay for the programming they receive.

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Like



[Wayne K](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV has no right to charge cable companies to carry their signals. Cable companies already carry local TV signals at some cost to themselves. Local TV is getting additional exposure (audience) with cable companies carrying these signals outside local broadcast range. If anything, local TV should be paying cable companies to carry their signals.

If the CRTC decides cable companies should pay, and cable companies (rightfully) would have the right to pass through the cost to the consumer, then I should have the option to unsubscribe from one or more local stations. If I want to get local TV, I can simply get it over-the-air.

No additional measures should be taken to support local television. If the market cannot support it, the station should fold. That is the way it is done in every other commercial endeavour.

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 [gjhalpern](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay a hidden tax on the cable bill for production. This was a contentious issue a few years ago. The TV stations should PAY THE CABLE CO"S, for spreading their product to much wider audience than they would otherwise have!!! As a senior on fixed income I can not pay anymore for television. We just had an increase in fee a month or so ago. Next summer we will have another increase due to HST. Another increase will kill the golden goose!!

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 [davidlacombe](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

David L. - for as many years as we have had cable/satellite TV signal service provision, as a consumer, I have not objected to paying for it. What I do object to is paying for services I do not want, which cost me money, simply because the cable/satellite industry has chosen to market, with CRTC approval, packages of channels... Any person or company who is granted a licence from the CRTC is free to offer a product to the potential customer at a price.. the customer should be free to select or reject that product.. when you go to the store you do not have to buy the jam to get the peanut butter .. I hope you get the picture. Have cable/satellite companies offer all the channels they carry, each at the price they have negotiated with the provider and let the customer choose only those he/she wants .. this includes paying for carrying local programs, international programs and of course national programs along with specialty channels. Please let the market place decide. We are big fans of the "local" concept but an analysis of the % of local content on our newest local channel leaves much to be desired

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 [rbourque](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

i would like to be able to make my own choice of channels,the package offer gives me channels from one coast while i live on the other,who cares what the coast station is offering

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Like

 [NJ](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I will cancel or downgrade my services. This idea is ridiculous and should not even be considered. We already pay enough. Why don't you at the CRTC, and your friends in the government for that matter, take a pay cut from your insane salaries and help the "local" tv stations this way? Maybe the government can for once stop abusing tax payer monies and help this way? There is tons to save, stop asking the public! The federal government all of a sudden has \$20 million to "spruce" up Maple Leaf Gardens, I'm sure they can find some more tax payer money to help the "local" TV stations.

2. Aside from the government, it is the cable companies, WITHOUT THE HELP OF THE PAYING CUSTOMER, that should be paying the "local" TV stations. Start charging Rogers and Bell a fee for using that local signal, however do not allow the companies to pass the fee on to the customer. They have enough profits. We pay enough tax as it is, when will the madness ever end?

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[Flag](#) LikeGregW ★ [1 month ago](#)

I like local tv for the nightly news. I believe I already pay for local tv as part of my monthly cable package. If I had to pay an extra \$X per month, I would probably cancel an optional part of my cable package. Pricing is already high enough. Whatever the agreement is between local stations and cable/satellite providers it can't increase customers monthly bills.

I think the CRTC should get out of the way and allow the local stations to live or die by their own decisions. If the local station format is viable then it will survive. If not it will either change into some form that is sustainable or won't be their anymore. The local stations have to realize that they are running a business and a business can't expect a government bailout everytime they get into trouble.

I also believe Canadians should be able to purchase US based satellite programming. The more competition the better.

[Flag](#) LikeSean M ★ [1 month ago](#)

With the multitude of sources available to get news, including local news, there is no justification in charging consumers more to support local television programming. It's not a priority, and private broadcasters should not be given more money when they spend so much on American programming; which is the source of their problems to begin with. I would not continue with my Cable service if this was implemented, and would find alternative sources for my viewing habits.

Local television should be supported by those who want it. Meaning use a PBS model of asking for donations to keep them going. If they cannot survive on their own, then they shouldn't be in business.

[Flag](#) Likesteenpetersen ★ [1 month ago](#)

Years ago everybody had a TV antenna and TV stations did not ask to share in the profits of those who sold, installed and maintained TV antennas. Then came cable, which was a better quality and less ugly alternative. In fact many housing developments force you to use cable to avoid the ugly old antennas. Now TV stations want the cable companies, and ultimately the viewers, to pay for a signal the TV stations happily provide to antenna users for free. If this cash grab is implemented, cable customers should at least be given the option of not receiving these extra cost channels and the cable companies should have the option of dropping unpopular stations. Forcing consumers to pay for something they do not want and may never use, hardly seems fair. Next, can we expect a charge to be levied on TV manufacturers and sellers to help out the local station? After all, they also benefit from the availability of TV

signals.

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Like

 [Jeff](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Under no circumstances would I tolerate TV companies receiving compensation via my family and I. It is my belief that the CRTC is having emmense difficulty policing the industry as it is. Irrespective of the fact you are directly asking me about my compensating TV stations carried by cable there is a much bigger issue at stake - policing cable and satelite companies for the manner in which they stucture their packages so that if I want one particular channel in any particular package, I am forced to take them all. -- CRTC ...listen to meI'm begging you I don't want over half the channels I am forced to purchase because of monopolistic conniving marketing. I live in southwestern Ontario. I have asked Bell to make Detroit channels available as per their competition. But nooooooo.....I have to watch Boston channels. Then of course there are the multitude of Canadian channels I never watch because they are not relevent. I pay in the vacinity of \$140 a month for crapor as many of my fellow Canadians are now calling it \$hit TV. Pardon my language but let's call it what it is. The King is in his underwear and you folks at the CRTC are afraid to admit it because someone in the Government might take offense. Bottom line: While many honest Canadians like my family and I continue to pay through the nose and are forced to watch "certain programs at certain times", there are many others (fast approaching a majority) who watch programming dishonestly. Let me pay for what I want not for what you want. It's simple supply and demand. If you don't supply my needs, the answer is simple. We will all find an alternate means to achieve an end.

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Like

 [S Cardwell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not pay for most of the local TV in my city.

2. I don't think any measures should be taken to support local news and current affairs television. Newspapers, radio and local web sites already provide this type of information.

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 [fullmoontv](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable pricing continues to increase each each and I do not expect it to stop. But for cable it is either Shaw or Rodgers, they do what they want. Local TV should be able to charge for there services, I do not see why cable should get the signal for free and then charge me.

I would suggest that cable packages be done away with. I should be able to order any channel I want. If channels cost \$3.00 a month and I order 10 channels then my bill is \$30.00 plus tax Let Shaw & Rodgers try to compete for my business. I should not have to pay for channels I do not want or watch.

Local TV would be like any other channel, tie there fee to how many people order there channel, if no one wants to pay for the channel then they go broke.

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Like

 [Chris Duncan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

As local TV is supported by charging advertisers to provide programing, and we are subjected to advertising that is repeated over and over again, why should we have to pay any additional fees. I would pay to not be subjected to constant bombardment of advertising.

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Like

 [Scott T](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm all for fairness but I do not find any fairness in asking me to pay more for my monthly television service than the ridiculous price to which I am already subjected. This whole ordeal is about big business and how they can make more money and they have stated outright that if forced, they will just pass the cost along to the consumer. How is this fair to me? These companies are already making billions and they want us to just roll over and say sure, I'd be happy to pay more and receive nothing more in return. Perhaps your salary grade is such that it doesn't matter to you, but let me tell you that the average Canadian is fed up with the nonsense. If you want to be fair, than force them to reduce the cost of my monthly service. In closing just let me state; do what you think is fair but DO NOT ASK ME TO PAY MORE.

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Like

 *Richard B* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in the new Sage Hill community in Northwest Calgary. When I first moved into the area, I had no television service of any kind. I purchased an indoor antenna to try to get over-the-air broadcasts but could not get reception for any of CBC, CTV or Global. It was not until Shaw finished their infrastructure in the area that I was able to receive any kind of television signal. If the broadcast networks do not provide service to all viewers in a major metropolitan area, how can they justify an additional charge on my cable bill? Shaw is, in fact, broadening the distribution area of the broadcast networks and could reasonably ask the broadcast networks to pay for this service.

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 *bradwinnipeg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be mad a hell and probably cancel my cable subscription. Cable costs are too high already and I'm not going to give a bunch of money to TV networks to squander on a bunch of crappy local programming that I don't watch anyways.
2. Local TV is going to have to become self-supporting, one way or the other. If there isn't enough people watching it to generate enough ad revenue to support it, would many people really miss it. TV networks need to create local TV that people want to watch and that advertisers are willing to pay to advertise on.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ernieooms* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am sick of Shaw winning. We are charged too much and have little say over channels we really want. I think it is disgusting that Shaw gets the local networks for free. The local channels have to buy the programming which I want to watch. In the near future I plan to drop cable and watch my local stations by local broadcasts.

ernie o.

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Like

 *Gruntled Senior* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Eliminate the mandate to carry LOCAL channels.
2. Allow Local Stations to negotiate fees for carriage.
3. Allow users to select the individual channels they want to pay for.

Local stations can serve their local area adequately over the air (rabbit ears/outside antenna), they don't need to be carried by anyone.

If a cable or satellite provider wants their signal to resell elsewhere, let them pay for it.

Customers could demonstrate the REAL demand for stations/programs by cherry picking only the ones THEY want. I seldom watch TV anymore because the few channels I would watch are bundled with dozens I don't want at a price that I refuse to pay.

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Like

 christophermulders ★ [1 month ago](#)

It would not affect me as I have not bothered with cable TV in several years. I use an antenna to pick up local broadcasting and am looking forward to HD broadcasting in my city. Cable priced itself out of the market for me already with poor value for dollar. I can put up a high quality antenna for less than they would charge me to hook up cable, and less than the monthly fees. Note that mostly I watch local TV for local and national news, and a few TV shows. I rent movies.

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Like

 Kris ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I would look for an alternative (streaming over the internet). Local TV stations aren't offering much local programming and if they are, it's not great programming. I want quality local programming, not a filler. I also think the networks should be held accountable for their bad decisions. Hey man, its a recession, time to make some tough decisions and if the people in the high places don't have the stones to do it, well then maybe they aren't the right people.

2) Why don't we consider breaking the fee down per channel. I know its cumbersome, but I love my CBC hockey, I have no use at all for Global. If it came right down to it and the consumer was forced to take it again, I would prefer to be able to select what networks I have access to and what networks I support.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Jawed ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am thinking about cancelling my cable service completely. It has become a huge burden on my pocket. Being a person from working hard middle class i cannot afford to pay just to watch TV. It is ridiculous that as a Canadian we have to pay the highest amounts in the world to watch tv and relax. What a joke !!

2. Govt must support local Tv (CANADIAN) and it should be free or atleast affordable for each and every Canadian. I am not interested in watching American TV and at top of that to pay for that. Who has given power to these cable companies such as Rogers to control , steal and rob common Canadians.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Cable Subscriber ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV stations get revenue from commercials. Reduce commercials and I would be willing to pay for local programming.

Cable companies benefit from carrying local channels because their packages have more options (channels). They should compensate local stations for using their product.

Too many channels have migrated to cheap programming like "reality shows". I find a lot of programming is junk and of no interest to me (this applies to cable, satellite and local stations). I would like to pay per channel and not be obligated to take bundles (of channels I don't want).

The cost of cable service is too high, especially for the quality of programming (reality shows, home renovations/decorations/purchasing, etc.) . I would have no problem paying current rates if there was something worth watching.

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Like

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[Flag](#)

Like



robert taylor ★ [1 month ago](#)

we are already pay too much for cable tv. and there are far too many commercials(paid or not) that we are subjected to.

[Flag](#)

Like



winer ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very upset if I was forced to pay more for local TV. I already pay for it through the fee paid to the local service provider, so I fail to see why I should have to pay for it twice.

[Flag](#)

Like



Steven Nikkel ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I have to pay for it, I want the choice not to buy it.

[Flag](#)

Like



wallhousewart ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would probably unhook my television set. At the moment, local television is a rehash of American television, and poor local broadcast. Obviously their funding model is broken. Revenues from commercials are no longer paying the bill. For local stations to actually start developing good quality shows, they would have to have a massive influx of cash. That would mean I would end up paying for something I could get for free on American television or turning off the set. For the CBC to be requesting more money is out of the question. They are already getting my very unwilling tax dollars.

[Flag](#)

Like



johndbarrett ★ [1 month ago](#)

ipay my cable through my condo fees,no choice in service(basic)odered food channel go 4 or 5 i did not want!took a holiday and tried to cancel food while i was gone they could not do it.ought a dig. box out right.,had a problem wth it,(freeze) n channels,told because i ought out right there was no warranty on box,if rented it would have a warranty.....and they want an increase,,...terrible,terrible...

[Flag](#)

Like



dougmoston ★ [1 month ago](#)

1)Local tv is IMPORTANT. Cable tv uses it as part of thier package sales program. Yhey get to run advertisements on it that are not paid to local tv. I get to see Newfoundland tv without thier car dealer ads but the cable company puts in its own ads and makes revenue. Its double billing. Cable should share revenue dollars. This revenue should be passed on to the local TV directly (I cancelled your Calgary car deal ad and inserted a resteraunt ad when we showed your channel in Ontario) Advertisers should be responsible for the costs of advertising locally on an imported channel. The rise in cable costs has far outstripped the cost of living percentages.2) What measures should be taken. Cable pays from thier advertising costs that they make for

substituting adverts in other local markets. Cable does as they want because of the market (The Walmart syndrome - we can do what ever we want)

[Flag](#)

Like

 *RG* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) As a matter of choice, our household watches over-the-air TV programming only. This is partly to avoid ongoing expenses, and partly because of how programming is bundled: we won't pay for a package that includes one or two specialty channels of interest, plus a bunch of other stuff of no interest to us. If more customized choices were provided, we might consider it.

Our location allows us to watch local Frn/Eng CBC, CHCH, CityTV, CTV, Global, Omni, and TVO affiliates, and we watch all at various times.

Hence, we would not be affected by any additional fees that cable/satellite providers might incur -- and pass on to subscribers. I am still not sure which side is presenting an argument that is closest to "the truth." Both have vested interests, but I remember cable's negative billing tactics some years ago and have less faith in their story. If they are profiting from the use of network programming, they should be paying to use it, as I believe is the case in the US. Otherwise, this is similar to the situation in which bottlers pay nothing to siphon off huge volumes of fresh water and sell it for a handsome profit. Are they more concerned about the impact of changes on the consumer or on their bottom line? You decide.

Do I think that it's important to ensure that "local programming," notably news and Canadian current events, remains accessible to all, whether over-the-air or via cable/satellite? Absolutely. Otherwise, we'll be reduced to watching more US-focused pap and propaganda, and our we'll lose more skilled jobs. And areas that have no access to cable/satellite will have no access, period.

2) Cable/satellite providers should pay a reasonable fee for access to all the programming that they distribute. Whether they absorb the cost then becomes part of their business model and decisions.

Ultimately, the consumer decides whether to buy in or not. Remember, folks, you all have a choice. We're spoiled and we've been brainwashed into thinking we need access to all the latest shows, in the highest quality possible. Most of us could get by just fine with fewer choices.

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 *smcwhinnie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I wouldn't pay for it if not forced to. I only use it for local news and I can get that from other sources.

2. None. Let them sink or swim

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Like

 *williamadamson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

ANY ADDITIONAL TV CHARGES ARE GARBAGE.

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Like

 *Bunic* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Guest against cableCo's: It is a no brainer that local TV stations make way less more money than Cable Co.s do! Therefore, they should share their profits with the local stations which are really needed in order to get local news and know about local matters and events.

We (cable subscribers) are already paying the "LPIF" (Local Programming Improvement Fund) which the CRTC is not of the opinion that subscribers should pay it. The CRTC asked the Cable Co.'s to pay this new fee. Yet, the Cable Co.'s passed it on to us the consumers and what can

the CRTC do about this? NOTHING! The CRTC has no authority to stop this. It's about time the CRTC got the authority to put their foot down and stop all this. After all; if they can get involved with regards to quality and areas of service; why is it that they are powerless when it comes to regulating pricing! A regulating body, such as the CRTC is; should have more involvement in order to really protect and represent the interests of Canadians in all parts of the country and not just tell us when and where we are goin to watch our TV's and be "mute" as to how much and to whom we are going to pay for it!

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[williamadamson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

ADDITIONAL TV FEES ARE GARBAGE, AND NOT ACCEPTABLE.

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[Chris](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that local TV is very important, and I think that the CRTC and the cable and satellite services are largely to blame for the difficult situation that local TV finds itself in now. Consumers now are given little choice but to pay for a wide range of imported programs and time shifted programs that have in many cases little relevance or interest. At the same time the distributors argue that the local programming Canadians want is somehow "too expensive". It seems that Canadian TV policy has successfully created some very wealthy cable and satellite corporations, but at the cost of of giving them too much power in terms of what we can or cannot see on our TVs. Given the role that TV plays in our lives, I'd like to see more leadership from our elected leaders and their officials in making TV more responsive and beneficial to Canadians. And it doesn't have to cost more. To put it simply - I'd rather pay for my CTV local station than for Fox from Detroit. Thank-you for listening.

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[aubn](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A tax on local TV stations will create a deterioration in content. The companies will receive a levy from the consumer regardless of what they produce. That is why the CBC is so despised by Canadians. They receive a \$ billion no matter what the programming. Cable television is far too expensive as it is and the price structure is far too regulated. Canadians need competition. How did local TV companies survive so well 30 years ago when there was no central programming and no Cable?

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[Cable Subscriber](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV stations get revenue from commercials. Reduce commercials and I would be willing to pay for local programming.

Cable companies benefit from carrying local channels because their packages have more options (channels). They should compensate local stations for using their product.

Too many channels have migrated to cheap programming like "reality shows". I find a lot of programming is junk and of no interest to me (this applies to cable, satellite and local stations). I would like to pay per channel and not be obligated to take bundles (of channels I don't want).

The cost of cable service it too high, especially for the quality of programming (reality shows, home renovations/decorations/purchasing, etc.) . I would have no problem paying current rates if there was something worth watching.

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[facebook-529720420](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.

I just want to say that the private businesses should learn to run their companies better. if they want cable companies to pay, then cable companies should not be forced to have their content before premium services (let cable companies offer pick in pay on all channels so that people can say if they like something or not). so either that the broadcasters learn to manage their money better and leave the way things are or have the broadcasters to stop forcing them self's on to the Canadian people and let Canadians choose to support them or not by pick and pay.

2.

none, as i stated the broadcasters need to learn to spend their money properly.

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John Merkowsky ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV does not matter enough to me to consider paying more. We already pay to much for programming we never watch or want. Until we pay for only what we want I will be a disgruntled customer. For those who want local programming they should be prepared to pay for it! If you want something worthwhile to regulate let the customer choose the channels they want and only the ones they want. AND do something about the advertising on TV. Twenty minutes an hour is obscene and a total waste of what leisure time people have.

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tonyandlindasmith ★ [1 month ago](#)

Both my wife and I are very much against paying more to cable to support local TV stations. Cable prices in Canad are way to high.

[Flag](#)

Brad ★ [1 month ago](#)

The current cable pricing is too high. We pay close to \$100 per month for cable services. Part of the problem is that they create "bundles" of TV stations and you are forced to pay for channels you do not want or use.

If rates are going to go up, then the cable providers need to offer an "a la carte" selection of TV channels so that we can chose and pay for the channels we watch.

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Nick_R ★ [1 month ago](#)

Considering that the major compaines in this country cannot find a solution but one thing is for sure, they can up my rates anytime they want without changing your subscition and you have no choice. In the us it is far cheaper and more for your dollar. Why do you think more and more people are going to free to air and direct tv in the us. The choice and the price, is the reason. This debate has been going on for over 20 years and who is to say what source I use or how I get it. If the signal is there then I should have access to it(since it's in the same signal) and for a reasonable price. Not skyrocketing prices. Besides since the canadian doller is up it should cost less to buy us programming. Remember the signal that most people are getting in this country are old military satelities that were bought and paid for years ago. In some cases more than 1 company subscribes to the same satellite. It' all sounds fishy to me.

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tonyandlindasmith ★ [1 month ago](#)

Both my wife and I are very much against paying more to Cable companies to support Local TV!

[Flag](#)

 *Brent* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1 - I rarely watch local TV if ever. But if the prices of TV keep going up I will have no choice but to cancel something. Telepone, cellphone, internet, satellite and cable services are fast becoming things that only rich people can afford. And if prices keep going up the majority of people won't be able to afford any of those services. People will have to make a choice between sat/cable or eating or paying the electric bill, so you can see what service will be canceled.

2- Maybe there is no solution, not one that will benefit both parties anyway. I do know that the customers will be the ones paying for it one way or another. But that can only go so far in such a fragile economy.

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 *Brent* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 *fredreynolds* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am opposed to paying more. I already pay a great deal for tv and the quality is horrible. If the market is not large enough to support local tv, regional tv will be necessary.

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Like

 *Rick Rutherford* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am paying for local stations now in basic cable. It's convenient. Since I can get local TV free with an antenna, why would I pay more for it? I would stop paying for cable or satellite and change to internet and over the air signals. The networks and the CRTC have reduced resources for local TV so now that there are economic hardships in local advertising, the networks want more money. If the economic situation improves will they give up the extra revenue on a pro-rated basis according to the economy? Why don't we see the US networks asking for money from the cable/satellite companies? We're paying for them in our basic cable package.

The networks MUST be held to their mandate to provide local programming with no additional extraordinary costs to consumers and the number of networks must be reduced. Two is plenty. Fewer networks will allow for more adverting dollars for each and for the local stations.

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 *Lori* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If consumers are forced by their cable company to chose a "package" that includes local TV than the cable co. should pay to support the local broadcasts. I think costs should be absorbed by the cable co. I already pay too much for channels I do not watch or want. Sarnia, ON

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Like

 *ianinto* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies add significant value to the over the air broadcasters signals by making them

broadly available to subscribers. They should be paying for that service not demanding a subsidy from cable subscribers.

If the networks lack the business acumen to operate profitable local service, then they should sell the business to a more capable and competent operator. At this point, they seem to be competent only at holding their hands out and begging.

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Norm F ★ [1 month ago](#)

Aren't they already charging me a fee for something they get for free and rebroadcast? On top of that I don't get true local broadcasting, I get feeds for the affiliate in the largest city which is Toronto instead of Kitchener which is the area I live in.

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Jennifer ★ [1 month ago](#)

I refuse to pay more than the astronomical prices we already pay. My employer requires me to have cable while I provide support in my home for a young lady who has Autism, which is the only reason I have cable. When I quit my job I will also cancel cable.

I would like the ability to choose exactly the stations I want and pay only for those stations.

Local television stations can use advertising to pay for their programming.

Force the cable and satellite companies to pay local stations part of the fees they are charging the consumer, but don't allow them to raise any rates.

Open the airwaves to U.S. companies!!

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George H ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV holds no importance to me at all. I choose programming based on content not whether the station is local or not. Local news may be important to some, but I find local TV news almost useless. Local news is best accessed by the local (daily) newspaper. TV stations must learn to be competitive on their own to attract viewers without any outside supports. I would cancel part of my cable to avoid paying anything extra

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Donna Morris ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. It is not credible that Canadian television stations SUDDENLY cannot afford to continue producing their local coverage. Most broadcasting is, and has been a for-profit business, and they should not now be seeking regulatory-enforced funding. Is it reasonable that they are NOW trying to change the rules? I profoundly resent, and am deeply offended by the propaganda war that both broadcasters and cable companies have engaged in over this issue. I do not wish to pay more for local coverage, and I do not wish to have it forced upon me as a result of a ruling by your Agency. I hope you refuse to change the status quo. Unethical tactics and questionable data are in play here by both sides. I hope the CRTC sees through it.

2. With the exception of CBC, local television coverage in the Maritimes is, and always has been, of questionable quality. I do not propose any measures to support it, and would prefer to see it lapse rather than be sustained through increased regulation. Respectfully, the CRTC is being duped on this issue.

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 [Canadianpatriot](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is an issue of property rights. The television signals belong to those who produce them, not to the cable companies who redistribute them for a fee. The cable companies now and since their inception have been stealing programming that does not belong to them. Not only do they steal programming, they insert their own commercials ovetop of programming produced by others. Their disonesty continues in their public characterization of the fees that local television stations have every right to charge, as "taxes," well-knowing the public's aversion to more taxes. Certainly the cable companies react with anger when their cable signals are stolen. Strange how what's good for the goose is not good for the gander. Just as it was wrong for Napster to offer music downloads without paying the record companies, so too it is wrong for cable companies to re-broadcast the work of others without paying the owners. The additional fees they claim they would have to charge are not "taxes," rather they are cost of doing business. The dishonesty on top of the theft by cable companies I find particularly disturbing. As an independent documentary producer I have found it virtually impossible to sell programming to local TV stations. They have no money.

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 [stevethompson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Canadianpatriot](#)

How can you steal something you are forced to take?

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 [Canadianpatriot](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to stevethompson](#)

An excellent point, but it's another issue. If the cable companies really don't want to run local Canadian TV signals, then the honest thing for them to do is admit it publicly. They won't speak the truth, and everyone knows they won't. If the discussion is going to be about whether the CRTC should even exist, or about whether the CRTC should dictate what channels in what packages the cable companies should run, then bring it on. I know its silly to take this argument out of the context of the bigger picture, but such is the bizarro world of Canadian broadcasting (in the loosest sense), and ultimately Canadian socialist politics. You seem typical of those mouthing the usual socialist cant in this country, i.e. no one can even talk about property rights, or individual liberties because of the usual socialist blather. If the cable companies don't want to run Canadian TV stations, then let them say so. Then we can watch the sparks fly, and they will find no one on their side. This battle is the ultimate result of socialist jerks in the civil service, and running the universities to produce cookie-cutter left-wing goofs. Socialism always ends up as a battle over who gets a larger slide of the friggin pie. Meanwhile the people who make the pies get screwed. Should the CRTC be dictating anything to anyone? Of course not. What makes them think in their profound arrogance that they know better than Canadians what is good for Canadians. I say, let the thumb on the remote control rule. Let whoever wants to and can afford to, get into the game. The CRTC was set up in the days when there were a limited number of channels. They have outlived their usefulness, if they ever (and it's doubtful) had a useful, non-destructive purpose.

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 [victoriatv](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is so bad it does not deserve supporting.

Victoria. BC

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 [victoriatv](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is so bad it does deserve further support

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Donna Olson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm afraid that Local TV is of no importance to me at all. I watch about two shows one on CTV and one on CBC so if I were asked to pay more money for a service I barely use I would be quite annoyed.

I am however 'forced' to watch many more programs on Local TV that run in sync with the shows I watch on ABC, CBS, NBC and the CW etc - and I really can't think why that is so. All the channels are in my Basic service and if I wanted to watch Regis and Kelly on CTV - that's the channel I would select. As it is now, when I turn my TV to channel 21 (ABC) I have to watch every CTV commercial break -

I understand that the CRTC has a set of mandates regarding the communication industry, but I can't help wondering what Local TV has been doing up to this point for financial support. I admit I have no idea how these companies work - but why are they all of a sudden out of money?

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Ron ★ [1 month ago](#)

The only thing our local tv stations give us is local news, we have CTV, CBC, Global, & City TV. They produce no local shows, nothing other than news. I don't want to pay 4 stations to produce the same product. Since we already subsidize the CBC through government grants we might as well scrap the others and make the Cable companies carry the CBC for free. The system is broken, we have two big rich industries fighting over who is going to be richer, and you the CRTC are helping them.

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jnhnry ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think local programming is important at all but I would like to have a choice as whether I receive it regardless of any additional cost.

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Ron ★ [1 month ago](#)

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stevethompson ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am completely against paying an additional fee for "local TV" since the people who would be receiving this money do not create "local TV" in my market or anywhere near my market. I live in Sarnia, Ontario. CTV does not create local TV in Sarnia, Global does not create local TV in Sarnia, CBC does not create local TV in Sarnia. A-Channel does not create local TV in Sarnia. Why should I pay for them to create local TV in other markets? To me this is just a bailout. The numbers show their advertising revenue is just fine when local and national is combined.

2. To help support local television I would put measures in place that allow those who actually produce local television to do more of it. In Sarnia, Cogeco is the local TV station and provides hundreds of hours of local programming. Make it easier for them to do more. I notice they do not run ads, is that because they're not allowed to? Maybe they should be able to if the money

goes back into making more local shows.

From what I've heard in this campaign, the cable companies do not want to add a nickel to my bill for local TV, that's just fine with me. Either leave it as is, or move some of the money around in other areas (aren't there already funds set up for local TV?) so that the people actually making local TV can do more of it.

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E. McClelland ★ [1 month ago](#)

Shaw has *never* provided any local TV content in my area. Is Shaw suddenly going to start providing local TV content with the extra \$10 a month it wants to charge?

Local content is not what I want or need from TV. I get all the local content I need from the radio and the online local newspaper.

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TS ★ [1 month ago](#)

The whole issue is how will the consumer pay: to the cable company? to the local broadcaster (subsidy=taxes).

I have difficulty understanding why the CRTC so far has been protecting the cable company 100%. If you are in the GTA, you have to be Rogers!!!!??? The cable company have a territorial monopoly dictating channels, packages, fees. I would like to see the market opened up so each company will earn the business competitively in quality, in selection and in price. I do not agree with the excuse protecting their capital investment, this is a common denominator in any business activity. Set the rule and let them compete for the consumer benefit. At that time, even the local broadcaster charge the cable company, there will be a leverage to defend the consumer.

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Keith ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay for local programming through local advertisers.

The quality of TV & satellite programming is abysmal, to pay a TV tax is not acceptable

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Like



Terry Griffiths ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my satellite service.

2. Local stations should spend less money on American Shows and use the money for Canadian productions.

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Like



hanrahan ★ [1 month ago](#)

My digital bills are already too high. The fact that local stations are already being carried doesn't make them all equal. Some are informative and some are just bad. It seems to me that if the good ones are good enough they will be able to survive on their own capabilities. The rest of them will have to get better or fail. I don't think giving them more money will make them better. In our free enterprise system the strong will find a way and the rest will fade to black. No more money from me. Earn it.

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Like



R Wand ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think I'm paying too much for what I get. Cable and satellite Co. Should have to charge so much per channel and not be able to force me to buy bundles of channels.

I also think the CRTC should have a tighter control on crude programming

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Like



regmcgratten ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am in favour of supporting local tv but not at the expense of higher bills. Cable companies make enough profits already. They have been ripping off and reselling local tv channels for years..time to share the wealth

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Vincent ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would want the option of not receiving those local channels via our cable provider. I would set up some bunny ears and get the signals for free. Get rid of the mandatory carriage of local signals, and let customers decide if they want to pay for them or not.

2. If they can't survive, let them fail. Get programs that people actually want to watch.

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Saj ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I would not be happy, because I am forced to pay for local TV even if it's other channels that I want. If local tv was optional, I think it makes complete sense to charge - but not when it is forced

2) Local television should be supported by the market. If it cannot sustain itself with fees from those who opt to buy those channels, it should not get a free pass. Local online and print media already provide local news.

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patriciat ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no such thing as Local TV in this area. We have been cut over the decades till all we have is regional broadcasting. Most of that is taped. Live local TV is just a distant memory. The networks take in the advertising dollars for their programs. If the Cable and Satellite companies are compelled to pay for the local stations in this country they will pass on the cost to us. No question in my mind. Are the Local TV stations willing to share the ad revenue with the Cable and Satellite companies. I don't think so. So why do they think those companies should share their revenue.

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John ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay way too much money to watch nothing more than advertisements and a terrible choice of channel listings. As far as I am concerned I am at the point where I have considered canceling my cable and when I want to watch something on television, I will rent it!!!

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Like



J. Reeves ★ [1 month ago](#)

Sixty years ago, my parents bought our first TV and then purchased rabbit ears so that we could receive the TV broadcasters signal. We did not have to pay for the signal, it was available if we wanted to watch their programme. Obviously the cost of broadcasting was borne by the sponsors

that supported the TV channel producers. To-day, we connect into a cable 'rabbit ears', i.e. cable supplier, and can pick up the same TV broadcaster's signal to watch their show if we want to watch their programme. The programme costs are borne by the sponsors that support the TV channel producers. What has changed? Yes, there are far more channels but hasn't the support of sponsors also increased significantly? Is the problem that the TV channel suppliers haven't done there due diligence to make sure that their channel is worth watching so that they will have interested sponsors? I feel that the TV broadcasters should be required to show that their loss of revenue is due to the cable supplier diverting their profits by supplying their signal in the same fashion as the good old days rather than the TV broadcasters claiming they are losing revenue when they haven't kept up with the changing market.

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Like

 *Russel S* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If TV Stations can afford to transmit thru the air, then they don't need additional revenue from cable/satellite providers. I understand only 4% receive their TV this way. All that Megawatt of power cost substantial to run/maintain I would think.

I'm already down to basic cable any more increases, for what we get, is just not justified.

One should be able to pick the channels, not be forced to package stations.

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Like

 *johnsykes* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Allow me to ask one question with this preface.....when TV stations talk about local television, what are they talking about? the only local television I get in the Greater Vancouver market is news and nothing more. The only local television I get is from a cable channel, namely Shaw. The TV stations need to be up front and honest about it....they want more revenue, nothing more. Local programming means more than simply offering newscasts.

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Like

 *Tony* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe local TV is important, and am willing to pay for some channels, however asking me to pay then forcing those channels into current basic TV packages will simply result in increased rates for cable & satellite TV. I am not willing to pay more than I currently do today to get the exact same set of channels, most of which I do not want. As a consumer I would like to have choice in the channels I pay for, on an individual basis.

I realize local channels cannot easily compete against major networks. I believe the best way to support local television is to have cable/satellite providers package local channels together, then offer these as the low cost basic package. Everything else should be an individual add-on - National, International, specialty or special-interest channels. In this way the local channels become the baseline that everyone has, and everything else competes in the free market.

Local channels may not have the perceived value of a major US network, however taken together as a group of 4 or 5 channels, I believe people will see the value of continuing to have them.

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Like

 *ken* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I am going to have to pay more for the channels I watch on TV, then I want to select the channels I want to view. Scrap the packages and let each subscriber pay for what they want to see. Advertisers pay for local tv and when I deal with the advertiser the cost is passed on to me. I have already cut back on the channels I subscribe to and with the economy the way it is and will cut back more if the price increases. GIVE THE SUBSCRIBER MORE CHOICES.

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Like

 *EC* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Basic cable channels should be free to all Canadians like they are in the United Kingdom. In the U.K., the only cost is that of the hardware required to receive channels. <http://www.freeview.co.uk/> Freeview in the U.K. provides about 50 channels for free and this service is built into new HDTV sets, so no additional hardware is required to be purchased.

In addition, why is it required that Canadians must buy basic cable to get other channels? Canadians should have the option to cancel basic cable and only pay for the channels they want like digital and HD channels. This would make it much more affordable to everyone. Many people do not care about Canadian content like to watch foreign content as more than 50% of population is born outside Canada.

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 *Greg H* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is simply a business matter between the parties. It should not be regulated and should not be a matter for a government regulator. I believe content producers should be paid for their work. This includes television stations which produce a signal. If they wish to charge cable operators for it, that is a matter between the parties to resolve.

The fact that the cable operators have a monopoly allows them to get away with unscrupulous business practices while consumers have no recourse. Cable viewers are a captive audience. Thus the cable companies can characterize all this as a "Local TV tax".

I would like to see consumers at least to have the ability to refuse to take channels they don't want to pay for.

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 *Philip E.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local television stations are permitted to charge the cable companies for their signal, then it is only fair to end the practice of forcing cable companies to carry the signals, and to let consumers select the individual channels they wish to receive. That way we do not have to pay for stations we never watch. Since "Corner Gas" and "Canadian Idol" ended, I never watch CTV, and I only watch CTV when ice hockey is on.

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Like

 *Mike W.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

From what I have heard, the cable companies assume that if they are charged then the consumer must also be charged. The basic fact is that cable TV has drastically increased over the years and is absurdly overpriced. On top of this, Canadians are forced to choose "packages" which are rich in "Canadian content", channels which exist purely at the taxpayers' expense. The fact is that the Canadian content rules are killing the industry in Canada as it forces consumers to buy what they do not want. If Canadian channels offering Canadian content (ie: CBC and all its offspring) offered content that the majority wanted then it wouldn't need to be supported by a public that doesn't watch it. If local stations need to be paid for their signals then the cable companies should be the ones paying for it, not passing it along to the consumer. Call it a cost of doing business and supporting the local economies which the cable companies need to thrive.

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Like

 *shawnallen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes, I am willing to pay for local T.V. Local TV should of course have the right to charge cable companies for their content.

[Flag](#)

Like



shawnallen ★ 1 month ago

1. Yes
2. Let local TV charge the cable companies for their content

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[Like](#)



john s. ★ 1 month ago

i think there is a bit of greed on both sides.so i say leave things as they are and see where it goes. as far as local news, there are other means of getting the news. and anything else on local stations can usually be watched on other channels. but i will say with out a doubt if my cable bill goes up because of this foolishness i will either cancel my cable all together or cut my channels back drastically. so grow up people!!!

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Kevin ★ 1 month ago

I do not want to pay higher cable fees for "local service". My area does not have local service except local community station provided by the cable company (which I never watch). Local service comes from larger communities within a 200 km radius therefore their community news/programming offers little interest to me.

Local television should rely on their own resources (advertising, revenue generation,etc.). I am tired of paying for speciality channels bundled together that I do not want.

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david_toronto ★ 1 month ago

If anything, I think TV stations or networks should be paying the cable companies for delivering the signals reliably to households, not the other way around. As for maintaining the viability of local stations, I would prefer to choose whether or not to lend my support. The way I would do that is either to pay a subscription for the particular channel (if I so choose) or to generate advertising revenue for the channel by watching its programs because I like the content. In other words, the station/channel can generate revenue either by enticing me to (choose to) pay directly or to generate viewership and thence revenues. I AM OPPOSED TO PAYING ADDITIONAL FEES FOR THE SERVICES CURRENTLY DELIVERED, even if that did mean the demise of some local stations. If a TV station cannot make a profit in the existing regime, there are four possible reasons: (a) incompetence (b) over-regulation (c) inviability (flawed profit model) or (d) excessive competition (i.e. too many stations)

As background, let me describe my place in the political/economic spectrum. I am not libertarian, conservative or socialist. I'd place myself in the centre both politically and economically.

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bradfortner ★ 1 month ago

I already pay too much, so no I'm not going to pay more. A basic cable service is now over \$35.00 per month. For that I get channels that are being broadcast in HDTV down converted to standard definition. Rogers wants me to pay more on top of the basic fee for HDTV service. Can someone please tell me how that works? Perhaps if they would give me what is broadcast (HDTV) I might see value in their service.

One of the best things that could be done is the promotion of free over the air broadcasting in Canada. Right now no-one is promoting it despite most OTA broadcasters in Toronto transmitting in HDTV. I'm in the process of switching to OTA away from cable because the cost and quality don't equate. If you want check out my experience with installing an antenna in Toronto at <http://bit.ly/naNPz>

Measures to support local TV? It's criminal that the costs of basic cable were deregulated when

Rogers has a monopoly and it's even more bizarre that a share of the basic service does not go to the local OTA stations that make up most of a basic service.

I also like the idea that money for community television should be pooled and have local TV community groups apply for it to create programming. Right now my Rogers Channel 10 looks a lot like other broadcast TV stations...

Lots of other comments on my blog...

....brad....

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 Elizabeth ★ [1 month ago](#)

To me local tv is very important but paying more will be an added expense I am not sure I can afford. The satellite and cable companies to my way of thinking have a bit too much control over what people can or cannot watch. The "packages" they offer always seem a bit too "catchy". While pay tv may be an option it should be just that - pay for what you want per channel but keep local tv available to all because it is an important way of communication. There always seems to be a lot of well off employees at the top of many businesses today while the majority are too busy working to pay their taxes to complain or find time to fight for improvement.

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 Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. My reaction would be very negative if I was asked to pay for local TV in any shape or form. TV networks and local stations are commercial businesses, and if not successful they can cease operations, just like other commercial businesses. A payment to support local TV as part of a cable bill is just another unjustifiable tax.

2. I do not believe any measures should be taken to support local television. I am not taxed to support the local radio stations, nor am I taxed to support local newspapers. If I had to chose, I would prefer a tax to support good newspapers over a tax to support local television.

Flag

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 John ★ [1 month ago](#)

Stop forcing Cable/Satellite companies to carry the local channels and allow local broadcasters to charge for their channels AND ALLOW THE CONSUMER TO PICK WHICH CHANNELS THEY WANT. It is such a shame to see that Canada has less choices than most third world country

Flag

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 Gord ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that cable fees are too high now and if anything should be lowered. As far as local TV goes, I believe unfortunately that with the advancement in internet that local TV has seen it's day. If more people watched their local TV station we would not be here asking this question today. Commercial revenue would be there since the ratings would show the need to advertise.

Flag

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 Mikaha ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm not sure if my comment made it into the system. I can't find it anywhere. Anyway here it is again. I have no objection to Television Broadcasters local or otherwise, charging a fee for their programmes, provided I have the choice of whether or not to subscribe to those services. I certainly don't want to find myself having to pay for French, Hindi or other foreign language stations that I will never use, or for sports channels that are of no interest to me. Nor would I

want to pay more than a few cents for CBC and all it's heavily taxpayer subsidised left wing cant.
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Adam ★ [1 month ago](#)

just for starters i already pay my satellite/cable provider \$25/month for basic cable which i have no choice but to have as a minimum. now the cable provider is not paying for the local feeds so its all profit after equipment/operating cost. if i have to pay extra for my local stations i want to have the option to not take them if i dont want them and reduce my bill. if the crtc is going to force cable and satellite to pay this local tv improvement fund i dont want it coming out of my pocket, i already pay for the channels that the cable providers are getting for free and charging me for. to help support local tv the crtc should charge these companies to carry the local channels but should also force them not to pass on the cost to consumers. lets add some math to this, 100,000 subscribers @ \$25/month = \$2.5mil/month that cable or sat get in revenues, why should i pay anymore for local tv

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starchoice ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay for local TV. Local TV has always been free for years and years. They can generate revenue by advertising. If the revenue is not enough, they need to lower the advertising rates or offer better programming to attract advertisers. Local TV is now dominated by the big guns: CTV, Global, etc. There are very few, if any, local channels in the major markets. Do we really need to support the big nationals? They want to jump on the gravy train at the expense of the subscribers. Why should the cable and satellite companies dip into their existing profits to pay locals? They will, of course, have to raise rates as they indicate. There is too much money spent by Canadian TV for American shows which are already available to the majority of Canadians on the U.S. networks. If CTV needs more money, why are they purchasing existing digital channels and doing a terrible job of programing (e.g. numerous repeats during the day)? Local TV is really only good for local news. The channels need to re-focus and get some better management. Local television should be supported by local advertisers as it always has been.

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F. Ferri ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not subscribe to cable TV because of the high cost of the service. Because of my location, I do not receive local TV signals. I have always wanted the ability to receive just a few channels over the cable network at minimal cost, but this service has never been provided, although the technology is available. I would pay the extra cost for local TV stations ONLY if I could receive these and others of my choice. Bundling of channels should be done away with and the cost of the service should be reduced.

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jasonbooker ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not appreciate being charged on top of what I currently pay for television. That being said television providers do pocket a large amount of profit from even basic cable or satellite, which provides basically only local stations. Providers pay to bring us things like TMN and HBO, so why can they sell us local stations with out any cost to them.

2. To support local television they need funding. This fact is clear. The issue being thrown around is whether the consumer should pay. No, the consumer should not pay. Providers should pay for the channels they sell. Consumers already pay for them. If they can, the CRTC should make providers pay and keep them from passing the charge on. I understand that it may be impossible to enforce, but it is just not right to let local tv be abused like this.

I for one would rather not see the local news and Canadian channels I grew up watching disappear because a few loud mouth individuals prefer Fox or CNN.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*F. Ferri* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not subscribe to cable TV because of the high cost of the service. Because of my location, I do not receive local TV signals. I have always wanted the ability to receive just a few channels over the cable network at minimal cost, but this service has never been provided, although the technology is available. I would pay the extra cost for local TV stations ONLY if I could receive these and others of my choice. Bundling of channels should be done away with and the cost of the service should be reduced.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*georgeadair* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would reduce my current TV coverage if I had to pay more for the programming I already receive. Most times the Canadian content programming is so poorly done we end up listening to the music feeds we get on the satellite feed. You want to support local TV then allow them to show local advertising, we see some but it looks like most is from their national affiliates. You could also go a long way by telling both sides to stop the stupid commercials, they are insulting to all and a poor example of our so called quality writers.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*rjformanek* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Let's start this off with a rationale... namely local tv receives benefits from being carried on cable already, just how low would their ad rates be if they were only broadcasting UHF, or over the air? For NO FEE their signals are carried to hundreds of thousands or millions of viewers via local cable systems. These are the companies that throughout the 90's spent millions of dollars to upgrade to fibre optics and digital equipment... and local tv was not charged a cent. Free carriage. On this basis I can see no reason the cable subscriber should be charged higher rates to subsidize local tv. As far as measures to support local tv... you know, the proponents of this bill are MAJOR Canadian networks... not local stations. In Thunder Bay there is a local station... locally owned and operated, but they are not on the list... just networks. I'm sorry, but I think this is a poorly executed plan to try and fool Canadians into a large cash bailout. I support LOCAL television, but I cannot support this cash grab by large corporations. This is just greed, plain and simple.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Oakville* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Canadian government thought nothing of selling out our core industries in steel, mining etc. Now we are faced with a situation where all our industries are idled or closed down. Here is a suggestion, since the government has already sold the country out, why not ELIMINATE the CRTC and allow International satellite and cell phone players into Canada to create competition. Why should the cable companies be treated any different? I enjoy local TV and as such would be willing to pay an extra few dollars per month to support it. \$10 is far too much and is truly an insult to consumers and the Canadian public as a whole. I subscribe to basic cable and feel that cable is overpriced to begin with. I may seriously consider canceling my cable in spite of this tax forced upon me.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*George K* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live here in Montreal. All I can say..What local tv...all we get here is canned programming from Toronto except for the news...thats all the local programming that is availabe on the english market. Before cfcf was taken over by CTV...there was a lot of local programming by cfcf some

good and some bad....but at least an effort was made. If the networks want to charge the satellite and cable networks they should be forced to come up with at least 2 hours of local programming per day, because now there is NO LOCAL PROGRAMMING. As for my self 10 years ago a put up a tower and watch tv over the air. I receive around 20 stations local and American.....most now in HD. I also stream tv stations over the net...So as you see this does not really affect me...however if i was a subscriber i would dis-connect If i had to pay for local stations

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[Adam](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

just for starters i already pay my satellite/cable provider \$25/month for basic cable which i have no choice but to have as a minimum. now the cable provider is not paying for the local feeds so its all profit after equipment/operating cost. if i have to pay extra for my local stations i want to have the option to not take them if i dont want them and reduce my bill. if the crtc is going to force cable and satellite to pay this local tv improvement fund i dont want it coming out of my pocket, i already pay for the channels that the cable providers are getting for free and charging me for. to help support local tv the crtc should charge these companies to carry the local channels but should also force them not to pass on the cost to consumers. lets add some math to this, 100,000 subscribers @ \$25/month = \$2.5mil/month that cable or sat get in revenues, why should i pay anymore for local tv

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[normrichards](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The focus and issue is offbase. It's not about keeping stations open or at least it shouldn't be. Most consumers don't seem to understand Canadian broadcasting is not a free market system. Our viewing public is small compared to other world markets including The USA. The CRTC, broadcasters and cable companies and government are part of a massively controlled, negotiated and public compromise. We want service. We don't want American control on us. We agree to manage ourselves and make the service work. If this is all true, then what's the problem? Give TV (cable or government) a bit more money, just maybe less than what they are asking for but just enough to go on. Then, concentrate on the most important thing, making the best film and television programs that viewers want and keep doing it better. Improve story development and investment in grass root stories. Promote Canadian talent, don't export it. Can we do better?

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[shamilton](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

the amount of local TV on my CTV station constitutes about 5 minutes on 30 minute regional evening news broadcast. I am going to pay more fees for that??? the fees i pay now is ridiculous. It costs me as much to watch a couple of hours of television in the evening as it does to heat my house.

The Cogeco station has tenfold the local content that the CTV station provides. We have never had a local CBC station. I live in North Bay, ON. A number of years ago CTV went through and cancelled our local broadcasting and migrated to a regional platform, based out of Sudbury that covers an area greater than numerous provinces. Seventy percent of the news and, important to note ,commercials provided by this new regional platform provides information that does not pertain to North Bay proper. As such it is a waste of my time to "tune in." If the average viewer does not see value in the quality of the platform provided, they do not see the advertising. if the consumers are not being influenced by the advertising, the retailer who provides the money to CTV to fund the platform will use alternative methods to get their marketing message out. Please do not subsidize a terrible consumer product.

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[Parker](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I receive local TV over the air and am very satisfied with the content and signal quality. Cable was once required to carry their self-produced local channel and they eventually found a way out - rightly so since the local broadcasters are capable of performing this useful service. Times were different - then the locals had higher commercial revenues to recover their costs. Cable claims they are forced to carry locals - no need to change this. The fact is: part of the demand cable companies enjoy benefit from for delivery of their service is the ability for their subscribers to access the locals. Is some payment by Cable to the locals unfounded? No. Cable (and this includes satellite-based and Internet-based providers) need to recognize that though they may employ competitive methods of delivery, the local content still has a value.

2) I would hear discussion to determine the value and I would order fair payment. [Permitting negotiation would be a valid initial action though there is unlikely to be a resolution.] I would grant all un-aired locals including TVO, TLN, Aboriginal TV, etc. authority to go on air in any markets they choose. In the US such publicly supported channels receive donations to subsidize their costs. Why restrict these publicly supported channels to cable?

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Robert McKenzie ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television is a business. As such, its model must be to attract viewership to raise/support ad dollars to gain revenue. The idea that just being local tv is not enough. Just the idea that if we want it to continue we must pony up to the bar is insufficient. It is their job to engage us, make us WANT their service. The underlying threat that if we don't get our way, we are leaving the sandbox is not acceptable. Over the years their failed business model(spend and buy)is not my problem. Let them fail! If the business model IS there, eventually someone else will enter the market in one form or another. I remember years ago, the local channels crying to get a spot on cable. And cable, sometimes being forced to market said channels. Now that the tables are turned they cry foul! I think not! If the local channels have gotten bruised by their media masters building dynasties, with all the associated debt they have heaped on themselves.....suck it up, maybe it is their model that is/was flawed.

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shirleydye ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think cable companis make enough money - they should carry local TV distributes in the viewing area for free! I have a satilite and I could not get our local station - no local news or information! I wold not be interested in local stations in other provinces but it is vital to small communities to have local TV. I get local news from the radio but lots of my younger friends never turn on a radio.

Further - I would like to br\ve able to pick the channels I want, now I have hundreds and only watch a few. The channels with all junk would dissapear if they do not put out a product people want. Now I have no choice but to take the junk too.

Charge me a flat rate for 15 or 20 channels (I choose) and a smal amount for each additional channel I choose. OR let me pick my own bundles.

My local channel would be added - for free. They do not have access to national advertisers - but they are important to the community.

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rational response ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be angry and would attempt to find alternative methods of TV programme delivery to my family home.

Advertisement-driven TV broadcasters/TV station companies, such as local TV channels here in greater Vancouver, have no ethical argument to demand that viewers pay what would be tantamount to the UK's BBC license fee, 'for the privilege' of being able to receive their (predominantly foreign) programmes through cable/satellite...

The annual BBC license fee is about 12 pounds or 20 Canadian dollars per person in the UK...

Unlike almost all local TV channels in BC and across Canada, the BBC has no advertisements on its nearly 1 dozen TV channels- and no advertisements on its radio and Internet services- and despite this, the BBC offers what is widely acknowledged as excellent quality, extensive (local and international) TV/Radio/Internet delivered news, business, entertainment and sports programming... AND in addition to the advertisement-free BBC,

the UK has advertisement-driven TV, such as Rupert Murdoch's 'SKY TV' that is doing fine...

In BC and across Canada, local TV broadcasters/TV station companies can charge higher prices for broadcasting advertisements if the respective local TV channel is carried over cable or satellite because more people will potentially view the advertisement than if the local TV channel was only available 'over-the-airwaves'...

Rather than attempting to become, in effect, 'state-subsidized' broadcasters- by getting the state (CRTC) to force people living in BC or other provinces to pay a fee for access to their broadcasts (through cable/satellite) AND at the same time saturating their programmes with advertisements- TV broadcasters ought to have to choose:

Convert their business model to a no-advertisement-type, and operate as BBC-like broadcasters, IE, without advertisements- and receive a state subsidy, perhaps levied by cable/satellite companies??- or continue operating as advertisement-driven broadcasters, without any fees paid to them from the cable/satellite companies- and if particular broadcasters can not accrue sufficient revenue from advertisements to stay in business- then go out of business!!!

There are so many dozens of TV channels available to viewers via cable, satellite and Internet that it is unrealistic for all to be able survive except by diluting even more what is all too often crappy quality programming inter-spliced with never ending inane advertisements...

Does a Vancouver/Victoria demographic and economic region need more than 1 and a 1/2 dozen local TV channels? NO!!

Is it realistic to expect what is nearly 18 separate (based locally) 'local' TV channels* to be available- and directly subsidized by the tax-payer/cable/satellite customer in a region the size of a Vancouver/Victoria, Toronto, Montreal or similar cities/regions?? No!!

(*IE: ethnic, non-profit, French-language, specialty,'community' cable, and General Interest like CTV/CBC/Global/CHUM)

The TV broadcasting industry in most provinces across Canada badly needs a shake out if only to rationalize and improve the quality of the TV and Internet-delivered TV programme broadcasting environment for the long term...

This in part so that families and individuals were not continually being inundated with incessant commercials during 'family time' TV viewing and other periods during the broadcasting day... AND so that cities like Vancouver and Victoria did not have so many local TV channels..

After a shake out, if one occurs, if there were 'too few local TV channels' in major cities in BC and other provinces- which is highly implausible- it would always be open to the Federal/provincial gov't's of the day to take steps to rectify this by offering tax breaks, etc...

No!! to a cable/satellite company surcharge-fee applied to cable/satellite customers and payable to local broadcasters!!!

Any broadcasters that want such a fee to be levied upon all POTENTIAL viewers who receive their TV through cable/satellite- ought to be asked if they are willing to entirely eliminate advertisements from their broadcasts in return for such...??

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one-eighty ★ 1 month ago

I think that the satellite and cable companies MUST always make local TV available to

subscribers. Many local stations are not on satellite and are not available to subscribers.

The cable and satellite companies are providing the local broadcasters with a good distribution service and I do not think they should pay for distributing signals to a LOCAL audience.

However, I think that they should pay for these signals if they are distributing them to a DISTANT audience. They are violating copywrite when they do so and they should compensate the rights holders.

For example, Global owns the rights to House in Vancouver. If people here time shift and watch the Toronto broadcast, Global Vancouver should be compensated because their ownership rights are being violated. Global Vancouver paid for the right to show House here so they should benefit from people here who want to watch it, no matter where the signal comes from.

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 *James* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would no longer pay ANYthing for cable. I would cancel it! It's already a rip off. Do I think local TV is important? Absolutely! There should be more local news coverage and more local TV shows. I'm sick of watching all the American late night shows. Dont we have any talent in Canada I can watch?

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 *Michael Archer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should only be considered afforrdable if enough people want to receive it and pay for it. I receive more local TV from my Cable company than I do from any of the television networks

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 *Andre D* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If local television cannot survive with the revenue they generate then i see no reason for the public to be supporting them via an extra fee.

2. I don't see a need to support local television at all, sink or swim on their own merits. You just have to look at the travesty of the CBC, public money poured into it and the only thing that seems to show a return on investment is hockey night in Canada

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 *Tom Murdoch* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion, if I'm asked to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for, I want the option to cancel local TV from my package.

I firmly believe that local TV stations would be hurt if they weren't carried by cable or satellite providers. This means that local TV stations are already benefiting from the distributors. They really have no right to ask for money from the distributors if said distributors are forced to carry their feeds.

Also, most of the specialty channels that are available are owned by the same networks that own the local TV stations. Maybe those networks are just spending too much money on programming?

If local TV stations want to improve their situations, they need to stop overpaying for American television programs, and they need to start charging more for advertising.

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Michael A. Cappa sr. ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have several mixed thoughts on this whole issue. For starters I do not want to pay anymore for my monthly cable. It is a monopoly that the government has let happen. The fees are way too expensive for what you really get.

On the issue of The Networks/Local TV charging for their product I would have to say yes. I use this example... Let's for argument sake say the Network is the factory.. It makes widgets/product. And to get it's product to the market place it uses a wholesale DISTRIBUTOR(Cable Company's). I the majority of cases where the factory doesn't run it's own wholesaler it 'farms' out the distribution of it's products to an independent wholesaler(Rogers, Shaw, Congeco,etc.) The 'fee' that the wholesaler gets can come by various means, cost plus, % of sales to consumer, or whatever other 'creative' negotiated process they agree to.

It reminds me of the old ongoing argument between the production and sales departments. Production people will say,"If weren't producing this product, you sales people would have nothing to sell!" And of course the sales people say,"If we don't sell you people in production would have nothing to make!"

If the argument that local tv is making and is truthful, then the cable companies have been racketeering for all these years. And it is probably time to pay the piper.

This brings me back to my original statement, that I do not want to pay anymore fees for cable services..... inclusive of tv and internet because the cable companies may be regulated to give a commission back to local tv. The cable companies have been setting us up for the last two months with their campaign talking about a 'cable tax". Which to me says,"Hey, if we end up paying money to the tv networks.... guess who is going to pay?" Well it better not be us consumers, after all both the cable companies and the large networks are big mega industries and have been making huge profits for decades and now that the economy has tapped their profits(tv networks) some what they are crying the blues. TV is a luxury and not a necessity and the 'free market' in the end will dictate who lives and who dies.

The last two months reminds me of the old joke.... there are guards at two door. One guard always tells the truth and the other guard always tells a lie. And you are allowed only one question to one guard only to determine who is lying and who is telling the truth.

I am sure that I am like most people, I have come to the conclusion that they are both lying to attain their own selfish greedy agenda's.

Sirs, that is my opinion.... as convoluted as the whole argument!!!!!!!!!!

I DO NOT WANT TO BE TAXED OR COSTS PASSED ON TO ME, PERIOD!!!!!!!!!!

Flag

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Yannick ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't mind paying for what I watch through advertisements or carriage fees but ensure that carriers allow me to pick and choose individual channels so I am not forced into a bundle because I want only one or two channels that it contains.

Flag

Like



CatK ★ [1 month ago](#)

I find it disgusting that the cable operators are asking that we, the consumer, pay extra for local programming. We have been paying them for years for a signal that they have been pulling in for free. They are, basically, asking us to pay twice for this signal. It is bad enough that we have to get our signals in packages that mean we are paying for a lot of stations that we never watch. With the way that computers handle everything these days, we should be able to chose the chanel's we want and only pay for them. Why should I be saddled with multiple sports or French chanel's, when they are never watched in our home? You, as the regulator, are obliged to protect the Canadian consumer from double-dipping by the cable companies. They have had it their

own way for far too long. They pull in obscene profits.

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 [jackCccc](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my area, the local TV stations air only local advertising. This mean they are being paid at the local level for the service. By charging for the hook up with the cable compnies that would be double dipping.

The cable companies are charging excessive fees for the current service and it is evidenced by the power of the cable companies and the desire of others to get on the gravy train. We are being forced to take channels we don't want or need and we are being treated with contempt by both the local channels and the cable companies. It is a monopoly in my area and therefore I have no say in what is shown. On any given night, the selection is minimal and repeated frequently. Open the whole system up to real competition and also allow me to chose only the channels I want, not a group of channels tht includes only one channel that I really care about.

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[Like](#)

 [Tom G](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay over \$50 a month for TV and to be honest, my household watches less than 10 channels, 2 of them being local for news etc. I can't cut my package down because the few channels we watch are not in the basic package. I am stuck overpaying for the little I use. I use the internet for most television shows. I am not willing to pay more when I am already overpaying

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[Like](#)

 [mad001ca](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I can't believe the comments here. Cable companies do so much for local broadcasting already? They each provide a channel with community programming that nobody watches or cares about.

At the same time we get all these american programs on 8 different channels 12 times a day. I like CSI, Cheers, MASH, Friends, but this is absolutely ridiculous. Where are our programs? Where are the days where we were proud to watch Front Page Challenge, Beachcombers, Night Heat, King of Kensington, etc? Corner Gas.....Great program. But Little Mosque on the prairie???????

And are we to lose local news too? They seem to be the only source of real news these days. I can't watch National news anymore. Global's newshow is all Toronto, or US news. CTVNewsnet is all "Entertainment tonight". CBCNewsWorld is "Everything you wanted to know about Global Warming or Obama but were afraid to ask".

Ironically the only province that seems to have any real Made in Canada shows is Quebec. They seem to be more Canadian than the rest of us! Thank God I can speak some French. Les Boys.....Un Guy une Fille.....KM/H.....

I don't know what the solution is but something has to be done to help the local stations. Charging more is not the answer. Perhaps limiting the amount of Foreign TV is! Yes folks, American TV is foreign TV!!!! Limit the amount the cables can pay for foreign programming. I only need to see Monk once a week.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Blake Morrow](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I wouldn't really mind if an extra 5 or 10 dollars was added to my bill each month if need be; local television is important and if the large cable companies aren't going to budge on it, I suppose I'll have to make a sacrifice. There should be something added to it that forces local tv stations to only use it to create or promote Canadian content, though.

I just find my cable bill is so large to begin with; so many channels I don't want. If the CRTC could force the cable companies to lower their overall prices or offer a reduced package, I would take that- even if the extra tv "tax" brought it back up a few dollars.

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 [matthewjackson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe I should have the option of not having to subscribe to any station that was going to cost an additional fee. This should apply whether the station considers itself local or not. In the community I live in we have two stations that are supposedly locally broadcast. Both stations are owned by Global and both stations broadcast the same content for all but 1.5 hours per day. Neither of these supposedly local stations can be received using rabbit ears in my home. It should not be up to the government to support local TV. If TV stations have a product the public wants, they will get viewers and then will be able to sell advertising. That is how local television should be supported.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Dave](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe we are already paying too much for local stations, in the form of a basic service package. Cable and Satellite companies are allowed to force us to by the minimum package, which includes these local stations. They don't pay to distribute these signals but collect plenty of money from us in order to get them. I say that the basic package should be eliminated and allow consumers to pick what channels and services they want and not force us to take channels we don't care about.

As for measures to support the local television stations, I say take the free market approach. If these companies provide a product or service people want then they will buy it. Allow these stations to charge for their signal, and they can be included in the channels that people can pick when they want service. Stop bailing them out, because they can't deliver a competitive service.

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 [andy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the TV Broadcasters are missing the point. Cable keeps the signal strong when cable is available to the said area.

The Kamloops TV station seems to be doing wonderful, despite the CBC turning their back on our community. I'm always seeing new local ads on our station.

Honestly, I've cancelled cable as soon as the inquiry started. Why? I don't need another tax on communications. The CBC disaffiliating with our local tv station is tax enough for this area: having to support a station through taxes, where the station doesn't even have a transmitter...

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 [Rick](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have no use for local TV unless they produce High Definition signals and I am sick to death of having to subsidize businesses that cannot make it on their own.

If a TV Station cannot make it on their own, they should close their doors.

I see no point in having 20 channels available to me that are showing the exact same television shows...an east and west feed are sufficient.

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 [Craig](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am frustrated by the fact that the "free" broadcasters are demanding a tax to support "local" tv. They removed all local tv from my market years ago. (Sault Ste. Marie) They decided on a regional approach which pretty much destroyed any sort of local news, programming or

advertising. A cable operator SHAW filled in the gap. CTV also rebroadcasts all american shows. So why exactly am I paying a tax for this? So they can continue to buy american content? So they can continue to shut down local stations? It just doesn't make sense. I pay about \$90.00 a month for Sat TV. Why should I have to pay more? I would support local tv if they actually had local tv in my market. Since they don't, I feel they are just trying to steal my money for a service I don't want. Why should I subsidize them? If they want to make a difference, quit buying American shows, come up with their own content and if its any good, I'll tune in. I've enjoyed shows like The Listener, and flashpoint. Which is proof it can be done.

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Lilly Posarac ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a cable subscriber, I adamantly oppose the idea of having to pay extra, even a small amount, for local TV. I do not value local TV and do not understand why such importance is placed on in through the CRTC. TV broadcasting and channels should be treated as any other product and delivered based on supply and demand. If there is little demand for it, then maybe no one is watching?

I don't believe any further measures by any government body should be wasted to support local television.

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Lilly ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I adamantly oppose the idea of paying extra on my cable service to support local TV. I have little interest in local television and am tired of the government and CRTC shoving it down our throats and now, asking me to pay for it. Local TV should follow basic rules of supply and demand. If there is little demand for it, then perhaps no one is watching? Cable TV, given that in Ontario, it's a pretty much controlled through the oligopoly of Bell and Rogers, is expensive enough as it is. I don't need or want any further charges.

2) No measures need to be taken to support local television. Really, the government and its various bodies, need to find better initiatives to focus their effort.

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Bob ★ [1 month ago](#)

Present system has no incentive for local stations to improve signal strength. That said, if cable costs more and doesn't give complete control to customers of what channels they want to subscribe to, I'll drop them completely. I'm tired of a basic package that gives me identical programming on 3 - 4 channels at a time.

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wrhull ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should be paid for on a user fee basis only! That is, DO NOT BUNDLE in the regular Cable offerings and if customers so choose to have local TV, then pay for it! As a customer I will no longer accept fees for something I DID NOT ORDER!

If the CRTC arbitrarily forces a fee on cable customers then my family and I will have no choice but to cancel the bundles and pay for basic cable only. We will definitely cut back on our entertainment in view of the DST (Dalton Sales Tax) implementation, smart metre (Dalton's failure to maintain and expand hydro infrastructure to keep up with growth; business, new homes, immigration etc.) in January, 2010 and as a result of out of control spending by the Ottawa city councillors.

Enough is enough!

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 [Andre Fournier](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think we should be charged an extra fee on top of what we already pay to the cable companies.

Keep in mind that the TV stations are the ones who are paid fees to air commercials and that the Cable companies don't get any \$\$ from it.

Thanks

Andre Fournier

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 [francoismtl](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Can we go back to basics please...

I do not subscribe to a cable or satellite service for over-the-air channels, but for the other channels. Why would I pay a tax for over-the-air channels that my neighbours get for free (they do not have cable or satellite)? Why would I be the only one to pay for local programming?

To be fair, I should have a choice to pull out these channels from my cable or satellite service and pick them up over-the-air for free (like my neighbours). We should ALL pay or not.

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 [gwenh](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay for these services. Why should I pay more?

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[Like](#)

 [Czuprys](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

It should be up to the end consumer (ME) to decide what I want. Whether it be local, specialty, imported American, hell, imported Australian... I believe a more fair end equitable pricing system could include tiered pricing per channel. That's to say, pick whichever channels you like from this group for \$0.50 a month each, this group for \$1.00 a month each, this group for \$2.00 each, etc. We will have exactly what we want (how many of us really watch the Golf channel for more than 10 minutes a month?) and know exactly where the money is going. If we don't want local tv, we're not paying for it. If we don't want HBO (Canadian or American) we're not paying for it. The numbers will more accurately reflect who is watching what, and the producers could be reimbursed accordingly. However if we want it, we should have access to it, regardless of the country of origin. The thought of paying more for something I don't use in the first place is absurd. Only in Canada.

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 [mike6453](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Whether the cost per channel is reasonable I don't know--but I am very sure that the total cost ;because we are forced to pay for huge number of junk channels we never watch , is absolutely ridiculous. Let us pick what we want--not "packages" that the cable compaies force on us.

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 [Glen Strathy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would rather pay for a local tv channel than have to pay, via packages, for cable channels I never watch. I would prefer a flat \$1 or \$2 per channel system that lets me subscribe to the channels I like and only those.

[Flag](#)

 *pat yule* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and other telecommunication bills are too high, because the companies are a greedy machine. Their purpose is PROFIT!! MONEY! If they had a few executives who were concerned with service to customers we would not have a problem. People do not mind paying for a valuable product, but no one likes putting out hard earned money every month for cable and phone service rife with unsolvable problems!!!

[Flag](#) *Pat* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are currently paying too much for cable and satellite signals. The crtc should ensure that we have more competition in this arena, so that the consumer will have choices and this discussion will become a non issue.

[Flag](#) *nubus* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would disconnect the service completely.
2. Privatised everything, let the market and fair competition decide. Stop supporting them with taxpayer dollar.

[Flag](#) *Richard* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Stop forcing cable companies to carry local channels. I choose what I want to watch. Frankly I do not watch local tv and therefore do not feel it right to have to pay an extra tax for something I do not choose to watch.

[Flag](#) *Fed Up Already* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The oligopoly structure of TV distribution in Canada has led to significant uncompetitive behaviour in the industry. All carriers combine channels into packages which are significantly different from each other and has effectively removed any ability for consumers to conduct proper competitive analyses. The result is a hybrid structure with blurred the lines between who actually owns and markets the signals and a confusing marketplace for consumers with no ability to make "apples-to-apples" comparisons of offerings between providers.

I would only consider paying for local television if the entire fee structure were changed to a menu-based format such that I could select the distributor / carrier and individual channels separately. Enough of the ridiculous packaging from carriers.

Local advertising and local subscriptions should support local television.

[Flag](#) *Steve99919* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Maybe you will like my suggestion, maybe you won't.. But I think if the CRTC agrees to this fee that the Broadcasters want, whats stops them from just adding this additional new funding straight to their profits. Also what stops them from complaining again in a few more years for more money. Finally ... What saves local broadcast jobs by doing this.... nothing really

I think I would initiate a new system where the Distribution companies have to pay "x" for any channel they wish to distribute to their customers (that seems fair) - But.... I would add the

stipulation that the money gathered from this fee for carriage must go 100% to local programming. The more local programming a Broadcast station (not company - but each station) provides, the more portion of this funding they get. The less local (Canadian) Programming they produce, the less piece of the pie gathered they get. Maybe then they will try more for Local and less for "made in America" re-broadcasting..... Also, maybe with this they will start to value their local employees / content. Just Before this all started CTV and others started cutting Canadian Jobs to make a point that the "current local system is broken"... This was a very poor move in my eyes. All those jobs to prove it is broken.... If you don't know how to operate a buisness, then don't get into it in the first place.

My Last Point... I don't think it should cost \$50 - \$100 for each distributon subscription to TV. How much does it cost to really get a signal to your home..? This I would love to know.... To recently learn that the Broadcasters don't get a portion of that makes me ask... "what is this monthly cost paying for then?".... I think they need to be held more accountable (and if needed, "regulated").

The CRTC and Canadian Government needs to step in and make TV affordable for the average Canadian and enforce more Local content. If they make Millions in Profits already.. why do we need to fork out more money for them.

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[davetrautman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Steve99919](#)

If local programming was not decided on by the network owners of the local stations then this plan would be viable. I suspect money paid to support Local TV would go to the network's head office and not directly to local TV outlets. And I think it would be fairly complicated to determine the amount of money collect by a carrier for the audiences it has where the basic cable has 5 or 6 'local' stations on it.

I'd like it if there was a way to compel networks to make more local content and to support more Canadian production. But the business of TV content creation is entirely different from content delivery. Cable operators would be forced to charge a flat fee to every subscriber for it to be "fair" across the board. This of course is obviously NOT fair to those who live outside a broadcast license area where they cannot choose the over to air alternative.

I don't believe the mandate of the CRTC should include controlling the content. It should stick to distribution and licensing as well as ensuring comparable exposure for Canadian content. The networks are having a tough time. I think their quest for revenue from the carriers is wrong-headed. But it might also demonstrate their lack of creativity which has resulted in lower audiences for their affiliates.

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[williamcastell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would like to support local TV. I would not be happy to see a new fee imposed on top of existing fees to support local TV. There are specialty channels that are included in the packages that I do not watch and do not want to support. I would like to see a system whereby I could remove some of the specialty channels and have this money go to the local channels. Local TV is more important to me and most Canadians than some of the specialty channels. If something has to go, I would prefer to choose to lose a few specialty channels.

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Like



[Alison O in Mississauga, On](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I believe that government funding should be increased to allow NON-PROFIT TV stations and networks produce local TV news as well as educational and informational programming, particularly with Canadian content. I don't think I should have to pay TWICE for such programming.

But, as for the FOR-PROFIT networks/stations, they have a different goal - to make money. They use their belief in the sanctity of the "free market" when it gives them higher profits but

want a bailout when it doesn't. They should learn what the rest of us have, that YOU can't have it both ways, "There is NO free lunch.". So, to them I say learn how to better manage your company/business and either cut spending on acquisitions or management overhead or sell more advertisements. If their poor content is the reason for their declining revenues, it's their own faults and threatening to shut local stations is childish and incompetent to begin with.

2. Local TV should be mandated to be produced by fully and publicly supported non-profit broadcasters such as the CBC and TVO could be. They would be most capable of producing unbiased, well researched, relevant and educational content and local/national news, etc. possible. Forget about the profit-takers contributing to our intelligence as citizens. They have different goals than the public interest or intelligent and informed citizens, so let us NOT pay for their profits. IF we, the taxpayers, are going to spend our money, let it be most effectively done once, with the money we already send to Ottawa. AND, make sure that we don't have to pay twice for ANYTHING!

Flag

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davetrautman ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Alison O](#) in [Mississauga, On](#)

If I knew I would get revenue from the a cable operator for carrying my local TV signal then I might be able to build a business case for creating a special TV station which would compete with all the other local TV stations. If I didn't broadcast for an entire day and only went on the air at specific times with original local content then perhaps I would attract a loyal audience. And if I didn't have to operate my station for the whole day I could put time into making new content or keeping my costs of operating low.

It's really quite inexpensive to create content these days. If I didn't have to operate a huge studio, make commercials all day, and have a huge news staff I could run a station at a fraction of what the network affiliates do. I could simulcast on the internet and bring new viewers toward my subscription signal through promotion on the internet. I might have a fairly small audience (maybe only as big as the community channel does) but on a per-person basis I might actually be profitable with the "fee" my audience pays to see my channel on cable.

It would be possible for small towns to operate small stations again and rely mostly on the fee as well as local advertising. They could break free of the network affiliate role and just serve an audience which they can count down to the individual household.

Maybe I should start my own station? With a fee-based revenue stream to start me off I might be the new model for local TV.

Flag

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prb90 ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I will be cancelling my cable subscription.
2. Television should be taxed through a system similar to the British system

Flag

Like



timl12345 ★ [1 month ago](#)

First, I applaud the CRTC for taking this initiative to consult Canadians on this issue. The input from broadcasters and signal carriers has been biased and self-serving.

Local TV is critical to ensuring a sense of community. Too much of our culture is driven by mass market cable broadcasts created in the US, with no relevancy to local markets. The scales are tipping against local broadcasting at a time when the fundamental business models are being redefined by cable, digital, High-def, channel fragmentation, and declining advertising revenues.

However, being forced to pay extra for Local TV is an insult being inflicted by ignorant corporations. I implore the CRTC to advocate for the everyday Canadian who has no power to negotiate this \$120 a year tax that is being imposed by broadcasters.

With the advent of the new technology, signal carriers are crafting persuasive arguments that lead to package prices that are confusing and inflexible. There are no real options in Canada. The signal carriers operate like monopolies and they price their packages with no sense of competition. Because of improved technology, they have been able to segment their services into Cable/Satellite, Home Phone, Internet, Wireless, and have created multiple revenue streams. The annual cost of these combined services to the average Canadian is more than their average cost for electricity, heating and transit.

Simultaneously, content providers have multiplied the options available, fragmenting the available revenue. It seems very strange that some content providers (eg: specialty channels) charge for their signal, while others (eg: local channels) must provide their content "for free" (through a national broadcasting network transfer price/cost structure). This seems inequitable and unrealistic. Content costs money to create. Local content can't be free.

We have a Canadian content rule in Canada. It seems fair to maintain that rule for carriers while at the same time allowing local broadcasters and national broadcasters the freedom to price their content to carriers. Let the signal carriers determine how best to reconfigure their channel packages to achieve this ratio without allowing them to increase their prices to consumers.

Both the Carriers and the Broadcasters are giant corporations that are arguing over how to split the revenue pie. They have legions of staff hired to persuade and confuse. When most Canadians struggle to pay their bills, raise a family, and live with a sense of dignity and community, their debate is mind-boggling irresponsible.

They are arguing over \$100million here, \$400million there and the solution is an extra \$120 per canadian household. There are 10 million Canadian households, this extra revenue could potentially be a \$1.2 Billion windfall. This fee only makes sense to these companies.

- Do not impose a new fee to consumers
- Maintain the Canadian content rule for carriers and broadcasters alike.
- Allow all content providers to charge for their content (including local stations)
- Prohibit carriers from changing the prices of their packages but let them reconfigure the stations they offer.

[Flag](#)

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 [Maxwell E Pottie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my experience, local TV stations have such a poor signal (can't be reached outside a 40 - 50 mile range) that cable companies are doing them a favor. They should not expect another company to bail them out. 'We are just coming out of a recession, they will get their revenues back as the economy improves. Let them stick it our just like everyone else. I am sick and tire of the whining on CTV. If the cable companies are forced to pay to carry local signals, the cost will simply be passed on to their subscribers. Even in the city, the over air signals are full of shadows and other weaknesses, that's another reason most people get cable.

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 [24sandyej](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am appalled by the idea of being asked to pay even more money to receive cable television. We are already being overcharged for what we get - the number of "local" stations that are available through time-shifting has decreased notably on Rogers. And the specialty channels are becoming a joke: they are blurring their individuality by showing the same programs on different stations, programs that have nothing to do with the "title" of their specialty channel. If the surcharge goes through, I will have to consider cancelling my cable service. Times are very bad financially, and there is no more money in my piggy bank to pay for "local" stations. Rogers is making a fortune by milking viewers for every penny they can, and television stations are making record profits. If the stations can't make a profit, they should go off the air: cable subscribers must not be asked to keep them going.

[Flag](#)

 Like *malsim* ★ [1 month ago](#)

CBC is included in this cable TV grab for more cash. We pay enough for the CBC as it is. We get almost no international or world news from them and Canadians fork out about a billion dollars a year to support this pathetic national icon. Cable TV is the only way to go but it is already way too expensive. Local stations entered into this market. If they can't survive in it now, then goodbye, no more cash for cable from me.

[Flag](#) Like *guner* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am sick and tired of hearing local TV should be paid by cable and sat. they say they are providing local TV but all they provide is local news and weather which is full of commercials. Because of there bad business practices and poor investments they want cable to bail them out. I pay to much for TV service now and if they add any more charges I will probably look for TV on the internet.

Why should I have to pay for local channels that I can get for free off air, maybe there are to many TV channels out there now, maybe they should find ways of saving money and go off air at midnight to save money.

The local TV channels should be paying cable for carrying there signals to a greater area than they can reach with there antennas.

[Flag](#) Like *Lisa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is about far more then just our local channels, which I enjoy, but on the overall if the crtc is listening (which I doubt) it is time to get control of the cable and satelite companies and thier current billing practices. Let's get the market open for more competition and very quickly this dispute will be settled, if they want the business they will prove that they are not only able to carry our local tv but also ensure a better price for the average family. Just a note rogers and bell don't seem to be feeling the same issues as the rest of the country during the recession, they are still profitable.....makes you wonder.

[Flag](#) Like *Debbie - Regina Sk* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I believe that local television is very important to local communities. If we lose local TV it will be the smaller communities that lose out. I strongly support local television stations and agree that they should be able to charge the cable and satellite providers a fee for the service they provide like the regular content providers do. I would be more than willing to pay any additional costs passed on to support local stations.

2. I believe that consumers should be able to pick the channels they want to subscribe to instead of being forced to take bundled channel line-ups. That way I could keep my local channel and get rid of some other of the other crap channels I am force to pay for but never watch.

[Flag](#) Like *jwholmes* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My basic cable fees pay for the local stations that I love and the CRTC should order the cable companies to finally start paying the stations for the use of their signals without passing this cost along to the consumer. Much like the local television landscape has changed, why shouldn't the way cable companies operate. I have to ask what makes the way they operate and the enourmous profit they have earned a sacred cow. If the CRTC does not have the fortitude to tell Rogers et al to not pass the cost along then the least they should do is set a limit as proposed by CTV of no more than \$3 per subscriber.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Rob* ★ [1 month ago](#)

When I had a TV antenna I did not pay for local stations. Now that I contract with someone to provide the service without the antenna I see no reason to pay. In fact the local stations now have a larger audience and should be able to improve advertising revenue because of this. If they are unable to manage their business to make a profit perhaps they should not stay in business. If for some reason the cable companies are asked to pay for these channels then for sure we MUST have the ability to opt out of receiving them.

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Like

 *Glenn Euloth* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Most of the public that I have spoken with are operating under false information. They are believing the propaganda that is being spewed all over the television. One key point that is missed is that the cable companies are FORCED to carry local television stations as part of their basic service. The CRTC requires them to do so as part of their license.

The best solution here is to de-regulate what cable is required to carry and allow them to pick and choose what their subscribers want. By doing this they can choose to carry local TV or not and local TV can choose to charge them for the service, or not.

I'm tired of having to buy 5 or 6 channels to get the one I want. Both a marketing ploy and a bundling issue created by the CRTC to ensure the correct amount of Canadian content. If Canadian content is good it will get watched. Don't force us to watch and pay for Canadian content just because it's Canadian.

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Like

 *Rob* ★ [1 month ago](#)

When I had a TV antenna I did not pay for local stations. Now that I contract with someone to provide the service without the antenna I see no reason to pay. In fact the local stations now have a larger audience and should be able to improve advertising revenue because of this. If they are unable to manage their business to make a profit perhaps they should not stay in business. If for some reason the cable companies are asked to pay for these channels then for sure we MUST have the ability to opt out of receiving them.

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Like

 *Heather Wolfe* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and internet service costs keep going up, yet my income stays the same. I have already received notice of a \$2.00 increase to begin Jan. 2010. Soon I will just stop everything and read newspapers. Enough is enough.

Heather

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Like

 *sarahquestion* ★ [1 month ago](#)

No support should be given to local TV. They should use their advertising revenue to support themselves. If this funding is not sufficient, they should reduce costs (e.g. don't use a helicopter, reduce staffing, etc.)

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Like

 *sarahquestion* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not wish to support local TV and would not want to pay more on top of what I already pay for cable. The cost of cable is already too high. No measures should be taken to support local TV. They should be self-supporting.

Flag

Like

 *azarcr* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the allure of the current system of digital and satellite system is the option to choose which channels I want to see and pay for. If there is going to be a fee for local television stations I should be given the choice as to whether or not I want to pay for and have access to these stations.

I do not think there should be any subsidies for local television. If they are running their business in a efficient manner and producing a valuable product then they will succeed. If not let them restructure or become extinct.

Flag

Like

 *chriss_w* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would only pay for local service if the cable/satellite companies offered a complete choice of which channels I receive. I don't like bundling of channels as 90% of the channels in a bundle I don't watch, but in order to see a few channels in the package I have to order all of them.

I think advertising revenue could help pay for local TV, but I don't agree with the cable/satellite companies getting something for nothing. There is no such thing as a free lunch in today's world. These providers have put such a spin on paying the TV companies anything by calling any fee a 'tax'. The cable/satellite companies obviously don't intend to cut into their profits and/or bonuses in order to support local TV.

Flag

Like

 *Nova Scotia Kid* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Northern Nova Scotia, and because of the terrain, we cannot get local Nova Scotia TV stations for free over the air, so our cable company has to send the CBC signal all the way up to us on cable. If the networks don't care enough about our area to give us local content over the air, why should I have to pay them more each month. Just not fair.

CTV has closed down many rebroadcast transmitters across the country, now the only way they can get local TV is to pay cable. If they could cancel their TV service, they would, but then they would be left with nothing to watch.

If the broadcasters want this fee levied, then the only way to compensate for that is to cancel the mandatory carriage on Cable, and also end simulataneous substitution immediately, they say that the CableCos are paying into development funds, but how many Canadian shows are there on CTV and Global in primetime?

I am not laying the blame on just one side, both need to make adjustments, but the broadcasters are using their own media power to brainwash Canadians, and we all suffer because of it. CTV and Global need to get their act together, paycuts, better advertising partners, whatever it takes, stop trimming local TV at the bottom and do the cuts at head office where the mess is.

Flag

Like

 *Bruce Beaton* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel we are being taken by BCE who own both the satelite provider Bell Express Vu as well as CTV, TSN, BNN, ASN. They don't care who what side you pick as long as the customer pays more so it can offset some of the losses they had in the stock market last year. The Ontario Teachers Pension fund is a major sharholder of BCE. The CRTC look toothless in this deal as Bell Express

vu already put a crtc tax on my bill last month even though the crtc website says they are not supposed to.

[Flag](#)

Like



[David](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Bruce Beaton](#)

Don't forget that the Thompson family owns 40% of CTV Bell Globe Media. Do you think we need to subsidize these empires? No different at Global, except they are solely owned by only 1 Billionaire family, the Aspers.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Bill Henry](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not believe that cable companies should be forced to pay broadcasters for signals. Such 'tax' would only be passed along to those who subscribe to cable. Cable fees are high enough now.

[Flag](#)

Like



[pat yule](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Our bills are too high because the purpose of the telecommunication companies is PROFIT AND MONEY for them!! If these companies had a few executives that were concerned with the service that they are supposed to be selling customers then people would not complain so much. No one wants to pay monthly for service rife with problems that are never solved!!

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Like



[Peter](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The local TV stations feed us a daily dose of homey repetitive material to justify their existence. If I'm going to end up paying for this, then the networks need to get rid of the jibber-jabber we have to listen to each morning and evening starting with the dual anchor senario (anchor 'A' reads a line, Anchor 'B' finishes it.) One anchor will do fine and they can also give us the weather report. We don't need the Highs and Lows, the Jet Stream or the temperature in Florida, just local weather. Is it going to snow or rain, how much and what's the temperature going to be. We don't care what happened yesterday or 20 years ago on this date. Cut staff, save some money and improve service and I just might support your station. Give us more up-to-date traffic reports and sports once daily, at PM.

The cable companies also need to give us more choice, not the packages filled with garbage programming.

[Flag](#)

Like



[sarahquestion](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very upset if asked to pay more for cable in order to provide support for local TV stations. Local stations should support themselves. I rarely watch them, and would not miss them.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Concerned citizen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will only pay for local TV if it truly reports "local" issues. I don't need my local TV reporting on provincial, Canada or world information. I need "pure" local content. If local TV becomes FREE that means it will be subsidized heavily and can no longer remain "neutral" in its reporting. (Case in point CBC)

Local advertisers would support local television if TV reporters act as true reporters should and dig into local issues. Get rid of all the "nicey-nice" stories and dip into local politics, etc. The

public is ready to get engaged on local issues, otherwise we will just watch Oprah....

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Ron Dallmeier ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am opposed to adding fees for local TV and most certainly without choice of opting out. I cannot think of any 'local' content worth watching. Local news is covered by the newspaper and of course the Internet.

TV is changing fast. I watch all programs time-delayed with my PVR for convenience (watch when I want - not when the program is scheduled to air). A great benefit is skipping commercials. More and more people will move to selecting programs that they are interested in via the Internet.

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PM Leeney ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancell my service. I sure dont want to pay to see what the local TV has to offer. Just dont do anything to change the present situation. Cable and satalite cost way too much already.

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Dianna Beilschmidt ★ [1 month ago](#)

I can watch local television stations for free on my antenna, so why would I agree to extra charges added to my satellite dish package? Will you be charging antenna viewers extra money for watching these stations for free via their antenna?

Local television stations should be run as any business in Canada is. You provide services with the money you are already receiving, and don't come begging to Joe Blow public with your hands out looking for extra dollars. My wages will not go up to pay for the extra \$10.00 per month on my satellite bill, so I refuse to pay anything extra for something that can be viewed for free without my satellite dish. Stop the gouging!!!!!!

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cb10 ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are paying for basic service so they (Cable Companies) should pay for the service they resell to us.

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Dan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Their must be freedom of choice in the Canadian Broadcasting services, I don't support the idea of being run over by the American content but we have to have a balance in the measures taken. A small set of free channels should be maintained with the local stations being supported by local ad and other revenue. In areas of Canada where local over the air broadcasts can't be done affordable maybe the right answer is to support a reduced cost option from Bell Expressvu or starchoice.

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from Bell Expressvu or starchoice.

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bonnieherrett ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be extremely angry if my fees for cable were increased yet again! There has been continuous increases that have already stretched my pocket book to the limit on the other hand I believe local TV is a must. The cable should have to pay a fee for Canadian Broadcasting as well as they do for the rest. I am researching my options as this form of information and entertainment has become reached the point of unaffordability.

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Russ ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local television is of very little value to me. I watch no more than 1/2 hr daily of local news which I could get on radio or the internet. The rest of the programs are garbage. I would immediately cancel if asked to pay for them. I would extremely resent it if I was forced to pay because of bundling.

2. Local television should upgrade and improve their product to make it worthwhile for me to watch, and advertisers to support.

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Mark Knox ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is really not important to me. I get my news primarily online, occasionally from the radio in the car and occasionally from TV (I have satellite, by the way), and other than news there is very little "local" about any local station. I would definitely not pay extra for the Canadian networks and local stations. In fact, I would be inclined to cancel my plan altogether if the program deletion thing is made law or if the fee for carriage is put in place without removing the mandate for sat/cable companies to carry all local stations in basic service. If they remove the local stations from basic service, drop the price of that, and allow me to choose which stations I want to support, then the money I pay for my channel bundle could go to support those particular local stations. Let consumers decide which are worth having.

2. See #1 for one solution. Direct viewer support (like PBS) is another option.

I've written about this in more detail here:

<http://www.pixin.net/2009/12/tv-wars.html>

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SD ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have had both satellite and cable; they both have their pluses and minuses. Bottom line is that we have no competition in this country and we pay for it every day. They charge for the basic package, then each bundle and we know how this works. You want the Discovery channel but they will bundle it with 4 or five other crappy networks and charge \$6-7 a month. They say you must subscribe to the regular station, in order to get the HD channel. Again, I was told that although you do have the discovery channel, the HD station was a different one and you must pay for it..... The US has been looking into the market, let them in and offer what they have. You'll soon see the local's Rodger, Bell and others changing their tune, not to mention their rates! I digress, as for support for local stations, we the tax payer already has the government deep into our pockets and they in turn bail out local stations every year. Business 101, turn a profit or close the doors, her endith the lesson.

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 [Helen S](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am completely against being charged fees for local services by the cable, satellite and internet companies who currently provide services within Canada. Canadians are already paying too much for these services, most likely due to the historic and privileged commerce afforded to current providers. The providers must be obligated to directly take on the responsibility for these services.

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[Trevor B](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not want to pay more for local tv. I believe that the tv companies are crying foul in fairness. CTV is owned by Bell Canada. Bell needs to reinvest into their local stations or lose their broadcasting licence. I'm sure Rogers would gladly buy their licence. Canwest Global made bad decisions and purchased a failing newspaper. They also bought the speciality channel division of Alliance Atlantis, which are the most profitable stations in Canada. They were able to buy those stations over our bidders because of the local stations. So again those profits need to go into the local stations or they should lose their broadcast licence.

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[AnthonyG_mtl](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Trevor B](#)

Bell no longer owns CTV. They got out of the television game a while ago.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [gumtv](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I believe that any local service that is free over the air should not be subject to a surcharge by a cable or satellite provider, unless said provider is adding additional value in the means that they distribute the local service to me.

2. Local Television should operate their business in a manner that is profitable to themselves. i.e. advertising sales. The change to Digital Broadcasting should see an increase to over the air reception, as many people will start to drop their cable services to get free HD quality.

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[UpSet Customer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm tired of all these "unnecessary" services being pushed onto the consumer's like drugs!

At the end of the day, we really don't need any of it. It is more of a convenience and not a meal sort of speak!

I'm ready to cancel regardless of the outcome!

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[Phil](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable television service. This will be the third item Rogers has done to disatisfy me and will be the last straw.

Speed Channel

PBS

Local TV

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 [Carole](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local news is important. I don't care who picks up the tab - the station or the satellite/cable company, but if they try to pass the cost on to us we will simply cut back on our optional services to equalize our monthly bill.

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 [Tom S.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Windsor, ON, a city of 200,000 people. We have two local television stations (CBC & A-Channel). Earlier this year it was announced that A-Channel would close shortly. It's life has recently been extended, but we're not sure how long.

We don't have local stations for CTV or Global in Windsor. CBC is not committed to HD broadcasting in Windsor. What exactly do we have to gain by "supporting" local TV? Absolutely nothing. We would simply be paying for stations in Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, and a few other markets.

Moreover, the broadcasters won't even commit to actually spending this money on local television. So how exactly will it save local TV?

My cable bill is already way too high because I must pay for dozens of channels I never watch on top of a basic package mandated by the CRTC full of terrible channels with mandatory carriage.

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 [Tom S.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Tom S.](#)

In addition to my comments, my ideal scenario for television in Canada would be the following:

1. No mandatory carriage - no basic packages forcing us to get little-watched channels like APTN, Vision, etc...
2. All channels a la carte - if the cable/sat companies want to bundle channels into packages they should have that right, but almost all channels should be available individually. I'm fine with some small bundles (i.e. bundle the TMN/HBO package but exclude the superstations like WGN & KTLA). I want to pick and choose the 50 or so channels that I want without subscribing to 200 channels. I also want to be able to subscribe to HD channels without the SD version of the same channel.
3. No simultaneous substitution - Global & CTV want carriage for their channels then they can be paid by subscribers. They do not get sim-subs for any American programming they broadcast. If a viewer chooses to watch Grey's Anatomy on ABC, then so be it. If that viewer also subscribes to CTV, then CTV is already getting money from that subscriber.

With those three scenarios in place, I'd be happy to pay individually for local TV if I chose to subscribe to any of those channels.

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 [davetrautman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Tom S.](#)

How about if you could subscribe to channels from other parts of Canada? Would that be interesting?

And would my local TV channel cater to an audience of subscribers in another province when they learned of their popularity on another system's menu?

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 *DM* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my satellite subscription if I was charged more for local TV. I don't watch local TV and wish I could remove those channels to make my bill smaller. I think we should have the option to subscribe to local TV instead of being forced to have it by the CRTC. I know it's Canadian TV but I'm sorry but we haven't produced a TV show worth watching in my opinion and all the local broadcasters are doing is buying American TV. I think the local TV broadcaster would get a big surprise when a lot of people started canceling local TV channels if we had the choice and then they would get even less money.

They need to start spending money on producing shows to compete against the American networks. We may not have Hollywood but a lot of American TV is filmed in Vancouver so why can't we produce good TV shows here too. Canada has plenty of great actors/actresses.

The only reason I have satellite is for the American networks (NBC, CBS, ABC, FOX, CW). All I watch is American TV shows. I don't watch local TV since I get all my news from the internet. I would not miss local TV. I hate it when the providers are forced to overwrite the American network feeds with local broadcast feeds when they show the same show. When this is done I have missed shows sometimes since the local broadcasters are showing something else by mistake or they cut parts off the show since their timing is off. I know it's to show local advertisement but in reality how many people watch commercial anymore. I record all my shows and skip every commercial so I haven't seen one in years.

If my bill starts going up again due to this local TV fight I will cancel it and download all my shows from the internet. No wonder there are plenty of people using American satellite dishes here in Canada illegally. They don't need to worry about this local TV issue. That's another thing I wish the CRTC made legal in Canada. Direct TV and the other American companies would surely give our local companies (Bell and Shaw) good competition and more choice.

The internet and digital media is starting to take over. Soon more and more people will watch TV shows downloaded from the internet. They are commercial free and never have to worry about missing an episode and setting record timers. It is all on demand now. Since TVs and telephones can be hooked directly to computers and the internet all someone needs is an internet subscription. We can cancel our TV/Satellite subscription and even our telephone subscriptions. This would result in a lot less money coming in for providers or broadcasters. Providers and broadcasters need to start thinking about the future of media. With internet the model is changing.

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 *John Wilson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes, local TV stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs. However, cable companies should not be free to pass this cost on to consumers. If the cost creates a hardship (which would need to be proven) then the CRTC should mediate in some way. Moreover, any associated charge that might be passed on to consumers should, by law, be prohibited from being labelled as a "tax".

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 *ta4ghoti* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 *Pat Stadnyk* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe it is unfair to automatically impose an additional tax on my monthly invoice to support

a local television station. I believe the tax can and ONLY should be applied if I opt-in to have the local television station signal carried as a subscriber. As a media corporation they have a responsibility to ensure they provide quality content and compete on a fair playing field like other media companies in print, magazine, radio etc..

To simply apply for an additional fee to the CRTC and by pass the consumer based on the simply demand and supply rule has somehow been lost in the equation of who we are trying to serve. Are we serving the end user of two media companies who have lost any sense of the real question.....Let the consumer decide and give them the option to subscribe to the service

The CRTC is NOT acting in the best interests of the consumer by avoiding the question of usage. There are two groups here the broadcaster and the consumer. In which group will they act? They have no right to adjudicate an application that imposes an additional fee without giving the consumer the right to opt in or out of receiving the local tv signal. That's the real question that should be given to a subscriber.

Give me a consumer the choice rather than simply impose a taxation!

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 [charlescarlson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe we are paying more than is necessary for the kind of programming we currently receive. With the number of repeats and paid programming, out of the approx. 80 channels we now subscribe to my wife and I may watch 5 or 6 on a regular basis. If we are committed to pay an additional charge, we would discontinue a number of channels to cover any additional charges.

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 [red5](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Currently, we only watch the network portions of our local channels. I would be looking for an opt-out option, such that I would rather not pay for the local channels as an additional cost. If we are to start paying specifically for local channels, then the CRTC must regulate how the cable/satellite companies are charging us. More a la carte programming, for better pricing. I wouldn't mind paying \$0.50 per Canadian Broadcast network on top of a reasonable system fee (e.g. \$5.00), if I were able to choose my networks properly. The problem currently is that the local channels want to charge people for receiving what they may otherwise receive for free. The best way to support local TV is to support the advertisers on local TV. If the current business model is not working, then adapt, or funnel funds from the Network. Do not further gouge the consumer.

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 [daniel](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be very disappointed. Like most everyone who had commented here, I already pay a lot for my satellite subscription, so why should I pay more for an industry that, by and large, is SUPPOSED TO BE supported well enough by advertising? It's like we're bailing out the big networks (CTV, Global) running these local stations, because in essence, most of these local stations are under network ownership already! Besides, if we cable/satellite subscribers who are also taxpayers will be FORCED to pay additional for local stations, then these big networks who own local stations should stop calling themselves PRIVATELY-OWNED BROADCASTERS (of course, this does not apply to the CBC which is apparently part of the movement to "save local TV").

2. Anything that does not involve the consumers spending extra. I think that should be left to the CRTC, the networks and the BDUs to decide--just as long as it will not lead to consumers paying more.

This TV tax is a huge joke. That additional loonie we are now being charged because of that so-called LPIF is already too much--and where it REALLY goes to, we have no idea...especially since 90% of the primetime schedule alone is already "outsourced" (i.e., US shows). And all

canada-made productions are already being funded by various companies or other sources to begin with (as their end production credits always indicate), so why depend on "handouts" from viewers?

all in all, i support local television, and it should stay. but NEVER at my own expense.

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Like

 [lenpat](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We watch Local TV for 6:00PM headline news for the first half hour only. Being retired, we can hardly afford the Rogers cable costs anymore and am thinking of cutting back. Rogers does not care about recession woes of most hard hit seniors and they continue to raise rates.

We in Ontario need to have choices of channels without requiring to pay for all the basics and bundles before hand. Rogers is a MONOPOLY. DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

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 [wpggrl](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadians pay way too much for limited services and are forced by cable providers to bundle into packages that quite frankly are filled with useless channels. We are subjected to Monopolies in cable, satellite, cell phone and internet which cause inflated prices. (In manitoba Shaw is the main cable provider who also owns starchoice.. which means no choice!)

it would be beneficial to allow canadians to choose what they watch, what channels they want.

1. If I were forced to pay for the local channels, quite frankly, I would cancel my cable all together and just wait for the shows to come out on DVD or watch it on line. To pay on the upside of 55\$ to watch 7 channels is unacceptable.

The Cable companies such as Shaw, Rogers and Bell are making record profits and should allocate some of those insane profits to the local providers without penalizing the consumer or allow local channels to go free to air.

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 [rmacmurchie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

My understanding is that Broadcast TV stations are currently funded by selling advertising and they are allowed to sell more advertising time than a specialty station available only on satellite or cable and the specialty channels receive some per-subscriber payment.

I also understand that cable operators are REQUIRED to carry local stations as part of their basic service.

Given these conditions it seems obvious that one of two solutions should be regulated.

1 - Change nothing. Cable continues to be required to carry the signals but does so at no cost.

2 - Cable pays a fee per subscriber to carry the signal but is no longer required to carry the signal and customers can opt out of receiving the channel.

Option 1 is supposedly the current system; I will note that my cable company is not fully living up to its obligation here, I get analogue versions of local stations but the cable company only offers the digital version to people who pay extra for a per TV digital cable box.

This has led me to put up an antenna to receive the digital broadcast stations that Shaw wants to charge me extra for.

I will not (and should not have to) pay extra for a signal I can get over the air for free! I pay the cable company for the convenience of not having to put up and maintain an antenna and as it stands I have still had to put up an antenna because Shaw scrambles all digital channels to try to force set top boxes on all of their customers.

My TV is quite capable of receiving QAM digital cable signals, Shaw is quite capable of providing them (they have a digital advertising channel) but they don't so that they can charge more.

Shaw should be regulated to force them to carry local stations as clear QAM if they are available over the air in digital.

As to support for local stations, I don't think the cable company is to blame for their difficulties.

I live in Victoria BC, we have to TV stations based in town and I receive at least 3 over the air from Vancouver.

CHEK and CIVI are the local stations, with CIVI being the newcomer I would say that CIVI should have never been given a licence to operate in Victoria, perhaps Nanaimo but Victoria is too small a market for advertising revenue to support two in town stations in addition to the Vancouver stations we get here.

This is clearly demonstrated by the recent brief closure of CHEK. The way to support local stations is to make sure they can serve a large enough audience to generate adequate advertising revenue.

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David Musico ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am in an area where I do not get any local tv without cable or satellite services. I have watched MCTV Sudbury which is suppose to be our local station but rarely do i see anything about our area. Do i wish to pay more for local tv. The answer is NO! I have no choice but to have cable or satellite.

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pdawson ★ [1 month ago](#)

In paying our fees to the cable companies, we are already contributing to our local TV stations. It is the responsibility of the cable companies to pass a share of the monies they presently collect on to local TV stations. We have no choice about paying for local TV as these stations are included in the local cable company's basic package. This is as it should be. This appears to have been the intent of the CRTC since they first established the fees to be charged by cable companies. Now, without trying to pass these costs on to the consumer, the cable companies must pay a share of their collected fees to local stations.

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davetrautman ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to pdawson](#)

It's not immediately apparent to anyone tuning in at the end of the wire what it costs a cable operator to delivery that signal to you. If you went for a walk and followed the wire you might see much more than just the channels. It cost many times more than what a TV station costs to build a delivery system which brings a wire to every household in a city and even more to bring wires to distant households outside of a major city. It costs a lot to maintain that system and the cable operator in my city actually pays rent for using the poles (owned by the city) to attach their wire to. The bigger the system the more they pay for using the poles. And they pay for access to the utility corridors underground in newer subdivisions. They are also required by the CRTC to maintain a "level of service" which is closely monitored and for which they are grilled when it comes time to ask for an increase in rates or renewal of their operator license. These standards are very high and, from my experience in the U.S., unlike any other in reliability.

The CRTC is very aware of the cost of delivering cable TV to Canadian homes. They are also very aware of the contracts negotiated between the cable operators and the specialty channel owners and the myriad ways of asking cable customers to pay for channels. Some of these channels are owned by the cable operators too.

The cable operators pay for CPAC and they run local community access channels in every major service area. They also contribute to a production development fund (which Shaw has recently argued they want more say in who gets the money) which is acknowledged in the final credits for any Canadian production which receives it.

Local TV just doesn't get the revenue it needs to compete with all the other channels. But that's a fault of the network and not the fault of the carrier. If their investments in specialty programming are more lucrative than their investments in local TV then the market has spoken.

Local TV (as someone else here said before me) should learn to re-invent itself. I would add they should show some imagination, find a new audience, appeal to younger people, and make their content available asynchronously through downloads or internet streaming.

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A. Stephan Lanczi. ★ [1 month ago](#)

Dear Sir:

Local T.V. is important, because T.V. broadcasters mostly cover their own broadcast reach and just cover important national issues with a few major stations such as C.T.V. & C.B.C. The cable & satellite provider at least in Toronto have no competition what so ever and they at least at present mostly don't really compete with each other either. T.V. is mostly locked up by Rogers only. If you are not happy with constant rate increases I only had one choice, to disconnect after 29 years. I had an arrangement with Bell to get satellite service starting the day that I disconnected, but they required me to get approval from my building management company to place the Dish on the balcony, which they have refused since they apparently are in with Rogers. Now I'm waiting for I.P.T.V. service but it may take years to get. My area is not yet ready and I guess, needs upgrading of the lines. I know that Bell believes in as near as possible, perfect service thus it is worth waiting for I hope. Just before I have disconnected from Rogers, I have upgraded to digital service and they said that picture quality will improve, but since I only have analog T.V. presently and since I'm disabled since 1990 I will have to wait buying a new T.V. With Rogers there was another problem with their service too, the picture frequently broke up about the center of the screen and I saw a bunch of squares (pixilation). I have read all the info available at Bell's internet site and I looked at all the users comments, who were ex. Rogers customers and they commented about the same problems that I have noticed myself. The basic packages are basically useless and too expensive as it is and not much worth watching. There is too many specialty channels and they are not even packaged properly so as to make customers buy 500 channels from which they only watch a few. Like sport packages are split in two or more so if you want to watch the Maple Leafs hockey, there are 2 or more packages need to be purchased to watch all games. There should be attempts made to reduce package prices and allow complete choice of channel selection. Presently they prescribe the minimum number of packages one has to purchase. Myself presently am using a pair of amplified rabbit ears and the picture quality is poor but I can get 11 channels and it is free. I would stop the switching to digital service only and boost allowed maximum power for broadcasters to improve local T.V. reception. Allow complete free choice of channel selection for users. This probably would eliminate a lot of specialty channels since people will determine what is worth watching. This will also increase advertising revenue for all, including broadcasters and the remaining specialty channels and improve general program quality. Almost all movies have disappeared from over the air broadcasters, since the specialty channels are easily outbid by broadcasters for movies. No use having so many channels, since we all only have one pair of eyes. The proliferation of channels only reduce overall quality of programming, since material shows up on different channels on different days and times. Those who can afford it should pay for it, but it should not be forced on everybody. I can purchase high quality D.V.D. sets for less than I pay for T.V. service and watch what I like, when I want too. The Cable and Satellite companies had it too easy, for too long by not paying for signals they provide, but they were charging us for the same signals in the basic package. They should be re-regulated and they should not be allowed to charge extra for providing the

service.

Another alternative would be to have all specialty channels broadcast as well as provide signal to the signal providers. This way those that want better quality signals can pay for it and those who can't would go for the free off-air service.

Obviously the specialty channels should be weeded out because broadcast spectrum is valuable and limited.

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[davetrautman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I got thinking about two basic issues which appear to be near a consensus on this site.

First, it appears most Canadians would be happier if they could choose which of the local stations they could have on their cable menu and that they might accept paying a direct fee for having that "choice". So if cable systems can 'customize' individual subscriber feeds (like they might with Pay-per-view) then a regular monthly subscription could be changed any time a customer decided to try another "choice".

I've been defending cable operators for being required to carry local TV as this is part of the community antenna mandate from the first years of the CRTC. And I've felt for some time the local TV signals benefitted from a reliable signal delivery for which they were never charged a fee. But something occurred to me when I put the idea of distant transmission of local TV into the mix with the subscriber's option to choose.

Many here have described living in areas outside of metropolitan centers (and even some in relatively large Canadian cities) for which there is nothing "local" about what is on their basic cable service. In Canada there are many people who have moved to other provinces for work or education and would be interested in news and programs from 'back home'.

If cable operators offered a selection of various "local" stations from across their national service areas they might be able to generate subscriptions for them. I can envision a basic cable service for which each selected station is fee-based and the customer has chosen to watch one of the 'closer' stations as well as two others from another part of the country. This would allow regional stations to reach out much farther than their own geographic area.

In Alberta we have been seeing population growth from people arriving from all other parts of Canada. Wouldn't it be profitable to provide newcomers with a comfortable viewing of their former "local" TV signal for a small fee? The transmission issues are a little fuzzy with me right now in that I don't know how a cable company might 'cross-connect' so many of its carrier "head ends" to all their available service areas. But it leads me to think they could know which regional service areas might support a fee-based signal from a distant corner of the country and then offer it as a specialty channel on the basic cable package.

I could maybe watch some local TV from Newfoundland as well as from Edmonton and maybe if I had family in Halifax I would subscribe to that as well. I might be more compelling content than seeing five or six of my own Local TV offerings.

I suppose I'm advocating for cable operators to allow any major city a chance to be a "superstation" within the Canadian service areas they have. And who knows what program opportunities might emerge if a station in Quebec gained a faithful following of subscribers from across the entire country.

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[peterclements](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am disgusted that the CRTC has agreed to a local programming fund. You cannot expect intelligent people to believe that local TV stations are losing money.

Instead the CRTC should regulate TV more.

Limit the amount of advertising during programming. At the moment there are commercials approx every ten minutes. Far too much. It should be limited to three commercial segments during programming. The practice of repeating the same advert during the same commercial

section should cease.

I really object to paying more for an essentially poor quality tv service. New programming is limited and largely re-runs dominate. Some Tv channels have been re-running the same series for years.

Bell is to increase its fees for 2010. This is a disgrace and should be firmly denied by the CRTC. If anything tv costs should be coming down.

Why do I pay a digital service fee? Don't I pay for digital tv when I sign up for satellite anyway? Why then am I paying for this twice?

The CRTC seems to be on the side of cable/satellite companies and broadcasters. About time the Canadian people saw them come out fighting for them for a change.

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 [morvana](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

In the last year Shaw cable has put up my cable rate twice. Once for \$30 more a month and now recently \$12 more a month. This is just for classic cable. If we are going to be charge taxes as well by the government it will put cable TV completely out of reach for me and I will have to cancel it.

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Like

 [J Mctaggart](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We live in a rural area & the closest "local" station is over 60km away. They don't carry anything that we're interested in. We don't think we should have to pay extra for it as it was provided as part of the basic Express-Vu package we subscribed to. If they need to be funded further then have them removed from the basic package and sold as a subscription service to those who want them & leave the rest of us alone. The cost of satellite is too high now.

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Like

 [darrenb](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The problem with an increase in cable or satellite services to support local television is the price for these services is already on a steady increase. Further we are limited by cable and satellite bundles which is a bit of a rip off.

If the CRTC approves increases to support local television then they should open the market to North American services to allow for more competition. Most people appear to watch US programs anyways.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Tyler Michaloski](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I find this tax disgusting, CTV, GLOBAL ECT and all so called "local" channels have bought more and more unlocal programming rather than come up with good quality, popular canadian programming, the last popular canadian show we had was trailer park boys and that was broadcasted by showcase, it goes to show the efforts made by our local companies.

Shaw on the other hand, does actual LOCAL broadcasting in cities and towns throughout british columbia. Public tv matters is also a bigger joke, they even treat the other side we are not listening according to their commercials! but it is their corporate ignorance that is the problem, they have not created a proper business model in which to survive and the only way for them to go is out, any support for a tv tax would be both a burden on the government of british columbia and for its citizens.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Dave](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable company already charges me for the local tv in my package price.

They should pay the local tv for what they are selling me without raising my price.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Maggie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I will cancel cable - I am already paying for local tv as part of basic package. Unless my cable company offers more in basic package, I will not pay anymore.
2. Increase funding for quality local programming.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bas* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I subscribe to cable for something above and beyond regular free airwave tv. I pay more than enough already. There's a movement now that's trying to get cable subscribers to improve airwave tv, I'm sure non subscribers like that. I worked in the steel industry for 23 years until non feasibility put me out of work. We already have the cbc to pay for and they won't even give us local tv here in Sydney. What will the broadcasting industry do with the free money? buy more episodes of family guy? do you think they will give up airing info commercials? they get paid for those, will they buy more canadian programming? will we watch? Let's let the free market decide where tv goes, we have the cbc to prop up programming we feel is essential, if they won't do it why should anyone else?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Brett* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not subscribe to local TV if I had to pay for it. Also, I think that we should stop being charged by the cable companies for the channels that they get for free. I could hook back up to my antenna and get the local channels that way if I ever wanted to watch them.

But I do believe the local TV stations should be able to charge the cable companies since the cable companies are charging us for them. The consumer should not have to pay any extra if the local TV stations do get to charge the cable companies.

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Like

 *Brittany* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local television is important, and any smart cable company would eat the cost of broadcasting their signals. This is NOT a cost that should be passed onto the consumer. The cable companies that don't choose to continue broadcasting local television (because they don't want to eat the cost, or don't want to force their consumers to eat the cost) will lose big time.

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Like

 *King_of_Kamloops* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable pays for U.S. channels, they should pay for Canadian as well. But cable companies should not pass those costs (which they refer to as a tax) on to cable subscribers. They already make big profits. The Local Programming Improvement Fund must be sustained to keep the local station in Kamloops going.

I'm sure the situation is quite different in large cities that enjoy digital broadcasts.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *markchristie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the whole system needs a rethink. I should not be forced to pay for channels that I do not want. I find that the current cable charges through Rogers Communications to be higher

then would be the case in a more competitive situation. For home phone, cable and high speed internet the fee is almost \$190.00. When I signed a contract less than 2 years ago it was \$144.00. The increases are small but often accompanied by a letter "explaining" the new "fee". Lots of nickles and dimes later my costs of service is up 30% in 2 years. They are charging too much and as monopoly protected by you they seem to be able to charge whatever they want. \$2200.00 per year for phone/cable is too much but there is no choice if you want or need the service. If the consumer had more choice in providers and in what services they wanted then the competition would make cable less onerous on the consumer.

As to local television I care less and less. I am not in Toronto where most all of the channels do their work, broadcast from and make their shows. Ottawa has one relevant local english newscast at 6pm on CTV whereas a few years back we had 4. CTV no longer makes shows in Ottawa. Global television should lose their station here. At 6pm I get to see the traffic and weather in Toronto? Their commitment to my market has been unacceptable to me for many years. I do not watch this channel ever and am not alone. I would not be willing to pay a penny extra for Toronto channels marquerading as local and hogging a lower channel. Any station like the old CTV which used to make shows locally and contribute to the culture of my region is worthy of support but the current so called local stations are not worth an extra dime out of my pocket.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *iandeering* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Most of the People under 30 do not get local information from local tv stations. If we were going to give the tv stations money??? How much of the station do we now own as Canadians.

Sounds like Tv stations want the government as a partner

do not give our money away for nothing
if the tv taxes passes I will cut my cable off
maybe tv stations should be looking into new revenue areas.
Whats next bailing out the newspapers cause they can't make any money.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Brent* ★ [1 month ago](#)

No, everything has gone up in price, cost of living is higher, my bill is high enough already and I don't even watch that much TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *glorianovak* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not have access to good high speed internet as Shaw Cable (the only game in town here) has always refused to provide cable service to myself and my fifteen or so neighbours who live on the road (sandwiched between serviced roads only a kilometre away). Our telephone service is on old copper wires far from a telephone switching hub. My satellite service does not offer any Internet at all, with no sign of it in the future. Yes, we live in the country on Vancouver Island. This means internet viewing, should I wish it (which I don't) is not a viable option for me. I prefer my television viewing on the television, not on the internet or my telephone.

I hate to think that some of Canada will be penalized by the majority who live in urban settings and have access to all the wonders of the newest communications technology. I also hate to think that only those with enough money to pay for all this service will be the ones who are rewarded (if that is the right word) with access to it. I think that my current \$65 per month for satellite television (not the total package either as that would be close to \$100 per month) is a lot of money and should cover the provider's costs for ALL channels, not just the speciality ones.

I know that I have to subsidize those channels that are not as popular through my package payment. I assumed that local programming was included in my basic package price and have been actually shaken to learn that has not been the case ever. Of course if I had to pay more

to have local television and had no choice in the matter I would do so. I wouldn't be happy about it, especially since I am already unhappy being forced to take bundles of channels when I choose Lifestyles or More Movies or whatever. Why I can't build my own packages for the same price is beyond me.

I would do my best to get my old antenna working properly but how long is analog going to last.

Local television is important to me as it brings a local perspective to my news and entertainment. International news with local commentary means that I can have thoughtful analysis of what this all means to Canada and to my part of Canada. Local news keeps me up-to-date with what is happening in my own community that might not make either provincial or national or certainly international headlines.

I also find local television, like local newspapers, very useful for getting information about local events, local government and local businesses. I watch local gardening programs, local cooking shows, local sports events, local entertainment shows, local interview programs, local morning programs with local weather, news and traffic. This is all brought to me without my having to find it on the internet.

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Like



Barry D ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I get charged anymore, I will be going back to basic cable.

The cables companies are two biting us to death now, the cable bill seems to always be increasing.

I do not watch the vast majority of channels ii get, so why can' I just pay for the ones I want. Canadian TV should not be forced on us, I only watch it if I get really hard up.

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Like



James F ★ [1 month ago](#)

No new fees or taxes please!

As far as I can figure it, citizens\consumers are being asked to subsidize unprofitable businesses. Being in business is not a right. Being in the broadcasting business is not a right either. Also, being being a citizen\consumer, it is NOT my responsibility to pay for television I do not watch. If you can't make it in the business you choose, you do not deserve to continue in that business. You can't simply ask for more money from new areas if you are not providing a new service!

As I see it, the television broadcasters are getting their signals carried much further than their current transmitting capability. I think they are actually getting a free ride on cable infrastructure. The broadcasters are actually getting their advertising broadcast much further and potentially getting more money, so why are consumers being asked to pay more for no input into how this money will be spent?

Remember the maxim, the buyer always knows best. Therefore, Canadians will watch and support the television they want. They don't wish to be told what they "should" watch, or pay some guilt Canadian content tax if that content does not interest us.

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Like



Davey ★ [1 month ago](#)

to add additional fees to our cable bills would be considered unacceptable on the basis that paying more for service is unsustainable. I agree with o\ther posts sand think teh cable companies shopuld share a piece of eh basis cable fees asn stop passing on this to teh consumer. OR open up the cable competition so that Rogers has to be proactive.

[Flag](#)

Like



wickhamj ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is not important to me. If I am forced to pay for this I will have to cancel some of the services I currently make a choice to pay for.
2. Have local TV as an option outside of the basic package so that those who wishes to have it let them pay. It would be a choice for individuals to make just like paying for speciality channels.

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jamesf1 ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



tysonhardiman ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Honestly I don't watch that much local television. Although there have been some great Canadian tv shows, I find that most of the content is too artsy, hokey or just plain boring to keep my interest. I guess I'm at an age where I don't appreciate the Littlest Hobo anymore, and I'm not old enough to watch WW2 documentaries all day. I don't care about local sports, and I get all the local news I want via internet and the local free papers. Pretty much everything we watch is on American channels, and I can't get those with rabbit ears. So no, I wouldn't pay extra for local programming. In fact I'm pretty upset that I have to pay \$50/month for basic cable, and an extra \$10 to get the "free" HD channels!!

2. My opinion is that they need to have good content to survive. We should get rid of those damn packages, charge for ALL channels and allow the consumer to pick only the channels they want. Let the strongest survive! Why do I have to pay for hundreds of channels when I only watch around 10 of them?

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Like



Parker Gallant ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be against paying any additional fees. In my view the broadcasters are caught between a rock and a hard place in that they must upgrade to digital from analog at considerable cost but, they knew that this was coming and should have bitten the bullet earlier and started doing so when their advertising revenue was higher. Now, because we are in a recession and their revenue has shrunk they are asking for the viewers to pay! We are already paying more than enough and should not be penalized further

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jim54* ★ 1 month ago

My television bill is already higher than any other monthly bill, except for rent/mortgage. My viewing time continues to decrease as most TV programming does not interest me. I am becoming increasingly frustrated with the high cable costs and low quality of programming. Of all the channels available, both commercial network and cable, I only watch about six with any regular frequency, yet I have to pay for all that are included in the package. I would prefer to pay only for those channels that I am interested in watching.

Also, there are a number of trends that further anger me to the point where I am seriously considering cancelling my cable TV service entirely:

- 1) The percentage of commercial time as compared to the actual program time is increasing. There is no sensitivity as to when in a given program commercials are inserted; the emotional connection with the program contents is abruptly terminated.
- 2) The display of the station logo in the lower right corner of the screen. I know what channel it is; I selected it!
- 3) The insertion of pop-ups during a program advising of upcoming shows is totally insulting and disruptive.

In short, I do not feel that I am getting good value for my money. Any additional fees on top of what I already pay may be the straw that broke the camel's back. Networks and cable companies beware. You will receive LESS revenue if you create an environment where the consumers cancel their subscriptions and turn you off!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John* ★ 1 month ago

I truly believe in open competition. I live in an area serviced by four major TV stations plus cable. The TV stations all broadcast the same local and some international news, one after the other ad nauseam. They also spend many \$'s advertising their 'presenters' and services until one feels like turning the TV off. Let competition rule the survival of the fittest, not legislate subsidies for companies who cannot run a business in the environment they exist in.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Kitchener cable subscriber* ★ 1 month ago

Rogers Cable in Kitchener-Waterloo provides more local TV than the network. The network provides some news, weather and sports scores but this is already available on the internet, newspaper, etc. Not willing to pay more to anyone for local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *J. Holmes* ★ 1 month ago

If I did not have cable at my location I would receive by antenna and would only receive one or two stations. I am not in favor of any support to stations since they do not try to reduce their costs. And cable makes them get a larger area for their signals and should help them get their own AD revenue. No measures should be taken to support our only local Channel in Barrie A channel.

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Like

 *exsailor55* ★ 1 month ago

I agree consumers should not be paying more for local news and content. I agree that more people should take a stand and cancel their service. Local advertisers should be wailing in on this subject.

My taxes pay for CBC, why?

Cable prices are way too high and they are like the liberals come up with new ideas to gouge the consumer. What about those on fixed income with higher fees and with HST coming in

prices for some will just too much to bear. The only entertainment media will have to be cut. So should the extra surcharge be cut.

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Like

 [jaholmes](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like

 [Edwin Stephens](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Paying more for television isn't an option for many in this economy. Why should we pay more for programs we don't watch? The local news is all I watch from the local station and then only because of the local bus strike.

Reruns of US programs doesn't interest me and the rare local program doesn't either. I see the importance of local and regional news, entertainment and sports I just don't see anyone providing it.

To save local TV increase competition in service providers and local TV stations. We only really have two options here for service providers and neither are affordable. The local stations are owned by the service providers directly or indirectly. Stop allowing service providers to have TV stations unless there are several competitors.

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Like

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Like

 [M Lawrence](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local programming is beneficial to the society that I choose to live in. The cable companies should be forced to pay these local stations a small fee for each subscriber they have. The cable companies should NOT increase our current rates to cover this payment. They need to restructure their payment practices to cover the funding requirement for local programming. It is essential that local programming be available to all Canadians. It is part of our culture.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Lisa](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would never pay for my local Kamloops station as they offer nothing relevant on my area

anyway aside from a terrible news/sports program. All of the other programming is borrowed from US networks, and is mindnumbingly bad. It's not even bad Canadian programming!
Also, in my city, we no longer are offered CBC unless we subscribe to cable which, if I'm not mistaken, should reach all Canadians free of charge?

[Flag](#)

Like

 [johntelford](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The closest "local" TV we have is Hamilton (CHCH) which focuses on Hamilton/Halton and TO, not the Niagara Region. Therefore, having no local TV, I guess I won't have to pay anything extra if the CRTC approves increased fees for this reason.
Additionally, the local channels already receive extra "funding" from advertisers by being able to show a much larger potential audience as a result of being carried on cable/satellite.
If local stations are to cost more, for those who have a local station, then the creation of a separate package with subscription fees for those who wish to subscribe seems appropriate. As well a stripped down basic package of a limited offering of Canadian-only channels seems appropriate to serve the demand the over-the-air channels believe they create.

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Like

 [AnthonyG_mtl](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay too much for satellite and cable; so-called "local stations" should find other ways to increase revenue. You run a business, if it's more money you want...adapt, don't come running to Canadians/Government for money. I think this is pathetic and I'm disappointed the CRTC let this drag out so long... instead of the stations airing pro tv-tax advertisements they could have been making money with real advertisements.

...if we end up having to pay this tax; local stations should become optional and Satellite/Cable companies should equip their receivers with "bunny ear" antennas so we can pick up local stations they way they're meant to be, free.

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Like

 [rj](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is not worth paying extra for, especially in smaller centres. YOU have two or three stations reporting the same damn news all day or even week long. Also, who needs local Global or CTV to watch their favourite shows they are broadcast at earlier times on the American Channels (with Timeshifting of course)

Finally, If local canadian TV was important then CBC wouldn't be going broke every few years with their great canadian show line up of Just for laughs, Little mosque on the prairie, etc. etc.

We need good candian content and the choice of wether or not to pay for it, ie supply and demand jsut like our friends in the states do it

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Like

 [guest](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not care about local TV. If it is economically not viable then let it die. I would support government subsidy for remote communities, because commercial tv would not be viable there

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Like

 [David L](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The television stations and cable/satellite companies need to realize that they both NEED each other. Without cable or satellite, the tv stations would not reach as many viewers. Without the tv stations, the cable companies would not have as many subscribers.

Should the cable and satellite companies have to pay the broadcast stations for their signals? NO! The cable and satellite companies have continual monthly expenses in maintaining their communications networks, and the broadcast stations should be thankful for all of the free bandwidth they are getting.

Local News is important to me. A-Channel London does not air much "local" content other than the 6PM and 11PM news. Most of the evening lineup is programming that the American networks are showing, and A-Channel has paid a LOT of money to air those same shows that I could watch by changing the channel.

1 - If asked to pay an additional \$10/month to support the TV stations, I would look at the real possibility of cancelling my Bell TV subscription and going with an over-the-air antenna and legal free-to-air system to get the American shows direct from the USA via satellite.

2 - What measures can be taken to support local television? The Broadcasters can stop spending the huge amounts of money buying US programs that we could watch directly from the US source. More shows like CBC's Marketplace, CTV's W5 etc could use that funding instead to show items of importance to Canadians, instead of spendign the big dollars on US pop culture.

[Flag](#)

Like



AnthonyG_mtl ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local stations are only good for local news... which I can hear on AM radio (cost: \$0)

[Flag](#)

Like



Michael Ripley ★ [1 month ago](#)

I may be wrong but one of the conditions of getting a licence to broadcast in Canada is that you offer local and Canadian content? Is that not a prerequisite? The broadcasters have admitted, even if they get the funding they will not put it back into local TV. Pathetic. They should be forced to air well produced Canadian stories with Canadian talent IN PRIME TIME. People will watch good Canadian shows (Flashpoint, Being Erica, Corner Gas etc.). The challenge for the broadcasters is to commit to a course and see it through. They can afford it.

If not, they should stop pretending to be anything but gatekeepers for American media.

[Flag](#)

Like



David G ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the cable or satellite providers should pay for the local TV stations signal. They are charging Canadians to view these channels, so in turn they should have to pay for that signal.

If the cable or satellite providers pass any signal charges over to myself, I will cancel my service.

[Flag](#)

Like



JK ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel as an average canadian I am already overtaxed let alone another fee to pay for local programming. I do not believe the TV stations are in dire need of more funding. In this day and age of going through a recession another increase on someone's cable bill or satelite of around \$10.00 a month is roughly an increase of 10 to 20 percent depending on the programming taken. Add up the other increases of everday bills with the new hst coming and hydro, gas, phone, insurance, car, mortgages, etc. and it adds up to at least a 30% increase. I am sure the average Canadian did not get a 30% raise this year or any year. Enough is Enough.

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Like

 [Ron](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

For years and years, cable and then satellite companies have been required by the Government of Canada to carry local broadcasters for free. If anything, the cable and satellite companies should be charging the broadcasters to carry their product!

Now, partly because of inadequate management and partly because the locals charge for advertisements is too costly they are finding that revenues are falling. I, personally have no sympathy for the local stations. Well over 85% of the programs we watch are not produced by local nor national broadcasters. We have never liked the locals "cutting out" part of the U.S. program in order to add more advertising time. Obviously, this practice has not been of benefit to the locals!

If all the local and national broadcasters closed shop I, personally, would not be upset. BUT, we need to be allowed to obtain television services that WE want, not what the Government wants us to watch. Why not have all the local and national broadcasters send their signals to satellites and have the cable and satellite companies offer everything that is available. LET THE VIEWS DECIDE.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [jgmack](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Ron](#)

I agree with your comments completely. The local networks should be thankful that cable and satellite companies are carrying their networks. Otherwise they would have smaller viewer audiences, which means less exposure of their commercials. If Canadian networks cannot support themselves through advertising then they shouldn't be in the business.

Taxpayers have paid billions to support CBC and from what have read in this website, most people can live without it. If I could pick my own channels CBC and CTV wouldn't be on my list. I will definitely make some changes to my cable service if this fee goes through. Cable and satellite companies need to drop CTV, CBC and Global if this fee goes through but the CRTC probably wouldn't let them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Jerome S.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I strongly believe that local TV stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs. Cable and satellite companies are essentially "stealing" the hard work of other, refusing to compensate them and making huge profits from the "stolen" programming. Can a movie theatre play movies without paying the production companies? No. So why can cable and satellite companies play TV shows without paying the production companies? I don't believe that the cable and satellite companies should be allowed to pass on these additional costs to consumers.

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Like

 [deniseL](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

What is most upsetting is how Canadian cable companies can manipulate prices based on region and NOT on content. I live in Sault Ste Marie and Shaw our only cable provider offers less content than Thunder Bay or Southern Ontario but higher prices. Even our On Demand service offers less selection and NO free content unlike Rogers in Toronto. Years ago we lost our local station when it was sold to Sudbury. Then we lost local news. Our only source for local news was a Michigan station that happily reported our city. Suddenly Shaw changed the feed to a Detroit station saying it was a better signal. When pushed I was told the change was due to complains on loss of news viewership by MCTV. I would switch to satellite but where I live has reception issues.

So why should I support a NON Local station by paying an additional \$10 when MCTV REFUSES to provide adequate news coverage to our community????

[Flag](#)

Like

 *norm* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Essentially, we here in Kelowna have been without local coverage since global took over. Forget any tax.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Rob* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I recall that years ago, local stations broadcast over the air and made their profit from advertising sponsors.

I absolutely fail to see how ANYONE should be allowed to use (Steal) their signal without paying for it.

The problem we Canadians have is a lack of competition in the cable TV business. But I don't have the knowledge to suggest how to deal with that issue.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Carol L* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable bills are already expensive, seem to always be nicked and dimed over everything. I would not pay extra therefore the cable company would like cut my access.

That would be a shame as I do actually watch 2 different local channels - London and Kitchener would miss both if it would cost more to watch.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *kenstvital* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would like suggest a measure the CRTC could adopt to support local TV, provided carriage of local channels continue to be mandatory. If/when CKY and CKND (local TV stations in Winnipeg) cut over to HD, or at least digital, they should be available on Shaw and MTS "in the clear". By this, I mean I can hook a cable up to my HD capable TV without having to buy or rent an expensive terminal from the cable co. This would also allow consumers to use TiVO or a computer to watch TV.

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[Like](#)

 *JohnW* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't see why I should pay anything. Rogers picks up the local broadcast, delivers it over a wider geographic area and at a better video quality. Perhaps local TV should be paying Rogers to carry their signals?

The local tv stations and the broadcasters have jumped into the digital word and diluted the advertising pool available for local stations. How are they doing on their total add revenue from all of their "broadcast" efforts - local and digital. Perhaps they have structured themselves so the local tv stations take the economic hit of their business decisions.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Michael A Cappa sr.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The comment that the tv networks send their signals over the airwaves for free, so the redistribution of the cable companies of this free signal down their cable lines to consumers is just the distribution of that original tv signal in a different form.

However, that is the precisely the argument, the networks don't charge consumers for the free signal, yet the cable companies are charging consumers for a signal that was intended to be free to begin with. So then, if the signal was intended to be given to the consumer for free and it is not being given free, then the networks have a legitimate argument.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*albertrobinson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. in a compedative society only the best stations survive, in vancouver we have over 6 local stations competing for the same advertising dollar, why shoud the public be asked to subsidise a weak company.
2. cable and sattillite companies actually increase the viewing audience for local tv stations
3. if we are forced to subsidise these weak stations will they be back next year for a bigger bite of the apple

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Will* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Additional carriage fees for local TV may be just the push I need to finally cancel my cable subscription. Television is an increasingly irrelevant media whose best products are all available through other, more convenient and flexible means. About the only actual local programming I recall seeing on TV in some time is local news, and there are better sources for that as well.

2. Television is an inefficient medium for reaching niche audiences; programming that is targeted towards small communities is better distributed online. Money to support locally-relevant content would be better spent enabling this model and helping to increase the penetration and speed of Internet access in Canadian households.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Clement J Walsh* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are paying too much now for the programing we are getting. I have the rogers vip package and there are 200 or moor channels but the same program is on 5 or 6 channels. this don't make any sense to me. why would I need the same program on 5 channels??? The programming is garbage. I will cancel my cable if there is another price hike.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*rad64* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be disappointed in any fee increases. Local TV only amounts to "Local News". Local news can be obtained via the newspaper or online.

I may watch the local news hour at 6pm a few times a week, but with local news easily available on the internet, I wouldn't shed a tear without local tv.

If Cable, Phone and Satellite providers are forced to pay to carry local tv broadcasts, consumers should be able to opt out.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*C.J.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should we have to pay for local TV when those without cable would still get it for free over the air? We already pay enough for cable and satellite services and who says we even want local TV in the first place.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Ross* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I see no reason to pay additional fees for supporting local TV. In Ottawa, we really don't have

local TV - our stations are either retransmitters of Toronto stations, or are run from Toronto (CJOH and CBC). So additional charges would really be funding Toronto operations. We are down to two local newscasts, thanks to CTV canceling local news on A Channel, and only one local newscast on Sunday. It's getting to the point where the local newspaper, with its online abilities, is becoming a better source of local news.

I would suggest that should the CRTC ignore consumer wishes and move forward with fees for carriage, that they then should remove the obligation of the consumer to be required to subscribe to that station. If we must pay for every station with a user fee, we the user should be able to determine the channels we wish to receive, no matter their origin.

I am not convinced the current situation is our fault, and suspect these businesses would happily pocket profits derived from the fee for carriage. If they had not participated in imprudent bidding wars for programming, perhaps they would still be profitable.

If stations want to be successful locally, they will need to start providing local content that is not available anywhere else. Otherwise, what's the point?

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 [jimhazzard](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be extremely annoyed if asked to pay more for local TV on top of the exorbitant fees Rogers now charges.

I believe the broadcasters should be allowed to negotiate a fee with the cable companies, however, if the cable companies are allowed to pass on any new fees to consumers, they should then be forced to substantially increase the number of channels provided in their basic package.

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 [mfeldstein](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television stations should operate on sound business models. I am not prepared to pay any more than I am paying now. In fact I think that I am paying too much now and I hope that competition in the cable TV sector will bring costs down.

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 [Jim C](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If asked to pay more, I would look for alternate suppliers.

There are content developers and there are content distributors. Content can be distributed over the air (local TV stations), via cable, via satellite, via phone line, via the internet. Content developers should be compensated the same, regardless of the distribution method, and let all distributors compete under the same rules. Content distributors should not be forced to carry any particular program content. Perhaps content distributors should be able to directly sell advertising and not be forced to carry the advertising of the local TV stations? Local TV stations are both content developers (local news and programming) and content distributors (over the air) - much of their programming which they pass on to other program distributors they did not develop, so they deserve no revenue from it.

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 [Amy_Ottawa](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

For us, local TV is a nice to have, but paying even a penny more to get that service just isn't going to happen. I personally think the costs to the consumer are plenty high as it stands; the reality is I already pay for channels I don't want because they're included "in the package". If the big guys really want to talk about charging for eg local TV, then I think the new way to do things is to let the consumer select the channels we want and pay for those; not get stuck paying for "packages" with a whole lot we don't want. That way, if I want local TV, I can get local TV and if I don't want it, I'm not getting charged for it.... oh, but wait, I forgot, this would chew

into their profits... can't have that, so keep sticking it to the little guy!

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 *Amy_Ottawa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 *Bob* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think cable companies ought to pay to broadcast anyone's programming. As far as paying more for cable , a tax to watch local programming, not a chance. I'm looking at dumping cable as it is. They want too much for little return.

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 *lcharbon* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would react badly. Why? Do you people not know how much we are already paying for cable television and internet service in this country? And susan D is quite right we have you, CRTC, to thank for this gouging.

2. Dismantle the CRTC and give the money to local television.

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 *Robert H Sparling* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have lived in three small Ontario communities in the last 30 years and there was and is practically no local TV coverage except that provided by cable companies allocating a channel for municipal council meetings, announcements and special events. I currently live near Belleville where very limited local news and sports coverage is provided by CKWS - typically one or two items in a one hour newscast. We rely on local radio for current news. It would be grossly unfair to charge me and millions of other Canadians who live in rural areas and smaller communities a fee for local TV service.

I find the TV networks business logic difficult to follow. It seems to me that the cable and satellite companies are distributing advertising free that TV networks get paid for. How much of that advertising revenue are they passing on to the local TV stations.

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Abel Gonzales ★ [1 month ago](#)

Payment to local tv will only add burden to the already depleted income of the consuming public. Besides, they already have their sponsors and advertisements.

Why should I pay more when I don't see any added service to my television broadcasting? Why should I pay for other companies advertising?

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Brian N M ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that cable and satellite over charge consumers and that they are operating as a cartel (and same goes for them when it comes to telephony as well since we are talking of the same people here). Its sad that poeple pay \$30-45 for local channels in the basic cable and satellite packages , and yet cable and satellite dont share any of that money with local stations. its a travesty!! they should be made to pay for local just like they pay for US stations , and they must be barred from passing on the cost to customers. these guys are making billions on the backs of suffering local stations.

As for me personally I use an antenna and make donations to my local channels, coz I have had it paying high prices for very poor service.

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nowoolinis ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Brian N M](#)

Here in Victoria the cable company actually provides local programming that actually is local, not hollywood and syndicates along with corporate american advertising hiding behind the guise of "local"

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Rick ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies are worse than oil companies and banks for stickin' it to the consumer and making ridiculous amounts of money doing it. We had our local programming taken away, except for evening news, a short while ago and CBC, which I've been able to get anywhere in Canada until the last winter Olympics, is gone now too. I'm on an antenna system as cable is mostly American, and they can keep their Jerry Springers. With only two broadcasting systems here and both being GlobalTV, I wonder WTF is going on. Apparently CBC is on UHF and can only be picked up if you're within 5 miles of the local broadcasting antenna. Way to go Canada!! And we're all paying for that one.

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bahadork ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable providers like Rogers have always tried to manipulate their customers. There is no such thing as a TV Tax. Rogers just doesn't want to pay local TV a fair amount to keep them a float. By using the word TAX they're trying to manipulate the public into thinking that local tv created the tax. They just want more money and they'll try anything to get it and look good. Shame on Rogers, and all the other companies who have supported their campaign.

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nowoolinis ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to bahadork](#)

It's not the cable companies asking for the money!!

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[Brian Fredericks](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already pay for local TV, My provider required me to subscribe to "the Locals" before they would sell me any other channels. Now the cable/satelite provides are trying to call "the Locals" an access fee, If thats what it is, That's how it should have been presented, not as subscribing to "the Locals" so again, We are already paying for local TV - not even sure why we are discussing this.

2. Brodacasters need to re-think how they do local TV. They put all their effort into Local News. Local News is THE most expensive local programming to produce. It requires tons of equipment and staff! Plus only about 15-20 minutes of a 60 minute show is actually local, the rest is syndicated National and world reports, the same thing on every channel! So in the CTV/A case, let the local stations do a half hour on local news/weather/sports, then produce one National/world newscast that runs on all channels(may need some regulatory changes in order to do this). After all we all trust Lloyd!
This could save the local stations money plus with money from the LPIF or from fee for carriage, they could get back to producing, local kids shows, local talk shows, local events(ie parades etc.) things of interest to the local communities. There is so much more happening in our communities other than car crashes and fires!

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[djla](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's time we get a better value for the high fees right now. No more adding of new fees and more control of what we pay for. The cable companies are taking us for a ride

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[charlyne](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would also cancel my cable service. The competition has been taken away, with Rogers in the East and Shaw in the west, creating a monopoly with high prices to the consumer. To add to the already too high prices because local TV has lost ad revenue is unfair, and gouging to the consumer.

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[Steve Evans](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel the service, unless I had the choice to get specialty channels only. Public broadcasters have had the use of public airwaves for over 60 years, and have squandered that benefit. I have zero sympathy for them

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[patrickhunt](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Steve Evans](#)

In those 60 years did you ever say hey, this would make your channel better?

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[mcpish](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I had to pay for local TV, I would rather have a model similar to the British system. Introduce a yearly licence fee that goes directly to a high-quality public service broadcaster with no advertising, (ie. like the BBC).

However if it's to go to local private broadcasters, forget it.

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 *john* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay any more. I enjoy watching TV. But there was a time when the advertisers made the broadcasters profitable. Now that there is another middleman, we are now paying for the right to watch those advertisers. How long will it be before there is another layer to the pyramid? Just look at what is happening to phone service. Texting is the biggest scam going right now. Big Money going to Big Business! Bottom line..... we need another day of protest. I say December 25th we shut off the TV, shut off the phone and shut off the computer. Enjoy the people you are with. Enjoy your freedom.

[Flag](#) *patrickhunt* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to john](#)

And be damned if there is an attack and you never know anything about it, who cares if a loved one who is not there dies cause you didn't know you could have saved them. Go ahead and shut your power off to your house and live like its the 1800's again.

[Flag](#) *JamesPickard* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not look favourably upon having to pay more for what I am receiving already. The cable and satellite companies have based their profit/loss numbers on the staus quo, which was ill conceived from day one. If cable/satellite companies have to charge a writedown to their shareholders, so be it. They have ridden the gravy train long enough. Support for local television companies should be ratings generated. In other words - the amount that advertisers pay for the popularity (or lack thereof) of a broadcast is based on the numbers. However, in order to have a level playing field, the same tax advantages should be allowed in canada as they are allowed for the industry in the USA.

[Flag](#) *Mamdouh* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay any extra for local TV , as a bussiness owner I have manged to adapt to market struggles in the last few years and have succeded in attracting more clients and grow my bussiness , if that the case with a small bussiness like mine , I am sure large firms as CBC can do more than that , I refuse to pay any extra fees on a basic cable channel , and if I have to I will cancel my subscription and install an internet cable TV way cheaper

[Flag](#) *nowoolinis* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Define local TV. A) Is it a channel with hollywood movies and programs created by american sources with advertising consuming 25%+ of your viewing time and some local news mixed in with international news for a few hours a day, or B) a dedicated channel with 100% programming created locally and with advertising dedicated to local businesses and organizations?

The broadcasters want you to believe what they provide is B) but what they actually provide is A). Here in Victoria, the only place i get B) is when i tune to Shaw's community programming.

I don't believe for a minute that what the broadcasters provide can be classified as local in its current state and i will not pay additional fees for it as it currently is provided. If they break out the channels and offer them as a choice then i will weight them on their merits and subscibe if i deem them suitable. Having the CRTC dictate that i must pay for these channels under the guise of "Local Programming" equates to Government imposed fees to support private corporations and the shareholders that reap the profits.

If local needs to survive then reduce the # of carriers. One dedicated local provider offering the local news and opportunity for local organizations to find a place to promote and showcase their passions is more than enough for each community. Yes, that is the solution, and is available already for free through your cable provider.

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 *stanmercer* ★ 1 month ago

I would cancel my cable service right away if that happens, we pay enough taxes in this country and we don't need this tv tax.

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 *rational response* ★ 1 month ago

IN RETURN FOR THEIR \$ 10 PER MONTH 'TAX' UPON POTENTIAL VIEWERS- LEVIED THROUGH CABLE/SATELLITE COMPANIES- TV BROADCASTERS OUGHT TO HAVE TO AGREE TO STOP BROADCASTING ADVERTISEMENTS!!!

I would be angry and would attempt to find alternative methods of TV programme delivery to my family home.

Advertisement-driven TV broadcasters/TV station companies, such as local TV channels here in greater Vancouver, have no ethical argument to demand that viewers pay what would be tantamount to the UK's BBC license fee, 'for the privilege' of being able to receive their (predominantly foreign) programmes through cable/satellite...

The annual BBC license fee is about 12 pounds or 20 Canadian dollars per month in the UK...

Unlike almost all local TV channels in BC and across Canada, the BBC has no advertisements on its nearly 1 dozen TV channels- and no advertisements on its radio and (accessed in the UK) Internet services- and despite this, the BBC offers what is widely acknowledged as excellent quality, extensive (local and international) TV/Radio/Internet delivered news, business, entertainment and sports programming... AND in addition to the advertisement-free BBC,

the UK has advertisement-driven TV, such as Rupert Murdoch's 'SKY TV' that is doing fine...

In BC and across Canada, local TV broadcasters/TV station companies can charge higher prices for broadcasting advertisements if the respective local TV channel is carried over cable or satellite because more people will potentially view the advertisement than if the local TV channel was only available 'over-the-airwaves'...

Rather than attempting to become, in effect, 'state-subsidized' broadcasters- by getting the state (CRTC) to force people living in BC or other provinces to pay a fee for access to their broadcasts (through cable/satellite) AND at the same time saturating their programmes with advertisements- TV broadcasters ought to have to choose:

Convert their business model to a no-advertisement-type, and operate as BBC-like broadcasters, IE, without advertisements- and receive a state subsidy, perhaps levied by cable/satellite companies??- or continue operating as advertisement-driven broadcasters, without any fees paid to them from the cable/satellite companies- and if particular broadcasters can not accrue sufficient revenue from advertisements to stay in business- then go out of business!!!

There are so many dozens of TV channels available to viewers via cable, satellite and Internet that it is unrealistic for all to be able survive except by diluting even more what is all too often crappy quality programming inter-spliced with never ending inane advertisements...

Does a Vancouver/Victoria demographic and economic region need more than 1 and a 1/2 dozen local TV channels? NO!!

Is it realistic to expect what is nearly 18 separate (based locally) 'local' TV channels* to be

available- and directly subsidized by the tax-payer/cable/satellite customer in a region the size of a Vancouver/Victoria, Toronto, Montreal or similar cities/regions?? No!!

(*IE: ethnic, non-profit, French-language, specialty,'community' cable, and General Interest like CTV/CBC/Global/CHUM)

The TV broadcasting industry in most provinces across Canada badly needs a shake out if only to rationalize and improve the quality of the TV and Internet-delivered TV programme broadcasting environment for the long term...

This in part so that families and individuals were not continually being inundated with incessant commercials during 'family time' TV viewing and other periods during the broadcasting day... AND so that cities like Vancouver and Victoria did not have so many REDUNDANT local TV channels..

After a shake out, if one occurs, if there were 'too few local TV channels' in major cities in BC and other provinces- which is highly implausible- it would always be open to the Federal/provincial govt's of the day to take steps to rectify this by offering tax breaks, etc...

No!! to a cable/satellite company surcharge-fee applied to cable/satellite customers and payable to local broadcasters!!!

Any broadcasters that want such a fee to be levied upon all POTENTIAL viewers who receive their TV through cable/satellite- ought to be asked if they are willing to entirely eliminate advertisements from their broadcasts in return for such...

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 *cyberlots* ★ [1 month ago](#)

dfgfgger

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 *cyberlots* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I remember buying one large Satellite dish and the signal being FREE before the signals were scrambled. Showtime and HBO were free. I remember a local unnamed Association buying a satellite dish and feeding a whole town cable TV for free too. Why are these companies having to charge, I do not understand? Were the tv ads not paying for the channels back in the old days and the ads gave people free tv? What has changed so much that these companies have to charge enormous and out of control fees?

It would be nice to be able to choose the channels I wanted to watch without commercials if I have to pay for it!

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 *cyberlots* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why does my comment keep getting erased ... is there a CRTC virus on this website?

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 *cyberlots* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Nice job crtc... guess I should comment on the web how the CRTC keeps deleting my comments

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 *cyberlots* ★ [1 month ago](#)

LOL

Your totally unfair to delete my comments so I am putting a disgruntled message on the internet in regards to how CRTC is allowing comments!

Your welcome!

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Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes, I think it is about time that the local channels can charge a fee by legislation to companies that broadcast their signal. Either that, or they must provide the signal for those channels they get at no cost free to all local residents and free from encryption or the use of a rented encryption device or any other charges for hookup, disconnect, etc. They should not be able to broadcast a signal that is not theirs for free and benefit financially from it.

If the cable or satellite services are not paying for that signal then they should not be allowed to alter it in any way. This means they can not overlay their commercials ovetop of commercials that the local stations have collected money for to broadcast. I believe this has been done as I had shaw cable and I always saw Shaw commercials whereas now I have OTA and I don't see Shaw commercials. Shaw, in this case, should be paying OTA stations each time they overlay their commercials ovetop OTA station commercials at the going rate. It's not right that they alter the signal to their commercial monetary advantage if they are so doing this. I find this policy of Shaws very tacky and unethical.

If you do allow the local stations to charge a fee then you need to ensure the billing caption that is placed on the custom bills of cable and satellite services is controlled by you.

Pass on fees are easy to push on to customers so I don't see an issue. Look for example in the waste industry. The gov't of Quebec passed a \$10, i believe, fee on to the waste haulers through landfill costs per MT which was an easy pass through charge. Unfortunately, the cable and satellite providers have ramped up their service fees too much over the past few years but that is not our problem, that is theirs should the pass through fee be charged. They may loose customers with the added fee, but where an customer is at risk, they will need to instead absorb that cost on an individual basis where necessary to save lost business should the added fee put their customer at risk. Unfortunately, Shaw, who I dealt with, was not a well run company making prudent decisions. I operate a company that has more customers then they do in a different industry and try to save my customers on an individual basis as I know to keep a current customer is cheaper than to get a new one. Each time Shaw raised my rates it was over 15% each year and I called them and gave them the option to roll back the increase to a reasonable number of 5% or less or roll back my service and after a few years I had no service left with them since they would not roll back the annual increase. This stupidity on their part in sensibly operating their business tells me that you need to stand up for the local stations and push through that pass-through charge. The cable and satellite companies will need to naturally adapt to the higher rate the customer is charged by adjusting their rates downwards. This will be a good thing for the industry as basic cable should not be expensive and it is now.

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Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Bob ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would object strenuously to any such attempt.

Cable is nothing more, or less than a service enabling me to obtain over-the-air signals without the necessity of erecting and installing an antenna.

Ass with any other business, Local TV stations should be allowed to thrive or fail without hinderance or subsidy.

[Flag](#)

 LikeAaron ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that since the cable network already allows us to pay the same price and gouges us for the most basic of these channels they should have to pay for the channels and not pass the cost onto the consumers.

[Flag](#) LikeMark Umbenhower ★ [1 month ago](#)

I've already cancelled my service. Whether this goes through or not, I will NOT be renewing my cable bill. Either way this goes, the price for TV is already grossly inflated. If I'm ever going to start paying for television service of any kind the quality of the broadcast (media, content, etc) should be better than what I'm getting now for a fair price. Free HD over-the-air signals are a much better bargain than paying a cable 20-50 dollars for cable channels they don't actually pay for in the first place.

The short version:

1 - I will not pay for TV until the price is fair (lower) and the media, content, and quality of broadcast are increased.

2 - If you can't compete with FREE channels for quality, you better start thinking of a new way to attract customers. (prices)

[Flag](#) LikeKelseylynn ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's sad to see my dad look at all the bills he has to pay.. and im sure its like that for most families...

[Flag](#) LikeAmber Van Poucke ★ [1 month ago](#)

Personally, I'd be pretty angry if I was asked to pay for local tv on top of what I already pay. Television is expensive these days. And with technology advancing, and tv changing, the price just keeps going up. Like having to buy a special box for your tv so you can actually get stations.

The CRTC should force cable companies to lower their prices, or try to work something out so that people aren't worried about either paying their cable bill, or paying something else. It seems like no one cares about the little guys, everyday people, who don't have extra money to spend. But I think that if they did, they'd get more support and could do so many things. In order to support local television, I think there should be more LOCAL advertising, and perhaps programs that people ACTUALLY want to watch.

[Flag](#) LikeMark Umbenhower ★ [1 month ago](#)

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attract customers. (prices)

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Kyle Bezaire ★ [1 month ago](#)

i would never get calbe. but if i did, i would deffinetley not be pleased to have to pay for something i can already get for free on local channels.

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Mitchell ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV has gotten so expensive to this point that I'd rather read a book. A BOOK!. I find it much cheerer to got to HULU or some other internet based site to watch what I want and when I want then pay an arm, a leg, my firstborn, and whatever other cliché I can think of.

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BB ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. It would be outrageous to pay another extra fee. I understand why they would want to be paid, and they deserve to have some compensation, but in the end all it does is affect the consumers in whatever happens....so if i had to pay i would weigh my options and if there is something other then paying 2 fees, i would probably go with that option.

2. It is hard to say because they have been in this "agreement" with cable and satellite for so long that with them just jumping out and saying we want to get paid now really puts a kink in the cogs. I think we need to get more people to want to have local television on their channels and appreciate them more...maybe have better Canadian programming so more people would want to watch

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Katelyn ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that consumers are paying enough for cable and satellite. They cant change the price because everyone is already used to what it is set at now. if anything CRTC should lower their prices. As a customer, i dont watch as much as i would pay for. so if i had to pay more i probably wouldn't bother getting it at all.

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B Feeney ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable bills are to high. My cable company dropped two of my stations and has not reduced my costs at all. Instead they now charge me a CRTC LPIF fee on top of my cable cost. I say NO to charging more for local stations.

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Jean-Guy Nolet ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is a myth and their no way in hell that am paying a cent more for my sat package just to support that scam. I upgrade my bandwidth and go Internet only if that happen. In fact unless I get to pick and choose every channel I probably cut the sat off soon. You stop the bundling and the packaging scams first than we talk. You give us access to the real channels not repackaged "Canadian" knockoff than we can discuss the existence and the worth of local TV. You open the market to Direct TV and create some real competition first than we can have a discussion on supporting local tv. Otherwise don't bother asking a cent more from me or am gone!

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 Like*Tom S* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Well, is this not a loaded question. How to fit in the anger towards this situation in a paragraph or so. How much is the average consumer paying at the moment, I would average 100\$ a month (TV and Internet package), for base cable television and a decent internet package. In Essex county alone, in Southern Ontario, you are looking at a rough population of 300,000. Lets assume not everyone has these services, and even make it a LOW number at 200,000 people pay for this service. thats around 20,000,000 a month in income for Cogeco alone. This is a rough estimate of course, but I wouldnt be suprised if it is not far off. Programming costs are relatively substantial, I would assume however, nowhere close to this. The cable comapnies also get advertising revenue, bonus, and some people even have extra packages (such as myself, need my sports and information). therefore my bill is 50% higher already, and I know I am not alone! So as for the question of should WE as CONSUMERS pay MORE? NO. WAY. IN. HELL. Relative population of Ontario - 11,410,046.

Lets say 60% (6,846,028) have the basic package with cable, which is a low number, thats \$684,602,760.00/MONTH. Do you really need the extra 10\$ from us? We are just getting out of a recession, and we dont have any other choice. The monopolization of the Cable industry is ludacris. We live in an age where to be successfull you have to be informed, so you need cable/internet. Who do we turn to?

Since nobody will listen to us anyways, I guess there is no reason for me to go on. We will be used an abused like usual, and the people driving their Bentley's will care no less, they will sleep well at night, and wake up with a grin on their face.

[Flag](#) Like*B Feeney* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable bills are to high. My cable company dropped two of my stations and has not reduced my costs at all. Instead they now charge me a CRTC LPIF fee on top of my cable cost. I say NO to charging more for local stations. Why can't the cable companies just charge for each channel and let us pick which ones we want to receive. Why do I have to pay for two french stations I don't want plus the shopping channel. I think it is time for major changes. Cable companies should not be producing local news in competition with local producers.

[Flag](#) Like*Steve Hand* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Conventional tv has always asked for cable fees. In lieu of this they were granted simulcast substitution in order to maximize audiences and charge higher ad fees. Now simulcast is no longer an issue because the specialty channels can buy rights to programming and run it within the same week of the simulcast viewing on conventional stations. I think the CRTC should come up with a new model whereby all stations get cable revenue, the public gets to pick its viewing channels(I don't speak Italian or Chinese and I'm forced to carry them) and carriage of CANADIAN CONTENT is mandatory for every station.

[Flag](#) Like*toastiebear* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television, my arse! Wake up and smell the PUSHING DAISIES CRTC.. I wanna see 'local TV' SURVIVOR as much as the next FAMILY GUY, but you dont need a GHOST WHISPERER to tell you that 90210 is not a Canadian postal code. Cancon is in JEOPARDY and has been LOST on the FRINGE for too many DAYS OF OUR LIVES. Without any LAW AND ORDER, we're merely DEFYING GRAVITY. FLASH FORWARD ten years and the cast of CSI MIAMI will consider this a COLD CASE.

[Flag](#) Like



Znark ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is a bit like two dinosaurs fighting over who should the tasty fern just before the comet hits.

Young(er) people spend more time on the internet than they do watching TV (cable or local). And soon the internet will be on your living room TV ... will that be still considered watching TV? In this context, arguments for supporting Canadian culture over traditional broadcasting or who gets to charge what fee do not make sense.

It will come down to who will create the best programming to draw in viewers for the advertising dollars. Local programming will always have a market niche of its own and should survive in whatever format (would a website on local news be considered programming?)

Local TV and cable are going to have to evolve.

[Flag](#)

Like



theunhappyfarmer ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am a subscriber to Bell Express Vu, and have been ever since it was available.

Under Television Services on my bill there is now a new charge call a Contribution Fee to CRTC's LPIF.

Then there is an additional charge of PST and GST added to this fee.

I have been in touch with Bell Canada, who seems to tell me that the CRTC has asked them to collect this money for Local Television and at such a minimal amount they (Bell Canada) could absorb such a little amount. No Bell Canada has passed this onto to us the consumer.

I also was in touch with my Member of Parliament who explained to me that this contribution was not being transferred to the CRTC or the Local Television Networks, as there has not been a ruling and probably won't be till next spring.

I can only receive this service as to my location in this province of Ontario.
I sure as heck don't like being nicked and dimed to death.

From a legal and accounting point of view this is a nightmare and should be carefully dealt with soon.

This will be just like Hydro One and their Debt Retirement Charge, again where GST is being charged on that charge as well.

This is a tax on a tax on a tax, keeping in mind that Canadian content is a must when ordering channels and service from Bell Express Vu.

And if it is a contribution fee, would that not be a donation and I should be receiving my tax receipt in the mail.

This is a monopoly and I am not exactly sure when Canadians became such a passive bunch that they cannot fight for their rights. When will Canadians learn that we are being taken by thieves right in front of our noses.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tracey Bakkeli ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs. I would not pay an extra fee - cable has the ability to recoup costs through bundling (and they earn healthy profits).

[Flag](#)

Like



Katie Dunn ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the TV stations should be able to charge the cable and satellite companies for the signals that they are using. However, I think it should be up to each individual cable subscriber as to whether or not they want these channels, and if so, they should be willing to pay for them as well. Cable subscribers should be given more choice in the channel packages that they choose to purchase. If you want the TV networks in your package, then you pay for them, if you don't, then you don't pay for them.

People support things that they care about. We don't need to take any measures to support local television because if it was important to us, then we would watch it, and it would therefore be able to get more advertising revenue. I'm not saying we should only use American television, but should make Canadian TV better so that people actually watch it.

Flag

Like



Walter N. ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to end up paying an extra cent out of all this.

Its shameful the way CTV especially is trying to portray this as "saving local TV". It isn't about local TV at all. The only local TV is local news and if the network isn't interested in doing it so be it. The major cities seem to have lots of local TV news options and in the smaller centres, alternative media (radio, local newspapers) do a fine job. It certainly makes no sense to have people outside of a local area subsidize the local news in that area. If the local market doesn't support it that means the local people don't want it, so why do you want to force something on people they don't want.

The real issue here is an attempted cash grab on the part of the TV networks and quite honestly, they are already artificially propped up by CRTC rules (commercial and program substitution, blackout rules, forced carriage by cable / satellite, foreign ownership restrictions, program funds). The networks don't need another bail out.

What's needed is to get back to basics. If you want to use TV to achieve particular government objectives do it with the CBC. As for the rest of them, drop all the protection, subsidies and restrictions and let the viewers watch what they want.

Flag

Like



Daniel L ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. It is my belief that local content on television is incredibly important, it keeps people informed and in touch with their community, and i dont think that people should be forced to pay for something they have enjoyed cost-free.

2. I believe one thing that could possibly be done to fix the situation is to offer the option to receive local television, and if consumers do, then maybe charge them for the service. The overall cost for cable and satellite however should not be raised.

Flag

Like



smith ★ [1 month ago](#)

Most people value their local TV channel(s), regardless of whether it is Global, CBC or CTV. And most people say that these local stations should get some sort of funding...but they do. They currently get funding through taxes and other fees that the viewers are already paying. If these local stations insist on a new fee per subscriber, then they need to give up some of the other types of funding. And then the CRTC should remove the "must carry" status from these stations so they will only receive funds from consumers who choose to pay for these channels, not all pay TV subscribers. Sorry guys, but you can't have it both ways.

The reality is, the only fair way to allocate funds is to examine the whole local TV support process and likely tear it down and rebuild it from the ground up. While this may make it more

fair to all parties, it likely won't do much to change the contribution made by viewers or the amount that the channels will get, but at least everyone could then agree that it had been reviewed and revamped and it's as fair as it's going to get.

[Flag](#)

Like



Chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If the rates increase again I will cancel my television service.
2. Have CTV, Global, etc be pay channels just like the specialty channels but allow the customer to pick what channels they actually wish to pay for. Do not have bundled channels at a set price.

[Flag](#)

Like



Alison ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should cable and satellite subscribers be paying for local tv when it is free to air without a cable or satellite package. Essentially, this would mean that subscribers would be subsidizing those individuals who do not subscribe to a cable or satellite package.

[Flag](#)

Like



BigDave ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in northern B.C - like most Canadians I only watch television in HD - the only Canadian channel I receive in HD is CBC - no other Canadian channels are available to me in HD - If a fee is charged for viewing of Global, CTV etc I would request the option of having a choice to receive their signal individually as opposed to having those channels as part of a package. My other concern is having to pay for channels to watch advertising. Pay per view channels are ad free.

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Dagobah ★ [1 month ago](#)

Money, the root of the issue is. These companies made money off of advertising and those revenues are dwindling. Only quality programming content will once again drive up the cost of advertising and if no one watches it is their own business plan that has failed and I for one will not pay for their poorly planned business practice. It's not like local TV is their main focus anyway and with them out of the way perhaps someone new will take up the torch of providing quality local programming.

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Gord C ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Well, we already pay the LPIP tax don't we? Enough already!
2. Times change, if local TV cannot support itself - too bad.

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Like



karl ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't mind paying for things I use let me pick what I want to watch PLEASE Stop forcing me to watch oversignals, ie cbc and shaw overriding tv adds. I am not stupid if I choose to watch a US channel I can decide if I want to watch their ads thank you

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[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



corysiddall ★ 1 month ago

Under the Broadcast Act, the airwaves are a public trust, available to all citizens free of charge. To allow a fee for carriage for these services would violate a basic right of Canadians. Were the CRTC to allow for carriage fees, I would be cancelling my subscription to any and all satellite and cable companies, and putting up the four ADTV antenna I currently possess as my primary source of Television service. This action, joined by others, of course, would help to further undermine and erode the advertising revenue base of over-the-air broadcasters.

As these Corporations are also the prime holders of Specialty licenses, the combined revenues of the companies and their investment in programming, and the building of "Libraries" should suffice to meet their financing requirements. Too bad they have sold off their libraries, stopped investing in programming, and made their channels non-unique, by running the same programming across all systems and platforms. This is just bad business to compete with yourself, and proof that Corporate Canada does not understand "Convergence". Convergence is the power of anyone with a computer to compete with Corporations as a publisher, programme content provider, Telco (eg. VoIP) or even as a public opinion maven. To make a profit in the modern world, OTA TV should tap the creative power of local programme creators to provide an alternative to the homogeneous content being provide by other nations, and then as a partner, help to exploit that content in as many other arenas as possible, but not necessarily on the same corporately controlled networks and channels.

On the subject of provider packages, these are passe. I pay for 52 channels per month, and my family watches 12 of these. Of these 12, I can watch all but 3 over the air in HD with an ADTV antenna. Of these three, I can watch the majority of the content I would like to watch on these channels by time shifting OTA programming directly from the USA, or by accessing the content on the Internet. I don't need a corporately controlled, proprietary PVR to do this either... an ADTV ready receiver in a computer with PVR software can be put together at very little expense, and then it is "good-bye" to Rodgers, Shaw, Cogeco, Bell, or however, and hello liberty.

The entire Broadcasting Industry in Canada has been built on a fiction. That fiction is beginning to show its failings, as technology trumps distance and sparse population dispersement. The idea of "areas-of-control" being licensed out to corporations for exploitation no longer has any economic certainty to it. Telco's and broadcasters must face the reality that they must now forget the "license to print money" that they have so long enjoyed under the loving hand of incompetent Government after incompetent Government. Those that have walked away from the hard choices of protecting the Sovereignty of this Nation, for the easy "laissez faire" attitude that private companies can do it better, even without the control of serious competition.

If these companies want out of the protection that they enjoy under the present system, then they must be willing to leave behind all protections, and face the real and harsh world of full, no-holds-barred competition. They must be willing to give up their "simultaneous substitution" rules, their "protected" service areas and their weak definitions of "local programming" and "Canadian Content". Cable companies must start paying its broadcast workers, those that now

"volunteer" to the profit of Rodgers, Cogeco, et al., and Broadcasters must start paying the full price for their right to broadcast programming to Canadians. Both must face the very real possibility of failure of their businesses if they want extra fees from subscribers.

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 [karl](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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iam not stupid if i choose to watch a us chanel i can decide if i want to watch thier adds thank
you

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Like



Ron R ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel to a certain point that local TV is important to me, however the only thing "local" about it seems to be the newscast and the commercials, otherwise it's hard to tell the difference between local TV and the US TV channels.

As for paying more I don't understand why I should have to pay for something that I can receive (and do) for FREE from an antenna on my house. Cable and satellite providers are doing local TV a major service by providing their signals into homes of people who don't, can't or choose not to receive their local TV from over the air signals. If anything local TV should be the ones paying the cable and satellite services to get their signals to the masses.

As for paying extra for something that I already receive for free, I'd drop my service altogether. After all it's not like you can't access programs from other sources such as the internet for example.

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bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Ron R](#)

it won't be free anymore. over the air broadcasting is dead.

[Flag](#)

Like



Robert ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay an extra fee for local programming. As it is I have to pay a fee to my cable company for the basic service which has all the local channel in both french and english. I do not watch these stations as it is so why would I want to pay more for them.

[Flag](#)

Like



raeruthnafziger ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not think seniors should asked to pay for local TV on top of what we already pay. If costs go up, we will reduce the service we receive!

[Flag](#)

Like



ph0 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the whole cable/satellite TV environment needs to be less regulated.

First, let local TV stations charge the cable/satellite providers to carry their signals but don't require cable/satellite providers to carry all of the broadcast networks/local stations in their "basic packages" as they are required to do so now. Perhaps require one local station to be carried and, in areas where more than one local station is available, leave it up to the cable/satellite providers to choose to carry additional stations in their basic packages or offer them as an add-on.

Second, while regulated geographic monopolies may have made sense when the cable industry was in its infancy, the industry is now mature, and cable companies should be freed to compete for subscribers anywhere in the country they want. Monopolies mean higher prices; competition will bring prices down.

Finally, I would like to see cable services unpacked so that I can buy only the stations/services I want, and not have to pay for packages containing stations/services I do not want. I don't think this should be forced on the cable providers, but I expect that in a more competitive environment cable providers would respond to consumer preferences such as this.

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Like



Gordon Pierce ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television stations have, by terms of their license, a unique right to their broadcast frequency. By extension, they have a monopoly in a given geographic area. The carriage by cable in no manner diminishes this; if anything, it gives a station access to an even larger basin of clients for the sale of their advertising (revenue stream).

Any station that wishes additional carriage fees should forfeit the right to a competition-free license.

In simple terms, no station should be paid because someone enlarges their client basin at zero cost. If only other businesses could have such a protected environment.

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man ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Gordon Pierce](#)

over the air broadcasting is dead. The license isn't worth anything. They make money on advertising only and the Canadian market is too thinly sparced with so much channels on Cable TV. Cable TV subscribers are premium viewers. Why sell anything to someone who can't even afford a \$30/month cable? There is no competitive advantage or any value with a TV broadcasting license anymore,,more like a liability with TV license. the license is worthless. This isn't 1976, the tv and radio market has changed.

[Flag](#)

Like



peterpower ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local TV is to survive in Canada the viewers will have to pay an additional fee for the service. Without this service we will be deprived of local news, sports, and cultural programmes .Red Deer which has had a TV station for some 45 years, is now without that service and the citizens of Central Alberta are the losers. The major centres across Canada ,including the smaller centres require the local tv stations which provide information to the viewers.

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Like



Andrew ★ [1 month ago](#)

My issue is that I do not think it is right for me to be forced to pay for a channel (local content) that I do not want, but the providers are being forced to sent to me. There should be a local content option on my satellite package, and If I opt to take it, then I could pay for it. I do not want to be forced to receive and pay for Canadian content if I do not want it.

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Bob A M ★ [1 month ago](#)

My cable bill exceeds \$90, including a \$5.99 "System Charge" and \$11.60 in taxes. My Local TV ,courtesy of CTV is about 20 minutes per day of news weather and sports covering an area from North Bay to Sault Ste Marie and from Parry Sound to Hudson Bay. There is also a weekly 30 minute Bingo show on a Saturday evening. The position of CTV to have a tax to maintain or improve this pathetic coverage is untenable. By arguing that each local station is required to be an independent profit centre with their only source income from local advertising and all the creative accounting moves to transfer costs from the parent companies will only cause the parent companies to plead in future years for increases in the tax as "their costs have risen." The Canadian Public does not want any more taxes.

When it comes to Bell ExpressVu ; regulate them into unbundling the channels so that I, the consumer , can choose and pay for the channels I want to watch and do not have to pay for a package that includes cartoons and childrens tv which I never watch. Frankly there is far too much duplication on the speciality channels; how many channels do I need showing "Dog the Bounty Hunter" ?

In summary, stop all of the subsidization of commercial enterprises and the "arts community"

through levies and taxes as they have failed to be of value to the Canadian Public and the fees have only increased their sense of entitlement. Finally refund to me the Tax already added to my bill by Bell and start acting in my interests.

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Like

 [George Safford](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

with all the innovation and new programming and HD service --- TV in Canada is a great value!!! However, who gives a ← about "local" TV... I dont watch local news, dont care about the closing of the corner gas station, or the pee wee team schedule... dont watch it never will... I DONT WANT TO PAY FOR IT

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to George Safford](#)

there is nothing on basic cable except local channels. you don't have to subscribe to cable nobody cares if you don't subscribe to cable or satellite. don't pay don't watch

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Bob A M](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 [Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Bob A M](#)

get real basic cable is only \$30/month. the \$90 is full cable service with all the optional pay tv channels.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Tony Wright](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Satellite has to be my choice, not living anywhere near a local broadcaster and for what we get it is way too expensive. Since satellite/cable entrepreneurs are redistributing local TV at no cost to themselves, I think they should pay a fee to local TV for signals used and pay it from the enormous profits they are making, courtesy of CRTCC. In other words, at no extra charge to us.

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Andre ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Tony Wright](#) 1 person liked this.

Enormous profits you say. Do you have any idea what is costs to run a business like that, and develop and implement new technologies that everybody wants? Obviously not. If they are allowed to charge these companies, should these companies be legislated to carry them, and you forced to pay for them?

Networks need to put compleing programs on the air that people want to what. Not buy all of them from the US, pay too much, and then say they're going broke. What about the money from the television fund they already get. Did you know about that?

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Like



Knut41 ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Cable Companies should pay the Originator - the Privat Broadcasters for the permisssoins to distribute their signal on their cable or satellite systems! Why should they make a profit from someone elses product?

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Knut41](#)

consumers don't need canadian content or force to subscribe to any cable okay. consumers can watch US satellite. nobody force these freeloaders to subscribe to cable or watch an Canadian TV. but Canadian broadcasters are force by CRTC to provide Canadian Content and 50% of content during prime time when nobody wants to watch canadian content cause the quality is bad compared to US content. if the CRTC is going to regulate any industry makes sure there is an industry to regulate.

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Like



David & Esther Wiebe ★ [1 month ago](#)

The existing broadcasters have choked off local tv in favour of national broadcasting that yields to them more revenue and less in expense. They bought out broadcasters to concentrate on this and bought print media and loaded up on debt to get this done. Now that we are in a slump, revenues have fallen off and they can't keep up with the debt load. At the time this was being done, they thought that revenues would keep going up and up and up. The lenders were led along and did not do any leading.

There are too many broadcasters for the revenues that are available from the market place. The model they are working under has to be overhauled and trimmed to fit the present realities.

The broadcasters must be kept away from the cable revenues. These cable revenues are too high as it is. Regulation of cable revenues is what we need.

The broadcasters must be mandated to cover local tv broadcasting. We pay for this by way of the products and services we buy from the businesses that advertise on tv.

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Like



Michael M ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If I was "asked" (read: "forced") to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for my cable/satellite service, I would look very closely at acquiring a grey market satellite dish, as local programming interests me very little. Forcing me to pay more for my cable service, while the broadcasters cannot guarantee that the increased revenue would actually go to support local programming, is at best a joke, and at worst symptomatic of a federal regulatory body that really doesn't care one iota about doing what is in the best interest of Canadian consumers.

2. It's a simple formula of supply and demand. If consumers are really that interested in local

programming, it will survive. What passes for local programming these days amounts to nothing more than a couple of newscasts each day. I can (and do) get my local news from a variety of other sources (radio, newspapers, Internet), so what is the point in subsidizing a dying industry? Let it die.

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Like



[joeypovolone](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I really don't want to have to pay more than I am to support CTV, Global and CityTV because their 1950s business model isn't working for them in today's media environment. The CBC shouldn't get another dime from Canadians. They say its for the value - if the shows are so valuable, why are they given away for free on their website? Guess they aren't that valuable. They want this bail out money for local television. What local television? All I see is high priced US shows and reality crap on the air when I watch.

If this continues I, like many Canadians, will begin to investigate other, alternative means to get television programming in our homes. That could mean all kinds of things but at the end of the day it means that I won't be watching CTV, Global or CityTV at all.

How much longer are we going to let the broadcasters and the CRTC take away our ability to choose and watch what we want.

[Flag](#)

Like



[lil](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

there is absolutely no way I will pay for any more channels especially local channels which is just more garbage. I personally have had enough with being gouged by corporations in trouble. when does the public get bailed out.....

[Flag](#)

Like



[Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Watch US TV and US programming. Don't need Canadian Content since nobody watches Canadian TV. Advertisers aren't going to advertise on crappy Canadian content shows that nobody watches.

[Flag](#)

Like



[msjo](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We live in Toronto and one station, CityTV, is outstanding. I would pay to watch it. The others I only watch for 1 network show on CBC. I would pay to watch the show.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Maureen Carter](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I basically get all of my news and the bulk of my TV through the internet. My parents pay for cable, but I rarely sit down in front of the television to watch a show. If I personally had to pay for both local TV and cable service, I would probably cancel both and just watch shows through the internet. I don't like the cable channel bundles and I don't like the fact that the local TV stations and Canadian networks basically spend all of their money on American-made television. I would be more willing to pay for access to a Canadian web site which provides a service like that of America's Hulu - streaming multiple network shows in one place.

I think local TV stations would benefit from actually producing and advertising Canadian-made television. I'm not going to pay them to buy American TV which I could watch for free on the internet. If Canadian stations aren't making any money it's because they don't have any products to sell.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *msjo* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV can show ads relevant to the audience. For some stations this is profitable. I would guess that any locale with local TV also has radio, we are to some degree cannibalizing radio ads and profitability to support TV and this situation would continue if additional revenue is provided. Personally we think that essential services on TV can also be covered by radio and/or IPTV.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *msjo* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Assuming local TV is desirable, why not make smaller markets the sole province of CBC and let larger markets continue to run competitively?

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *traudischlehuber* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I could cancel my cable entirely - I already pay enough and I believe that the local television stations contribute more to their community and respond more to the concerns of the community than cable.

PS - your website is not easy to navigate if one is not computer savvy

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *Michael* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Shaw Direct doesn't carry my local station (CKCO), so why should I pay for local???

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *billy* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Michael](#)

free over the air broadcasting is dead. they'll just take down the antennae altogether. people who can't afford cable bill are not worth much to advertisers. TV stations don't care if you don't watch their channel and can't pay for it. it's only \$2/month per station.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *Michael* ★ [1 month ago in reply to man](#) 1 person liked this.

Many of my neighbors and friends have already switch to Direct TV - why even pay \$2.00??? Direct TV can be gotten for free, if there is any more charges, taxes, etc. I'll be happy to seriously think of getting away from the whole Canadian thing (CRTC, Rogers, Bell...).

[Flag](#)[Like](#) *Bill* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Michael](#)

None of the TV shows are free to produce. Your cable bill isn't free. Basic cable is \$30/month...that is really basic. You are not obligated to subscribe to satellite or cable or anything if you don't think it is too expensive. if you are on welfare and can't afford your cable bill, you aren't worth anything to advertisers who pay for the programming.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



bill ★ 1 month ago in reply to Michael

it cost at least \$100,000/year to have that over the air antennae sending signals over the air when 90% of the people have cable. why bother with over the air antennae. costing millions for HD over the air etc. the CRTC and canadian tv radio industry is at stake. is the money maker in this industry.

[Flag](#)

Like



M. Thomas ★ 1 month ago

I think the Cable Companies already charge way too much as it is for basic service and because of this they should be required to provide local TV to operate WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COST TO THEIR CUSTOMERS. They should also be required to pay a minimal amount to local TV for their programs.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kevin ★ 1 month ago

High cable bill and make it higher, I hope I get to work on your car one day. Man you guys must think TV is an essential service or something. The cable bill will go, 90% of my TV is from the states any way. Local TV Red Deer was shut down so I'll just find some other entertainment.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sharon ★ 1 month ago

I remember buying one large Satellite dish and the signal being FREE before the signals were scrambled. Showtime and HBO were free. I remember a local unnamed Association buying a satellite dish and feeding a whole town cable TV for free too. Why are these companies having to charge, I do not understand? Were the tv ads not paying for the channels back in the old days and the ads gave people free tv? What has changed so much that these companies have to charge enormous and out of control fees?

It would be nice to be able to choose the channels I wanted to watch without commercials if I have to pay for it!

[Flag](#)

Like



Billy ★ 1 month ago in reply to Sharon

Intellectual property and distribution rights. You need permission to distribute or even use somebody's name or logo. Business 101 dude!

[Flag](#)

Like



susanfahey ★ 1 month ago

I'm more interested in local TV programming than in American programming. I think the broadcasters owe Canadians these services without additional charges since you charge a lot already.

[Flag](#)

Like



Me again ★ 1 month ago

CRTC sucks big time

<http://forums.castanet.net/viewtopic.php?f=26&t...>

<http://www.okanaganlakebc.com/>

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*wileld* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I was asked to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for my cable service, I would reduce my service to basic or look at buying a FTA antenna or at what TV programming that I can get from the internet. What measures could be taken to support local television? What local television? The only thing local on local channels is the news. Prime time TV on local channels is all programming, all the time from the United States. There is nothing Canadian or local about it other than the advertisements that are mandated to be local. My greatest desire would be to have total pick and pay for the channels that I want to watch. As it is now, in order to get the channels that I prefer I have to subscribe to packages. E.g., in order to get BBC World I have to subscribe to the News Theme Pack for \$4.99 per month plus tax. In order to get the History Channel, I have to subscribe to a package that costs \$17.00 plus tax per month. Give us total pick and pay. The local broadcasters may find that they do not have the loyalty to what they channel from the United States.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to wileld](#)

why does the CRTC even need to regulate TV and radio? I mean why does a private business need CRTC or even public opinion? Oh yeah, you don't need to subscribe to any cable, or any TV if you don't like the deal. it's a private business transaction, the gov't don't even need to be in on this. The gov't must think TV radio and the media is important or they wouldn't be regulating like it's gov't division.. CBC is subsidized by taxpayers. there would be no Canadian televisino or radio industry without CBC and gov't subsidizing it. Canadian productions are not profitable.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Catherine Leitch* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The CRTC assumes that everyone who has a TV pays for cable or satellite services. I do NOT have cable or satellite service. I use rabbit ears. I was ill for 10 years and reduced to poverty. One of the few forms of entertainment open to me, because it is difficult now to find anything that is free, was the 5-6 local TV stations which I can access with rabbit ears. I refuse to pay for cable or satellite service because cable companies charge an exorbitant monthly rate. How is it that everyone ASSUMES that everyone has cable service? If local TV is paid for by the cable companies, then local TV will no longer be free for anyone. TV stations are slow to respond to changes in technology and advertising media. I will NEVER, NEVER pay for cable. So, if everything goes to cable - as it surely will if local TV stations get their way - then I will not be watching TV. PERIOD. FOREVER. There are better things to do with one's life. I do feel sorry for unfortunate shut-ins who have no other, or few, form(s) of entertainment. It's becoming a progressively selfish culture.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Mike Sarabyn* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I absolutely believe that Cable and Satellite companies should pay for local tv signals. This is the product that they sell to us, the consumer. Businesses all must by their products that they in turn sell to us. The cable and satellite companies have the monopoly of being the only ones that we, the consumer can receive our signal from in Canada. I also feel that the rates the cable companies charge and I assume what the satellite companies charge is already one of the highest in north america. I just don't see the justification of immediately passing on the cost to the consumer. If there was open competition, the price would be dropping.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



dave ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.....This ploy by the networks is just another way to take money from the consumer, because that it who is going to pay ultimately while cable, satellite, and network execs get bigger bonuses and pay increases on the backs of the ordinary citizen. This is nothing but a sham. I would cut my programming accordingly to keep my costs the same. If the option is to remove/reduce Canadian Networks, then that is what I will do first.
2.....Who is supporting us? Let local television support itself or fold. We are already paying a small amount every month toward improving local progamming. I haven't seen any change yet and I do not expect to see any change either. Just another money grab.They should be on their own just as everyone else is. That's business, the chance to succeed or fail on your own merits. Kick this request by the networks to the curb where it belongs.

[Flag](#)

Like



kicia ★ [1 month ago](#)

The local TV should be an optional addition to you cable services, if you want it - you pay extra for it. It would very promptly sent a right message about how highly Canadians value the quality of the local TV stations. Nobody should be forced to pay extra considering the prices of cable are alreedy high. Personally - I would cancell the cable if it goes any higher then it is already, you can download almost all warthy-watching tv programming from teh web for free, and without annoying commercial brakes.

[Flag](#)

Like



Shawn K ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is just that. Local. These major Canadian networks (CBC, CTV etc) are not true local TV. All they play are US shows, then throw a newscast on or something just so they can call themselves local. The entire idea of subsidizing them is a joke.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bill ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe local TV should be exactly that, not just a rebroadcast outlet for the networks. If I have to pay for local TV I want the funds to go directly to the stations that need extra funds to survive outside of major centres, and that station not have it's programming controled by a network. Local TV should be funded by the networks and cable/satellite broadcasters, both benefit from local TV. The TV network business model is broken, let them figure out how to fix it, but not by raiding the cable/satellite piggy bank.

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Stephen ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I believe subscribers should pay for local broadcasting TV over cable. Since the content on broadcast tv is quite high, cable and satellite should pay to carry it as they would any speciality channel. I do not see a large difference between "speciality" and "broadcast" content. I suspect most viewers value the broadcast channels and would pay for them.

More improtantly, if broadcast channels are not paid for their signals, they will be motivated to hollow out their main broadcast channel and invest in better content for the speciality channel to reap revenue streams from the cable and sat subscriber. (Example: CTV broadcasting the Grey Cup on TSN in lieu of CTV.)

2. Limit the number of specialty channels a broadcaster can offer on cable. Broadcasters should be forced to use their own digital terrestrial platform and improve the OTA content. As is, not a single broadcasters refers/advertizes their own high quality DTT (digital terrestrial) platform available to a large number of canadian viewers. Once you see OTA tv, you never go back to cable.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

Bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Stephen](#)

speciality channels are worthless to me. i only watch the local news. and local news is worth that \$1.50/month. what can you do with \$2 these days, can't even buy a bus ticket or chocolate bar. it's like candy money

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

gardenladyk ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why have the cable companies not been sued for copyright infringement if they have been distributing OTA content without paying the broadcaster for it?

I'm already paying for Local TV in my cable bill as far as I see it. That is one of the drawing cards of getting cable is having your local stations along with others offered. If cable didn't offer local stations their subscription rate would decline sharply. The cable companies pay Americans for their OTA content, they should have been doing the same for Canadian broadcasters over the years.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to gardenladyk](#)

because Cable companies are special previlleges under CRTC and over the air tv stations deals. you see, cable companies have a monopoly in territories by the CRTC..sure there is satellite but there is only or actually on one company for many territoris from economies of scale of just one company regulated by the CRTC. Reason it used to be free was because in the 80's there was no internet and very little specialty channels and no PVR. TV stations were 100% supported by advertising and cash cows. the problem is that advertising supported TV isn't feasible anymore with so many tv channels who don't have local content or canadian content rules or advetising rules.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

mik1123 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have already cancelled parts of my cable package due to the LPIF fee/tax. I would cancel my cable subscription if forced to pay more for local programming. I believe both parties involved would see zero dollars from me if I went and used an aerial to view local TV!

I believe Revenue from advertising is way down due to the economy being in the dumps, why not try higher but temporary tax breaks for local programming and higher taxes on US content til the economy picks up and see what happens. I don't think any tax revenue is gathered by the gov't if a local station closes.

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Alice ★ [1 month ago](#)

I must say that local TV is not really that important to me. I am a big fan of the lifestyle stations, HGTV, TLC, A&E, etc. So paying an extra \$10 for local stations is not really appealing to me.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Alice](#)

HGTV TLC and A&E are pay tv channels, i have them in the bundle and rarely watch them i only watch CNN that 's it. it the future all channeles will be specialty channels. local TV channels are pay tv channels. or specialty channels

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

[Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Bill](#)

the model will be pay per channel. your bill will be pay per channel. and minimum bill is \$30/month

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

[Paul Clarke](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers.

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[Bill](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Paul Clarke](#)

Paul, the CRTC is not considering a tax. This is misinformation from the cable and satellite companies.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

[ritakatzel](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If it means increased cost to me as consumer, my answer no tax. I am a senior on limited pension. Measures to be taken to support local television - advertising, increase cost.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to ritakatzel](#)

If you are senior, you would know that the TV industry has changed since the 1980. Today consumers have 100 channels to choose from and advertisers cannot longer support free TV. Local TV stations are shutting down cause it's losing money under the current regulatory and advertising market regime. TV was never free, advertisers pay the bill.

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[Peter Tattersall](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If charges are to be levied for local services, acceptance of local services should be made optional. Further, all services, local or global, should be unbundled, so that a consumer may pay for only the services desired. Cable companies could still offer discounted bundles, but it should be possible for consumers to mix and match services to meet their requirements. In order for this to work, simulcasting should also be dropped as a requirement, and substitution of local signals for other signals should no longer be permitted. In this way, all services are placed on an equal footing, and should be allowed to stand or fall on their merits in the marketplace.

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[WolfHawk](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I dont have cable now so i only rely on channel 2 and 7 and global channel 27, its all i can do, we all cant afford to dish out 40 and up for services of channels and 500 channels of this and 200 of that with 5 music stations etc etc, so as far as a fee for what we used to call the rights to have local channels to inform and entertain a few nights a week, its been a right and a informative process of a cpl channels to give us emergency or anything of news, channels to keep us safe as canadians but again its shadowed by the what can we tax these idiots yet again

to make a few more bucks , cause gosh forbid their 500 billion of revenue must trump anyone on any smaller financial budget, yet again im disgusted how the OTHER guys seems to have taking over us again in the service and industry of marketing , casue the government aint put their foot down yet to say ok greedy basterds enough is enough, let the liittle man have their few channels free to survive.

[Flag](#)

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 [georgeward](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cable company's should pay for the programing from the CBC, CTV, Etc. I am not willing to pay any more for my Cable Bill, I think I am paying to much for my TV service and my Internet service.

[Flag](#)

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 [Luigi](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

By the look at some of posts some are missing the point.. Question: should cable co.s pay for using local TV..Answer yes. Question 2 should cable co's pass on the charges? Answer No. The consumer is being ripped off by cable co's now as it is. If my cable co decides to pass it on to me I will drop them like a hot rock. I will go back to an antenna and suffer with the missed specialty channels. Internet and cable in Canada are way to expensive as is. A little more competition between cable and satellite co's might not be a bad thing at lest we might get a better deal that way.

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 [BAS](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Luigi](#)

the cable companys don't even want to carry the local channels,they are forced by the crtc to do so. the cable companys want to sell you TSN,DUSK,BNN, ECT

[Flag](#)

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 [Mike D](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies should pay for ALL stations that they Rebroadcast.

Or basic cable should be Free

[Flag](#)

Like

 [brownwm](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We have paid the cable companies for local TV for the past decades as the fee for basic service. There is no way that the cable/satellite companies should be able to add a charge to existing fees just because they have to pay the local TV stations to carry their signal. It seems criminal that the cable companies have been allowed to pirate the signal of local TV and re-broadcast it without paying any fee and yet charge the consumer for the service. I think the importance of local TV in a democratic society is being threatened. If we do not have grassroots programming on political issues along with grassroots communications, we damage our society as a whole. I am dismayed when I visit the USA and see how filtered their information and knowledge about national and world affairs is. I have been a proud Canadian who points our to our American neighbours how lacking they are in their access to information.

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Like

 [bas](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to brownwm](#)

the signal is not pirated,the cable companys are forced by the crtc to carry local channels.the cbc is there look after local programming

[Flag](#)[Like](#)

brownwm ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [BAS](#)

What world does Disqus live in? I live in Kitchener and the only CBC channel we get is in Toronto and guess what? it gives news relevant to Toronto. It is the local CTV channel which offers our local programming. This is not a criticism of CBC, I enjoy their programmes but it is a stretch right across this country to think that CBC provides local programming. The real issue here to me is the fact that when a Canadian Network provides programming and the cable/satellite services pick it up and re-broadcast it, they pay nothing for it. If it happens to be a Canadian programme (Corner Gas) or an imported American programme (CSI ???), they can put it on cable/satellite and not pay for it.

We ought to be thankful that the CRTC does force the cable/satellite companies to carry Canadian broadcasting (not necessarily local programming) otherwise we would see nothing but American programming.

I had an interesting dispute with Rogers Cable a few years ago. I complained that the cable service to my home was inadequate, that the channels carrying the Canadian networks were continually losing their signals and had interference while every channel from the USA was crystal clear. I logged this over weeks and complained to Rogers with no result until I wrote to the CRTC to complain. Within a week I had a Vice-President of Rogers calling, not to look at my complaint but to challenge my audacity for writing to the CRTC. When I refused to buckle under to the discourteous call and threatened to go back to the CRTC, they had a technician at my home within a few days to correct the malfunctioning signal. All that when all i wanted was to get what I was paying for - good service!

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Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is just another rip off. Both the broadcasters and the delivery companies have virtual monopolies of the air waves and simply use the CRTC as a means to grab more profits. There is no such thing as competition in Canadian TV and as a result we get an inferior product.

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wayneglaab ★ [1 month ago](#)

Dear Madam/Sir:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my concern over the erosion of "local" television. I feel that the Federal Govt. is on the correct path in directing the two sides to develop an appropriate fee package for the industry within the Federal Jurisdiction. There needs to be fee sharing formula instituted without escalating costs past on to the consumer. This is not to say that cable/satellite companies will be asked to contribute their profits completely. The essence is "maximizing" profits is an archaic and devolving system which has been identified as one of the motivators of the current recession. Use creativity to develop other processes.

Thank you for your time

W. S. Glaab

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Brenda ★ [1 month ago](#)

I WANT TO KEEP MY LOCAL TELEVISION STATION'S. We pay enough for cable television already, I don't want to pay anymore. Let's make this work.

[Flag](#)

Like



susiemaggie ★ [1 month ago](#)

The whole mess needs to be restructured because somebody is making a boodle of cash and holding the consumer hostage but then what else is new under the sun!

[Flag](#)

Like



NecessaryEvil ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I will cancel my cable subscription the minute I hear I have to pay one more cent for the channels I don't even watch (i.e. local TV). I already pay for it once, and I don't care whether or not local stations see any of that money. Its not my problem, and I don't need television.

2. Local stations should be able to support themselves. The law of supply and demand will determine whether they stick around or not. I feel very strongly about the fact that I do not think I should have to support any corporation, regardless of what may happen if they fail.

[Flag](#)

Like



Heather Murray ★ [1 month ago](#)

I love my local TV at noon and at 6pm and at 11pm, would I pay for it YES BUT I would take some of my cable choices away , so that my bills would not increase, too much is given that i do not need or want but I want and need local

[Flag](#)

Like



sailorjim ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I think the cost of monthly cable service is outrageous, particularly in that in any given area the reigning cable distributor has a monopoly (except for satellite services which are just as expensive and in many situations more problematic). Our family pays over one hundred dollars a month for one hundred + channels (including HDTV) of which we watch perhaps ten or 12. Much of the rest is trash. Why can't we not select and pay for only those channels we want to watch ? For years we've been told "the technology won't allow it". In fact, they won't allow the technology.

2. The broadcasters are going broke (including drastic budget cuts to CBC) while the cable companies are raking in millions and expanding into many other lucrative areas of telecommunications, e.g. wireless. My understandig is that the cable companies pay nothing to broadcasters for the programming they - the broadcasters - provide, and nothing to local TV stations for the local programming they provide. In other words, except for relatively modest contributions to the production of local and Canadian content - much of it in the form of loans and "interim" financing - the cable guys get a free ride.

3. The cable companies are framing the issue as a "another tax-grab" by the government to bail out the broadcasters". This is a complete lie, unfair to the government and to the broadcasters and an insult to the intelligence of cable customers. The broadcasters deserve to be paid for their product. Local TV stations should be paid for their local programming. The cable companies should be required, as a condition of license (as they are now) to carry but also pay for locally-produced programming and prohibited by law to pass on such costs to their customers. After all, they will claim it as a business expense against their taxable income.

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Like



bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to sailorjim](#)

do you subscribe to cable because you want to watch local tv? no. you would simply turn on your tv, adjust the antenna and away you go, wait gotta move it to the left a little. there. the cable companies are offering you special programming, that's what they pay for, that's what you pay for. the CRTC forces the cable companies to carry local channels

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[Todd Gaeck](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to BAS](#)

Yeah if you're stuck behind a ridge, a hill, a mountain or an area without a transmitter and a freaking Channel Master 4228 can't even pick your local station, what other choice do you have?

There are Americans who subscribe to limited basic only for the local stations. Canada should have the same. Limited Basic for all!

[Flag](#)

Like



[rebeccadiane](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not think the Satellite company should absorb this tax. It would be bad for the company's and customers. With the current economic condition, now is not the time to add this tax. Are we trying to drive layoffs at the satellite company?, Local TV stations should continue to seek advertising contracts, adding the tax and making the satellite company absorb this fee, adding to cost of business is wrong.

NO TV TAX

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Like



[sheilaboydell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would consider giving up TV altogether....there's very little worth watching on satellite anyway, except for the local news, without buying expensive packages and the basic cost is already more than I like paying for. Local news on TV is very important to people and should remain available to all.

[Flag](#)

Like



[ArdenB](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I'd cancel my subscription and I'd watch everything on the internet. Why pay more than what I do now? I'm on welfare and every dollar counts. I pay for a basic subscription, I can't afford much more.

2. The CEO's and heads of the company shouldn't pocket all the money we pay and ask for more. I can't eat through a month and they can afford well beyond their means. They should take a pay cut, instead of imposing a hike.

In addition to that, they should ask more of local advertisers. Maybe 0.5-2% more than what they ask now. There is ALWAYS a solution, that doesn't involve draining the little guys.

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Like



[JP](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch the local channels and I'm sure that cable providers pay for American networks. I complained to my cable provider that I was paying for channels I did not watch just to get the ones I want. I told them that the packages were put together with men in mind and they agreed. The gentleman I spoke to said that it was because more men watched TV (mainly sports). Rogers has been charging me a CRTC fee since September.

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Like



Soogirl ★ [1 month ago](#)

"local tv" - what local tv? I live in Sault Ste. Marie ON. Years ago CBC bailed and then CTV shut down its local station. what little bit of local TV we get is from Sudbury which is 400 km away. I usually listen to Global, News channel and read the local newspaper and the local internet news service. I don't NEED local TV. why would I pay for something I am not getting now and I probably won't get even I am charged a local TV fee? much of this argument revolves around big city/small town differences. I expect the networks will take the money from small communities and use it to fund "local tv" in the big cities. no thanks.

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Like



jms ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch my local station. I don't watch the countless stations that Rogers Cable foists on me because of "bundling".

Watching the Shaw Cable corporate jet take off from the CRTC hearings made my blood boil.

It's because of these countless stations that I don't watch that cable is getting rich.

What else makes my blood boil?

Advertisements in my local newspaper saying that Rogers Cable provides "local programming"

What is "local programming" in Roger's view? Extremely inferior "news" performed by volunteers at the local cable station.

In our city, these "news" programs are so poorly watched they don't even make it to the ratings.

What this tells me is that local TV matters.

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Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to jms](#)

the only reason people have cable was the signal is very clearer digital versus over the air broadcasting and get to subscribe to pay tv channels. FREE TV over r the air 100% supported by advertisers is over, that model is dead.

[Flag](#)

Like



Fed Up ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not pay more. We are gouged already for a bunch of channels over which we have no control. There is very little content worth watching anymore, unless you enjoy watching people being exploited --- I don't! The local news is one of the few shows I do watch, but even as the CRTC has allowed a COUPLE of GIANT corporations to buy out MOST of the "little stations", there is very little "NEW" about any of the LOCAL news either! The same stories are read by different anchors across the dial.

2. The Cable and Satellite companies should definitely pay the local "broadcast by air" stations for carrying their programming. I'm sure it would make a huge difference in their business if they dropped those stations from their packages. That should tell them something about what the people want! If it is worth keeping their customers, they should be willing to use the money they are receiving, to pay the stations ---- WITHOUT raising rates. The charges to the consumer (for "broadcast by air stations") have ALWAYS been included in the BASIC plan. If they were to eliminate the BASIC plan, rates would plummet drastically, but would there be ANYTHING left worth watching?

[Flag](#)

Like



J. Grant ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would like to comment on the proposal to require cable and satellite companies to pay television stations and networks for receiving a distributing their signals. Traditionally television stations produced or acquired programs which were transmitted for everyone to pick up and watch at no charge. The stations and networks generated income from advertising. The better the programs offered, the more people watched and the more advertisers would pay. Initially the signals were picked up individuals on their own antennas which limited the audience to people within a fairly small range. The television stations and networks that worked hard, broadcast good programs and acquired good advertisers did well. With the advent of satellite signals and cable companies, the stations that once had limited audiences, now would be available to a vastly larger audience. It would seem logical that the stations and networks could now seek higher fees for advertising, provided, of course, that they were broadcasting programs that were of sufficient quality to attract the larger audience. Unfortunately, with a few exceptions, such as Flashpoint and Corner Gas, the prime time programs produced by Canadian stations and networks are of inferior quality. Since the television networks and stations are privately owned and operated in a free enterprise system there seems to be an obvious solution. They produce or acquire programming the public wants to see, build up their audience base, and sell sufficient advertising to be able to continue to operate. The ones that accomplish this will continue to operate. The ones that no not succeed because of poor programming of inefficient operations will ultimately not be missed when they fail. To allow the networks and stations to collect fees from the cable and satellite companies, who will ultimately pass them on to the viewers; will only penalize those viewers for the poor management of those networks and stations. Force the television stations and networks to stand on their own and do not allow them to collect the proposed fees.

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Like



Fed Up ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not pay more. We are gouged already for a bunch of channels over which we have no control. There is very little content worth watching anymore, unless you enjoy watching people being exploited --- I don't! The local news is one of the few shows I do watch, but even as the CRTC has allowed a COUPLE of GIANT corporations to buy out MOST of the "little stations", there is very little "NEW" about any of the LOCAL news either! The same stories are read by different anchors across the dial.

2. The Cable and Satellite companies should definitely pay the local "broadcast by air" stations for carrying their programing. I'm sure it would make a huge difference in their business if they dropped those stations from their packages. That should tell them something about what the people want! If it is worth keeping their customers, they should be willing to use the money they are receiving, to pay the stations ---- WITHOUT raising rates. The charges to the consumer (for "broadcast by air stations") have ALWAYS been included in the BASIC plan. If they were to eliminate the BASIC plan, rates would plummet drastically, but would there be ANYTHING left worth watching?

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mwquartottawa ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am NOT prepared to pay for local television programming as it is a commercially supported service and provided for free.

Cable television services on the other hand have a monopoly in practical terms and have been jacking up rates to consumers unjustifiably (with the help of the CRTC) the point where this consumer come January is seriously considering dropping cable TV as most of their programming as it is in a word "TRASH", save for things like Discovery Channel, History Channel etc. As a subscriber to cable TV I am prevented from choosing the channels I want entering my home and as such I feel there is an electronic sewer piped into my home with all sorts of junk I don't wish to be forced to pay for in order to view the few choice channels I wish to see. The only

way I would be prepared to pay for local channels is if they came in a default local package whereby I can custom pick a selection of say 20 channels relevant to my desires and where local channels would automatically form the base package along with the channels of my choosing.

Local TV is like other mediums with copyright protected content and they should be allowed to charge for their signal and programming. Local programs offer more interest more local content and programming like news and sports which are relative to the viewer unlike useless programs we import from the USA such as Reality shows and News which is not relative or local along with fluffy serials which have no redeeming value to our culture or society here in Canada.

There is no reason why the cable companies can't produce a simple electronic cable channel filter which allows just the custom program packaging customers choose instead of being forced to pick a more costly cable package just to get one or two channels they prefer to view.

The cable companies in this country have a virtual monopoly and it is due to the CRTC and the way this country television regulations are setup. The same select few companies control the wireless cell phone airwaves and between the two they have made a concerted effort to extricate as much cash flow out of consumers monthly budgets as possible in concert with the CRTC.

Consumers are tapped out and tired of getting the lousy end of the deal with the blessing of the CRTC always siding with the cable TV companies who don't offer custom choice but demand you pay for what you don't want or use. We pay way too much for what we get in Canada and that has to change.

Canadians deserve much better and the CRTC is in a position to act in the interest of Canadians. The question remains will they.

Respectfully,

M.W.Quart
Ottawa, ON
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Like



Connie ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay cable/ satellite companies enough. It took them long enough to even carry our local channels. I want the news in my area. It is very important to me. I don't need to know what is happening in Toronto. I want to know what's happening here. I believe that the CRTC should insist that the cable/ satellite companies to pay for this local programming. Why should they get it for free? Heaven knows they don't give us anything for free.

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Cara McCormack ★ [1 month ago](#)

If cable and satellite companies continue to make billions in record profits, it seems only reasonable that they pay smaller local t.v. stations for the signals they provide. I watch CTV news on a daily basis and have always found their content timely, informative and thought provoking. Their medical expert-Dr. Marla Shapiro-and their nutrition expert-Leslie Beck-share information/research/opinions on many issues, which impacts the decisions I make for my family and I. Local t.v. should be compensated by the lucrative cable and satellite companies who continue to thrive in todays tenuous economy.

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bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Cara McCormack](#)

Carla,the cable companies are forced to carry the local channels by the crtc,they don't really want to,they'd rather sell you specialty channells,thats what they pay for thats what you pay for

[Flag](#)

 LikeJB ★ [1 month ago](#)

If cable rates keep increasing, I would have to cancel my services as well. I am a huge fan of local TV and would hope that these fees remain very reasonable. I mainly tune in to CFTO Local News and CTV programming and local news in Toronto. I think we can eliminate all the other local programming in the Toronto area and save CTV Toronto and even keep CBC Toronto with Federal and local news as well with Peter Mansbridge.

[Flag](#) Likejen ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Flag](#) Likesusan gowan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very upset to have to pay for a service which has been offered free for the past twenty-four years, the time we have been living in Quebec. We have opted for the minimal package as we wanted local shows such as Regional Contact, the CJOH news from Ottawa & it was a conscious decision to do with less programming, not more. If we are not opting for expensive satellite packages, why would we then be penalized. This issue reminds me of many years ago in Quebec & I believe it happened in Ontario, too, that cable company used negative billing to force consumers of their services to pay more. If you start charging me, I will definitely use my computer a lot more often, download the movies & shows I can & drop the TV service. I find this whole thing pretty offensive - it is not giving credit to your loyal subscribers who hold local programming near & dear. Not everyone in this society wants 350 channels - for some of us, less is more quality of life & we have other things to do besides watching TV constantly. That's my piece. Thanks for letting us have a forum.

[Flag](#) Likecjb ★ [1 month ago](#)

The local stations should be paying the cable companies to carry their signal. Without the cable they would have very few viewers and thus little ad revenue.

[Flag](#) LikeCara McCormack ★ [1 month ago](#)

If cable and satellite companies continue to make billions in record profits, it seems only reasonable that they pay smaller local t.v. stations for the signals they provide. I watch CTV news on a daily basis and have always found their content timely, informative and thought provoking. Their medical expert-Dr. Marla Shapiro-and their nutrition expert-Leslie Beck-share information/research/opinions on many issues, which impacts the decisions I make for my family and I. Local t.v. should be compensated by the lucrative cable and satellite companies who continue to thrive in todays tenuous economy.

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 *Sharon* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would like to keep my local news channel, I know of others small cities that have lost theirs and they now miss out on hearing about things that happen in their local community. They can't even get local weather. We need to fight for our local stations.

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Like

 *eileenconrod* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very disappointed if they chose to charge us for our local tv stations that has been free most of our lives. We are already paying too much and getting channels that do mostly advertizing. We are not french speaking people and still we pay for those stations. local tv is very important to us because news and local shows are more focused on our area more than any other canadian stations. What would we do without CTV, CBC and A. Even Global is not local now, but tries to do local news anyway, but it is not the same as it used to be.

We need to keep getting as many people as possible to make their voices heard and protest against the greedy cable companies that what to get every penny they can from their customers.

. Eileen

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Like

 *bas* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to eileenconrod](#)

don't subscribe, watch regular antenna tv, you can watch all the local tv you want, hey it's free

[Flag](#)

Like

 *eileenconrod* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to BAS](#)

using tv antenna's is not what I want to use any more.

I had enough of the intererances with the signals when you move your hand, foot or what ever and the tv goes wacky. Cable takes care of that.

Eileen

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Like

 *dandre* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to eileenconrod](#)

agree with Eileen

We should go back to having a basic service package the size we had when we first got cable in the 70s. I'm paying for too many channels and don't watch TV all that much

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Like

 *eileenconrod* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to dandre](#)

there is nothing interesting to watch alot of the time .We should be able to pick our own channels and pay for it that way .But it would be more expensive probably. Eileen

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Sue Jones ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Satellite companies have a license to print money while the products they essentially make the money from, are on the verge of disappearing. Consumers cannot be tapped any further - cable and satellite need to start paying their share.

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Alysen Cameron ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for cable TV for the few channels I watch and the great many I don't watch. Should the price go up, I will cancel my cable and watch the one show aired on CBC's online services.

Presently, I am very annoyed with both sides of this argument using actors to get their message across. By the nature of their profession actors recite lines in a manner that represents they believe what they are saying, but don't necessarily. I want to hear the actual not the actor, because the latter I do not believe.

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Jones ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Satellite companies have a license to print money while the products they essentially make the money from, are on the verge of disappearing. Consumers cannot be tapped any further - cable and satellite need to start paying their share.

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bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Sue Jones](#)

cable tv is about specialty channels,the cable company pays for them then we pay the cable company .the crtc forces the cable company to carry the local channels,they don't pay for them now so its not a cost for them, but if they did guess what

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kencowie ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable television is already expensive enough and paying more would certainly discourage me from continuing to subscribe to cable or satelite stations. However if local television was forced to close then I think it would be useless to continue to watch any television as we look forward to the local news and issues each and every day. To me, it is common sense to change the present system, and to stop from letting cable television companies get rich, while local television employers get poorer. To summarize, without local television, there is not much use of paying for cable television.

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bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to kencowie](#)

So your saying don't subscribe,just watch antana tv. So the cable companies are getting rich from what? proving local tv channels that the CRTC forces them to carry? no, if they are making any money its from proving specialty channels,that what i subscribe for.

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 [Rickford](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I have to pay more for local TV then I will have to reduce or cancel my cable. 70% of the basic cable channels I never watch and over 50% of the local channels programming is garbage. That is why they cannot get advertisers. I always watch the news on the local Global station but I can get that on line too.

To support local TV channels and by that we all know it means the Canadian Networks, they should be the only channels in the basic cable package. A rate should be set by the CTRC and then that money should be distributed by the percentage of the local market that each channel garners thus rewarding excellence in the local market. All the specialty channels should be a la carte.

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 [Richard](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local Television is extremely important, it's our only way to stay abreast of what is happening in our area, therefore it must not be eliminated. We would never hear of what is happening on Banks street for example if we did not have a local networks.

With this in mind they require revenues to operate. So why is the carriers not wanting to pay for a product they sell to us. Greed, that's why. They need to negotiate this with the networks, not the viewers, we already pay enough.

The system we have now is way over priced to begin with, so don't send the "TV tax" our way cause you will louse, I will cancel everything.

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 [bas](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Richard](#) 1 person liked this.

Richard, are you paying the cable company to provide you with the local channels? you can get them with antenna tv. Yes greed is rearing its ugly head, but its by the local channels who don't want to be left out. People are subscribing to cable for something above and beyond regular tv, that is specialty channels. The CRTC forces cable companies to carry local channels, they don't even want to carry them. Now The local channels want money. Where's that going to come from? Hey, we spend a fortune on the CBC, they can look after local tv

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 [M.W. Quart](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies have a virtual monopoly in Canada ...and with the help of the CRTC prices charged customers reflect that as reality. The same holds true for cell phone services as the same companies also control that medium under the sanction of the CRTC and cell charges in Canada are outrageous compared to the rest of the globe despite our geographic stature.

Local TV programming is copyrighted and as such should be allowed to charge for their programs. Anywhere else that would be reasonable but the CRTC has a track record of not doing what is considered reasonable. I am not prepared to pay for local TV on cable TV and if rates are jacked once again I will cancel my cable subscription as most of what is piped into my home via cable is little more than electronic sewage called programming save for a few select channels which I prefer to watch such as Discovery and History Channel etc.

If the CRTC had any insight or creativity they would allow consumers to choose their custom assortment of channels along with local channels as part of a base cable plan. That way customers get what they want and pay for only what they want. That way, poor programs would die a natural death and the better channels would survive. As it is now we are forced to pay for trashy programming we don't want, don't need nor would ever watch.

There has been a concerted effort in the last 20 years to reach into consumers pockets and extricate as much monthly cash flow as possible to inflate the revenues and profits of the cable TV companies and the CRTC is responsible for many of the unreasonable increases time and time again. Canadians are paying too much for programming we don't want and we are not

given the choice to choose only those programs we do want. The concept of being forced to pay for something you don't want is foreign to normal business practices. There is sufficient programming choices now that it is feasible that cable companies can offer custom packages and with those packages can include local programming in respective jurisdictions.

There is no reasonable reason why cable companies cannot develop and implement a programmable channel filter that would allow customers to pick and choose exactly which channels they wish to view and thereby no longer be forced to subsidize the lucrative cable companies by paying for content consumers don't wish to have.

It is high time Canadian consumers were given some respect by the CRTC and the cable companies. It is our money that has paid for the infrastructure to date and we deserve proper and due consideration. The rip off has to stop.

It is time for the CRTC to work on behalf of Canadians instead of the abundantly prosperous cable companies.

Respectfully,

M.W.Quart
Ottawa, ON

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[Ed](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Haven't read this anywhere, but is a local emergency signal still going to be broadcast over American programming brought into Canadian homes? My area of Alberta has received (analog local tv) several "emergency broadcasts" over the past few years. Tornados and the like... Lucky for us!!

And I so wish Canadian programmers/production could come up with quality/saleable shows. I so wish I could watch Canadian programming more often as it galls me to have so much Americana shoved down my throat. Canadian identity is disappearing with our Americanization. So many millions of my countrymen seem not to care if they become "Americanized". It seems that being Canadian is more a 'take it or leave it' these days.

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[BBBBB](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am tired of coercion. As a rural satellite TV subscriber I am forced to pay for many channels I neither want nor watch. Now I potentially face the prospect of being forced to pay for local TV service I neither want nor watch. I did not watch local TV programs even when I lived in the city. Newspapers and radio met my need for local news and community information far better than TV did, or could. And that was before the Internet. If this tax is imposed, I will surely investigate whether the total annual cost of TV service plus tax is enough to warrant upgrading my Internet service. If so, I would let my satellite TV contract lapse at renewal time and use the Net to watch only those programs that interest me, even on a pay-for-view basis.

Fundamentally, this tax makes no sense. Should there be a tax to support newspapers that are struggling? What about magazines? Most record stores have gone out of business; should there be a tax to support those who remain? Local bookstores have lost substantial market share to online vendors like Amazon. Do they merit a tax? Should independent retailers who compete against Wal-Mart and other big box stores be given a tax?

Question #2 asks what should be done to support local TV broadcasters? Nothing. These are businesses. They provide no public service that is not available from others. If they have lost substantial market share, it's because they are producing programs that people do not want to watch. How would forcing taxpayers to support these broadcasters provide any incentive for them to improve their programming?

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dandre ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [BBBBB](#)

I don't want my bill go up either, but at the same time I don't think it's fair that the cable companies are essentially charging us money for channels that they don't pay for (ie local channels). We're paying the cable companies for these channels and they're not giving any back to the local stations.

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bas ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [BBBBB](#)

not only that,your taxes help pay for the CBC,isn't it their job to look after the population as far as local programming is concerned?

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Tim Devine ★ [1 month ago](#)

The financial dire straits the local TV stations are using as justification for charging access fees are of their own making. The stations were taken out of local hands in the early to late 90's when both Bell and Global went on an obscwne buying binge and bought up most of the country's TV stations. Prior to the purchase the local stations were profitable. Now, however, they are not, due to financing costs. Further, Bell Globe Media, which owns CTV and the local channels, also owns the satellite carrier. This is the same with Rogers as well. The carriers are already extremely profitable and this is just a back door way to raise fees

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shirley ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my area Global and CTV produce very little local programming. CTV is crying about losing money and haveing to close local outlets and I find this very hard to believe when they can pay one million dollars for the "Hockey Night in Canada }Theme song just to spite the CBC and also the money they spent to get the Canada Games,.As for their news program in this area it is so biased it isn't worth listening to

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theodoreeatkinsonmdfcfp ★ [1 month ago](#)

I grew up with the onset of TV, before there were networks , Microwave ,satelite etc, we had a local station, lots of local proqraming, news talk shows of people from our area. Then came the microwave network, two more stations were added, one english and a french one. Then came cable, some local proqraming, repeated often and an influx of US TV networks and later many speciality chanel. Our local station was lost to become a news room and Halifax and Fredericton and French TV from Moncton tries to keep us informed with local news blurps. The cable station tries to provide with local news, but many many reruns..

Basic packages provide the general public, the run of the mill viewers,what they need. The TV addicts can pay more for their speciality channels.

The general public should not be extra billed for local TV.

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[Like](#)



Earl Arthur ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV Stations get paid for their air time by the number of estimated viewers. Advertisers watch the polls closely. Cable viewers are not counted, to my knowledge.

The cable providers do not pay for for this.

I feel that the cable providers should pay for local content.

Local content is crucial to maintain our society as we know it.

I use an antenna, local TV is very important to me.

From the pricing and bundling choices I have seen. Cable pricing is atrocious and very

confusing. Some controls need to be in place.

Flag

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Bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Earl Arthur](#)

With the growth of Personal Video Recorders people skip all the commercials so the ad supported or even FREE television is over. Advertisers know the effectiveness of ads and know how much people are watching based on response rates. why should advertisers pay the TV stations and pay for the programming when nobody is watching their commercials who ultimately pay for the free TV. basic cabl is like \$30/month and only channels worth watching are local channels and CBC newsworld etc. over the air quality of TV signals can't compare with digital cable these days and with HD TV is like a movie quality with plasma

Flag

Like



suzannefritz ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think Cable fees are outrageous at the present time. Any increase would be completely abhorrent.

I do wonder about the revenue local channels receive from advertising and where does this fit in the grand scheme of this debate?

Why can't you have a TV that receives signals directly from local channels ? ie no cable and no satellite.

Flag

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Hicks ★ [1 month ago](#)

It would mean that I probably wouldn't subscribe to local tv, as the additional cost would discourage me, especially in these difficult financial times. We live on the Sunshine Coast and there is only one provider here -- so fees are already high enough. Aren't the Cable companies making enough of a profit?

Flag

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bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Hicks](#)

you don't have to subscribe to local tv. do you have a antana?

Flag

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DIANNE ★ [1 month ago](#)

I WOULD PAY IF I HAD TO BUT I DO NOT THINK IT IS RIGHT TO HAVE TO PAY EXTRA FOR WHAT IS FREE TO THE CABLE AND SATELITE COMPANIES.

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bas ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to DIANNE](#)

you won't have to pay extra,unless the cable companies are forced to pay

Flag

Like



altereco ★ [1 month ago](#)

I stopped using cable years ago as the price was getting higher and there was too much redundant programming and I'm glad I did. I found that I was getting satisfying programs in the stations available "on air". Every year as I heard about 'cable' problems, either because the service was bad or the bundles were becoming more expensive I couldn't help imagining the growing frustration. The cable/internet providers are using their power to generate more

revenues at the expense of Local Broadcasters and smaller ISP's.

Before they become 'too big to fail' the CRTC should monitor the cost/benefit ratio to Canadians not their bottomless line.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ann Skelton ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a user of satellite tv and pay \$80 a month for viewing, I believe some of that money should be going to private TV stations, I believe satellite and cable and the phone tv people are making way too much money and watching local tv stations closing due to their greed is terrible. I as a consumer do not want to pay more and feel it is time for the ones who have been taking the money to the bank should share their profit with the other working people in TV it has been a shame that the good shows are being cancelled also and we are paying for the constant repeat shows

[Flag](#)

Like



laurieB ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local companies aren't able to stay viable, then they go out of business. If they had any programs we wanted to watch, we'd watch them. They survive on American television. They should be charged by the cable companies, as the cable companies provide their channels... I wouldn't ever watch local TV and wouldn't miss it at all. Let them figure out how to increase their own revenue, rather than charging cable money to stay viable. I would rather not have the channels... rules force me to have them, could care less if I did.

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Like



altereco ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to laurieB](#)

Bloodsucking is popular this year. Dollarama is at the juglar of the 'small dollar/convenience stores' but have you noticed the creep of prices beyond the dollar point sucking more of the dollars out of your wallet. Big box stores such as Walmart, Lowes, Home Depot, etc are crushing all the local merchants and employees in their pursuit of profit before people (except for the shareholders). Did you notice the word "local"? Small is always vulnerable but small can be beautiful too. The world is actually made up of ALL small parts and to ignore this reality is ignorant. Big is counting on this ignorance and knowing what is happening in your own local environment except if we stand up to their dumbing-down to the lowest common denominator. For over the last decade we have been watching the Americanization of Canadian programming. The CBC and local TV is the last bastion of what really matters to us. Vampire Diaries - I rest my point.

[Flag](#)

Like



Joan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy about paying more for my cable services, they are already through the roof! As the cable customers currently get the local channels for "free" why would anyone be happy about increased rates! Let the cable companies "share the wealth" to support local tv....it is in their best interest!

[Flag](#)

Like



Gudrun Leys ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the charges for cable TV are raised because the distributors have to pay (a natural matter) a fee for the programs they send out, I would not be able to afford the service. The distributors are currently making an enormous profit and their shareholders are benefitting because they get the local material Free. We the ordinary public will be the ones who ultimately will suffer if the cable companies can pass the cost on to us.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*jackderksen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV networks get all of the advertising revenue from their broadcasts. Cable companies are forced to carry their stations. The more viewers they get the more they make. If you are going to charge cable companies to carry local networks then the cable companies and their subscribers should have the option of which stations they want instead of paying for programs they don't want

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Jeremy/"Sunhorse"* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Personally, if i had to pay a fee, ui would be without local tv- i don't have cable services or satelite- can't afford one- I rely on local TV

Many low income families/persons, welfare, challenged or those on disability couldn't afford local tv either

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*travisc* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable company is already charging me for the privilege of receiving local TV thus the cable companies need to pay the local channels for retransmission consent.

In the USA the cable companies pay retransmission consent (fee for carriage) to local channels and in the USA cable is cheaper.

The CRTC needs to regulate basic cable rates as done in the USA. The CRTC should also consider letting Direct TV and Dish Network into Canada.

This year alone, Shaw Cable increased my cable rates twice, without providing any additional service.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*travisc* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Carole Bamford* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be more than willing to pay extra for local tv, especially if it means local news coverage would be increased. I sorely miss some of the local news which has been removed, specifically the morning news shows.

I disagree, however, that the cost should be passed to the customers, as the cable companies

charge outrageous amounts as it is and offer very little in return.

Flag

Like

 [Georgia Barrett](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If i was asked to pay more on top of what I already pay my cable/satelite provider I wouold immediatley cancel my service, go bac to antenna for local service, them go back to a gray market dish for US programming. The BDU's have way to much of a monopoly in Canada. Open up the market to fair competition for Cable/Satelite service. Barring that, the CRTC needs to regulate cable/satelite fees the same way they do telephone service. If BDU's are allowed to pass along and 'fee for carriage' charges on to the consumer, the growth in Gray Market satelite dishes will be EXPLOSIVE! and they (the BDU's) will be to blame.

2. The BDU's should pay for local tv services the same way they pay for Specialty and Foriegn(US) service. The playing field needs to be level

Flag

Like

 [jeff grant](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

i will continue to watch local tv.please save all local tv stations!!

Flag

Like

 [skinut](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadians are overtaxed already! With the HST on the horizon, that too will impact our bills for TV service, hitting us deeper in the pocket. I haven't even seen a raise in 4 years yet the cost of everything is going up! Most viewers can get both US and Canadian stations so that all the us programming on Canadian networks is redundant. Save your money you spend on us shows and put that back into local programming like News, Information, local issues and shows like CityLine or Steven and Chris!

Flag

Like

 [SHARON HINTON](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

LOCAL CABLE T.V. IS IMPORTANT TO ME BECAUSE WITH OUT IT I WOULD NOT KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN MY LOCAL AREA . SUCH AS AMBER ALERTS, PRISON BREAKS, BORDER DISPUTES. ENTERTAINMENT, WEATHER, AND STORM ALERTS. WE NEED LOCAL T.V. I WOULD CANCEL MY T.V. SERVICE. WE PAY MORE FOR CABLE T.V. THAN MOST OTHER COUNTRIES. MOST BUSINESS IF THEY USE A SERVICE THEY PAY FOR IT THE CABLE COMPANIES DON'T SO WHO OWES WHO.

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 [williamlpinto](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

What a dicey issue. On the one hand the broadcasters producing the programs, basically for nothing if viewed through a cable provider. The exception being the generated ad revenue from the programming. The cable companies mandated to bring the programs due to regulations. Their revenue fromn me every month. Yes, cable co's etcetera should provide these stations as they would be received if over the air(the antenna is the provider). Cable and broadcaster's need to sit down and hammer out a deal.

Flag

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 [jamesdarraugh](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is extremely important in Northern Ontario. Cable companies should absorb any additional costs incurred by paying to carry local TV. Their costs are already exorbitant, with

little choice of what channels an individual really wants. Bundling is not serving the general population

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 [philipdescent](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Cable and satellite providers should be paying local T.V. channels the same amount of money they are paying U.S.A. television companies. This is a Canadian market smaller than the USA and culturally our local programming needs to be supported. The Satellite companies are obligated to carry the local channels as part of their license to provide and charge for the delivery of non-local and speciality channels and charge Canadian consumers far higher rates than their US counter-parts charge American consumers and the Canadian distributors have a higher profit margin than the US counterparts. Some of those profits should be returned to local television stations and companies.

Further, since this dispute has been publicized, Bell Express Vu has been losing the signal for CTV Montreal on a regular basis in my area. I have had to call them on six occasions over the last six months to complain. I believe that Bell Express Vu has been doing so deliberately to gauge consumer reaction to the missing signal.

I believe that the CRTC, while not being asked to address the following issue, should recognize that increased competition in the Satellite Industry would lower costs for the average Canadian consumer and offer opportunities for increased revenue to the new entries into the Satellite distribution in Canada. These new companies or Canadian divisions of US distributors would be more than happy to pay local Canadian television for their signals in return for the right to deliver other

speciality channels and US border channels while being permitted to compete with the present limited number of Canadian distributors.

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 [sheilaosmond](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cable companies are being disingenuous by referring to any fee paid to Canadian TV companies as a tax. This is a fee that should be paid by the cable and satellite companies who have already been paid by their customers for distributing Canadian channels as part of their basic lineup for years, without any of that revenue going back to CBC or any of those same Canadian TV companies. Fair is fair. Despite their huge profits, these satellite and cable companies seem to be able to raise their rates on a whim without any regulation or protection for the consumer. Ideally, the customer could have chosen what channels he wanted over the years but the cable companies have bundled the channels and you have to buy the groupings they choose. Therefore we the public have paid for these channels for years and the cable companies have got the Canadian ones for free. Fair is fair - time for them to pay back. This is not a tax they can add to our bills.

I think the CBC should be protected and properly financed. I think CBC Radio programming should be restored to what it was before the cuts. I think Canadian radio and TV is crucial to our Canadian identity and culture especially with the overwhelming American media machine flooding our airwaves. I remember years ago when the CRTC regulations ruled on percentage quota of Canadian content on the radio. Our artists were just as talented as the Americans but it took this ruling to give them exposure to their countrymen. Then, as now, the CRTC has the power to protect and promote Canadian talent, this time by keeping local TV on the air. Canadian newspapers are now in crisis as well which not only endangers the jobs of our journalists but also the Canadian viewpoint on the news: thus TV news programming is that much more vital. If the CRTC does not act responsively on this issue, I fear that underfunded Canadian TV channels will become more and more centralized and then progressively more irrelevant as they become swamped with American programming, thus weakening this diverse and tenuous culture we collectively call Canadian.

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 [mikerepas](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be appauled if I were asked to pay for a private enterprise to provide "local TV". What's next, we subsidise radio, print media...? When will the insanity stop?

If "local TV" can't make deliver a product at a profit, they should cease business, because that is what they are, a BUSINESS.

Local cable companies ALREADY PROVIDE local content, as does our nations TV stations, CBC.

The airwaves are in the public domain. Cable companies should be able to redistribute signals.

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Joe ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to mikerepas](#)

Interesting points, Mike. If the airwaves are in the public domain, then Canadians should be able to hock up satellites and receive signals direct from the US.

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David Hoye ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important, and adequate as it is now. I am ready to pay for for all channels that I use, and of course, to not pay a damn thing for all the channels that I don't use. Hope you can figure out how to do that. I think that having to pay for content will be a good way of getting rid of a great deal of trash content.

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unis ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would have to unplug from Cable, as I cannot afford to pay any more than present (which is already VERY high), and I would go with rabbit-ears. Local TV matters to me - the rest is fluff I can, if necessary, live without. I lived without TV for eight years back in the 1980's - I'm certain I could live without it again if necessary.

2. The Cable companies need to cough up some of those billions they've glombed over the last 20 years to the local stations, and NOT increase charges to consumers.

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Gerry ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do watch some local TV, mainly news. I could probably live with a \$1.00 monthly fee to help pay for it but no more. I'm already looking for alternatives to cable because of the high rates. There is enough local programming on radio to suit me if local TV doesn't survive.

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Tom G ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is already expensive enough the cost of TV services. The Cable and satellite companies seem to be making large enough profits already. It appears to me that they should pay for local TV material or prove they can't survive the charge.

If I was charged for local TV I would probably utilize the internet more to keep abreast of local issues.

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munash ★ [1 month ago](#)

The way things are going I might just as well go all on-demand TV or download everything via

the internet and cancel my cable TV. The prices are just way too expensive for my basic cable package. Do you really think paying almost \$1000/year for TV is affordable? Really!

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[guest_today](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

What is important is that we need local television - we need news, we need a local presence. It seems fair that they should be paid by the cable/satellite companies which are not regulated so they can simply do what they want. Local TV should be helped and the cable/satellite companies should co-operate.

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[mikestamcos](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If I had the choice to pay only for individual channels I would most likely choose and pay for some local channels.
2. Local stations should be paid for their programming. We pay for the specialty channels so why not a local channels.

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[Medley](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Ah, the CRTC another group of government slugs, being paid with our dollars and providing nothing to us in return. I guess that's the technical definition of government and affiliated agencies, isn't it?

We pay a serious amount of money for Shaw Cable 150.00 monthly, and I feel that the local stations should be included in ANY package. However, this is not to say that local TV should not be fairly compensated by the cable companies. Cable companies are recording record profits and it's about time that they supported the local stations that provide the base of their service. I do NOT look to NBC or any of the other stations other than my local station for all the important news and bulletins for our area.

Well, now that I think of it, we no longer have a local station...I live in Red Deer AB and ours was the first to go.

This compensation issue is NOT A TAX; it is the greedy corporations fighting to their death to not FAIRLY compensate another segment of their own industry. It definitely sounds like GREED to me and what better entity to enforce, rejoice and foster that mentality than the CRTC and government.

We pay more than any other country for cable service and the CRTC has been content to let that happen.

Don't you ever wonder what the pay off is for them to continue to turn a blind eye?

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[Kathy Ziegler](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

My family enjoys our local news. It keeps us up-to-date with current events in our cities. Yes, I do read our local newspaper too but my children do not. They watch the local news with my husband & I and it makes for great conversation as well. We need to know what is going on locally. We should not have to pay anymore money for this service. Our cable bills are already high enough.

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 [Darlene](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

To increase our satellite cost to cover local tv is ridiculous, how much do they think people on pension can pay. As a so called FREE country why must we now pay for what we can access with a simple old antenna, The cable and satellite companies are just milking the public, It is time for the CRTC to step in and stop them.

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 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Darlene](#)

watch cbc but nobody watches cbc it's subsidize and shows low quality canadian programming not worthy to watch is local news in CBC waste of channel CBC there will be no FREE over the air TV in the future. the advertising and tv industry has changed.

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 [CAD](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year. The local TV tax is nothing more putting their hands in the pockets of Canadians once again

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 [Beth](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to CAD](#) 1 person liked this.

Interesting comments, CAD. But it is the cable companies that have their hands in your pocket right now. They are charging you for local TV and now they are threatening to charge you again for it. That is right, they want to increase your bill by another \$10 and they are trying to confuse you in the process by calling it a "tax". But it is not a tax and the cable and satellite companies know it. They don't care about their customers at all. They think we are all stupid. I am sick of getting ripped off!

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 [bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to CAD](#)

this isn't a tax but rather a payment for viewing the channels. if consumers don't want to pay they can opt out of and not watch the local channels. cable subscribers are already paying for the channels it's the question of how much is too much. etc.

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 [Gemini](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm all for advancement in the home entertainment area. I have never subscribed to any cable or satellite programming. I'm a true blue local tv station watcher: Canada AM, Sat Night Hockey.... if I want to watch a movie, I can buy the DVD and enjoy! If I have to upgrade my current tv, I'll all for that too, but why would I have to pay for something that I never have been a part of?

Anybody know the answer, please share.

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 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Gemini](#)

over the air channels have been supported by advertisers but advertisers aren't paying if nobody is watching canadian made TV and way too many channels. many of the specialty channels have no canadian content rules. free tv over the air is dead. high definition cable

plasma signals only. no point in spending millions in over the air high definition signals when everybody has cable

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 [TVguy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Working at a local station and being laid off from one station and lucky enough to get on at another station I'm hoping the CRTC forces these cable companies to pay us back, our station broadcasts 5 hours of news a day, I really love my job it's hard enough to maintain a career with all the automation that replaces our work.

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 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to TVguy](#)

Bunch of free loaders, i can't beleive people actually believe health care is free, libraries are free, schools are free etc. TV stations are not free to produce or buy programming. Stations pay millions for TV programming and advertisers pay all the cost now. the industry has changed so must regulation in the industry now!

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 [Jeff Ledger](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

From what I hear local TV is already turing a profit why do we need to shell out more cash to them? I never watch local TV and I do not want to pay more for it! The HST is going to be raising the cost or more than enough goods for us... the TV bill is already too expensive enough is enough!

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Like

 [bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jeff Ledger](#)

the GST and PST on your cable bill is more than the fees for local channels think about it. all tv channels will be pay tv channels than you'll know which channels viewers or cable tv subscribers which channels are worth the basic cable bill

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 [Miles Adam](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be prepared to pay more for cable if the money went to ensure local TV remains available. However I seem to have heard that the cable companies make huge profits, pay for the use of American TV, and pay nothing for Canadian TV, if this is so, I think the CRTC should limit the profit level, as is done with other utilities. Canadian Local TV is important, but gouging the public for cable service, which I feel is happening now, should not be permitted, if CRTC has any control of it.

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 [Nadine](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am on a fixed income and television is one of 2 main sources of information and entertainment. From the beginning, if we wanted any stations beyond the basic package we have had to pay for a whole package, much of which we didn't really want. At the same time, the cable companies were charging us for local television stations but not paying anything to the local stations. While I know some of the bigger stations will survive, many will not if the cable companies don't start paying for local programming. They are already getting money out of the customers for stations they do not want as well as having had a free ride on local television for years. While this was understandable initially to pay the cost of installation of equipment etc., that is no longer the case. I do not think it is fair to charge more if they are forced to pay for

local television unless we are allowed to pick just the stations we want to watch so that they do not get money for packages of networks that they are paying for but that they then charge us for even if we don't want them.

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[Ron110](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Rogers and Bell already charge me for local tv. It would be unfair to allow them to raise my rates so that they can de ensure their bottom lines while essentially double billing me for local tv. They are taking in enough money now to cover the cost of them paying the broadcasters for their signals.

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[Miles Adam](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Jeff Ledger](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

From what I hear local TV is already turing a profit why do we need to shell out more cash to them? I never watch local TV and I do not want to pay more for it! The HST is going to be raising the cost or more than enough goods for us... the TV bill is already too expensive enough is enough!

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[peterell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Here in Kelowna, the only local programming is news. Most evening programming consists of US shows picked up by the Global network. I would agree with a small fee of \$2 to \$5 if it kept the local channel in business. The CBC is the best of a bad lot. I am not happy with Shaw and their feeble attempts at what they call local programming. They are siphoning off ad revenue by substituting local commercials on US specialty channels (not simulcast ones).

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[bradmcmillan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

i would be willing to pay extra for local tv. i just reviewed my cable bill and it is already outrageous so what's another 10 dollars?! i really enjoy the local news and even watch united states programming on canadian channels since you get local news updates and canadian specific commercials during commercial breaks. i think it is rather underhanded that cable companies are pushing the cost onto the consumer, this is their greedy decision and it shouldn't be blamed on local tv who are also running businesses that need to make profit. besides, how about the cable companies save money by getting rid of some u.s. channels since most of that programming can be seen on city tv, space, showcase, ctv etc already. personally, i feel we get gouged in canada for cable, and other services like mobile and home phone. if large corps like rogers, shaw, bell and telus want to do away with canadian programming in favour of u.s programming how about the do away with canadian pricing in favour of u.s pricing. give me a 20 cable bill and an unlimited data featue for my cell and it might make these providers logic a little bit more consistant and tollerable. imo.

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brentm ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be more than happy to pay \$1 or two more for my local station - unfortunately my satellite company won't carry my local station.
2. I believe that more of what I pay for my television service should go towards my local TV station. I don't think it's right that a delivery company should be that much more profitable than the company that is supplying the product.

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billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to brentm](#)

one of the reason some people don't want US satellite pirate or satellite..what is the point if you don't even have FREE tv on satellite. unless you can get your antennae to work with getting the FREE channels using a switch.

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Like



David Mclean ★ [1 month ago](#)

No and No cable fees are way overpriced as is, and Local TV? there is no local TV they are all owned by the big three.

Cable charges should be lowered Basic Cable should be \$9.00 per month.

The big three should make their own programs

Corporate sports should provide their own cable stations.

The CRTC has to become more active in making sure that there is 100% Canadian Content.

The CRTC has let the News Dept of all these providers become bias corporate message boards and this has done alot of damage to Canadian culture and must stop.

All of the above have a snowball chance of being protected by the CRTC.

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billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to David Mclean](#)

nobody wants to pay for anything. why did you think tv had advertisers, if it's free people buy it. advertisers have been paying the bill for decades.

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Like



bradmcmillan ★ [1 month ago](#)

jeff, just because a company runs a profit does not mean it should give some services away for free. you dont see microsoft giving xboxs away for fee because the already make a killing off of their operating system

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moya94 ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is not right that cable and satellite companies make money off of programs that Canadian tax payers have paid for. Some of these companies offer basic packages which air local television programs on thirteen channels, at the viewers' expense. The Government does not receive royalties of having their programs aired by these companies, which can be used to fund other Canadian programs (such as Canadian Arts or Health Services).

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rational response ★ 1 month ago

IN RETURN FOR THEIR \$ 10 PER MONTH 'TAX' UPON POTENTIAL VIEWERS- LEVIED THROUGH CABLE/SATELLITE COMPANIES- TV BROADCASTERS OUGHT TO HAVE TO AGREE TO STOP BROADCASTING ADVERTISEMENTS!!!

I would be angry and would attempt to find alternative methods of TV programme delivery to my family home.

Advertisement-driven TV broadcasters/TV station companies, such as local TV channels here in greater Vancouver, have no ethical argument to demand that viewers pay what would be tantamount to the UK's BBC license fee, 'for the privilege' of being able to receive their (predominantly foreign) programmes through cable/satellite...

The annual BBC license fee is about 12 pounds or 20 Canadian dollars per month in the UK...

Unlike almost all local TV channels in BC and across Canada, the BBC has no advertisements on its nearly 1 dozen TV channels- and no advertisements on its radio and (accessed in the UK) Internet services- and despite this, the BBC offers what is widely acknowledged as excellent quality, extensive (local and international) TV/Radio/Internet delivered news, business, entertainment and sports programming... AND in addition to the advertisement-free BBC,

the UK has advertisement-driven TV, such as Rupert Murdoch's 'SKY TV' that is doing fine...

In BC and across Canada, local TV broadcasters/TV station companies can charge higher prices for broadcasting advertisements if the respective local TV channel is carried over cable or satellite because more people will potentially view the advertisement than if the local TV channel was only available 'over-the-airwaves'...

Rather than attempting to become, in effect, 'state-subsidized' broadcasters- by getting the state (CRTC) to force people living in BC or other provinces to pay a fee for access to their broadcasts (through cable/satellite) AND at the same time saturating their programmes with advertisements- TV broadcasters ought to have to choose:

Convert their business model to a no-advertisement-type, and operate as BBC-like broadcasters, IE, without advertisements- and receive a state subsidy, perhaps levied by cable/satellite companies??- or continue operating as advertisement-driven broadcasters, without any fees paid to them from the cable/satellite companies- and if particular broadcasters can not accrue sufficient revenue from advertisements to stay in business- then go out of business!!!

There are so many dozens of TV channels available to viewers via cable, satellite and Internet that it is unrealistic for all to be able survive except by diluting even more what is all too often crappy quality programming inter-spliced with never ending inane advertisements...

Does a Vancouver/Victoria demographic and economic region need more than 1 and a 1/2 dozen local TV channels? NO!!

Is it realistic to expect what is nearly 18 separate (based locally) 'local' TV channels* to be available- and directly subsidized by the tax-payer/cable/satellite customer in a region the size of a Vancouver/Victoria, Toronto, Montreal or similar cities/regions?? No!!

(*IE: ethnic, non-profit, French-language, specialty, 'community' cable, and General Interest like CTV/CBC/Global/CHUM)

The TV broadcasting industry in most provinces across Canada badly needs a shake out if only to rationalize and improve the quality of the TV and Internet-delivered TV programme broadcasting environment for the long term...

This in part so that families and individuals were not continually being inundated with incessant commercials during 'family time' TV viewing and other periods during the broadcasting day... AND so that cities like Vancouver and Victoria did not have so many REDUNDANT local TV

channels..

After a shake out, if one occurs, if there were 'too few local TV channels' in major cities in BC and other provinces- which is highly implausible- it would always be open to the Federal/provincial govt's of the day to take steps to rectify this by offering tax breaks, etc...

No!! to a cable/satellite company surcharge-fee applied to cable/satellite customers and payable to local broadcasters!!!

Any broadcasters that want such a fee to be levied upon all POTENTIAL viewers who receive their TV through cable/satellite- ought to be asked if they are willing to entirely eliminate advertisements from their broadcasts in return for such...

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Like

 *Bill* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There are more and more commercials on TV .In an hour over half the time is taken up by commercials. The Local stations get paid for airing them.If they can not make a go of it then go out of business like any one else would have to. Quit using local content as an excuse for poor management. I'm tired of paying more for less.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *billy* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Bill](#)

the TV stations pay millions for the tv shows and millions for locally produced shows ..one other thing wonder why proramming from 6pm-midnight prime time is regulation 50% must be canadian produced programming..nobody wants to watch Canadian programming instead Canadians watch American TV shows.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *benjamin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I refuse to pay for stations like ctv just to watch a news broadcast that looks like it is a grade 10 media project. The "Canadian content" in form of movies is often played at a time of night that the only people that will see it, are those who cant sleep. very few Canadian shows are available during prime viewing hours because the popular shows are mostly American in origin so why would I want to pay for something that most of their viewers have no interest in including myself. If there was a demand for the Canadian programs than thats what we would be seeing during prime time hours. How much money are they spending on these crappy movies at 3 or 4am? how much money are they paying their news crews that frequently mess up their top stories either by being tongue tied or having technical issues. I see the same commercials twice during the same break often back to back if i was a company i wouldnt pay them money to run my ads since the way they do it is quite frankly annoying and i refuse to buy a product whos advertising annoys me.

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Like

 *bily* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [benjamin](#)

there is no programming at 3am cause nobdy watch tv at that time.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Kathleen Westergaard* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies should pay for local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



briangraff ★ 1 month ago

1. i might cancel the cable tv and use a digital antenna - but i would be very unhappy - i already pay \$70 a month - why should calbe tv cost almost as much per year as heating my house?
 2. i am already unhappy that the crtc has instituted a fee for small market local tv stations - why are cable subscribers in toronto paying for this? the tv stations get to use the airwaves for free - unlike cell phone companies which buy the bandwidth at auction. the crtc should charge the station in big profitable markets to use the bands they use, and then use this money to subsidize small market stations. no toher money should be provided to the tv stations or networks. local tv stations produce very little original programming - mostly the local news, and nothing more. if people are not watching the channel in enough numbers so that advertisers are willing to pay for ads, then let the station close.

if the crtc does allow the local stations to get money from the cable companies, then give cable subscribers the choice of blocking those stations and just getting them over the air. why should i pay for something i can get for free. i view cable tv as not buying the local programs, but as merely a replacement for a big tv antenna

this is also a problem that we have allowed too many things to fall into the hands of a couple of companies that now own broadcast and speicalty channels. the big networks are not innovative, but are cash cows that generate income by buying US tv shows

[Flag](#)

Like



Steve ★ 1 month ago

I would be most upset. When the economy picks up will they drop the costs? until recently they made money from all the extra viewers cable brought (Vancouver has many hills and many people had trouble with local reception). They could make money if they were good enough and were in demand in other areas of Canada so that say Vancouver stations were time shifts in Toronto. I wish we had that HD option with Shaw. Some local stations do make money with news, notably Global. I object to the local stations out bidding each other on US programming then needing us to rescue them when they pay too much. CTV paid \$1,000,000.00 for the rights to the Hockey Night in Canada theme - no wonder they are broke let alone the Olympics and Canadian Football (which can't even be watched over the air anymore). No sympathy for them from me here.

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ 1 month ago in reply to Steve

cause advertisers are willing pay millions to advertise on NHL sports. and millions watch the sport show. NHL is the only programming that draws million viewers other than that most programs have only couple of thousand viewers. people who watch NHL don't switch channels either. an skip commercials and advertising is on the ice rink

[Flag](#)

Like



G.W.VanderHaeghe ★ 1 month ago

As a member of the english community of the Laval / Montral area,
 We now have NO Morning local news show in English.

My family history dates from the late 1700's as English speaking Quebecers(not alaphones) and proud of it.

Help is needed to recoupe the millions of dollars stolen via cable and satelite companies.well yes the public broadcast is free..but the Copyright does not provide for rebroadcast without permission of the broadcaster..the laws are in place USE THEM.

[Flag](#)

Like



J. Moore ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy being presented with two bills for this service. I would wonder why the consumer is being asked to fund more profit for both parties. One of which produce nothing but a signal and the other producing the product but no signal to speak of. It seems the CRTC gave away the rights to broadcast these signals with little regard to who benefited the most from the arrangement as it existed. The cable companies were very small but had seen the viability of the idea of taking a local signal and making it available to a larger segment of the population. They spent a lot of money to do this and should be fairly compensated for their efforts but at the same time really produce nothing. I think they spent more money on the technology to prevent hackers from stealing their signals than anything else. The television stations on the other hand produced the product at their own expense sometimes in the belief that was what the public wanted and broadcast same and hoped to be recompensed by ratings and advertising dollars. The issue seems to be who gets the bigger slice of the pie. The consumer has listened to both parties and their childish advertisements on the media. It is sad and a continuing display of how large entities try to get the sympathy and aid of the consumer who is treated as a mental deficient by both and in the end is required to pay more no matter how the situation is resolved. Local television should be supported in producing local content and I believe that cable companies should pay a fee for the signal they resell. It would appear to me to be little like royalties being paid for other intellectual property as in the recording or film industry.

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Joe ★ [1 month ago](#)

I disagree with Bundled programming~ I prefer to pay only for what I CHOOSE to have come into my Home. I spoke with Shaw Cable just this week about that very problem. I have TRASH come into my home via TV when all I want is about 5 Channels worth watching 17/CNN 23/NEWSWORLD 27/Discovery 32/Family 35/Movie the rest are a total waste of time- oh and A Channel News- Vancouver Island Showcase is disgusting at times - with a child in the home I am very disgusted by most of the TV viewing - Junk Junk and More Junk !! and we are forced to pay for what we disagree with ~ amazing not what I consider to be True Service....! and we pay too much for what we do get~ I would agree with paying the Stations that are worthwhile but not for garbage/no mind junk- no wonder some people are so messed up.....why don't you run Old Shows from the 60's my teen daughter enjoys I Love Lucy TV is rarely worth watching these days - too disturbing and frustrating I am this close to Cancelling Cable

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billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to Joe](#)

so you'll pay \$30/month for 5 channels? \$6/channel. Minimum bill is \$30/month .

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to Joe](#)

some pay tv channels are \$20/month just for one channel cause there are so few viewers for advertising to pay for content.

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oldtroop ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy being presented with two bills for this service. I would wonder why the consumer is being asked to fund more profit for both parties. One of which produce nothing but a signal and the other producing the product but no signal to speak of. It seems the CRTC gave away the rights to broadcast these signals with little regard to who benefited the most from the arrangement as it existed. The cable companies were very small but had seen the viability of the idea of taking a local signal and making it available to a larger segment of the population. They spent a lot of money to do this and should be fairly compensated for their efforts but at the

same time really produce nothing. I think they spent more money on the technology to prevent hackers from stealing their signals than anything else. The television stations on the other hand produced the product at their own expense sometimes in the belief that was what the public wanted and broadcast same and hoped to be recompensed by ratings and advertising dollars. The issue seems to be who gets the bigger slice of the pie. The consumer has listened to both parties and their childish advertisements on the media. It is sad and a continuing display of how large entities try to get the sympathy and aid of the consumer who is treated as a mental deficient by both and in the end is required to pay more no matter how the situation is resolved. Local television should be supported in producing local content and I believe that cable companies should pay a fee for the signal they resell. It would appear to me to be little like royalties being paid for other intellectual property as in the recording or film industry.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Catherine MacPherson ★ [1 month ago](#)

If cable and satellite already pick up local tv stations because they used to send out a signal that can be picked up with an antenna it is time to change and come into the new century. Cable companies might have originally used this signal free BUT they have advertised this as a bonus on their 'packages' and charged me the consumer for carrying this channel on my cable bill. I would be very upset to find that I must pay again for this signal which I have already been paying. These cable/satellite companies have already lost this fight in the USA and they pay for local channels so why not enforce this same rule in Canada. The CRTC should insist on fair and equitable business practices and enforce a payment schedule for use of local TV stations in Canada as well.

[Flag](#)

Like

 PO'd in Grand Bend ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will cancel my service if I have to pay an additional fee to support local tv. In my view, the cable and satellite providers can chip in to support the local providers, who should also reduce their profit expectations. Unless both sides reduce their greed and find a compromise, there will be a much smaller pie to share and then neither side wins...

[Flag](#)

Like

 CLG ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't agree with the TV Tax. It will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - and is not needed when broadcasters receive funding from government and TV providers like Bell. Also, there has not been a commitment by large boardcasters to keep or support local broadcasting. The large TV networks already make substantial operating profits (400 million I've heard)

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Like

 AMB ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to CLG](#) 1 person liked this.

Interesting comments, CLG. Did you know that the CRTC is not considering a new tax. Most experts including CRTC commissioners, professors, news paper editorial boards agree that the "tax" label is not correct and is an attempt to "spin" consumers by cable and satellite companies. The best thing to protect consumers is to re-regulate the cost of basic TV services, that way consumers will be protected from future price increases. We pay enough already.

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 wylie ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a person on a fixed income and with all the other new taxes coming along, the the increase to cost of living I would react as follows..I would have to give up something else inorder to keep

my basic programming. Bell has already started to apply a Local Improvement fee to their current subscribers. So something would have to give for me...stop newspaper subscriptions, etc. Enough is enough.. I would like know why the cable providers can pay other broadcasters for their signal and not those in Canadian. The crtc has put us in this box...So if I have to I will give up and cancel and go back to the dark ages...I have had it.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Paul](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to wylie](#)

Good points, wylie. Maybe the CRTC should re-regulate the cost of a basic tv service, so for Canadians on limited incomes, cable bills could in fact decrease. Right now, the average bill is about \$50 per month, but this includes many channels people don't watch. Maybe with a small package the cost could be around \$25 per month.

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Like



[Donna Fahrer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that local TV should stay as it is now and the consumer should not have to pay extra for it. The price of cable and satellite services now is very high and to add more to it for local TV is outrageous. If they took local TV away us northerners wouldn't know anything that was going on locally.

[Flag](#)

Like



[stewarthill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

choosing to pay to watch local news and events will mean people will take the cheapest package and may not choose "local" stations.

with our weather and size of country.... watching news from a big city when you live out in the country serves no purpose.

If made to make a choice I will just not choose to increase my bill and what ever has to be removed to make the cost remain the same will be my move.

Ultimately I will have less channels for the same \$\$\$.. eventually I will just cancel my subscription, I find tv is not as good as it used to be both in value and content

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Like



[jenniferkerr](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not understand why the cable providers couldn't simply pay the local TV stations instead of assuming they should pass the cost along in the form of the TV tax, which they seem to take as a given in their arguments against paying, and use this to rally consumer support. Of course nobody wants to increase the price of their cable as it is already expensive. But why can't they just absorb the cost of something they have been getting for free for years?

[Flag](#)

Like



[NoLocalTVTax](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not want to pay for local TV. I rarely watch it. If a local TV charge were implemented I would vote for any government which promised to remove it. I would likely have to cancel some of my programming choices from my TV carrier in order to make up the difference (since I am sure I will not get a raise in my salary just to pay for this tax), which I would be very unhappy about and which would mean less revenue for them.

No measures are needed to support local TV as it is irrelevant to me and I never watch it, nor do I feel the lack of it.

[Flag](#)

Like



NoMoreFeeHikes ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [NoLocalTVTax](#)

Interesting comment, NoLocalTVtax. Did you know your cable or satellite TV service provider is already charging your for local TV. You are paying for it right now in the cost of the basic service.

You are right you are not likely to get a raise. That is why is so crazy that the cable companies are threatening to increase your bill by another \$10 per month.

Last year, the average cable bill was just over 50 bucks per month, 8% increase over last year. I know I did not get a 8% last year.

In fact, cable bills have gone up 4 times the rate of inflation over the last years. This is just wrong. While Canadians are cutting back, cable companies are raking in billions of dollars in profits.

It is just wrong. I am with you in that I am tired of paying to much for channels I dont watch and dont want. That is the other problem, cable companies are bundling channels in a way that is not consumer friendly or allows for consumer choice.

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Like



GERI ★ [1 month ago](#)

The companies wanted this cash grab is another way to pay their upper management higher wages. This is an unnecessary tax considering every level of government is trying to pull more taxes be it HST or TV tax or gas tax. For many TV is the only source of entertainment which is available if you are unable to go out. Most of the programming is directed to the youth and it is repetitious every hour as it is. there is nothing new or entertainint and they want to charge more for this. NO NO NO

[Flag](#)

Like



Timbuctu ★ [1 month ago](#)

I strongly feel that the cable and satellite companies make enough money to cover the two new costs that are being presented to consumers. One of them is the fee for local programming, the other is a fee for the CRTC. It seems that our current provider has already passed on the CRTC's fee directly to the consumer, and that isn't fair in it's own right. Now they want to try and make it seem like local television is the bad guy, by passing what they should have been paying those stations all along directly to us while airing commercials that out-and-out lie directly to the public about what they are doing? Pathetic. I intend to fight this as far and as long as possible, to the point where our household is already deliberately holding back the CRTC from our monthly cable bill. If the company has to pay the CRTC a fee, fine, let them do so...but not out of my wallet. I'm already paying a huge amount for programming, even though my service hasn't worked correctly since the first week I started subscribing to it almost two years ago. The company wants their money when they want it, but they don't seem to care about the service they provide.

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Like



Tim ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I will not pay more for local television. The local channels should be supported by advertising not public funding. I get my local news from other sources so I do not have much use for local programming. Other business' have to operate within their budgets, why shouldn't the local channels.

2. I don't think any measure should be taken. If the channels are viable and run properly they should not need any support. If there is not enough of a market to keep them afloat then they should close down.

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Like



Roger ★ [1 month ago](#)

Saint John, NB has already lost local programming. "Local" is now Halifax, NS. CBC has a local morning Radio station broadcast on TV for 2 hours every morning. This must qualify as "Canadian Content". That allows the evening to be filled with American reality shows.

Perhaps, if the CRTC deregulated TV, we would get local stations. With the relatively low cost of transmission equipment, we might get 100 watt local stations that would advertise local retailers and local services that I could support. The way things are now, I only get advertising from the large US retailers.....Walmart, Home Depot, etc. Even "The Bay" is US owned. Local, as defined by the OTA networks will soon mean Toronto.

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Like



susanpeskett ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local tv is very important to my family. We watch the local news on both ctv and cbc twice a day. We like to know what is happening in our community and the province. Watching news from somewhere else makes little sense - it lacks relevance to our every day lives.

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Malcolm H ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is important but you must realize that the internet is quickly going to make television carriers obsolete. Once this happens you'll lose this monetary funding you expect from TV subscribers paying the "TV TAX" and the local television stations will be back asking for money from internet companies. They must be forced to be competitive so that viewers will seek them out, "asking for their channel or accessing them over the web". When advertisers see the local channels audience increase they will pursue the vibrant local channels increasing their revenue. Tax payers already pay enough for CBC so in short "No TV Tax and let competitive local Television flourish or die!

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phildevos ★ [1 month ago](#)

This entire situation is frankly garbage. Had the LOCAL TV networks not started entering into the speciality channels TSN etc and simply did what they always did we would not be discussing this. The TV folks have the opportunity to sell many advertisements, which they do. The cable folks make money on selling signals to those who use their service. I am guessing, because for over 30 yrs in this business, that TV is taking in far more dollars than cable.

At the same time in Yorkton Saskatchewan, where I live, so called local TV is simply a noon hour package of what Regina did the night before. OLD News and some local interviews, many of them paid for. If this is local I really don't and can't watch it.

At the same time my solution is one of biblical proportions.

I suggest the CRTC change their rules. No longer do the cable companies HAVE to carry the LOCAL TV if they don't want to. thus reducing the local TV broadcast range in many cases.

If the customer wishes to have local TV then charge accordingly.

It really is very simple.....ANY openings on the CRTC Board?

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Like



Saj ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am with Susan D on this one. Enough is enough!!

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Silent Waters ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local programming is very important to me and losing the pulse of the community would lead

to a serious breakdown in the community of people helping people. Unfortunately I've seen this happening already, as local stations appear to be giving less air time to community events and more to sensational celebrity events (ie; I could care less about Tiger Woods problems - let gossip shows air that crap).

In today's world of internet access on your phone, and global news at everyone's fingertips whole local TV stations seem unnecessary and frankly undesired by my peer group.

Gov should subsidise specific local programming (ie; news, serials) with staff/reporters embedded within the community, and mandate Canadian network(s) to air these programs at appropriate times - sandwiched by the too many American gossip and reality shows that the great unwashed seem to want.

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Like

 [Malcolm H](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 [Eric ska](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will cancel my cable service completely. It is outrageous that we as cable customers have to pick up the slack because those who are greedy and business that are not run as they should be. Thanks to the internet you can watch most of these stations online for "free", and the rest you can watch on cable for free. We, as customers would like to know where all the billions of dollars are going that our bills are going to be increased once again!

I agree with Nowoolinis below, "Let those that cannot survive in the current climate "Fall" We pay for CBC in our taxes already and they could become the flagship broadcaster for "local" and Canadian content."

Perhaps if there was some good Canadian content people would watch local channels and the advertisers could pay for the service instead of asking us to do it. Today's TV is a joke with all the stories of the lives of celebrities, the ridiculous reality shows, and "comedy", today's shows are not meaningful, they are a waste of time.

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 [Eric ska](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Donald ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Ericska](#)

Interesting commnets, Ericaska. Right now it is the cable companies that are not standing on their own two feet. The CRTC protects them with regulations that allow them to take signals and programming for free from local TV stations. This is not right or fair. In the US cable companies pay to retransmit local TV, and it is working for consumers, local TV stations and cable alike. But here in Canada, the cable companies want to keep getting free eggs from the golden goose.

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Like



andyrobb ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I would look at the stations I am recieving, and remove the ones I would not want to recieve any more. I do not need to get 15 versions of Global, CTV and the A channel, one or 2 would be sufficient for my needs.
2) Local TV need to sell more local advertising, and alter there programming to try and get a foot print into the whole country. I do not see any content produced by the local tv station right now, only the same shows that are available on 10 other stations at the same time.

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Like



Bob Torrance ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV to me does not mean just a transmitter and a regional news show, if there is to be a tax the broadcasters must provide a lot more local programming (discussion forums, entertainment shows,promotion and coverage of regional events and attractions which promote local arts and tourism).

Our current regional station offers only a newscast on a regular basis, there is no regular studio production of any local or regional nature.

I wolud support a tax if it truly means local production and content on aregular basis.

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BroMonque ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay for local TV already as part of my basic service - and mostly for channels I hardly ever watch and would never miss. Local programming on traditional networks is a myth other than local news shows and some daytime fare. In fact, from what I've seen I get much more Canadian-produced content on the specialty channels than on network TV. If I have to pay for local TV, then I want to be able to opt out of any channels I don't want and *without* having the CRTC telling me how many Canadian vs. American channels I must have. So the questions I have to the networks is this: exactly what local TV are you protecting with the proposed fee for carriage? Do you think that you will be able to maintain your advertising revenue if cable and satellite subscribers exclude your channel(s) from their service?

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Like



George Barrington ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is vitally important to the maintenance of the sense of community so necessary to us all. The intention to ask for more money in support of local TV is another method of reaching directly into the pockets of the average Canadian to subsidize an already bloated and somewhat greedy industry. Canadians do not need to spend more money to have what they are already paying for with their inflated cable television fees. The CRTC has a responsibility to stand up for the Canadian taxpayer and to insure that services that are necessary and important are not lost to us. Yet again Big Business appears to have the final say and the average guy is being forced to pay another tax for services that we already support.

The issue here is one of the corporate bottom line benefiting from bureaucratic inability to do

what is just and fair. We need the CRTC to stand up for the common man and stop this attempt to again plunder the taxpayer unnecessarily.

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Like

 *Jane* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my service as well. I get 4 channels with my rabbit ears & that is fine for me. Why should I pay more for a service I feel I already pay through the nose for?

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Like

 *Gary* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Where is the competition ??I am fed up with poor selection and high prices. I find the competition"" has made an alliance with each other to not step on toes as far as prices and selection of quality shows.They have endless amount of commercial content which they impose on consumers which is not asked for or wanted Please allow for real competition not the crap they call entertainment by the present operators.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dave Meldrum* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I had a choice about having (or not having) access to "local TV" channels, them go ahead and quote me a price. But don't force me and my cable company to pay for channels I never asked for!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bill* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Dave Meldrum](#)

Dave, right now you are being charged for channels you never asked for by your cable company. Have you recently tried to pick a package of channels you want. It is impossible. It is the cable and satellite companies that package the channels.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *paulmarriner* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not believe that we should have to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for cable. Via government-granted monopolies, cable companies have grown inordinately wealthy. Originally these monopolies were necessary to underwrite the significant capital costs of making cable services widely available; however, this has been accomplished and yet cable rates continue to rise, not fall as they should within a competitive environment. Cable companies should be "forced" to pay for local programming without raising basic cable rates as a condition of their licenses. The phone companies survived the dismantling of their monopoly, however I doubt the cable companies want to drive down that road.

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 *margaretduke* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe we need to claim our personal rights to local TV, which I consider one of our freedoms-freedom of choice. If local TV is controlled by TV servers, such as Shaw, etc. I think I would consider cancelling my connection with satellite, cable, etc. We are paying too much for what we are getting already.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *maryannroy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i would cancel my subscription,because with the economy the way it is, having cable is the least of my worries. We can get along just fine without it.I hope other people agree ,that its time we stopped being victimized by big corporations.

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Like

 [kenthachey](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel cable. I find it ridiculous that a T.V. tax would be handed out once more to the customers. Aren't we taxed enough as it is?

2. First, local TV stations should be investigated to see whether they are simply poorly run, which in today's reality, wouldn't surprise me, and second, local stations could get additional funding from local advertising.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [C M](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If cable and satellite providers are FORCED to distribute local TV, I don't see the logic of forcing them to pay for it.

If you want to go ahead with the TV Tax project, you should give consumers the OPTION of NOT having the local tv stations part of their bundle.

Why should we pay for something that we don't want, something that we already pay for with our taxes, something that already makes money, something that bombards us with advertisements and sub-par programming?

[Flag](#)

Like

 [maryannroy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Iwould cancel my subscription,because with todays economy ,having cable tv,is the least of my worries.Putting food on the table takes precedence.And i am tired of everybody thinking they can take advantage of us.,in trying to empty our pockets to fill theirs.

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Like

 [dave](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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 [laurie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the Cable and Satellite providers should be subsidizing the local networks stations / or paying the tax. These providers are saturating our Canadian Society with American programming and we need to keep a balance in place that supports and represents our local culture and communities. I would be happy to pay the tax, however believe it should be the big guys who are making hundreds of millions in profits each year that really should be contributing to our country in this manner.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Dorothy Pelly* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As seniors living on minimum payments, if the cost goes up too much we will need to cancel our Bell Expressview contract. Costs are going up in everything and payment is being cut each year. TV we will be able to do without.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Pat* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost everyone and it's not needed. Ridiculous for the CRTC to try and impose this.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Joe P* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I fully appreciate the need to protect our Canadian heritage, but introducing a new TV tax does not ensure large TV networks would use the money for this purpose. In addition consumers are already paying 1.5% local programming improvement fee to help support local programming. Enough is Enough say NO to TV tax

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Nickolas* ★ [1 month ago](#)

CTV, CBC, Global, etc OWN most of the channels you watch (yes, even discovery, animal planet, TSN, etc). YES, they are not poor, AND THEY DON'T NEED MORE MONEY to continue to POORLY MANAGE THEIR BUSINESS

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*AL Newell* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable and satellite companies are charging the consumer too much for their service as it is ! These companies don't pay for local tv to begin with and local tv gets the advertising revenue ! All this is is another profit maker for both ! at the consumers expense !

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Sandie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Where else can a company already making enormous profits keep gouging the people for their entertainment and news. I have a limited income even though I worked my whole life in this country. Never was able to get good paying work, raised two children without the financial help of their father, always making do with next to nothing. My complete entertainment and eye on the world happenings is through television. Most channels are repeated but do we complain, no! But to add more charges to our cable bill is terrible. Think about what exactly we get for the exorbitant sum to view 5-7 channels that show the same program, come on you corporate greedy people get a grip on reality for once give the little guy a break. You already make more profit than most other companies. You're getting like the government, charge more and get less. Nice one, not!!!!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Nickolas* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Don A* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't see the difference between getting local programming off the air or via cable/Satellite. Viewers will tune in or not based on the value they see in that programming, and the ad revenue should reflect the popularity of the program. If what they're really saying is that given the 300 channel world that cable/Sat give the viewers, we're unable to sustain local programs that's different. I do think that it is important to our communities to have local news and other content. But I don't think that making Cable/Sat companies pay for off the air feeds from local stations is the correct vehicle. The burden should be shared between broadcasters and cable/sat companies that generate their revenue based on Canadian viewers.....not dumped onto the cable/sat companies only.

Maybe redirecting the fund in place for Canadian content towards news and current affairs, with an appropriate increase in funding? I believe Broadcasters, Cable and Satellite companies contribute to this fund....so the burden is shared.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*cliffordmorris* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is essential for freedom of information. We can not afford to loose its content. On the other had, we all ready pay very high fees to receive a clean signal from our providers. Back in the 1950's through the 1980's the signal was free at our antennas. Today we are being gouged by service providers. Paying more is not what I want to see. Since I'm on a fixed income, it the service providers are allowed to raise rates, then I will be forced to reduce the service I receive.

We need a balanced solution. Service providers are making record profits. Some of that should go to support local TV programming.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*mf* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In most European countries you pay for all local tv. In fact if you own a tv you pay a tv tax which helps keep good quality local tv service broadcasting over the air. The tv tax is paid annually and is about \$300. Canadian dollars. This tv licence covers both local over signals and cable, satellite tv. This money goes to ensure the quality of local tv and limits the amount of commercials that can be broadcast during a program. The UK, Italy and Germany all have this tv tax and the local program quality is very good. the tax also covers all specialty cable channels as well. It seems to work for those countries.....

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*james* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I would demand that my television service provider remove the channels from my package and stop charging me for it. If they did not, I would consider replacing my television service with internet-distributed content through a set-top-box (XBox Live, or other media player)

2) Local television is sufficiently subsidized for its purpose. If people were interested in it, advertising revenues should allow it to self-support (with the monies they already get from the government). We should invest in new delivery models that don't require expensive broadcast infrastructures: Web-based and P2P-based technologies and the networks that carry them to optimize the content distribution experience.

Overall Comments: I reject the idea of paying for something that the satellite and cable providers are obligated to distribute. I do not value local TV *Stations* but some local TV *Content* (important local news) should be generated and new forms of distribution should be considered (Web, Interactive TV, XBox Live, BitTorrent, etc) that don't require the infrastructure of a local TV Broadcaster.

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cliffordmorris ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite companies are making record profits. Some of that should be going to support local TV programming.

Local TV programming is essential to freedom of information in our country.

I'm on fixed income. No one is going to help me pay more for TV services. If there is an increase in the cost to me, I will have no choice but to reduce services I receive.

I would like to see a more granular approach to the services I receive. By that I mean, more ability to select few stations, not the large packages that are there now. If I want one station, I have to buy a lot I don't want. This raises my costs. So if prices are raised to pay for local TV, I will cut the services I receive.

[Flag](#)



Serge Raymond ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am upset that canadian broadcasters want to take the easy way out to address challenges to providing for local TV. If the issue is with sponsor dollars, then let competition dictate who survives in the "local" market. They should learn to be creative as to how to get necessary \$\$\$ from sponsors rather than gouge the local viewer.

[Flag](#)



Ron ★ [1 month ago](#)

Definitely not... a business should be able to stand on it's own. Taxing customers is a easy (and unfortunately seeming more popular) bail out .. wish I could just turn around and tax the public when I needed money.

[Flag](#)



Robert P ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not understand why the CRTC would even consider a tax on something we can get free over the airways. If by any chance the CRTC aproves the tax it should give customers to option of opting out of local channels as well as the tax. Bottom line the consumer will pay. We already pay for channels we do not even want with Canadian Content Rules must we now pay a tax for local channels, which by the way seem to have much of the same content city to city except for 30 minutes of news is that worth a tax? Canadians can no longer afford to dish out money for channels and services they do not want. Must I cancel my cable or satellite and get an antenna.

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leftylilmum ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I have to pay more to watch TV then I believe the Local Cable companies need to tell and adhere to what they are going to do with the extra money given by the satellite and cable companies. they should be mandated to spend at least a higher percentage on Canadian based programming that most Canadians would watch. Every one involved needs to be held accountable for any monies that changes hands.

[Flag](#)



james ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I would demand that my television service provider remove the channels from my package and stop charging me for it. If they did not, I would consider replacing my television service with

internet-distributed content through a set-top-box (XBox Live, or other media player)

2) Local television is sufficiently subsidized for its purpose. If people were interested in it, advertising revenues should allow it to self-support (with the monies they already get from the government). We should invest in new delivery models that don't require expensive broadcast infrastructures: Web-based and P2P-based technologies and the networks that carry them to optimize the content distribution experience.

Overall Comments: I reject the idea of paying for something that the satellite and cable providers are obligated to distribute. I do not value local TV *Stations* but some local TV *Content* (important local news) should be generated and new forms of distribution should be considered (Web, Interactive TV, XBox Live, BitTorrent, etc) that don't require the infrastructure of a local TV Broadcaster.

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Rob33437 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not understand why the CRTC would even consider a tax on something we can get free over the airways. If by any chance the CRTC aproves the tax it should give customers to option of opting out of local channels as well as the tax. Bottom line the consumer will pay. We already pay for channels we do not even want with Canadian Content Rules must we now pay a tax for local channels, which by the way seem to have much of the same content city to city except for 30 minutes of news is that worth a tax? Canadians can no longer afford to dish out money for channels and services they do not want. Must I cancel my cable or satellite and get an antenna.

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christinechoquette ★ [1 month ago](#)

The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV...it's time they take part of their share for local tv. Our TV bill is high enough as it is.

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians? Can they not take part of those profits and provide to local tv, how difficult can that be? Sounds like a money grab to me that they're trying to put onto consumers...it's time this stops now!

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lindajoecharette ★ [1 month ago](#)

Both my husband and I are retired. As of right now we are moving out of our Apartment block that we have lived in for twenty-four years because be cannot afford to stay. Our building is undergoing renovations which will put it out of rent Control for five years. Our two-bedroom apartment will jump from \$927 a month to over \$1,100.00 a month. but it will cost us more than that with the added extras that they want us to pay. The parking is going up to \$40, they are now going to start to charge us \$10 a month for our storage room and We will now have to pay for our Basic Cable System as they will no longer pay for this. The cost to us will be closer to \$1,200. I do not feel that we should have to pay for local TV it is a necessity to keep us informed on what is going on in our Province and to give us weather information that is so valuable to Manitobans. especially in our climate. We have been able to find another Apartment to move into that is only over \$900.00 a month and we do not have to pay for our Basic Cable it is included. I feel that the Cable Companies should be charged for distrubuting our Local TV Programs this will keep us from losing Local TV Stations Like the one we lost in Brandon, Manitoba. That Station should never have been closed. It was in a farm community and the local weather information was extremely needed to keep them informed of conditions. I would like to see the CRTC allow the Local TV Stations to charge the Cable Companies. They can well afford to pay.

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[Phil C](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If I am asked to pay for local TV, I will cancel that service from my signal provider. The local broadcasters may need the money, but I don't have any more to give. and we all know full well, that if a fee is asked of the big providers, they will take it back from our pockets. I will do everything in my power to ensure my bill remains the same, and if I have to cancel my services all together, I will. and that, in the end will only hurt the signal provider.

If I have to start paying for local TV, I'm going to go and get the HD antenna for 60\$ and have it for free that way... not to mention that global and many other networks, now let you stream TV for free off their site....

2. local TV i think is a joke, I see 30 ~ 60 minutes of what I can consider local news in a given day, the rest is all nationwide content, if not content that comes from the US. if we really would have that much local TV, maybe this would not be the same discussion point.

Also, there is no documentation on what is considered "local TV". My definition of local, might not be the same as yours...

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[08_gbreadon8](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe I would seriously consider cancelling my services, I could go to the video store and rent quite a few videos, to say nothing of going to the library and borrowing for free for the amount I am already paying each month--the taxes we already pay are outrageous and the prices for the services are nothing short of atrocious. As Canadians we are the most regulated, pay the most taxes and have the least choice of any developed country, it is a total disgrace-I will not pay another tax for so called local TV, they only produce garbage at any rate and the only time most people even watch a local channel is when they are showing a British or American program, no more taxes and more choice we are being strangled!

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[Kevin Preece](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1- I feel that an additional charge for Local stations is not warranted as the larger cable companies re-broadcast their feeds without financially supporting the Local stations in a given market. It is unfair that Local stations are expected to support themselves solely through advertising revenue when the other stations are paid for their content.

2- The cable companies should be paying a fee to support the local stations in a given market that will subsidize the ad revenue that they already generate. This const should not be forwarded to the consumer due to the fact that it should have been factored in as part of the operating costs.

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[randrews](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I know that a company needs to make money to pay for the investment and infastructure, but to post almost 2billion in earnings and burden the people who posted those earnings for these companies is a bit gross. Isn't it about time to stop raping the general public and set profits at a fair amount instead of the outrageous dividens paid to shareholders and put something back into the publics hands for change, give something back to US . Thank you R.Andrews

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[Karen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were asked to pay more, I would likely cancel all TV services. I am currently with Rogers cable, and they increase their rates about \$5 almost annually. It may seem like a small

amount, but when it's added up with phone and internet costs, it gets pricey. The quality of TV shows, to me, doesn't justify the costs. Any additional charges might just push me to the point where I merely download the shows I want from the internet, and forget about watching them on TV. The cable companies should be sharing some of their massive charges with local TV.

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Wayne ★ [1 month ago](#)

Years ago the signals were over the air since people had roof-top antennas, and advertisers would pay local stations for the broadcasts. Times have changed. Roof-top antennas are gone and advertisers are going too. Broadcast is by cable companies. Advertisers pay cable companies to be seen by viewers. Cable companies should pass on this advertising revenue to the local stations.

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Overtaxed_LJM ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV service needs to be a self supporting business model. I should not be forced to pay for local stations as a tax. I rarely watch traditional TV and I am more interested in a model where I can subscribe to specialty channels of my interest, a la cart.

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kevinh ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is very important to me since it is the only TV I receive with my antenna. It is very important to me that the cable and satellite companies contribute to keep the local stations on the air. They generate a lot of revenue charging their customers for local TV and should not be treated like a single household with an antenna. No other companies are allowed to take a product from one company for free and then sell it to customers.

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Linda ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would have my cable tv disconnected. In my opinion, I pay more than enough for basic cable and am not willing to pay more. I am already at a point of disconnecting my cable because I'm tired of annual increases and can't really afford them. It's about priorities.

Local television is already supported just by the fact that the cable companies air their stations/programs. Cable companies already gouge the consumer and should pay local television stations without passing this onto consumers. If my cable company were to pass the increase onto me, they would actually end up losing money because I'm not going to pay the increase. Once again, I'll disconnect my cable and only use the internet for news and to watch programs. I'm not a pawn and won't be used as one in this greed game between local stations and the cable company.

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petergomery ★ [1 month ago](#)

I dislike being forced to accept channels I don't watch. I would prefer a buffet menu where I can choose my channels and thus reduce my monthly fees

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gusrobin ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes Local TV is important. I will not pay any additional fee for Local TV. We are fighting a recession, job loss and increase in other forms of taxes. I feel the TV stations should also manage their budgets as we are doing and not expect additional funding. The 'man on the road' cannot go any where and get additional funds so why should the Local TV stations be allowed to go for additional funds.

Give an option to the consumer either to pay for local TV or not pay for Local TV and see how many consumers actually pay for it!

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Debbie Milinkovic ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the CTRC is going to agree to fee for carriage to support local programming then the money should go to a fund and not directly to the broadcaster. The fund can then be used for the development and maintenance of local programming and the broadcaster would have to show proof of performance to access this fund. The fund should also only be accessible to underserved communities. (programs and communities that can support themselves should not be funded) Local Producers not associated with the Broadcaster should also be able to access the fund for the creation of local programming. Programs funded this way should not count toward the Broadcasters' Canadian content obligations.

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petergomery ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would prefer a buffet menu where I can choose my channels of choice and not be compelled to accept channels I don't watch but have to pay for

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dan mitchell ★ [1 month ago](#)

i cancelled my cable subs long time ago as it is one of the most expensive cable service on the world.. i dont need it.

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joefindlay ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay enough. cable seems to go up twice a year already and i didn't add any channels.

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Like



petergomery ★ [1 month ago](#)

stations should rely on advertising revenue. Why should I pay additional fees for stations I don't watch?

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chuckmule ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is antiquated. There is no need for it in the global world. We can obtain better more indepth informaiton from the internet. If local broadcasters need additional funds send them to the Satellite and cable providers to renegotiate a better deal. The costs will eventually land on our shoulders however, a direct tax or fee from the local providers is nuts. The locals are owned by the 3 large providers and although a single station may be having difficulties they should go to their parent company and obtain funding

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John ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV is already very expensive. An additional tax will go into the pockets of the networks who have not agreed to earmark money for local TV and, in fact, continue to see local TV cutbacks as a way to increase their profits.

My reaction to additional costs will be to reduce the amount of TV I subscribe to. I cannot afford to pay more. TV is discretionary expenditure. Unlike governments, local, provincial and federal, I do not have the ability to raise my income to cover additional discretionary spending, I have to cut back to keep solvent and this is what I will be forced to do.

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Jasper ★ [1 month ago](#)

- A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell
- Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.
- The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year
- And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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angelicas ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year.

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Jim ★ [1 month ago](#)

Type your comment here.Ok.Cable and satellite and local TV have made thier point. Now here's mine. I will no longer subscribe to any of you if I see any increase in my bill. And if all subscribers would do the same, it wouldn't take long to see this tax waived or disappear. Power to the people,with out us they are nothing.C'mon they have you brain washed that you need a T.V. Really you don't, there are alternatives such as computers,radio,newspapers or how about reading a good book. I've made my mine up and I'm ready to go the distance. Just think of the money I'll be putting in my pocket over the next 10 years by dumping these Bozo's.

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k. ★ [1 month ago](#)

Bell and Rogers, don't want to charge you more.

They want the CRTC to rule against this TV TAX and simply, for the networks to be accountable for the dollars they spend outside our country.

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

Local channels are deemed a MUST CARRY by the CRTC and that is why we are being charged for these channels whether we want them or not. Getting these channels into homes, costs a lot of money and unfortunately it has to come from us.

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gbbrian ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not think that the local TV channels should receive any funding through a cable or satellite provider. They already get extra money in the form of higher advertising rates because of being able to tell potential advertisers that they have a certain sized audience for this show or that news broadcast. The more viewers the more the advertiser is charged for their ad. I think the local networks spend way too much money buying US shows. The recession affected their business with less advertising by companies. It has also affected a lot of businesses who do not have the option to raise rates or have the government impose some fee, they just have to tighten their belts until things pick up. I think local stations should do the same thing.

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Arlo ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite providers force consumers to purchase a large local TV channel lineup for \$30+ per month before consumers can pick any additional channels. By the time you pick up a few additional packages for sports or nature channels, many consumers pay \$60+ a month to watch a few shows.

To add additional fees on top of this to support local TV is a burden for consumers. Personally, if I wasn't forced to purchase the entire local TV package for stations across Canada I would probably drop most of that package and keep just the local channels for my area (and pay for what I would actually use). Cable and satellite providers should be forced to pay local TV stations for their programming out of the mandatory fees they already charge consumers for these channels.

Increasing cable and satellite fees are already driving many people to the internet to download shows they want to watch rather than pay large monthly bills. Adding more to the bills will only exacerbate the problem.

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Steve ★ [1 month ago](#)

The ultimate loser in these debates will be the consumer with increased prices. I feel that what we pay in cable fees is more than fair. The pool of money that the broadcaster and cable companies are fighting over should not be increased. They need to settle their dispute without effecting our bills. We pay enough. Once again in jan 2010 bell is increasing their rates and for what? I feel the rates should be regulated (unless we have true competition) or I have the choice on which channels I want. Not these packages that blends the good with the bad. This 1.5% fee also should be cancelled. Funny that as we got closer to theses hearing the cable companies decide to pass the cost to us. They were just proving their point that any additional fees for local tv they will pass on. CRTC must protect the consumer first and ensure we are not going to pay more for something we already pay a premium for.

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TW ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is totally unacceptable to make consumer pay for the local TV programss on top of what we already pay for the cable/satellite services. Local television should be competing with any other contents by getting their revenue from advertisement or as a charged channel. If it is a channel that will require service fee, it should be an option that consumers can choose and pick rather than a mandatory charged item that consumers have to pay for.

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Les piche ★ [1 month ago](#)

We canadians are taxed to death as it is. I would just cancel everything.

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[Like](#)



fred c ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is a dying business. They must reinvent or die. NO TAXPAYER BAILOUT for these incompetent managers...

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Ellie ★ [1 month ago](#)

Asking people to pay an additional tax for local television is just plain overkill. I already have a "CRTC Local Programming Improvement Fund" fee of 1.5% on my bill already, adding another tax on top of that is getting too much. I honestly don't watch local television and asking me to pay an extra fee for that is nonsense. If they want to put an extra charge on programming, allow people who want to watch local programming the chance to keep them and charge them for it while those of us who don't watch them could have the option to remove them. I'm already getting charged through the roof for my TV service; any more charges is making me want to just cancel altogether.

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fred c ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is a dying business. They must reinvent or die. NO TAXPAYER BAILOUT for these incompetent managers...

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TW ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my TV service as well. CRTC should stop all the internet service providers from charging us for additional Internet usage so that we can watch all these local TV news (from yahoo.ca news, Globe&mail TV news, CP24 etc.) online through the Internet. This will create competition and force the big TV services (e.g. Rogers, etc.) to lower their cable charges and force the local TV producer to build a profitable (or breakeven) business model.

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Patricia Martin ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were to have to pay anymore for either local stations or cable service I would cancel most of what I have now. I am already paying for cable stations I do not want, and local tv all have the same programming. There are too many local tv stations and not enough competition in the cable/satellite field.

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robert_thomas ★ [1 month ago](#)

The root of this problem lies in how much we pay to provide an audience to the advertisers. I believe Canadians are overcharged more than any other country for their access to minimal services.

Basic telecommunications for phone, internet and television are easily over \$100 a month.

As a retired pensioner I am not in their customer demographic so I am relegated to the no use department both in sales and service. I can't afford them now and it is only getting worse. I am

losing all access to local programming and world events because I can't or won't pay their obscene prices.

A TV tax is hardly the truth, and I think it is perverse to pay for the opportunity to be sold their bill of goods.

If the providers want to charge additional fees then the CRTC should compel all broadcast spectrum license holders to provide a basic package for minimal cost.

The monopolists have it far too easy in Canada.

They cry and have held up fairness to Canadian viewers for years. It is a ploy to restrict competition, the opposite point of the mandate of the CRTC is it not?

It is intentional, they deliberately complain to prevent change and to keep on collecting their unfair price points.

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 [Greg](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

This issue is a no win situation for the consumer. The real question is who will be able to do it to us, by how much and will we pay? We already have a basic package we pay for that includes the local channels. This is a mandatory part of our subscription so you see we already pay for the local TV on our cable bills. Why are the cable companies not paying for their product? They charge for it. I resent the thought of having to pay yet another tax of any kind but to have to pay for their greed is an insult. Cable companies should pat locals without charging back to the consumer. They are already being paid for this service and might I add very well. I pay over \$100 per month and 2/3 of the programs are never watched. I have them because I want 1 or 2 programs in that package. The best trick they pull is to move a popular program to a package that is not wanted to force people to take it. How much do you think people can take? If I were to steal their programming I would be charged. They are stealing the local broadcasts as soon as they sell them. The local broadcasts were never meant to be sold for profit. This whole issue is GREED related on both sides. Don't allow them to use the viewers as a pawn and fund their greed. Force them to reduce prices, work together and stop forcing unwanted programs on the viewer. Thank you.

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 [Duncan A. Collins](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We need local programming.

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 [Duncan A. Collins](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We need local programming.

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 [Brenda P](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe I am paying for local TV now as part of my basic service rate and no, I don't want to pay more for all the reasons mentioned by other commenters.

However, if additional charges are added as a result of a CRTC decision, then my reaction would be based on how much more is added. One or two dollars per month more I would probably swallow. More than that and I would cancel my subscription to local TV services. Cancelling my subscription entirely and switching to rabbit ears is not an option I would want to consider.

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 [charlene04](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I personally feel that I pay the cable company enough already, I just feel that the onus should be on the cable companies to compensate the local stations out of the monies that they already charge the consumer.

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 [Elaine Thomas](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

There should not be any charge for local TV for the consumer.

Cable Companies can easily absorb a charge of \$10 per customer to pay Local Stations for broadcasting Local programs.

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 [robertosborne](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that it's unfair to allow cable companies to earn money from signals provided by broadcasters and not pay any money for them. I pay a basic cable fee. The cable companies make a lot of money from that basic fee and yet they do not pay for many of the signals on basic. I see it as the same as a DVD rental company telling people we rent all these videos to customers but we only pay for half of them ourselves.

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 [k.](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to robertosborne](#)

This would only be true if there were no costs associated with sending the signals from the source to everyones home.

The cable companies do not pay for the local programming, however there are monumental costs incurred through signal transmission, man hours, equipment purchase and maintenance etc etc.

We as consumers are quick to assume that we are being treated poorly without really knowing all the facts. Cudos to those who have done their research.

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 [Larry M](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am in an area where there are 2 local stations from the same affiliate. Local news from the station I preferred has been dropped. Since I do not like the offering of local news from the associated affiliate, I have chosen to watch the third local news programming and local programming from a different area of the country. I expect that if we are charged an additional fee above the basic service charge, we shall be able to opt out of Local programming we do not wish to view and therefore not have to pay the price. Democratically I believe we should be able to pay for individual channels and build our own "packages". This would allow for a true picture of what people want to watch and whether some local programming is "worth" keeping base don who buys it. Many people are watching preferred programs (not channels) via internet. Our broadst structures and rules are becoming obsolete when referred to as TV provider and broadcaster. The control will be in the hands of the viewer soon, and old models will not work

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 [Bryan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not want to pay for something that I don't watch as I rarely watch local providers. No one should be forced to pay for something that they don't want.

To compensate for the extra charge I would have to cancel channels that I do watch, so in the

end I will most likely just cancel everything since I will no longer have channels I want to watch.
2. Local Television is a business and should be able to come up with ideas that they could use to support their own business, if they cannot then to bad.

The general public should not be responsible for supporting companies.

I don't see John Doe's repair shop getting a hand out from the public if they cannot support themselves.

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[charlene04](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the cable companies already charge enough, the onus should be on them to compensate local stations out of the monies they already collect from the consumer.

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[New_Approach](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have a relative that is only offered volunteer jobs at local stations. The flawed business model of local programming channels is taking advantage of new graduates by asking them to work for free. Why should we support a business that will not pay their workers, yet the bosses and owners get paid and then want more tax funding for a product that very few people want? Let this business die a natural death instead of operating as a parasite of the public while a very few make all the money.

If local content is to be a publicly funded solution do it with a university and college programming model so they can produce skilled workers funded through the education system. At least you will have a more realistic business model, people doing the work to develop the skill with a narrow focus that is less profit oriented.

These creative new graduates may actually change the product into something new and exciting that people will want to watch as opposed to repackaged broadcasting filling up most of the time.

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[Josh B](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Already frustrated with the price of television. Its not long before TV as we know it becomes obsolete as we move towards more content online. If my bill goes up to support local TV, it'd be a catalyst for me finding a new solution for Television entirely (online content).

2. Why should we intervene for local television? Its the job of local TV leadership to ensure their content is relevant and profitable. Mercy - its so frustrating to hear companies begging for money simply because they can't keep up with technology. Media is entering a paradigm shift... and local TV needs to either innovate, or throw in the towel. That's the reality in the business world - why should it be any different for local TV?

susan D said it best, BTW.

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[Penny Reed](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we pay enough for T.V. now. Cable is always increasing the fees the consumer pays. I am on a fixed income and cannot afford to pay any increases. I think that with the recession many people will be considering cancelling their cable T.V. to make ends meet.

Local T.V. channels get income from advertisers.

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stormintv ★ [1 month ago](#)

Bryan to your point #2 our local station is owned by Bell . Bell's crying for money hiding behind CTVGlobemedia.

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Like



Evelyn ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. When I pay my cable bill, I am already paying for my local channels since they are listed on my cable bill so why should I pay for them twice. My cable provider is getting money from me for the local tv channels; let them give some of what I pay to them. I'm not paying for them twice!

2. Take a portion of the cost of cable and give it to the local TV channels to pay for airing them. If I am not mistaken, they already do that to carry the US Channels and the Specialty Channels. Fair is fair.

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Bucky ★ [1 month ago](#)

They are always putting their fees up. I would be VERY upset if they asked me to pay \$10 on top of what I already pay

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Like



Frieda ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV in Alberta is only for you if you live in Calgary or Edmonton, the news is from there and they pay very little attention to anything outside of those cities. And since when is Tiger Woods local news. Like others have said there are newspapers and radio. Save Local TV for what...No thanks...

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Diane Murphy ★ [1 month ago](#)

I cannot afford to pay anymore for my cable... I'm already looking at the pirate satellite systems that are out there... I pay over \$100/month already! The costs have to go down, not up!!!

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Like



jitoomehta ★ [1 month ago](#)

No more increase in prices - let the networks compete commercially and manage their costs within the budgets they have

Do I as a household not balance my budget and if I cannot afford a service or product I do without it

Do I tell the government to subsidize my household income because prices have gone up

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Like



George ★ [1 month ago](#)

Enough is enough. The TV companies are making millions and millions from the taxpayers and users already. The prices are too high and the selection is not worth the money that we have to pay. Stop paying the executives so much, and use the money and the profits to offset the cost of cable to all.

[Flag](#)

Like



sclewin ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If I am given the choice to not get the local TV I would not take those channels to avoid the TV tax. If I was forced to take those channels like I am now then I would disconnect my satellite and get them free over an antenna instead until you guys try to tax me for that.

2. We live in a capitalist country and if these companies can not make enough money on their own then they should be shut down. I did not expect the government to pay me when I have my own company and I don't expect the government to pay for someone else's company either.

I am simply not going to pay for any TV tax.

[Flag](#)

Like



Fed up of this nonsense ★ [1 month ago](#)

The reason why I subscribe to cable TV is so I can watch non local TV stations. I therefore do not see why I should bear the extra cost for local TV channels. As far as I am concerned, if local TV stations aren't cutting it due to mis-management of money or poor programming leading to a shortage of advertising revenue, they should simply shut down.

Furthermore, we live in a free enterprise society and not a socialist or communist one. this whole idea is just another form of tax and i will not stand for this. As a Canadian, more than half my pay check goes to gov't.....enough is enough; this has now gone too far. Stop the nonsense and let the TV stations figure out how they can be more profitable without passing the cost to consumers. What will we hear of next, another form of tax for local radio stations.....ridiculous and shame on all of you!

[Flag](#)

Like



vince ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cost of cable bills are constantly increasing, along with less channels to watch for basic cable. The CRTC should not allow cable companies to resell programs to the consumer at the high prices they charge. This is totally unfair and needs to change. Fees should be regulated by the CRTC! There is a need for more competition among cable companies to stop monopolies. When there is no choice, greed always rears its ugly head.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jim Anderson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would want to be given the option of purchasing the local TV stations if there was going to be a fee. Insisting that the cable and satellite services include local stations in the basic packages is one thing, but then insisting that consumers pay an additional amount for them is another. I would want to the option to opt out of receiving local Canadian stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



anniegw ★ [1 month ago](#)

Another fee on top of the already over priced product will just make me cancel the entire thing. I watch maybe 3 channels out of 50 and get to pay far too much for it.

I like the local new for weather; local events etc but I can get that from the Radio so thanks but no thanks. Lots of other entertainment out there, hey maybe I will get off the couch and get out more.

Thanks for offering a way for me to save lots of \$ and getting me out of the house.

[Flag](#)

Like



L.Badley ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am sickened by the fact that in this perilous economic time that we are being asked yet again to reach into our tiny pocketbooks for more money!! Those of us on fixed income can barely spare the money to pay our bills as it is and now you want more. It angers me so much I am ready to pull the plug on television altogether. Yes I believe that local television is important but not at any cost and certainly not when it breaks the taxpayers backs and pads the pockets of someone else. Unfair, foul I cry I have had enough of this!!!

Why does local tv have to be supported? Why do they not find ways to fund themselves without dipping into our pockets? If it were a choice to tax us to save the local programming or get rid of it I would choose the latter. We the people cannot afford any more, not now not ever.

[Flag](#)

Like



susanlegouffe ★ [1 month ago](#)

Enough taxes already! We Canadians pay enough taxes, we do not need another one added. Us middle class families just cannot afford to keep paying everytime someone gets a bright idea to add another tax on! We are having a hard enough time making ends meet and trying to raise our families, the CRTC cannot allow us to be charged even more. Local stations need to get competitive or get out, the Canadian tax payer cannot afford to keep bailing out big companies, who make millions in profits every year. The car companies are bad enough, not TV too!

[Flag](#)

Like



Craig D. Macklem ★ [1 month ago](#)

I refuse to pay additional monies to support local television. I do not care whether or not they survive. They offer me nothing of interest at all.

[Flag](#)

Like



NO TV TAX ★ [1 month ago](#)

Thinking about the importance of local TV to you, how would you react, and why, if you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services?

ANSWER: I definitely do NOT want to pay for local TV. I would probably ask my service provider to remove all local content from my programming if I were forced to pay extra!

In your view, what measures, if any, could be taken to support local television?

ANSWER: They could ask for voluntary donations from viewers.

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christianbelanger ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe the solution is quite simple, actually. Force cable and satellite companies to provide an 'a la carte' subscription model to consumers. If those consumers choose to subscribe to a local TV station then a portion, or all, of the fees charged to the consumer for said local tv station are then transferred to THAT local station.

This solution achieves what everyone wants:

- consumers who support local TV can continue to do so
- consumers who do not won't have to
- cable and satellite companies will only pay the local tv stations they have to
- the television industry now knows which local tv stations need to remain and which should close (if necessary)

Thanks

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*peterzg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

An additional tax is absolutely ridiculous. Basic economics teaches us that as prices go up, demand falls. A new tax on TV service will cause many, myself included, to cancel our satellite and cable TV service. Today's technology allows us to choose other sources for our local information. If local TV channels are in trouble, they should be looking for ways to encourage people to watch them, not to discourage them by raising prices. Why would anyone pay more for something they didn't want in the first place. Local TV has to create demand for its programming if it wants to survive. Raising the price of their service does nothing to increase demand.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*stormintv* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As I read a lot of the posts I see that this condensing of the stations happened all across the country when those Bell dishes came out and watered down our news.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*markstrang* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We now pay more for Cable TV/Internet than our utilities (heat, water, sewer, etc). We are now at the "breaking point" - considering discontinuing our communications extras. As pensioners, the cost of entertainment is too high to continue.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*chrisbartlett* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is already supported by letting them put there ad on the US network. TV Bills are already getting to high for the average Canadian.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*jarmstrong* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In Winnipeg local TV at one time provided local children's programming, current affairs, music from area performers, provincial information. Today their program offering consists of new and weather. Period ! How can they say a fee from cable providers will enable them to offer "local" content ? Even their facilities over the last few years have been downgraded. I think they should be prepared to publicly announce what the added "tax" would provide, and then be mae to keep the promises.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*jeffktaylor* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If Rogers increases my cable bill between now and January 1 / 2011, I'm going to cut all my current services to the bone and just keep the very basic cable. I can watch tons of programs and clips on the internet. T.V has become secondary in my life for an entertainment & news information source. Now that I'm watching less T.V, I'm finding myself reading more, going to a few more movies, going to the gym, etc. Are you listening Rogers ?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*acrawford* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If I was asked to pay for local TV, I would be very angry. Firstly, because I do not watch local

TV because the quality is so poor. There is nothing "local" about "Access Hollywood" or "The Ghost Whisperer".

Secondly, I would be angry because I could quite legally watch any of the local channels by putting up a \$20 antenna and receiving them over the air. I do not have cable service to receive local channels; I can receive them without cable service. I have cable service precisely to get access to NON-local channels. Why should I have to pay extra for the local channels, which I don't even want, when I can get them for free?

Thirdly, I would be angry because I do not believe cable distribution hurts the local TV stations in any way. I believe it increases their audience and improves their ability to raise advertising income.

Finally, I would be angry because I was being charged extra and getting nothing in return, without any element of choice. If the local TV channels are to be treated as premium content - with a charge over and above the basic cable distribution charge - then I should have the right to opt out of it. I certainly would not choose to keep these channels if I had to pay for them.

2. Local television only deserves support if it reflects local needs and local issues. If the local stations want to become essentially public-funded organisations, they must have their license conditions significantly changed to force them to devote the majority of their airtime to genuinely local/regional programming. If they would rather continue their rent-seeking as monopoly broadcasters of "CSI" etc in the local area, they do not deserve forced money and should be allowed to compete or die as the market dictates.

One very worthwhile option would be to expand the role of community television. A mandate that community stations must provide a daily news program (with appropriate funding) would address local needs for far less money than the current situation.

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Like



JCW ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I too would cancel my satellite subscription. As a pensioner its already far too expensive for the content offered. As far as I'm concerned with the exception of a very few American shows we generally watch HD specialty channels. We already pay an extra 3.00 to the LPIF on our monthly bill and now they say that's not enough? You know which means it never will be.

2. The networks are already combining many many area's here in the north, thereby diluting "Local Content" to the realm of sound bites! If you think they are going to reverse that decision you are sadly naive I'm afraid. If they can't run their business properly then that's too bad maybe they should go. as a retired consumer my pockets are empty too!

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Like



Chris B ★ [1 month ago](#)

Think about this, I already pay more to watch television than I do to insure my house or my car

[Flag](#)

Like



JCW ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I too would cancel my satellite subscription. As a pensioner its already far too expensive for the content offered. As far as I'm concerned with the exception of a very few American shows we generally watch HD specialty channels. We already pay an extra 3.00 to the LPIF on our monthly bill and now they say that's not enough? You know which means it never will be.

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 Like

Agostino Russo ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

[Flag](#)

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Me ★ [1 month ago](#)

In smaller markets where only one local TV station exist, it is important to keep that station profitable via some means so local newscasts (at the very least) can still exist. If some sort of extra income (say 50cents/cable subscriber in the area served by the transmitter) helps with that, then that is reasonable. Larger markets where multiple stations exist, that is probably not needed to such a large degree, so maybe it is 5cents per subscriber per station. So the \$5-10 that the cable companies are promoting because 50cents/month total.

But...:

That being said, the long term model of Canadian TV needs to be rethought out. Digital transmission of signals (to ultimately allow the gov't to sell freed up bandwidth for other causes) will be a great expense to stations who are currently running a 30-50 year old VHF or UHF TV Transmitter and will have to replace it because no upgrade path exists. And as hydro rates increase, it makes the current transmitter very expensive to run anyhow. If 80% of your customer base are picking up a signal via cable/satellite, then why have the transmitter at all.. but without the local transmitter, your local cable company is not required to carry TV station any more. So TV stations are in a catch 22 situation.

And with the influx of HDTV, these stations will essentially have to start from scratch and rebuild their studios, control rooms, etc. to support it just to remain competitive as more people expect HD feeds, even for the local news.

They need to think further down the road.

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Nicole Godin ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 Like

 *Bruce M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay any more money for cable tv, I am already paying too much money, the tv companies already make enough money, quite being greedy!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *jeffktaylor* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If Rogers increases my monthly bill between now and January 1 / 2011, I'll cut my services with them to the bone, keeping only the very basic cable service. Times have changed. I get my entertainment and news from the internet - not my T.V. near as much as I once did. I find myself reading more than ever, going to the theatre to watch new release movies, going to the gym, etc. Rogers for years now has racked in the billions from Canadians. Rogers can more than afford to eat any increase imposed on them by the CRTC in regards with 'local programming / stations'.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *fredhamilton* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1/ Why would I want to pay for local TV when I can access it for free via a TV antenna. 2/ Local TV was bought up by the networks in this country - CTV and Global years ago. It is the responsibility of the networks to support "their" TV stations. Not me ! I am tired of "big brother" dictating to me what I can watch. This comment is based on the fact that we Canadians are mandated to have Canadian TV stations included in our Satellite programming. We all pay for the CBC network. One is enough.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Peter D.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We can comment all we want the cable company's and CRTC will do what ever they want anyway just like all the other services we pay for. We just keep on paying more and getting less back. I will also cancel tv service.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Laura* ★ [1 month ago](#)

To add this tax will only perpetuate mismanagement of OTA television networks.

It is ridiculous for the networks to have no accountability for their programming costs and bad investments. Furthermore, there is no proposed policy for the governance thereof. Instead we want to just bail them out.

Ivan Fecan way overspent on the Olympics and now is trying reportedly to find a way to farm some of it off in 2012. This type of bad planning without any contingency for a difficult economy is what landed the auto business and financial sectors in such a mess. The auto industry got a bailout because without it, the resulting unemployment levels for that sector would paralyze the economy further. A TV network doesn't need a bailout. People are being fired and won't be rehired just because we found a tax to boost revenues. The money will just beef up margins and will not restore jobs to the industry. Further to that, all these networks have other channels that are growing in revenues. So the margins and revenues are shifting to specialty TV where costs are kept lower because historically, the penetration levels could not stimulate ad revenues, which in the 90's represented the lion's share of the revenues. The OTA networks are finally figuring out that the OTA gravy train has run off the track, and they need to contain costs to manage ebidta. But instead of managing costs, they want to boost revenue and want the consumer to pay again and again. It's just plain wrong. It's time for OTA's to change their business model before they go out of business altogether.

LPIF already exists to support the OTA's and local TV. It's enough. Let the market manage the

rest.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Empty Wallet* ★ [1 month ago](#)

No thanks, don't need another tax with the HST coming into effect soon. This cost will be passed on to consumers and will drive a different behavior to obtain programming of an unsavory nature i.e. HD Antenna = free access to programming :)

signed - empty wallet

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Heather* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*arae* ★ [1 month ago](#)

FORGET IT!!!!!! NO MORE MONEY !!!!

This is a money grab, no matter how you dress it up.

Cable and the broadcasters don't guarantee ANYTHING - they're both at the trough!!!

If one party wants money - negotiate with the other party.

They'll find ways to stick it to the consumer regardless so don't give them any more!!!!!!

Give me better, less expensive, choices - not higher charges

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Leon Szyfer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that consumers are being charged right now high enough. We do not need other increases of fees. I also believe that on Canadian TV market there is not enough competition. A real competition would drive our charges down

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Rockzam* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm already paying way too much for my cable service. I find that everyone one is making way too much money + has a consumer we have very little flexibility to choose from different providers.

The CRTC has far I'm concern is not working for the benefit of the consumers. They stifle the competition. We are paying more for Cable TV, more for Cellphone services than other industrialized country. I think they all take us for stupid.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Frank* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am tired of being screwed over by big business that are being protected by the CRTC. Why

should we spend more money on services that we are already paying too much for??? It is time that we re-thing why the CRTC exists and terminate it's existence or at least throw the people in prison that want to charge more on our cable bills just so they get paid more.

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Like

 [kingsclear](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am very much against this "TV tax" as it goes against all reasonable thoughts. This tax cannot go as planned.

My biggest anger comes with the CRTC in first allowing the creation of an oligopoly in the first place. To have virtually all of our TV broadcasting interests in the hands of a very few players is shocking to say the least. If we had a diverse ownership then this whole problem probably wouldn't have happened. What has happened is avarice, plain and simple. The only thing missing is Nero and his fiddle. And I have to agree with the other writers who lost faith when the Moncton and Sydney ATV stations were allowed to shut down. That was a total disgrace.

The next huge thing that has happened because there are too few players is the huge run-up in prices that these broadcasters are paying for US programming. It is astounding that the CRTC is standing idly by and allowing these networks to bid up the prices to the point where they are spending a combined over \$700 million and virtually nothing on Canadian programming comparatively. This spending is obscene to say the least. And it is only happening in Canada. Other English markets aren't racing out to purchase tons of US programming at inflated prices. Yes, they do buy some but the demand is certainly not there for them to spend this absurd amount. But then these very same Canadian networks come back to the CRTC saying that they cannot afford to keep their smaller market stations afloat. Isn't there a clue here? You don't see the kind of problems in the US that you see in Canada with small market stations. They went through a much worse recession that we did here in Canada. For example, the small stations in Maine are still all operating and even selling advertising to Canadians who are increasingly going for OTA signals over cable and satellite. It wouldn't surprise me in the least if the Bangor stations don't build up their towers again so that they can be picked up in major NB cities with a good antenna. A single tower with maxed out transmitters placed in Calais for the 4 US networks would easily add 1/4 million viewers. They would probably even carry New Brunswick news. WAGM Presque Isle probably carries more local New Brunswick news than CTV Atlantic to begin with. Shame on CTV. My in-laws watch it.

So until these Canadian networks get their act in gear there is an emphatic "no" from me.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [begander](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The "Save Local TV" campaign is a joke. There is no longer any real local TV being produced by television stations anymore, except what the community channels are doing. I get more local info from community newspapers and radio than I can from TV. The only "local" info you get on TV is the small bits of news everyday (when I say "bits", I really mean "crumbs") and I agree with everyone else who has criticized the broadcasters for focusing on Tiger Woods during their local newshour, then having the gall to call that local programming. I can get Tiger Woods info everywhere I turn and don't need to pay CTV more \$\$ each month to tell me what he's up to. Second, from what I've read (and I have no reason to believe it's false), CTV and Global haven't said they will use the extra money to keep stations open. So, ending where I started, the whole idea of "Save Local TV" is a joke. This has to stop!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [danielduranleau](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems to me logic and reasonable affordability of a basic service such as cable or satellite t.v. is being pushed out the window into a 400 million +profits \$by big t.v co. and t.v. broadcasters.As canadians we should be paying a fair affordable price for basic t.v services with basic news and specialty channels-Its no secret as canadians we do pay as of now the highest cell phone services in the world-(even with competition in the cell phone markets)then why sirs

-push canada and canadians on that high prices road???Are we that rich \$\$--in this new deficit environment? i think not so please sirs of the C.R.T.C. do the right thing say NO to price hikes to t.v / broadcasters and the likes thank you for reading me.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Chris Jackson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

For the amount of entertainment value that we currently get from cable today, the current cable rate is far too much.

If the rate is raised another \$10, you'll have one less cable customer.

Please do not cater to the networks, which are making far more money that local stations get.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Marie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will hurt us as customers .

The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

[Flag](#)

Like

 [arae](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I'd CANCEL my cable service

2) Who says supporting local television should be an issue.Why does it NEED support????????????? FORGET IT!!!!!! NO MORE MONEY !!!!

This is a money grab, no matter how you dress it up.

Cable and the broadcasters don't guarantee ANYTHING - they're both at the trough!!!

If one party wants money - negotiate with the other party.

They'll find a way to stick it to the consumer regardless so don't give them any more!!!!

Give me better, less expensive, choices - not higher charges

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Like

 [tonyleblanc](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If cable companies are to be allowed to charge for local channels, then please allow me to choose NOT to have those channels included in my satellite package, and I will install an antenna and receive the local channels off-air, for free. As these are off-air channels, broadcast for free to anyone with an antenna, why should a cable company have to pay for the free signal? Indeed, this should be a bonus for the local TV station, by giving them a larger target audience for advertising.

Television should be regulated by viewers' choice - if a channel can't survive without being packaged with more popular channels, then perhaps it is not a viable business and should not be on the air.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Norma](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough already. It is not up to the consumer to settle disputes between television companies and cable companies who already make enough money on our backs. Leave the consumers alone and get on the backs of those who are making the money.

Flag

Like



Alec_SCC ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am strongly opposed to an additional fee being added to the consumer's end cost as a means to support local TV. In a market economy the government should not be responsible to ensure that an already profitable business maintains certain assets or business lines and support them financially to do so. If the government decided to require additionally fees to support those channels I would simply choose drop the channels from my over all entertainment package and to move to a cheaper online or newsprint source.

2. If the government wishes to protect local TV stations and the integrity of local content allow the stations to be sold off and quite happily run by local parties that have an established interest in maintaining the broadcasting station and content.

Flag

Like



bona106 ★ [1 month ago](#)

We can barely afford to pay for cable now and an extra twenty dollars would make it almost impossible for us. There are seniors living on fixed incomes that cannot afford the extra money. I think these stations should learn to make what they have work for them rather than looking for more. Do they realize how many people have lost their jobs in Canada this year? Enough is enough. If I have to budget to pay my bills then they should have to as well. I cannot believe that they would ask for more during a recession. Maybe they should review how much they pay their management staff. I for one cannot afford another twenty dollars a month and I know a lot of people out there who won't be able to pay more.

Flag

Like



Fedup ★ [1 month ago](#)

The entire argument of broadcasters is disingenuous. This is a bait and switch. A few years ago all of the broadcasters went nuts spending huge sums of money on Hollywood content in hopes of driving better audience share and therefore advertising revenues. They have also enjoyed as mandated by CRTC the extended distribution of high quality signal of their programming that they would have had to spend their own capital on to deliver the same reach over the air. Now advertising is in a slump and they really can't pay for the foreign content they bought so now they want to have the mandated distribution funded by other corporations and also more money to pay for their blunders. This has nothing to do with the supposed "death of local". CTV/Canwest etc. is not local TV. They are practically affiliates of cbs/abc/nbc.

Flag

Like



I Burden ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not wish to pay to support local Television. I do not find their programming valuable and it is in any case marred by too much advertising.

Flag

Like



Holly Pitters ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think, that like Canadian Content, local content should be mandatory for cable and satellite companies to provide in all areas they want to sell their services. They should have to pay the local stations a fee and this fee should NOT be allowed to be passed on to the local consumers. Local television operate under whatever business premise they operate on and do not collect from consumers directly, but the cable and satellite companies are on the local stations turf and should pay a fee so that they can continue to operate in the face of the competition being offered. Local news is a necessary part of any community, big corporations should not have the right to charge or interfere in any way with that line of communication.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [Pierre-Luc](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no need to force the BDUs to subsidize local TV anymore than the system already does, for instance through the LPIF.

Providing additional funds to the networks, assuming that they are to use it to fund local TV better, would not help them "adapt to changes in the communications environment", it would allow them to avoid the evolution of media.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [Fedup](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Flag](#)[Like](#) [Perry](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the cable companies are required to pay for local channels, and as a result my bill increases, I want the option to drop all Canadian channels. I can access them for free off air. Alternatively, if fees are imposed, there should be no more substituting Canadian channels for American channels when the same show is on. Leave all channels as is.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [jacquelinem](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it's an absolute disgrace that we are not **FIRSTLY** supporting Canadian content and our Canadian workforce in this industry. These are **OUR** airwaves... **NOT AMERICAN** and you can bet your bottom dollar (since you've squandered it anyway) that the States is not having the same divisive issue over its own U.S. programming. I pay for cable and I pay a lot. As such, I expect to see our own Canadian content **FIRST** and foreign (including American content) thereafter. What exactly are you thinking...? One would expect that support for our own would be a priority!

I'm also sick to death of these endless American reality shows which are an insult to my intelligence; by the way I've not tuned into one of them.

I already pay for local cable and I expect local programming to be incorporated in that fee **FIRST** and foremost! Stop the double dipping. If the broadcasters have overextended themselves whether it be due to their negligible purchases of foreign content or otherwise then that is not the taxpayer's issue. Clearly someone has dropped the ball and not paid attention to their budgets! I take offence to being treated like an idiot and refuse to bail you out yet again! **SHAME ON YOU!!!**

Why is this even up for discussion?

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [toryryan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to jacquelinem](#)

Yeah, that's just what we need, more Canadian programming ...like what? Little Mosque on the Prairie? Canada does not create shows worth watching. The nearest we ever got was with

the beachcombers, or the littlest Hobo.... I would agree (unsarcastically) with the reality shows, they should be banned altogether, they are annoying at best. But NO, we should not support Canadian content, until such a time as Canadian content is worth supporting.

Flag

Like

 [jacquelinem](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to toryryan](#)

How so very Patriotic of you but that's a whole other topic of conversation... You clearly didn't understand my point. Whether or not you watch Canadian content, local news or otherwise, does not negate the fact that these airwaves belong to the CANADIAN TAXPAYER (not American) which I have no intention of paying EXTRA for! Local programming should be a given with regards to our already existing fees. I, like many others would consider cancelling my current cable package if charged these additional monies.

Flag

Like

 [Rob in Vancouver](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Members of the CRTC,

I ask you to send the Big Networks a clear message: Canadians see their slick campaign to 'save local television,' for what it is – a thinly-disguised demand for a \$450 million bailout in the form of a TV Tax.

I ask you to say "No, enough is enough," and reject their demands for a third and final time.

Flag

Like

 [J Blakey](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be opposed to any additional fees for local TV. Most of what they do is retransmission of American programming. Their original programming is mostly news and is of poor quality. It is available for free via "rabbit ears". If the alternative to cable is free, it cannot be worth any more than what they already get. If they want to save local TV they should spend the fees they currently spend on overpriced US programs on high quality local programs

Flag

Like

 [begander](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to J Blakey](#)

Here here! It's nice to see someone telling it like it is!

Flag

Like

 [Allan Soifer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would object very strenuously, and inform all local sponsors of my boycotting them if they advertised on local stations. Television signals are emitted free to all receivers by the broadcasters. They are acting out of greed by asking a successful cable industry to fork over hard-earned profits. Cable receiving undertakings process and improve the quality of the signal, making it possible for a drastically increased audience to view local TV, much larger an audience that the local broadcaster might achieve directly off-the-air due to reception issues that plague even small towns and cities.

Such a demand for this fee-for-carriage is a blatant money grab that is totally undeserved. Almost all local stations have made drastic cutbacks and offer little more than a small newscast which is dominated by network and international items. I strongly protest paying for a service that is already NOT rendered - this supposed local content. The local program initiative fees are already unjust, since the local stations continue to downsize even while pocketing this government fee.

This entire debacle is an unjust and an unvoted tax that should have been debated in the Commons and Senate, and put before the Canadian people to hear their opinion long ago. I daresay that few Canadians would willingly give more of their money to a glutted and greedy broadcast industry, that makes a sham of supposed local content.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Paul* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for my cable package. cable networks like rogers, shaw etc should pay for local tv out of the enormous profits they already make from the high prices which they already charge their customers, or just get the gov't to give them the money, to bail them out like they did the auto industry, to keep all the jobs like they did for GM for example...

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1/ Local TV is important to me, but I am opposed to paying extra for it on my satellite bill. I would prefer to use an antenna and watch local programming, mainly news, on-air.
2/ Local programming should be supported with local advertising. If networks cannot afford to keep local stations going, then they need to make a business decision, possibly closing some local stations down.

Our satellite, cable, internet, and cellphone rates are already very high.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Harvey Thompson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cost is already too high for what you get on TV, raise the rates anymore and people will opt out the cable and satellite companies.

I definitely will go back to taking the signal off air for free, I pay way too much already for channels I don't even want and have no interest in them

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Michael Kemp* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't support local television if it means a surcharge or additional fee to the consumer because local television is unprofitable and cannot support itself. I additionally do not support surcharges or fees to consumers for local television when they are profitable.

The solutions to the problems Canadians face today is to not tax and charge them more and more. Lifestyle choices should be individual. A surcharge or fee on those individuals who do not view local television services is taking the individual choice component out of the system and imposing by discretionary and arbitrary power a belief system that these stations have a value and should be in place. Persons desiring a local station should be willing to contribute donations to that local station in order to keep it on the air. If there are insufficient funds the marketplace has dictated that is an undesired station. Throwing our hard earned dollars into something we don't want and don't want to spend money on is not freedom of choice - it's an abuse of power.

There is a prevailing lack of Canadian identity in our country that won't be corrected by surcharging or taxing people more and more for services many don't want. The course of our societies wants and desires should not be governed by the few in isolation of the wants and desires of the many it should be governed by the few in respect of the wants and desires of the many.

[Flag](#)

Like



Michelle P ★ 1 month ago

My husband is self-employed (a one-man operation) and I became unemployed on May 26, 2009. I have submitted many applications, and have received one interview. On top of that, the HST that will come into effect will have a negative impact on my husbands business. Now, we are being told to cough up more money for something the cable channels already collect and do not pass on to the local stations. What's next, meters on our tv's so we can be charged according to use?? Are you kidding?!?!? Did someone forget that we are in a R E C E S S I O N.

[Flag](#)

Like



begander ★ 1 month ago in reply to Michelle P

Michelle, none of us should have to cough up more money for local TV that isn't even local. You're absolutely right. But the local TV stations do get paid - lots of \$\$\$ (they're even very profitable but would like to be more profitable). They say they don't get paid by cable, but that's not how it works. Local TV have to make their signals available, and they charge advertisers. In return, cable has to carry them.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jing S ★ 1 month ago

I believe the CRTC can solve this problem by doing the following:

- 1) eliminate the must carry rule
- 2) allow local stations to negotiate with cable and satellite carriers for the price, whether it be fixed, tiered, or percentage, for carrying the signal. This negotiation can include whether or not commercial/advertisement/banner substitutions are allowed.
- 3) require that cable/satellite companies MUST offer local station carries if there is sufficient customer demand. This can be offered as some form of bundle or a-la carte. Also require that cable/satellite companies MUST allow customers to opt-out of paying for local channels if so desired.

I believe this solves the problem for all parties involved (carriers, stations, and customers).

Local stations can be in control of the pricing at which they want to charge for their product. This can be directly negotiated with cable and satellite companies as if they were retailers. Furthermore, item 3 in the list above would prevent cable/satellite companies for excluding local TV stations completely as long as there is sufficient consumer demand.

Cable/satellite companies will be freed from the must carry rule, and can now transparently negotiate the price of the local TV products. Whether or not local TV is profitable and how much it costs the consumer can then be transparently processed.

Consumers are now given a fair choice for determining what products they wish to purchase. If a consumer wants local TV and is willing to pay a retail-markup for the carry by cable or satellite, they can do so and buy the local TV packages. If they do not, but still want to see local TV, they can acquire it over-the-air. If they want to opt out of local TV, they can do so at no charge and potentially save on their cable/satellite bill.

[Flag](#)

Like



Frustrated Family ★ 1 month ago

If they impose a new tax I will quite all together and just use my computer!!! Prices are high enough for a service that already is making way too much for what we get. Have these guys not been to the grocery store lately!!!! It cost a lot just to live and TV was a way of being entertained without spending to much. With the new TAX we might as well go out because it will cost the same. VERY FRUSTRATED!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Frank Gerhardt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local stations were supposed to be compensated from the increase given to the TV service providers service. In these economic hard times it is unreasonable for people to pay more for programming so that a group of people that are making 2 billion dollars a year profit is not enough income is disgusting. They should be forced to live on an income of 1,000 - 1,400 a month for at least 6 months and then see how they would like a 10 dollar a month increase. If all upper management would forgo 25% of their perks there would be no need for any increase. Forget basic packages if the increase goes through I as already a number of people here have done will go back to the old analog system. We seem to have so many channels now and on most days you still can't find anything worth watching because all the stations are broadcasting the same dumb shows i.e. reality stuff that does nothing to entertain a person.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Fritz Schmidt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I find it really puzzling and upsetting that the CRTC is even considering allowing the networks to charge the cable and satellite distributors a fee to obtain something that individuals may continue to obtain free of charge through the simple use of a set of Rabbit Ears. I find it even more upsetting that should the CRTC go ahead with such a charge all revenues collected would be obtained without a single guarantee from the networks that the money collected would be channeled to the budgets for local programming which such monies are supposed to support - as such for me this amounts to the requested levy as being nothing more than a subsidy for the TV networks - a subsidy they have yet to prove is required.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Rev. Richard Middleton, Deacon* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I strongly feel that we the public have had enough of taxes on TV programming by the CRTC. It's about time that you listen to the tax payers for a change. This is all a bunch of bull, so let's get on with things as they are now!
December 4 2009

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mikebrockway* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't watch local TV and, as a retiree living on limited funds, will be impacted very negatively by this proposed new fee. Already I am worried about the effect of the coming HST on my cost of living. Stop all this!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *kenhedger* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I should NOT have to pay any more for local TV. Rogers can buy Sky Dome and the Blue Jays, they can absorb costs. I agree Cable should pay fee for carrying channels from other areas such as BC, AND they should pay even MORE for programs shown on their "on demand" channels

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John Phipps* ★ [1 month ago](#)

An additional TV tax? Sounds like double dipping to me. In Sept I was charged 1.5% on my satellite bill for the same. Local TV channels are already receiving enough. Give the consumer a break.

[Flag](#)

Like



vshepherd ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay outrageously high fees for cable. The profits of broadcasters are publicly available on the CRTC site (thank goodness), and the PBIT is enormous. It is completely unacceptable that a portion of the PBIT is not directed to local programming that could sustain and create jobs for Canadians. Millions of dollars are pumped into the US economy through purchase of their shows. The success of Flashpoint proves that Canadian television can be just as riveting. The CRTC must ensure that our culture thrives by having successful businesses subsidize it, not members of the public. The broadcasters are sadly mistaken if they think that higher fees from us will sustain local television. All content is so readily, and freely available in the internet, often, unfortunately, illegally, that if we are forced to pay more than the market will bear, many will stop paying at all, and the broadcasters' business models will be unsustainable.

[Flag](#)

Like



Chris Donaldson ★ [1 month ago](#)

In British Columbia there are a number of "local broadcasters" mainly being those in heavily populated areas and some of part of large networks and others are not. Public broadcasting, the CBC and the Knowledge Network, are stations subsidised by taxation to a large degree. The other types of stations who are owned by large networks owned by shareholders like Global, have been mismanaged through expensive expansions in the last ten years in their never ending goal of controlling the market. Why should I pay for that type of management meant to improve shareholder value in a time where the productivity behind the advertising dollar has gone down and is the basis of the generation of income for those public companies traded on the stock market. I do not own shares in Global or any other network. Would those shareholders bail me out if I lost my job? Not a chance.

When people in a publicly traded company determine they are going to seek public assistance by way of taxation then the public has a right to say no. The public has the right to determine who they support or not. Supporting a cash strapped media empire is hardly the option for many Canadians.

I firmly believe that when a company is unable to properly manage their business with the resources they have, then they should go out of business or trim the fat and stop sucking on the tit of the public. They already do it by way of the advertising revenue and now they want it both ways. It is profound though in a way, how the public do get screwed by big companies who think their contribution to society means something when really, the only thing it means is shareholder value. That is the risk people take.

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Like



thomas nigh ★ [1 month ago](#)

this nothing but a profit grab by the television networks. stop the insanity.

my god now they are asking for a bailout package and they are already profitable

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Like



thomas nigh ★ [1 month ago](#)

this nothing but a profit grab by the television networks. stop the insanity.

my god now they are asking for a bailout package and they are already profitable

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Like



Erin Walker ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already spend way to much in television costs for substandard programming. I can't imagine that any budget shortfalls in local television programming are anything less than a gross

mismanagement of funds. I don't support an increase to fees...I'd like to see full disclosure and public accountability for any fee increases

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Like

 [johnsamuels](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

i refuse to give the Big Networks a \$2 billion bailout over the next five years. This I strongly insist! If this occurs, I will cancel my Cable TV subscription. Enough is enough!!!!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Rev. Richard Middleton, Deacon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Give us the public a break and get rid of this outrageous tax on the television programming in Canada. This is enough bull for all Canadians, but especially on the Seniors.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [jgmack](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I wonder if the CRTC is really going to take all these comments into consideration. I believe it is a done deal and we are going to get stuck with this tv tax no matter how much we protest. That doesn't mean we should stop. I just think its falling on deaf ears. This agency has proven time after time that they will do whatever they want, no matter how loud Canadians speak out against it. Dismantling the CRTC would be one of the best things to happen in this country.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Erin Walker](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already spend way to much in television costs for substandard programming. I can't imagine that any budget shortfalls in local television programming are anything less than a gross mismanagement of funds. I don't support an increase to fees...I'd like to see full disclosure and public accountability for any fee increases

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Like

 [harveylawson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not prepared to pay for channels I don't watch. If there is to be a charge for any channel the viewer should be able to choose whether to watch it or not.

Packages should be available to discount charges according to the number of channels bought. One can only watch one at a time or 2 if recording.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Amit](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my current cable. The monthly bills are already high! My family does not watch much tv as it is, we will not lose much.

2. As already mentioned in this comments section - advertisements.

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Like

 [Stacey](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think local television is important, but I think the broadcasters are making more than enough money to provide local content. If they weren't so focussed on buying american programming

and if they didn't take for granted their multimillion dollar profits every year this would not be an issue. Nobody promised them 400 million a year, and if the business model has changed (which it has) then they should adapt and not coming back to us, the viewers, who already pay an outrageous amount for cable. It's arrogant, entitled, and absolutely appalling that they think they can railroad this through and charge Canadians more in a year that has seen a rise in property taxes, TTC fares, a new driver registration tax and now the upcoming HST. ENOUGH!
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Like



Rolf Paulussen ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe my TV service costs enough already and do not want to see my monthly bill rise any amount. I pay almost \$50 every month right now for my television subscription and over half of the channels are ones I am forced to subscribe to and pay for while I have no interest what so ever in watching them. If an extra tax or fee were to be placed on those channels I will seriously consider cancelling my subscription all together and start looking for other forms of entertainment.

In the business model of television the majority of the revenue/income comes from advertising, if local television stations are not getting enough money that indicates that there is a problem in their sales department. In my opinion the viewers (being the product this television station is selling to advertisers) should not be paying for this.

I strongly urge you to consider the television tax as a bad move for everyone involved, it promotes laziness for the sales department at the local television stations, it will cost television providers by limiting new subscriptions and likely loss of current subscribers and it will strongly promote a bad general business sense.

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Like



sean ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable service. I already pay \$63.99/month to Rogers for their "VIP" package. The last thing we need is to pay for some of the channels which have been making lots of money as is. The more viewers a channel gets - the more advertisers are willing to pay for that 30 second spot during commercials. All these channels need to do is buy better programming (which 95% of the time isn't local programming anyways) - and their revenue will increase.

2. Well, seeing as the CBC is a crown corporation that is heavily funded already - I really don't see us needing more than that. CTV/CityTV/Global are basically knock off US channels that run their programming (just look during primetime - its all american shows). So I would not classify them as local. I say continue supporting the CBC and leave it at that.

CRTC- stop wasting your time on this cable nonsense and focus on the WIND Mobile/Globalive ruling - now that was ridiculous. We need competition in the marketplace!

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Like



Debbie Milinkovic ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the CTRC is going to agree to fee for carriage to support local programming then the money should go to a fund and not directly to the broadcaster. The fund can then be used for the development and maintenance of local programming and the broadcaster would have to show proof of performance to access this fund. The fund should also only be accessible to underserved communities. (programs and communities that can support themselves should not be funded) Local Producers not associated with the Broadcaster should also be able to access the fund for the creation of local programming. Programs funded this way should not count toward the Broadcasters' Canadian content obligations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [terrytj](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV is a business, without the cable where would they programming go. They should be paying the cable companies to carry they're signal.
Our local TV programming is a joke(MCTV).
I would not want to have to pay for it.
If there is to be a charge for local TV then it should be up to the cable subscriber to decide if he/she wishes to recieve it.
Our local cable company provides local news and info then the (MCTV).
Maybe the gov't should expand the CBC to do local.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [David Gray](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

You want to raise the prices, and then add fees, you as bad as the government. After all the years I have paid out...when do you start paying me dividant checks? Reduce costs by 40% and tell them to stick their fees up there ass before they get there asses handed to them.

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 [Fritz Schmidt](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I find it really puzzling and upsetting that the CRTC is even considering allowing the networks to charge the cable and satellite distributors a fee to obtain something that individuals may continue to obtain free of charge through the simple use of a set of Rabbit Ears. I find it even more upsetting that should the CRTC go ahead with such a charge all revenues collected would be obtained without a single guarantee from the networks that the money collected would be channeled to the budgets for local programming which such monies are supposed to support - as such for me this amounts to the requested levy as being nothing more than a subsidy for the TV networks - a subsidy they have yet to prove is required.

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 [Shannon M](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will also be cancelling my cable services completely, if the new "TV Tax" goes onto my bill.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [robertdaigneault](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the cable / satellite industries are already overcharging. At the same time, I believe that any TV stations and that includes the ones from the states, if they get revnue from advertisements or commercials, they should not charge a fee to carry their signals and cable / satellite should not charge consumers with a fee to see these channels. The only channels that should be associated with fees are those channels that have no commecials. The cable / satellite and local TV stations have both made enough profits on our backs and should be ashamed for asking more. We are coming out of the worst recession since the great depression and when will enough be enough. If those 2 entities were in the red, I could understand up to a limit but they are both making huge profits and deserve no more money from the average taxpayer. Enough is enough. With the service we receive right now from both entities, we should get a rebate on our bills. That's my Rick Mercer rant.

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[Like](#)

 [Bob](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Please No additional fees. If CTv, Global etc. can't make it certain markets, so be it..... Or make these networks optional in the Basic Cable pkg... That way I can decide whether I wish to pay for these networks....

[Flag](#)

Like



Dianne Jones ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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bobel ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since my wife and I rarely watch local TV, I certainly do not want to pay for it in any way, shape or form.

As a service to the communities, cable and satellite service providers should continue to provide this service for FREE. Lord knows they charge far too much for what we already have. It's bad enough we already have to pay for channels we never watch because they're packaged with the channels we do watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



Norm ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already paying \$70.00 a month for satellite, start paying the Canadian stations...

[Flag](#)

Like



francine ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local t.v should always be available, I thought I was paying already for local TV. Don,t we pay enough... I do not want to pay anymore, Thank you!

[Flag](#)

Like



Jessie ★ [1 month ago](#)

Bills are high enough as it is - imposing another 'tax' would have the direct result in the cancellation all TV services. I'll watch it online if that's what it comes to - for FREE.

If they are to issue such a charge, all 'cancellation fees' should be waived - so that we are not doubly penalized.

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Like



Ed ★ [1 month ago](#)

The companies make enough money off us already - and should not be charging us anything more!

[Flag](#)

Like



Ismail Pirani ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's about time we stopped taxing Canadians on an almost daily basis - when will this all stop!

[Flag](#)

Like

 amykaren ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a tv cable subscriber we are totally against the proposed tax to our cable bill to support local tv. These tv stations already recive millions of dollars from the government. Enough is enough-we are being taxed to death especially with the new combined GST/PST taxes by the province. You can't expect people to give up even more money especially during these hard economic times! What the hell are you thinking?????? Its really disgusting & insulting to every taxpayer! I will cancel the cable service if necessary!

[Flag](#)

Like

 tonyguy ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable if not offered the opportunity to opt out of local content.

No measures need be taken. If it cannot be sustained by advertising it lacks audience appeal

[Flag](#)

Like

 Leigh Finlay ★ [1 month ago](#)

We should not be paying for local programming. The cable companies already provide this. The networks should not receive funding from subscribers over and above what they are receiving.

[Flag](#)

Like

 J. ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not see why the Canadian medial consumer should be asked to subsidize a failed business model for well-financed TV networks, nor do I feel that the equally wealthy cable networks should be allowed to pass on any new costs associated with their business to cable consumer. Other industries have adapted to changes in technology and the impact of the recession without soaking the consumer. Both the TV networks and the cable networks are simply trying to protect their already ample bottom lines by soaking consumers who, in most cases, will have no choice but to pay more with no improvement or changes in service!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 pamelaallard ★ [1 month ago](#)

The satellite and cable companies have run a very slick advertising campaign against the television networks asking slanted questions of consumers. They make it sound as though the networks have been making huge amounts of money, not mentioning their own huge profits. Nobody likes the idea of paying more, but local television must be supported. I agree that the cable and satellite companies should pay for local television. If they raise their fees, some people will choose to cancel their service.

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Like

 jodamo ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would pay the fee if the networks were forced to use it to support local TV

[Flag](#)

Like

 Laurie ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. We are already paying a 1.5% local programming improvement fee in our cable bills as of

Sept 2009, and that's enough. I will not pay for local tv programming in addition to this fee, particularly since if this starts it will also mean that we will have an increase in our current cable or satellite provider fees as these providers will also be forced to pay for this local tv programming, thus charging us for that access in the end. We pay enough already, the cost if way to high!

2. Wait and see how the 1.5% local improvement fund fee tax is working for local tv providers before asking consumers to accept paying for local tv. Adding an additional tax or fee after only having implement the other fee in Sept is a little premature.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Karen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I shouldn't have to pay more for what I already get today, but if I don't want certain channels, I should get a discount. Why should I have to pay for channels I don't even watch.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dr. Diane Y. Paterson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are paying through the nose for cable TV as it is. Local TV is already Government subsidised. They are making substantial profits yet they want more money. Perhaps they should adopt strategies which would make them more increase viewership and revenue. Why should we have to pay for the incompetence local TV stations?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Janet Gibson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I might be forced to cancel my cable service. I can't afford any increases at this time.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *JinAB* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not see why the Canadian medial consumer should be asked to subsidize a failed business model for well-financed TV networks, nor do I feel that the equally wealthy cable networks should be allowed to pass on any new costs associated with their business to cable consumer. Other industries have adapted to changes in technology and the impact of the recession without soaking the consumer. Both the TV networks and the cable networks are simply trying to protect their already ample bottom lines by soaking consumers who, in most cases, will have no choice but to pay more with no improvement or changes in service!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *George Woodings* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a retiree on a fixed income, I would find it prohibitive to have an extra charge for local TV and programming. I fell that the broadcasters should be able to make ends meet and also make a profit with the revenues that they get from advertisers. It is not necessary to add a charge to the existing fees that I pay.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Heather* ★ [1 month ago](#)

How would you ensure that the people who would have to pay this tax are getting any benefit out of it? Many people even today do not own televisions. I am personally prepared to cancel my cable subscription in protest of such a tax, but you are making it sound like everyone will be hit with the tax regardless of whether they have a cable subscription. I realize it won't be the first time citizens are taxed to support things in which they have no personal involvement, but it

would be nice if we can avoid yet another instance of this.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Our basic cable is too high as it is. The quality of local programming is laughable. Other than Hockey and news not much worthwhile to watch. These corporations make enough money and don't need a bailout (look at GM and Chrysler) didn't help them much

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Andrew Jones* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that as a tax payer I am already supporting TV stations particularly the CBC - the question is stated as if viewers were not supporting this services today. Are not the other local stations run as profitable businesses (depending on the skill of their management team) that are free to contract for advertising and to purchase and develop content as they see fit and can afford. Why should there be an additional mandatory charge levied? If indirectly collected by those that distribute the signals or directly paid by the viewer - I believe it will be the viewer that will in the end have to pay. That payment is objectionable as it is essentially a subsidy to local station shareholders, and/or to offset poor business management of those businesses. I believe that if there were a "free market" rather than a CRTC regulated environment we would have more choice not less, lower prices not higher, more competition rather than less, and content that would be responsive to viewer interests and not designed to meet arbitrary regulation. I also expect that some vertical consolidation would occur that would make this discussion academic.

By the way how much does the CRTC cost the taxpayer? What is the return on that investment?

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Like

 *Darren* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If rates go up I will look a cutting my service back. I think we pay to much for what we get now. 100+ channels but 80% are duplicat in different time zones. Still nothing worth watching half the time. \$+ no way!

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Like

 *Rick* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't support the implementation of another tax for television, be it for local tv or carrying of a signal. With the heavy regulation that already exists such as forcing Canadians to take channels they don't want so they can have ones they do want as well as the cable company's ability to substitute Canadian signals for US signals, I don't think more rules and costs are needed. If a channel is meant to survive it should need to do so solely on merit. If a service is worth paying for, people will pay for it. If it is not worth it, they will not. That is how it should be.

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Like

 *Mel Goldberg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Stop the TV Tax!!! Both the networks and the cable companies make enough money. They should be able to manage the cost of keeping local programming alive themselves without passing on the expense to an already over taxed public.

This has been a very severe recession and it is not over yet. Canadians have been hit hard and there just is not enough money at the end of the day to cover any new taxes. If the cable companies are forced to pay the networks, you can be sure that they will pass it onto the consumer. Enough is enough! Our pockets are empty!

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Like



Calli ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be prepared to cancel my cable. Cable companies make enough of a profit that they should absorb the cost and include it as part of their basic package , without again increasing their hefty fees. How much money do they expect to make ? I already have to pay for other stations that I don't want as part of cablevision's basic package. Maybe I should be allowed to have the choice to cancel some of these unwanted stations and replace them with local stations. I'm tired of these greedy companies always taking the easy way out and trying to take advantage of the average consumer who can't even keep up with the cost of living. In these difficult economic times we all have to make sacrifices -maybe my sacrifice will be to cancel my cable all together and just enjoy local T.V. How do they have the nerve to try and pass this on to the consumer?! Where is their moral and ethical conscience ?

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Like



Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am against the TV tax.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Like



jgmack ★ [1 month ago](#)

Oh yes please! Tax me more. I love it when my taxes increase. Especially when its used to subsidize useless services, like local television. If local tv cannot survive on advertising revenue, then they should get out of the business. Canadians didn't cause their problems, so why should we be punished with a new tax? This whole thing disgusts me.

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Like



Namita Parekh ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They receive enough funding from our TV providers and government! Not to mention LPIF. Its not fair that Canadians will have to pay \$10 more on their TV bill each month when the broadcasters already receive so much.

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Like



jodamo ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would pay the fee if there was an enforceable guarantee that the networks would use it for local TV. I'll support my local stations because they're local and I can relate. I don't trust either the cable companies or the networks. And much of this mess - and all the messes before - seem down to CRTC muddling and blundering. Seems the last people they listen to are the viewers.

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Like

 *Chris* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Other than news and advertisements, local TV does not cover anything else that I can't find on satellite, cable, the internet or radio stations.

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Like

 *B Allan* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my satalite service completely...There is no reason for us to have to pay the big networks more money..They make money through advertising just like everyone else and if they are not making enough through that then they should put on shows that people really want to watch so their audience and revenue will increase.

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Like

 *Bill Mcfarlane* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There no need to bail out the big networks. If they can't make it on their own without charging us an extra 10\$ a month then they should pack up shop and get into some other kind of business that relies on government handouts!!!

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Like

 *Bob* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be forced to cancel my cable tv as the price would be prohibitive. Local TV needs to stand on its own or supported by donations/charity from those interested.

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Like

 *Mike B* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is not important to me. Basically local TV just means the local news. I get most of my news from other sources. The rest is just American programming.
2. Local stations can look for funding from advertising.

I would have a hard time justifying paying more than I already pay. I feel programming is already too expensive.

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Like

 *M_L_W* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already pay for CBC through tax system and object to another levy to support the CBC. In my city I only find one local tv station worthwhile watching. I object to supporting the others. If asked for more money, I will cancel my cable service.
2. The family owned conglomerates that ultimately own local TV are in trouble because of loading their balance sheets with debt to acquire media other than local braoadcast TV stations. Let them restructure their balance sheets in the usual financial markets. I will not be part of bailing them out.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Bill Mcfarlane* ★ [1 month ago](#)

No government bailout for the big TV networks. If they can't make it without charging us \$10 a more each month then they should pack it in and find another kind of business that relies on government handouts. Give us a break!

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Like



Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am against the TV tax.

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Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

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And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Mike B ★ [1 month ago](#)

The whole industry is convoluted and expensive enough as it is. First off, I currently get to pay to receive signals that contain paid advertisements! That in it's self is a bit ridiculous. When it comes to add supported signals, providers should be doing as much as they can to get them accessible!

Maybe there needs to be better regulations around add replacements, but the consumer definitely should not be getting charged more to get commercial supported broadcasts! The content provider and the carrier should be getting compensated for ads with a higher number of subscribers. Content Providers should be looking for carriers to carry their broadcast, not trying to make them pay for them!

If locals cannot make a living by selling commercials, they are not watched or poorly managed. I am not willing to support unwanted or poorly managed providers.

A bit off topic, but Carriers should be only charging the base rate for ALL commercial supported channels, not just these locals. I agree and understand paying extra for non commercial supported channels, but that is it. As for US or other foreign providers with commercials, the carrier should be paying for the signal I believe, and can replace ads with theirs, or should be able too. This still constitutes a payed by commercials broadcast.

A frustrated consumer who feels ripped off.

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Like



RICK BRITTAIN ★ [1 month ago](#)

as a senior i would not want to pay any more for cable. i also think other stations will pick up the local coverage as competition demands.

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Like



Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

I oppose the TV Tax.

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

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And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming

Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Like

 Trevor ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should be self sustaining and no extra fees should be charged to support them.

The servies provided by local Tv can be assumed by other community organizations (e.g. newspapers, theatre groups, etc.)

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Like

 Bob ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be forced to cancel my cable tv as the price would be prohibitive. Local TV needs to stand on its own or supported by donations/charity from those interested.

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Like

 RICK BRITTAIN ★ [1 month ago](#)

as a senior i cant afford any increase.
other stations will pick up the local newa as publis demands

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Like

 Bill Karam ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV, like all TV organizations, gain their revenue from advertising. If they claim that they aren't earning enough money (which I doubt), then the appropriate response is to increase their ad rates. Of course, another approach is to negotiate a better deal with the cable and satellite companies, but those should not be permitted to increase fees to their subscribers. After all, they sell advertising too!

I don't believe I've ever heard of Radio stations, newspapers or magazines (who also sell adv. for their existence) asking for such a bailout.

If this does get approved by the CRTC, I expect a great number of subscribers will either refuse to pay an extra amount, or cancel their service all together (including me). It will also demonstrate who the CRTC is really working for and answering to.

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Like

 michaelrjordan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not been in support of paying for local tv. At one time tv was viewed through local tv antennae and because we lived outside that area of reception we had to either purchase cable or satellite. People in local communities where they have reception are still able to view that service for free so it by charging for the local service only cable and satellite users would pay. Also local tv was supported by advertising and I feel there are more paid commercials today than ever before. Cable and satellite providers should be made to sit down and come to an amicable solution so that a portion be given to local television for their locally provided services or the local services sell their local programming to those that are interested. If no interest, then remove the service. We the consumer cannot continue to pay for things that are not of value. As a satellite provider, I pay over \$100 per month for viewing and really other than a few specialty channels I do not think we are getting the value for our money. The duplicity in the shows, the lack of good educational content and the fact we never had to pay for it in the past make me wonder why we subscribe. Rather than services sell packages, we should be able to buy individual programs that way we may get better value for the money we spend.

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Like



smokeskull ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will cut off my TV subscription if taxed. I am not going to give even \$5.00 a month for local TV. They better look elsewhere for money, because I am tapped out. Every level of government is digging in my pocket and I am fed right up. Someone will retaliate one of these days.

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Like



johnkok ★ [1 month ago](#)

1/ Local TV is important to me, but I am opposed to paying extra for it on my satellite bill. I would prefer to use an antenna and watch local programming, mainly news, on-air.
2/ Local programming should be supported with local advertising. If networks cannot afford to keep local stations going, then they need to make a business decision, possibly closing some local stations down.

Our satellite, cable, internet, and cellphone rates are already very high.

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Like



aaronmueller ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my television services if I were asked to pay for local TV on top of my regular bill. Why would I pay for a local station that I can get for free if I use a digital antenna? Also besides the local news there is nothing of importance that I can't get on my regular channels that I pay for.

2. Local television does not need anymore support then it already has. Advertising should be able to cover their expenses. Why do we have commercials then? If I have to fund television just to keep the doors open, then I don't want any commercials and I don't want to see crappy Canadian TV shows or dramas. If I really need to hear the news then I can get it for free on CBC radio. There is no need to pay for it at all.

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Like



K. Wowk ★ [1 month ago](#)

We need to open the market place and expand the competition. Cable and satellite options are too limited.

I am definitely not wanting to give more monies to companies making big profits.

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Like



Trevor ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should be self sustaining and no extra fees should be charged to support them. Fees are already too high for the mostly lousy quality and content offered.

The services provided by local Tv can be assumed by other community organizations (e.g. newspapers, theatre groups, etc.)

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Like



gr8gazoo ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would look to cancel the local stations from my cable bill or reduce other channels to avoid paying more.

2. we continue to hear about more and more money being directed to support local television, yet the situation is getting worse as local stations are closed. Perhaps it is time to take a different approach then continuing to give the television industry more money.

This extra cost feels like nothing more than another bailout for the big TV networks on top of the other special conditions they continue to receive (when was the last time you saw a US Super

Bowl Ad on a US network?).

If the big networks really have a problem making money on local TV, then perhaps we should take away that obligation from them (and the special conditions) and let them and local programming stand on their own. We already fund the CBC so maybe they are the only network to continue with local content obligations?

Whether or not this is an appealing approach, I would rather try to rebuild the model then continue to pour money into something that clearly isn't getting better.

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Heidi ★ [1 month ago](#)

The unfairness of forcing the people who currently pay for their channels through a satellite/cable provider is that the local TV stations are still providing their stations free to anyone with an antenna. So if these stations are free to anyone with an antenna then how can the CRTC force payment onto the cable & satellite for carrying these channels. I'm sure advertisers are more likely to advertise on Global Toronto if they know that the channel is being carried by the cable companies and satellite companies across Canada.

The Canadian stations have been making a profit for many years and like many firms in these times they have to reduce costs to survive. But unless you're in the auto sector, the firms are doing this without getting bail out money to survive.

I vote No to more money for these large corporations, who have been making millions of dollars in profit for years.

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Like



robert clarke ★ [1 month ago](#)

i am not for any type of tax or otherwise hike in fees paid for satellite or cable service. cable and satellite companies pay for u.s. programing. they should dump the "junk" u.s. programs and replace with canadian content. it's a shame when a national shrine like the grey cup is on tsn, depriving thousands of canadians who may not afford the cable or satellite package to receive tsn. i find the fees charged for these services unjustifiably high. and now we lose the option of "free" antennae/rabbit ears. it's turning into a real scam.

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Like



John Welsh ★ [1 month ago](#)

once again...greed takes over, what about we average Canadians who are just making ends meet?

these Cable companies (as well as other industries) dont see adding \$10.00 or \$20.00 a month more to our bills, as very significant.

I, as an average working class Canadian calculate that amount, to it's real cost out of my meager pockets of \$120.00 to \$240.00 + all the added taxes on taxes that go along with it. to me, you are taking a weeks worth of groceries from my family (

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Like



cm0266 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Totally agree...paying way too much for tv...and for what? I would rather watch puppet socks than pay an additional \$10/month to keep local stations. Would we be subsidizing other small businesses that don't make it, too? No we wouldn't so what's the deal here? And you're telling me that Cable/satellite companies can't absorb the costs? They charge us already for what is free....Obscene to even consider this as an option.

When did television become an essential necessity that needs to be subsidized? Especially the number of homeless and hungry growing day by day in our Country.

Give your heads a shake...NO MORE TAX!

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Like



[ddickinson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If it is going to cost me more than what I am able to pay now then I do not want it as I can only afford (barely) so if it goes up then I would be forced to cancel my cable now

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[marlee](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not see any relevance to local television (except for watching the local news). Local TV stations principally broadcast American television shows which I already pay for through my cable company for CBS, NBC, ABC, FOX, etc. We would just be paying twice! Perhaps an alternative would be for cable/satellite subscribers to be given a choice of which local TV stations (CTV, Global, CBC) they would prefer to subscribe to and pay a monthly charge for that individual station.

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[shaneroconnor](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Rogers raised my bill in January 09, in the midst of the worst recession in 80 years. I wrote a message, but they justified it based on network expansion and maintenance...nonsense. It was nothing more than an annual rate increase. Bell and Rogers are totally insensitive to the Canadian consumer, and only interested in gouging their customers. I am a total supporter of capitalism, but some balance in pricing would be a much more reasonable and appropriate approach.

If local stations can't survive without tax dollars, or increasing the consumer bill, then they should be allowed to fail.

Bell still charges for "dial tone", and "network access", years after they should have gone away.

If we institute another "tax", it will be years, if ever, it's removed.

Another instance of taxation without representation.

If the CRTC wants to demonstrate its value, then reduce our rates.

That's what Canadian want.

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Like



[Linda](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are already paying too much to the cable and satellite companies. Our local TV stations are included in our mandatory basic cable service costs. It is only fitting that a portion of this fee (or the total amount) be forwarded to pay these stations to carry their signals.

Why are we charged this mandatory fee if the cable company doesn't absorb its share of the carrying cost? Why should the consumer always have to pay and overpay? I want to keep my identity as a Canadian and support my local TV.

The cable company should take its responsibility to pay our local stations.

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Like



[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Linda](#)

nobody wants to pay for anything that was free. don't you get it. but the TV industry and times have changed and CRTC regulations needs to get with the sign of the times as the industry is changing. jobs are lost as a result.

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Like



[Peter G](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

As someone being asked to pay an additional charge on my TV bill, I urge you to reject the

large networks' demands for a new tax. These are the same networks that made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year, and now want me to bail them out during the worst recession in 20 years.

I'm not getting a bailout, and I certainly don't want to fund one for these big media corporations. This tax is nothing but a long-term fix for a short-term problem.

In my opinion, this is nothing short of regularized profit taking directly from citizens pockets and sanctioned by government so they can maintain their profit margins and the cable company managers and directors can meet their performance bonuses. The pockets of the citizens are NOT unlimited and are getting enough hits already. Who do you think is going to cover the national and provincial debts in the near future? Should the CRTC not take action on this matter, it is effectively condoning this behaviour by corporations, thereby setting a precedent for other industries. I expect my government to protect me from something which I equate to theft - taking money without providing a service. I expect the CRTC to be that voice which protects Canadians first, corporations second. Why? Because corporations have only one goal - profits. Canadians, on the other hand, have multiple priorities from raising families, supporting charities, contributing to communities, etc. on a daily basis (not via some marketing campaign).

This is also a oligopoly situation where the market is dominated by a few corporations. In this skewed environment, for some strange reason the government is bowing to the pressure from select firms. This seems to go against the fair competition environment which we try to foster in this country and is enshrined in numerous federal and provincial policies, standards and regulations. Yet, for some reason, the cable companies appear to be exempt. As a result, they are permitted to bully the smaller players in the market place for their own financial gain. Why isn't our government supporting the local TV stations who aid in fostering and evolving Canadian culture? Why does the CRTC appear to side for the corporations? Is there undue influence in this bureaucracy and process by so-called consultants? I am very concerned the interests of Canadians and local Canadian firms and companies are not being represented. Especially when you consider that this is the depth and breadth of the media campaign they've needed to invest in in combating the Goliaths.

What was interesting to observe in this morning's news was a representative from Shaw Cable indicating that Canadians would not be prepared to pay for local TV. This is sepias logic - when you poll people to ask would you be prepared to pay more for something you believe you are already paying for, of course the answer is going to be no. The piece of logic which is missing from this discussion is that the cable companies should have being pay for the signals from the local station all along. Don't let them off the hook of their responsibilities to pay for the services they are provided. To do so would be to legitimize corporate theft from the small business by the giants. This will undermine competition in this industry in Canada. And competition is essential for innovation and growth.

Another factor for the CRTC to take into consideration is that most of the arguments you'll receive from the cable companies are based upon maintaining and GROWING their profit margin. Their executives, directors and managers are all awarded bonuses for increasing their margins from year to year. Based upon this approach, at some point, there will be an expectation of a 100% profit margin and more. Some companies won't even pursue a line of business if it doesn't provide a minimum of a 50% margin. Believe me, I know from my experience on our vendors for the Secure Channel project. The logic of annual increases in profit growth (the equivalent of compounded interest) is unreasonable and is an unsustainable model with a focus on greed.

And this model shouldn't be applied to maintaining and evolving Canadian culture. A new view is needed where the cable companies are EXPECTED to contribute to Canadian culture, much like Canadians do each day. By supporting this, they are supporting the source of their wealth. Lets focus on the bigger picture and stop focusing on the pennys and nickels so much. Where is the vision for Canadian media?

My expectation is my government, via the CRTC, is there to represent the interests of Canadians. This includes maintaining local programming as part of the Canadian culture and its evolution over time. And local programming can't, by definition, be provided nationally from Toronto. A decentralized investment strategy is needed to accomplish this and the model of local TV stations is the one which appears to function in this large and sparsely populated nation. To keep Canadians in touch with Canadians, local media solutions are needed which

aren't as driven by the ups and downs of the TSX and corporate headquarters. This is not just about the TV Tax - the issue is much broader. But the TV Tax is the thin edge of the wedge and it needs to be blunted today so that more rational and inclusive discussions can be had by all with equal representation at the table. A different model than the current representation by revenue generation is needed.

You have the power to stop this TV Tax, the start of the dismantling of Canadian media and, thus, our culture. On behalf of consumers across Canada, please reject the networks' demand to tax my TV once again. And put an end to further requests of this nature once and for all.

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Like

 *Trevor* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies should offer and charge only for stations that the consumer selects and not in packages. Currently each package contains stations, one or two of which are winners and a lot of dogs. If a station become popular they bump it to a different higher priced package so they can gouge as much money as possible from the consumer who has no options other than to deal with them. Free up the choices or end their monopoly.

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Like

 *Robert Martin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My cable bill is to high as it is. Enough with the tax increase`s.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Kanowakeron* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Question: What happens to the TV Networks if they DON'T get the TV Tax? Will they cease to exist? Or will their profit margin not be as enticing to shareholders? Budgetary cutbacks are on everybody's agenda, both in the personal and public sectors, so the networks need to start paring down their expenses and make do with what they have. The rest of us do.

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Like

 *Ronald* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Just what I need another tax. I am a senior citizen on the old age pension right now my cable bill runs over a hundred dollars. now I can dump most of my entertainment channel's and lower my bill. But at my age I can't get around very good as I use a wheel chair, and then theres all my medication I need every month to relive the pain from my cancer. When I was younger I seen business's either make a go of it or get into a different business. And now these day's company's whine and cry and ask for bail outs with other people's money when will they learn to stand on there own two feet like my ancestors did years ago?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Farquhar* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I think I am already paying for local TV in my Cable bill. It is included in the basic package, the CRTC has said Cable companies MUST provide it and by doing so the local broadcaster obtains a larger audience for their advertisers.

2. They are a business and as such are in competition with other similar businesses. Let the marketplace decide whether they deserve to stand or fall.

The only reason the CRTC is involved in this is that Cable/satellite and the Broadcasters are too childish to talk to each other seriously and work things out on their own. This is not a "tax". Only government can levy taxes (and boy are they good at it). This would be a pass through of costs

to the consumer the same as the insurance industry increases our premiums when they have a higher than usual number of claims (but that's another rant for another time). I feel that I am paying enough for my Cable service (which I am satisfied with) but IF I was being asked to pay more then I would expect something in return such as being able to SELECT all the stations I was interested in (including High Def) and not be forced to accept those I am not interested in simply because they are included in a "package" such as Sports or Movies.

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Like



Renee James ★ [1 month ago](#)

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

[Flag](#)

Like



mathgirl123 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think it is fair that the local stations are free to some people and cost others. It should either be free for everyone or cost everyone. If the networks can't make it work, then maybe they should get out of the business.

[Flag](#)

Like



Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable service completely.
2. Local Advertisers.

Canadians are charged more for their cable and internet than any other country - I believe we have you to thank for that. It may take us a while, but we do get fed up, and when we do.....you all better have a plan B

[Flag](#)

Like



Sherry Graves-Morrison ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the cable and satellite companies should have to pay the local stations for the content they are transmitting but this fee should not be passed along to their customers. Profits are very large and they have been getting away with not paying for content for far too long.

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Sherry Graves-Morrison](#) 1 person liked this.

CRTC is regulating an industry that no longer needs any regulation. there is no monopoly in the media anymore. tv and radio is small compared to cable i Canada

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Sherry Graves-Morrison](#)

city street parking was free before now the city is charging us for parking. somebody has to pay for the cost of programming and yes these are private companies whose number one goal is to make profit. no profit no jobs. or layoffs..

[Flag](#)

Like



Stan Giles ★ [1 month ago](#)

Quite frankly I couldn't care less about "local" programming. Only the major cities have local

stations and I don't live in one of those and couldn't care less about the going's on there - we get the important stuff one way or another anyhow. I am all for CANADIAN programming but local just isn't important to me.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *binner76* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Are you guys trying to make Canada the highest taxes country in the world. Our taxation rate is 36.6% and this would add to it. Also, I don't think that the CRTC is considering that the more money the population has, the more they spend. Therefor, the money goes back into the system on its own. This means that more the 1/3 of our money goes in taxes, this is absurd. If they cannot manage without the new tax, maybe something else should be done, but not getting the money from the population.

A business is a business, that that mean that we will have a new tax added for every business out there. Here you go a \$20 tax for MacDonalds, Wal-Mart, etc.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *tiredofpayingforsomeoneelse* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should we bail out another business if you can make money it is not my problem. Stop paying the big bonus to the executives.

If my business is hurting my taxes do not bail me out!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *briansankarsingh* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I owned a business which I was able to run profitably for a number of years before selling it. In the running of that business there were many times when I had to use my own money to 'bailout' my business and so I know what hard times are about. The reality I had to face was that if there was no other funding and I was unable to meet the expenses of my business my only other option would be to shut down.

Now taking that analogy and applying it to this situation may not be as cut and dry however here is the lesson I would like to apply.

"When there is the OPTION of simply going back to the taxpayer and getting more money, then the desire to run the business EFFICIENTLY is curtailed."

I believe therefore that it is not within the best interest of the taxpayer, the television industry, local television, the CRTC and the government to allow yet another 'tax grab!'

There has to be a cultural shift from the current paradigm of "just increase taxes" to solve the problem rather than looking at other more creative means.

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 *Louis Lapierre* ★ [1 month ago](#)

An additional cable and satellite tax is clearly to be denounced. Many of us will simply have to cancel the cable or satellite service service.

In lieu of a local TV tax if it is necessary to support local TV (which we doubt) then make it optional ie: if you want the local station you pay a monthly fee for it just as you do for the golf channel, food channel or other. That way those who dont wantC local TV dont pay the tax or the fee. CBC of course would not qualify since it is already supported very generously through our taxes. There is no way taxing subscribers will force people to watch local stations with local programming. Local stations should ramp up advertising campaigns and provide programs people will watch.

[Flag](#)

 Like *matthew M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

this is one of the biggest deals we are paying way to much for cable and satellite this is why a lot of people are turning to the internet to watch their shows

[Flag](#) Like *billy* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [matthew M](#)

my internet connection is \$45/month and as for shows the downloading and picture quality can't compare to digital and HD on cable and television. one of the reason for cable is the superior quality and pay tv channels. over the air signals has too much interference.

[Flag](#) Like *Brian M.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV holds no importance to me. News is more efficiently gleaned from radio and the internet. Television is a source of entertainment and I certainly will not support any move to charge more money to support services that I do not use. Free enterprise is just that, it should be allowed to live or die on its own. If there is to be some sort of additional fee to "help" local TV, I suggest the satellite or cable subscribers have the option to simply not receive these channels and therefore not have to pay for them. You will quickly determine how irrelevant local TV is.

[Flag](#) Like *bily* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Brian M.](#)

exactly, over the air broadcasting and major news networks no longer control the media so regulations is no longer needed.

[Flag](#) Like *hellery* ★ [1 month ago](#)

You know something when the government gives me a stimulus package then I will certainly discuss giving one to the big broadcasting companies. I think that is a fair deal and one I greatly hope the government offers me.

[Flag](#) Like *CAPTPUG* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will not pay any more than I do now!!!! All these cable and satellite providers are ripping people off. I have already started cutting back my Bell services and will cut more on any increases. The only way to make the providers know that you are mad is to cut them off, and when their market share drops they will all come out with "good deals" almost like the ones they all used to sucker us in. The CRTC will be no help in this matter as you just have to look at their past performance last week in refusing a new phone carrier that wants to lower prices after they took their money for at band width auction. Now the other companies are offering to buy these AIRWAVES. WHY ?? All companies should allow you to only pay for what you want and not force packages on anybody. Local TV is only available to Big Cities where all the stations are so you should only bill the people from these towns if they want the channels. I AM TIRED OF SUPPORTING ALL THE DEAD BEAT CHANNELS IN THESE PACKAGES.

Have a Nice Day

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Linda* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are already paying too much to the cable and satellite companies. Our local TV stations are included in our mandatory basic cable service costs. It is only fitting that a portion of this fee (or the total amount) be forwarded to pay these stations to carry their signals.

Why are we charged this mandatory fee if the cable company doesn't absorb it's share of the carrying cost? Why should the consumer always have to pay and overpay? I want to keep my identity as a Canadian and support my local TV.

The cable company should take its responsibility to pay our local stations.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Larry* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe I am already paying for the local programming by the way my cable company has increased my monthly fees. If they are not paying that fee for local programs and they have the nerve to charge me for them that just isn't right. We do need local programming so we don't get jammed up with out of country repeat programs as we do now. Whomever is overly profiting by this situation, I hope it stops.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Billincalgary* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations should be treated the same way specialty channels are treated - cable and satellite companies need to pay them based on the number of viewers.

Currently there is an imbalance in TV broadcasting in Canada. As an owner of a specialty channel, you collect revenues from cable and satellite companies that deliver your programming to viewers PLUS you get to earn advertising revenues as well. Local TV stations only have advertising revenues to rely on. Moreover, given that many of these same advertisers pay specialty channels fees for advertising, there is less available for local TV stations.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Salome Sausa Leonardi* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a pensioner, i cannot afford any additional t.v tax. on top of what I'm already paying. We are already loaded with so many taxes. Another one is coming next year, the controversial HST (I hope this one won't materialize) .. It's just too much!!!

In my own opinion, cable and satellite companies should be charged for distributing their programs. They don't pay a fee for local TV signals..

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*emadramzy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would definitely scale down my cable package. Prices for cable service in Canada are far higher than in the States I don't know why

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Sherry Graves-Morrison* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the cable and satellite companies should have to pay the local stations for the content they are transmitting but this fee should not be passed along to their customers. Profits are very large and they have been getting away with not paying for content for far too long.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *nootka62* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be willing to pay more for my satellite service. I have a hard time as it is to find programs worth watching.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *dutchboypd* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This absolute robbery. Ridiculous the companies involved are making billions in profits. They almost have a monopoly on the industry and now they want more money from us. The CRTC needs to enforce regulations that make things fair between all involved. We barely have canadian programming as it stands and we pay for american propaganda. We are canadian, I don't want from buffalo or new york I want to know what is going on here in the nations capital. Not Toronto or any other place for that matter. Make these companies share their obscene profits and give us more canadian programming. My Rogers bill is already the cost of a damn car payment we pay the highest amounts in the world for cell phones, and cable compared and it certainly isn't for the stellar customer service we receive.

I am sick and tired of being robbed. NO I will not pay extra. Yes I demand local Canadian programming. Let the mighty government set things straight and share the wealth Billions in profits REALLY and people are squabbling for more. Ridiculous Ridiculous do we really need to waste our time and tell you people we think stop wasting our damn tax dollars on stupid ads that are not clear.

Peter

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Like

 *Abner Baer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are already paying too much for local TV. I will quit my cable if this happens. You should have no right to make \$4,000,000.0 and cry wolf.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Stan B* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't believe that any additional fee for local TV is necessary or appropriate. The model of advertising revenue should continue to be adequate. If this requires a competitive thinning of local programming I can live with that.

Cable fees are too high now.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Pat C* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is free if an inexpensive antenna is installed. Why pay more to have it as part of a TV package? TV packages are currently abnormally expensive: value of the channel line-up and overall cost is questionable. Packages aren't even flexible. Paying for mediocre programming at premium prices currently doesn't make sense - why pay more for local?

If any further increases to my television programming are forced upon me, I will decrease my programming (even more) or go back to Over the Air signals (and get my local programs).

Local television is important and must be supported. It plays a part in tying the community together and keeping citizens informed.

I suggest that to make programming affordable and still have value, that packages are

changed to allow a more flexible selection, with local programming included in all. - I prefer not to have 100 channels and still have 'nothing on'.

There must be a balance without the end community user being affected either in programming or in cost.

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 *SKR* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I work for a cable or satellite company. My personal opinion (which may or may not be my company's opinion) is that if there will be a fee for carriage, the cable and satellite companies should have the option either to pay the fee or drop the channel.

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Like

 *brianeast* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the cable and satellite networks do not have the choice (ie: they "must" carry the local channels) then they should not have to pay for it. If there was choice, they could make a proper business decision as to whether there is the demand for it and whether the expense was justified.

I wonder as well that local TV does get additional benefit in that their commercial advertisements are broadcast to a wider audience, allowing them to charge more for their advertising. If they are given this coverage free of charge, it does seem an unfair business model.

The bottom line is that where there is no choice, there can be no fee. If you give cable companies the freedom to choose, then you can legislate that the local broadcasting must be paid for.

I watch local television and most of it is US content, anyway. Worse, many Canadian productions are made to be "American" in order to sell to the US. As a former intelligence officer I understand the need for us to keep a Canadian (pardon the word) apparatus of national propaganda, but even these Canadian "news" shows do not serve the interests of our country, anyway.

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 *Janice M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) If I "asked" to, I'd say no thanks. If I were forced to by a CRTC ruling, I would be furious.

Firstly, I question the use of the word negotiate in the initial video. From what I've read, it does not sound like negotiations to me.

As long as the cable and satellite companies are forced to carry the service(s) then they should not be charged.

If the new Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% along with the millions of dollars the networks already receive is not sufficient, then I question the value of local TV programming.

Make carrying the stations an option for cable and satellite and they can offer them as options and I'm sure the CRTC will quickly have the answer of how important local programming is to the majority viewers (and they know this already).

If the decision is made to go forth with the additional fee, it is the CRTC's responsibility to ensure that networks spend every last penny on local TV.

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Tammy ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable/Satellite TV already charges too much, local stations should be free to be viewed by anyone, even if they do not have cable/satellite TV as everyone has the right to be informed of local news, events etc!

There should be more suppliers of cable/satellite TV since the main suppliers are making such a huge profit and feel they can take advantage of us the consumers.

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Like



John ★ [1 month ago](#)

Adding another tax to solve a private business issue is not right. For some reason the idea of taxing to solve issues rather than have the to parties involved solve the issue has become the Canadian way. You can tax all you wish, but I will not pay it... not one cent.

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johnmp ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Yvonne Lockhart ★ [1 month ago](#)

This would increase the cable costs by \$5 to \$10 per month. I am 70 years old. When my husband died after a lengthy illness, there was no estate. I am trying to survive on CPP & OAS.

The cable companies have started to charge for Local Programming Improvement for a fee of 1.5% per month.

TV Networks have large Operating Profits. Do not tax you clients.

An additional TV Tax does not assure that local TV Stations will be kept on the air.

The broadcasters receive revenue from cable and satellite providers.

PLEASE STOP TAXING YOUR CLIENTS. THERE IS NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO GO AROUND. THE ECONOMY WILL NOT RECOVER FOR QUITE SOME TIME.

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Like



sean005 ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable subscription. I pay more than enough already for Cable.

2. Local Advertising could be used to help support local television. Other than that, they are already getting a ton of money from us. Enough is enough.

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Like



Jean Nicholaa ★ [1 month ago](#)

At the moment I cannot afford cable tv ,So I have to use rabbit ears to get local stations. Myself my budget does not include the fancy stations.IF I want to see some specials I have to visit my kids which is wrong it should be affordable to anyone.

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indu sahani ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not want to pay anymore for local TV on top of what I am already paying.

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Like



indu sahni ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not want to pay anymore for local TV on top of what I am already paying.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jim Caldwell ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are paying to much now. we should be able to subscribe to channels that we want, not channels we don't want. local stations should not be asking cable companies for money

[Flag](#)

Like



KJ ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Considering that I only use local television for my local news; AND that usually this news is 80% fluff stories that I don't consider newsworthy, I wouldn't pay a dollar more to support local television. I pay my satellite company to provide me with content other than what I could pick up with an antenna on my house from a local network. Why should I pay more fees to my satellite company to cover the cost for them to carry a local network I didn't watch in the first place.

2. That's not my business to run or offer suggestions to help stay afloat. Don't they have people that can assist them in determining what their demo wishes to see with regards to programming?

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indu sahni ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay for local TV on top of what I am already paying.

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Like



John Gilmour ★ [1 month ago](#)

if local channels cannot survive , then like any other business,they need to leave the business.The CRTC and the locals are trying to dump the inability to compete on the customers again,just like specialty channels that serve very small specialty groups.I feel the programming we get is not worth an increase for any reason. If you are over 40 years of age you have seen 90% of it before. Reruns are now a way of life on TV ,along with having 200 channels with only 15 programs between them. Specialty channels should be optional to the viewer ,bundles are laced with useless shows to most viewers.

More time should be spent making these networks,and cable conglomerates,improve their program lines..not their profit lines

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Arpee ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local television wants to charge a fee , then I should have the right to not have to purchase it. There's nothing I want to see locally anyway. I can read about it online or in the newspaper. Besides, we only have one local station to begin with.

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Like



Keith ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would purchase an FTA box and be satisfied with free television without local programming. I could install an antenna and receive HD TV for free as well.

Local news can be heard on the radio or watched on the internet for free and that's all I need

from local programming, the rest is garbage in my opinion.

There is no way I am going to pay MORE for local programming.

I'm already pissed about having to pay the LPIF fee which recently showed up on my bill.

2. Local television make enough already and if not they need to manage themselves better. I wonder how happy their current and future advertiser's would be if they knew there were less people watching Local programming because cable and satellite subscriber numbers were reduce by people quitting those services due to another added fee.

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Like



michaeldrouillard ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television, primarily local television news coverage and the diversity of media opinions that having such an outlet should allow is important. This said, in many local markets, media voices are owned by only 2-3 firms, on radio , television and print. Local television today is afforded program substitution when they are carrying duplicate programming as a US based broadcaster. This protects their local and national broadcasting advertising revenue. Canadian broadcasters have available to them millions of dollars already provided to produce original entertainment and information programming as a result of the CRTC's requirment of cable and satelite carriers to have these programs as terms of their operating licenses. Forcing cable and satelite providers to pay for local copies of mostly duplicated expensive US programming is simply unacceptable. The reason local broadcasters were given broadcast licenses in the first place was to broadcast locally significant programming LOCALLY. Using cable and satelite providers to extend the broadcast reach of these local stations artifically, then asking these carriers to pay for this is backwards. In many ways if one can argue that if cable and satelite providers must pay local stations for rebroadcast, many could argue that the local stations need the carriers more to extend their advertising footprint and therefore should pay the carriers instead. Local stations must earn their revenue from their advertising model, which the carriers currently support via mandatory program substitution rules. Local stations must purchase programs that viewers want to watch and produce locally significant programs perhaps with the financial assistance of production funds generated by the carriers. If faced with a added funding requirement over and above to the 1.5% on my cable/satelite bill I may need to downgrade my service package or disconnect altogether, electing instead to watch programs online or via an antenna. The local Programming Improvement Fund should first be used to assist broadcasters with the expensive conversion of facilities to digital television, broadcasters should examine ways to use the addtional broadcast channels that they will have with use of digital sub-channels to perhaps save and share tower space or improve geographic coverage of their terrestrial signals, and perhaps after these steps have been made the Local Programming Improvement Fund could be directly elected by cable and satelite subscribers to be directed to specific television local (news) operations by call sign,in support of these local broadcasters. Local broadcasters would be required to produce a certain amount of locally significant programming in order to be eligible for the LPIF funds and subscribers could change annually what stations they wished this LPIF amount to go to. If however no local broadcaster was eligible, then in this market, the LPIF should not be collected. The LPIF should not be a large amount and markets such as Toronto which could likely recieve larger "viewer subscribers" may be permitted/or required to share excess proceeds as deemed by the commission to other smaller outlets with smaller population densities.

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Jim Turner ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not support the idea of a 10.00 charge for local TV. This is a free market put on a good product and people will watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jim Turner ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not support the cost of 10.00 dollars for local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Brian](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

paying to much already for mostly garbage

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[Like](#)

 [Mark Hagan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The government should not be subsidizing local TV with another user tax. If the local TV companies can't operate economically then they should shut there business down. There are too many companies looking for hand outs to "help them survive" during the currernt economic conditions. I am on the verge of losing my job but I know that the government will not "bail out" our company so I have to help my compnay make itself viable as should every company out there. This is not a socialist economy so the government should interfer in business and it will only extend the lenght of this recession/depression.

I enjoy local programing and TV but I am not willing to subdsize it. Local TV should look at their expenses and if needed a reduction in their personel or labour costs by packages or roll backs. Unfortunately tough times mean people must sacrifice and they have forgotten that.

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 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Mark Hagan](#)

CRTC should just cancel all local content or advertising rules like Canadian content rules or foreign ownership rules for all TV and radio. these are private for profit businesses and don't need gov't regulations telling how to charge fee for service, and this is no tax. a tax goes to the gov't

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 [DEBORAH ANSTEY](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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 [Catherine S](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Tv is a luxury item and if the price goes up i will cancell my programing and use dvd and a good old fashioned antenna instead. With everyone cutting back on their budgets it would be a very dangerous move to increase the prices right now...

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 [roger c](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations have advertising on them to pay for the programing, the amount of revenue the receive is based on viewers. Since the cable and satilite companies are distributing their signal and thus increasing the viewer #'s this would allow stations to charge higher rates to advertisers, so why would the cable and satilite companies be required to pay for the signal when in fact they are by distributing it to a wider audience enhancing the value of the program

for the stations, maybe the stations should be paying for this service? instead of asking for money from the cable and satellite companies.

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 *D. Lee* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadian cable bills are ridiculously high, bordering on robbery. Sure, some may not notice or mind an additional \$10 +tax each month, but there are many Canadians for whom this addition will push them past that tipping point - onwards and upwards to cable service cancellations and increased TV show downloads. Stop the madness, for the good of all (including those that demand the \$10/month fee - budgetary constraints might even force them to perform more effectively).

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 *Keith Austen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't have satellite service for local TV but for the specialty channels. I rarely watch local TV. If the cable and satellite are forced to pay for and charge the viewer, then the local package should be an option and not forced on us.

Local TV should be freer to offer what viewers want and not be forced to air unpopular shows just to meet CRTC rules.

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 *Doug* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Sattelite and cable have gotten to expensive now they want more without passing on to the local.

No way Mabey they should cut costs and look at Executive salaries and bonuses.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *L.M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I can't believe you are asking us the consumers to pay out extra money when you make such a huge profit!!! If I made million or even billions as a company i wouldn't be asking the public to pay out even more! It is already to much for what we pay for!!!!!! So no extras!!!!

[Flag](#)

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 *Cornelius Timothy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have not accessed a local channel at all since 1997 because not interested. Maybe I am an exception, would not like to extrapolate to others. The way the cable channels are categorized speaks for itself. A quite big number of channels are aggregated into the so called 'basic package'. I had no choice but to pay the minimum fee but if I were to choose I would not pick up a single channel from that padkage. These channels are actually pushed down our throat like it or not and personally resent this. These channels should be placed on the same footage with all other channels and let the best one thrive and the one with low demand die or convert, that is real competition and only this way something good will come out of money that otherwise come easy and subsequently there is no incentive for excellence. Apparently the ill designed bailouts flowing around south of the boarder attracted some minds with opportunistic inclinations. Wrong idea!

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 *P Cote* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV industry is populated by a few disosaurs and a good number of young wolves. The old

legacy broadcasters have to realize that the business model has and will continue to change. You don't see newspapers running to the Government for help; they adapt or they perish. Broadcaster must do so as well. They would want the CRTC to make us pay on top of watching the advertising they also broadcast and for which they have been paid. If this revenue stream is not enough because their market has fragmented, then tough. It's not like they have not all (CBC included) launched cable only services for which we pay only if we chose to purchase the product. They can not eat their cake and keep it as well...

All that having been said, cable and satellite providers should not have the right to insert their own ads in place of what was sold by the mainstream broadcaster.

As a consumer of TV services, I already pay my service provider to provide me with a signal I could get for free were I to choose to so. I see no reason to pay a second time for something that was to have been paid through the advertising time the broadcaster sold to the sponsor.

[Flag](#)

Like



Harvie Friede ★ [1 month ago](#)

Most local TV stations fall under the umbrella of large corporations.

Viewers are taxed to the hilt. CTV, for example, should shore up any lack of funds needed by its local affiliates. It's good business. They also have a share in the cable market and they are profiting.

Our cable bills are far too high already without adding more taxes to support local TV stations.

[Flag](#)

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K Serwatkewich ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I would not be impressed if I had to pay more than I already pay now. The prices are already steep enough. I own a business and can't make my rent, so does that mean I can ask the government to pay it for me and you will just add 1% tax to everyone? Thanks...that would be awesome.

2) Local TV is a business like any other, if they can't make the bills then they should re-think their business plan. Make advertising more affordable so more people do it.

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RU ★ [1 month ago](#)

Absolutely WILL NOT pay more for cable. I'm also sick and tired as most Canadians are of bailing out large corporations because of poor management and over ambitious expansion. These fat asses line their pockets with incentives, bonuses and luxuries that my family will never access. I'm well aware that this not the issues at hand, but I don't have the ability to tap into a new tax to aid my financial situation if I make poor business decisions. In all honesty I don't fully understand the logistics of the new tax, all I do know is that once again my bottom line is being hit to help big corporation and I won't stand for it, especially if I can make a difference by not subscribing to it. Considering the garbage that's on TV now, I would certainly cancel any service(s) that will charge me an additional \$5-10 monthly.

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Like



kserwatkewich ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 [Allan Plamondon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I really don't care who is right or wrong, I will not accept a 'TV tax' the government gets enough of my money. Let the networks and cable providers reach an agreement, just keep thier hands out of my pockets.

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[Like](#)

 [pcote](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Like](#)

 [bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to pcote](#)

over the air channels won't be free forever. free over the air broadcasting is dead.

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[Like](#)

 [SteveD](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

No more bailouts with public money. If local TV cannot survive on it's own, then like many another business, it will fail...oh well...not on my dime thanks.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Chris T](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If we are forced to pay anything additional for local television then consumers should have the option to 'opt out' and unsubscribe from local TV, subscribing only to cable services of their choice. Alternatively, instead of a tax on what I'm already receiving, perhaps the local TV stations should look at reducing their costs.

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 [heatherrasmuson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that local TV is very important and must be saved. I listen to our local news casts every day, usually several times a day. I would be willing to pay to keep the stations going, however I also believe that cable companies have had a free run for too long. We already pay \$130 a month to Shaw cable for internet and tv services and would like to have some government over-sight into whether that is fair value, or if we are already being gouged by a cable company left to set its own rates wherever they choose. I believe that Shaw has a complete monopoly in the Calgary market as far as cable tv is concerned. I don't believe that monopolies are ever a good idea for consumers. I believe the TV stations when they say that they could be paid out of the gross profits that the cable companies already make. Thanks for listening.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*RU* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Absolutely WILL NOT pay more for cable. I'm also sick and tired as most Canadians are of bailing out large corporations because of poor management and over ambitious expansion. These fat asses line their pockets with incentives, bonuses and luxuries that my family will never access. I'm well aware that this not the issues at hand, but I don't have the ability to tap into a new tax to aid my financial situation if I make poor business decisions. In all honesty I don't fully understand the logistics of the new tax, all I do know is that once again my bottom line is being hit to help big corporation and I won't stand for it, especially if I can make a difference by not subscribing to it. Considering the garbage that's on TV now, I would certainly cancel any service(s) that will charge me an additional \$5-10 monthly.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Philippe Carrier* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I fully agree with Peter Tattersall:

"Canadian content should stand on its own. If we cannot produce interesting content on our own, so be it. As a country we have both talent and facilities required to produce quality content and should be able to sell it both here and abroad. A minimal level of protection might be acceptable in order to get an industry started, but we have had that (and more!) for many years now. It is time for the Canadian industry to stand on its own merits. Mediocre content does not deserve protection, and quality content can stand on its own."

I would add to that that if my satellite provider has to foot the bill for content for TV stations, then they should have the choice whether or not they carry those signals and also give the choice to consumers whether or not we want those channels and then pay for those we want. I would certainly not pay for CTV, Global, etc. to watch shows that I can already watch on NBC, CBS, ABC, FOX, etc. and which I pay for too.

Furthermore, would someone please just allow us to receive any American channel we want to pay for and stop forcing Canadian advertisements on us everywhere?

And I would wholeheartedly pay extra for signals which come WITHOUT commercials. Tack on 20\$ a month, whatever. I record all my shows on PVR and skip commercials 99% of the time anyway. Why not offer that as a choice?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Arlene O* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important to me, but being asked to pay an additional fee on top of what I already pay for my satellite service is unacceptable. I feel that it's always the little guy that has to pay. Meanwhile, the rich executives are earning more and more. I am so upset that my satellite bill will increase that I'm willing to cancel my services altogether. I do not need tv. I can read the news online or listen to the radio. I have once cancelled my satellite services and am willing to do this again permanently and without regret.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*janiceboucquez* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am on a very limited budget and cannot afford increases in the cost of programming. As I am also disabled and get out minimally, having access to local news, weather warnings via local stations means very much to me. There needs to be some accountability for the money the major distributors receive and keeping shareholders pockets full should be a last priority

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chrisFR ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm currently looking outside of cable/satellite providers for better/other entertainment options (ie. Sony via PS3, Apple, Netflix etc). My monthly cable bill is too high for the entertainment value provided. Adding another fee to it will push me harder to find a better option.

Don't get me wrong I'm not against local television but I am against attempting to save an already burned ship. Competition is competition, they will need to be innovative and creative to survive. If the programming they are providing has a large enough following they will survive. Let public viewership determine their fate.

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Vanessa ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion a recession is not an appropriate time to be implementing further unnecessary taxes, especially to ask only those who are subscribing to a cable or satellite service to pay for what is referred to as "free to air" broadcasting. Additionally the conversation about the importance of local TV to ensure the continuation of quality Canadian content holds little sway for me personally when the quality of Canadian programmes is poor to begin with. If "Little Mosque on the Prairie" and "Da Kink in My Hair" is the best that Canada can produce, maybe its best we let these stations go if they are unable to maintain their businesses with the revenue streams they already have - like advertising.

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Natalie ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television is an advertising means originally created to sell product and services to the public. Programming was just created to 'capture a viewing audience'. Any added costs for improvements in technology and/or programming should be passed to advertisers, not the hoards of people who are subjected to viewing it. It's only because TV has become a less effective median for advertisers who have been reducing their tv ad spend for years that additional costs are now being pushed directly to the consumers to make up for the revenue gap. It's ridiculous that viewers are expected to pay more to subsidize an industry that is designed to entice us to spend to begin with! As for cancelation options. realistically, with companies like Rogers locking people into term contracts before this issue came to light, how many of us will actually cancel our subscriptions and incur a financial penalty as a result? By the time the term ends, many viewers will have become accustomed to the cost increase and simply carry on with their cable subscriptions. Rogers behaved in an unethical and deceptive manner to maintain their consumer base with the expectation that viewers would suck it up in the end, and they're probably right.

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Like



John T Johnston ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is a fee for the basic package ! I do not want to pay for what I do not watch . As of now I watch only 4 channels of the basic package but, in order to access what I want to watch I have to pay for what I don't watch. To charge me extra to do the same thing is unconscionable. Viewers should be charged for what they want to watch and not have to subsidize channels they do not.

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N.B. (Qc, Canada) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The local TV used to be financed by the sponsors. Today, the local TV doesn't seem to work hard enough to find the sponsors required. Because they need the financing, they now turn around and use the easiest way out to get financing by asking to collect the consumers. It's about time that the big companies and governments assume their responsibilities. It's enough, stop digging in the consumer's pockets by implementing all kind of taxes. Our pockets are empty and we can no longer pay out. Cut on the big salaries and bonuses and the proper

financing will be found.

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 *Keith* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't have satellite service for local TV but for the specialty channels. I rarely watch local TV. If the cable and satellite are forced to pay for and charge the viewer, then the local package should be an option and not forced on us.

Local TV should be freer to offer what viewers want and not be forced to air unpopular shows just to meet CRTC rules.

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[Like](#)

 *andrelavigne* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay more.enough is enough

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Natalie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television is an advertising means originally created to sell product and services to the public. Programming was just created to 'capture a viewing audience'. Any added costs for improvements in technology and/or programming should be passed to advertisers, not the hoards of people who are subjected to viewing it. It's only because TV has become a less effective median for advertisers who have been reducing their tv ad spend for years that additional costs are now being pushed directly to the consumers to make up for the revenue gap. It's ridiculous that viewers are expected to pay more to subsidize an industry that is designed to entice us to spend to begin with! As for cancelation options. realistically, with companies like Rogers locking people into term contracts before this issue came to light, how many of us will actually cancel our subscriptions and incur a financial penalty as a result? By the time the term ends, many viewers will have become accustomed to the cost increase and simply carry on with their cable subscriptions. Rogers behaved in an unethical and deceptive manner to maintain their consumer base with the expectation that viewers would suck it up in the end, and they're probably right.

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 *artt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadians are already paying a great deal for television services they probably never use. It seems ludicrous to me that I should have to pay, albeit indirectly, for local television services across Canada. I believe customers should be able to make a package of local channel like other packaged services if they desire. It is time to forget mandatory local services. If local channel business models are not sustainable than so be it. It is time for better choices and no more mandatory regulation in this area. I am not in favour of additional fees.

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[Like](#)

 *Lois Robidas* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important to us. We must know what is going on in our community - province and country.

I find it difficult to understand why all the Canadian Sports such as CFL now must be seen on TSN. Canadians have watched the CFL all there lives for free and are now asked to pay for this service. Try watching Candian Curling - good luck if you are not willing to pay for additional stations.

On top of that now you must pay \$10 more. - Stop the bleeding. During these difficult times I

find it hard to believe that such a tax is even being considered. The old saying the rich get richer and the poor get poorer applies to this situation. We the consumer seem to be getting all of the hits - TV tax & HST tax

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Like

 [Lise Park](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

LiseP - Brossard, QC

I already pay for T.V.

and i do not think adding an extra tax to watch local TV is fair. When T.V. started it was free, they we had rabbit ears to allow us to watch with snow in the picture and the, then CABLE TV can in to give us a clear view. Each year the cost of basic TV goes up with no improvments now they want to ADD just so we can watch local TV from our own areas - I don't get it the average Canadian already spends 50-60 dollars for basic TV now you want to add 10-15 dollars and call it a TAX. The local CABLE companies brag about how much the profit a year and should be held responsible for paying local TV stations so they can transport the programing - and NOT RAISE the cost to the consumers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [chrisFR](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm currently looking outside of traditional cable/satellite services for better entertainment value. The current costs are no longer reasonable for what is offered let alone adding an extra fee. The strong and innovative survive. Let local television stand on their own 2 feet.

Sony, Apple, Microsoft, Netflix, Hulu etc are all throwing in extra services (many free) to attract customers to their products based on what people want. Remember that!

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Like

 [tpetrilli](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Given that local TV gets money from advertisers in order to target local audiences, are they then not already benefiting from Cable and Bell/Starchoice giving more users access to said local advertisers by increasing their viewership?

An additional fee would be double dipping wouldn't it?

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 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to tpetrilli](#)

the fee is probably only a small percentage total cost of the programming. there are many stations in cable that have tonnes of advertising and still charge a fee cause advertisers don't cover the cost with so little viewers. ultimately the consumer of the program pays for it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Boh W](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. That would be the final straw. We are currently looking at canceling our service due to lack of quality programming offered by cable and the tax would simply mean we are paying more for less.

2.Advertizing

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Like

 [Matthew](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations (such as RogersTV York Region, where I live) are mostly run by volunteers managed by a few paid staff. Since these networks don't pay about 9 out of 10 of their workers (who are there to gain experience), I feel that the costs of running these stations is not large enough to impose a related tax on citizen, especially because these stations benefit from the exposure of providing local programming and news. Therefore providing local programming should be seen as a social marketing strategy paid for by the corporations and written off as advertising costs. Considering local newspapers are funded by advertisements, I don't see why these TV stations can't also find sufficient funding by selling ads of local businesses or sponsorships of shows. If I had to pay for this, I would rather not have it. Instead I would read the local newspaper, visit my municipal government's website and participate in public consultations to stay connected locally.

What I would really like to know is when our cable, phone and internet service will be consolidated under one internet bill?

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artt ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadians are already paying a great deal for television services they probably never use. It seems ludicrous to me that I should have to pay, albeit indirectly, for local television services across Canada. I believe customers should be able to make a package of local channel like other packaged services if they desire. It is time to forget mandatory local services. If local channel business models are not sustainable than so be it. It is time for better choices and no more mandatory regulation in this area. I am not in favour of additional fees.

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bill ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [artt](#)

you are paying for the expensive content not the channel. content is not free which is why no programming at 3 am nobody is watching it.

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Sarah Anson-Cartwright ★ [1 month ago](#)

If there were new additional charges imposed on my family as a television consumer, I would complain to the CRTC and the Minister of Canadian Heritage. I would not fault the cable or satellite companies for adding it to consumers' bills, because they have would have had this "tax" imposed on them.

The cable and satellite distribution companies are already required by regulation to contribute huge amounts of funding toward Canadian broadcasters and the system overall. It is unfair to keep forcing those players to subsidize the over-the-air broadcasters indefinitely.

With respect to local TV, I agree with the CRTC's new local programming improvement initiative. In addition, it should require the over-the-air broadcasters to commit more to local television programming. Until they make such a commitment, they should not be rewarded with any further funding via the regulatory process and at the expense of cable or satellite TV customers.

Thank you,

Sarah Anson-Cartwright

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Rick S ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe we already pay a lot for our television services and should I have to pay more, I probably will stop watching TV and just keep my Internet - in which case nobody wins. The broadcaster's business model was always built on receiving revenues associated to advertising - it is not because advertising revenues are down that the public must now pay to bail them out.

What happens once the advertising revenues and the economy starts picking-up? Will we get their services for free again. Perhaps what is most deceiving is that, throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming, but instead want to have "carte blanche" as to how it will spend my "additional" money. Don't we already give enough^

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 *John Phipps* ★ [1 month ago](#)

What? More TV tax. It seems that in Sept. I was charged 1.5% to support local programming. This seems like double dipping to me. If there is to be a charge, EVERYONE who watches local programming should pay. Then there would be no free TV. Is this not prejudicial to those who receive TV signals via cable and satellite.

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 *Judith* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable service, as well. The cost is all ready outrageous. I never watch local programming (that's why I pay for cable). The TV tax is just corporate welfare.

2. Television stations make millions of dollars, they don't need a bailout. Gouging the consumer should not be an option for these greedy fat cats.

The CRTC should be making sure cable costs go down, not up. As well, how about regulating cell phone fees: Canadians pay more for this service than those people in any other country!!

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 *Janet Underdown* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming. The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Like

 *jah* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay any more for my TV! The broadcasters make enough as it is, and if there is demand for local broadcasts, they will fund them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Amanda Wiklund* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Personally I feel that cable charges way to much for what they offer as it is. I've had cable on and off again for a few years. I have disconnected my cable service myself because I felt that the cheapest option given to me involved more US garbage and crappy tv than I wanted to watch. As you are probably already aware, many people, including myself, would really miss local television if they had no access to it, which by the way is happening anyway with the removal of antenna service. I strongly disagree with the idea of paying more for what I used to be able to get free from antenna. I do not currently pay directly for my cable service as it comes as a package with my rent. However, I will be moving soon and will be forced to look into the option of whether or not I want to pay for this garbage. If I had the option to only pay for the local stations or even strictly Canadian stations, I think my decision would be an easier one to make.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*billy* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Amanda Wiklund](#)

pay \$20/month and have any channel. i'm sure most would choose the 10 free local channels for basic cable, there is nothing worth watching for basic cable except the four free over the air channels.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Sarah L.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable/satelite completely.
2. Start asking for charity or donations. There are millions of people with cancer in the world depending on charity & donations, if they haven't resorted to charging a fee of some sort to every household, why should local TV be allowed to do it??? They are the ones that need the money, not local programming.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*RU* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Absolutely WILL NOT pay more for cable. I don't know all the logistics involved in this new tax, but when my financial situation is at stake because of poor management and over ambitious expansion and incentives I can't implement a new tax to bail me out. This is one tax that I can refuse to pay by canceling my cable...and that's I'll do!!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Keith Peppard* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We have no "local" TV here. The closest we could come to that would be ATV out of Halifax, NS.They are " local " in name only as most news shows are shown multiple times, the announce staff are anything but professional and if I had a choice I would suggest getting rid of them - to PAY for them is non-sensical.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Gerry Colville* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Being on a fixed income - we cannot afford higher rates for cable TV, internet and telephone. PLEASE CONSIDER THE SENIORS !!!!
If rates do go up - we will discontinue with cable.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*bily* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Gerry Colville](#)

there are 4 FREE over the air channels, cancel your cable and read books.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Becky* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Gerry Colville](#)

It is important to consider the seniors. Gerry is right on here. Maybe the CRTC can offer a new small package of channels for those Canadians that want this, and regulate the cost, so the fees wont go up with out a public hearing. That way seniors and other Canadians on a fixed income can take advantage of a cheaper, small selection of channels. The average TV bill could drop by 10 to 15 dollars a month.

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Glenn ★ [1 month ago](#)

Three times now Videotron has sent their service people to my place to verify a weak signal. They wanted to verify if I was stealing their TV signal, and if they could charge me another \$3 or \$4 dollars a month for a second TV that I don't have . It's all about the concept of stealing someone's signal.

Now We learn that we already pay for their broadcasts of Local TV but the Cable Company don't give the money over to the Local Television providers. Does it mean that the cable companies are guilty of stealing somebody else's signal ? Local Television Company's signals.

To split the Cable Company's signal , so that I could watch TV in a second room in my house would be a very big deal for them. (why do they get to charge for extra TV's in the same house anyway ?) But it's okay not to pay for Local TV signals seriously thereby hurting Local TV's ability not only to provide better programming but also their viability to survive as providers of Canadian TV programmes? Is this not an abuse of the people and governments that have extended many avenues and privileges to help them to be able to compete against other international signal providers?

Now according to these Ads on TV , they want to double charge their clients so that they keep the money they are not passing on the their Canadian suppliers ? No, why should we pay twice for the same service. Let them forward the revenues they have already collected from us to where it is supposed to go, the Local TV providers.

Flag

Like



Richard ★ [1 month ago](#)

this is just another way to get money from us people on pensions first we lost our ability to get tv thru an antena so we were forced to get cable TV now they want to charge us more,once again the little guy suffers to the point that TV will only be available to the rich.

Flag

Like



Mathieu Wade ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable service completely.
2. Local Advertisers.

WE ARE FED UP WITH THIS!

Flag

Like



briangrindrod ★ [1 month ago](#)

If these stations cannot sustain themselves, then they are being managed incompetently or there is simply no interest in what they offer. Give a product that people will want, need and buy if they want to turn a profit. Not on the back of hard working Canadians.

Flag

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Adrian ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that what I am paying now for satellite is already to much. An extra tax would encourage me to remove completely the satellite programming.

Flag

Like



Brian Grindrod ★ [1 month ago](#)

If these stations cannot sustain themselves, then they are being managed incompetently or there is simply no interest in what they offer. Give a product that people will want, need and buy if they want to turn a profit. Not on the back of hard working Canadians.

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 *Lynne* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Apart from local nightly news, I seldom watch my local TV station. But having said that, local TV plays a role in our communities. I don't care what going on in downtown Toronto but I do care about my own home town and think that local goings-on are important and an integral part of our daily lives. I think the big conglomerates should be helping the little TV stations - they're the ones making all the profit. Perhaps some could do with less bonuses?

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 *kevinrodgersmith* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If a fee must be paid on top of normal cable/satellite services for local TV, then local TV should be optional, in order to opt out of paying for it. If Canada is truly free, then it is unconstitutional to force citizens who pay for these services to pay for something that they may not want.

On top of this, people who do not purchase cable, will they continue to receive the stations for free?

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Like

 *Amanda Wiklund* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Personally I feel that cable charges way to much for what they offer as it is. I've had cable on and off again for a few years. I have disconnected my cable service myself because I felt that the cheapest option given to me involved more US garbage and crappy tv than I wanted to watch. As you are probably already aware, many people, including myself, would really miss local television if they had no access to it, which by the way is happening anyway with the removal of antenna service. I strongly disagree with the idea of paying more for what I used to be able to get free from antenna. I do not currently pay directly for my cable service as it comes as a package with my rent. However, I will be moving soon and will be forced to look into the option of whether or not I want to pay for this garbage. If I had the option to only pay for the local stations or even strictly Canadian stations, I think my decision would be an easier one to make.

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Like

 *kennierenhausen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am sick and tired of being ripped off by cable companies. The rates are outrageous, and choice as to what one wants to watch are non existant. I want local t.v. to be available but I am already paying for it big time. The cable companies refuse to pay for it but have no problem charging me. I view this as theft in both cases.

I have no faith in the CRTC as they will buckle under the pressure from big-money cable companies!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *alleyoop* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If you increase my TV bill by \$10 you will have one less customer. I am a senior on a fixed income and simply can not afford yet another form of tax. Good bye TV it was nice while it lasted.

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Like

 *Tim Tolton* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't watch local tv and am not interested in paying more for a service I don't use.

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[Like](#)

 *Tired of rising cable bills* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree that cable and satellite companies should pay to support local TV seeing as they are taking there signals for free. AND the cable and satellite companies should not be asking subscribers to pay (or pass on) the additional charges for it - subscribers already pay a 'basic cable' fee for local TV, we shouldn't have to pay more. Cable and satellite providers should pay the local TV fee out of there HUGE profits.

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[Like](#)

 *Joanne F.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We currently pay \$64.00+ monthly for cable. I believe Rogers makes huge profits and they should be forced to absorb the costs of local TV stations and NOT pass these costs on to the consumer. The number of channels available is irrelevant since there are only so many networks. If Rogers stopped making those irritating phone calls, quit paying so much for the unwanted printed material we are constantly being bombarded with, they could absorb local TV costs easily.

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 *rlpreece* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV stations that want - our - money are commercial stations, not Government funded and are run as a business to make money for share holders and to purchase other aquisitions which they have aggressively in the past. Free enterprise do it or get out of the business. We as tax payers cannot and should NOT be the ones to bail out everyone. Enough is enough..

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Browndog* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why can this problem not be settled in a simple, common-sense manner by making the carriers sell their channels on an individual basis instead of the present practice of selling packages, many of which contain only one channel desired by the subscriber? This not the way the free market system is supposed to work. I currently have access to hundreds of channels, but watch no more than about a dozen. Selling the channels individually would soon get rid of many junk channels and would force broadcasters to produce better product in order to survive. Everyone would be the better for it!!!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Tommy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable costs are getting to the point where we will have to reconsider what we are paying for. Also upsetting is the fact that Cable companies feel compelled to pass on every extra fee to their customers even when it is not justified.

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[Like](#)

 *Jim* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The so-called 'TV tax' would be an unprecedented move by government to move regulation of television well beyond it's role to ensure Canadian content. There should very simply be no such tax on a mandatory basis. It would seem that the unprecedented request by Canadian television stations to be paid for their signals has been the result of lower-than-expected

advertising revenues. With the economy now recovering those revenues will undoubtedly recover whereas a 'tv-tax' once instituted, will never go away. Canada must remain a free state and a free marketplace.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [joeypoo](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

when are we canadian people going to stop being taxed, it seems it's getting worse, it seems it's never enough, either government with the HST and now CRTC, give it up, we already pay enough for satellite and cable, and not everyone can afford a HD box or HD TV so why should we pay more.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Greg Jackson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

First you take away free television (non cable, satellite, signals) ...hmmmm
Programming has gone from a 1 minute commercial every 15 minutes to 5 minute commercials every 15 minutes.... hmmmm

The volume level of these commercials are way higher than the regular show.... Hmmmm. even though the CRTC says they dont....hmmm

We have no local news anymore, no local contenthmmm

And now you want me to pay more ?

Cable companies are raping this country. squeezing out the smaller guys like Walmart does.

You dont have to have me tell you what the right thing to do is , do you?

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Tyler](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The consumer should not have to pay more for the TV that we already receive at an unaffordable price. The broadcasting industry makes millions of dollars a year in profit. They could easily aid in funding local TV channels but refuse to do so. I refuse to pay more money so the broadcasting industry can make more money on top of the millions it already makes. Local TV channels should be able to charge a fee to the broadcasters for their service but the cost should not be passed on to the consumer in the form of a TV tax or in any other fashion. The CRTC also recently implemented a Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% to aid local TV channels. If I'm going to be charged more money I will be canceling my cable subscription.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Simon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I do not want to pay for local TV if a) they continue to sell advertising and b) I have no choice. If I have no choice, it is a tax/fee, not a product that I am buying.

2. No measures need to be taken to support local TV. Everything I've read suggests that advertisers will pay a premium to reach a targeted audience. Why can't local tv make this work?

[Flag](#)

Like

 [ddela4062](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

First question, we already pay too much for the basic cable services which include channels that we don't want. This issue is between the local TV stations and the carriers. However, it seems the current system don't work. The basic fee should be reduced. If we are asked to pay more, I will consider cancelling my basic service and rely on antennas.

Second, Taxes are already high enough and local TVs get their share I hope. What else do they want, more money? Create some interesting programs and you'll get more viewers and get more advertisers, that's how it's supposed to be.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Missy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay more than enough already fees for my TV services. I pay my TV fees so that I have the stations and programs that I am interested in watching. If I want local TV stations I can choose to purchase them.

Adding additional fees to cable services in this economy is an insult to the struggling Canadian public.

Why should the Canadian public have to pay to help local TV survive? Why isn't the consumer being allowed to make their own choices as to whether or not they wish to support local TV? Those who wish to support local TV could easily choose to add an additional amount to their taxes or TV bills to sponsor local TV.

I do not watch local TV and have not in years. I have no wish to be forced into supporting something that does not appear to need my support. These are not homeless people who need shelter or other groups in real need. If local TV cannot sustain itself then let it go bankrupt and start from scratch!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Tyler* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The consumer should not have to pay more for the TV that we already receive at an unaffordable price. The broadcasting industry makes millions of dollars a year in profit. They could easily aid in funding local TV channels but refuse to do so. I refuse to pay more money so the broadcasting industry can make more money on top of the millions it already makes. Local TV channels should be able to charge a fee to the broadcasters for their service but the cost should not be passed on to the consumer in the form of a TV tax or in any other fashion. The CRTC also recently implemented a Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% to aid local TV channels. If I'm going to be charged more money I will be canceling my cable subscription.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *kw* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe we're paying enough for cable, phone, cell phones and internet service today, we cannot take on any more charges, instead we should be looking at ways to reduce these charges.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *judy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cable companies and local tv should get together discuss their operating costs and see if they could come to an agreement between themselves...put on the table how much does it cost each of them to run their local station and then the time used by the cable companies etc....and leave us out of it...we all pay enough for the use of the cable and satellite services every year the companies are charging you more...It has to Stop...

[Flag](#)

Like

 *jacquelinekuzyk* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that as seniors we pay more than enough for our satellite services and feel another \$10.00 a month is asking too much considering the amount of profit these networks make each year. If I had a vote on this subject my vote would definitely be a NO

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to jacquelinekuzyk](#)

of course you say no, who wants to pay for anything. everybody wants free. free free free free cable

[Flag](#)

Like



carol Abrams ★ [1 month ago](#)

They are a business like any other, therefore, they should be self sufficient. We already pay enough. I would not be willing to add additional support and will cut services if necessary.

[Flag](#)

Like



Frank Linhart ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am a retired person who watches quite a bit of television. With the exception of one or two Canadian made programs such as "The Guard" and "The Border" little or no local programming is of interest to me. I live in a condo, and as such cannot opt out to install a satellite dish, so I am stuck with cable. The additional money requested is going to be a hardship for me. Its bad enough to contemplate the money out of the pockets of seniors by the "blended" tax, but to pay additional money just to watch television is, in my opinion, just another tax grab. I can quite do without CBC, CTV or Global.

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Like



Steve Douglas ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live on a fixed income so any change in the prices I pay on anything becomes a major burden for me. Should there be an additional \$10 charge on my service, combined with the inevitable rise that is coming when the new harmonized tax hit, I will most likely have to go without cable completely. Also, I would much rather watch news on my local community given by a local station by reporters who live in the area and know the people and places they are reporting on.

I feel that it is highly unfair for the cable companies to be charging me for local television broadcast service but not contribute something back to said local channel. Its like that are getting their cake and eating it too.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ron (Markham, ON) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important in that new, programming, weather is rarely covered by remote stations. Advertising from those are focused on that local consumer group by the local businesses or large corporations addressing that market. That is where they would get their operating revenue from as in the past.

A tax base to support corporations and other big business is absurd and exploiting the system and people. I am in the process in converting to OTA for my TV and with the Digital feeds from the US the reception is much better than Cable saving big money over the years.

I have a cable (first in over 25 years) at my cottage because I rented it and needed something for renters last summer. But would cancel it in a heartbeat if any addition tax was added. I am tired of getting sucked dry for those services. Loads of channels with little to watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



Patrick ★ [1 month ago](#)

It cost enough for tv as it is now! If it goes up , I will cancel my service .

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Birute* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is to advise you that I already pay \$46.19 per month to Videotron. This includes Basic Service & Telemax plus. I don't even have an option to choose my channels in English only. My mom is 91 years old & doesn't speak French, I am her caregiver and can't afford these ridiculous prices. I will cancel my subscription to Videotron if there will be an increase of \$10. per month, I can watch my local channels for free.

These large companies are so money hungry, paying their managers enormous salaries. How would they like to get a large cut in their salary, no more bonus, or Christmas party which costs a fortune.

How about thinking about the people who have to pre-retire so they can take care of their mom or dad if the other passes away, I think these big companies should give us a big discount instead of trying to bleed us dry. Betty

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*karensue* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am unwilling to pay any significant increase to cover local Tv. I believe that this is the responsibility of the cable companies as public service.

If the TV tax is implemented than it will definitely impact my interest in continuing to pay for cable. Most likely I will cancel my cable

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*sabina* ★ [1 month ago](#)

At this time of recession everyone is asking for more. There is only so much we are able to pay, and if the cost of TV continues to go up I will have to discontinue this service. With the upcoming implementation of the HST (what a joke!) everything but our wages are going up. The cable companies are making a killing in this tough time, their profits keep going up at the expense of the consumer who very soon will not be able to afford it. The cost of cable just keeps rising and we do not receive anything in return. STOP this TV tax --- are we not being taxed enough as it is? The food banks are suffering from lack of donations as more and more people are turning to them and the big cable companies want more from us? Don't charge us for more for the poor TV that we do receive. Maybe more people will be able to donate and help the less fortunate if they have that extra \$10 per month. The cable companies are not hurting, they make astronomical profits on the backs of us, the little people. STOP---before it's too late! This would just be the beginning.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*dave* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't understand how the TV tax is going to do anything for my local TV. The proposal, as I understand it, has no guarantees that the money will be used for local programming. Thus, the payment - result relationship is not there. My cable bill is already reaching astronomical levels; loading in taxes to directly benefit the shareholders of local TV stations will help me decide to simply stop watching TV.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*sabina121* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [sabina121](#)

i don't see why this private business 'transaction' between tv stations and cable needs any public input. as for tv and radio stations, the crtc regulations regarding advertising, canadian content etc is detrimental to industry growth. and the industry in whole. the radio and television industry doesn't need any canadian content or ownership rules. CBC is enough canadian content that nobody wants to watch. Canadians may support Canadian content and local tv but in reality most are watching US channels etc. and american tv. and american websites.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mike L. Robert ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hello,

as a concerned citizen of this great country we call Canada I feel compelled, and privileged, to add my two cents to the mix.

The subject of 'local television' is one that I have been monitoring with a heightened degree of interest since it became a matter of interest in the public eye.

Over the last number of years, in our area in particular, the effects of the government's amalgamation of communities into greater geographic areas has already served to eliminate people's sense of 'community'. With this in mind, it would seem that to lose local television broadcasting would only serve to further alienate the sense of community that has always been a part of what gels us as citizens and individuals across the vast expanse of our great country. The future of our country as we know it is already in jeopardy due to the on-going acquisition of our industries and resources by foreign ownership. In my opinion the loss of local community television due to a lack of protection from our government would only serve as one more step leading to the total demise of the broadcasting system here in Canada. Would the collapse of local broadcasting stations eventually lead to foreign control of most, if not all, of our television viewing? One has to wonder.

To allow the loss of local broadcasting stations would prove a total disregard for the rights of all Canadians. The big cable networks should be forced to contribute in the continuation of local television and in no way should they be allowed to pass on these costs to their subscribers seeing that they have been cashing in for some time by supplying us with broadcasting that has been supplied to them, until now, for minimal if any cost.

I enjoy being able to tune in to the local events and issues that affect my everyday life and would consider it a travesty if this were allowed to disappear due to government regulations that would not support its constituents in favour of big business.

Thank you for allowing me my input into what I consider to be a sensitive issue,

Mike L. Robert
Sudbury, Ont.

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Like



Sandra Burk ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is important however I do not understand why we have to pay more for it. That is what advertisers are for and the money generated from that is to go towards paying for this service. How did these stations survive when there was not any cable or satellite tv? Advertising revenue and sponsorships!!!! Please if need be that some have to close then that's the way it

is. We do not need any more taxes to pay to keep businesses afloat!!!

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Like



Mike Chartrand ★ [1 month ago](#)

I've already cancelled my services due to high cost. I watch all my shows and movies via online streaming. Further increasing prices via taxes or otherwise will only serve to push more people away from regular broadcasting, which is in my opinion, inevitable anyways.

[Flag](#)

Like



Laszlo N ★ [1 month ago](#)

There should be NO added taxes to support local TV stations. to my cable bill!
The local stations do not deserve any added extra fees. They generate more than enough through advertising already!!! This is just an added grabb of revenue!!
There are too many local stations anyhow, that I am forced to view on my basic cable!!!

The only way to do this fairly is simple: give the subscribers free choice as to which TV stations they want to watch -- that is pay for watched content. Let me pick my own channels that I want to watch and then charge me \$2.00 per station. Let people vote with their choice! Why should I have to pay for some useless and stupid TV announcer salary and to support their useless station if I never watch it or care too! We are taxed enough NO ADDITIONAL TV FEES TAXES for local TV!

[Flag](#)

Like



Sandra Burk ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is important however I do not understand why we have to pay more for it. That is what advertisers are for and the money generated from that is to go towards paying for this service. How did these stations survive when there was not any cable or satellite tv? Advertising revenue and sponsorships!!!! Please if need be that some have to close then that's the way it is. We do not need any more taxes to pay to keep businesses afloat!!!

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Like



narrow ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and Satellite companies make enough money already but than the networks probably do also. Consumers should not have to pay more.

[Flag](#)

Like



ken bell ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I think it is important to have local TV stations available, and would be prepared to pay a reasonable increase in my TV bill.
2) I believe cable companies should be required to carry local stations as a condition of their licence.

[Flag](#)

Like



Amin S ★ [1 month ago](#)

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

[Flag](#)

Like



Becky ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Amin S](#)

Good point, Amin. Bell TV just raised its rates for customers by \$2 to \$4 per month. This is a rip off. Revenues last year for the cable and satellite companies went over \$10 billion last year. Not couple of hundred million, that is \$10 BILLION in revenues from customers like you and me. And they want to shut down my local TV channel. This is so wrong. Bell won't even carry my home town local station on its service.

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Bob Billings ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the networks can't make the local stations profitable, shut them down as any other business would have to do. Don't come whining to the people. We're already faced with the indignity of paid programming and we don't need an additional hand in our pockets adding insult to injury. The networks should invest more heavily in their specialty channels as the quality of programming there far exceeds local channel offerings. The specialty programming requires less beating us on the head with the same shows over and over.

[Flag](#)

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kerryl ★ [1 month ago](#)

Its the same with every communications commodity, Its time to deregulate allow other communication companies into this market at what ever costs to the canadian companies, they have enjoyed a monopoly for too long and have reaped the benefits, its time for the users to benefit from a competitive market, thats includes getting rid of the CTCR. Im tired of the colaboration of fees that are tacked on for this and for that in the new wave of charges, Governments way of make work at the people expense. Enough is enough. Time to move into the 21st Century.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Mike ★ [1 month ago](#)

They are too expensive as is and the last thing we need is another tax

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Jim ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my television service completely if the increase is passed. Television costs should if anything, be lowered as technology improves.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



junkyarddog ★ [1 month ago](#)

I definately would not support any more hikes in my cable bill. Everything is out of control with increases for one thing or another. This I can control so I would cut out cable first. I began watching really what is local anymore and at first I agreed to stand behind local television until something happened. There was a big event happening in our small community that involved the whole community that was a joyous occation so some people thought maybe the viewers in Alberta would like to see something happy. They contacted EVERY news station in the viewing area about this event and were put to answering machines or gave messages to all stations guess what...NOT one station returned the call or even had the curtesy to turn down this news event. It seems that if it doesn't happen in Edmonton or Calgary or have murder or suicide in it it isn't worth their time. Also all the stations aside from CBC mainly have USA programs on almost all the time except for the news whereas CBC has lots of Canadian programming on. Do I support local television increase or the satellite companys getting big money my answer is no. What would I suggest is the local television start budgeting for more local area and made in Canada items to post for viewing because right now television looks more and more made in

the USA.

[Flag](#)

Like



Peter from Brantford ★ [1 month ago](#)

fine if the locals want to be compensated for there signal. my issue is I dont want to be forced to have local channels from all over the country and that is what is happens now with satellite. If the canadian broadcaster's want a more american system like ffc thats fine because you do not have to take local channels on directv and dishnet, and while we are at it the crtc should get some real competition going in the tv marketplace and let directv and dishnet provide services and give the cosumer the choice of what to watch and who to buy it from. Only through competition will the canadian television industry get stronger.

[Flag](#)

Like



Maxxcid ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is absolutely crazy to charge for something that comes in over the air. Sure charge if you are giving someone a station beyond what a local antenna will pick up. I don't buy cable or satellite now - it is all grossly over priced and you are forced to pay for channels you don't want. For example, if givin the choice - I would only use about 10-12 channels - why should it cost me \$100 or more a month to watch that few (no movie channels in that list). These stations use to make there money selling air time. What happened to that? Is it poor management of the money coming in? Something like GM and Chrysler? Simple solution for Cable companies is to just not supply local TV - the customer can get an antenna and get it for free.

[Flag](#)

Like



stéphanie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not think we should pay for Local TV taxes. The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV

[Flag](#)

Like



williamrest ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) First of all - WHAT local TV???? With the exception of news, what is "local" about any of our Canadian stations??? The vast majority of programmes are American imports which are available on a great number of stations other than "local." Local news is important however, it's available from many other sources than just TV stations so to answer the question - NO. I am NOT willing or wanting to pay more for so-called, non existant "local TV". We already pay far too much for overly abundant, inferior product and my heart does not weep for the huge Canadian TV conglomerates just because THEIR profit margins did not meet forecasts!!!

2) "Local" TV must be self-sustaining, if it truly existed anymore. Just like all other businesses and individuals, plain & simple. If the Conglomerates chose superior & diverse programming (instead of endless channel selections of the SAME sitcom or reality show, ALL at the exact SAME Time then perhaps the advertisers would buy more air time.

Comment:

Their problem is not my problem and they have no right to impose it upon me (the viewer.) I am sick to death of ever increasing rates over things that I have little or no control over. If they (or the CRTC,) want to impose an additional fee without our willing concent, we should be given, immediately, the right to chose only those stations we wish to view and pay a reduced rate.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *clairemerc* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay my cable fees to get the specialty channels such as Space and Discover. I rarely look at local TV and would resent paying a tax for something I don't use and am not interested in. I am on a limited income and cannot afford another tax. If the TV tax was to come into effect I would get rid of my cable line. There are plenty of other things that can keep me entertained in the evening.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Henry T.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Frankly I do not believe in subsidy, if the local TV can not support itself, then frankly it should not be there. Why should Canadians pay extra for substandard service and programming. I work for a private industry and over the last twenty years in order to stay competitive my company went through many changes and challenges. We did not ask the government for handout, we streamlined automated and moved forward. The big network companies and the local station have to remember that raising the prices and looking for handouts it is not way to go.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Buck* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable & Dish bills are far to high right now. CRTC should force them to lower their fees. I will not pay to watch the local TV stations. CRTC should allow more competition in the cable business.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Vanessa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion a recession is not an appropriate time to be implementing further unnecessary taxes, especially to ask only those who are subscribing to a cable or satellite service to pay for what is referred to as "free to air" broadcasting.

Additionally the conversation about the importance of local TV to ensure the continuation of quality Canadian content holds little sway for me personally when the quality of Canadian programmes is poor to begin with. If "Little Mosque on the Prairie" and "Da Kink in My Hair" is the best that Canada can produce, maybe its best we let these stations go if they are unable to maintain their businesses with the revenue streams they already have - like advertising.

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Like

 *DEBORAH ANSTEY* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Like

 *fredleclair* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no reason to increase fees. The local stations should be pleased that the cable companies must carry their signal. This means a much broader audience to encourage

advertisers to place ads with the local stations....One must also keep in mind that there must be a risk/reward for the cable companies if they must pay more...and that is...if the "more" is not worth it, then they should have the right to not carry the local stations. At the end of the day, there should not be any increases to the subscribers.....if the cable companies accept to pay in order to carry a specific station, it must be because there is a financial benefit to them and thus no need to pass on any fees. We must stop these constant demands for more fees....any more of these and we should disband the overseeing boards and let these companies compete under wide open competition and then watch the costs drop.

[Flag](#)

Like



Judy Congdon ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am appalled that there is a strong possibility that the fees charged to local television stations will be passed on to the consumer ... how very typical. These costs should be borne by the big cable companies with no possibility for them to then push this cost onto their customers. Local TV is important to me. Cable companies should carry their signals as they do numerous other channels that I pay for as a consumer, but NEVER watch (i.e. foreign languages, sports, etc. They should allow me to select the channels I pay for and not pay for those I have no interest in. To get the ones I want, I pay for the whole load ! Tell the cable companies to pick up the tab..... I'm tired of being the "lowest common denominator" where everything falls to the taxpayers !

[Flag](#)

Like



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And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Like



rudy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to DEBORAH ANSTEY](#)

The CRTC is not considering a TV tax. That is the spin from the cable and satellite companies so they can increase your bills and try to blame the government.

[Flag](#)

Like



clairemercier ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay my cable to get the specialty channels like Space and Discover and am not interested in watching local TV. I am on a fixed income if the TV tax was to come into effect I would cut off my cable. There are other things I can do to entertain myself in the evenings.

[Flag](#)

Like



lamar ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to clairemercier](#)

You already pay for local TV on your bill under a basic service charge. If they charge you with an additional fee for local you would be double billed and rightfully upset about it. I'd cancel too and get a set of rabbit ears.

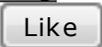
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 Like *Kitty* ★ [1 month ago](#)

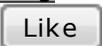
I do not think we as consumers should have to pay additional costs for 'local' tv. I already pay for those channels as part of my cable package. For example, without any cable service I would only get CBC (english and french) and CTV. If I had to pay extra for those or other local channels I would choose NOT to subscribe to them. Local and cable tv already make millions in profit each year... I don't think consumers should have to pay additional costs for these services.

[Flag](#) Like *Bart* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Kitty](#)

great comment, Kitty. Consumers should not have to pay more. And cable companies should not try to double bill customers for a service we already pay for.

[Flag](#) Like *Buck* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay too much for both cable and satellite without the extra burden of having to pay for local programming. We don't have any local programming in our area anymore so we would be paying more for nothing

[Flag](#) Like *Ricardo R.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would seriously consider the termination of my cable subscription. I don't understand why both the local TV stations and the cable and satellite services need to get more money from the consumers... aren't they getting enough? If the local TV stations need more money to operate that money should come directly from some of the HUGE profits that the cable and satellite companies already make. As it is we already pay way too much for a crappy service.
2. Maybe the best solution would be to invite the US cable and satellite companies to enter the Canadian market with the condition that they would have to include some Canadian channels in their lineup. The problem here is the lack of competitors, and the blessing of the government (via CRTC) on any increase the TV companies want to impose to the Canadian consumer. For how long do we have to be the ones paying the highest prices for TV and Internet services in North America?

[Flag](#) Like *Trevor Scott* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not know the answer about fees for local TV, but I do know that I pay enough cable fees as a consumer. Surely the local TV broadcasters and cable companies can work out an agreement on fees and leave the poor consumers out of it. Enough is enough. As a senior on a fixed income, more cable charges just means that I have to do without somewhere else. I ask the CRTC to ACT FOR THE CONSUMER. THANK YOU.

Trevor Scott

[Flag](#) Like *briantimm* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Bell Expressvu does not provide my local TV station in Kitchener. I don't see how they can charge for something that they don't provide and have not ever indicated that they are interested in providing.

[Flag](#)

 LikeSean K ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that satellite and cable service is already to expensive, adding more to the cost would make a lot of people shy away from the service and find ways of pirating the services. If I'm going to be paying more for the service, then I would want far less commercials then the already overloaded with commercials service I presently have.

[Flag](#) LikeDale ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm not particularly interested in local programming and probably a lot of people feel the same as we all watch the large networks. However, I'm not prepared to pay more than I pay now for what is really basic satellite. I resent having to take stations that I would never watch in so called themes which is to force us to have local and rarely watched stations. If my bill is increased by this new "tax". I will cancel my service altogether and with rabbit ears or an outdoor antenna.

[Flag](#) Likejames039 ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would give serious consideration to cancelling my cable outright, or at least reducing my subscription by the amount by which it had increased. It is my philosophy that commercial television (A TV station which is supported by running advertising during the show) is asking for too much if they both expect me to watch their advertising, and then pay money to watch their station. Local television stations are currently available to anyone for free if they use an antenna on their TV to receive it, and adding a charge to everyone's cable bill sets a dangerous precedent that people would be paying *money* for these channels. This becomes a viable excuse to cease local transmission entirely, since those receiving locally are not *paying* for the privilege. This cuts off TV entirely from anyone who cannot afford the outrageous fees charged by cable and satellite companies.

2. Local television needs more community support. Local advertisers should favor local television stations to national ones when advertising their products. Local TV stations need to invest more in localized television productions. It's no wonder nobody is interested in watching an Ottawa TV station when the Toronto station is 95% identical programming (only the news varies from city to city). This is sad. Local stations should reach out to their viewers to carry the shows they want to watch most (and not just what the network they're affiliated with feeds them). I think the large networks CTV's, Global's, etc. are killing the local TV stations with their own greed. Even if they get their TV tax, they likely won't make any real investments in local programming (going as far as to find loopholes in any requirements the CRTC sets to force them to), and continue to fill their schedules with rebranded American programming.

[Flag](#) LikeLes and Claudette Draper ★ [1 month ago](#)

We wish to save local TV in our community by asking that the cost of local television be borne by Cable Television Companies and not consumers.

[Flag](#) Liken/a ★ [1 month ago](#)

While i support local TV i will not pay an extra tax to some big conglomerate to be able to watch it.

If i am forced to do so i will simply turn of my cable and and go to a pirate satellite signal. I think i pay to much already and refuse to pay more.

Don't allow this tax to happen. If you do it will cost the cable companies a lot of money in lost

revenue. I know a lot of people who are thinking the same way i am.

If you allow this you will be forcing people to break the law. Are you sure that's what you want to do?

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Glenn Waterston ★ [1 month ago](#)

The ONLY thing local about local tv is the (heavily biased) news and until The Networks actually change that and develop Canadian Shows I absolutely DO NOT support paying more. I currently pay \$123.81 per month and see no need to pay more for what they already send over the airwaves for free. In fact they already benefit from being broadcast nationally by cable and satellite.

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Like



Brent ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay more for local TV service. The only item that is local on the Global, CTV and CBC channels is the local newcasts. All other programming is national or fed from the United States. I can get all the local news I want from the internet or local newspapers if necessary. Canadians pay too much for cable service as it is.

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Judy Congdon ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am fed up with being a "bottom feeder" and getting dumped on for every tax possible while companies like the large cable companies continue to rake in huge profits.

I am adamant in my wish to support Local TV. This is the very heartbeat of our communities.....

At the same time, I feel just as strongly that the cost of transmitting these signals should be borne by the cable/satellite companies, NOT by the consumer. Probably 80% of the channels I receive (AND PAY FOR) on cable I never watch.....their content being either in a foreign language or on subjects of which I have no interest. Let us select and pay for only the channels we want and continue to support Local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



susan2010 ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay way too much for satellite. I thought my monthly fee would cover this, God knows they make more than enough from all of us. What does my fee go towards paying??? I say enough is enough STOP gauging us. Take the \$5 - 10 from my current bill I pay every month and not add it to my bill. This is ridiculous! Does the cable companies pay the Americans for their channels????

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stephanbrunet ★ [1 month ago](#)

from my perspective It does not really matter either way. I do not have any cable or satellite services as I find the prices already to high for what is being offered. That being said I would much less be a part of an even higher cost for these services.

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Sandy Mabo ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year.

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

[Flag](#)

Like



lamar ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Sandy Mabo](#)

You're right. We pay enough on our cable bills already having the LPI passed on to us. It's time for the cable companies to start absorbing some of the costs.

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Like



briantimm ★ [1 month ago](#)

Bell Expressvu does not provide my local TV station in Kitchener. I don't see how they can charge for something that they don't provide and have not ever indicated that they are interested in providing.

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Like



Guest ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to briantimm](#)

You want Kitchenr? Subscribe to cable. It's called competition.

[Flag](#)

Like



briantimm ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Guest](#)

Rogers Cable is not competition. If the only choice I had was Rogers, I would do without TV or just get an HD antenna and get a bunch of channels for free. When I had Rogers they kept jacking the price up every couple months, without any explanations. Bell has not been raising the price. For now I just get Kitchener on rabbit ears.

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Like



timbercheap ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am against implemeting a tax for broadcasters. It is high time that Canadians stop being penalized for the lack of a sustainable business model presented by industry including tv broadcasters. If new taxes are added to my existing satellite bill, I will consider cancelling my service and switch to the internet where I am able to find most of what I enjoy online. TV broadcasters need to re-invent their business models if they are lacking profitability rather than burden hardworking overtaxed Canadians that decentivizes rational progress in the marketplace.

Canadians already are forced to subsidize archaic concepts such as mandated canadian content, the cbc and limitations on choice and programming. An open market for competion is required, not a government supported oligarchy as demonstrated in the broadcasting and telecommunication industries (evidenced by the disproportional increased cost of these services compared to other industrialized nations). As a law abiding tax paying canadian, I am deeply concerned about lobbies who's objective is to obtain bailouts that benefit business without any real tangible benefit to the consumer.

Sincerely,
An overtaxed and underpaid canadian,

MJ Huebert

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 *Dale* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I've no intention of paying more fees to the cable or satellite companies. If my bill goes up - again then I will cancel and go back to rabbit ears or an outdoor antenna. News can be found in newspapers and on the Internet. It is bad enough now that we have to pay for stations we never watch because the rarely watched stations are bundled with the ones we do want to watch. I'm a consumer that cannot absorb constantly raising rates and taxes.

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 *John Warner* ★ [1 month ago](#)

All i know is this problem if it is problem would have occurred way before now . Leave things alone

As to localtv its mostly news etc i get my news either from the internet or if i'm a away from a computer , then a newspaper so localtv would have no affect on me one way or another... though the more government touches anything the more screwed up it becomes.

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 *sonja jose* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local tv is not important to me. We have already reduced our digital package to basic service in anticipation of addition charges being added to our bill. We are seriously considering cancelling our cable service if this tax is added and using the internet as our main form of media.

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 *Buck* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable & satellite bills are far to high right now without the extra burden of having to pay for local programming. It would be unfair for us to have to pay the same fees as others as we no longer have any local programming in our area. Even so, I will not pay to watch any of the local TV stations we do receive as I can watch them for nothing without cable. CRTC should allow more competition in the cable & satellite businesses.

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 *mike tripp* ★ [1 month ago](#)

order the "greedy television networks" to continue to carry local programming with the Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5%.

no additional cost to "over taxed Canadians!"

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 *Mike* ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is unclear what "local TV" really means. To me, it means the news at 6:00 which is a mish mash of international, national, local news and features. I am not willing to pay for that because there are several other ways to get local news for free. It is available from the broadcasters themselves with an antenna, it is on the radio, in newspapers and on the Internet in real time, even on the broadcasters' websites. It would be ridiculous if consumers had to pay for

something that is readily available for free.

If the broadcasters can't make a business out of providing local news then they should cut their costs or raise their advertising rates or get out of the business and let the market sort out how best to deliver it. If there is a viable business then someone will provide the service. If there is no viable business then I will just get the local news from one of the other sources.

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Wahid ★ [1 month ago](#)

We as consumers are not ready to pay any more for local TV. They are already receiving lot of money from TV service providers & declared profit last year.

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Like



Sean Bray ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. So-called local television is not worth any additional money from the general public. The big networks have destroyed these channels over the years by slashing local content and moving profitable programming to specialty channels. The networks have no one to blame but themselves. These so-called local channels primarily rebroadcast American content, so will not be missed when they go off the air. Should any cost be imposed to me, I will cancel my service. As it stands, I very rarely watch these channels anyway since they broadcast nothing of interest.
2. Networks should be mandated to produce local programming as they once were. Does anyone remember the great childrens and sports programs that used to air? There should also be a significant cut imposed on American imported programs. Networks can subsidize this approach if they are forced to take into consideration profits from all units, especially their own specialty channels.

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J. R. Gravelle ★ [1 month ago](#)

Enough is enough . We television viewers are paying enough already . For some people, television is the only form of entertainment they can afford , and many are on fixed income . Remember that pocketbooks are not bottomless pits , and that there is a limit as to what consumers can dish out every month ! If local stations have to close , SO BE IT .

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Like



pamcolumbus ★ [1 month ago](#)

How are people such as myself,(I'm a senior) living on a fixed income supposed to afford yet another charge on my cable bill?????

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Like



Robert Conway ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local TV is unable to provide content that will attract viewers and advertisers, then the local TV station should forfeit its licence. I object to subsidizing unprofitable commercial stations just so that they can stay in business. Similarly I object to having portions of my cable fees going towards specialty stations that I have no interest in, nor do I wish to support on moral grounds. If the CRTC issues a licence to operate , it should only do so if the station's content is commercially viable. I believe in user fees but I don't believe in the CRTC dictating which stations I have to financially support. I'd even go one step further...get rid of the CRTC and allow US competition in the country. If Direct TV or any of the other leading services were allowed to sell their product in this country, we would see the death of poor service, high cost providers like Bell. Any politician that would take a serious look at the cost/benefit of the CRTC would get my vote in a heartbeat.+

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Mallory Wilson ★ [1 month ago](#)

Another added payment onto my cable bill, i dont think so, i am totally against it! i say that the cable companies and any other local tv broadcasting stations should stick with what they are doing. and besides the cable bill has already been adjusted and lets leave it at that, we should not be the ones paying extra for local tv, it should be the stations themselves, its not our fault that they are having this problem, its thiers!

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Like



Fred ★ [1 month ago](#)

I can't afford to pay anymore and I will not. If the TV stations can't live within there means so be it let them die.

[Flag](#)

Like



moreno gentile ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable industry as a whole is disappointing in the way we are given packages and programs to view. I work for a compnay owned by Comcast communications in the US and its no better there. My persona experience is that we should only pay for what we watch. if the local program is something I am interested in then I don;t mind paying for it. I am currently paying for many chanel's I have no interest in because they are bundled together so that programs that can;t get the exposure they want die out without being forced on us. If the content of the program does not spark an interest or following then I would say that program must either re-create its content to spark interest or die out. If I am forced to pay even higher fees for programs I do not want then I will be forced to cancel tv services and rely on purchaes or rented movies or whatever I can get free off the internet

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TequilaLeslie ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay more than enough already. It seems that most 'local' stations import a lot of their programing from the US networks so local stations or not we'll still be watching the same programs.

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johnwarner ★ [1 month ago](#)

All i know is this problem if it is problem would have occurred way before now . Leave things alone

As to localtv its mostly news etc i get my news either from the internet or if i'm a away from a computer , then a newspaper so localtv would have no affect on me one way or another... though the more government touches anything the more screwed up it becomes.

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Jacques Barthe ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should be totally free to give to the general population an access to basic services including services in case of a local emergency...Enough of those in the name of profit that come before you and don't care about the population and their basic needs of being inform---an other form of slavery,should I say.Tv and radio for that matter should be free and available to all in an area off communication..We, Canadian deserve to know what's going on with our democracy and freedom and the CRTC SHOULD BE THE GARDIAN OF THAT FREEDOM, NOT THE GUARDIAN OF PRIVATE INTEREST. Already,too many players in the TV world--and too many stupid commercials per

programs, so enough is enough. put some good programs to view and let us enjoy a true canadian content . Otherwise let us plug out of this medium and spend our time some where else...

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 *Keith Cuddihy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am strongly against any increase in my cable rates. The only way I would pay for local TV, which I used to receive with a basic rabbit ear antenna and never paid for before, is if I am given full control of what individual channels I receive with a rate per channel. This would allow me to eliminate all the irrelevant single purpose channels that the CRTC and others feel I must pay for. If this cannot happen then I certainly will not be happy if my bill goes up again because major corporations feel that they can hide behind the rules of the CRTC to increase their bottom line. I don't like the cable companies because of the way they have increased rates in the past but I usually had some recourse. This increase asked for by the large network corporations makes me support the cable companies in this case and come down firmly against large corporate networks and ultimately local TV. Sad, very sad indeed.

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 *bwkell* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Satellite fees have already reached the point where cost has now already exceeded value received. I have no interest in paying any additional taxes, surcharges or fees of any kind to subsidize local TV stations that I never watch anyway. As Canadians, we already pay ridiculous amounts of taxes to subsidize the CBC, put up with endless revenue-generating commercials and pay exorbitant fees to satellite and cable companies who provide a large number of channels simultaneously carrying only a small program selection at any one time. Beyond that there is the fact that both English and French speaking citizens are already being forced to pay for programming in a language they neither understand nor are interested in learning. TV provider services should be looking at ways to REDUCE their prices, IMPROVE their products and EXPAND their offerings. That's how business grows and prospers, not by constantly running around looking for more ways to gouge their customers through recurring government edicts. Its time for the broadcast industry to start acting like an industry instead of another arm of government. 2. Local station, like the corner mom and pop hardware store, have apparently reached their life span. If they cannot compete on their own merits without subsidy than they should be allowed to die. The unpleasant fact is that hardly anyone will notice. That may be harsh but its still true.

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 *Brain French* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Big Networks are already subsidised heavily by the tax payer, the CBC completely so. Enough is enough. If their business models are so financially poor, then there should be no further public funds to prop up these dinosaurs. We will definitely consider dropping our subscription to our satellite provider & simply tune out, unless we are (& we should be) given the option of not subscribing to these Big Network channels, which we rarely watch anyway, their content being so uninteresting.

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 *williambragg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The shaw television commercials say that the consumer will pay for any charges to shaw cable from local broadcasting. I might be mistaken but I thought the CRTC controlled what charges the cable companies can charge the consumer. I consider the price I pay now for cable + internet, excessive, and more than it is elsewhere. The monopoly the cable providers have, allow them to charge what they want. The same guys own the TV service alternatives. So, the CRTC should open up the lines to competition, and it will all work out.

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 *Yin T* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This tax is going to hurt consumers because everything is already going up as is, so I would have to either seriously look at reducing my package or canceling some of my other telecommunication services. I will not pay more just to watch local stations, might sound bad but this is the reality! This has such a negative effect to the companies as well that are trying to provide the best services they can at an affordable rate. Higher prices will result in lower revenue overall and unhappy consumers!!!!!!!

[Flag](#) *Joel Solomon* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for tv now and would definately not be willing to pay anymore for local tv programming. If indeed more money is requested then I should have the opportunity to choose which local stations I wish to subscribe to or none if I choose that option

[Flag](#) *Shankar* ★ [1 month ago](#)

it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell. This in addition to the already 1.5% LPIF from this year will be a huge burden.

[Flag](#) *aj* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think cable charges are too high now but they should pay for local signals like they do for the networks. Who is getting the advertising revenue from these signals. Often commercials seem to be cut out and replaced with cable messages. I think cable found a niche in markets like ours where few signals were available but those that were were free. Why do we suddenly have to pay even more. Maybe pirate systems should be made legal so we can all afford to watch free

[Flag](#) *CarlosNuckel* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agreed to pay for "local TV" (LOCAL QUOTED because my local Oakville is the same as BC or NL) but there is one condition, I don't want any commercials on those channels, networks make enough money with the companies they pay to be anounced in those channels, why we should pay for something must be free?? if they want us to watch their channels they should think to be a better network and got better programmes to offer to us, please people don't pay this ridiculus tax, do it as I did. call your tv provider and tell them you're going to cancel all the services you got from them, right away you're going to have a yearly discount, let's see who can make more pressure networks or consumers!!!

[Flag](#) *Joanne* ★ [1 month ago](#)

32 YEARS AGO I PAID \$7.00 A MONTH FOR CABLE TODAY I PAY 59.00. FOR WHAT? I AM SICK AND TIRED OF BEING CHARGED MORE TAXES! IF I COULD ACCESS SATELLITE OR CABLE WITHOUT PAYING I WOULD! ROGERS CABLE HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO INCREASE THEIR MONTHLY FEES TO THE POINT OF EXTORTION! TAKE A LOOK AT THE PROFITS FOR GOD SAKES! TAKE A LOOK AT THE PROFITS AT THE BIG TV STATIONS! WHY IN GOD'S NAME ARE YOU ALLOWING ANY OF THIS TO BE PUT ONTO THE CONSUMER? THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY THEN TO SLAP HAPPY IT ON TO US, THE CONSUMER. THIS IS NOTHING MORE THEN ANOTHER TAX GRAB EXCEPT IT'S NOT THE GOVERNMENT DOING THIS TIME. STOP IT ALL!

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trevorc ★ [1 month ago](#)

Price of Cable services are getting out of hand. I will cancel my cable services if there is an increase.

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Like



jhpotter ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since day one, I believed that the fee charged by cable included the full service for both local and national channel feeds. I further assumed that the cable companies purchased local broadcast services as well as national, and that the fee charged me included a complete package. If local providers have not been paid from the fees charged, someone has definitely fallen short of doing their job, and I see no justification to levy additional costs to the consumer.

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Vince ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already pay too much for cable. I will cancel cable, too much garbage in it anyway; instead, I will watch on my computer.
2. I prefer public television.

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Like



dylanbanks ★ [1 month ago](#)

Depending on how much the local tv stations are making every year, if it's not much then yes I think they should be allowed to ask for money but on the other hand the cable and satellite companies should not be allowed to transfer that charge to the consumer considering there is no way tv costs as much as they charge every consumer in Canada, if local stations do make a fair profit then they should absolutely not be allowed to ask for more. There is just no need for it other than their greed, and its absolutely uncalled for they are simply following in the footsteps of the insurance companies (in Ontario, Outrageous) and the oil companies raising the cost of the oil drum, they saw they could do it now the tv stations want to do the same.

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rwjohnston ★ [1 month ago](#)

As far as I am concerned, and governing my thoughts is years of watching tv and how they have managed up to now, and I am aware that the local channels make their money off of advertising and as a business up to now has succeeded in doing so, I am absolutely apposed to subsidizing or allowing tv stations to charge for local tv over and above my cable fees, because I believe they are a business and have operated in the past under these conditions and lucratively at that, I believe that if they would hire staff that could sell their customers products and stop using their advertised time better and run their business better, this option would not be needed. I would if given an option get rid of the local channels and use only cable if this option is given to me instead of padding their pockets, knowing that this is a rip-off!

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grahambarnes ★ [1 month ago](#)

No more new fees please for ANYTHING. I hate to say it but the majority of Canadian content esp. movies is rubbish, the marketplace will determine their worth not new fees.

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 [Heather Christianson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We can not afford to pay any more money for our TV and cable services. This is totally unfair to those of us on fixed incomes. Why do the little people have to bail out the big money companies? Shouldn't they be bailing some of us out instead? We are paying far too much for our cable as it is, and we also have the HST coming up. We will be forced to cancel most of our services. I have already taken two channels off our lineup,.... looks like the time to get rid of the rest of the others.

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 [Lou Costa](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I was asked to pay for local TV I would cancel my subscription. I am a strong believer that local networks received their licences with the sole purpose of delivering free over the air signals to all Canadians. I live in Southern Ontario and I can easily place an antenna on my roof and receive these channels for no cost including american signals. If a business cannot survive on its own then it should close. If I had my choice I would remove all the stations that are of no value. Based on current rules I must pay for local channels. I want freedom to choose not more regulation.

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 [Barry Young](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I never watch Canadian if I can avoid it. I would be outraged if I am charged any further amounts for local tv. I already pay \$135/mo. to Bell for Sat. service. I will cancel the service if further fees are charged. We should be able to watch U.S. tv as we see fit wth no cut - ins of Canadian promos & junk. The business model of local tv & Canadian network tv has been broken. They should make innovative changes that would attract viewers instead of piping in U.S. shows, which we could get directly without interference if not for the ridiculous CRTC rules.

2. If it is a good product it should attract an audience. If it is not a good product it will not. But we should not have to pay one more cent for any service. The networks are just using the local news as an excuse to squeeze more revenue out of the taxpayer-consumer. CBC is just horrible and it should go to the PBS model in the states and those who want to watch can pay for it.

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 [Vince](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already pay too much for cable. I will cancel cable, too much garbage in it anyway; instead, I will watch on my computer.
2. I prefer public television.

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 [Susan Jackson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe we pay the local cable networks more than enough for our service and in fact they the cable companys should share the profits with local t.v. stations.

at least pay them a fair wage for their work that the cable companies are charging for

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Like

 [Joanne](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

32 YEARS AGO I PAID \$7.00 A MONTH FOR CABLE TODAY I PAY 59.00. FOR WHAT? I AM SICK AND TIRED OF BEING CHARGED MORE TAXES! IF I COULD ACCESS SATELLITE OR CABLE WITHOUT PAYING I WOULD! ROGERS CABLE HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO INCREASE THEIR MONTHLY

FEES TO THE POINT OF EXTORTION! TAKE A LOOK AT THE PROFITS FOR GOD SAKES! TAKE A LOOK AT THE PROFITS AT THE BIG TV STATIONS! WHY IN GOD'S NAME ARE YOU ALLOWING ANY OF THIS TO BE PUT ONTO THE CONSUMER? THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY THEN TO SLAP HAPPY IT ON TO US, THE CONSUMER. THIS IS NOTHING MORE THEN ANOTHER TAX GRAB EXCEPT IT'S NOT THE GOVERNMENT DOING THIS TIME. STOP IT ALL!

Flag

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bily ★ [1 month ago in reply to Joanne](#)

basic cable is only \$30/month NOT \$59/month. as for 32 years ago 1980, you could buy house for \$35,000 in Vancouver now you can't even buy a house for \$500,000 in Vancouver, it's called inflation moron. you can't even buy a bus ticket for \$2. consumers don't want to pay anything okay 4 free over the air channels still available. who cares about free loading consumers who don't want to pay for anything. the hell with the consumer. TV local stations are shutting down and laying off staff (fact) not worth operating the stations.

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John Sampson ★ [1 month ago](#)

For the average consumer to pay an additional \$10 TV Tax is simply unfair and unwarranted. The cable companies should be supporting local TV as a natural part of their business

Flag

Like



lamar ★ [1 month ago in reply to John Sampson](#)

I agree. the cable companies shouldn't pass on extra fees to you and me.

Flag

Like



serged ★ [1 month ago](#)

With taxes and CRTC regulated charges included, my bill for Bell TV is \$156.00 per month. In my opinion this is more than enough and as regulated by the CRTC, Bell can very well re-distribute the \$1,872.00 dollars that I pay annually!!! I will certainly not accept any additional fees and if any are mandated I will simply reduce my services and hopefully the CRTC will allow me to delete local services since I hardly ever watch them anyway.

Flag

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William ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is suffering due to reduced advertising...They aren't the only ones & no one is looking at bailing out other companies that have been impacted in the same way...I don't get it. Companies who can't afford to stay afloat (including those local channels) should shut down and not expect to get bailed out.

1/ I would cancel my cable service

2/ Advertising/gala events/fundraisers or nothing (let them go)

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bobby ★ [1 month ago in reply to William](#)

don't expect tv stations or radio stations to support canadian content or ownership rules or advertising restrictions. free over the air broadcasting is dead. no free channels. no programming.

Flag

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 *Concerned* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have a strange feeling \$10 bucks a month is only the beginning of the "ask"
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[Like](#)

 *William* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is suffering due to reduced advertising...They aren't the only ones & no one is looking at bailing out other companies that have been impacted in the same way...I don't get it. Companies who can't afford to stay afloat (including those local channels) should shut down and not expect to get bailed out.

1/ I would cancel my cable service

2/ Advertising/gala events/fundraisers or nothing (let them go)

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 *Marilyn* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Definitely no more taxes!! The general public pay enough for TV already and many may receive some good viewing time from the local stations. Personally as a senior any increase for any reason would not be appreciated and certainly not for the reasons given. The stations in question only provide local news but the majority of the programs are inane US shows that I cannot abide to watch. As I mainly watch Knowledge, PBS and TCM for quality viewing I would not miss it if the other channels disappeared. Most of the channels I subscribe to I do not watch and would prefer a system where we can actually choose and pay only for the channels we use and appreciate rather than bundles we don't want.

Besides the CRTV has too much power already which is often misused, though it is refreshing that we (the people who are affected) can actually have a say this time.

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 *Sharon* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

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 *lamar* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Sharon](#)

My understanding is the cable companies take the local programs for free and then charge you for them on your bill

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *lamar* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Sharon](#)

I agree. Businesses should be profitable. But I also don't like the cable companies threatening to bill me again for a service they already bill me for.

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 *Joyce Dunn* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I simply would NOT be prepared to certainly pay for LOCAL TV coverage. Why should I be charged any more for local programming when, in the beginning of TV, that's all we had? I can understand the relevance of then choosing & paying more for whatever "Theme/s" I choose but NEVER for local TV coverage. That should go without saying. It just 'boggles' my mind when everyone seems to come after the consumer if/when greed takes over and one isn't satisfied

with the amount of money already coming in??? Stop coming after the consumer and work this matter out yourselves between the TV Stations & the Cable and Satellite Companies. What do I, as a consumer, have to do with the outcome???

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Like



Oma ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay way too much money to watch TV and even though we do, we still have to watch all programming interrupted by totally annoying commercials. There are countries that charge a monthly fee for tv/radio but they get to watch without having to put up with commercials, but I digress.... Cable and Satellite Companies appear greedy to me and if the local stations are entitled to some of the money, then they need to negotiate with each other, without increasing the rates even by a penny.

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Like



E. Vanderstoop ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay condo fees which among other things provide cable TV. So I cannot cancel cable but if I'm being charged an extra 10 dollars I will cancel other services provided by this cable company. I'm just tired of having to pay fees of any kind including the combined GST and PST on condo fees next year. Which is another story!

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E. Vanderstoop ★ [1 month ago](#)

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N. Leblanc ★ [1 month ago](#)

Add a tax to the advertisements created for this medium.

I pay for TV NOT the COMMERCIALS. I should have the right to pick the channels I want without being subjected to the bombardment of advertisements. I support public information ads having NO TAX

I support big cable companies paying for our local tv networks ie CBC CTV IF and only if the local channels remain Canadian in content and are NOT relying on US programming. Educational tv channels such as Discovery, PBS should also be supported by advertisement tax.

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tsm1200 ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. It is not my responsibility to support private enterprise by being forced to pay a fee for

programming that I am not interested in watching. If a local station cannot operate fiscally, then they should simply close their doors. If I am forced to pay an additional fee (on top of an already high monthly cable bill) I will simply cancel my cable service and start watching tv on the internet.

2. No measures should be taken to support local television. If their programming does not appeal to a large enough audience to generate advertising revenue, then they should not be in business.

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Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [tsm1200](#)

maybe the CRTC has no business taxing or regulating a private business. why should local broadcasters be forced to make unprofitable local content.

[Flag](#)

Like



Zorka Hereford ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that we pay far too much for cable and satellite services already. The packages available are limited and structured to charge the customer as much as possible.

Adding to the cost would be absolutely outrageous!

[Flag](#)

Like



George Tobolewski ★ [1 month ago](#)

DO NOT let local TV stations CHARGE cable and satellite companies for their signals and programming. THOSE PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE OFF THE AIR. I DO NOT NEED A CABLE FOR THAT. IF WE-THE VIEWERS HAD TO PAY FOR THAT TO A CABLE OR SATELLITE COMPANY WE WOULD DROP THIS SERVICE PERIOD. THEN LESS PEOPLE WILL SEE THOSE PROGRAMS AND WE WILL SEE HOW THE ADVERTISEMENT REVENUE WILL DROP. IS IT WORTH IT???

I am MAINLY concerned that my cable company WILL RAISE THE BILL for ANY television, local included. THAT'S RIGHT!!! We already pay for local TV in our basic service and we should not be double billed. WE WATCH THE PROGRAMS ONLY 40 MINUTES PER HOUR . The rest IS COMMERCIALS. THIS SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT REVENUE FOR THE LOCAL TELEVISION!! DO NOT REACH TO MY POCKET. The CRTC and the federal government should protect consumers by regulating the cost of basic services BUT AT NO ADDITIONAL COST TO ME. For long time I did not have a cable or satellite TV. Only a year ago a satellite TV provider offered me service for \$21.00/mo. Increase of \$10.00 is almost 50%. If it happens, I will drop the service cold dead. I wonder if the advertisers will be happy with that? I am a senior citizen with OAS and CPP. I can not afford 50% increase.

Yours sincerely, George Tobolewski.

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Drew ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell. Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming. The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year, and yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Randall McIlwaine ★ 1 month ago

Local television is important to me only when it comes to the local news. I would rather see the stations fold than have another charge placed on my satellite service. I don't know of a single Canadian program produced for Canadian television that doesn't already receive support from our tax dollars, and to ask that we pay even more on top of what they already receive is scandalous to say the least. No, absolutely not - I do NOT want to pay. If they need to raise revenue let them cut the fat like every other company facing a financial crunch.

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Like



Drew ★ 1 month ago

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suiciderick ★ 1 month ago

I am tired of paying the current rates of TV. There is no real competition on Canada. All the TV providers are sitting around a table and trying to squeeze every dime out of us. No they will be able to charge an additional 10-15 dollars to help local programming. That is BS. I still do not get TV. We pay to get the channels and the advertizers pay the TV to air it to the paying customers. They are making hands over fist of money and they want more. No wonder at the end of the day, we prefer to steal our TV it is worth the fine especially if you get a way with it. This TV monopoly is getting worst, due to digital and HD channels you forced to pay for receivers additional cost and be stuck with the provider, then if you switch provider, you are forced to acquire new receivers and your old one useless. Like everything else in this country reform is necessary and unfortunately, the ones doing the reform are as shady as the previous CEOs politicians. At the end of the day, no one really cares for the middle and lower class, because again the rich get richer and the politicians continue to let it happen

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Norma J. van Loon ★ 1 month ago

1. Cdn Cable/Satellite providers are currently gouging the public. This service is cheaper & better in the US. Check out directv.com. I'm sick & tired of paying some "fat cat's" bail out bonus. Not every one has a gov't gold-plated pension.

2. Open up the competition. It should drive prices down! The local TV in the US doesn't appear to be having issues. Why is there an issue in Canada?

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Binse ★ 1 month ago

How do the cable companies feel that it is right to charge the public for the local TV channels and not pay these local TV stations? The cable companies should pay for this feed that they are charging the end user to receive. Ted Rogers has a great set up of receiving something for free, then turn around and sell it for profit. The only way local TV was surviving was through local retail advertising and that well has dried up. The CRTC should demand that cable companies pay the Local TV Stations for the product they receive. It is the right thing to do.

[Flag](#)



Rick ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Binse](#) 1 person liked this.

That is a really new concept! The TV stations SHOULD be paying the cable people for their service without which they would be worth NOTHING! Why can't I get free something to? This is the only exception to the "no free lunch" that I ever seen.

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Binse ★ [1 month ago](#)

The question "Thinking about the importance of local TV to you, how would you react, and why, if you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services?" is a loaded question. You should not have to pay on top of what you are already paying. The cable and satellite services already receive payment for local TV. All we are saying is to pass this payment on to local television so they can continue to survive.

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Linda Taxed-to-the-Max ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's high time industry (and government) get with the program (pun intended). As a Quebec resident, I'm fed up with all the tax I pay and I'm NOT INTERESTED in paying one cent more, particularly for something as frivolous as television. In these hard times, how can the CRTC even contemplate taxing an already over-taxed population? Shame on you and tell the TV stations to get by on the income they have, like all the rest of us have to do!

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WVanB ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be extremely frustrated to be asked to pay for local television. While it is true that cable companies carry the signals of these local stations, I view that as a means of distribution - if anything local stations should pay the cable companies to carry their programming. It is possible to get these stations for free with the digital box (prior on the arial network) so to charge consumers already paying for television a higher rate for local television is ridiculous. I would also note that local television is not really local. The only part of it that is local are news programming and community messages, but for the most part these so called local stations are competing with the major US networks for the same type of programming that is already provided through other cable television networks. Essentially you would be asking cable subscribers to pay for the programming twice, when other non-subscribers would be getting it free. If local programming is to be effective, they have to be able to present a business model that makes their advertising time worthwhile for businesses to pay for. If local businesses are not willing to advertise on these local networks, why should I be forced to subsidize. I also do not particularly enjoy local programming and am not interested in subsidizing it more than I am - in the case of the CBC - with my tax dollars, or in the case of the other networks - through my purchasing of goods advertised.

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simon jones ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I was asked to pay for Local TV, over and above my current cable bill, I would prefer then to choose if I wanted it or not, as some local TV networks I do not want (if I have to pay for them).If this is passed, then I would like the option of having the individual networks disconnected (as many or as little as I want)- Ifg I wanted all Local TV taken away, then there should be NO COST increase. My answer is if we are being charged, we want choice first!

Personally however, I do not want to pay for something I have been receiving for years anyway in my regular cable package. I do not consider it free anyway, as the only way to get good reception from Local TV is through cable anyway. Alternatively, With a less than perfect signal

via rabbit ears, its just not worth having at all, even if free.

If it has to happen that cable has to start paying for local TV- which they are forced to accept anyway) then I want a choice to disconnect those networks and not pay any extra. Local TV gets revenue from many other sources and has been surviving this way for decades, I understand the recession has pulled advertisers away, hence lack of revenue for these networks, but that is no reason to compensate revenue by dinging the consumer. We all have to survive in these tough times, they need to get more competitive and actually compete like the non-local networks for your viewing time, rather than airing mediocre materials.

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 [DONALD E WAREHAM](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Asper himself seems more perplexed than anyone by his company's rapid decline. After all, as he's fond of pointing out, Canwest is not only making money, it's making more money every year. Revenues have increased from \$2.7 billion in fiscal 2006, to \$2.9 billion in 2007, to \$3.1 billion in 2008. Similarly, Canwest's EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization)—a popular indicator of a company's profitability—looks healthy. As of August, the end of Canwest's latest fiscal year, its EBITDA hit a three-year high of \$578 million—\$91 million higher than the year before. Canwest's various holdings, which include Global Television, Network Ten in Australia, various websites and 10 major daily newspapers (including the National Post), are as a whole still making money. And analysts say that from a strategic standpoint, the company's decision to acquire Alliance Atlantis and its portfolio of top specialty TV channels last year made perfect sense.

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 [sandylns](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

First, if a fee for local service was imposed, I would ask the cable company to remove my local TV subscription and delete ALL local channels.
Local TV MUST use their resources in a more meaningful way. If necessary, increase charges for advertising. After all, it is this revenue that runs local as well as national TV.
Cable fees are already too high, the result of decisions by the CRTC in the past.
If local TV is to survive then the TV networks must use their revenues from specialty channels to fund Local programming.
We DON'T want another tax imposed on the long suffering viewing public.
Perhaps we would be more in favour of a tax if local TV networks took a leaf out of Eastlinks book and provide real local programming 24/7

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 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to sandylns](#)

consumers don't want to pay anything that they've been receiving FREE over the air for decades okay. this CRTC asking opinions from uneducated consumers is a farce. expert opinions not uneducated opinions who want free free free TV everything. and yeah the local library isn't free either. the industry has changed so must regulations.

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 [Norma Furi](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I totally agree with SusanD and Bob. Sooner or later people will have enough and cable companies will be scrambling for new customers. Which i am sure it has started already.

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 [Dennis G](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am currently spending a lot for cable tv, and particularly when I think about channels that I

never watch, can very well do without, but get them anyhow - example, foreign language channels. We are already paying way too much for supporting the CBC (in both official languages), so don't need to be supporting other local stations. The big "private" companies (CTV etc) are doing well. Advertisers need to get to consumers via the best method possible - TV, so let them pay more.

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alanarkilander ★ [1 month ago](#)

I support the proposition that the cable companies ought to pay CBC, CTV and Global for the use of their signals/programs. I understand that they presently pay American companies for their signals. The rates can be increased to reflect this greater cost, but not in the amount that the cable companies are suggesting. This would not be a "tax", but would help to maintain local programming and hopefully keep some Canadian content, beyond sports.

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Linda Taxed-to-the-Max ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's high time industry (and government) get with the program (pun intended). As a Quebec resident, I'm fed up with all the tax I pay and I'm NOT INTERESTED in paying one cent more, particularly for something as frivolous as television. In these hard times, how can the CRTC even contemplate taxing an already over-taxed population? Shame on you and tell the TV stations to get by on the income they have, like all the rest of us have to do!

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WVanB ★ [1 month ago](#)

I support local television by purchasing goods advertised in their timeslots. Paying for channels that others get for free is simply not fair. Give me the option to opt out - don't force me to pay.

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Like



K. Clarke ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV rates are already excessive. We now have "TV not worth watching" since it has essentially become an advertising-only medium. There are many good programs ruined by an excessive amount of advertising. If costs increase, I will essentially cancel my subscription. Either charge me and don't include ads or cancel my costs to watch advertising!...and no, that is not the means by which TV stations exist by subscription income, rather by advertising! Otherwise, have an advertising channel only, and remove them from all others. What we have now is visual pollution!

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dominicpampena ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am fed up always paying for others benefits or mistakes let them cut costs like everyone else in Canada

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Like



loribur ★ [1 month ago](#)

We ALREADY pay for local television which is more than I can say for the cable companies. They are bandits to think that if they lose their bid that we should pay extra because they have to. Perhaps they should "back pay" local television stations for using their product for years without paying them. SAVE LOCAL TELEVISION...but do not allow the cable companies to pass on any additional fees to their subscribers. CRTC ruling in favour of local tv will do nothing to the cable companies other than making the

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Martha ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am distressed that in the near future analog / antenna feature will no longer work. I live in the country and get 3 channels and that is good enough for me. Instead I am expected to support the expensive satellite feed and get all kind of channels I don't want. I agree that Satellite service in Canada is way to expensive and it doesn't even include supporting local TV. It is time they were hauled up by their bootstraps and made to pay their full share. Furthermore we should only have to pay for the channels we actually want without having to take a bunch of other channels. Whoever came up with the idea that these things should be bundled and that you have to take these bundles in the order that these companies decree was extremely intelligent or able to pull the wool over people's and the CRTC's eyes. Canadians should all stop subscribing until this was changed. If we could wean ourselves off of tv for a week that is probably all it would take for them to change this.

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Leslie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not watch local TV. In my area, it contains a great deal of drivel in which I have no interest. I would therefore not pay for it.

Local television should be supported by local advertisers.

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Gary J ★ [1 month ago](#)

We watch 1 local station and it is for the news usually, I will get my news from some where else if need be. The rest of the time this local station airs old movies that are from the USA anyway so how is that of any benefit. We pay enough for our cable as it is and we can not even choose what we want, it all comes "bundled" with other garbage that is useless thanks in no part to you people at the CRTC.

If the local station is not providing what the people want then why support it. Would you keep going back to a bad restaurant? I think not, it would go under in a very short time. It's time that these businesses sink or swim on their own and the way to do that is to force them to provide better content.

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Dantakam ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with George T. and many other entrants. Off te air TV is the local TV. Cable/satelite TV is for remote stations. We pay the Cable/satelite TV providers for the quality of the signal, not the content (local or other). Let the local stations provide local programs of substantial quality, for the advertisers to be willing tu by it. I also can not afford 50% increase of my cable fee. Please do not agree with the increase. D.

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Danny Caplan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hello,

Since I received an email requesting my opinion, I'll say that I am opposed to any new taxes. If our television stations cannot support themselves in a free market, then they have lost the interest of the public and consequently, lost their raison d'etre. Let them fend for themselves like everyone else.

Since I am giving my opinion so freely today, let me add that I also happen to oppose protectionist content regulations.

Sincerely,

Danny Caplan

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Dave Alendal ★ [1 month ago](#)

If there will be an extra charge, at least give me (and all Canadians) a chance to 'opt out' IE: pay for what we view. We already subsidize the CBC, private broadcasting must pay their own way. (Will private radio be asking for a handout next?)

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waynewrightman ★ [1 month ago](#)

NO MORE COST)TO USE CANADIANS WE ALL READY PAY TO MUCH FOR EVERY THING NOW.

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Ron ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am 62 years old and basically living on a fixed income.
i will have to cancel some of the packsges i have to maintain the cost of entertainment.
so what that means is that the tv stations will think they wi while the cable company will loose out until i find a better substitute amd the i will drop them.

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Ildo ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am personally disgusted, shocked and appalled to see that the CRTC is even thinking about putting this proposed TV charge/tax on the back of consumers especially in these very difficult economic times when the big TV networks are filling their pockets with profits. How much can Canadian consumers and taxpayers take. Enough is enough! There is no way I'm going to throw my money away over this new tax!

The new proposed TV charge would cost over-taxed and financially stretched Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 per month - it's unfair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers.

I understand that the big networks have never committed to keeping local TV stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

This TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks.

The CRTC must immediately abandon this idea.

2. In my view, broadcasters have way sufficient funding to support local TV.

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ronpridham ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Christine Forrest ★ [1 month ago](#)

The proposed TV tax of up to \$10 per month to be added to my cable service is nothing but highway robbery. The "Big TV Networks" make more than adequate profits at this time, so, should this tax go through there is going to be one almighty fight from the cable users

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Mandy Y ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am already paying an arm and a leg for overpriced service. Often the programs don't work properly and I'm still required to pay the same amount for shoddy service. If I were asked to pay for this, I will reduce my cable service to a bare, and I mean bare minimum and I will look to switch from Rogers cable that I have now to a more competitively priced service. Failing to find a good priced package, I'd just cancel cable altogether. I prefer books over television anyways.

2. I do believe the cable companies have the means to support local television, they just don't want to because it will cut into their profits. Local television is very important and should be supported by the cable companies.

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Andrew ★ [1 month ago](#)

Don't Canadians already pay enough for cable and satellite services? I do not nor will I in the future watch local television. If the government is so interested in supporting local television then maybe it should think about redirecting a part of the CBC's budget to that end. If local television cannot sustain itself in the marketplace without taxpayer funding then I think a message is being sent from Canadians that they're just not that into you.

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JasonTiller ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be extremely angry if my cable bill increased, since I already pay enough for basic cable. It is ridiculous and absurd to think that the cable companies would try to do this to their customers.

Local TV is very important to me and the tv stations should be financially supported. Local TV keeps me informed as to what is going on in my city and my community. Plus, I depend on it for local programming. So without it, it would be absolutely horrible and I would seriously consider cancelling my cable subscription. Force the cable companies to support local tv. IT MATTERS!

[Flag](#)



Ed Simmons ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that I pay too much for the service that I receive. I wish to be free to watch whatever TV I wish. If I can watch an American channel for a movie or a show I wish to watch then it should be my right. I intend to install a HD antenna to avoid the cost of watching TV via cable. I will do whatever possible to have the control to do what I wish to watch and for the smallest amount of money. If I cannot get it I will do without rather than be forced to watch my cable provider forces on me.

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geo ★ [1 month ago](#)

once again, big business wants more money than they deserve. This TV Tax is ridiculous. If it happens, I'll cancel my cable account and move back to rabbit ears.

There's very little programs on TV that are worth watching anyway.

Flag

Like



Patrika ★ 1 month ago

Cut the astronomical fees paid out to the "big wigs" & the local stations wouldn't have to ask for a bail out or fees. That goes for more than just our local stations too! It's about time Joe Q. Public put their unified feet down & say "enough is enough!" The CRTC is so all over the board about what it allows as acceptable local programming, it's a freaking joke. Seriously, who REALLY watches such crap as "Kenny vs Spenny?" I just know that I don't believe an additional tax is called for, not until they clean house and see where they can legit. cut & save internally long before a new tax is even considered. By the way fellows, are you even open about your own pay raises? I guess you considered yourselves worthy of that little pat on the back.

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Like



2bi4i2b ★ 1 month ago

The air waves are public. The use of which is a privilege. If the existing companies can't appreciate that privilege and survive then others would love to take their place. Perhaps new ideas and management shake up could make local TV better and profitable. Why be stuck thinking that only a few existing networks must go on.

A TV Tax will cost an additional \$5-\$10 per month on my satellite bill

Who on a fixed income can afford more. If anything cut costs, cut taxes not always increase taxes.

This TV Tax will be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5%, which took effect on September 1, 2009

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the Big TV Networks, who made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone.

A TV Tax provides no guarantee that the Big Networks will do anything to keep local television stations on the air.

This TV Tax comes in addition to the close to \$600 million in benefits the broadcast industry already receives from cable and satellite providers.

Flag

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leo ★ 1 month ago

Stop TV tax

Flag

Like



blonde_73 ★ 1 month ago

We already pay far too much for TV. Basic cable rates are at \$40 a month where I live and I am looking at all the alternatives including cancelling completely if rates increase any more. Cut upper managements pay instead and garner those revenues before gouging the consumer.

Flag

Like



jamespulle ★ 1 month ago

Local TV is free over the air. Why should I have to pay for something that I can get for free? If I have to pay for local TV channels, at least make their inclusion in my cable package discretionary... then have a choice.

Local TV has ALWAYS been free because of advertising. If a local station is having financial

problems, who is at fault? No one but the station. If they cannot make it on their own, let them die like any other business.

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 [benguidolin](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should the consumer pay anything? Isn't part of their license agreement to broadcast Canadian content and does this not or should it not contain local TV?

The CBC network which could have supplied feeds from local TV stations has been cut back and decimated thereby eliminating them as any kind of reasonable competition. So since private broadcasting(which probably encourages the further reduction of CBC services) has filled in the void then let them pick up local broadcasting at their expense or bring back the local extended networks as once provided by the CBC.

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 [leo](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Stop TV tax

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[Like](#)

 [Blair Purdy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already have crap for programming on cable as it is. Everyone is paying far too much for this programming garbage. If the broadcasters can't make a go of it then they shouldn't be in business. I don't want to subsidize another layer of bail-out.

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 [Connie Hirrle](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

With the HST passing and \$10.00 tax television is getting to the point where I can't afford it and may have to be forced to cancel, and if this is happening to me I'm sure it will affect thousands more, and then where will they collect this tax from if everyone has to cancel? Please keep television affordable for the masses.

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 [ernestdennie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we pay tomuch now. Im a pentioner on a fixed income. I will not pay 5 or 10 \$ more. Let the satelite providers pay.

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[Like](#)

 [Elizabeth W.](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am on a fixed income and cannot afford any extra fees for cable TV - I use Basic Cable only as this all my budget allows. And if it increases I may have to cancel Cable TV and do without a television.

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[Like](#)

 [J_M](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

In the North Okanagan, we don't have to worry about local broadcasting because it doesn't exist! The idea of having to pay another "tax" for the satellite programming that we get is repugnant and unacceptable. Every month, our provider takes MORE than ENOUGH from us for the programming we receive; the rates only go up and up, never down. I say "NO MORE!"

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Lynda van Leeuwen ★ [1 month ago](#)

The importance of LOCAL TV is the reason why we chose to upgrade to DIGITAL CABLE rather than choose SATELLITE TV. CTV can afford to outbid the CBC for Olympic coverage, because of the profitability of their cable stations.

They can WELL afford to keep LOCAL stations operating!!

They should be forced to keep LOCAL stations operating by not importing the garbage they broadcast from the US!

If I really wanted to see US garbage, I would watch it on US networks.

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Nino D ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable bills are far to high right now. CRTC should force them to lower their fees. Rogers continually charges the consumer for all of it's services. Tell the management to take a pay or bonus cut and reduces cost like most companies today. CRTC should allow more competition in the cable business and put ROGERS in it's place.

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brucehu ★ [1 month ago](#)

any more cost to me for the crap programming we have in canada and i will be going back to an antenna

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Like



Shirley ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already paying \$60 per month for cable 'only' and can't even shop around for possibly(?) a better deal. I hardly watch TV since a lot of the programs aren't worth it but yes it's there IF I want it. I recently retired and the added \$5 - \$10 additional tax is just too much. That and the HST which is set to hit us in the face is beyond belief. At the rate these taxes are going the majority of Canada will soon be call a Third World Country. Thank You to all who make these decisions and have 6 figure incomes!!

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Frank Lobe ★ [1 month ago](#)

My opinion on this is relatively simple. We live in a capitalist society. One of the most fundamental principles of capitalism is that strong companies/industries thrive and weak companies/industries perish. If the telecommunications industry has changed and local television has failed to adapt then local stations should cease to exist. Television stations derive their revenue from advertising. If local television stations cannot survive on their existing advertising revenue then they should fail.

If the CRTC does permit local television stations to charge cable providers then you are creating a bottomless money pit. An antiquated industry can remain in a deficit position indefinitely. It would be no different than someone subsidizing buggy whip manufacturers when the automobile came about.

If this does happen then the cable companies must have a choice regarding whether or not to carry those signals. If a product arrives at my door and someone says that I had to pay even though I hadn't ordered the product then I would be upset. That's essentially what you are thinking about doing, and you plan to do it through legislation.

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Ron ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for cable as it is and I don't want my local news coming out of TO. Get a better ball team to make your money.

[Flag](#)

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garyfirlotte ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay good money now for the service ,I really don't give a damn who gets paid what.I do know one thing I will not pay more as I will just cancel cable all together.Right now I am paying for french channels that was forced on me and I do not nor do i want to understand..

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Ron ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for cable as it is and I don't want my local news coming out of TO. Get a better ball team to make your money.

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Bill ★ [1 month ago](#)

On the whole TV programming is very poor to the point that we have reduced the hours we watch by quite a substantial amount, increasing the tax paid again to cover poor local programming would I am sure would prompt us to cancel our satellite service completely. The cost of service has increased from 39.00 to over \$50.00 since installing our dish.

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Dave Anderson ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV matters little to me, in fact if I didn't have it I am not sure I would miss it. If it saved me \$5 of my local cable bill to loose the channels I would. But the current tier based system forces us to have it.

My reaction is simple, I pay \$125/month for cable plus internet on a SOHO connection. I might consider cancelling the cable TV portion outright because my budget will allow for more and I value the Internet more that TV.

That being said, what is lacking in local TV is the lack of variety of programming and saturated with ads. A movie or show is shortened to make room for ads, and at 50% ads incomplete rerun movies. A dirth of nickel and dime sitcoms and repeats until you go numb. Fad Ya Ya shallow journalism. If I do find something I like, it soon gets discontinued or preempted. The lack of competative value shows.

Diversity isn't good either. If I see a movie on Encor today, I know it will be on CBC or CTV in 6 months. Wow, 6 month time shifting a problem on all channels, not just local ones.

No measures should be taken to support local TV. If local TV does want to charge, then I should be able to opt out without any penalty. This includes the gimics of lower rates if you subscribe to local. I should be able to opt out at absolutely no hidden or real costs to me.

Support local TV, leave it the same. They do not realize many may just drop cable TV altogether. Include me in that group.

Forcing us to subscribe to local TV and pay for it is simple corporate welfare tax sponsored by the CRTC.

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[Like](#)



kyle ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel cable all together, put up a OTA Antenna and get Local TV for free, the way it has always been

2. Local TV is self-supporting all major broadcasters own profitable specialty stations that the Cable companies pay a premium for to broadcast.

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loucifer ★ [1 month ago](#)

The REAL issue here is the CRTC! It's a Communist idealism forced on us in Canada. What we want is a marketplace that allows for innovation and let the consumers decide what they want by ALLOWING competition! We already know that Communism stifles innovation and creativity and unfairly mistreats consumers/VOTERS in an UGLY way! What we need to do is REMOVE POWER from the CRTC - that is what I think is the BIG ISSUE that is finally being raised here in this debate!

It's obvious that the guy in this video is a bureaucrat that probably never worked for a real corporation in his life and is just an academic and probably is so SHOCKED that people are pissed off with his simpleton idea of "hey - let's just tax the stupid Canadian that never fights back when they are pushed around!"

Let's stop acting like we just do whatever the King or Queen wants and fight back and say "HELL NO! We want FULL competition so we get the best value for our hard earned dollar!"

The nerve of these bureaucrats to actually TAX our entertainment in a RECESSION! I get so STEAMED when us Canadians are regularly treated this way!

No wonder we pay so much for cable, Internet, Phone, and Cell Phone because the Communist CRTC does not allow competition!

I like how the CRTC tried to frame this debate suggesting that the ONLY way you will get local TV is if you pay a tax - as if there is no other solution like more competition or some other business deal.

I'm not paying a CENT more for the over priced services we get in Canada already because of the lack of competition forced on us by the Communist ideal that is Canadian politics and the bloated CRTC.

FIRE THEM ALL!

I will VOTE for the politicians that restrict the CRTC mandate and Power - I promise you that!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Christopher Hunt ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is just another way for all parties involved to get as much money as possible out of Canadian taxpayers/consumers. At the end of the day the only people that will be happy are everyone except us as the consumers, and nothing else will have changed. Well our monthly cable/satellite bill will have changed, and not for the better. I agree with susan D, we pay more for all of our services in Canada (TV, Phone, Internet, and Cellular) than in any other country. Just do a little research on the internet and you can see for yourself. We have less choice, and less competition. We should be demanding that the CRTC actually try to put what is in the best interest of Canadians at the forefront of this debate, instead of the networks or providers who already make profits in the hundreds of millions of dollars each year. And each year it is us as the consumers who continue to suffer. The CRTC/Government need to remember that they work for us, and that we can and will exercise our right to vote come election time time if our needs/concerns are ignored again. Come on Canada we can make a difference if we all stand united against ridiculous issues like this.

[Flag](#)

 Like*Ted* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There needs to be an end to the mentality that the taxpayer is a bottomless pit in terms of subsidies to all types of businesses. If local programming is not economically viable then it should not be propped up with taxpayer subsidies. Canadian taxpayers already subsidize the CBC. There are other local media - eg radio, newspapers and the internet. The 'local' content as is is largely negligible as the local tv stations mostly carry national, international content for most of their air time. Even with cable my preference would be for the CRTC / cable companies to allow me to choose the channels I want to view and pay accordingly as this would probably cut down on the uneconomic offerings and reduce my existing cable cost.

[Flag](#) Like*Yin T* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This tax is going to hurt consumers because everything is already going up as is, so I would have to either seriously look at reducing my package or canceling some of my other telecommunication services. I will not pay more just to watch local stations, might sound bad but this is the reality! This has such a negative effect to the companies as well that are trying to provide the best services they can at an affordable rate. Higher prices will result in lower revenue overall and unhappy consumers!!!!!!!!!!

[Flag](#) Like*MJ Gorman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television MUST be preserved.

It plays a vital role in enabling regional and local issues to be heard. Without it, unique Canadian regions and cultures will be silenced and forgotten.

I think the broadcasters deserve compensation for their programming. I also think the cable companies have had a free ride long enough.

But consumers should not be gouged with another tax. We're already paying enough of them. Let the cable companies come up with the money elsewhere.

The CRTC has a responsibility to all Canadians to preserve our unique cultural identity by saving local tv.

[Flag](#) Like*Patricia* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is a whole mentality here that needs to be changed. Where does the CRTC think that Canadian families are going to get another \$5-\$10 per month to pay to the cable companies? Canadians are being downsized and not necessarily finding replacement jobs, taking pay cuts, moving from full time to part time employment and generally struggling. The last thing we need is another tax.

Government believes they have an unlimited supply of funding....the taxpayer. This needs to stop.

If the CRTC puts through this TV tax, I for one will be cancelling my cable subscription.

Why do we need so many TV channels anyway!

[Flag](#) Like*Ian Camilleri* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Under no circumstances do I want to have to pay anything extra for local television. I will be extremely upset if I start getting charged extra for this service. If people want it let them

subscribe to it of their own accord. Even if it means local TV fails, I still don't want to pay extra for it.

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Charon L ★ [1 month ago](#)

My husband does alot of online gaming and if we have to pay this TV Tax we will just CANCEL OUR CABLE SERVICE. There isn't too much good TV on now that they have all those cheap so-called "reality tv shows". I don't need to pay more for TV. I LIKE to read books. I don't think the Networks are starving...

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chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

i agree with susan bob we pay way tooo much ! and it time to put a stop to it !

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Like



chriskealey ★ [1 month ago](#)

I DEFINATELY DON'T THINK THAT I SHOULD HAVE TO PAY ANY MORE FOR LOCAL TV AS I THINK THAT FEES FOR CABLE AND SATELITE ARE ALREADY TO EXPENSIVE AND AS ALL THE COMPANIES CHARGE ABOUT THE SAME AND THERE IS BASICALLY NO COMPETITION. IF THEY ARE GETTING THAT GREEDY THEN MAYBE WE SHOULD OPEN IT RIGHT UP AND GIVE US ACCESS TO AMERICAN CABLE COMPANIES.

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Cathy Reid ★ [1 month ago](#)

Other than news broadcasts, local tv is not vitally important to me. If local broadcasters would like to be paid for their signals, the rich cable companies should pay up. They could recover costs by making more stations (other than local broadcasting - like specialty channels) a paid-for service only while including local programs in their basic packages. That way the cable companies would fairly recover the cost paid by them to local broadcasters instead of gouging every cable subscriber.

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mikeb ★ [1 month ago](#)

i feel there is little to no value in local tv. in fact i believe in free enterprise.we should be able to choose individual channels rather than bundles. why do i have french channels when i do no nor do any one in my family speak french. let each channel make it on there own with out being proped up. i am for survival of the fitest. make it on merrit.freedom to choose.competition

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Al C ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not interested in local TV, nor do I watch it. If CTV, CBC and Global are so interested in it, let them pay for it. We Canadians are already one of the most taxed people in the world, and I am sick of these tax grabs.

If the tv stations are so concerned about local tv then why do they spend so much money each and every year on American programming? Because of the millions and millions of dollars they make from them on advertising.

Last time I checked Canada was a democracy. Stop bleeding us dry, while CEO's and other tv execs make tens of millions of dollars. You want an idea for local tv funding? Take some of the

tv execs money and use that to subsidize it. I am sure it would easily cover the cost.

Lastly. In the U.S. the same type of services coast 30-50% less than here in Canada. We are already paying enough. If you going to charge me another monthly tax at least introduce ESPN into Canada full time. That I would gladly pay if it meant better sports coverage.

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Karen Schmocker ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want my cable bill to rise at all for any reason. It has already gone up 10.00 in the last 3 years. I am on a fixed income. I get a lot of channel I don't need or want but cable service says they are legally bound to deliver those channel and therefore I must pay for them. At the moment, there is practically 15 minutes of commercials for every 1/2 hour of programming. I feel the tv networks are making enough money. One bad year of economics, which we ALL suffered, should not be downloaded so that chief executives don't miss their bonus'. Television programming producers should work smarter. Local tv is important - I want to have the Barrie channel but I don't need Hamilton and other towns and I don't want to pay for them. My cable already delivers channels in 1/2 a dozen foreign languages that I don't need. At the moment I would rather lose my local tv than have to pay more because the alternative is no tv at all...money is that tight and as far as I can tell they cannot package just the few channels that I really do want and allow me to pay for just those few.

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Al C ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Dianne Andersen ★ [1 month ago](#)

We must keep our local TV stations, as any information from other provinces really do not concern us, most of the time. The "big guys" are already taking more than their share. Please keep local TV.

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Like



hugh ★ [1 month ago](#)

not interested in paying more for local tv. sell advertising

[Flag](#)

Like



StephenA ★ [1 month ago in reply to hugh](#)

I'm glad you're not interested. Neither are the cable companies even though they pay

nothing for the local tv signals as it is now and bill us for it.

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Mitch L ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is know way that i am going to pay more money. I will cancel my tv service. I am getting pretty well fed up with all this gouging. I thin this is another bailout for these big tv companies if you ask me.

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Mitch L ★ [1 month ago](#)

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M. O'Hara ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am on a fixed income, and can barely afford what I have now. I would have to cancel everything, this is just not the way to treat us,

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Ken E. Roberts ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should I pay for local TV when it has been free all this time. If I wanted to watch it; which I don't.....I would receive it with my bunny ears. Why should you reward bad management with my money either directly or through TAXES. It's a money grab and babble gaff by the TV stations. It's similar to a ponzie scheme all smoke and mirrors. Do you people not read the E-mails that were sent to you??? Mine was in English so that is a problem; I would suppose.

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StephenA ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Ken E. Roberts](#)

We already pay for it on our basic bill and I'm against paying for it again. It's time for the cable companies to pony up and pay for the stuff they charge us for.

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[Like](#)



theresam ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am absolutely against any extra fee or charge for any reason. Work within the money you have now. Be more efficient. Stop throwing more money at a problem that would be better solved by expecting more from the way the industry is run! Pretend it is your own money you are spending, then you will make better and more economic decisions.

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Laurie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it is unfair for cable and satellite subscribers to have to pay extra for local TV. Local TV station websites let you watch their content online FREE !!! If we were asked to pay additional fees for local TV, then I think that they should come in an optional package and those who want local TV can pay for it and not force those to take a local TV basic channel and then have to pay the extra fees on top of that

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Daniel Cullen ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local tv is important to me but not at an additional price. The " Stop the Tv Tax" people say that the tv stations want this bailout on top of the large profits made by them. I do not think that a tv tax is necessary to maintain local tv if these companies are making a profit already. I also do not want my satellite bill to be any higher than it already is!

It seems to me that both sides are at fault here because as I see it they are blaming each other for the demise of local tv. They both make large profits, as each has claimed of the other, and neither wants to give up a little to support local tv. They both want to pass it on to the consumer. I do not believe that consumers should be asked to pay more when, if these two parties would give a little, everyone could benefit.

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Chussey ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. As important as local TV is, I don't think it is fair to pay an additional cost for it. We are just barely starting to recover from the recession, and an additional cost to our TV seems just ludicrous.

2. Considering that big networks, such as CBC and Global, spend 740 million on US and foreign programming and only 54 million on Canadian English language drama, I think it would be wise to start changing that. It seems clear to me personally that the CRTC is not doing as much as it could to support local TV, so why should fork out my own money to do something that the CRTC should already be doing? I just don't understand why I have to spend more money, while little to no effort is being made on the CRTC's behalf to do anything at all. We need some changes to be done before I would ever consider paying any additional costs.

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lauren ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that viewers already pay enough for TV. Local TV is the life blood of our media community and Canada as whole. It is important that viewers have access to what is going on in their community and the opportunity to participate and support local projects.

I believe the issue and problem lies with the fact that the large networks could probably be a little less greedy and maybe support local TV for their already loyal viewers. They make millions of dollars a year, their CEO's and Presidents make well beyond the necessary means, I bet they could find the money somewhere.

Working in a 4 diamond banquet center I know first hand what Ceo's and Presidents like to spend on themselves. I know that is presumpuous, but I do stand by it.

Thank you for the oportunity to share my opinion.

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Debra ★ [1 month ago](#)

Our Cable company does have local TV..Cogeco has my town of Georgetown Halton Hills on Cable TV..the regular channels DON'T do this..they make millions calling themselves "local" they are not local they are Toronto or Ontario but not my town..I don't they TV stations should be paid for having cable carry them. If cable didn't carry them how do they intend to be seen???????????? have they thought about that. If the cable companies say fine we won't pay you or carry you then what? Can't each swallow the 10.00 as five dollars each and leave us out of it.

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[Linda Power](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Although I strongly support local tv, I am opposed to any increase to the existing rates. Last year, Big TV networks made almost 4 million dollars in operating profits. Enough is enough!! Keep local tv affordable. That is a responsibility of CRTC. No more additional profits by adding any more tax. Stop the tax!!!

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[Like](#)



[cancon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Linda Power](#)

it's not a tax, it's user pay..like \$2 per channel in those specialty channels that is the model in the future going forward..over the air free tv is dead. canadian content local content and advertising regulations makes it unprofitable.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[meak357](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

this set up to comment is very confusing by the way. I am a one earner house hold under 20,000, which is poverty and min wage. it is a choice either internet or tv. I rely on my local station to keep me informed within my community and for that matter the world. the major players should definatly support the locals, they are collecting money from the users, for sure.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[cancon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [meak357](#) 1 person liked this.

4 free over the air TV channels and Free wireless internet with your neighbor...free free. don't pay anything. if it's free. free tv and free internet access.

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[firecracker72](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for my satellite and tv programing I do support having local television. Thou they seem to not keep the programming/shows that I like watching. So either I go to other stations to watch it. Why should I pay more for them to keep doing that. They do get alot of our money we pay for in our cable or satellite bills. When we are all on budgets of many different levels. Some cant even afford the cable/satellite bill as it is. I think they should give us the option to what should be broadcasted and what programming they should put. If they are wanting more money they are really doing poor bussiness management. I do agree with others statements though we do have other ways of getting our news and things. For they are just starting to have canadian or more local programming on some. people will just opt out of local stuff if they have to pay more. Thou they have their own homes if they were on a strict budget, do you think they would not be trying to stop the tax. We do pay more than some companies charge in the states for tv/satellite/cell service etc.

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[lamar](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [firecracker72](#)

I don't think the local channels get any of that money on the cable bill, but it goes to independent production companies that produce show.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[rich](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree that we already pay through the nose for TV and if this tax is imposed than cable and satellite should have the option to chose these chanel and pay the cost or not to receive them and not paythis additional tax. As it said in one letter that I read I would like to know how much

these upper management make as an annual salary I'll bet like hydro one it's a million+ range so does this mean that next year we are going to have to pay their dept retirement fund? if you can't manage with the money the government already gives you find another job. as for the option to pay or not to pay I would choose to not receive local tv and save \$10 a month.

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cancon ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to rich

the CRTC didn't exist until 1976 and in 1976 television was completely different from today. over the air television was the new media and limited channels only a few channels.

Flag

Like



cancon ★ [1 month ago](#)

The television or media industry has changed and so must regulations. Canadian content and advertising rules must be relaxed for the regulated channels to compete with unregulated media. Either all media is regulated or none are regulated. Over the air broadcasting channels no different than specialty channels in the marketplace with cable and satellite in market share of viewers. there is no reason to regulate commercials or content rules.

Flag

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bruce stevenett ★ [1 month ago](#)

since all the tv stations make so much profit now let them pay the difference. I believe that they get into bidding wars example like reality shows, game shows & so on, which ratings have gone down now they want us to pay for their greed. I so no & if they don't like it to bad let them close up. Nobody can afford anymore.

Flag

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Lydia Ackley ★ [1 month ago](#)

Being on disability, if CRTC increases its fees I will no longer be able to afford tv. It runs 107.00 for phone and basic cable. The Federal government looks at tv as a luxury, I believe it a basic need to be able to view local tv! But that's right --you took away analog tv so we could.

Flag

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cancon ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to Lydia Ackley

4 free over the air channels and CBC is free forever

Flag

Like



peter333 ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am already reacting to this issue by participating in this process. If I was asked to pay for local TV I would say no - I do not think that it should be mandated by the CRTC. I think that one option that would be better is for local TV channels to be offered as pay channels for those who want to watch them - for example, we just subscribed to the animal channel for our daughter through Shaw - adding two optional channels like that is cheap. That way local viewers could vote with their money as to whether or not local TV will make money through the cable companies. I do not think that the CRTC should be regulating this by making a fee mandatory. I think that's bad. I would probably react to a move like that by firming up my plans to move out of Canada in retirement and spend my money in a free (freer) economy - any guesses what I'm talking about? In other words, Canada is becoming so clogged with bureaucracy and red tape it's reminding me of stories that came out of Communist Europe in the 1970's. Where is the incentive for the local television stations to change with the times and actually produce shows worth watching if they go onto the pork barrel? If they do go on the pork barrel they will simply

become a corporate arm of whoever feeds them, just like the CBC is really just a propagandistic arm of the federal government. I think we're not just inching towards but are actually beginning to participate in the failure of our country.

2. I do not think that local television stations have any real kind of entitlement in a nationalistic sense, in a political sense. I think that they have very big egos and an overinflated sense of importance in the world. I haven't watched local TV stations for many years (I'm 49) because I'm tired of the same old stony faces rambling on about what I can read with the click of a mouse on the internet. Local news is accessible on the internet and I greatly prefer that. (While that's another issue if they start charging for that I'll turn off my computer I'm already paying a fee!)

Local TV therefore serves no nationalistic political purpose to the Canadian nation-state. Local TV has been made obsolete by the internet, where local news can be had by the click of a button. Local TV stations have to learn to do business in a telecommunications environment that I have seen change. I'm 49 and like other people my age I've had to adapt to the changes involving changing technology and telecommunications. The corporate plans developed by local TV stations should be business plans which reflect how they plan to be financially viable in a 'brave new world'.

It is your responsibility as the CRTC to inform the local TV stations that their binary negotiating position is inadequate. You need to offer them the option that people want - turn off your transmitters if you do not want to learn how to compete in YOUR NEW BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT. All lines of work change, and everybody has to adapt to that. Local TV stations should be no exception to that. Just because they've been used to doing business as they have in the past does not mean that ratepayers should have to subsidize their laziness and unwillingness to adapt their work to the new telecommunications reality.

Local TV stations should be an 'add on' pay option with cable providers. That way people could vote with their dollars as to whether or not they want to watch local TV. On a list of 50 optional stations to watch, sorry to say that in my case the local TV stations would be 48, 49 and 50 not #1.

It is the responsibility of the CRTC to make sure that there is a reasonable outcome to this - charging additional fees is actually harming the country as a whole because Canadians are so over taxed.

I would not be taking time to write this if I thought this was a trivial issue. More and more taxes and fees are being placed on ordinary hard-working Canadians, with the end result that the Canadian economy as a whole is being completely stifled instead of being stimulated.

Why do you think so many people go shopping in the USA? Living there is better quality and less money for consumers that have the money to spend. There's a large selection of consumer goods for sale, prices are good, some places have no sales taxes at all, gasoline is cheaper, and even housing in many areas is cheaper.

The government of Canada has to come up with an economic 'new confederation' for Canadians by creating an economy that in some way shape or form competes with the USA.

The way it is right now we save all our money to go holiday there and go shopping there. You can buy huge pieces of cheese at Costco in Bellingham for ten dollars, whereas in stores here cheese is expensive because of what? Dairy marketing boards. I'm using that as an analogy. I can't believe that people are actually proposing to charge a mandatory fee for what are basically really mediocre local TV stations that many people don't watch anyways. I don't watch local TV, and do not plan on it.

Do the right thing CRTC and tell the local TV stations to fish or cut bait. Tell them to adapt their companies to a changing telecommunications environment in imaginative and competitive ways. Tell them that if they hire the best young minds in their business, and come up with a plan to tackle the challenges of their changing business environment, that they will not only survive but thrive and grow. It would actually turn the local TV stations into Turnips by pumping them with free money. Where is the incentive to improve, compete, and attract viewers? There is none!

Flag

 *J. and G. Comeau* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I definitely do not think we the taxpayers should pay any extra money for local TV. We live in the country and rely on local TV to keep us informed about what is going on in the rest of the province. We're seniors living of fixed incomes and we strongly feel that the big providers make plenty money as it is without charging an additional amount to what we pay already. Nothing but greed on their part.

[Flag](#) *Robert Spence* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We need more competition in the cable industry. Most of the programming stinks. We don't need an extra ten dollars added to our cable bill. Let the tv stations stand on their own two feet, forget the handouts, next year they will be back looking for more, and on and on it goes. Get rid of the CBC they are loosing money every year. How long are we going to keep this sinking ship afloat.

[Flag](#) *SFS* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I hate the fact that we keep paying more for no control. We pay a lot of money for cable and "legal" satellite but still can't tap into the biggest broadcasting market available - USA. If we are limited on our programing then they should be easily able to "float the boat" with that kind of monopoly!

[Flag](#) *Arlene Deslauriers* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the CRTC supports this request from local TV stations and forces my satellite provider (Bell) to compensate them for the negligible services they provide, I would not only adjust my programming package to reduce my monthly cost, but I would never watch local tv ever again - an additional \$5 to \$10 a month is way too high a surcharge for the quality of local news programming we have now...way, way too high! I am incredulous that this request is even being considered.

[Flag](#) *Keith Edwards* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am totally against any tax that supports local television stations. If there is no economic demand for the programs they provide then why are we proposing propping them up with tax dollars. Network broadcast TV has become so banal and unimaginative that I now happily pay for premium content on cable. The only network worth watching is PBS and possible TVO

[Flag](#) *Steve* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have recently had to 'downgrade' my cable service (selection) in order to afford my service. With the proposed increase, I too will be forced to cancel this service.

[Flag](#) *Ichretien* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable as I have already made Rogers Cable aware of that. I think TV is very expensive already and I must subscribe to VIP as the only channel I watch is pretty much

Space. I watch TV perhaps a total of 5 to 8 hours a month so the TV tax for me is just too much.

I already wanted to cancel my cable a few times but the company gave me incentives to stay on which I agreed as long the TV tax does not come along, Even if it is just a dollar, I would cancel. Our TV has recently received a 1.5% increase along with the annual company increase.

Please consider all recommendation placed on this thread. and I agree other countries have more affordable deals when it comes to any communication services including phones, data, internet and TV. My current TV bill is 70\$.

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 [Rickford](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I have to pay more for local TV then I will have to reduce or cancel my cable. 70% of the basic cable channels I never watch and over 50% of the local channels programing is garbage. That is why they cannot get advertisers. I always watch the news on the local Global station but I can get that on line too.

To support local TV channels and by that we all know it means the Canadian Networks, they should be the only channels in the basic cable package. A rate should be set by the CTRC and then that money should be distributed by the percentage of the local market that each channel garners thus rewarding excellence in the local market. All the specialty channels should be al a carte.

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 [blanchad](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

No more taxes please. Let the networks survive or die.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Gordon Sutherland](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a consumer I do not have any interest in where and how TV programing is offered / or who the different providers are / or what they have to pay to create programing.

Who pays for what is the concern of the industry not their clients.

I have a bad attitude towards the whole industry as it seems to me there is always controversy between the companies offering the service - ie Shaw, Rogers, Telus and the CRTC. As a consumer I do not care one small bit about the CRTC as it seems you do nothing but garner bad press. The CRTC should be creating a situation where the public and the providers are aware what you do and have respect for all parties involved. We the consumer pay to have service installed in our homes and then pay a monthly charge for packaged programing. WHERE DOES ALL THE MONEY GO? Rogers and Shaw have a monopoly in providing service. That should have been managed right from the beginning of service so that they are not always trying to invent new ways of finding revenue from their customers.

I do not mind paying for initial service and then being charged for repair service should I need it.

I am completely against paying a monthly cost for prepackaged programing. The whole market should be paid for by the providers and they should get revenue from the advertisers and the creators of the programing. The total value of all the programing available on most of the channels is so far below quality that I can not imagine why there is so much arogance by the providers towards the consumers.

We pay to watch 40 minutes of programing and 20 minutes of commercial content in every hour. We pay \$700.00 per year to watch maybe 8 to 10 of the some 70 or 80 possible channels. It is a total rip off and the industry needs more competition. As I said above the providers should get their revenue from the commercial providers and the program providers.

STOP CHARGING A MONTHLY FEE FOR SERVICE.

I am totaly against the providers whether they are Canadian or American or local looking for more revenue from the customers. They are collecting way too much now.

The CTRC should be telling the providers after the installation costs to get their revenue from

the industry not the consumer.

I doubt that will ever happen but consider the radio industry. Right from the start the consumer has not had to pay for programming and still do not. Why do the TV providers get to rip off their customers?

Do not allow the providers to whine about needing more revenue. Tell them to get inventive. I can go to a movie and pay \$10 to \$12 dollars for one to two commercial free hours. Who do the TV providers think they are? One hour of Television all the while being forced to watch extremely bad commercials is at best 40 minutes of programming.

Not only that but at every commercial break all channels on the system take their commercial breaks at the very same time. How can that be competition?

Do not allow any further new taxes or revenue sources. The CRTC should be telling the providers to get their money from the industry. WE PAY TOO MUCH ALREADY.

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lamar ★ [1 month ago in reply to Gordon Sutherland](#)

You pose a good question. What does happen with all the money collected by cable companies for their basic package, which includes only the "free" TV channels? Shouldn't they share this with local stations without imposing additional fees on us.

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R.S. Cappiello ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already pay enough for cable and all I have is the basic package- not to mention that most of the time its always the same programs.

I would consider cancelling my cable service completely - enough is enough. We have already been taxed too much. How can seniors be able to afford all this?

2. Local advertisers should be sufficient, just as it has been in the past.

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SAMH7264 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that local tv should be offered in markets that desire it. This is something that can and should be funded through paid advertising and traditional mechanisms already in place.

One of my concerns is the Question: What is Local TV? When looking for the answer myself, I find it difficult to classify a station that broadcast 20 mins of local news or weather and an additional 40 minutes of national news during a 24 hour period as "Local".

Most local stations are part of larger broadcast networks, such as CTV, CanWest Global and such. Most of these are privately operated, and the network as a whole is extremely profitable. I find it unacceptable to "slice" it down with business unit segmentation to prove the need for funding. When discussing the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, it is already substantially funded through annual grants or budget appropriations from the Federal Government, essentially meaning all Tax Payers are already funding it. That is the role of the CBC, provide that local programming and represent the Canadian Landscape in the media. Should private media wish to compete in a local market, they must be willing to fund it privately, as the markets are generally already well served or over served. The private corporations also tend to purchase a significant portion of their programming from foreign sources. I certainly would not call that Local.

In the "Digital" era, there are vast opportunities for the Canadian perspective to be shared and detailed, even if a market does not have a "Local" TV Station. With the internet available in a substantial portion of homes, and in an even greater percentage of Publicly funded institutions, such as Public Libraries, I see very little need to Publicly fund Privately Held Corporations.

For years these large media corporations have profited, and if the business is no longer viable, I would suggest that it is up to the private sector to rethink the model without turning to additional public funds.

I however would be willing to see charges levied to carriers of signal (Cable and satellite companies) if individuals could "Opt out" and chose not to receive those channels. I know that my choice would be to remove that service and avoid the fee for a service I find little value in. Let the market dictate the value.

Specifically to the questions asked above;

1. If I were asked to pay additional fees for Local TV service without an Opt Out, I would cancel my cable tv service. There are other prides methods of obtaining the entertainment I wish to view, and I would pursue these. Canada prides it self on being a nation of choice, please allow us to exercise that choice.

2. I believe the measures are already in place, allow the market to dictate the value of the provided programming. This would also make the programming providers much more responsive to their "Customers" and providing direct accountability. A Pay for Service model is appropriate, with the Carriers providing the billing mechanism as it is today. It would even be appropriate for Carriers to charge a fee to local TV to carry their signals.

In Summation, I strongly urge the regulatory body to consider the pay for Service Model and allow Canadians to opt out and not receive the service without fee. Allow us all to "vote with our wallets"

I also find it encouraging that the Canadian Government has made a choice to listen to Canadians directly, without lobbyists and interested parties. Thank you for the opportunity to participate and be part of the solution.

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 [wayneedwardellement](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

i THINK IF OTHER INDEPENDENT TV STATIONS CAN SURVIVE THEN THE GOVERNMENT ONE SHOULD TOO. THEY JUST HAVE TO CUT BACK ON THEIR PENSION FUND, SALARIES (ESPECIALLY THIS) AND ALSO THEIR BONUSES. HOW COME THE PEOPLE HIRED TO RUN THESE GOVERNMENT STATIONS FEEL THEY HAVE TO GET RICH FAST. I'M ON A SMALL FIXED PENSION WHICH IS ALMOST TAKEN BY MY RENT AND THESE GUYS WANT ME TO PAY MORE, IT WILL TAKE THE SERVICE AWAY FROM MANY. IS THIS THE DIRECTION OUR GOVERNMENTS FEEL IS BEST FOR THE PEOPLE WHO ELECTED THEM NOT THEIR OWN FOOLISH TANTICS.

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 [R. Laviolette](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations should be compensated by the Cable and Satellite service providers for their inclusion of the Local TV stations programming in their product offerings. This should be done at NO ADDITIONAL COST to the suscriber. You should also have foreign stations (i.e. US, etc.) pay to have access to the Canadian market. This approach would assist in improving Canadian content in product offerings as well as in providing a higher quality of Canadian & foreign programming.

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 [Adam Camery](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to R. Laviolette](#)

Hear, hear. There's no reason to have to pay more for local channels.

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Like

 [Sharon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think Local Tv gets paid enought and not more as we are paying high costs already for any cable tv and we on disability an pension can hardly afford to pay our monthly bills for this already.

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ejabs ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV does not matter. We have a lot of sources today to get our information, news, programming etc. If the local TV stations cannot make it with what they have then let them fall by the wayside and other companies will pick up and make it work. Let the market decide. I just returned from Germany and our friends who we were staying with had over 1600 satellite stations to choose from every hour. They paid 39.00 euros per month for their satellite service. So why are we getting so little for our money. Open the market wide open and let free enterprise do its job.

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Adam Camery ★ [1 month ago in reply to ejabs](#)

Wow. I'm moving to Germany. You want a free enterprise system but the only one getting anything for free right now is the cable companies who retransmit the local signals for free.

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patboivin ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the CRTC go ahead with this I will drop my Satellite.

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Like



Pat ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the CRTC go ahead with this I will discontinue my satellite service

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Louisa Steele ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion local TV stations are making enough money and, if they want more, let them go to their advertisers for the money. And we are already being taxed enough so, we should not be subjected to yet another tax.

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Jon ★ [1 month ago](#)

When you compare what Canadians currently get on the basic package, compared to what the Americans get, and what Canadians pay compared to what Americans pay, one does not have to wonder why Canadians get upset over these proposals to charge Canadians more money once again, under the pretext of supporting local channels.

The Americans sign up for a cable or satellite service, they buy the channels they want, unlike Canadians who are forced to purchase useless channels just to get the one they actually want under the pretext of supporting Canadian content; in my opinion if the channels being forced upon us are that bad that they cannot survive on their own merit, they do not belong on the air in the first place, because there is no market for them.

As for charging us more for "Local Channels", this is bogus, we already pay twice what the average American pays, so I think Canadians have already paid for those "Local" channels many times over.

I am not against fair profit, but these prices are starting to be outrageous.

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 *pam l.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i would cancel my sattelite service. we pay enough already.

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[Like](#)

 *sam* ★ [1 month ago](#)

cancel my cable service.

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[Like](#)

 *sam* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i would cancel my cable service too.

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 *Carrie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

we already pay way too much for cable. if the cost goes up we will probably just cancel it. you can get most of what you want from the internet now adays...dont need the tv. families are already struggling to make ends meet...and well tv is a disposable luxury we can all live without. i think people should have the option of agreeing or disagreeing to pay more. if u agree...you get those channels if not....u just get the crap u get now

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 *pgreevink* ★ [1 month ago](#)

How I would react if I were to be asked to pay for local television on top of what I am already paying would be short of for lack of a better word UNPLEASED. Now for the bigger companies to ask to inply this when they have made millions in the last year alone is really not necessary due to them pocketing profits and not helping the little guys out. The smaller TV stations do indeed deserve to be compensated for their signals and services rendered. Basically all the \$5-\$10 upcharge is another tax being implied upon us Canadians that is really un-necessary. What other measures can be taken is instead of the bigger companies pocketing all these profits and sitting idley by as the smaller guy struggle, they can give a lending hand. There shouldn't be any need for another "TAX" added to anything for bailing out the big guys in a so called "Recession" when the cable companies and thriving.

There is my comment

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 *Bernie Harper* ★ [1 month ago](#)

No I am NOT willing to pay more!!! I already pay too much for satellite. You people (CRTC) allow these satellite companies to increase their charges each year without additional channels, or if they do add channels they're nothing that I would want to pay extra for, but if I want certain channels I'm stuck with that package. We are already paying the satellite companies for the local channels. We can't just ask for the local channels alone for FREE. So why should we have to pay more because the local channels want to get paid for satellite companies using their channels for free but charging us for them. You have failed to mention how much profit the satellite companies make too.

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 *Anna M* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If asked to pay more for local TV I would eliminate or greatly reduce my television package. Cable fees are far too high right now and paying for local television is a ridiculous proposition. I

think that the big cable companies should be held accountable for responsible budgeting and support of local stations.

2. Local television could be supported by requiring big cable companies to spend as much on Canadian television as they do on big American stations. In addition, local advertising would make a difference.

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[Adam Camery](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Anna M](#)

I agree that cable bills are too high now and I don't want an increase either. But the real ridiculous proposition is that cable is rearing local tv stations and not paying for it while they pay some American stations, like CNN. I don't know what it's like where you live, but local TV along with the newspapers keeps us connected to our city politics and sports teams.

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[Debby F](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay close to \$100 a month to watch television. If the CRTC imposes an extra \$10 a month tax, I'll be cutting down my tv considerably, possibly only taking the basic satellite from Bell. Advertisers already pay a small fortune to tv stations to air their commercials. And I pay \$100 a month for air waves. It's bloody crazy to charge us another \$120 a year in taxes. Canadians are already taxed up the butt for everything, and if you live in Calgary, we pay user fees for everything. I'm just waiting for the air tax so I can breath. It's getting ridiculous! People are out of work, having a hard time finding jobs, making minimum wage and big business is still trying with all their might to suck the consumer dry of all the money we have left.

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[erniematheson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We could not afford to pay any more for TV services. We alread pay to much for the TV services we get now. I find cable and Satelite both have too many channels with the same programing. It is often local tv that offers something different. I would much rather have local tv then all the American channels and if we were to eminate the channels with the same programming then we would have half the channels used.

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[drew_DWX](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

"What should be done is that we as consumers should be offered to select the channels we want, and pay a fee for them individually whereby a portion of those fees goes to the cable/satellite company, instead of packages or groups. Support for local television would be revealed in the the amount of subscribers each channel has for its services. This would essentially operate them as separate businesses through a carrier providing the signal to the public, and they would sink or float on their own."

Agreed.

At the very least, NO MORE TAXES!

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[Helen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are paying enough for our cable, satellite and internet now. It's time the CRTC stopped helping the rich get richer. Our programming is nothing to brag about now, why would I pay more for it.

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Like



Jeremy ★ [1 month ago](#)

Firstly I wish to thank the CRTC for taking the time to listen to Canadians, especially through an online forum. I feel that the time of broadcast television has passed. I used to really enjoy my local programming in Calgary, which was truly local. Global & CTV do not provide true local programming outside of the news. Which is good. At best they provide national programming. Shaw, Rogers, Telus and Bell have lots of problems and issues but should not be required to pay "local stations" for their services.

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tristanyoung ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not wish to pay for local TV.

Local TV is available free-to-air using antennae, so why should I have to pay more for it than those that get it for free? I already pay for Cable TV, and the TV networks are able to reach me without incurring additional cost. If they want to charge me to receive their signals, they should build their own infrastructure. That being said, local TV is not important to me. Local news is pathetically skimpy - I get more and better local news over the Internet.

Let the local TV stations rot. They make money off advertising. They are given the ability to buy commercial spots on non-Canadian channels. They invest in very little Canadian content. Even the content they invest in from abroad is not very good. Reality TV shows? Give me a break.

Local TV stations have been given the chance to develop new business models that suit the changing times. Charging cable viewers and not charging antennae viewers is not a business model - it's a tax that directly attacks those that already pay hefty fees to the giants like Rogers and Bell.

If fee-for-carriage is forced upon cable companies, I will cancel my cable TV. They very people these TV stations want to reach are already drifting away - fee for carriage will turn the drifting into a full-tilt out-of-control skid with people canceling in droves.

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Adam Camery ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to tristanyoung](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable companies are already charging you for local TV on your basic service. They're just not paying the cable companies. I like programs on the 3 main Canadian channels, especially the sports, but like you I don't want to pay more either. I've had it up to here.

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tristanyoung ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not wish to pay for local TV.

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[fredloxtton](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important, but I don't think local TV should get money from me via the cable companies. We already pay for local TV by viewing their advertising.

Local TV is available on the air.

It would make more sense for TV to pay cable for carrying their signal, since cable increases the TV stations exposure, thus getting local TV more revenue.

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[Geoff](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A pox on both their houses. The collective greed of the media companies with the full cooperation of government "regulators", really, "facilitators" has resulted in loss of audience, thus loss of revenues. Now the remainder of viewers are to be squeezed to make up of the failures of the non-competitive, monopolistic media-providers.

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[bob](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'll cancel & rely on the internet ..

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[Jim](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV viewing has changed and the old model no longer functions as the cash cow it once was. There is alternate means to obtain far more local content than the so called local TV stations provide. It is time to let them fad away. There time has passed.

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[Moody](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

My reaction is - I cannot afford to pay extra to local TV. They have their revenue streams through advertising etc.

Why should the public have to support local TV. They must be able to fend for themselves just as ant other private free enterprise.

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[Sharon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Fees are high enough. Big networks should be able to manage their business better. Why shouldn't local stations be paid by the big networks if they are using their programing, and they don't need to pass this on to consumers. I agree that top level management do not need/deserve such high bonuses.

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Brian Gauntlett ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that if a cable or satellite provider does not strip off advertising they should not be charged for the tv signals: but cable or satellite providers that strip advertising should be. The choice to strip advertising would mean cable and satellite provides could be charged but cannot pass on these costs to the end user as the advertisers are paying for the signals. Signals that are not stripped are already payed for by the advertisers and cannot be charged for by local tv as again the advertisers are paying for these signals [CABLE AND SATELLITE PROVIDERS ARE MERELY THE MULE HELPING LOCAL TV REACH MORE END USERS AND ARE ALREADY INCREASING THAT TV'S RATING ALLOWING LOCAL TV TO CHARGE MORE TO THEIR ADVERTISERS AND PERHAPS LOCAL TV SHOULD COMPENSATE CABLE AND SATELLITE FOR DOING SO]. If the CRTC allows local TV to charge for their unmodified signals then cable and satellite providers should be mandated to sell a package without local programming and the end user can pick up these signals off-air if they are truly local. THIS IS A BOLD MOVE FOR LOCAL TV TO CHARGE FOR THEIR SIGNALS AS CABLE AND SATELLITE PROVIDERS SHOULD THEN BE ABLE TO STRIP OFF ALL ADVERTISING.

There are relatively few off-air 'end users' and advertisers are not trying to reach this group

Flag

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Mike d. ★ [1 month ago](#)

1 I do not want to pay for local TV. If I had a choice, I would cancel my local TV "package" as I can simply get my local news for free, or for much cheaper on the internet, a local radio station, or a local newspaper. The notion that cable companies should be forced to broadcast something, and then possibly be charged for it is absurd.

I have no problem with local stations charging cable providers to broadcast their programming, my problem is with forcing cable providers to include it in their basic package.

2. Support for local television should come from the free market. If people actually want local television, they'll pay for it. And if there's a large enough market watching it, advertisers will pay to advertise on it. If not, then clearly Canadians have made their choice....they don't want, or don't care about local television.

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Adam Camery ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Mike d.](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is more than just news. The network and affiliates also buy the rights to American shows that are the highest rated in Canada. So no local TV, no new episodes of Family Guy, Grey's Anatomy or whatever reality show is big now.

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Sara ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think this is an unfair tax. We already pay way to much for TV.

Flag

Like



SHARON MARTIN ★ [1 month ago](#)

THE TV NETWORKS ALREADY RECEIVE A LOT OF MONIES PLUS PRODUCE A LOT OF ADVERTISEMENTS AND THUS TAKE IN MORE REVENUE. THUS I BELIEVE THAT THE NETWORKS PLUS THE CABLE AND SATELLITE PROVIDERS SHOULD NOT USE LOCAL TV AS AN EXCUSE TO MAKE THE CONSUMER PAY MORE ON HIS/HER BILL-WE ALREADY PAY ENOUGH !! LOCAL TV IS SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE PROVIDED AS PART OF THE COSTS ALREADY IN EXISTENCE SINCE IT BINDS COMMUNITIES TOGETHER AND IS IMPORTANT TO COMMUNICATION WITHIN EACH ONE ON THE LOCAL MATTERS. I DO NOT BUY THE EXCUSE THAT THE TV NETWORKS ARE LOSING MONEY BECAUSE OF THE LOCAL PROGRAMMING.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[Tym Barker](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will not pay for local TV.

Hulu and Netflix are coming, and if the CRTC doesn't "let" us receive the internet feeds, I will personally start a company providing proxy servers to all Canadians that want FREE streaming TV.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[normanbloom](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for cable and everything else. So why should I give a 2 Billion Dollar package to the cable firm. I don't want \$10.00 to be added to my already expensive cable bill. I mean it it is enough already that the government is already thing of implimenting the HST with out public input. Do they listen ? No. I am against this unnessassary TV Tax. I don't want to see it happen...

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[Russ C](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The onus should be on the local stations to come up with a sustainable business model. Cable and satellite carriers contribute substantially to the TV stations' success by providing a much wider viewing audience than they might have using "over the air" TV. If the local stations feel the carriers should pay them for their signal in addition to providing them the additional viewing audience, they are being not only unreasonable, but greedy as well. Time to dust off the old TV antenna. Bonus: no cable cost increase...

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[Joyce Maillet](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is poor timing. The recession and the HST are cutting into our groceries and other necessities of life.

If this is absolutely necessary then I believe we should be offered more choices in packages. Some people would like new programs etc. other people like me would prefer smaller packages at lower costs.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[r Strong](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am so frustrated with my satellite provider perpetual re runs for excess of three years on the movie channel, made to take packages rather being able to choose my channels. I pay close to \$100.00 per month and feel I am paying way too much for the lousy service they provide. I am already looking to go to an antenna as I for one will most certainly will refuse to pay my bill when the harmonize tax is jammed down our throats. But that yet another topic and frankly additional cost in July of 2020/ On topic I want my local stations but I refuse to pay one penny more.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[Anon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would pay a nominal amount more if it means continuing and expanding local TV services, but I feel that the cable & satellite companies need to absorb most of the amount. In much of this vast country, the only TV available is via satellite.

The cost of cable and satellite seems very high for what we get, and FAR TOO MUCH OF IT IS

FROM THE USA!!!! And far too much is of sports. I want to know what's new in the rest of Canada, not who Tiger Woods is allegedly sleeping with. I would rather hear about the huge potato somebody grew in Nova Scotia than more and more and more American crap. Support local Canadian TV and then share it nationally.

AND, it wouldn't hurt to throw in a little European content too. God knows there's enough Asian content.

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[reddcarr](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not think twice about cancelling my satellite subscription and reverting to FTA(pirate satellite)I've used it before, and although it's a pain to keep running,it's FREE, which all television SHOULD be considering the amount of advertising that is crammed down out throats every hour.As far as supporting local television, isn't hat why they sell advertising time???Give me a break!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Robin](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is absolutely outrageous that we should have to pay any more tax on our overpriced cable bill!!!! The cable companies should be paying the local stations for broadcasting the community news and support the local communities from whom they make millions of dollars in profit from each year!!!!

any

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[jeff](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

first of all, it's fine the way it is.Haven't you guys heard of the old saying 'if it ain't broke,don't fix it'? My reasoning on this manner is the following, the only reason that you want to do this is because you feel that you're missing out on the chance to line your pockets with other peoples money that you 'extort' from citizens because you're greedy,manipulative,maniacal paranoia not to mention the feelings you have about hurt feelings because every other industry is getting free cash on top of all the already excessive charges so you have to get back at the other industries. The sad part of all this is the fact that because Canadians are insanely naive and believe whatever they're told and because of that fact and the fact that canadian citizens have no backbone to tell you pricks to piss-off as they should. No bailout for you which is all this is really is about today. My reaction would have to be continuously writting in not so nice a manner to express myself,you'll be sure to learn some new words from me. As for measures to support local TV should be left to the local TV stations to develop support and if the support is not there it should be just the same as in any other business, can't afford it get out. That's why all this other crap with bailouts is a farce,can't afford to do business.....you don't do business. If the governments federal OR provincial or otherwise start to conduct businesses in any way,you're gonna develop a fascist society,which of course is already on it's way in down south. Get rid of the 'american' mindset it's toxic and ultimately suicidal.

Flag

Like



jeffclarke ★ 1 month ago

We already pay a levy for local TV. So I would be very upset if I was asked to pay ANOTHER levy for local TV.

In order to support local television, the CRTC should hold the broadcasters to account to ensure that the levy we already pay is, in fact, going to local television. If it turns out that the broadcasters are squandering that money on something else, then it is a plain and easy decision for the CRTC to turn down the broadcaster's request for a new levy. If the broadcasters can prove that the money we are already paying is in fact being used to solely support local TV, but it turns out it is not enough, then they need to do what EVERY other company does when it needs to lower operating costs -- find ways to reduce its own costs by cutting out bad business processes. The broadcasters are corporations just like any other. Don't expect us to simply hand them over money for no good reason, nor should we be expected to pay TWICE for the same offering. How would you feel if you walked into Wal-Mart and, after purchasing something, someone stopped you and said "We need you to pay AGAIN for this, even though you've already paid once for it. Oh, and by the way, this second price is WAY higher than the price you've already paid. Thank you for shopping at Wal-Mart!"

Flag

Like



Robin ★ 1 month ago

It is absolutely outrageous that we should have to pay any more tax on our overpriced cable bill!!!! The cable companies should be paying the local stations for broadcasting the community news and support the local communities from whom they make millions of dollars in profit from each year!!!!

any

Flag

Like



K Wattie ★ 1 month ago

I'm not willing to pay any more to watch tv than I already do. I can entertain myself on the internet instead, and as I watch less tv these days anyway, I would just cancel my cable service entirely.

Flag

Like



Patrick Whitemore ★ 1 month ago

We already pay too much for cable, with too little competition and making us pay even more is just pressing your foot harder on the neck of the everyman.

Flag

Like



ScottO ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay for BellTV's "digital standard" which should cover any and ALL expenses involving local programming.

Quite frankly I am all for letting the networks sink or swim. My bills are already high enough. Besides, I don't have any local stations here anyway, so why in God's name should I have to pay to keep their service running? Most of the channels are filled with American programming anyway, and I watch it on the american channels.

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pjmitchell ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV cable charges are already very heavy and keep increasing. I'm dead against any increase for any reason on local or cable.

Local television should earn its own way.

[Flag](#)

Like



peter100 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay extra for the kind of local TV that CTV and Global produce. The only local programming they produce that I can think of is their very traditional 70's style 5 O'clock news casts. Who is even home at 5 PM these days to watch TV news? The real question is why have local broadcasters not invested in more innovative technologies to communicate and add value to their viewers. Its almost 2010...please add value to my life - connect digitally and more personally on my terms.

Why have the local broadcasters invested so heavily in US prime time programming? This is the real root of the problem; they have not done proper advertising revenue forecasting. If they truly understood the value of their current business they would have never overpaid for US programming.

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Like



CHARLES ★ [1 month ago](#)

I FEEL THAT THE CABLE AND SATALITE COMPANY ARE TAKING US FOR A RIDE ALREADY.YOU CAN NOT GET A STATION YOU WANT WITH OUT GET A PACKAGE OF 8 SEVEN THAT YOU NEVER WATCH BUT YOU PAY FOR TO ME THAT IS MAKING ME PAY MORE FOR WHAT I WANT OR NEED.IT IS NOT RIGHT THE WAY THEY MAKE YOU TAKE CHANNELS YOU DON'T WANT AND MAKE YOU PAY FOR THEM,AND THEY THINK THEY NEED MORE MONEY FOR SOMECHANNELS THAT I THINK I SHOULD GET AUTOMATICLY INCLUDED IN MY BASIC CHANNELS. I THINK THEY COULD TAKE 200 CHANNELS AWAY TO PAY FOR WHAT I WANT TO PAY FOR.

[Flag](#)

Like



The Cat ★ [1 month ago](#)

With an additionnal \$5 to \$10 tax some people will not be able to afford TV. This industry has received enough subsidies, the fact this most networks make profits is a flagrant proof. We already pay too much for basic service --- look down South ...

[Flag](#)

Like



Randy ★ [1 month ago](#)

Tax without representation is totalitarian. CRTC - Represent the voice and interest of the

population – Say no to more taxation.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *markhurlburt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I reject the proposal to impose a TV Tax of up to \$10 per month on my cable or satellite bill. I would like to take this opportunity to tell the CRTC that I refuse to give the Big Networks a \$2 billion bailout over the next five years.

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Like

 *Thor* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not prepared to pay any additional fees to support local TV. If additional fees were added I would look for other sources for TV programming. Consumers are already forced to buy programming they don't want through the channel "packaging" system now in effect. We are forced to pay for channels we don't want, which are not capable of attracting a viable audience. This should stop.

If the cable or broadcast companies can't make local tv work on advertising revenues, let it die. Subsidizing this industry is no different than any other industry, it just leads to inefficiency and higher consumer cost. Broadcasters are already protected by licences that limit competition, and if they are in fact no longer viable because the market has changed, then CRTC should reduce the number of licences. Let a station fail and don't issue a replacement licence.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ray harding* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I intend to cancel my cable and put up an approved antenna. I'm sick and tired what channels I have to pay for I don't watch over 80% OF THE CHANNELS I HAVE to buy

[Flag](#)

Like

 *David Evans* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to subsidize TV stations making hundreds of millions as it is. NO TV TAX!

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Like

 *WarPed* ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is intriguing to me that in an area marked Affordability of local TV we are directed only to comment on whether we would want to pay MORE for cable and satellite services. I would like to be able to comment that the services are already outrageously expensive and that the companies that provide these services seem to be making a fairly good profit in a time when our country is in the throws of a MAJOR recession. The reality for many Canadians is this: if they raise the prices for whatever reason we may be forced to stop using the services altogether. Perhaps the people providing these services should ask themselves if they are pricing themselves out of a job.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Irtubman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that the cable companies make a good dollar on the sale of their services to consumers. They should give something to the local stations, but that cost should be absorbed by the cable companies.

[Flag](#)

Like



dwegelin ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have real problem with television stations who are having their signals transported into homes via cable. They are then making money by selling advertising. Where would they be if cable chose to not carry them. i suspect that not very many of us would go back to antennas on the roof.

The quality fo TV programming is relly bad when you have to have hundreds of channels to be able to maybe see 4 or 5 programs you want to watch each evening.

We all know the cable companies will pass on any fees to us. No more fees, or make the cable companies give us the choice to not receive local channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rochelle Millward ★ [1 month ago](#)

The local cable, satellite, and other types of companies in my area charge alot of money and are trying to find more ways to get more money out of us on budgets.

1. I like to be able to watch local news, sports, and weather reports so I know road conditions. To have to pay for that when the only way to watch it is to have to pay to have the service in the first place makes me very bitter. The companies have everyone in a corner just to get us to find out local weather reports. If the cable companies keep it up I am gonna stop paying for cable and ditch it for my internet instead.

2. To support local television where it all started the cable companies should be paying them. Without the local channels no one would want to watch television without CBC Hockey Nites, or Local news forecasts, or warnings of who is dangerous in their neighborhood.

i think a boycott of all the companies would make them realize that without the people paying for it, we are the ones who pay for the channels to begin with and cable companies should support who started them out.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bud ★ [1 month ago](#)

Tv is a business.. if local tv can't make it ther must be a problem with the programming or the network..my money is on the network. A huge area of canada does not have or cannot recieve local tv; why should they pay for it.

[Flag](#)

Like



rochellemillward ★ [1 month ago](#)

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JonathanM ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the channels are available for free over the air, then why should cable and dish customers

pay and additional fee? The business models these companies have is that they offer free TV, in exchange for eyeballs watching commercials. They have been and will be making money with that model for years to come, so there is no need to have customers pay an unnecessary additional \$10 monthly charge? In all circumstances, the broadcasters should be paying the service providers for the privilege of access to their customer base.

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 *Stuart Winger* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is already paid for by advertisers, I feel they should pay Cable companies for increasing their viewer area

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 *Ben Iozzo* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we already pay too much for television services. I have no interest in local t.v. programming, so I don't think I should pay for something I don't want. The way the economy is, every business is crying poor, and think that the tax payer should bail them out after the CEO's pretty much created their own problems. The average tax payer is being nickle and dimed slowly to the poverty level. NO MORE TAXES OR ANY OTHER CHARGES OR WHATEVER THEY WANT TO CALL IT!!!!!!!!!!!!

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Like

 *mvanlamz* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not the least bit interested in paying for local television. If they can't find a way to make money selling ads, then they should go out of business, and let someone else buy the spectrum. If no one else wants to buy it, then I guess we're all just moving on, and the local television station will become part of history.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *d lewis-watts* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i can't get local tv because my sat. provider does not offer it... i sure don't feel i should pay \$5 to support local tv... which is only 5 hours local anyway....

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mervette Farid* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Any business which cannot afford to stay in business should simply shut down - that includes television companies/conglomerates. After studying this issue I have come to the conclusion that television companies/conglomerates want the public to bear the cost of their operations. We pay enough for services; if those companies were in dire need of cash they would not have had the huge profits they posted. No I say - let the companies bear the costs of their business, and if they cannot afford to stay in business then - like all other private companies - should simply close their doors and shut down their businesses. If they cannot afford the costs of staying abreast of technology then perhaps they should sink their profits into their businesses as part of their developments, instead of taking the money home. No more taxes. Enough.

It used to be that we had television commercials so we could have programming; now we have programming so that we can have commercials. And they still want more money? NO. We already pay the highest cable rates as it is thanks to the CRTC. How about being on the side of Canadians instead of corporations for a change.

Thank you.

[Flag](#)

Like



A Carrigan ★ [1 month ago](#)

All this nickle and diming of citizens has become very tiresome and extremely irritating. Surcharges and fees are being tacked on to everything these days. Isn't it our right as taxpaying Canadians to enjoy our local television stations without a fee ? These phoney "service" add ons have become beyond ridiculous.

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Vurik ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that adding to the current monthly cost of TV would likely earn the cable companies less in the long run, as more and more people will simply download their TV from the 'net and cut thier television costs entirely. If this goes through, thats exactly what I intend to do.

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Claudette Prevost ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that we pay enough for the local television as it is. The cable company charges already for the basic service, which includes local stations, so I don't think that we should be charged more.

[Flag](#)

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cindy ★ [1 month ago](#)

Before satellite and cable tv...local stations made money with the commercials they aired and we paid nothing...they are still making lots of money...they just want more...with the economy today they want to make us pay more...if they make us pay more...i will cancel my cable and just watch movies...or whatever i can get with an antennae...which most of is not worth watching anyway with all the repeats...and just plain horrible shows

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Laurie ★ [1 month ago](#)

If this tax goes ahead I will cancel cable, I am interested in our local TV stations but do not want the cable companies to benefit from a tax and eventually we lose our local TV stations . The cable companies get enough of our money and as far as I am concerned they are over payed.Reduce cable prices and support our local stations to keep them on the air.

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philipfrommapleridge ★ [1 month ago](#)

I want to pay only for the channels I want. The government should not force me to pay for CTV, A, Global, Citytv, or CHEK. Why can't the TV networks pay for prime time programs based on ratings? Then they would never over bid for shows and would be more viable financially. Control costs for local newscasts. Just cover the news in 30 minutes and leave sports and weather to the specialty channels.

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Tim B ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hello, We live in rural Nova Scotia. At this time we have 4 channels that come in over our antenna. If local Tv goes so does our TV veiwing. My kids can watch almost anything on the internet, but we still watch local TV together. I need to know what is happening in my community. county, Province and Country. Not news and thought from America networks. I will pay for my local tv if that is what it takes to keep it. We need Canadian TV! I don't think I need

Cable
Flag

Like



Don Murfin ★ 1 month ago

When I started out TV was obtained through antenna and the programming was not bad. Today I am paying way to much for proگرامing that is not any better. If there is more added to my bill I will cancel my account. There is no reason for someone to make that much money and return nothing.

Flag

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Carol Farrell ★ 1 month ago

I think we are paying too much now for TV so no I don't think we should have to pay a tax on TV and most of the elderly people can barely afford satellite and cable services as it is without asking them to pay more.

Flag

Like



Raymond Poulin ★ 1 month ago

We have Rogers basic channels, many of which have duplicate programs. If rates go up again for the same no frills service, I would be better off to get television through my computer. As a senior, there are limits on our resources.

Flag

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facebook-1182712284 ★ 1 month ago

If you increase our satellite bills or cable bills people will just start canceling them, then what would happen. tv is not really needed the average working person watches tv 3hrs a day or night. kids don't watch tv anymore there either on the internet or texting, so really there is no need for tv, and in reality nothing we have is needed, perhaps if we the people took a stand together the world would be a better place.

Flag

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Belva Mullen ★ 1 month ago

We are unable to have cable in our area. If we did I would cancel

Flag

Like



belvamullen ★ 1 month ago

We are unable to have cable in our area. If we did I would cancel

Flag

Like



michaelturner ★ 1 month ago

the tv tax is robbery if they get thier way with \$10.00 what will it be in a couple of months double or thripple! if this happens I will cansill my satilite because it be too much to afford!

Michael Turner

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Like

 [m.peters](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

as it stands, our Local programming was essentially eliminated from our city a few years ago and our local tv is now broadcast from a city that is 350 kms away?
And they want us to pay for this????
I have an issue with this.

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 [Paul B](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am tired of paying high cable rates. The amount we pay already should be enough to cover local broadcast stations. The problem is that we are paying extremely high rates and there isn't much on TV whether its cable or satellite. All the good stuff gives during the week when one is working and on Saturdays when I'm home there is nothing worth while to watch. I find the US has better choices for alot less then us Canadians.I say lower the rates across the board for everyone.

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 [Neil Mc](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

What the Government of Canada should be studying is why we have the CRTC at all. They are the reason we have no competition for TV stations or Cable and Satellite business. And now they come up with this bone head idea. Time to fire the CRTC and save us all some money. Maybe during the next election we should be pushing the candidates to do something about the waste of tax dollars for the CRTC!!!

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 [jennifer mueller](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will hurt our customers and our business
The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV
The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

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 [Greg Weisman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We can't allow an American style corporate bail out... that's what this is. If business can't survive it must be allowed to fail, or adapt... TV stations can cut costs and find new sources of revenue... if I understand the facts, they already have with cable channels where they make great \$\$... SPEAK UP EVERYBODY so the CRTC drops this stupid idea of taxing us for something we dont want and something that cant compete

[Flag](#)

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Melissa ★ [1 month ago](#)

We've never had cable TV/dish and we're never going too. Paying out all that extra money is really unnecessary because I don't need to turn on the television to get news or television programs from all over the world. It's just a click away. These big cable companies (along with the cell phones) are all just a big rip off! Local TV is very important (why would you only want to watch US news anyways?). Consumers really should have the option to pay only for what stations they want.

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Like



jennifer mueller ★ [1 month ago](#)

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vincosalvatore ★ [1 month ago](#)

I for one think that TV and cable companies are making more than enough profits, if the local tv stations think that they need more money to stay on the air, than all employeess and managers of these stations should subsidise it by cutting their wages. Also cable and satellite companies have been robing us blind for years, no thanks to the CRTC. Cable operators have been making millions if not billions in profit over the years with the outrages rates that they've been charging for tv, cable, cell phones and now home phone services, they do not give you anything for free, everything that we add on a service, they charge us from \$5.00 and up, where is this going to stop? as consumers we are getting fed up with these operators wanting more money, our pockets are getting empty and there is no more money to give away. I think if the industry needs more funding then let the cable and satellite operators reduce their enormous profits and fund the local tv stations. I for one will cancell my cable service if I'm forced to pay anymore for it, it's time that the consumer fights back, this is outrages.

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Like



Mike M. ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Would not pay for local tv if it was extra. Can grab it for free with an antenna.
2. A small fraction of what we already pay for cable and satellite should go to them, but DO NOT raise the rates to cover this. Rates are already too high.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dennis ★ [1 month ago](#)

So far as local television funding, I'd be all for it if the money actually went to small market stations to fund their newscasts or for them to do local, or at least Canadian, programming. I wholly resent that the current "Local TV Funding" proposal means that the monies can go towards purchasing even more US or foreign programming. I could watch CSI Whatever, Desperate Housewives or other foreign programming I don't care for on twelve other stations - I don't need it on my local station as well.

Separate from that, I believe that the television channels get a great deal of benefit from the

cable and satellite providers since their signal is now reaching far more people than if it wasn't carried and this results in higher advertising revenue.

If I were given a choice to subscribe to or opt out of some of my local stations I would certainly cancel a few of them since they are pretty much useless to me in their re-hashing of non-local programs that can be found elsewhere.

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Like



Karen ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV should be considered a mandatory emergency service just like ambulances, police, hospitals etc. It is our lifeline (especially for seniors) to critical emergency situations such as weather bulletins etc. We are paying too much as it is with all the add ons cable is getting away with (high def/digital) and we are STUCK buying bundles with programs we don't want to begin with. The biggest point is that there is NO ALTERNATIVE anymore to tv reception. We can't have an antenna so don't tax when there are no other choices.

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Like



M. Murray ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television is becoming increasingly more expensive every year. Why should we as consumers provide a bailout to the networks. We already pay way too much for the little bit of programming we receive. If the networks need money, then it is time for layoffs or wage rollbacks. Start with the executives, who in my opinion make way too much. Enough with the generous compensation packages and bonuses, especially with some of the crap that is on television now. If you insist on adding this new tax, then we will have no option except to cancel our programming and and not have satellite television anymore. This is nothing more than another tax and I am sick and tired of padding the executive pockets anymore for the little bit that they actually do. I point to the recession, look at what these executives have done to many companies, brought them to bankruptcy. They are not worth the thousands they make in compensation, so hold them accountable first. Let them take a pay cut to pay this money the networks so require.

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Like



jean ★ [1 month ago](#)

I only watch local tv for the news, weather etc, but there are so many commercials, I would just as soon read the paper or go online. Local tv means nothing to me and since my cable bill is already exhorbitant and the reception, even with all the "upgrades" they keep charging me for, hasn't improved, I would be outraged if I had to pay 5-10 more per month. Rogers is making a fortune, they can certainly absorb the extra cost.

Supporting local television is low on my priority of better tv. As far as I'm concerned, we have already contributed. What was the 1.5% increase monthly I just paid for?

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Like



Mark Freke ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion, local TV should not be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distribution rights.

I would be unwilling to pay an additional premium should this fee be passed onto the consumer. If there were the option, I would gladly 'opt-out' of receiving local TV as part of my cable package to avoid paying anything above and beyond that which I am already paying.

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Like



Kevin ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am totally against bailing out the CTV, CBC and Global. They will only use the money they get

from this tax to buy more American programming so they can run it against the same program on the American channel and therefore force us to watch the Canadian signal on both channels. Why can't we watch the Superbowl commercials for example without having to use a grey or black market dish? As a consumer, I am being denied the choice that I pay for. Furthermore, the CRTC should stop ordering the providers to sell channels in bundles. I should only have to pay for the channels I want. If CTV, CBC and Global can't make it on the money they already get, then they should get out of the business. We already support the CBC through our tax dollars. We pay far too much for cable right now and have very little choice.

[Flag](#)

Like



markfreke ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



Stefan Goudreau ★ [1 month ago](#)

Like any other business, if local networks start charging for their signal then the consumer would also have the right to decide which local network they are willing to pay for.

[Flag](#)

Like



kat ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is difficult to decide who is telling the truth with the commercials advertised. It's like choosing which politician to vote for. I do understand however, that people are getting fed up with all the taxes, levy's and so on which is making the taxpayer poorer. Cable goes up almost every year for one reason or another. I don't want to see local stations lose either, so, I'm on the fence. I'm un-employed and can't afford anymore money taken away.

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Like



whiston123 ★ [1 month ago](#)

There have been numerous and numerous discussions about the increase. What I wanted to know is why now has Canadian TV channels want more -- it is because they have spent too much when times were good and their advertising dollars are down. Right now we have no choice but to have ALL the Canadian channels. I do not watch them all and if I pay Rogers will certainly charge the consumer as they are already charging us the crtc lpif charge. I would like a full choice of what to watch of Canadian channels. We get packages from Rogers which I consider expensive because I do not watch all the channels. I, along with most other people only watch certain channels and would prefer to have my pick of channels & not get everything for one big price. I disagree with the Canadian Channels suddenly wanting money when it will be on the backs of Canadians to pay and we see so many commercials and I do not see why we have to pay to see commercials and pay to see them. I would rather watch an American channel which has basically the same as a Canadian channel except for the news and not pay any money and get the Canadian news on another channel All in all I am totally against Canadian Channels getting any money from the cable companies when they will just change the consumer and we pay quite a lot now.

[Flag](#)

Like



michaelkidd ★ [1 month ago](#)

With increased fees and Taxes HST I would think more Canadians will be looking for other avenues for receiving tv....ie.....Free to air, computer down loading, And don't forget the old TV

antenna.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *AJB* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I got rid of my "PAY TV" long ago. It's too expensive to watch TV now and it will only get worse.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *whiston123* ★ [1 month ago](#)

When times were good Canadian TV spent and spent, now when the advertising dollars are down they want money and who from the Consumers. Do they really think they can just get money from the Cable company and the consumer will not be charged Rogers is already charging the consumer the CRTC LPIF fee and will certainly charge the consumer if the TV companies get their way. The TV stations get paid for commercials that we watch they want us to pay to see commercials that they get paid to put on their channel way too much I think that the consumer pays too much now for cable tv and these packages -- we have no choice but to have the channels Rogers decides to give us even if we do not watch them. My opinion is no no to TV stations getting more money unless they want to cut out commercials. There is one TV stations I would be willing to pay money for and that is TVO as they have no commercials and rely on the government and pledges of the companies and people to survive That is all I would be willing to pay I am a small clog in the system but I am a small clog with a small paycheque that gets smaller and smaller all the time with increases from companies and if TV stations get their way my paycheque will be even small because I will have to pay regardless if I watch the channel or not

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 *smidhurst* ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV viewing in a digital world is already far too expensive. All broadcasters have packaged their products in such a way that the cost of subscription is higher for most as one has to choose channels that he/she would never tune in to. Adding another \$10 or so to everyone's monthly bills for channels that most of us do not watch just aggravates the situation. In current times of free choice, global reach and open competition why should we accept any group or corporation receiving protection (in this case financial) so that they do not have to be competitive or innovative and grow with the changing times?

I do not accept the notion of an additional TAX to support poor business models.

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 *Rob L* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would try to drop that portion of my cable package containing the local channels. The networks that own the "local channels" need to spend more money for Canadian programming, including support of their local stations, and less money for US programs. They need to be better at garnering local advertising.

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 *Max Rowan* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay any more money for local TV!! By raising the price any further you will do 2 things. First, you will lose many subscribers who cannot afford to pay any more money for TV. You will also drive more people to pirate TV from the states. The face of TV has changed dramatically and like the record companies, the TV station execs have been too busy in the past counting their profits and not paying attention as technology passed by them. This is nothing but another tax to bail out another industry. We, the tax payers just can't afford to keep bailing companies out that have been mis-managed and poorly run for years. TV stations

need to re-tool and reorganize their business practices to stay afloat. If they can't, close them down. DO NOT PUT ANOTHER LOAD ON JOE TAX PAYERS WALLET!!!!!!!

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Ann Ramsey ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very upset and would probably cancel service to these stations if allowed, assuming they would no longer be forced on me by the CRTC as they are now. Local television is supported by the advertisers and it's becoming that there is more advertising than programming. I am definitely against this money grab by the TV stations.

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Blair ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I already pay for my cable service. I do NOT want to pay more for local TV. My carrier already has local tv content (rogers), and ATV/Global/CBC are included in the price now.

They get paid for advertising. I support products they advertise. Therefore they are already supported.

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Like



S. G. Chu ★ [1 month ago](#)

What I am paying for the poor TV I am presently getting is more than enough. Cable and Satellite companies are making enormous profits. I do NOT want to loose my local TV Stations. Let the big boys dip into there profits and pay a fee to the local stations. I refuse to pay any more taxes on anything. We are already taxed beyond measure.

I want my local stations as they keep me informed of local events, they are personal home town people. Getting 'local' news via Toronto, Montreal, Edmonton, Vancouver looses its' impact. Someone who is not local will not have the interest in local news, events etc. Please do not tax us for this right, not service, of having local stations. We need community in each province, in each city and more and more that is being undermined. An idea --- put some really good interesting things of TV and drop the cable/satellite cost as they are way too high!!

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Bill Horodecki ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it's important that there is local coverage of events happening in our community. However I do not think I should have to pay more. Under the present system I'm having to pay for many channels I do not want nor watch. I would suggest that a system be set up to pay for only stations you wish to support. If a channel cannot receive support to cover it's cost then it should be like any other business when the public does not buy it's products and should close. I am firm believer that the CRTC has for too long protected the cable & satellite companies, we should open the market up to whomever in the world feels they can make a profit at reasonable prices. They will bring innovations to the market as soon as they are available, ie PVR's, why did they take so long to reach the Canadian market? Yes I am a supporter of Canadian industries but every other service provider or manufacturer has to survive in the new global economy so why do not our broadcasters?

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Norm Renshaw ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would react negatively if asked to pay for local TV on top of cable charges.....thats why we have commercial time sold in the shows. Nothing more should be done to support local television.

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Like



Paul ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already paying for local TV, If I have to PAY MORE I WILL CANCEL my Cable.

[Flag](#)

Like



gofree ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will not support this tax. if it will be implemented I will cancel my service.I am on the satellite service and most of the channels are mainly all repetitive.Stop buying less american crap and allow candians to create their own shows. we have plenty talent in this country.

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nancyvancamp ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local is important however a complete review of current fund allocations would reveal that the amount of repetative programs could be eliminated with new ones added at no additional cost to consumers. This would actually increase consumer satisfaction and give local a chance. As for negotiation that is not required. Cost of purchasing syndicated programs is huge and many have been seen so many times it is ridiculous. Time to get a grip on providing a good service before asking for anu more money.

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snair ★ [1 month ago](#)

Well I am not prepared to pay any additional amount for TV channel subscription on top of what I pay presently. If imposed I will simply cancell the TV channels subscption.

If the local TV stations can not sustain them selves with all the revenue they generate, it is totally a mismangement of finance and lack of good governess. Ger rid off the non productive high paid executives and run the local television stations lean. Also reduce the annual remunertation of all the top non productive personnel. Eliminate waste and if required entrust a management consulting firm on a fixed budget to develop a S.O.P and remuneration scheme. I srtongly believe this could be done and still the TV companies could survive.

Suresh Nair, Stouffville ON

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ken m ★ [1 month ago](#)

If they want additional compensation for their broadcast make them an optional package and see who bothers to pay for it. With all the channels available out there, there is less and less worth watching. I've lost track of how many "speciality" channels CTV has in it's stable, and they dare cry poor.

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MAtt ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think 10./mth will make any difference for local programming. The CEOs will give themselves a fat bonus & that would be the end of it & nothing will change. We have been watching less tv an we are not willing to pay th 10 bucks. Maybe CEOs could spend more time in their offices instead of driving around in their Harleys (Ps maybe give them up).

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Like

 [Jacqueline James](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes, I do think that local TV is important. We need to know what is happening in our own backyards as well as the world out there. But I do not think that we the population, the taxpayers, should be asked to foot this bill. NON, I cannot afford an extra \$5-\$10 a month. The networks can afford to support the local TV stations from the profits they have made, and the grants received from us the taxpayers. They can afford to lose a little fat...they would no doubt look better a little slimmer.

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 [douglumstead](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think this proposed "tax" is a ripoff. If people are going to be charged for local TV then they should have the option of not receiving local TV. Most of the Prime Time shows are all US based anyway and has no Canadian content other than the advertising. If this goes through I will certainly be looking for alternatives.

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 [Jacqueline James](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 [billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jacqueline James](#)

i'm sure even a guy on welfare can afford \$5. it's just whether it's worth it.

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[Like](#)

 [Arlene Corbin](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

This battle between the cable companies and local tv puts us, the consumers, right in the middle and we are the ones who ALWAYS have to pay!! Why do we have to pay more for our cable services!!!! The cable companies makes millions--and their CEOs do get these nice bonuses at are expense!! Why can't we get a break once in awhile.

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 [tashi2](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

You can cancel cable and get an antenna like the old days. They work great at getting in High Definition. Get rid of cable and satellite all together. Let their profits drop. They only pick up the free signal and put in their own commercials. That is like borrowing your neighbours wheelbarrel and putting your name on it. We have never bought cable and hope that in the future that we will have choices.

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 [coreycaponero](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think it's fair that the TV broadcasters get \$600 million dollars a year and continue to want more. As former US President Truman said, "The buck stops here", the TV broadcasters have to be told that if they can't put their house in order, more money from the already over taxed public is not the answer. If we have trouble with our own budgets we will not be able to go

to the government to bail us out of every budgeting problem, I will, be expected solve my own over spending problems, and not the government. The TV broadcasters have got to learn how to follow a budget properly, if they screw up is it our fault.

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 *Paul G.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

- The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the Big TV Networks, who made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone.
 - A TV Tax provides no guarantee that the Big Networks will do anything to keep local television stations on the air.
 -This TV Tax comes in addition to the close to \$600 million in benefits the broadcast industry already receives from cable and satellite providers.

In the event I, the consumer, was further burdened with additional expenses for what we fairly pay for now, I would cancel all services and seek to acquire my programming and personal requirements from other sources !

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Like

 *Philippa Ostler* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay a high fee for Cable service already and should not have to pay more for local TV as that would be too much.

I would prefer to pay more than have more advertising

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Like

 *bjorielly* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are getting gouged now by cable providers for channels we do not want and the CRTC authorizing every minority group who wants to start a TV station that we have to pay 25 or 50 cents to the cable company to carry them. Open the entire system to cable/satellite companies from the US and see how quickly the prices will drop and the Canadian providers will be complaining they are losing too much business. I have already cancelled my cable to make a point. It is amazing when you cancel how quickly they can offer you a 20% discount which proves they are already overcharging. If more people cancelled now there would be a complete change in attitude.

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Like

 *donnamkmacdonald* ★ [1 month ago](#)

You are allowing these companies to steal from the local tv stations - taking a product that is not yours and selling it is stealing- charge consumers for the use of these stolen goods and then attempting to go back to the consumer for additional funds so that WE THE CONSUMER PAY THE LOCAL STATIONS for their product and,guess what the big companies get to keep their profits high and their cost low.

ISNT IT ABOUT TIME THAT YOU THE CRTC DID YOUR JOBS and made these companies pay the local stations for their signals. They should also have to refund to the consumer monies charged for a service that they had no right to sell over the years. You are supposed to be the industry watchdogs- what have you been watching for all these years.

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 *Pam Chudoba* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I cannot afford to pay any more than I already do for satellite service. Also, I do not watch local television. What the local television providers need to do, is to have a better business model for their business. The reason I don't watch their service, is because they don't have anything interesting to offer. Canadian content is OK, but a lot of what's out there is terrible. And I am

tired of having my tax dollars go to support the CBC. If these people can't make good television programming for a profit, then they should be allowed to fail.

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Like



Jim F. ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be glad to pay a small amount each month if I was assured that it was going to increase local Canadian production and programming on CBC, TVO, CTV, etc. It promotes and strengthens our own culture if focused properly. It also creates jobs here in Canada, particularly for our actors and creative writers. Further, retain a Canadian % content requirement and push our Federal Govt to stop reducing funding to our CBC. Britain's BBC has had stable funding for years with high quality results, recognized world wide.

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JERRY MOTTRAM ★ [1 month ago](#)

help save local tv it is our only connection to local happenings and events in our locality and the national networks won't cover these local issues force cable networks to make local stations available and affordable for every body
thanks

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Like



Paul ★ [1 month ago](#)

I subscribe to satellite tv and I am very concerned at the thought of another fee to be levied on top of already very high package prices. We are already charged in the satellite providers basic package for local tv. We don't have a choice as they include local tv in the basic package which is mandatory to pay for so why do they need to charge an additional fee. We need the CRTC to provide protection against what is almost a captive service by only two companies in Canada.

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Like



jerrymottram ★ [1 month ago](#)

LOCAL T V IS ESSENTIAL IT IS OUR LINK TO THE HEARTBEAT OF THE COMMUNITY NATIONAL NETWORKS ONLY ARE INTERESTED IN MAJOR URBAN AREAS THE CRTC SHOULD DEMAND THAT CABLE SYSTEMS GUARANTEE LOCAL T V AT AN AFFORDABLE RATE NO MORE GOUGING

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Like



Chandra ★ [1 month ago](#)

No way I'm paying for Global and CTV, all they do is broadcast popular US shows, no wonder Fecan had to use "Desperate Housewives" going off the air as his threat! We're already supporting CBC and TVO thru taxes so I'll get my local programming from them. And hands off the US border stations, Mr. CRTC, they are also local channels.

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Like



sergelascelle ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.- I would not pay for local TV on top of what is already paid to cable & satellite service. Further I want to choose each channel and not be imposed a bundle from cable & satellite providers.

2.-Mandate a distribution of wealth from Advertising and Subscription of cable & satellite to local TV to support and augment quality of local content from local TV.

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Bundled ★ [1 month ago](#)

People are tired of being nicked and dimed and bundled to death in many forms of electronic services. How do we know that the cable companies and the broadcasters aren't sleeping in the same bed and this is a staged controversy to raise cable bills.

I realize that we live in a market driven economy and profit is not a crime but it would be great if there were a choice in providers and what I want to watch with out having to take a bundle to get one partide viewing choice. Greed on bothe the cable and the broadcasters. Maybe the broadcasters should not allow the cable companies to carry their signals and start their own cable delivery system. Open up the industry to competition. Why is there only one cable company per region?

I don't know how elderly and soon to be elderly people can or will afford the cable services.

Regards,

Tired of being Bundled,

Flag

Like



Mike ★ [1 month ago](#)

i enjoy local t.v. in my area but we should not have to pay the cable company extra money to view what use to be free by antenna previously. the cable companies should pay that cost and not pass it down to the consumer since they are subsidized and making a profit

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gaildulaileclair ★ [1 month ago](#)

I THINK IT IS TERRIBLE TRYING TO TAX US FOR CABLE T.V. WE PAY ENOUGH FOR THE LITTLE WE GET NOW. THE BIG COMPANIES DON'T SEEM TO REALIZE THAT WE SENIORS CANNOT AFFORD ANYMORE MONEY FOR TAXES FOR OUR LOCAL CHANNELS.THAT IS THE ONLY PLEASURE THAT MOST OF HAVE AND IF YOU RAISE THE TAXES UP TO \$10.00 MORE A MONTH I KNOW OF LOTS OF FOLKS WHO WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PAY THIS. ALL YOU PEOPLE SHOULD LIVE A MONTH IN OUR LIVES AND SEE HOW WE HAVE TO SURVIVE ON WHAT LITTLE WE GET AND NOW YOU WANT TO ADD ANOTHER TAX TO OUR CABLE BILL. I THINK THAT IS DISPICABLE. TRY AND HELP US OUT AND NOT TAX US AGAIN FOR OUR LOCAL CHANNELS. THANK YOU FOR LISTENING, IF YOU EVEN HEAR OUR PLEA.

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pac ★ [1 month ago](#)

While I am not adverse to cable company's sharing there millioins in super profits to the local television stations, we all know that at some point, maybe not immediately, they will increase our fees to compensate for the loss. And unless this can be stringently regulated, and the increase not disguised under some phony reasoning, eg infrastructure cost or access fees. Then by all means go ahead with the tax.

But since my knowledge of the laxity of regulations and the methods by which they can circumvent rules, i am not in agreement to paying any more money to cable companies. So I will vote stop the tax

Flag

Like



Don ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is some importance of local TV as it does provide that neighbourhood feel. But to charge us for that? No. Why should we the public pay for something that we do not choose to purchase. The local TV stations must be viable by their advertising revenues and programs. What is next - the radio stations saying satellite radio must pay them?? The reality is that like any other business if you cannot make it on your own then move on.

Local TV must proactively pursue alternative revenues within their areas. To impose any Tax or

increase in fees is simply charging a consumer for something they do not want.

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Allan ★ [1 month ago](#)

My thought would be why should I pay a company additional money to provide a local signal when I already pay for TV signal that is free to them. Shouldn't the TV providers pay from their profits for this as it would be a part of doing business and probably make the market more competitive. Most of these companies figure that the consumer pocket is deep, of course they are wrong. The general consumer mostly middle class face taxes and our administrative fees at every turn and it's time that these companies, Television Networks or Cable/ Satellite providers instead putting the bottom line first put their consumer base first. They would probably find that this change in attitude will draw more consumers instead of pushing them away.

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Herve Kuentz ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough already. Canadians are heavily taxed and should not have to pay more for broadcasting companies already having high revenues from annoying commercials and especially considering the poor programming available.

And by the way why should cable subscribers have to pay for everyone else?

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Eric Berube ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hello,

We have established a formula (package) many years ago...but now we have to think about new concept. I think most people like me are tired of spending money on package to watch only 2 or 3 channels.

I would like to have the opportunity to buy unit channel, and not having to pay for the one nobody are watching. This will also generate producers to make their channel better...right now they are making product...and whatever they do they will receive money because their programming is part of other package.

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Like



truite ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hello, We have established a formula (package) many years ago...but now we have to think about new concept. I think most people like me are tired of spending money on package to watch only 2 or 3 channels. I would like to have the opportunity to buy unit channel, and not having to pay for the one nobody are watching. This will also generate producers to make their channel better...right now they are making product...and whatever they do they will receive money because their programming is part of other package.

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Frances B ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies charge far too much and are already making obscene profits. They need to pay our local TV providers for something they are already charging us for. You will never make me believe that the cable companies provide local TV service to us "for free".

The cable companies force us to take channels that do not carry their weight but are put into packages with only one or two channels that carry worthwhile programming. Even the "good" channels carry far too many re-runs and far too many commercials. When the same commercial is repeated immediately after it was already run or within 30 seconds of running, that is just too

much. Thank heaven for mute buttons!

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Like



ericberube ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hello, We have established a formula (package) many years ago...but now we have to think about new concept. I think most people like me are tired of spending money on package to watch only 2 or 3 channels. I would like to have the opportunity to buy unit channel, and not having to pay for the one nobody are watching. This will also generates producers to make their channel better...right now they are making product...and whatever they do they will receive money because their programming is part of other package.

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danielguaiani ★ [1 month ago](#)

I thought I was always paying for local TV? Why do I pay monthly fee for basic service for? Where does that money go? Where does the digital access fee go? What exactly is the digital access fee? What is the 1.5 percent LPIF? Why exactly are we paying the LPIF fee? THE cable companies tell me that they have no choice to charge us because the CRTC implemented this. Who is telling the truth here, I think both the CRTC and the cable companies are liars, big fat liars. Plus if you want to go High definition there is another fee for that too. You, the CRTC and the cable companies restrict our programming, invent all kind of fees to increase your profit margins, also we are subject to increases every year. Where does it end? Should I just start a facebook or twitter group and have to have everyone think really hard about what you are doing to customers and if we really need to subscribe to a luxury we don't really need? Or a service that we can get illegally? What would you do then?

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Like



Edward & Catherine Conderan ★ [1 month ago](#)

We find the extra cost unreasonable!--This should be worked out between the local stations & the cable companies.--Local TV is very important to all viewers--e.g.---we are a rural subscriber {satellite}so the"local" news is as important to us as world news.If we had only big city channels ,we would lose our identity--none of the "local news would be handled.A sense of community would be lost.

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Mario Piedimonte ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that both can prosper by the following:

- 1) Have both parties produce their total earnings and loss for the year.
- 2) If cable or satellite (CABSAT) companies are shown to have made a huge profit over the local tv stations then the CABSAT should defer a portion of the profit to the tv stations in question, without any cost to the CABSATs customers.

In the past years cable has gone up, last year I paid \$745.00 this year they want \$775. This caused me to rethink my cable package of 41 channels to 20 thus reducing my cost to \$600.00. Now if the CABSAT aren't regulated properly these 20 channels that I currently have by next year the cost could go as high as \$675. The rich get richer and the common man get poorer and left with close to nothing.

God gave you a mind and a heart please use it well.

Thank you

Mario Piedimonte

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 *Mario Piedimonte* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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God gave you a mind and a heart please use it well.

Thank you

Mario Piedimonte

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Like

 *michelpcodere* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Is this not a business that should, like a store, a movie theatre, any business, be self-sufficient or get out! pure and simple! Why should we pay a tax-type fee to keep anyone in business! If you can not succeed in the business you are in, get out and go and work elsewhere that can be profitable

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Marty Brookings* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm glad I signed up with DirecTV about 6 months ago. I get tons more channels for a much lower rate, no interruptions by Canadian networks, and channels like ESPN HD not allowed here. Best move I ever made. The local dealer in Newmarket has told me his sales are up almost 50 percent from last year, so I'm not the only one going this route.

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 *Kate Peterson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV is no longer affordable. Why do we have to pay an additional fee when all the participating parties have already made so much profit. If they want more money, how about using some of their own?

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Like

 *danielguaiani* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I thought I was always paying for local TV? Why do I pay monthly fee for basic service for? Where does that money go? Where does the digital access fee go? What exactly is the digital access fee? What is the 1.5 percent LPIF? Why exactly are we paying the LPIF fee? The cable companies tell me that they have no choice to charge us because the CRTC implemented this. Who is telling the truth here, I think both the CRTC and the cable companies are liars, big fat liars. Plus if you want to go High definition there is another fee for that too. You, the CRTC and the cable companies restrict our programming, invent all kind of fees to increase your profit margins, also we are subject to increases every year. Where does it end? Should I just start a facebook or twitter group and have to have everyone think really hard about what you are doing

to customers and if we really need to subscribe to a luxury we don't really need? Or a service that we can get illegally? What would you do then?

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Stefan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV?? Funny, how does the CRTC define 'Local TV'? I live in Saint John, nb and look at the Saint John market, sure ATV & Global have news offices here. But for what? To have random news stories aired on the Halifax broadcasts. NB & PEI practically no representation when it comes to air time on these stations. CBC has their 30 minute newscast from Fredericton each night. This is the only newscast that can remotely be classified as 'Local', sad isn't it? How can the broadcasters demand money from me, reportedly in the amount of \$10 each month & would be a 21.3% tax on my bill, to 'save' Local TV when there is no 'Local' TV in the entire province? This just seems wrong. As for CBC Fredericton, well my provider doesn't even carry the station and I cannot pickup the OTA signal using a new indoor antenna.

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billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Stefan](#)

local stations and Canadian broadcasters are obligated to invest in local and canadian content even though it's not profitable as part of getting the license..it's a tax on Canadian broadcasters.

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Like



Stefan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV?? Funny, how does the CRTC define 'Local TV'? I live in Saint John, nb and look at the Saint John market, sure ATV & Global have news offices here. But for what? To have random news stories aired on the Halifax broadcasts. NB & PEI practically no representation when it comes to air time on these stations. CBC has their 30 minute newscast from Fredericton each night. This is the only newscast that can remotely be classified as 'Local', sad isn't it? How can the broadcasters demand money from me, reportedly in the amount of \$10 each month & would be a 21.3% tax on my bill, to 'save' Local TV when there is no 'Local' TV in the entire province? This just seems wrong. As for CBC Fredericton, well my provider doesn't even carry the station and I cannot pickup the OTA signal using a new indoor antenna.

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Frank ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. We should not be forced to pay for our local TV. It's been part of any television subscription package all along so why should there be an additional fee? The cable providers have been using the local channels as a value added incentive to have people sign up for their services all along and have been profitting from this since the television broadcasting services have been available. This was the meat and potatoes of their packages before the inception of all the specialty channels and they never paid for it then either. They should be liable for what they've been profitting on for so long but it shouldn't be charged back to the consumer. Local TV is what initially made them sustainable and they owe it to local TV for what they've managed to become today. Based on their profit margins they can easily afford to compensate the local TV channels and still maintain a reasonable profit level. They just don't want to do this because of their level of greed.

2. The cable/satellite providers should be forced to compensate the local TV stations but not at the expense of the consumers/end users. It's ridiculous and pathetic that this debate should even be happening. If Bell, Roger's, Cogeco, et. al. don't want to do this compensation then let other providers such as Direct TV provide their services here in Canada as well. If local TV doesn't get any support then what does it matter if there's any Canadian content at all on the airwaves? Open up the market completely to any and all providers and let the best deals win.

[Flag](#)

Like



dlawrencelarrycoulter ★ 1 month ago

I am UNWILLING to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay. Should my provider increase my subscription fee as a result of any CRTC policy change; I will be forced to cancel a portion of my subscription to offset such a fee. After reviewing my package content with Bell TV; the only element that is logical would be \$19.00/mth presently paid for PREMIUM MOVIES. The remaining variable programming element is 5 Themes for \$23.00/mth. containing all my remaining TV needs. To cancel any portion of that involves losing channels I want.

The bottom line is I'm being asked for my opinion on local TV which represents less than 5% of all my viewing. I'm being advised that I might have to pay up to \$10.00/mth MORE to Bell TV for something I don't presently use.

I AM DEAD SET AGAINST ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR LOCAL TV IF IT COSTS ME ANY MONEY!
I have also written to Rick Norlock my MP expressing the foregoing opinion.

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Like



billy ★ 1 month ago in reply to dlawrencelarrycoulter

there is no such thing as FREE television, Either the advertisers pay for the programs or the viewers. Since nobody or not enough viewers advertisers aren't going to pay for the programs Pay per view,, don't pay don't watch like PBS in States.

[Flag](#)

Like



derek d ★ 1 month ago in reply to dlawrencelarrycoulter

I hate those bundles and the size of the packages too. There should be a smaller basic package.

[Flag](#)

Like



murraypinsky ★ 1 month ago

Local TV stations acquired their license based on a contract which stipulates no fee to local viewers. If their investments are not adequate the free market has various solutions, including selling the station. There is absolutely no reason for consumers to be saddled with a tax to subsidize their fellows. If the government thinks this is a priority. the funds should be deducted from the grants given to the CBC.

Under no circumstances does any of this warrant a new tax or a new government expenditure. We have to have priorities.

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Like



billy ★ 1 month ago in reply to murraypinsky

those over the air license are worthless now, nobody wants it since CRTC regulates local content and advertising,,,i mean the license is a liability and CRTC basically own the stations.

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Like



GeraldChristie ★ 1 month ago

Local programming and news is critical to me. Cable companies charge me for these local broadcasts, so they should buy those services from local Television at no additional cost to me. Just because they've gotten away with stealing those services is not justification for increasing my rates now for them. I would demand more cable companies be allowed to compete for my viewing budget. Right now it is a monopoly, I have no other choice but the one cable company. Switching to Satellite requires you face a certain direction and being forced to move to watch local TV is excessive to ask for. My local provider is Shaw Cable had I access to Rogers, Comcast,

Bell, Direct, or ALL other cable providers equally then the market could decide whose local coverage was most economical for me. These Cable companys are willing to pay American stations for re-broadcast rights Why are they so unwilling to support local jobs and Canadian broadcasters? The measures to take are simple Ensure Canadian content is paid for before American content is provided by freezing the current rate and forcing Cable companies to pay for their local re-broadcasts. They seem to have enough money available to force me into buying new equiptment with 'HD' TV use that capital to compensate Canadian economies, and broadcasters.

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[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to GeraldChristie](#)

there are four free over the air channels..i mean if you don't want to pay,,just buy a \$30 antennae and get it for free. cable companies pay fees to American over the air channels so why not Canadian channels is because they don't have to according the CRTC

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Like



[derek d](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to GeraldChristie](#)

Me too. I like local news too and couldn't imagine a world without it.

[Flag](#)

Like



[ron45](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Here in North Bay we have already lost our local station. All of our "local" news comes out of Sudbury which also broad casts news for Sault Ste Marie, Cochrane, Timmins and hundreds of smaller towns and villages throughout northeastern Ontario. They can't possibility give good coverage to all these communities. It would be nice to have news and weather bulletins back along with such things as school buss cancellations. If this tax gows through are we going to get our local station back?

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[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to ron45](#)

Viewers an consumer are not obligated to pay the \$10 for local TV or obligated to watch any of the channels. Television is not a need.

[Flag](#)

Like



[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to ron45](#)

these local channels are FREE. just put an antennae on your roof if you don't want to pay. as for internet, it's free if you neighbor has wireless internet.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Indy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

For openers, I'd like to know for what this extra money would be used when it should be going to local TV to provide local news. Otherwise, they don't need the money for its a tax grab. We pay enough taxes now as it is. We shouldn't have to pay anymore to greedy companies who are arrogant enough to think they deserve it. The CRTC should force these companies to the table and keep them there until things are resolved.

Besides, I can think of more things to do with that extra ten bucks beside give to the cable companies.

Secondly, sign petitions, go to rallies, boycott cable companies, write letters to your Members of

Parliament, if they'll listen of course. We, the consumers, shouldn't be seen as cash cows to be milked at leisure by these companies.

It's time cable companies started coughing up some long overdue cash--NOW!!!

Live long and prosper, take care and thank you kindly!!!

Sincerely yours always,

Indy.

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[derek d](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Indy](#)

The cable companies shouldn't bill us \$10 for something they already bill us for.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Mave](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm not a real fan of local programing, the only thing that I've every really watched was the news. And now that isn't how I get my information. All the shows I watch on local stations are shows that have been bought from an American network, so no I would not be impressed if my cable bill went up to support something that I don't use. I don't want people to loose their jobs (I used to work at a local tv station) but, if the "service" they are providing is irrelevant than isn't it inevitable?

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[TheSpaceman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

To whom it may concern,

With regards to your first topic of discussion, I won't pay an additional fee on local service. Here we are, just pulling out of a resession, and the CRTC wants to charge Canadians for the privilage of watching local TV. With profits in the hundreds of millions for the cable companies at that! Is this some sort of "bailout?" Perhaps they should let go of some top level management and put the savings toward local TV.

As for support of local cable, if this preposterous proposition goes through, you better give us the opportunity to unsubscribe to local TV and be exempt from the tax.

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[bil](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to TheSpaceman](#) 1 person liked this.

60% of the basic cable channels are worthless to me..the ones worth anything are FREE channels that a person can get for free with an antennae in your roof..i'll sell the antennae for \$30/

[Flag](#)

Like



[Gene Pike](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to TheSpaceman](#)

The CRTC doesn't want to charge you for local TV. The only ones saying that are the cable companies. The issue here is should the cable companies pay for the local TV stations they currently air for free and bill you as part as the basic cable package.

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[Hugh Moore](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The local channels charge advertisers based on the number of households they reach and

distribution of the signal to one million or ten million does cost them nothing more. why should i pay of a for profit business to increase their revenue when i get no further enhancement to my service. We pay for the product, the actual show we want to view, and are subjected to paid advertising almost the same amount of time as the show. I would consider paying more if they eliminated advertising.

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 *Mary Kathleen MacDermott* ★ [1 month ago](#)

On top of what we already pay for satellite television services, we absolutely should not be charged additionally for local programming. Perhaps a suitable suggestion to improve local programming is the model of radio. Sales of local advertising would most assuredly support local programming, just as it has with local radio. This would create jobs, also. Stimulation of such a creative market suggests a win-win situation for marketing of local programming, too. Canadian culture would be promoted at a grass roots level. Competition within media services is a most positive concept.

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Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The option you are considering above is phrased in a way that leaves the impression the signal carriers are not being paid by consumers for the compelled delivery of local TV signals.

If they are not being paid then it should be clearly indicated both here and in the overall question you are considering. By clearly indicated I mean the disclosing of the distribution of revenues by TV station from the basic fee now being charged by the delivery companies. If it can be clearly shown that these companies are not receiving any revenues then it is not unreasonable to ask the consumer to pay a fee.

If they are being paid then it must be stated as such because it is a very important part of the question. As it now stands, without this information consumers can reasonably feel they are being asked to pay twice for these services.

I believe that paying twice is not a question that should be asked by the CRTC especially in this forum.

It is difficult to understand why such an important element has not been made crystal clear especially by the body that is supposedly objectively assessing the question. I believe the answer to the two questions you pose in this forum lies in the information you have not yet disclosed.

Whether or not we are paying for the services can be objectively answered and not providing this information can be interpreted as intentionally misleading the consumer. At the least it shows a bias for the companies that deliver the signals and that is not part of your mandate.

Providing the revenue information will permit us to knowledgeably and reasonably respond to the questions you pose.

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 *M. Wakefield* ★ [1 month ago](#)

You can't blame the TV companies for trying. They've been charging people to watch the reruns they put on their "specialty" channels, why not try and extract some cash for watching the shows the first time they air?

In local television, the viewer is the product; if there aren't enough viewers to tempt the advertisers, either put better programs on the air, or stop overpaying the US networks for their programs.

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faithstewart ★ [1 month ago](#)

No measures to save local T.v.We need measures for freedom of choose.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kevin M ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would naturally react negatively to any increase to my fees that I would have to pay my cable provider. The question I would ask myself, if there were an increase, is: am I seeing an increase in service proportional to the fee increase from my provider? There answer is, of course, no. For this reason, I would not want to see an increase in fees. However, I am forced to admit that the fee is "technically" not going to my provider.

I may not see an increase in service from my cable provider, but I may see an increase in service from my local TV provider. If the fee increase meant that the local TV stations have an increase in their services then I may be more willing to live with the hike in fees. I will, however say, that in a general, local TV needs to make major changes to satisfy my personal expectations for local TV. In the event of a fee increase I would expect local TV to throw the full weight of it's budget, or at least 75%, behind the production of Canadian TV shows (that is to say 10 point productions) and drastically slash if not eliminate it's spending on programming from the U.S.A..

In the event of a fee increase, this is where I would expect the CRTC to step in and heavily enforce Can-Con quotas. I feel that the CRTC is too lenient in this field with our local TV. If Canada wants to create great TV, we have to allow ourselves to make moderate TV. Let us not forget, that the American shows we see broadcast here are a slim selection of all the programs broadcast in the U.S.A and that not all shows made in the U.S.A. are that great and wonderful. Canadians can make great TV, we just have to allow ourselves, as mentioned before, to make bad TV as well.

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1scott ★ [1 month ago](#)

I dont like it at all. I would cancel my cable vision.

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Like



sean oreilly ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am sick and tired of being taxed to death. One or two bucks is one thing, but five to ten dollars is another. They need to be smarter with where they spend their money, like I have to be in running my household. I'm not made of money, I have to work very hard for every cent I make and I am tired of having my pocket picked when some others can't budget their own money.

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1scott ★ [1 month ago](#)

no way. ill end my service.

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Like



saphia ★ [1 month ago](#)

local tv is of utmost importance to me.

i would not be happy if i had to pay for it - but i would because i do not want to lose my regional news. its news that is truly responsible to the people that depend on it.

i would lose a lot of respect for the cable and satellite providers if they did not reach a compromise with the IMPORTANT television companies and keep the case from being put onto the consumers.

2. the government needs to step in and save local tv

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[1scott](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't like it. I will cancel my cable service.

[Flag](#)

Like



[cjb2009](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV / Canadian content is important but there should NOT be an additional fee for accessing what should be considered part of basic television service.

A free market solution is CRITICAL to ensure that innovation and competition are the factors that keep Canadian / local television alive. A bailout / tax to keep them on the air is NOT acceptable.

Survival of the fittest - it's that simple.

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Like



[Gene Pike](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to cjb2009](#) 1 person liked this.

That's right. We shouldn't have to pay more, but it's only fair that the cable companies pay for the local TV signals and not pass it on to us.

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[seanoreilly](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am sick and tired of being taxed to death. One or two bucks is one thing, but five to ten dollars is another. They need to be smarter with where they spend their money, like I have to be in running my household. I'm not made of money, I have to work very hard for every cent I make and I am tired of having my pocket picked when some others can't budget their own money.

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[Gail Corbett](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I don't agree with a local tv tax. I'd cancel my cable subscription.

2) Sorry, I don't feel I'm versed in the issue enough to offer a comment to question number 2. What does the CTRC think it could do to support local tv?

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[Gene Pike](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Gail Corbett](#) 1 person liked this.

You're right. We shouldn't be taxed. The cable companies should pay out of their own pockets for the local signals they air.

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Like



[Fed Up](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Paying way too much for basic package already for the amount of channels and you want to add

another \$10. Does the CRTC CARE ???

Paying way too much for Cell phone & Internet service. Does the CRTC CARE???

You do not need a college or university education to go online to compare prices from around the world for these services. Yet there is no action from CRTC.

Who's job it is at CRTC to ensure that Canadians are being charged fairly.

The question should be "Do Canadians need CRTC"???

We would be saving millions.

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Like



ScottO ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Fed Up](#)

If we get rid of the useless CRTC then we would have the money to save the local channels.. hahaha And best of all, My already atrocious satellite bill would not go up anymore. :D

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Like



Margaret ★ [1 month ago](#)

For people who are on a fixed income now, especially our seniors who are struggling now how can you ask them to pay even more so that you won't have too!! Shame on the big satellite and cable companies! Are you ashamed of yourself yet!!!!

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Like



larryrochon ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local tv should be paid for from advertising and from fees already structured into our present sat bill. The way sat companies structure their theme packs is pure and simple robbery. They put in one good popular channel and the other 4 or 5 are nothing but garbage. I would rather pay for each channel individually. It would be cheaper for for me

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Alan ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I do not support the proposal to charge cable subscribers a monthly fee in additon to what they pay for local TV. Local networks receive advertising revenue to fund their programming and if this model does not provide sufficient revenue, then some creative thinking needs to happen in order to develop alternate revenue streams or changes need to be put in place to manage costs and improve service delivery. Viewers should not be asked to subsidize an inefficient and inferior product.

2) Relevant and creative local programing will result in improved ratings and advertising revenue

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Like



rick ★ [1 month ago](#)

i don't believe we should pay more ,if anything we should pay less. just go through your program guide. there is barely a show on in the evening that is worth watching,and to ask the consumer for more money is crazy. i live in a rural area and rely on dish service, but if things keep going this way i will definitely cancel my service.

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Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [rick](#)

cause all the good shows are in specialty and pay-tv channels. satellite isn't free either

unless you are stealing satellite signals. pirate satellite.

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Like



ScottO ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to billy](#)

And even then, half the programming on the specialty channels is friggin' re-runs. They all show the same damn shows over and over and over again.

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Mike M ★ [1 month ago](#)

I enjoy local TV but if my cable bill goes any higher, I'm going to start dropping some of the packages that I presently have. I will be retiring in a few months & will be on a fixed income. So if cable goes up, I will reduce the amount of TV that I watch & view them on the internet.

Local advertising should be sufficient to fund the stations.

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Like



jeannemurray ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel as well, and go to the library more often. Canadians are very patient however, once we feel we are being used and abused we flood the offending party with wrath. eg. the removal of the watertown public TV channel. No everyone has the time to read the newspaper but one can multitask and listen to the local news. Having to pay more for the use is a blatant sign of greed.

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None of your business ★ [1 month ago](#)

oh and those lame reality shows , come on you expect me to watch that garbage!?!?!? get real Mickey mouse.

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Like



Gene Pike ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to None of your business](#) 1 person liked this.

Yes there's a lot of crap on TV, but there is a lot of local programming, such as news, that has an important social benefit and is an important public service.

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Like



Jason ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. The importance of local television is very minimal. Other than the evening news, almost every other program of any quantifiable importance to me is either national or international. Television stations are supported by commercial advertising -- which often make up more than 25% of any given program. Futhermore, shows often have in-program sponsors and advertisers. I hardly believe that these stations are suffering as intently as they would have you think. If I were asked to pay another 5 - 10% of my already close-to-\$100 TV bill to support local stations -- MOST OF WHICH AREN'T EVEN LOCAL TO ME, IN URBAN TORONTO -- I would react angrily. I would instantly cancel my TV service and resort to streaming the television programs I enjoy online for free in comparable quality. I do not feel it's my duty, as a Torontonian, to ensure that marginal, sparsely populated areas of the country have access to local news and channel affiliates.

2. If local television is suffering, it should be looking for support from it's LOCAL -- not national -- community. Fund raisers, pledge drives, and local access programming are all ways local channels and affiliates can encourage increased income. Perhaps an opt-in charge could be

offered by national carriers to support local TV. But I already think it's downright ridiculous I'm paying for dozens of channels worth of French programming when no one who's ever stepped foot in my house can utter a complete sentence in French. Having my bill increase dramatically for yet ANOTHER service I don't get any use out of would be just the final nail in the coffin of not meeting the customers needs, and charging premiums to fail furthermore.

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Derek D ★ [1 month ago in reply to Jason](#)

▶ Guess what? We're already billed for local TV by the cable companies, but the TV stations get nothing back. Where does that money go?

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Like



Melissa Duff ★ [1 month ago](#)

▶ Local TV is important to me, as it is part of the cultural voice of where I am from. I am not sure if an added tax on top of what I already pay for my cable bill is the solution.

The following seem to be better options for supporting local tv:

1. Donations from individuals/corporations that are tax deductible and listed as sponsors.
2. Making a law for cable companies to support/maintain channels in every part of Canada to carry local channels as part of the basic package.
3. Have advertisers continue to pay for air time.

At this time, this is all I can think of.

Thank You.

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lamar ★ [1 month ago in reply to Melissa Duff](#) 1 person liked this.

▶ Good ideas. We must keep our local TV stations.

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Like



linda ★ [1 month ago](#)

▶ i do not agree to pay 5 or 10 dollars for local tv, i think we pay enough already. thank you

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Like



John S ★ [1 month ago](#)

▶ Local TV in South West Nova Scotia comes from two sources. The CBC, out of Halifax, aimed at Nova Scotia and CTV, out of Halifax, aimed at all of the Maritime provinces.

CBC does a good job; CTV should just give it up. They have more viewers, but IMHO they are dull and do not deserve to be preserved.

Furthermore, Bell TV, CTV and a number of others fall under the umbrella of (Bell) Globemedia. A payment from CTV to Bell TV as a fee for carriage is just a shuffle of money from one part of a conglomerate to another. The only difference is that the money will have come from the consumer.

Once again the little guy will get screwed at the expense of big business.

NO NO NO a thousand times NO to this nonsense.

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Like



[joaneva](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes, the cable companies are charging viewers too much. Yes, the local companies do not show much in the way of Canadian TV. I agree completely with those who promote "survival of the fittest" for local TV stations. However, if local broadcasting in Canada is to survive, there needs to be a more competitive atmosphere. Stop the monopolization of cable tv and let the different companies compete on an equal level in each market. Let the local television stations market their product to the cable companies and may the best man (or station) win, and that includes CBC. Keep the CBC, but make it a more Canadian product with a better and more productive investment promoting the Canadian talent industry.

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Like



[derek d](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to joaneva](#)

I believe in survival of the fittest and competition, too. That's why I think the cable companies must pay for the local stations they carry, but they shouldn't pass the expense on to us.

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[Lionel](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Derek D](#)

There is no reason for cable companies to pay for local TV. They are not cash cow! They only represent their viewers: charging them is charging their viewers!

If local TV wants money they can:

- 1) become premium channels, such as the Movie Network
- 2) attract more viewers and advertisers with better content

If that fails, then apply "survival of the fittest" and let them close.

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[ovidiumoldovan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

hello,

in my opinion local TV station already are benefitting from being broadcasted by cable satellite providers so for them there's no cost associated with transmission all the advertising money get in their pockets without a dime going to the cable/ satellite providers.

The public is being forced by CRTC to buy the basic package exactly so the local tv stations can be viewed by public whether the public wants or not . So i believe we (the Public) are already paying enough . Yes the money don't go to them directly but because all satellite/ cable subscribers are forced to get those channels in the lineup, the local stations have a secured market and a secured population segment so they can easily sell "air time " to advertisers. SO NOW THEY ARE INCURRING SOME COSTS BECAUSE OF CRTC DECISIONS TO TRANSMIT ONLY DIGITAL SIGNAL. SO WHAT? IF THEY WANT TO BE ON THE MARKET THEN THEY SHOULD SPEND SOME MONEY. WHY BAILING THEM OUT ?if THEY ARE NOT PROFITABLE THEY SHOULD CLOSE THE STUDIOS AND TRY SOMETHING ELSE THIS IS AND IT SHOULD STAY A FREE MARKET THE SUCCESFUL BUSINESS PREVAIL , THE LESS SUCCESFUL GO UNDER.

IT SHOULD NOT BE FORCED UPON THE CABLE/ SATELLITE CARRIERS TO COVER THE COSTS OF SOME STATIONS NOBODY IS WATCHING ANYWAYS , IN FACT BECAUSE OF THE MANDATORY BASIC PACKAGE ONLY THE LOCAL STATIONS ARE IN BENEFIT BECAUSE LIKE THAT I CAN ACCIDENTALLY WATCH ONE OF THEM FOR 25 SECONDS, JUST TO REALIZE THAT IS ANYWAYS ALL us CONTENT OR SOME NEW ABOUT A NEW TAX LIKE HST OR THE LATEST ONE ALREADY IN PLACE INVENTED BY THE GOOD OLD CRTC.

ALSO IS FREE OVER THE AIR WITH A 25\$ ANTENNA SO COMMON THEIR INCOM COMES FROM ADVERTISMENT AND GOVERNMENT GRANTS, SO WE ALREADY ARE GIVING THEM MONEY THROUGH THOSE GRANTS , PLEASE DON'T TAX THE PUBLIC ANYMORE ! AFTER INCOM TAX GST PST HST WE HARDLY HAVE ANYTHING LEFT SO WE HAVE TO WORK 24HRS /DAY TO PAY ALL THESE TAXES THEREFORE NO MORE TIME TO WATCH TV THEREFORE THESE STATIONS WILL BE USELESS ANYWAYS.

ONE MORE THING , IF YOU THE GOVERNMENT DECIDE TO SUBSIDIZE THESE STATION THEN THEY SHOULD BE STOPPED FROM HAVING ADVERTISEMENTS IN THEIR PROGRAMS, DEAL?

THANKS

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[Like](#)



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to ovidiumoldovan](#)

no deal. advertisers pay for the programming not viewers who skip commercials and viewers on welfare are worthless.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[ovidiumoldovan](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to bill](#)

SO YOU BILL, YOU ARE THE GOVERNMENT, GOOD TO KNOW, ANYWAYS THANKS FOR SUPPORTING MY POINT OF VIEW ABOUT WHO SHOULD PAY FOR PROGRAMMING. THE ADVERTISERS NOT THE CABLE/ SAT COMPANIES NOR THE PUBLIC.

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[Petros](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to ovidiumoldovan](#)

This whole argument that nobody is watching local TV channels is bogus. And this idea that everyone would be okay with them disappearing from the airwaves is bull. What would happen if suddenly nobody could get the NHL game on Saturday night because the cable companies stopped carrying CBC? There'd be a national uproar.

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[ovidiumoldovan](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Petros](#)

HELLO PETROS YOU ARE RIGHT. THEY SHOULDN'T GO UNDER THAT'S THE REASON WHY crtc SECURED A MARKET FOR THEM BY FORCING SAT/CABLE COMPANIES TO SELL THE BASIC PACK. WHY SHOULD WE PAY? DIDI YOU FELL GOOD WHEN THE GOVERNMENT GIVE AWAY BILLIONS TO KEEP AUTO MAKERS IN BUSINESS? I BET YOU DIDIN'T UNLESS YOU ARE A GM EMPLOYEE. THIS DEBATE IS WETHER WE SHOULD PAY A TV TAX OR NOT AND I BELIEVE WE SHOULDN'T, THANKS

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[M & M](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree, cable is getting too expersive for what they offer. Their programs often overlap, we can see them eitheid on the American & Canadian channel at the same time, so what is the point of having cable. I refuse to pay for local TV when the cable companies are gouging us...I would like to add that my cable provider has added the 1.5% tax on my bill for December hum!!!..how about that...and the CRTC and the distributers have not yet comme to an agrement.....HOW ABOUT THAT!!!!!!

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[derek d](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to M & M](#)

The cable company didn't have to charge you directly for that 1.5 per cent and they also don't have to charge you extra money if they pay a fee for carriage.

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D. Shields ★ [1 month ago in reply to M & M](#)

I would be Looking into That! You should call them asap & request an explanation in writing. If they have not been awarded anything from this ruling, they should not be charging this. It might just be HST? Has that passed in your province yet?

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ScottO ★ [1 month ago in reply to M & M](#)

That 1.5% is the local programming improvement fraud, erm fund. They started charging it in September.

This TV tax is something completely different and in ADDITION to the 1.5% LPIF *tax*

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Like



elmerh ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live about 100 km from Kelowna, B.C. and the only way I can get the signal is if it was on Sat. Dish. Their viewing audiencde would increase immensely if they did this and as they now depend on advertising dollars for their income reaching many more viewers would mean they would increase their income. I do not think viewers should pay and perhaps the CRTC should be checking to see if satalite providers are charging a fair price for their services. I don't think they are...

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Like



Jo-Anne ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am a person of modest means and this proposed tax is unaffordable to me. It will force me to disconnect my cable because as it is, I pay \$191.47 every 3 months. This is the cost of the second level of four packages. In other words, I don't subscribe to the top package which includes the non-commercial movie channels and pay-per-view. Instead I have 70 channels to choose from in my package. As it is, I feel as though I pay too much for the cable service I receive. But I justify the expense because I don't drink, smoke or own a car. So the money I save in these areas, I spend on cable television as it is a form of entertainment for me.

Just to put things in perspective for you, I was one of the people that was unfortunately affected by the recent economic crisis. I had been working for an American based company for three years and was doing well. Then one day we were all told that the company decided to close the Toronto office and move the operation back to the U.S. This came at the worst possible time as the stock market started to crash last September. Although I had a generous severance package, I started looking for another job immediately because I wanted to work. I enrolled in a career counselling workshop to see what other options would be available to me. I made it my "job" to look for another job as I followed a schedule and looked diligently for work. I applied for jobs that I was over qualified for because there was little available in my field. It took me one year to find a job and I had to take a salary cut because this was all I could find.

So I am already paying more for everything (rent, food, hydro, telephone) with less money to work with. These expenses continue to rise yearly but my income has decreased. I continue to look at my budget and have to make cuts because the money is not their. With this proposed tax, I am now being asked to pay more money for a service that is already overpriced. I can't afford it...where is the money to come from...my food budget or my housing budget? I, as a law abiding, educated Canadian citizen say enough is enough. I would rather take a stand and cut off my cable than to pay this tax. Then the cable companies and television networks won't get my money to pay for their expenses. I am not convinced that the funds generated from this proposed tax will be used to sustain local programming. Perhaps the television networks will have to look at their own budgets and take pay cuts like many Canadians have had to do instead of looking to the very people to help them. Where is my bailout?

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Like



Brent ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jo-Anne](#)

Local TV channels have already cut jobs and that was before the recession hit. Most of the cuts have been in local news.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Lionel ★ [1 month ago](#)

Dear CRTC,

There is only one solution for improving the quality of TV channels in Canada: Resign!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



herbie1 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Nearly everyone uses some form of secondary carrier to receive TV programming. I am an exception. I have basically 2 choices, both of which I feel qualify as rotten apples. I can go with Videotron, and pay about \$30 per month, but only after paying \$250 to \$300 for the black box. I requested full technical specification on the black box but could not get it. Otherwise I have to pay \$100 for the black box, and about \$75 per month for programming. The other option is to go with Bell Canada, if I can get permission to mount a satellite dish on the strata building here, and if I want to pay them about \$50 to \$75 per month for signals.

Basic cable has very little valuable content in it. Many of the stations carried on basic are out of the US, and carry very little of interest to me. The packages from higher on the dial have channels that would interest me, Canadian channels, but now the price is prohibitive on my budget. When I asked Shaw Cablesystems about this a few years ago, they claimed the CRTC was responsible for setting the package limits, and that they had to bundle across genre at your behest. When I asked of the CRTC if that was true, the answer was negative, it was up to the cable companies to decide how to bundle the stations once the requirements of the basic packages were met.

I would like to see basic cable revamped to remove American stations. I would like to see the CRTC post a directive requesting the cable and satellite providers to phase out bundling of any stations other than the basic packages. In a perfect world, I would like to see the infrastructure removed from private hands, before the phone company is in a position to delay or deny one's access to television signals just as they currently do with internet access if one does not wish to use their services. But above all, I would like to feel that I can be certain of getting value for my entertainment dollar when accessing cable or satellite service. Indeed, until I do feel I can get value, I will not access their services, I don't believe in supporting thieves.

Yours truly
Heidi E. Erb

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D.A. Ford ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that through the distribution of high quality television signals in areas often beyond the reach of off-air television and through the additional service of commercial substitution to ensure that advertisers on local television stations achieve the full reach for their messages, cable and satellite service providers are doing their share for local television services. Additional funding of local television services from cable and satellite service providers is neither necessary nor appropriate.

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AGlazer ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to D.A. Ford](#) 1 person liked this.

The cable companies do the same for speciality channels in terms of increasing their reach and they pay for their signals, but they don't for local TV. The CRTC needs to give us

consumers a break and not allow the cable companies to pass any new costs on to us.

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Musings ★ [1 month ago](#)

You're going to pay and you will be told how much to pay. Assuming over the air broadcasters go out of business by choice or not by choice no US broadcasters or production house will produce programs at a million dollars an epsode, then hand them over to Canadian cable and satellite for free so they can sell to their customers for profit. It doesn't matter if you are close enough to the border to pick up a signal with an antenna. If conventional over the air Canadian companies are not paying Canadian broadcast rights then cable and satellite companies will be bidding for them and paying. They will have to if they want them on their service. They will then pay each other for every program they did not successfully bid on. You don't pay me, you don't carry it. If you are saying at this point I'm cancelling my cable or satellite and keeping only internet let me remind you who you are paying directly or indirectly for your internet, the cable and satellite companies. You're going to pay and you're going to be told how much you're going to pay. I agree with everyone here that a change has to take place; I don't know what that change should be. For me, given the year after year gouging I've taken from the satellite and cable companies since deregulation, for the immediate future I'll take my chances with a few bucks for the over the air folks. I also know that's not the solution for the future. The model isn't broken but will always need to be in change. The question is can a model be developed that has the ability to adapt to changes without constantly reaching in my pocket for solutions.

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Terry ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cable companies are making enough money as it is. They are already charging more for hi definition channels. Every time we turn around they want more money. Enough is enough!

[Flag](#)

Like



Jason Davidson ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local tv is a good thing in most places, in regards to where i live the local tv station has it's own news cast but most of the news is of non-local matters and the stuff that is, is rarely ever the stuff that they lead off with and is very basic in what they do show, where the non-local stuff is first stories and more indepth
2. The cable/satellite companies could give a portion of what they charge there customers to bring the local channels to there customers already.

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Sandra Mitchell ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are already in hard times right now. Our city has had a major strike going on for months, with no end in sight. We have a very large unemployment rate in this city. Adding even \$5 more a month to anyones bills is unnecessary. The large conglomerate should provide any monetary needs to fuel the local television stations. They have now become large conglomerates, with huge profit markets every year, that it is feasible for them to assist the very industries that helped create their conglomerates. After all, if it wasn't for the smaller television venues, large conglomerates wouldn't be able to function. It's time for the BIG guy to give back to the LITTLE guy. I say NO to paying more on my bills.

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Brent ★ [1 month ago in reply to Sandra Mitchell](#)

I don't want to have to pay extra for local television. Local television is what connects us to the city we live. I get my news from papers and Internet too, but I like local TV news also.

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Like

 Sharon ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay for advertising, thank you very much!!!

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Like

 Lorraine ★ [1 month ago](#)

We have just made a decision to cancel cable as we cannot afford the steadily increasing monthly rates for the most basic package available. We would definitely not pay for local TV on top of the current fees. Local advertisers and sponsors could support local television. Reduce the salaries for the top ranking employees and reduce management layers. Television, like every other industry and public service, has followed the trend to increase disparity between top executives and front line staff and become top-heavy.

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 Peter Martin ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my service. I Bell over \$100 a month and this additional tax would be enough for me to say "Enough"! I would cancel my service and watch American TV over the air as it is available in HD... which I have to pay for with BELL. I say NO to the additional taxes!

[Flag](#)

Like

 Lorraine ★ [1 month ago](#)

We have just made a decision to cancel cable as we cannot afford the steadily increasing monthly rates for the most basic package available. We would definitely not pay for local TV on top of the current fees. Local advertisers and sponsors could support local television. Reduce the salaries for the top ranking employees and reduce management layers. Television, like every other industry and public service, has followed the trend to increase disparity between top executives and front line staff and become top-heavy.

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 Brent ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to Lorraine

I think the issue isn't how much TV executives make (or even cable executives which you didn't mention) it's whether it's fair for cable companies not to pay for broadcast signals.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Brandon ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay more for cable services above what I currently pay. Cable bills are currently disgustingly high and I have downgraded my package to mere basic already, and still am toiling with the idea of cancelling my cable services completely. I can insure my home and my car for less in a month than I can have basic cable. Tell me how this makes sense? The prices cable companies charge are ridiculous and we have already seen one increase in the fall from the CRTC and we do not need another. What we need is better regulation of cable by the CRTC in means of forcing cable companies to lower their pricing.

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Like

 switko ★ [1 month ago](#)

It wasn't a long time ago, i didn't have to pay a dollar to fill my car tires with air. Now with this TV tax, no way amego. I'll cancel my service, you can bet on it!

[Flag](#)

 *Melissa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If we are already charged on our cable/satellite bill for basic programming which includes a fee for local TV then why should the cable/satellite company be able to keep it and not share with the stations they are getting the service from. There should be no addition to the cable bill of the customers as the payment is already being made. The commercials state that COMBINED local TV stations made a programming profit of 4 million (or 40 million?) How much was the profit of the cable companies? I feel like these huge cable/satellite companies are profiting at the expense of whoever they can find. There is very little choice service providers and the service customers receive stinks. They know that they have their customers backed into corners with contracts that require all the commitment from the consumer with very little offered in return. Enough Already!

[Flag](#) *Brent* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Melissa](#)

That's right. If cable charge us again for local TV then we'll be double billed.

[Flag](#) *Ananda* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I strongly believe that we need to support local television - but having cable viewers pay extra for what is available for free is wrong. Unfortunately I misunderstood the petition to "support local television" when I signed it.

However I have to say that Canadians are gouged for cable and telephone and telecommunications in general and at some point someone has to find a way to put an end to padding corporate CEOs pockets. We either need more competition or government regulation

[Flag](#) *Bob* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV services (including CBC) should not incur an additional cost to the consumer for access to those stations. The Shaw cable company that I currently subscribe with already charges an exorbitant fee for cable packages, which are largely junk programs, with a few channels that we watch. Our primary channels of interest are CBC, public broadcasting and local channels. I am not prepared to pay for local stations and am offended that this is even being considered. The CRTC should be exercising its authority to reduce cable rates.

[Flag](#) *Brent* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Bob](#)

I like the CBC too, but don't want to pay any additional fee for it. I can get local TV for free with an antenna so why should I have to pay the cable company for it when they don't pay for it.

[Flag](#) *Jerry* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I'd be happy to pay a modest amount more in my cable bill to support (well run) local TV. Yes, in addition to the government's selective corporate welfare and the local TV's ad and other revenue. I would also like to know the real costs to me for different local and cable TV stations, and I would like a way to choose what I want and don't want, packages or individually, it doesn't matter so long as cable can't manipulate this to viewer's disadvantage (the correct incentives and disincentives are needed).

2. local TV could sunset their transmission towers and move to cable. Cable could pay fees to

local TV for when cable replaces the local TV's ads, shrink credits for their (cable's) own ads, and place logos and ads on portions of the screen during shows - after all the local TV station would expect compensation for this if they were to offer those services. Poorly run under-viewed stations should be allowed to fold without being allowed to linger perpetually on compulsory fees to the consumer.

Since local TV and cable could not work things themselves and went to the CRTC, I think the CRTC ought to take some of the decision making and power away from the parties as both local TV and cable appear to be very self-serving and incapable of making tough and compromising decisions. I'd rather see an impartial and capable body be in control of the decisions, pricing, and disclosure.

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 [Lindsay-Isabel](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with every comment that I've read so far. For the amount of TV I watch and the amount of TV that is actually "watchable", I and people in general pay far too much already. To want to add to an already ridiculously padded bill wouldn't make sense.

It's totally unfair! We're basically being blackmailed into paying to be able to see local programming (news and shows). When I want to know about national news I don't use the TV, I find the internet to be a much better source. The TV is for Local news and if this tax is introduced I will lose that.

For once, stop allowing the "Big Boys" to pad their pockets with insane amounts of money and start thinking about the "Little Guys" because those are the people that really matter. Those are the people that actually need your attention.

Thank you

Lindsay-Isabel

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Like

 [rs](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV does not exist any longer.

Most of the broadcast stations available on cable and over the air waves are controlled by a few major corporations who are just getting a little too greedy.

Repeating programming from one station to another.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Pertros](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to rs](#)

Local TV does exist. Check out the BBM ratings (Google it) and you'll see that the 6 pm local newscast for CTV local stations combined is in the top 20 every week.

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Like

 [Gloria Forcier](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

Those who suggest that Bell or our customers can easily hand over more money to the networks aren't looking at the facts. On top of what we and the government already give to big broadcasters, Bell TV has endured more than \$2 billion in cash losses over the years as we've built up the country's number one alternative to cable. While our business is starting to see real success - we offer the industry's best programming by far and we won more TV subscribers than anyone else in our last quarter - Bell TV has yet to actually make any profit at all.

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57 ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies are already charging us to receive local stations. They steal the signals, charge the customer but fail to compensate local TV stations. That is wrong.

Local TV stations need to be compensated for their signals. That's how its done in the United States (Retransmission Consent)

As I said, the cable monopolies are already charging the customer, any additional fees would be double dipping.

The CRTC needs to regulate cable fees. Shaw cable increased my cable bill twice already this year with no additional services or explanation for the two increases.

While at it, the CRTC should open the doors to Dish Network and Direct TV – I'm sick of the Canadian greedy cable monopolies dictating everything...

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Steve ★ [1 month ago](#)

What can we do?! The government is doing this just for a show. They get money from TV stations and cable companies when they need money for campaigning when election time comes. We all know we are paying too much. There is no competition. Only one cable company in Toronto. That is Rogers! Unlike in the USA, there are a few. Why not allow other to come in to the market?!

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Like



Steven J ★ [1 month ago](#)

I had no idea that Bell, Telus, Rogers, Shaw, Eastlink, and all other cable / satellite suppliers across Canada were NOT paying any royalties to the local stations, which are the base price of MY current subscription, and I myself am outraged!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Doug CJ ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable and satellite companies recently ran an ad campaign stating that using illegal satellite dishes to bring in American programming were the same as stealing. It's interesting that if a consumer does it, it's stealing. But if they take local television for free, it's fair business practice."

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Amy-Lynn ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is disgraceful that they [cable and satellite companies] feel no compunction to pay for the programming that they are, in turn, charging their customers for. There is no "free" basic package to their customers. So to claim that they are not charging customers for access to these channels is a flat-out falsehood. They are charging for something they have, up until now, received for free.

It's wrong and it's also wrong that they have gotten away with it for so long

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Peter W ★ [1 month ago](#)

Canadians have reasons to be concerned. Not only do satellite and cable companies want to preserve their "free-ride" by not paying a cent for the use of local TV programming, but they want customers to pay more for local signals they are already paying for as part of the basic service. The CRTC should take action to protect Canadians from double-billing and regulate the rate for basic service. That will ensure affordable television for consumers and a sustainable model for the TV industry.

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Linda Hunter ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would refuse to pay for local programming on top of my satellite service. As local TV has always been included in my satellite package I would refuse to pay any more for this service. If that means missing out on Canadian Content then so be it. In a country that is paying more and more for services and a finding it harder and harder to have ends meet. This is another payment that I am not willing to absorb.

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Petros ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Linda Hunter](#)

If cable and satellite use the local TV signals then they should pay for it themselves. Perod. We all know what would happen to us if we hooked up to their cable boxes and got free cable. They wouldn't like it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Amanda F ★ [1 month ago](#)

When we pay for television through our cable the assumption is that the money goes to fund the products we receive, as well as the distributor (cable) company. However, that this is not universally true disturbs me. That the cable companies have been able to exploit local television and consumers this way unchecked is horrific.

The government needs to act, allow local TV stations to negotiate compensation for their work. It is also critical that the consumer side needs to be addressed. Currently prices are high, and the cable companies threaten to raise prices more if they cannot get local signals for free. Either the government needs to regulate the cable companies or take a hard look at the competition to see if free market principles are actually in effect.

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Stephen B. ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is a no brainer. The cable company is charging me for channels they're not paying for themselves. That's not right and it needs to stop. I'm also insulted by the cable company's misleading ad campaign, trying to muddle the facts and save themselves. Fair is fair.

[Flag](#)

Like



Christine T ★ [1 month ago](#)

I realize that it is a dog-eat-dog world, and everyone is out for their own; but this is getting ridiculous. Consumers are already being charged for local television, and the cable companies are pocketing every cent of it. Unfair doesn't even begin to describe a cable price hike for the consumers when the cost of cable is already four times the cost of living. All we are asking is that the money go into the right pockets. The actions that need to be taken may not be easy, but the solution is simple. Make a difference.

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Like

 *Luc D* ★ 1 month ago

How can Cable and Satellite basically steal local programming and charge us the consumer 4 times the rate of inflation? It just doesn't make any sense? I mean the Cable and satellites are basically sending out the message that it's okay to steal and make money of what they stole.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Dennis Guthrie* ★ 1 month ago [in reply to Luc D](#) 1 person liked this.

They are not charging you for local stations. Local stations are free. You are only paying for the transportation of those signals to your house. It is the local stations who want to steal from all of us by charging for something that they give away for free when they broadcast in the first place. Have you ever considered what it costs to operate a satellite or cable company.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Stephen A* ★ 1 month ago [in reply to Dennis Guthrie](#)

They're charging you from the local stations on basic service of your cable bill.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jimmy C* ★ 1 month ago

We should not be charged more to watch TV. This cost is too high already and I am sure they can find ways within their own Company to come up with the funds. If they would like some Ideas do not hesitate to let me know. I am sure I can find more than they need.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *vivianweinert* ★ 1 month ago

Taxes are going out of all proportion. Seniors on fixed income are having enough difficulty coping without increasing the cost of TV services and programming. Basic cable is very limiting as it is and the cost to upgrade prohibitive for some of us seniors, it being their source of entertainment other than radio throughout the winter months, especially. Stop this insanity.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *rs* ★ 1 month ago

If you have an antenna service, then you have a free analog or digital signal.

Now - using cable or satellite only to get a better quality signal, we are being charged exorbitant fees for the basic service with redundant programming.

The cable and satellite companies are charging a fee for the retransmission of what is now a free service if one has an antenna, and these companies charge extra if one wants digital.

In our household we would prefer fewer channels with better programming. We do not need 3 or four 24 hour news channels, 40 channels of reality and celebrity type TV. Or Canadian channels that only rebroadcast American programming.

If Cable fees were to increase my preference would be to cancel my Cable Services. At present it is not much of a service with extremely unreliable reception.

Could care less for CBC programming , that is being directly paid for by the Canadian tax payer. CBC TV and Radio should be privatized and operate in the real competitive world and play in the same forum as all the other private TV and Radio stations.

At present all Canadians are heavily charged for our Cable, Satellite, Internet and Wireless services.

There is no competition in Canada for these services. These services are all controlled by a small number of corporations. Why not open these services to complete deregulation in a

competitive market as has been done with telephone and long distance phone service? We know why. So that the rich, will become richer. Even the so call local stations are not local any longer; they are controlled by the big corporations. I.e. CTV owns CITY, who intern owns and controls many TV (CFTO, CITY, CJOH, etc) and radio (CHUM AM/FM, CHOM, etc.) stations across Canada. The CRTC is very much aware of who controls who and what. Why is the CRTC playing this game of forcing the Canadian public to further subsidize private corporations? A tax to support local TV and programming will only benefit the pockets of big corporate executives. The viewing paying public will never benefit. Would be nice if all Canadians would just cancel their Cable and Satellite subscriptions; that would leave a strong message to both the government and corporate entities. Don't forget, just recently Rogers spent \$78 million to have the Buffalo Bills play in Toronto. Why did that money not go to local TV instead?

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[G Glazer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to rs](#)

I don't like Rogers spending \$78 million for an American football team to play in Canada. They should have redirected that money to local TV. The cable guys are already taking more than their share.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Velma F, Young](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in the rural part of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada. There is no cable service here. The dishes are too expensive. Therefore all I have for television are the local CTV and CBC. If those go away I WILL HAVE NOTHING AT ALL ON MY TELEVISION!!! Since I don't watch a lot of television, and I have trouble getting time to watch my favorites, it would still leave a great hole in my life to have no access at all. I am also a great supporter of Canada/Saskatchewan and love to watch World Cup Sports, Spruce Meadows competitions, and always the Olympics. And of course, the Saskatchewan Roughriders. Put me down as a supporter of Local Television!!!

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Like



[marc123321](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I beleive that cable satelite service should consist of a basic charge to supply the service. This is to distribute signal to consumers. Consumers should be able to select each and every chanel they wish to receive. Consumer would then pay for those selected chanel. The broadcaster may bundle chanel. if they own more than one.

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Like



[Neil Maycock](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have lived in the UK and intensely dislike the TV license model being proposed in Canada. The premise of radio and TV communication asa public common property should be retained. Taxation on such services will fracture society along economic grounds. Bad idea I'm afraid

[Flag](#)

Like



[Randy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems the only thing I watch on television these days is the news. With such limited exposure, it's astonishing how many commercials I've seen encouraging me to write my MP and tell him to make those nasty, greedy cable companies stop stealing from our fine, upstanding local broadcasters. It's beyond offensive.

CBC does, at least, serve the public good, but it already receives a sizable tax subsidy for doing so. As for Global and CTV, it would be hard to imagine a less ethical business model. Both of those networks are dominated by American programming, with just enough news to meet Canadian-content requirements.

And what a farce that news is, particularly in the case of CTV. Our local affiliate (Calgary) has about 10 minutes of news stretched out over two hours on weekday evenings. Every two-minute story is split into three or four incomplete segments, to keep people watching longer. (Global does the same thing, but not as often or as obnoxiously.) Between all the "we'll tell you later" teasers and the commercials masquerading as news, such as gossip about American/Canadian Idol ("here on CTV"), the whole two-hour block of local news that we're supposed to treasure so fervently seems like one long commercial. I wonder if the CRTC might consider a regulation requiring that a program calling itself "The News" actually provide some news.

These unscrupulous people already have increased viewership as a result of cable companies being forced to carry their signals. They already have the right to override American signals when they show the same programs. They already receive subsidies from cable companies. Could they possibly be given another unfair advantage to help them do the bare minimum to meet Canadian-content requirements? Why yes, they could, if the CRTC is foolish enough to let them get away with their latest money-grubbing initiative.

The CRTC asks how we can best support local programming. In my opinion, Global should be beaten with a big stick, CTV should have its broadcasting licence revoked, and CBC should be allowed to do what it does well (which includes local news). None of them should be allowed to charge cable companies for their signals unless cable companies are allowed to say "no thanks, get lost."

[Flag](#)

Like



Stephen A ★ [1 month ago in reply to Randy](#)

I can't comment on the local news on the CTV station in Calgary, but the one here in Ottawa is pretty comprehensive. I also think CTV News with Lloyd Robertson is better than the The National on most nights.

[Flag](#)

Like



rogerrossi ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would prefer a system where consumers could purchase the stations they wanted to pay for, instead of the socialist system we are currently stuck with. I would not purchase the local stations, so they would have to compete with price and programming for my attention.

[Flag](#)

Like



Veronika M. ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay for local TV on top of what we already pay for our cable service. We already pay far too much for programs we neither want nor watch. Our cable bill is far too high for the amount of programming we watch. Why is a bailout even necessary when the large Networks are already making huge profits. Besides, what guarantees have been given that should this insane additional tax be added, that local TV will even continue. Time to stop bleeding the general public.

Even Basic Cable subscribers are currently paying for programs geared to specific groups. Subscribers should be allowed to choose programs they want and those groups who want minority programming such as french, italian, religious etc. should be paying for those programs. It should not be an across the board charge. We, possibly the majority subscribers, should not be forced to contribute to these minorities' programs, If we wanted a specific program, there needs to be a way to add it to a package without charging everyone. Charge for minority programming and either use that money to pay for local TV or better yet, make the big TV networks pay for local TV.

[Flag](#)



Adam Camery ★ [1 month ago in reply to Veronika M.](#)

Local TV channels appear to be in trouble. I've seen a number of them close or layoff people in recent. If the cable companies have used local stations for free then this should stop and they should pay their fair share.

[Flag](#)



mrhuffman ★ [1 month ago](#)

Response to 1: local TV has very limited relevance in today's environment. I would strongly object to any additional fees as they have little value added benefit. Why should consumers pay for the "privledge" that TV company's have to broadcast? Perhaps the TV stations should be paying the satelite & cable companies a fee for distributing their signals? ... NO NO NO... This is as rediculous as the cable companies paying the TV stations!

Response to 2: Nothing should be done to support local TV. CBC covers remote areas. In larger communities, there presently are too many stations. Let the weaker ones go out of business. This is a competitive environment. Stop government subsidies for poorly run inefficient white elephants.

[Flag](#)



Gene Pike ★ [1 month ago in reply to mrhuffman](#)

The cable companies pay a fee to everyone except local to TV for the "privilege" of redistributing their signal. I think local stations should charge cable companies for distributing their programs. Everybody else does.

[Flag](#)



rickdetenbeck ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies have been taking these signalsm overlaying there own commercials to get revenue and charging us for many years. It is time they quit ripping off the local stations and paid them with no increase in cost to consumers.

[Flag](#)



melmonahan ★ [1 month ago](#)

LOCAL TV STATIONS ARE GOING DOWN LIKE FLIES IN FALL! LOCAL TV PROVIDES COVERAGE OF LOCAL NEWS, SPORTS AND EVENTS. LOCAL ON AIR BROADCASTERS ARE OFTEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF LOCAL SOCIETY AND PROVIDE SUPPORT TO NUMEROUS PUBLIC EVENTS AND CHARITIES. WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE MORE LOCAL STATIONS.

[Flag](#)



melmonahan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already paying to much for satellite television service, that is comprised of a handful of networks duplicated on numerous television stations. Cable & Satellite providers seriously overstate the level of service provided.

There is no justification for an additional TV tax. Shouldn't a television networks profit derive from those multi-national corporations paying to advertise and gain access to network viewers. Yes the cable and satellite agents should be required to pay local networks for use of their delivery system. I suggest that the cable/satellite providers should be forced to take less profit. The gouging of cable/satellite subscriber must end.

[Flag](#)



 *Debra Stephens* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should be part of the package that is supplied. If I am required to pay for local then I should have the option of not paying for those channels I do not watch

[Flag](#)

Like

 *blueswade* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. We would be forced down grade our programming package form our provider.
2. They are supported by goverment now, and it is there job sell there signal.

I agree with nowoolinis with regard to local tv, I only watch the news. But we still pay to much for cable, satelite, and internet, here in Canada

[Flag](#)

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 *Felice* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is rather unimportant and dying way of getting local news/information. The internet has long since replaced TV as a medium to get local and international information.

I would not pay more for local TV as cable bills are already far too high to begin with, my fear though will be that the CRTC mandates what I am allowed to have and not have in my cable programming thus my bill will go up anyway. As Canadians begin to pay higher bills for entertainment costs more will become fed up with this regime and start turning off their TV's and start watching shows directly from the internet.

Stop allowing simsub's would in my opinion force Canadian broadcasters to start producing shows that can 1-sell the rights to be broadcast in other countries. 2-Attract advertisers to a particular show driving up the cost to advertise during that time slot.

In my opinion a broadcaster will only need to produce a couple of good shows which will drive up revenue's, which in-turn will also make the broadcasters money, possibly keep local TV stations, open, more opportunity's for Canadian actors.

I grew up with a lot of great Canadian TV shows and movies that when mentioned around the world everyone knows, that has come to a stop and I believe it has more to due with the protectionism offered to Canadian broadcasters, they became complacent now they have no money and want to take it from cables pot of money.

Force them to produce good content, stop allowing them to make money from shows they pay to broadcast in Canada from the US and then allowing Canadian advertisers to pay for time slots that the Canadian signal can be placed over top of a US broadcasters.

If they cannot afford to keep local TV running how can they afford to keep buying foreign programming? Maybe they should be denied the ability to purchase these shows and forced to either shut their doors or produce good quality Canadian content. I believe they will use that money to produce good quality TV and attract the advertising revenue as they did in the 80's and earlier.

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Like

 *Bill Davidson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion there is no local TV. There are local TV stations but no local content. As far as I am concerned let the Canadian TV stations go broke or move the programming they moved to speciality channels, like sports, back to the regular channels to get more advertising revenue on these stations. The problem is all the speciality channels are taking part of the advertising revenue. I am not prepared to support local TV station by extra fees and will put up an OTA antenna to avoid paying for it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bobb* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that I am already paying for local programming and am very much opposed to any additional fees. The Broadcasters receive the use of their channels from the people of Canada,

their commercials are played on US programmes when showing the same show at the same time and they are carried to a much wider audience with vastly better quality than if merely broadcast over the air. Remember the negative option fiasco - Canadians are compliant but only to a point.

The Canadian people should not be required to bail out private broadcasters who have made poor investment decisions, over-paid for US programming and failed to develop significant quantities of quality local programming. Having a broadcast license should not be a guarantee of profitability.

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 *Pat Walters* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since local tv can be received for free, and in high definition with rabbit ears, or a very inexpensive outdoor antenna I would not be in favour of paying my cable provider for it. If this were to come about I would opt out of having local tv coverage over cable. In my view I don't think any measures have to be taken to support local television. In my opinion there is far too much government interference and regulation going on already. Local tv should be able to sustain itself as it always has done, by selling commercials. If a local station can't compete then like any other business it would have to fold or close.

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Like

 *igariepy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay a fee for local tv in our cable fees. I am at the point of cancelling my cable service and watching movies that I rent or download. The fees we pay are ludicrous as it is. Adding more will only drive people away. My cost of living increase is about 2%, and yet other costs go up by far more. I can't keep up. Cable will be the first thing to go. Drop the fees or I drop the cable. It is losing it's value.

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Like

 *Jeff* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local T.V. is needed for people who cannot afford cable or have a computer. But!!! we pay dearly for cable especially when we pay for a basic package which the cable companies pay very little for if anything.(that revenue alone should pay for the EXTRAS) Every season we are nickled to death with a new fee and most of the time we have no choice. We are tired of paying for every little thing and getting very little in return and when we do have something new introduced it is marketed in away that we end up paying dearly to have.

Our employers are not giving increases to sustain the cost of living and in some cases people are taking decreases but it seems like everything that is a necessity is going up. It is time to say "THE BUCK STOPS HERE". Let the cable companies SUCK IT UP!!!!!!

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Like

 *ndelco* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1- I would cancel the service
2- Advertisers

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Like

 *Hugh* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is no way television networks should receive a fee from cable companies to broadcast local programming. This is a TV tax on cable subscribers such as me. The TV networks make lots of money. It is just greed! Local broadcasting has been going downhill in markets outside the big cities. If it was not for Shaw, there would be a hell of a lot less.

And if you approve the TV tax, then I want the right to subscribe only to the channels I watch for

which I will gladly pay a fee.

Flag

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Hugh](#)

that is the way of the future. pay per channel. local tv channel is a specialty channel. Minimum monthly bill is \$20/month flat base. regardless how many channels you have on basic cable.

Flag

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Hugh](#)

free TV that is 100% sponsored by advertisers is dead business model. Th reason it was free was viewers don't want to pay for anything.

Flag

Like



lefty884 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be willing to pay for my local station if it was handled as a specialty channel. If we are going to be charged fo the channel the we should have the choice to opt out of that channel. The other aspect is if the providers are going to be charged to carry the channel they should have the choice to carry the channel. The same could be said for all the channels. go all digital and let the consumer decide what they want to watch. Right now my local tv is a global affiliate, it was the E network before that. My "local programing" is 2 hours of news , a 1/2 show that repeats and a 11 oclock hour show. That is it. Then all you get is globals line up. I also have a global feed from Vancouver so I get the same programing on two channels in my Basic lineup. If local tv offered local programing they would get more support.

Flag

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to lefty884](#)

local channels used to have tonnes of good movies and TV shows,,now all those shows are in pay channels are speciality channels...and all those shows are RERUNS which CHEAP. new shows cost millions! and local channels make new shows. new shows need new ideas and that cost money. just lack of talent in the TV shows.. The quality of the TV shows suck!

Flag

Like



lefty884 ★ [1 month ago in reply to bill](#)

I am willing to pay for local tv, but for that money I want local content I don't want to watch the same thing I get on the national global feed. My local tv station used to be a cbc affiliate and you got local interest programing. Now the only place I get any real local content is on the shaw channel.

Flag

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to lefty884](#)

it cost 25 million dollar to make stupid movie and it's a low cost movie. that movie sucks too and it cost 25 million to make.

Flag

Like



fmiller ★ [1 month ago](#)

We need cable companies to pay a fair share toward development of Canadian programming and that includes local news. It is not clear why we, the consumers, should have to pay for that

on top of already high cable fees. Should this not be a cost of doing business for the cable companies? Why don't they cut back what they are paying for U.S. product instead? In addition to cable payment for local content, another measure that would support Canadian television is giving consumers the ability to choose what stations they want - that way we wouldn't have to pay for a wide assortment of duplicate programming while having to buy into more expensive packages just to get Canadian channels like French newsworld and TV5.

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[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to fmillr](#)

wondering why nobody watches canadian or local content. cause the quality of the programming suck! studio spend billion dollars to make movies cause viewers want qauality programming. worth watching. and advertisers will sponsor it like sports or Olympics

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Like



[Crystal](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I currently pay close to \$300 every month for my three services,it is absolutly rediculas that we are being asked to pay more in this time,we are just comming out of a recession as they say,and christmas is here.people are out of work and are on limited budgets.I am a person with a disability and they want me to pay more so I can watch the news or a t.v show?I WILL cancel my services if I am forced to pay more.tell them to take a pay cut and lower our bills.

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[Dave Cole](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV is a business that has historically relied on advertising for support and that is the way it should remain. Cable should be considered a bonus to TV stations because it increases the stations access to customers. Viewers already pay enough for cable, we don't need to pay any more.

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Like



[Adam Camery](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Dave Cole](#)

I think I pay too much as it is. cable companies should be forced to cap or reduce there fees and this battle with local TV should not be used as an excuse to bill us again.

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[Ann C](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm not sure what is meant by local tv. Most of the programs we watch seem to be national in nature. Local news seems for the most part to include what is on national news. It lacks depth, doesn't cover all the news stories that are happening, often doesn't include all the pertinent information, and repeats the same stories for so many days that it can hardly be called news. I get news on the internet and local papers so would still be current on local issues. If we were charged more by our satellite company we would just stop watching tv. I would like to check into an antenna again! Fed up of all the ads on this issue

[Flag](#)

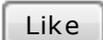
Like



[bob](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Ann C](#)

nothing is free, there will be no free tv on the antennae too. TV industry has changed. TV was free cause advertisers were paying for the programming..nobody is watching commercials anymore with PVR people are skipping commercials,

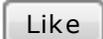
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 Like

billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to bob](#)

advertisers are getting ripped off for paying for commercials when nobody is watching it. nobody watch local or canadian content shows so why produce it.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Dave Cole ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV is a business that has historically relied on advertising for support and that is the way it should remain. Cable should be considered a bonus to TV stations because it increases the stations access to customers. Viewers already pay enough for cable, we don't need to pay any more.

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Ann C ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am fed up with all of this. What local tv are we talking about? I think there is local, regional and national news all following each other and all basically covering the same stories. Then all the stories are repeated for several days. Coverage is often shallow and sensational. I can get local news from local papers and from the internet. I can't think of any other local shows so I wouldn't miss local tv. If I do get charged more I'll just drop my satellite subscription and read more books, spend more time with my hobbies. There could be a benefit to this!

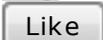
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bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Ann C](#)

Local content or canadian content are money losers for TV stations since there are no viewers.nobody wants to watch it in prime time. but CRTC requires them to fund canadian content programming.

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 Like

James M ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.) Local TV doesn't matter to me in the least. I'm not interested in high school football scores, or the latest changes in wheat prices. The biggest problem I see with having consumers charged for local T.V. is the large and numerous areas without a local station. I live in Lethbridge. We have a local Global station. I think the only reason we have one is because the college here has a media course so the station was set up here as a proving ground for the new graduates. Global, for example, has 10 "local" stations. Even though one of them is the entire province of B.C. and one other is the "Maritimes". How much of the "local" news in B.C is actually local? How can it be when one station has to cover an entire province? Are the people in Fort Nelson or Prince George or Cranbrook supposed to pay extra to get the "local" news from Vancouver/Victoria? You can't charge people for "local" programming if they aren't getting any.

2.) Local T.V shouldn't be saved. It's a waste. They don't produce any intelligent or compelling programs. They do a news cast a couple times a day that no one watches, then start showing American shows. Don't get me wrong, I love American shows. What's better? Fringe or Flashpoint? The Office or Little Mosque on the Prairie? Local programming is a joke. I can list the Canadian programming I watch on one hand and still have enough finger left over to eat a sandwich. 1. CBC's Hockey Night in Canada. 2. CBC's Dragons Den. That's it. Global has 2 or 3 Canadian shows that are horrible. CTV come in with another 2-3 shows that are awful but they have Corner Gas which was good, before going off the air. CBC at least tries to make more Canadian content. They fail at making it any good. But I give them points for trying. Other then the two already mentioned CBC has nothing of interest to me.

So why should I pay more for news I don't care about from 1000 KM away, and crappy shows. Would you go to a steakhouse, order a T-bone but then pay for the uncooked chicken breast they bring you?

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Lindy ★ [1 month ago in reply to James M](#)

Dragons Den and Corner Gas are really good Canadian shows. I wish there were more like them.

[Flag](#)

Like



Guest ★ [1 month ago in reply to James M](#)

I agree with you 100% There is nothing "local" about most of them. Other than the news and weather, they all carry the same programming. From my perspective, the only difference is the time zone, because I don't give two hoots about the news because it is all a depressing waste of time and airwaves.

I don't think they need a bailout to make the news. And they wouldn't need a bailout at all if they all didn't have billion dollar newrooms that "look nice on TV".

I think one affiliate in each province / territory is more than enough to cover 'provincial' news.

On the other hand, if they found a way to make better programming in Canada they would not need to fork out millions to simsub American shows that most of us already get on satellite / cable with the american channels.

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upsetandbroke ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is very important as part of my TV viewing. However, if I have to pay one more dollar for my basic cable service, I will discontinue the service to my residence altogether. In the past 10 months, my cost of living has gone up more than \$100 per month, yet I do not have an increase in my paycheque. In order to meet higher costs, I am being forced to cut corners and I have no qualms about cutting my cable.

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Bruno K ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would consider reducing my package to reduce cost. I only watch my local channel for the local news. This can be available by other media. There is no value to watching a local channel in Calgary from Ontario unless it is for time shifting. The major networks fullfil my needs.

2. Channel selection of all locals available across the country should be an option to consumers rather than packaged and forced upon consumers. If the current process is maintained, then make it available for free to consumers and provide support from local advertisers.

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markpomero ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do Not support a fee to support any local television stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



bil ★ [1 month ago in reply to markpomero](#)

the broadcasters don't want to pay a dime to support local or canadian content or want to pay taxes either. Asking the consumer if they want to pay more taxes or pay \$2/month more --of course they say no, consumer want free and don't want to pay. why did you think they started with advertiser supported TV

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Like

 *Donna Campbell* ★ 1 month ago

I would not mind paying a nominal amount for local TV, but only with the proviso that I can also opt out of paying for channels I do not want.

Flag

Like

 *brunok* ★ 1 month ago

1. I would consider reducing my package to reduce cost. I only watch my local channel for the local news. This can be available by other media. There is no value to watching a local channel in Calgary from Ontario unless it is for time shifting. The major networks fulfill my needs.

2. Channel selection of all locals available across the country should be an option to consumers rather than packaged and forced upon consumers. If the current process is maintained, then make it available for free to consumers and provide support from local advertisers.

Flag

Like

 *Alan KIdd* ★ 1 month ago

1. I would opt out of the local network service and I would also be re-evaluating my whole cable package options with a view to slimming it down.

2. The large networks act as if a fee from the cable company is the only option. The truth is that there is not enough ad business for three networks. We in Canada, at 30 some odd million people quite possibly don't need all three networks. CBC is staying, that's a given, maybe Global and CTV should consider amalgamating.

If one of the networks dropped advertising I would look very seriously at supporting it similar to Public Television in the USA.

Again, this is about diminishing ad dollars, there are other options besides hitting up the public again!

Flag

Like

 *billy* ★ 1 month ago in reply to Alan KIdd

CBC which is subsidized by Canadians is losing millions per year and it still gets advertising. at this rate of advertising, even CBC is downsizing operations and stop funding for new programs. most of the programming in specialty channels are reruns. or syndicated shows.

Flag

Like

 *Adam Camery* ★ 1 month ago in reply to Alan KIdd

There are diminishing ad dollars and a broader spectrum of advertising outlets. Given this, I hope whatever solution the CRTC comes up with will regulate cable fees and not hurt consumers.

Flag

Like

 *Mac* ★ 1 month ago

I think local TV should be included through all suppliers at no charge. I support local TV with a single TV just to watch local news, weather and sports as well as community events.

The vendors of other TV should include it in their feed as a community service.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [Susan F](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cable companies are behaving in a really sneaky and dishonest manner in this issue. The CRTC isn't going to charge \$10 month; the CRTC could get the cable companies to pay for something they take for nothing, and the cable companies want to charge us \$10 month. Shame on them! After picking up signals for free for years, they want to continue getting something for nothing- and they don't want to give their customers something for nothing, they want to charge us for it. It makes me very angry with cable! They already have a monopoly, area by area, in this country. And they have a LOT more money than local TV stations. The CBC gets its budget cut constantly - it's a public network, and doesn't whine and winge the way the cable companies are. I want the cable companies to pay for the signals they use, and I do NOT want them to be able to bill customers for that expense.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Susan F](#)

even if the local stations ask \$4.25 they'll still bark at the fee. nobody wants to pay for anything and yet want to support canadian content and having tv and radio stations owned by canadians. all these advertising and ownership and canadian content regulations industry is not the same as in the 80's or 70's. the media or Canadian media landscape has changed so must regulations change. with digital TV, viewers can block or have option to not watch channels and skip commercials, this wasnt even possible in 2000 and can download and watch tv shows from the internet. which wasn't possible even in 2002.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [Steve S](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Let's put some stitches on this wound and stop the bleeding. We just can't afford more service fees, taxes, or whatever name you want to give these kind of bailouts.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Steve S](#)

this is not a bailout or tax...it's fee for channels or programs consumed. people should be chargin whatever price the FREE Market will pay..not what the CRTC says a person can charge.

[Flag](#)[Like](#) [KDonn](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not in favour of paying an extra fee on my cable bill in order to support local TV. I don't watch local TV. I find that the programming offered in no way appealing therefore I do not watch those stations. If local stations are having problems making as much money as they want to, I would imaging that it's because they are lacking viewers and therefore not able to sell advertisement slots for much money. If this is the issue, than it certainly doesn't warrant that every Canadian who has cable or satellite paying an extra \$5-10 each month to support stations that they might not even watch. Simply put, it isn't fair!

As far as what measures can be taken to help local TV?

- Perhaps make the fee optional for the consumer. If that person feels that local TV is important to them, maybe they will choose to pay it.
- The CRTC could look into what it can do to make operations easier for local TV stations (tax breaks, more freedom with programming etc)
- Perhaps a study can be done (that I don't help pay for somehow) to increase the viewership of local TV enabling them to sell their ad time for more money.

Those are just a few ideas.

In closing, I would just like to say that I am NOT in favour of paying any additional fees on my cable bill to support local TV. In fact, if this fee does get implemented, I will most likely cancel my cable all together. There are more than enough entertainment mediums for me to enjoy apart from cable TV.

Thank You

[Flag](#)

Like



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to KDonn](#)

if you can't even afford basic cable, than you are worthless to the advertisers. the advertisers paying for the program and couldn't care less if you don't watch it.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Adam Camery](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to KDonn](#)

You have some interesting ideas. I'm not in favour of additional fees either, but local TV should be compensated, not by consumers, but by cable companies whose prices have nearly doubled in the past 10 years.

[Flag](#)

Like



[d3L3373d](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local Television has little to no importance to me personally but as a taxpayer I feel local programming should be provided by the network. Networks already receive enough funding from taxpayers and they should have to use that money to provide local/Canadian content.

[Flag](#)

Like



[georgepatsutherland](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are opposed to a local TV charge. We should have the right to not have to pay for cable channels that we do not watch nor want.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Donna Campbell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Would not mind paying a "nominal" fee for local TV, but only if I can also opt out of paying for channels I do not want.

2. Steps that could be taken to support local television?....Maybe having CRTC regulation eliminated to allow programming to fail or succeed strictly on what the viewers like?

[Flag](#)

Like



[Adam Camery](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Donna Campbell](#)

I'd like to see a smaller basic package where I could have Canadian networks maybe a few other ones. Not the current 45 I have to subscribe to.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Kelly](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

NO increase in fees! My cable costs are crazy and there is still nothing on TV to watch! I will cancel my cable, most of the stuff I want to watch is on local channels!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Thomas Hawrelak* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is important to me. We had a great local station, CHBC, which was bought out by Global TV and subsequently decimated. It was a self supporting station that was making money, now all the local advertizers opted out because of the sale. I absolutely would not pay for any local TV as I believe the advertising revenue should cover this as we are forced to watch all the commercials during any program.

2 Go back to local ownership and tell the biggies to go fly a kite. Local ownership = local advertising = profit.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Mike S* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Just what we all need another tax. What a bunch of crap! I am sick of all of the bail outs who is going to bail out the working class? What did we all do before? How did we get along with out all of the channels, Satellite dishes? If we all go back to the good old days to free off air antennas and cancel our cable service. We can get our local news from news papers and the internet.

Mike

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*rickjepson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the additional fees are added I might cancel by ExpressVu service and use "rabbit ears"..

I pay more than I can afford now, \$35 for a basic package.

Even \$5 a month more would be a 14% increase.

If the local stations cannot afford to operate then let them shut down, I will watch whoever is left, in any.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to rickjepson](#)

there won't be any free TV over the air anymore. since most people have cable now. it's not worth the cost of having antannae transmission when people on welfare are using antennae. even people on welfare can afford a \$20/month of cigarettes.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to rickjepson](#)

local TV channels will be pay per channels in the future like speciality channels. free over the air broadcasting is dead.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Robert Keller* ★ [1 month ago](#)

why are we being asked at this time in history to subsidize the television networks, is it because they made some bad business decisions and now need to be bailed out. These networks didnt ask me if I thought they were doing the right thing then so I dont fell any particular responsibility to bailing them out now. In my opinion the free market system should be left to work on its own under the rules that exist, if they cant make it they can fold up their tent nad pack it in, someone else will come along with a viable business plan and model to fill any void in the market.

[Flag](#)

Like



Gene Pike ★ 1 month ago in reply to Robert Keller

That's a big void in the market to fill and the current model doesn't seem to be working as evidence by fewer local shows and stations. Local news to me is as important as the national news and I'm not sure who would fill that void on TV if there were no local channels.

Flag

Like



stanw05 ★ 1 month ago

1. Local TV is NOT important. If taxed, I would eliminate other channels or packages to reduce my cost. We have some of the highest cost in the world
2. If the local channel can not survive without additional funding, then it should fail as any other business

Flag

Like



michellespafford ★ 1 month ago

We could all boycott tv altogether, there is enough dvd's out there, and besides we get charged enough already through cable and internet, why should we be charged for something that has been free since my childhood, it's ridiculous when then they have to put a fee on that, WHAT they DON'T make enough money already?????

Flag

Like



Gene Pike ★ 1 month ago in reply to michellespafford

I would find spending more to be unreasonable. This should be worked out between the stations and the cable companies. Local TV is important to viewers, but the cost should not be passed on to me.

Flag

Like



albert ★ 1 month ago

local t.v. is called commercial t.v. because they charge businesses for the commercials you see on their channels.. period. they did just fine untill they realised that cable and satellite companies were making more money than they are, and now commercial t.v. wants more money. If commercial t.v. get their way and get money from cable and satellite companies, and i have a choice i will not support commercial t.v. Commercial t.v. do not carry anything that is not available on other channels. except local news, that i do not watch as it does nothing but repeat themselves over and over, i.e. i'm tired of hearing about the h1h1..... We also need to get rid of the c.r.t.c they have too much power, and we as consumers are getting an inferior product, delivered by a select few subscribers, which are dictated by the c.r.t.c. We need open competition, not just a chosen few, this would bring the cost down, and quality up.

Flag

Like



stanw05 ★ 1 month ago

1. I would review my subscription package to reduce my cost to below what I pay now. Why do we have some of the highest cost in the world?
2. No additional measure should be taken. If they can not survive on their own, then they should close like any business.

Flag

Like



hnicol ★ 1 month ago

I live in the Okanagan Valley of BC. The local TV station has been restructured and sold and stripped of virtually all it's staff. As of now the station produces two evening news programs. Each program is one half hour long. The two are spit by a half hour national news program. At 11:00 PM a 45 minute news program. About a third or more of the news seen on this channel is available from the "mother station" in Vancouver.

The rest of the day the local station is an exact mirror of the Vancouver station.

Why should a satellite or cable company pay to broadcast this paltry amount of local programming. At this moment only the cable company does.

The only way anyone would pay for watching this station was if it was packaged as part of the "basic service" and made mandatory. Ironically anyone watching would agree this feeble attempt at being "local content" was as BASIC as it gets.

When this station had genuine local programming, with local interest it may have been worth a dollar or two a month, now it's not.

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Like



Gene Pike ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to hnicol](#)

I wish there was better content too. Your story is proof that some local stations are struggling and having to cut back on local programs and news.

[Flag](#)

Like



Linda Noonan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Would cancel my cable. Do not really get much local TV. Live in the interior of BC and receive Vancouver news. Find that the "local" channels have the same lineup of american/canadian shows, at the same time. The CRTC increased the amount of time local channels could run commercials. Assumed that was to increase their revenue, now they want more monies. Don't care if local TV is supported.

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lindanoonan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Would cancel my cable. Do not really get much local TV. Live in the interior of BC and receive Vancouver news. Find that the "local" channels have the same lineup of american/canadian shows, at the same time. The CRTC increased the amount of time local channels could run commercials. Assumed that was to increase their revenue, now they want more monies. Don't care if local TV is supported.

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Like



dave harnett ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that local tv should be able to negotiate with cable companies to receive funding for the services that they provide to the cable companies that gets re broadcast for profit this would ensure that local tv content will survive into the future. I would also like cable tv to stop the fear mongering saying that local tv will put 10 dollars on the cable bill. as i understand the cable companies will not talk to local tv so until negotiations start and conclude then no one knows what the cost would be. What are they afraid of (losing some of their huge profits)

[Flag](#)

Like



Stuart ★ [1 month ago](#)

If this extra fee becomes a reality I will cancel my cable service. This is ridiculous! When is it going to end! Every business I know needs to be fiscally responsible and profitable to remain in business what's so different about local TV stations? Why is it the responsibility of the cable companies and you and I to bail them out. Enough is enough!!! I WILL NOT pay to watch local tv stations.

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Like



JP ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Stuart](#)

Cable companies should not be able to charge \$10 on top of the crazy rates they have now. They should pay local stations a per centage of what they charge for basic service and they should also offer a basic package of Canadian networks only.

[Flag](#)

Like



Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

I oppose a local TV charge. If I am to be charged for local TV stations then I want the right to pick which channels I pay for without having to select 'packages' of channels many of which I never watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



jbbssm ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am a former resident of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. We used to have two television stations, a CBC and CTV affiliate. Now, NONE. The city is served by a CTV affiliate out of Sudbury Ontario. They provide limited and minimal content for the city of SSM. You can not have a grasp of one city when you're located in another. Sault Ste. Marie does fortunately have Shaw cable 10 covering the local content including City Council and Greyhound hockey. What does CBC or CTV offer the Soo, NOTHING.

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Like



JP ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to jbbssm](#)

I don't want what happened to your community to happen to mine. Local TV does a better job of covering local stories than the networks do or big stations from Toronto.

[Flag](#)

Like



Randy ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will stop subscribing to cable if the cost of basic service is increased. There are too many channels in a basic package that are not worth looking at.

It would be better if the local channels were available as a separate bundle at little or no cost. I would also like the option to select the channels that I want to pay for individually rather than pay for channels that I never watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



A Thousand Rats ★ [1 month ago](#)

Private TV broadcasters, specifically CTV and Global, got greedy as have other broadcasters. They over extended their Corporations by trying to cut a fat pig, so they thought, in the butt by jumping on the band wagon of multiple ownerships of not only within their own stable but amassing other mediums as well. They mismanaged their investment, misread their viewers, and believed in their overinflated hype that TV was "the" medium along with not acknowledging that the new video/audio technology was about to eat their lunch. By the time they came to address the facts they are now crying woe is us. The solution is for them to downsize, live within their budgets, hire professionals, who understand grass roots selling of their product, Management who understand the broadcast business environment and can control the Bean Counters who never sold or managed before in their lives and last but not least is programming. I as a viewer should not have to pay for their ineptitude and mismanagement. This goes for CBC as well. If they cannot fly on their own let them go out of business. Then let's not forget as well that the airways belong to the public.....not the private broadcaster. It's their

PRIVILEGE, not their right, to be able to us them to make money.

While were on this rant. For the cable companies; we should be allowed to select which channels we would like and pay accordingly. Some of the material you offer is as worthless as a milk bucket under a bull.

[Flag](#)

Like



[JP](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to A Thousand Rats](#)

Maybe the local stations wouldn't be in this boat if they had the same business conditions as the cable company who rebroadcast their signal for free. If TV stations didn't have to pay for programming I'm sure they'd be as successful as the cable companies.

[Flag](#)

Like



[A Thousand Rats](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to JP](#)

Eh, JP...

Appreciate your comment. The TV stations could have left their signal off of cable and continued the way of antenna's. Yet, they saw what was happening and were fortunate to have the cable carry their signal for free. If anything the cable company should have charged for carrying their signal. It was a trade off for both parties. The private broadcaster has pooped in their own mess kit by overextending their businesses capabilities to appease corporate greed; ie the stockholder who by the way are the ones probably whining about the TV Tax.

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Like



[Carol Smith](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay way too much for TV now; also too much for internet I am tired of having to pay too much money for these services. Enough is enough Stop the TV Tax.

[Flag](#)

Like



[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Carol Smith](#) 1 person liked this.

pretty dumb of the CRTC and ask if they want to pay more, of course nobody wants to pay for anything if it was free before ,,well well times and industry has changed. the tv industry and radio industry wasn't the same in 1965 either.

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[Patti](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

CRTC needs to support local television with stronger local programming viewing. To support local television we would watch these channels from early morning to evening viewing. The paid advertising we would see on the local TV viewing would support television viewing without the added tax.

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Like



[Patti](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The action I would take if required to pay for local TV is to investigate other options through internet sources.

[Flag](#)

Like



[William Francis](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A tax of around \$10.00 would really hurt most people but those in a lower income group also people on a fixed income. Most people would cancel their cable or satellite system. If this happens a lot of people could be out of work. I see no easy fix to this. We pay enough for cable or satellite now.

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[Like](#)



[johnnandaugustacornelissen](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are totally opposed to fees on top of the current charges which are already outrageous. There is no need for the numerous channels that are available. One public and one private station is adequate!

With only 2 stations the advertising revenue would not have to be shared by the existing numerous stations.

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[Shiv](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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[robind68](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't care for your tax, thank you. I pay quite enough already in order to get the programming I want to watch. If local TV stations aren't making the profits that they expected, perhaps they should not have expanded so aggressively. As they are still in profit, I fail to see how this is a problem that I need to help them pay for unless you are also planning on helping me pay for an Aston Martin (I like them and think they are nice and clearly can't afford one). Didn't think so. If the programming really is that great and appreciated, let those who like the programs pay for them through pledge drives like public television in the US.

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[Like](#)



[mhtrnsk](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television isn't important to me. Aside from watching the nightly news every day, I have no interest in anything any of the Canadian channels broadcast. The only Canadian show my family and I love is "Flashpoint", and we would be able to watch that with Rogers on Demand service. I refuse to pay extra to support the so-called "local stations" when in reality, the parent companies are spending extravagantly, buying up specialty channels and expecting us to give them money to support their fiscally irresponsible ways. I have no desire to support any of the Canadian channels, and my family and I do not feel we would be missing out on anything. Cable, for us, is a luxury. We are on a limited income due to disability, and sometimes, when one is very ill, watching something calming on television or listening to a familiar voice is calming and can suitably occupy the aforementioned person to the extent of forgetting some of the pain, however temporarily that may be. My family and I will simply discontinue our cable service if we are to pay more. Then the cable providers would lose far more money, because people will be walking away in droves. Please don't let the Canadian channels insist on the public supporting their mismanagement. I don't believe there are any measures that could be taken to support local television, short of offering people a Canadian channel package to subscribe to. However, I and my family would not be one of the subscribers to this. It's time that someone told the Canadian channel executives that they can't spend wantonly and then expect someone else to give them money to replace what they've thrown away. It's greed, nothing

else, and we're fed up with the rich asking for more when they've already got enough - they just have to do a better, more sensible job with it. Thank you for reading our comments.

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[Paul](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [mhtnsk](#) 1 person liked this.

I'd subscribe to a Canadian only basic channel package. That would be a nice option.

[Flag](#)

Like



[nino gianggrande](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes local tv is important to myself and my family. Why can't we leave it alone. What are the "flexibility" issues that the television industry needs. If we don't know what the issues are, how can we have an opinion? It's seems obvious that if local tv is allowed to charge for their services then the cost will trickle down to the consumer. How is this going to better our services?

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Like



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [nino gianggrande](#) 1 person liked this.

i didn't know that american channels were paid but canadian channels weren't paid for programming..the days of free programming supported by 100% by advertisers are over,,there are too many channels competing for the same programs and same viewers. as for canadian content and ownership rules and advertising rules they are no longer of any use in this new technological changes, viewers can block or not watch channels they don't want to watch with digital terminals which are more than they cost to make. if all the channels are digitalized, free TV is over that is 100% supported by advertisers, stealing cable pay tv channels is over too.

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Like



[x_bailout](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should cab/sat companies PAY to distribute LOCAL TV ? Isn't it to the benefit of local TV that it is 'out there' for the viewers to see! their programming with advertisements that pay them to exist. It should not be a "MUST DISTRIBUTE" by the cab/sat co's within their 'basic service' - if Local TV wants to be 'out there' it should have to pay cab/sat in order to reach the broader audience and this in turn WOULD LOWER OUR FEES. (We have to pay to see what we want through theme pkgs etc)

Who watches local TV anyway -they carry mostly programming from U.S. stations anyway...except for maybe 8-10 min. of local news a newscast and then it is switched over (the newscast/or the viewer)

1. I would not pay....I guess I'd have to find a different venue to watch TV shows - internet or any TV service out there that might be accessible or switch to renting movies

2. trickle your \$\$\$ down from the TOP and leave us at the BOTTOM alone to enjoy our entertainment. and Advertisers

IF you can't make it - get out - there are no measures to be taken - enough taxes paid - enough bail-outs!

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Like



[Paul](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [x_bailout](#) 1 person liked this.

Local TV is important to me, as it keeps me informed of what's going on where I live but I'm not sure an additional fee on top of what I pay now is the answer.

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Like



[gew](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The broadcasters are already getting advertizing revenue and running the same ads 6 times an hour. No wonder advertizing effectiveness is waining after we've been bludgeoned with the same ad up to a dozen times a day. Now they want to be paid more for what they've already been payed for. I'm completely against broadcasters being paid by carriers and the subsequent passing along of the costs to those of us who still have to put up with the painful repetitious ads.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *beth* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I myself like my local news and watching everyday. I don't think that local programming can survive on advertisments alone. I think that the cable companies should have to pay to use the local tv signals. They are the ones that are profitting from this and not giving any of it to local tv stations.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Tim* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to beth](#)

I cannot afford to pay any more but I would like to see local news on TV where I live for the foreseeable future.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *FED-UP* ★ [1 month ago](#)

No bail-out from me for the big T V stations. Let them close the money losing local stations,If they cannot make money on all the commercials we are forst to watch. And please no more switching to local T V stations from U.S . networks. If this money grab from the Canadian network's is approved ,I will cancel my satellite connection.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *carolerusk* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that we should not have to pay more money,also i would be lost with out local TV.I count on it every day to give me information on what is going on in my own community.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *horst fuchs* ★ [1 month ago](#)

if i have to pay extra money iwill have to get rid of my tv, it is an insult to the consumer asking for more money.are you out of your mind?

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Like

 *Marianna* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Enough already!!! My husband and I are on a fixed pension income and our entertainment dollar is going toward paying our already huge cable bill. There is NO way in hell that an additional \$10.00 per month charge can be readily absorbed in our budget. Why is it that every large company, every level of government seems to think that we taxpayers have limitless pockets to be "picked" at your discretion???

Local television is EXTREMELY important in this era of global Internet availability. If I want to know what's going on in Uganda at this moment... no problem; but.... if I want to find out what's going on in my own immediate neighbourhood, all I have is local television coverage... and... if I'm lucky, radio coverage [but that's not likely].

An informed citizenry makes for a strong democracy but I fear that politicians are afraid of an informed citizenry; they may start asking questions that may cause embarassment or worse..... better to keep people in the dark so that possible misdeeds could be "taken care of" without

the harsh glare of knowledge and truth/justice. I truly believe that government [at all levels] would love for local TV to expire... it allows for so much more maneuvering room, doesn't it??!! Even with the imposition of a tax to have local television coverage... is there ANY guarantee that these monies being sucked from our wallets will truly go to the fair and equitable delivery of local TV???

There is more than enough profit already derived by "the big boys".... they do not need/nor deserve a further TV tax.... whether it's \$10.00/month or 10 CENTS/month!!! If this tax is added to our bill.... I would seriously consider going "off the grid" entirely and saying "enough is enough"!! If you need to find the money you say you so desperately need..... look at buying Canadian programming and stop wasting your money on the sensationalistic mindless fodder that passes as American television programming!!! How about more "Flashpoint" or "The Hour" and less of "Cops"???!!!!

Flag

Like

 *M.J* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think it's right that consumers get stuck with yet another tax. We already pay enough for cable and I don't think it's right or fair for us to pay any more for it. I think that the government should provide the money for local tv, it's about time they stepped up.

Flag

Like

 *bas* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to M.J](#)

M.J, the government has stepped with the CBC, they are supposed to cover all the short comings, local tv ect

Flag

Like

 *chrisj2000* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I am tired of paying more and more and more. I pay enough for cable as is already! So I would perhaps cancel my cable as I can watch many of my favourite programs on the internet for free.
2. Money losing local television stations should be shutdown or they should learn to operate in a more efficient manner. I don't spend more than I earn why should I have to bail out others that do?

Flag

Like

 *Tim* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to chrisj2000](#) 1 person liked this.

I think that it is time my cable company paid for local television. I do not think that I should have to pay anymore.

Flag

Like

 *Steve Martin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm not even sure what kind of program would be defined as "local TV", let alone if it is even relevant to me.

What can be done: if television stations really believe this is what people want to see, then change the allocation of their budgets. Spend more on local programming and less on foreign programs and national shows.

Flag

Like

 *Jeff Fillion* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. No increase in fees for subscribers (None).

2. Better distribution of existing money from specializes channels.
3. Minimum of 3 hrs of local news and original news per day from local stations (maximum of nation wide news in local station).
4. We won't to pick every channel seperatly (including CBC).
5. No more money for CBC.

[Flag](#)

Like



Clara T. ★ [1 month ago](#)

A percentage of what I already pay for Cable and Satellite services could/should be given to pay & support my local TV.

Since MOST of the programs I get from Cable & Satellite are in my estimation GARBAGE and are sponsored by companies that wish to sponsor them, then WHY should I be penalized by paying MORE money to watch my LOCAL TV, which most concerns me and benefits me and my family. Salary cuts by Top Brass would no doubt help the situation.

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Like



shalinikapil ★ [1 month ago](#)

i would like to cancel my cable TV. who has time to watch that much TV by paying big bucks.

[Flag](#)

Like



BAS ★ [1 month ago](#)

lets use our remote [cable/TV] LETS PAY FOR THE SPECIALTY CHANNELS CABLE OFFERS,TELL THEM WE DON'T WANT THE LOCAL CHANNELS WITH OUR PACKAGE.THEN WE SWITCH THE REMOTE TO TV AND WATCH THE AIRWAVE TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



George Hayden ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am a on a pension, it is not Indexed weekly / Monthlt / or even Yearly. to think I could or would pay more is insane. I would cut TV all together if this goes through

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not think we should pay for local TV on top of what we already pay for cable and satellite services. I oppose a local TV charge. CRTC could have stronger local programming requirements for local TV. Give me the right to unsubscribe to over-the-air channels I don't watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



greg ★ [1 month ago](#)

NO NO NO NO NO

the local programmer has a source of revenue in advertising. The Canadian Government is the nations largest advertiser. Like in any other free market business learn to survive or perish

[Flag](#)

Like



pierrenadeau ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local television want to get payment for their broadcast LIKE other TV station, then we should be able to resign from that broadcast and not have to pay for them, just like I do for other stations I don't listen to. This way I could finally get rid of (American TV first buyers) TVA in the

province of Quebec. I don't see why I would have to give money to a station that I disgust like I do for TVA.

If this isn't possible, then I'm totally against this 10\$ tax that is so unjust to everybody since we don't even have a choice to resign these stations.

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Like

 *Robert Horsman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am currently paying \$76.95 excluding taxes per month to Shaw Cable for for a TV package that includes basic, and tiers 1,2, and 3. Most of what I watch is local.

If I could get what I want without paying for cable services I don't use I would be willing to pay for what television I do watch.

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Like

 *Maddie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be LIVID. The 2 stations which are based locally offer news which is produced in their local studios, but cover as much national/international news as local. The other 20 odd hours of programming are virtually the same as one views on any other commercial station. The only truly local programming seems to be produced by Shaw who broadcasts local articles and features full-time. In other words, I don't believe that anyone other than Shaw is offering truly local programming; therefore, a charge for same would be completely unacceptable.

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Like

 *kimberly* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important to me and I do enjoy it but I can't afford to pay more then what I'm paying now!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Larry* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Without Cable the local TV station (1) would not be available as the signal can not be received in my location. The advertisers on the local station would have a very limited veiwing audience if the Cable company did not carry the signal! As a consequence, it is doubtful that the station would survive if it were not carried (free) by the Cable Company! I would be very annoyed if asked to pay extra for local TV which is only available through cable subscription!

2. Local television here can only survive if it is sufficiently relevant to local residents to attract the viewership which will attract the advertiser revenue essential to its survival. That should not be too difficult in our case where there is only the one local station!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John Cooper* ★ [1 month ago](#)

the problem with this whole issue is that it is the television networks that buy the programmes from the distributors and the networks own the local stations that broadcast these programmes, as well as local ones, using advertising to pay for all of the costs, while the cable companies sell channels in bundles to their customers without providing local programming of much merit or interest.

This is a complicated and confusing way to deliver television programming to the public.

Cable companies are charging their clients for access to television programmes through their cable systems so that the public does not use antennae (old technology) or satellite dishes (new technology). This does allow the public to access 'stations' and programmes that they might not otherwise be able to access through old technology.

If cable companies obtain signals (and consequently programmes) from television networks or individual stations without paying for them, they should not charge their clients for these programmes. Otherwise, the public is paying twice - once through advertising costs and again to cable companies. Television networks and local stations rely on advertising revenues to operate and to purchase programmes or produce local programmes.

The argument that the cable companies must pay for the distribution of these programmes is negated by the fact that they pay nothing for the production of the programmes.

They are stealing a product and selling what does not belong to them. Theft is a crime. Selling something that does not belong to you is another crime.

The cable companies must pay for what they sell. They are already charging their clients for the distribution of the programmes. Those distribution costs do not increase by adding new programmes for which they pay nothing.

Perhaps the networks could pay the cable systems to distribute their programmes to the public?

Or the networks could buy the cable systems outright.

Bell Canada was forced by the CRTC to allow new phone companies to use its infrastructure for their new services for a fee. I thought that was wrong because the Bell customers (the public) paid for that infrastructure and the corporate operations. The new companies did not have to pay for infrastructure and they have lower overhead costs. As a Bell customer, I subsidized the new companies and their clients.

the CRTC has allowed the same thing to happen with the television industry.

Maybe we do not need 4 (or is it more?) television networks (owned by other media companies) and numerous cable systems?

all of the people who complain about over paid executives forget that this is what capitalism is all about - greed. So invent a better and cheaper way to produce and distribute information, ideas and entertainment. Oh - isn't that the world wide web? Who pays for that? Who regulates it so that everyone has equal access?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *John Cooper* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



Mrs M ★ [1 month ago](#)

Enough is enough, I think that the CEOs are greedy and this is just another ploy to get more money to put in their pocket. I say NO to new taxes or more taxes on tv. Nobody bails me out if I'm in trouble.

[Flag](#)

Like



Robin Young ★ [1 month ago](#)

if this tax is imposed I will be having my services for t/v discontinued. I find that most programming is worthless drivel and am now at the point of basic programming and if this tax is imposed will have no recourse but to cancel my subscription . There is very little programming that is worth while except PBS and TVOntario for the "thinking " person., and the movie channels for entertainment. However any of these I can do with out if more money is required to view these stations.

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Like



Lori ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with the comments completely.

All was well with local TV until the recession hit.

When local advertizing dollars dried up, the local stations had to look for other areas of revenue - our cable bill.

It's just good business - if the local stations cannot support themselves with local advertising dollars then they should not exist,

We already pay for local TV signals by shopping at the businesses advertised.

I am totally against any intervention by the CRTC that would allow the local stations to reap additional revenue through our cable bills.

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Like



[Andre1978](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Seems to me we're getting pretty worked up about...TV.

Boob tube to say the least.

I like my shows, but I'm not going to pay through the nose to get it. Feels like most BIG institutions...

They are not willing to put in the effort to "change" their ways and adapt to the new realities. If we bail them out again, they will never change.

They need to find their own ways to make their business "profitable" Even though they made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year.

So while I appreciate the occasional "local TV" show...they need to start thinking as business and not as a "Government Funded Org".

That's my 2¢ anyways...

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[John](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it's time for local and Cable Company's to talk and leave us out of it. When is enough profit enough for all of them? I wish I could get the type of % increases on my pay that these big company's want. As Canadians we are all getting pretty stretched between T.V, Power, phone and food where's the breaking point I'm not quite shore but it looks like big business is trying to find out .Thanks for listing.

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[Blake G. Cunningham](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be irate if these local stations' whining resulted in my cable rates increasing. Frankly, I could not care less whether local stations continue or not; most of their content is of no interest to me. If cable companies were required to pay a fee for carriage, those same companies must be free to decide NOT TO CARRY those local signals. If my cable company gave me the choice between paying more for my service and getting local programming or saving the additional fee and not receiving local programming, I know which option I would choose; good-bye local programming.

Although it would not be their fault, if my cable provider hit me with a local programming increase, I would cancel my entire subscription. Enough is enough! Every time I turn around someone is trying to stick their hand further in to my pocket and I am not sitting still for this latest rip-off attempt.

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[frank_0925](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is already being supported. We have content restrictions - and a specific amount of Canadian content that needs to be broadcasted. Canadians should not be paying extra for local TV.

Local TV and broadcasters are well paid for the services they provide and we should not be asked to pay more, not in the current economic climate. There are thousands of displaced Canadians, and this is not fair to them.

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V Taylor ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable tv is just too expensive already, even for just the basic cable. There are many families out there, mine included, that live on a budget. This budget's goal is not just to save money, it is designed to be able to live in our society as a regular family, with one income. The \$5-\$10 tax will put my family over the allotted TV Cable budget. Therefore we will have to cancel our service. We will have no cable, and the 3 free local channels don't come in clear. Atleast if the 3 free local channels would work for everyone tax could make sense, but they don't. They are a grey fuzzy mess when trying to watch them without having a cable service provider. There will be a lot of families out there without any TV to watch or worse, there will be a lot of families out there trying to afford basic cable, exceeding their budget, putting themselves in a financially worse position. It's hard to remember that MANY regular families struggle financially day to day. These people make decisions at the grocery store, such as, can I afford the buy 2 loaves of bread to last the week, or will I try to make 1 loaf stretch as long as I can. The decide to buy balogna instead of a chicken breast, because that's what they can afford. Do we really need a TV tax? Can we just figure out another way? Please just leave all the regular families out there alone. Let us live our lives as best we can. I'm sure the CEOs of the many local Tv stations aren't buying balogna for their children to eat.

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Like



frank_0925 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is receiving considerable subsidies from Canadians. If the broadcasters would manage their business properly, there should be sufficient funds to cover the cost of local TV. There is no reason why Canadians should be asked to pay more for local TV services.

The broadcasters should consider the fact that the unemployment rate is edging at 10% in Canada, and Canadians are not in a position to pay to subsidize Local TV. If Local TV stations are not able to generate enough revenue from advertisings, then they should be closed and consolidated.

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Pat Northcott ★ [1 month ago](#)

The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV

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Keith Baas ★ [1 month ago](#)

I WOULD LIKE TO INFORM THE CRTC THAT I AM NOT FOR A INCREASE IN THE COST OF OUR TV WE HAVE A DISH. I CAN SEE THAT THE COST FOR CABLE IS MORE. WE HAVE 5 PEOPLE IN OUR AREA THY HAVE BECOME MILLIONAIRES FROM CABLE. I AM ON DIAL UP BECAUSE HIGH SPEED IS TO HIGH COST,WHEN YOU ARE ON A FIXT INCOME AND YOU TAKE THE COST FOR TV TELEPHONE AND COMPUTER. THERE SHOULD BE ONE COST FOR THOSE 3 SERVICES AND TO BUNDLE IT IT IS WAY TO COSTLY.

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Kathleen ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable bills are far too high as it is. The service and choice of channels/packages is terrible. Forced to pay for channels we don't want. Forced to listen to rich tv stations and (very rich) cable providers argue about their bills when it has nothing to do with me. I can see that it won't be long before many people cancel the whole cable thing. It makes less sense every day. Radio is just fine for news, and thats all we really care about. The "idiot tube" really has become just that.

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 Like*Maddalena Costa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This will put the final nail in the coffin for me and help me make my decision to cancel my service. A TV Tax will hurt our customers and our business. it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell. Let's stop this insanity!

[Flag](#) Like*Daniel* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will hurt our customers and our business
The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV
The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

[Flag](#) Like*Ken* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already paying to much for TV. TV is availble on the Internet and perhaps its time to cancel my monthly service.

Are local TV stations in the red? Are they being managed properly? Are they spending thier money in Canadians best interest?

Just another money grap when times are tough!

I'm not in favor of a TV Tax or giving Local TV anything new. Let them manage thier business under current rules.

[Flag](#) Like*ianbush* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV services must survive on their own without any form of subsidy. Their revenues must come from user and advertiser streams, not from forced subsidization through mandated system taxes nor by mandated bundling in program packages. We get sufficient local news from radio and local print media. There is no added-value in local TV services.

[Flag](#) Like*Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My local TV is available to me by antenna at no charge using public airwaves. I see no reason for paying for this, as I am subjected to frequent advertising interruptions already.

The more expensive you make local programming, the more I will want to self-select and abandon TV altogether for local news and other programming.

Local television should be supported, or not, based on local demand. It's already free, so if the demand isn't there and companies are unable to profit from advertising or profitably differentiate their service offerings based on quantity of local programming, I see no benefit to additional taxpayer-funded or government-mandated financial support. Freedom means giving permission for local programming to fail. And if it does, maybe then people will realize that they miss it and want to do something to bring it back.

[Flag](#)



Bill ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the CRTC allows local television stations to negotiate a fee for the carriage of their signal then I should be able to purchase stations that I want to watch individually rather than being required to purchase a bundle including many stations that I will never watch.

[Flag](#)



larrythomsen ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am opposed to any move that would increase my cable costs. In my city of 90,000 people there is currently NO local TV production. All feeds, even "local" news comes out of Calgary or Edmonton. Why should I pay for something that I don't get?

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BJMaxwell ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming. The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Anthony ★ [1 month ago](#)

- A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell
- Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.
- The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year
- And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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larrythomsen ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is of very little importance to me. I would be angry if I were asked to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for cable services. In fact I would be so angry that I would write letters to my MP, the leaders of the opposition and to the Prime Minister. Local TV should be left to make it on its own. Now, in fact, I believe that local TV (not the networks, but the local stations) should be able to negotiate (in the true meaning of the word) with local cable companies to see if they can extract a fee. But then the consumer (read that as ME) should be able to negotiate with their cable company for what channels they want to have available. If that were the case I wouldn't pick up the local TV channel - even if it cost me only 2 cents a month - and I think that most people in my city would likely make the same choice.

But, if I understand the situation, the Canada wide networks (read that as CBC, CTV and Global) want to be able to blackmail cable companies into paying the networks a fee for carriage of

network signals. That is wrong!

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Linda Mikel ★ [1 month ago](#)

While local programming is important, I do not feel I should have to pay for it just because I subscribe to satellite service. If I were using antenna, I would pick up the channels at no charge. If this goes thru, I will consider cancelling my service as it is getting unaffordable. Our family income has been dropping with reduced work hours and no pay increases due to the economy so luxury items such as internet and satellite TV will be and have been reduced or taken out of the budget all together. We have already changed our phone service to get better pricing as well as the internet. TV will be next.

Local TV should be able to sustain itself like any other business is required to. They may need to look at their programming and see what their advertisers are willing to support. It's not out of the question to remove programs from their line-up if the advertisers don't want to support them.

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Mike ★ [1 month ago](#)

Stop the TV Tax...

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

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And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Mary Jane Lefort ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

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Dave Scholman ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think cable and satellite companies should pay back all the money they have stolen from local tv stations and the consumers. Local stations depend on advertising for their livelihood and cable and satellite just come in and charge people a rate and don't pay at all. They are basically ripping off consumers and local tv stations. They are charging way too much for satellite services. To have local tv on bell is like 20.00 dollar a month. If you have just the tv antenna it is FREE So bell is pocketing all this money.

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michaeltobin ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite companies are already bringing in millions of dollars profit. How much more do they want from the income of people especially lower income, single parent and seniors. I feel with the prices that we are paying, which are too high now, we are already paying for local tv

and no increase should be given whatsoever. Greed is indeed a quality that we need to put an end to.

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 *JK* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay any more than what I am paying now. We are already being tax to death! stop this madness! Broadcasters need to manage the finances like any other companies...why should consumer bailing them out.

I think they should actually pay SAT/Cable companies a fee for broadening their consumer base by carrying their signal

Perhaps they spend some of their profite on local programming!

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 *Dave Johnson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If local TV stations are to charge fees for carriage, then cable and satellite providers should have the choice whether to carry them. Same rules should apply to all channels being offered. This would force channels to provide better programming that is of interest to the consumer. I think that a better question to ask would be, how many of the mandatory channels would consumers purchase should they have the choice? It's time that all the Canadian channels invest in more programming like Corner Gas and Flashpoint. Better quality shows will draw larger viewership. Local News channels should be subsidized to ensure that local communities stay in touch with weather and current events relevant to their surroundings.

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 *Nora* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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 *monika* ★ [1 month ago](#)

agree with susan and bob

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 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers.

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 *Leslie Dance* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will hurt our customers and our business

The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

I'm taxed to death already and I don't need to be paying more taxes!! How are the average people ever going to be able to survive and live with the current conditions of the economy and now you want to put more taxes on us!! I'm fed up with the Government and CRTC and their taxes!!

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 *K B* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should cable customers bare the cost of local TV broadcasters. If it weren't for the cable companies all consumers would be getting the signal over the air. How would you charge them then. How do American broadcasters fund their programming.....through advertisingwhat a novel concept.

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 *Kevin B.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The importance of local TV would not be worth \$10 more a month to me as some if the information on TV is suggesting it would cost. I would be very dissapointed at my rates increasing for something I really don't watch - I would likely have to scale back other programming to compensate for this increase. I don't feel that I am really receiving any local programming as a subscriber to Bell Expressvu.

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 *Krista Ryan-Silver* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

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 *lyndahouseman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

It will get to a point that very few will be able to afford cable, like seniors since most of them are on a fix income. And what about low income families, we will have to start cutting costs to survive and cable will be the first to go. Then what will the cable companies do when very few can afford this cost.

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 *M&B* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should we pay even more for what we already have been getting:
Repetitive programmes and stations.
Consumers should be able to pick and choose, not be forced to over pay for "packages" and for programmes we do not want or use.

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 *Lana Clarke* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe local tv is important too our community

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Like

 *rosalindwaxman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that local TV stations should be able to charge the cable companies for distributing local

programs, which are a very important resource for Canadian viewers. However, I strongly believe that the cable companies should absorb this cost from their current profits and not transfer the charge to the public. We all pay cable fees that are too high as it is and I resent paying extra to companies that are currently making huge profits.

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[Jason H](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I completely disagree with any further charges or taxes applied to my current television bill. I currently subscribe to a satellite provider and I live in an area where I don't receive local television from them at all. The nearest news broadcast is 2.5 hours away from where I live. So tell me why I should have to pay more for a service I do not receive? Now if they included Lethbridge channels as part of their programming and even the Cardston local channel 32 then maybe this thought would be different. They are not going out of their way to provide anything more than the major cities across Canada. There is nothing local about this for me. Just a money grab!!!

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[Charlene McCleary](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

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Like



[dlf](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I work for a cable company. It's terribly frustrating that we are mandated to apply additional charges to our customers. We are Canadians too, everyone that works for these companies also have cable services. We will all have to pay these fees if passed. I wonder if our customers are aware that we MUST carry these channels. It is not an option to remove these channels and avoid paying or not pass on the fees. We already have LPIF. Why do we have to pay when you can pick up all the channels for free "Off Air". It doesn't make sense. I don't think the CRTC should force anyone to carry. I think if we want them, we should be able to purchase these channels like any other network. Based on what our customers want. I understand the Canadian Content piece, and job loss etc. But did anyone stop to think about how many people are employed by Cable and Satellite companies? If the impact is that the consumer will begin cancelling and downgrading services due to this. How many jobs are impacted in that industry. We pay enough tax, and fees. I say enough already. If you can't run a profitable TV station without everyone else paying for it, you're in the wrong business. Think about how much exposure they get. More than any other network because everyone has access to them, whether you pay or not. That means lots of exposure for advertisers. So why not use that money, and leave the rest of us alone. I pay enough taxes, and fees. If this is passed, I will never watch these channels. I will block them out. I hope others do as well. Then good luck with your advertising dollars. I figure if you're going to take my money, I am taking your too.

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[Charlene McCleary](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 *Concerned Consumer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will most likely cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV provider bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government agencies and TV providers.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year. And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

Enough is enough - Stop the TV Tax before it gets anymore traction than it already unjustly deserves!

Flag

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 *Charlene McCleary* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 *Sue Turcotte* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 *eethier* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel Local TV has fallen behind in it's service. I do not even watch local news much anymore as it is just to painful. To pay more for that kind of service does not add up to me.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Sue Turcotte* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Barb* ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV is already expensive enough. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*andyyaworski* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Isn't local TV supported by advertising and the local TV fund? Why then should Cable subscribers pay for a service that was self sufficient for over 20 years?

My local stations are transmitted over my cable line, are the network broadcasters paying the cable companies for the bandwidth these public network channels are using?

My biggest concern over adding levies to Cable networks who derive most of their revenue from subscriptions and not advertising, is that once the advertising revenue returns there will be an imbalance between cable and the networks, with the Networks not only profiting from ad revenue, but also cable subscription revenue.

It is foolish to believe that the Cable companies (like any other business) will not pass the additional costs on to the consumer.

Local TV could be supported by both the Networks and the Cable companies, but allowing the Cable companies access to broadcast slots and commercial time in exchange for support fees.

Cable companies are businesses that should be able to profit from local TV support just like the networks do

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*amberlsw* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am on a very tight budget, like many other Canadians. I enjoy the channels I get but cannot afford an increase in fees. Unfortunately, if prices increase, I will have to cancel all my programming. I do not feel it's reasonable to keep increases fees when this province (and country) is struggling in the current economy.

Local news should not be a service that only the "rich" can afford.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*jeoffs* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I rarely, if ever, watch "local TV" news, etc. I do occasionally watch truly local programming (like an OHL game on Rogers community channel). As long as I can still access the programming from the US (and not have it blocked because a Canadian network has bought the rights), I would be very satisfied.

2. I don't care if the providers are forced to pay extra or if the networks are forced to run their businesses more efficiently. As long as us as the consumers are not asked to pay more on our already too expensive monthly bills.

[Flag](#)

 Like [Nancy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians \$5-\$10 more on their TV bill each month - it's not needed when broadcasters receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell
The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in profits last year, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

[Flag](#) Like [robertjohnston](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The wording "Local TV Matters" was a perfect statement from the local TV stations. It matters to me and my family. The amount that the cable and telephone companies charge is already enough every month. My local viewing is not some thing that I should have to pay extra for.

[Flag](#) Like[Frazer Kon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Go to cpac.ca and watch the asshat chairman regarding this matter!

[Flag](#) Like [Joe Mota](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers.

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And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

NO TO TV TAX!

[Flag](#) Like [Ron](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not support a local TV tax on top of my current bill. The networks get enough funding as it is, and are profitable. I'm tired of giving any bail out to people who make poor business decisions. We do not reward good business decisions with things like tax breaks - why reward bad decisions with handouts.

[Flag](#) Like[Alec](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Ron](#)

The television networks aren't that profitable presently, this is a myth propogated by the Cable & Satellite advertising campaign.

[Flag](#) Like [aiforbes](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is of very high importance. I don't think it is necessary for cable / satellite providers to add consumer fees in order to pay Local TV broadcasters for their valuable content (Cable and Satellite profits are high and provision of local channels, with fees to the broadcaster, should be conditions of their operating license). However if there is no other option to which the carriers will agree or to which they can be forced to comply, then a nominal additional fee would be acceptable to me.

Regarding further measures for local television -- I think it's critical to differentiate between independant or public local / regional television (the few remaining true independents plus CBC and TVO, etc). Most local TV is actually controlled by large corporate networks like Global and CTV, and a different approach is necessary for the two categories.

I'm against providing government funding to private enterprise. Corporate-network owned stations are able to fund their local programming out of existing funds, they are simply threatening not to do so any longer because of the low profit margins. With some additional revenue from Cable and Satellite content fees, there should be no excuse for them to fail to sustain local television. Local programming should be a condition of license (which I think it already is) and a real, significant enforcement effort must be made to hold them to their license terms.

In the case of CBC, TVO, or other non-profit broadcasters, however, additional funding specific to local news / current events / other local non-fiction programming is in order, whether via CTF or another source.

Let me add please that I would support additional federal funding to the CBC independant and separate from any special initiatives on local television. In my ideal world, CBC would be fully government funded and ad-free. A public broadcaster that operated independent from reliance on consumer markets could provide a much stronger critical perspective on Canadian society and international issues, something that is increasingly lacking in television today.

For the few remaining independents (if there actually are any), I would support a special category within CTF as noted above re: public / non profit broadcasters. This in conjunction with fees from cable and satellite should provide for fulfilment of a local programming condition in the station's licensing, which should be enforced as much for independents as for corporate networks.

[Flag](#)

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 [Stan](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are forced to take many channels that we don't want and pay too much for as a result. If the rates go up anymore we will cut back on the service so who wins?

[Flag](#)

Like

 [stevemcfall](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't see why consumers should be forced to pay for stations they don't watch. I think a fair solution would be allow the public to purchase only the channels they are interested in watching. TV is getting too expensive for the average person, for a decent package cable or satellite you're paying at least \$70.00 per month. I also don't believe for one minute this is about saving local TV anyway. It's to pay for the gross mismanagement at Global and CTV's acquisition of CHUM. In any event, I've already cancelled my cable in anticipation of another increase and have purchased an antenna. We're also watching a lot of stuff on the internet so when you think about it, who needs conventional TV anyway, certainly not at the cost that it is now.

Steve McFall

Toronto

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Like

 [bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to stevemcfall](#)

the stuff you watch on the internet isn't free either.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[jeff](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

the crtc is framing this debate all wrong. rather than consider the problem in the old (and dead) model of content-as-second-class-citizen, we should be talking about how that model is flawed, and how television can evolve past it. what is television? is it the transmission lines, the control rooms, a satellite spinning in geostationary orbit? I don't think that it's any of those things. television for me is the content. it's my favorite police procedural, it's the local news, it's an engaging documentary. all of those other things? they're just tools to bring that content to your living room. in 1975 using those tools for television probably made a lot of sense, but we have a new tool that is already delivering content to our homes: the internet. converging on the means of delivery = lower overhead. so we build some internet-connected set top boxes so we can watch the stuff on our tv, procure the necessary bandwidth, and we're ready. now what? the content. well, why shouldn't I pay for the content I want, and only the content I want? does a given market want local shows? here's a crazy idea: let them decide. put it out there, put all the content out there, a la carte, ad-free (because ads are dead anyways), and let people decide what they want. let us pick and choose what we want to watch, and let the creators of that content be rewarded directly. if a show doesn't work it will fail, and the mechanism for establishing whether something works will become simple, fair, and familiar to anyone who has ever run a normal business: does the cost of producing the show exceed the money that its viewers are willing to pay for it?

the executives at the networks don't like this idea. can you guess why? it's because it will make obvious what they've known all along: they are unnecessary. they make too much money off of the ancient, anti-consumer business model that is currently in place. it's time for that to stop.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[Jenn](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jenn](#)

a tax goes to the gov't this is a fee for program consumed. the tv producers don't give their programs away.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The days of cable theft, pay tv theft was was widespread in the 80's and 90's is over with the introduction of digital cable boxes, even satellite theft is over. I don't know anyone who can hack the pay tv channels on cable companies, even satellite cost hundreds of dollars just to steal programming. As for digital technology it opens the possibility of viewers to block channels and even shows that a channel shows. So if parents don't want kids watching certain shows, parents can just filter it. and with PVR, viewer are skipping commercials which takes away commercial revenue to support programs. Furthermoer there are 100 channels now versus 20 channels in the 80's. the internet has also taken the pass time of canadians as source of media 'entertainment' for music, movies and news. Such changes in technology and structural changes in the industry demand changes in the regulatory regime, it's the adapt or die environment by free market not by gov't regulations

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bill ★ 1 month ago in reply to bill

reason radio and tv was free was technological. without computer technology there was no way to charge consumers for viewing radio and tv broadcasting.

[Flag](#)



Jenn ★ 1 month ago

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

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bill ★ 1 month ago in reply to Jenn

free tv is over, like free cable.

[Flag](#)



Randy ★ 1 month ago

The cost of cable & satellite TV is expensive, but it's also a luxury, so I have no issue with having to pay a 'fair' price.

However, I understand that the satellite & cable companies are making LOTS of money while the broadcast stations are losing LOTS of money. In that light it hardly seems fair that the cable & satellite companies should get the broadcast stations services for free.

That being said, I don't think that it's then fair to pass that cost on to the consumer. Why is it that large corporations think that any time a cost goes up on their end that they have to pass it in to the consumer? The executives that run those corporations already make large, 6 figure incomes & pay themselves stupidly large bonuses.

I think the cable & satellite companies should pay the cost of broadcast TV and NOT pass the cost on to the consumer.

[Flag](#)



bill ★ 1 month ago in reply to Randy

back in the 90's people who stole pay tv channels or had those disscramblers were fined and went to jail for felony charges. now nobody can steal pay-tve digital channels cause it's impossible to steal digital pay -tv channels on cable. Even satellite it's impossible now with satellite companies sending death rays to illegal satellite receivers stealing pay-tv channels. satellite sucks before cause it cost over \$500 or more for the setup to steal satelillite channels etc.

[Flag](#)



Diane ★ 1 month ago

Some points....

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from

satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Like



PeterG ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If I am to pay for local TV then I should be offered the choice of whether or not I want to receive the local TV channels.

As I understand this - if I had only an antenna I would receive the local channels for free but because I have cable, now I must pay????

The cable/satellite companies should create a bundle of the local TV stations and offer it at \$10.00 per month - then I have a choice.

The way it looks is that this will be rammed down our throats which may cause me to cancel my cable service.

2. If the local TV product is any good then they should be able to increase their advertising revenues, otherwise they must improve their product or go out of business.

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Jeff Melnyk ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that ALL television - local or not - should be paid for by commercials and commercials only. Supply and demand. Subsidizing the CBC, Global, CTV or TVO makes absolutely no sense. If local TV cannot support themselves then they should make drastic cuts or close the station. What do the employees make (i.e Peter Mansbridge, Don Cherry, Lloyd Robertson)? How much does the CBC pay the NHL to show hockey? How much did CTV bid to get the Olympics? Neither of these sports are remotely important to most people (a huge majority) so if they cannot afford them by themselves I guess they are not needed to be seen. There are many different outlets for Canadians to get their news and they should also pay their own way. I live in Guelph Ontario and there are no "local" stations and people seem okay. There are far too many irrelevant shows on TV already (many of them Canadian) and I do not want my money to be paying for them.

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George ★ [1 month ago](#)

Greed. That appears to be the prime motivator driving the media mogules in their attempt to get the government to help increase their bottom line by mandating a fee that they can call a tax. Don't let them fool you, it's all about maintaining huge salaries, bonuses and power. Reminds me of bankers and oil company execs and we all know the results of their lofty pursuits. How about those fancy new sets on the "local" news and do we really need so many 24 hr news channels. No matter what happens we will continue to be taxed and governments will continue to spend for the greater good. Just pay attention to all that news!!

[Flag](#)

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Scott Eustace ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would react negatively to paying for local TV on top of what I already pay for my cable service.

As it is now, in Ottawa, we are essentially limited to 1 of 3 providers (Rogers, Bell, StarChoice). This is NOT NEARLY enough competition. Competition, as we all know, not only creates choices and options, but lean companies. We don't have enough choice and, therefore, we end up paying for too much for what we receive.

I do not want to pay more for what I'm already receiving.

Like any business in a Market economy in a Democratic society, local television needs to produce programming that people want to watch. When ratings go up, so too do the advertising

revenues. If local TV wants more money, start showing more programs that people want to watch. Advertisers will pay more.

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 *Bill* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since cable/satellite operators currently pay for specialty channels I think it is appropriate that they pay for over-the-air channels as well to compensate the local broadcasters for lost revenue.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Pat Patterson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

For years the cable companies have been receiving the local TV signals for free and charging us as part of their basic package to watch local programming.

If the cable companies are allowed to pass on additional charges their customers I shall immediately reduce my cable bill to the most basic package.

The move from analog TV signals to digital by the CRTC has eliminated an economical option for most urban residents to utilize a tv antenna.

I feel that the cable companies should have been paying the local stations for their signal all along.

The cable companies packages are too expensive and hold us ransom by forcing us to buy additional packages just so that we can watch the channel that we wish to see. We should have the freedom and right to only select and pay for the programs/stations that we want to watch. Internet is way too expensive. Experts have shown that the infrastructure has been paid for and that the actual cost for providing internet is about \$10.00 a month.

It is time that the CRTC dictated to the TV & cable companies the wishes of Canadians and not listen to these high paid executives. Do what is fair for Canadians.

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 *D SG* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.) Local TV is no longer local. Other than the news, it is all national, and shows bought from the USA. Local channels need to come up with a better financial model, and learn to survive these days like the rest of us. Adding a fee to their content is not the way to go, and to me seems like a tax.

If they show a US tv show, I should not have to watch it simulcast on a paid for US channel I subscribe to. I should get a credit on my cable bill every time this occurs.

Local content providers are also forcing distributors to charge users for their signal in SD, before users can get it in HD. If I only want to pay for HD channels, I am stuck with paying for the SD signal I never watch anymore. When do the users get to pick their channels, their content? I only want the HD channels, and do not want to be forced to pay for the SD channels! When do I get a choice???

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Like

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to D SG](#)

the only thing local is the local news and people pay for local news. i mean..why bother have 2 hours of local news?? or repeat, because local news is the cheapest to produce,,nobody watches canadian or local content. 50% of the 6pm - midnight must be canadian content as mandated by CRTC,,that is big pieces of loss revenue for TV stations as 6pm-midnight is when most people watch TV nobody watches tv at 3am

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 [CCatlin](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are already paying through the nose for what we are getting, why should we have to pay more

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 [D SG](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1.) Local TV is no longer local. Other than the news, it is all national, and shows bought for from the USA. Local channels need to come up with a better financial model, and learn to survive these days like the rest of us. Adding a fee to their content is not the way to go, and to me seems like a tax.

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 [bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to D SG](#)

people pay to watch movies, show, or 'programming' no channels. pay-tv isn't a new concept..pay-tv has been a success since the early 80's due to technological advances making it possible.

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[Like](#)

 [In Winnipeg](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems to me your statement says that the cable companies must already provide the local stations for its areas where the local stations already exist.

Shaw must carry ctv-winnipeg where it sells its service in winnipeg.

That should help ctv in winnipeg because advertisers on ctv locally get both audiences.

The problem is where shaw provides ctv winnipeg to calgary residents and ctv gets none of that market revenue because calgary residents pay shaw for the availability to time shift and yet shaw pays nothing to ctv for the benefits it gains from a larger market share in calgary.

I use cable to have a choice in variety and the availability to watch tv programs at the time I choose. but shaw uses ctv and cbc and all local programmers to provide that service. shaw should indemnify those originators for that service.

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 [Pat Patterson](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I for one will reduce my cable to the most basic package while I explore other options like free air satalite.

Cable & internet is way too expensive.

Internet is also too expensive as is the cell phones. Unfortunately I relay on the internet so currently I don't have much choice.

Canadians should have the ability to select and pay for only those channels that they wish to watch. The CRTC should make the cable companies do away with their package dictates.

The CRTC should do whats best for Canadians and not for the cable lobby groups.

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 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Pat Patterson](#)

satellite theft is dead too. it cost \$500 to steal satellite signals and is a felony conviction..there used to be tonnes of satellite pirate dealers selling \$1000 systems just to steal satellite free channels,,the buyers of theses \$1000 pirated satellite were people making over \$100,000/year and considere middle class, you see nobody wants to pay for anything if they can get it for free is the moral. even if the channels wanted \$3 instead of \$10,,,they still be big 'PROTEST' since nobody wants to pay for anything that had gotten free for decades.

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 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to bill](#)

satellite companies were sending these death stars or zappers that send death rays to pirated satellite receivers to satelllite receivers stealing signals and the pirated satellite dealer went to jail and had his equipment confiscated by the cops

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 *costalreadytoohigh* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cost of TV service is high enough. If the cost goes up, I will likely cancell tv out of my life and save a bundle by engaging in other activities. I am tired of taxes, and ashamed of the political attitude of rape. Thanks C.E.Day

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Heather* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that we pay enough for t.v. programing. If they were to include local stations as well there would be some people who could not afford t.v. I think that stations make enough money. They are getting greedy and that is not a good trait to have.

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 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Heather](#)

the problem with current TV industry is that other channels are competing for the same programming. the most popular tv shows cost more. programs that nobody wants to watch has no advertisers so it's worthless. people pay to watch movies in the theatre so what is wrong with paying to watch movies on TV the fee won't even cover like fraction of the cost of the shows.

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 *Shaun* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would seriously consider canceling my cable service. I never watch any local stations. They are useless and are not in HD. Local stations are really only local for a couple hours a day..

2. None, just like any other business. If you can't make it on your own, fold.

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[Like](#)

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Shaun](#)

you probably watch all the pay-tv specailty programs right like cartoon channel

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Manon ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

No Thank you !

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Like



SHARON CRUISE ★ [1 month ago](#)

Thinking about the importance of local TV to you, how would you react, and why, if you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services? I WOULD NOT LIKE IT AT ALL. WE ALREADY PAY AN EXHORBITANT AMOUNT MONTHLY FOR CABLE SERVICE.

In your view, what measures, if any, could be taken to support local television?

THE CABLE COMPANIES SHOULD COUGH UP SOME OF THE LUCRATIVE FUNDS THEY COLLECT FROM SUBSCRIBERS AND PAY PART OF IT TO SUPPORT LOCAL TELEVISION.

SHARON CRUISE

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Like



jerry ★ [1 month ago](#)

enough with all the extra fees and hidden charges.

the cell phone companies screwed all Canadians with " system access fees" for years

now that there may be more competition they have dropped the fees.

cable and satellite make enough \$\$, NO MORE EXTRA FEES and Government mandated fees !

And you the CRTC have too much say . DUMP the CRTC .

The CRTC works in the favor of big business not average Canadians

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SHARON CRUISE ★ [1 month ago](#)

Thinking about the importance of local TV to you, how would you react, and why, if you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services? WE ALREADY PAY AN EXHORBITANT AMOUNT FOR CABLE SERVICE--FOR VERY LITTLE SERVICE. WE ALREADY PAY OVER \$50 PER MONTH AND DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY OF THE SPECIALTY CHANNELS. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH FOR HEAVENS SAKE.

In your view, what measures, if any, could be taken to support local television?

I FEEL SURE THAT THE CABLE COMPANIES COULD SHARE SOME OF THE HUGE AMOUNT OF MONEY THEY COLLECT FROM SUBSCRIBERS WITH THE LOCAL TV STATIONS.

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Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to SHARON CRUISE](#)

basic cable used to be \$20/month and that is more than enough channels. as for \$50/month it's optional channels...i had specialty channels and never watch them or has no value to me.

[Flag](#)

Like



N. Wood ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay MORE than enough for the cable TV I am receiving now and should there be an increase in my monthly charges I will have to cancel my cable completely... there have been so many interruptions in the broadcasting signals of late meaning stations are down and therefore my

family and I are not able to view what is on that station or the program cuts in and out and the picture is digitized.. why should I continue paying for crappy service???? I have always believed that advertising is what actually pays for the stations broadcasting and keeping it on the air... I smell a whole lot of greed on everybody's part here - the cable companies and the individual stations!

Flag

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Lina LoDico ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Lina LoDico](#)

the only local programming is local news which has the biggest audience and cheap local community channel that nobody watches

Flag

Like



ssmith ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

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Suzanne Phillips ★ [1 month ago in reply to ssmith](#)

The cable companies must pay for local stations, but they better not dare to pass it on to me.

Flag

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yani ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is full with advertisers...why would we pay for something that gives us alot of junk commercials & less time on the programming (show). Unlike local TV cable doesn't have commercials and we pay for what we get. No to the TV TAX!!

Bring back local television the way it was, before we needed to upgrade our tv's, our antenna's our houses just to receive a few lousy channels & on different channels. Local television has two thumbs down from me...I have stopped watching it and so many of my family, friends & friends..Now we do spend more time outside and pursuing hobbies, socializing more. Now that I think about it, thanks local television for screwing yourself out of many fans. No local television for us anymore, we did it and who knows how many people you all have turned off." good day.

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J Lavoie ★ [1 month ago in reply to yani](#)

I still watch it for the NHL playoffs on CBC in the spring. I guess you and your friends aren't hockey fans.

Flag

Like



kj ★ [1 month ago](#)

What local TV. Closest TV station is 300km away. Already paying way too much for

Cable/Satellite. We are already paying too much "hidden taxes" in our cable/satellite packages to pay for a lot of specialty channels that would not survive on their own.

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 [Joe Fraser](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I oppose the local TV charge. If it is imposed I would want the right to unsubscribe from the channels that I do not watch. I have Shaw Cable where you have to take the basic package. A few years ago they changed it and took the one good channel from basic and moved it to tier 2, so you had to sign up to get it and the garbage that came with it. I have never been satisfied with Shaw but it is all that is available here.

I am considering satellite but I do not think I would be any better off.

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 [jwb](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not want to pay extra for local TV, and am sceptical of the claims re losses by the broadcasters. I also don't think that carriers should be asked to pay to carry the freely broadcasted locals - I think they already deliver fair value to the locals by carrying their broadcasts (and advertising) into a far larger viewer base than they'd reach via antenna-only reception. And, I'd be worried that we might end up back in a cable-monopoly situation; I understand that my carrier, Bell TV, is already losing millions annually, so with extra costs and/or customer losses because of higher rates, they could decide TV is not viable, leaving Rogers as my only (and less preferred) option. I'd actually be fine with a single national CBC or CTV channel, if streamlining local operations is what they need to do for profitability - in fact, the News I watch most often is the National, which hits on the issues that really matter to Canadians I seldom watch local news. And, I think that if the big Canadian networks eliminated multiple local stations, there would be local niche broadcasters (a la City-TV many years ago) who would find a way to be profitable within an advertising-based model by focusing on locally relevant programming.

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 [davehamel](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies should have to pay for the broadcasters' signals, just like any middle man has to pay his suppliers. Since Rogers isn't hamstrung by Can Con they get away with putting out 500 channels of crap with 10 good ones. If CBC and CTV were not part of my basic cable, or if I could get them directly into my TV in HD, I would cancel my cable tomorrow

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 [Patsy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I really enjoy watching local television but we live on a pension and it would be impossible for us to pay more for the use of local television. I think we pay more than enough for the programming that we get. I am unable to afford digital boxes or HD channels. I was under the impression that the customers were not going to have to pay for local TV.

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 [Bob](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If this surtax, fee, local distribution tax (or whatever name they wish to use) is implemented, many Canadians will not have much choice but to opt out of some of the cable or Xpressvu packages. As it stands in today's economy, with many Canadians trying to tighten up the budget strings and still get the most bang for the buck, one of the first items to be chopped from the household expenditures is usually the entertainment portion. A \$10 fee may not be that important to a CEO, but to an average Canadian trying to make ends meet, the \$10 would be better spent elsewhere. It would be unfortunate to lose the local aspect of our TV

broadcasting, but if it comes down to "pay for local" I feel that local TV will be a thing of the past.

If the local TV signals were to be broadcast in the digital standard and an appropriate transmission site could be found for the local coverage area, we could all be back to the "good old days" of using antennas (rabbit ears and coat hangers for the older folks :>)) in order to pick up the local stations. This can be accomplished today, but not enough signals are available at this time. If the local channels/networks were to go back to the old way of doing business, and add a Public Broadcasting twist to the transmission (most are familiar with PBS TV) perhaps this will make for a viable alternative.

If this \$10 fee is added to my bill, on top of the already ridiculous rates, I will actually opt out of my Xpressvu satellite coverage/plan, and install an outdoor TV antenna. This way I know the programming will definitely be local, but unfortunately rather limited.

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Like



Poppy ★ [1 month ago](#)

Free means No Charge. What do they produce locally other than the Community Calendar and the News? If I choose to watch network TV there are only American produced shows on my television. I don't know about other viewers television. The only reason they are pushing for more money is that their revenues are down due to a lack of advertising revenue and fewer viewers. I think it is up to the Locals to cut their own cost. If I chose to use "Rabbit Ears" the local signal would be free to me. (No Charge) Since the Cable System are forced to broadcast the local channels by the CRTC why should I, or any other viewer, be penalized.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jack Ritchie ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local Tv is very important to me and I would be willing to pay a small portion of the additional fee required for the local TV channels to be properly funded. The claim by the Cable companies that they shouldn't have to pay for the local signal is completely bogus as they in effect are stealing the signal presently. There is no reason for the Cable companies to be passing on the total fee to the consumer as THEY ALREADY CHARGE US FOR CHANNELS WE DO NOT WANT DUE TO THEIR METHOD OF BUNDLING CHANNELS WHICH IS TOTALLY UNFAIR. The Cable companies in their disgusting advertising blaming this all on the local TV stations is like a THIEF blaming the victim for the robbery.

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Like



maddog1957 ★ [1 month ago](#)

For the past 40yrs Cable companies have taken "Local TV Programing" signals which they get for free to this point, and then charge us for these stations. Now the TV stations are asking for their fair share but yet the cable companies are saying they will pass this added fee onto us (so called TV tax). The cable companies also say "Local TV" made 400K last year, but yet look at Rogers and they are showing a profit of 2 BILLION. Cable companies have made their name off of "Local TV" over the yers but yet, are refusing to share in the profits. "Local TV" MATTERS, it is the sole source of news about what is happening in our cities. Enough is enough....Cable/Satilite companies SHOULD PAY FOR LOCAL TV, and NOT PASS added cost onto us, the consumers. Cable and internet companies have been throddling back our "High Speed Internet" so that they can reap the benefits of all the added cell phone and mobile internet traffic they now have without improving our services, if anything they have been cutting back on our services but yet still charge the same price if not higher. Time to regulate the cable/internet industry as left to their own they will only cut back more services and raise prices higher. Lastly why can we not pay for channels that we want instead of having to take a package of 8 channels when we only want 3 channels. I think it is time that we are given the choice of picking 5, 10, 15 stations without being in a package. Stop forcing us to take things we do not want only for your profit line. Sorta like when Rogers tried to do that billing thing a year or two ago, that if you didn't want the added service you had to call them or they would just add it to your bill.

[Flag](#)

 Like *Jim Barrett* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why can't there be a compromise to both the cable/satellite provider and broadcaster? The broadcaster should be able to sell their content including local signals to the cable/satellite provider and the cable/satellite provider could make this available to their consumer at a cost and any profits from local content and local signals should be passed on from the broadcaster to local TV stations. I also strongly disagree with the CRTC imposing a TV Tax to the cable/satellite provider as this type of decision will only affect the consumer at the end of the day which has the potential risks of impacting subscribed Canadian television and Canadian local content

[Flag](#) Like *Janine Size* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jim Barrett](#)

You're right. Both sides should be locked in a room until they negotiate an agreement that doesn't increase our bill.

[Flag](#) Like *Joe Mortimer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Poor Canadians get the shaft all the time. Basic packages are garbage except the news. Cable costs are getting extremely high. No more fee hikes...thank you.

[Flag](#) Like *marsha* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I've been without cable/satellite for a while now and didn't bother using rabbit ears for TV. I used to pay way too much money for cable every month when most of what needed to be heard/seen could be on the radio or internet. There isn't much choice in rural areas so the prices tend to increase, it just isn't worth it either way.

[Flag](#) Like *Joe Mortimer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Costs are all too high

[Flag](#) Like *J Lavoie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I like local programming and news. Cable and satellite companies charge me for these stations so they should pay for local TV for them at no extra expense to me and my family.

[Flag](#) Like *Jim* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I find very little of interest in local TV. The news seems to contain only a small subset of what I can learn from the Internet; the long weather reports are boring and more information can be obtained from the Internet. We, in Ottawa, appear to have less polished local news broadcasts which are not even in HD at this time. I tend to drift to CBC NW or CNN for more interesting news items. I think the tax payers and advertisers should stop funding the local news and shift their support to more local items on the Internet. I also think we should pay for the channels that we watch and let the others go. We don't need hundreds of channels. A lot of them have very poor picture quality and terrible programming anyway.

2. None...

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Fanny* ★ [1 month ago](#)

- A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell
- Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.
- The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year
- And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Karl McKenna* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Fanny](#)

The cable companies are already charging us to receive local stations. They get the signals for free, charge the customer. That is wrong.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*A.T.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Absolutely no new charges!

A TV Tax will cost me additional \$5-\$10 on my TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters (especially CBC) already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

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[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Janine Size* ★ [1 month ago in reply to A.T.](#)

Canadians should be concerned. Cable companies want to keep their "free-ride" by not paying a cent for the use of local TV programming and billing you for it.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Eric* ★ [1 month ago in reply to Janine Size](#)

Let's get the history straight here. First, the "local" TV producers sent their signals over the air for free. Then the "local" TV producers wanted their signals to be included with cable TV so they went to the CRTC. The CRTC said to the cable companies "Thou shalt carry the local TV channels on your cable package and they shall be placed on the preferred lower channels." Cable companies did so and the "local" networks got a larger viewing audience.

Can you explain to me again how the cable companies are getting a "free-ride"?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



Wysiwyg ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am totally willing to pay a subsidy for local TV under one simple condition:

- TV stations are no longer allowed to buy American Shows. There is absolutely no valid reason anymore for them to offer the American programming when everyone can get access to the 4+1 American Networks via Cable or Satellite. CTV, Global, CITY, etc.. should air unique programming during prime time and during the day. If all they do is simulcast American programming, they might as well become American affiliates. (Eg. Global could become Fox 41 Toronto).

Once they no longer can purchase American programming, they will have no other choice but to make their own programming or purchase from other sources such as Australia, UK, etc...

[Flag](#)

Like



Leslie ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



jimbarrett ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why can't there be a compromise to both the cable/satellite provider and broadcaster? The broadcaster should be able to sell their content including local signals to the cable/satellite provider and the cable/satellite provider could make this available to their consumer at a cost and any profits from local content and local signals should be passed on from the broadcaster to local TV stations. I also strongly disagree with the CRTC imposing a TV Tax to the cable/satellite provider as this type of decision will only affect the consumer at the end of the day which has the potential risks of impacting subscribed Canadian television and Canadian local content

[Flag](#)

Like



Marcel T ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not interested in paying yet another premium, this for local television.

I have no interest to receive these channels on Satellite.

Given a choice - not that the CRTC gives us any - to receive and pay extra or not receive these stations at all - is easy keep them. I have no interest in them. To expect consumers to shell out more money for an already overpriced and undervalued service - be it cable or satellite is totally preposterous. For the broadcast industry to even consider this - given these signals are free to be received shows the audacity and greed of these corporations. The nerve of broadcasters, the stupidity of the CRTC to even consider such. Get some bastards tell the Broadcasters, no, and stop wasting Taxpayers dollars for useless meetings. The nerve.

[Flag](#)

Like



Dave ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not willing to pay for "local" TV. If I can receive the stations free without cable/satellite why

should I have to pay to see them because I don't have an antenna? If cable/satellite subscribers have to pay then everyone who receives the signal free should have to pay. Most of the programming isn't "local" anyway. Personally I don't watch local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [leslieU](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like

 [Karl McKenna](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to leslieU](#)

Cable companies are charging for something they have, up until now, received for free. It's wrong and it's also wrong that they have gotten away with it for so long

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Pat Evans](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Using cable is the only way I am able to receive a clear reception of my local TV stations and I live inside the city of Calgary. I am barely able to receive the stations using rabbit ears, and the ones I do receive are of such poor quality that it is not worth watching. Because of this cable is the only way to receive the local stations. Maybe the local stations should be paying the cable companies for delivering their signal to their intended audiences. It appears to me that the cable companies are doing the local stations a service, not the other way around.

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Like

 [leslieU](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like

 [Suzanne Phillips](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to leslieU](#)

How can cable essentially rip off local programming and threaten to bill us again for it when they are called out on it and their rates have increased four times the rate of inflation? Makes no sense to me.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Donna S, ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't believe any more television stations need public subsidies. CTV was allowed to buy their competition (CKX) in this area and shut it down. CKX would never have been shut down if they were a money making operation.

I think cable and satellite companies should have to carry the local signal. However, when they do, they are then providing a large audience to the local station and in theory, the local station should then be able to sell more advertising.

CKX had the added misfortune of needing expensive upgrades. If the CRTC is going to force stations to upgrade, then some stations are going to need some kind of help.

But, I refuse to hand out any of my cash to help run private business. What's next? Handouts to local radio stations and newspapers?

Added costs should not be passed on to the customer, we pay enough. But, I also don't think you can force cable and satellite companies to subsidize stations.

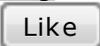
If cable companies are required to pay for channels, companies should have the right to choose which stations to carry. If you are required to carry certain stations, you shouldn't then have to pay for them as well. It's forced taxation.

When it comes down to it, this is business and business needs to stand on it's own.

Local citizens do need their news and information. But, these are changing times. There are other ways to get this information. Internet, radio, newspapers, etc etc. We should not prop up one media form over another. Sometimes there are "growing pains" as things change and some local stations will fail. Charities and other organizations that depend on local tv stations to get their message out will need to form new partnerships with other forms of local media to get the job done.

Too much interference is a mistake, but it was also a mistake to let one large company buy up smaller market stations that were in fact their competition. This is a convenient fact that everyone is forgetting at this stage. CTV is now asking me to jump on their bandwagon to help "save" our "local" stations which is convenient now that our "local" station is now CTV out of Winnipeg. Yeah right!

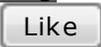
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 Like

Janine Size ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Donna S,](#)

Added costs should not be passed on to the consumers. I agree with you there. But the cable company is already charging me for channels they're not paying for. That's not fair and it needs to stop.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Jonathan V ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is and should continue to be included in what we already pay, I don't see any point other than broadcaster greed to suddenly demand such a large increase.

The way I always understood how TV works is: People make the show, it costs them money to produce, and they sell it to a network. The network airs the show, and charges advertisers to show commercials along side the show. Better shows get paid more as more people watch them and networks can sell advertising time for more. Cable/satellite companies pay networks/broadcasters to show these channels, and charge people to deliver it. Everyone benefits, there should be plenty of money for everyone.

What should be done is aiming advertisements towards their local audience. Right now I see tons of U.S. ads for deals or restaurants, etc, that don't even exist in Canada. Its a waste - I would much prefer to see ads that are targeted towards my approximate location - and Im sure advertisers would pay more for these kinds of ads. If I owned a local business in Ontario, I dont care if someone in Alberta sees my commercial, I want the people in Ontario to see it. There is too muc waste in the system right now, and a new tax wont solve it.

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Karen ★ [1 month ago](#)

This should be a non-issue for Canadians. The cable and tv companies should work it out between themselves and leave the rest of us out of it - without adding additional fees to the consumer. We're already paying too much for the amount of garbage offered on television. Although we're offered many channels, few are worth watching.

And, yes, let's charge the appropriate companies with fraud and gouging.

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Karen ★ [1 month ago](#)

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And, yes, let's charge the appropriate companies with fraud and gouging.

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Jade Milando ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay a great deal for these services! It seems that even during these edifficult times, governments are reaching into our pockets even deeper than before! As a government agency, I would hope that you would do SOMETHING to safeguard us. I would like to see local programming continue, but if I have to pay more for it than you could do away with it altogether and stop subsidizing these networks altogether. As far as I can see, they are not making the most of the government subsidies allotted to them in the first place as there is little in terms of Canadian T.V. As a taxpayer, I would be interested to know how this money was spent. It seems this amounts to corporate welfare for an already profitable industry!

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Mike ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want to pay more for any one of them. TV, cable or satellite service. If the local TV can't afford to stay in business, than they can fold. I am sure someone else will take over and be happy making only \$10 million instead of \$100 million. As for the cable or Satellite, they can raise their prices and lose my business as well. There is to many people that want to run their business but have the taxpayers pay for it. As far as I am concerned, either run your own business or get out.

The market will look after itself by supply and demand. Interference from a third party (CRTC) (government) never solves an issue in the long run. Stay out of it and let them hammer it out on their own. Neither one will change very much without thinking very carefully about their future.

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[Like](#)



B Norman ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Mike](#)

I agree. The networks and cable providers should hammer out there own deal and not pass on the cost to cable subscribers. I don't think people can handle another cable bill hike.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Loretta ★ [1 month ago](#)

I object to paying extra for local TV---I think that we should have a right to local programming in order to stay abreast of local issues---especially news programs. I also think that we should only have to pay for channels that we want to look at---not be forced to take a whole package deal just to get a channel we enjoy when 90% of the package is made up of things we don't want. Should be able to subscribe to individual channels or better yet make up our own packages by allowing us to pick "x" number of News channels/information channels to make up

a package, the same for Network channels, Kids channels, etc.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Wendy Cary* ★ [1 month ago](#)

First I would like to see more local TV on the satellite system, currently nothing from Kelowna is available. I do not think I should have to pay for this additional coverage. If there must be a fee for local TV then I should be able to tailor my satellite channels to match my needs/wants and pay a fee per selection instead of getting a whole whack of channels I never watch and not getting local ones I would like

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Like

 *susantm* ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's always the little guy who get's it in the end...

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Like

 *Brian L.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not believe I should pay more for local tv!! I think there are opportunities for local tv to make cuts and save money that way - I don't get their self-importance. For instance they have 2 anchors on most newscasts but they don't show up half the time because they are at charity events of golf tournaments. Yet they still want me to pay more for second stringers!

I do not believe local tv should be subsidized in any way - if they put quality programming on the air they will get the viewers and the advertising revenue - if they can't do that let them fail. It's called free enterprise.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Brian L.](#)

it won't be subidize by taxpayers or advertisers, viewers will have to pay for local news like pay-tv channels. over the air local channels no different than specialty channels or American channels

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Shelley B* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I just bought a new home - and the last thing I need is outrageous cable bills. This tax is just enough to push it over the edge. I will not be getting cable wit this type of customer treatment. There's more going on here than the cable companies or the CRTC are letting on...either way, I want no part of it.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Shelley B](#)

CBC will always be free. even CBC is not free, taxpayers are subsidizing CBC or there will no canadian content or local content

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Like

 *Carol T.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I have to pay for local t.v. on top of cable, my husband adn I will get rid of the cable the t.v. and do what we did in the summer, read and go for more walks. It's healthier!

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Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Carol T.](#)

you'll be missing out a lot if you don't watch local news..but you still be reading local news or local radio. local news is more important to me than international news. international news don't change.

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Carol T.](#)

all 'reruns' on international news and specialty channels.. i mean global warming, afghan war, etc. same news on at regular basis nothing ever changes in internatinal news that i could care less about on daily basis. same news on same topics not even 'news' more like 'journalism'

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Like



Heather Moxley ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will hurt our customers and our business

The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV

The networks already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers like Bell... even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians?

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Like



P M ★ [1 month ago in reply to Heather Moxley](#) 1 person liked this.

Local stations have a right to negotiate the value of their signals. Cable companies shouldn't bill us \$10 for this.

[Flag](#)

Like



micha13 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Plain and simple: This type of 'tax' will hurt cable and satellite customers and cable and satellite businesses.

[Flag](#)

Like



John Burshlaag ★ [1 month ago in reply to micha13](#)

The CRTC should protect Canadians from double billing and regulate the rate for basic service.

[Flag](#)

Like



Reynold ★ [1 month ago](#)

Fees are already too high. It should be lowered as most people who work to pay for cable fees only watch TV for a short time at night. Let all the big executives live within restraints like the rest of us. I will probably cancel my service and see what I could with an anthena if possible.

[Flag](#)

Like



Fanny ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell
2. Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.
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Like



P M ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Fanny](#) 1 person liked this.

I pay almost \$170 for cable and other services to Rogers every month. It'd be nice to see them pay some of these crazy rates to local TV channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Denise ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not want to pay higher fees. What I pay is very high, considering the advertising revenues that stations collect. This is the equivalent of paying \$50.00 per month for a magazine subscription. Ridiculous.

[Flag](#)

Like



pt ★ [1 month ago](#)

I receive local tv over the air and therefore do not see the need to pay for it on my Satellite service. Local tv needs to improve it's ad sales to survive or go off the air. Satellite and Cable gives a greater trading area. If that is not working then why should I pay for what does not work?

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to pt](#) 1 person liked this.

if you don't want to pay than you shouldn't be watching it, it's as simple as that. there won't be any free over the air programming in Canada, rural areas are shutting down their local TV stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



Lori McGibbon ★ [1 month ago](#)

Honesty, the cable companies to carry these signals at no extra cost!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Lori McGibbon](#)

in the future, all the channels will be pay per channel. channel bundling and tier 1 2 is a dead model with digital terminals

[Flag](#)

Like

 Rick Price ★ [1 month ago](#)

Do not want to pay any additional costs as cable rates in Canada are already too high when compared with the US.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Terry ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Without a doubt, I will cancel my cable service if the price goes up any more. As it is, we only have basic TV so there is no way we will pay more for such few channels.

2. Advertising or take from the TV companies. I really don't care, but I will NOT pay for it no matter what. It will be a good excuse to get off our fat Canadian butts.

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Like

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Like

 tony ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV matters to me, and I would react very negatively if I were asked to pay any more than what I'm paying now. I feel that this is ridiculous, and I would strongly consider simply canceling my cable.

I believe that fundraising activities could be employed to support local television, in addition to telethons.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Mike Macdonald - Winnipeg ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not need local TV and I do not want local TV. The perfect world would be a compromise: put local TV into it's own bundle, allowing those who have an interest in it to pay for it. I NEVER watch it and do not wish to have to pay for it.

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Like

 cjm ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable service immediately and go to over-the-air options.

2. Cable companies should stop paying their executives exorbitant amounts. The CRTC should be supporting more local cable options in each market. The fact that I can either use Shaw or ... Shaw ... or Shaw ... if I want Cable service without using a dish or going with Telus TV -- that's called a monopoly.

[Flag](#)

Like

 JD ★ [1 month ago](#)

This comment was flagged for review.

 B Norman ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to JD](#)

The cable monopolies are already charging the customer, any additional fees would be double dipping.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[peasy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. cnel my servie
2. restructure, reduce costs, reduce # of local stations

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[razor123](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already have to pay for channels I dont want to watch.If I want certain channels they are bundled with other channels that do not interest me.They dictate what channels I must take and pay even though they don't interest me.So no I am not interested in paying more for what I dont watch.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[GaryG](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Where we live there is very little "Local TV" production, certainly not from CBC, or CTV and very little from Global. Shaw provides the most. CBC only gets watched on Saturday night for Hockey Night in Canada which my wife would surely do without if there were a choice, and I'm not sure how much I would be willing to pay each month just to watch a channel for 3 hours once a week from October to May each year. CTV gets watched every morning for "Canada AM" and will likely get watched a great deal when the Olympics are being broadcast. Global gets watched on Saturday and Sunday AM for their news. We would certainly not pay for either of these channels to be distributed on cable if we had a choice. Don't forget Cable/Satellite companies are currently "forced" by the CRTC to carry/provide these channels, now they are going to be "forced" to pay for a channel they are "forced" to carry. Oh that's good. Make it an option and then the user will decide what is valuable to their entertainment. The networks have mismanaged their companies and are now looking for someone to help them. They already steal the commercial space and revenue on foriegn programming and now they want more, give me a break. Shaw, Rogers etc have expanded their business base from basic cable/satellite businesses to offer telephone, Cellphone and Internet services. What have the "Networks" done to expand their businesses? Advertising \$\$ have dwindled because of the recession, maybe the networks should be negotiating better deals from the "Program Suppliers" to improve their bottom lines not seeking a handout from the CRTC legislation. The CRTC is not helping the cause in their broadcast requirements and its time the whole CRTC requirements be examined and updated.

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[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to GaryG](#)

advertising is dwinded from scattered audience and proliferation of PVR. viewers are skipping channels. 100% advertising supported programs only works in large viewership. advertisers pay for 'number of viewers' not time of ad everybody is watching specialty channels now.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[B Norman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to GaryG](#)

My wife also would like it if they took my hockey away. I on the other hand would be angry if this dispute leads to no hockey playoffs on TV because the cable companies won't compensate the TV channels

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



D. Snowden ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think local television should get it's money the same way it has since inception -- Charge the advertisers!!! We have never had to pay for local TV. It was the CRTC who let cable and satellite providers charge for whatever packages they had and if they didn't know that these companies were charging for local stations then that is their problem and not ours. In reality, would our cable bill or satellite bill be any lower if we could access local television without them. I think not. The CRTC set the standard and allowed the cost of watching TV to skyrocket and now we are being asked to foot the bill once again. Enough is enough. It was bad enough that we had to buy a TV and then pay to watch it in the first place. It wasn't our choice to go digital and have cable companies in a monopoly situation for years. Even now a lot of people don't have a choice as to how they get their TV signal. The CRTC allowed only one cable company per area and if you can't get a satellite signal because of the location of your home, you are stuck. Perhaps the CRTC should consider how they brought about this mess instead of asking us to pay for it over, and over and over again.

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Like



ITSMYOPINION ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay too much and will cancel my satellite subscriber. There is NOTHING on TV that interests me that much. Satellite/cable brag that they offer lots of channels for my viewing pleasure, however they don't admit that many of the shows are repeats on each station. They all make enough money - I don't

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[Flag](#)

Like



Bruce P ★ [1 month ago](#)

Doesn't cable and satellite broadcasting increase local TV penetration? More advertizing bang for your buck! Maybe local TV should pay the cable and satellite companies to carrying their signals.

I can't afford another TAX. If they can't compete than let them fold. How many local TV employees would be willing to pay a new TAX to help me keep my job!

[Flag](#)

Like



paul2d ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would only support this if the CRTC would drop the requirement that cable and satellite companies carry local TV stations. Instead, allow carriers to charge for access to these stations to those who want to pay for them.

In other words, make this a subscription service. If people want these local stations, let them pay for them. Don't make people pay for things they don't want and don't watch.

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to paul2d](#)

why would you have basic cable if you don't have these channels? give me a break, basic cable are thesefree over the air channels. if they don't have these channels why would anyone want basic,,there is nothing on basic cable.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*richhoward* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why would I want to pay more for something that should be and is free.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*cathyhumphrey* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Most of us are already stretched financially so we are not able to pay extra for a service which should be paid for by the networks who are making all the money from the commercials. Like the banks, the TV networks are raking in the cash and the consumer is paying the bill.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Linda Woods* ★ [1 month ago](#)

AS far as I am concerned we already pay enough for or TV stations. As of September 1, 2009 it was ordered that cable and satalite must pay the Local Tv stations, since we as customers already pay for it as part of our package, we have no say if we want it or not, so therefore since we are already paying for it there should be no further charges put on our bills.

We as customers have no say if we want digital or not but as of January 1st, 2010 we are going to have to pay another \$2.00 a month for the digital TV., and \$1.00 more for each reciver you have in your home, and \$2.00 more if you have the movie network stations; and we are already paying more due to the fact the cable and satalite have to pay the local TV, so there is three more charges we are paying for. I have already cut my packages starting January 1st, 2010, due to the increases put on .

Myself I rarely watch local TV because there is nothing much there to watch except for the local news, but I have to pay for it anyway. When we choose what packages we want with the cable or satalite we have no choice but to take the local stations, if I had a choice I would not take it and I know many people wha feel the same way about local TV.

I am fed up with having to pay, pay and pay so that these local TV stations can make big bucks and still give us nothing.

As for support for local TV they are part of what we HAVE to pay for and we have no say, and every family has to pay it if they have cable or satalite so they are being paid highly now. People just cannot afford anymore taxes especially in this day when there is no jobs and people are wondering were there next pay may come from.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Doug Hewitt-White* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I cannot really answer this question as you have not defined what you mean by "local". I do not live in an large urban centre. I suspect what you mean by local is not local for me. The "local" news is largely irrelevant except for the weather! But if by local you mean regional - then that is a different question. Regional programming is very poor and I suppose I wouldn't mind paying for something better.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*elliott* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are all ready paying too much for cable and satellite services already, charging the cable/satellite companies for the use of local television is a little late, broadcasters had 30 years to get the cable and satellite companies to pay for local TV and did nothing. Now that they are losing money from being greedy and buying up all of the smaller broadcasters, they come

calling for money.

Also, the cable/satellite companies are mandated to carry the local stations, they have no choice in the matter.

One more point, even if the CRTC mandates the cable/satellite companies to pay for local TV, you won't see a change in local production, it will stay the same or still be cut back.

What about all of the broadcasters local advertising revenue? Where is that money going? if I am going to be paying for local TV through a tax or what ever you want to call it, I should be seeing less commercials on local TV.

I would rather see funding go directly to the local productions of local TV itself, not the broadcasters, where it would be lost in the large corporation.

If they get any extra funding, they should at least have to account for every penny, showing how it was used for local production.

[Flag](#)

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 [kevinfullerton](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

To me local TV is not that important, especially having 4 or 5 networks broadcasting competing news shows. I generally only watch TV shows that are not considered local TV as most are US sitcoms and drama series. I would look kindly on paying extra for local TV, especially if it was forced onto consumers. Should a charge be created, I would want the option of not having to purchase it and be able to purchase US networks instead, as they cover the shows that I want to watch.

Local television should focus on cutting costs and providing the services to the community that it provides. If certain users want to support local TV, I would also welcome a PBS style pledge drive and those that watch it can pay for it. It is unfair for individuals like myself who do not watch local TV to have to pay for it.

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Like

 [annie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I WILL NOT PAY !!!!!!! I think I pay too much now!!!!!! I WILL NOT PAY!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Andrea s](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Like said before me, paying WAY too much for cable, it is ridiculous the amount of money The CEO's are paid. Too much of a waste of good money. Come up with better programming and more Canadian content. no reason they should raise our bills, they have the money to do better. If it goes up i will not be paying i will cut it off.

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Like

 [Albert](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm not paying anymore if it goes up i will cut my cable. Enough is ENOUGH!!!

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Mitchell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I won't pay more, too much greed going on here. Share the wealth. I will not pay to watch local programming

[Flag](#)

Like



evu ★ [1 month ago](#)

cable tv is already expensive enough. we do not need to give you more money. you already make toomuch as it is.
I would cancel my cable service also.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Jimmy&Cindy ★ [1 month ago](#)

Enough is Enough,I will not pay 1 cent more for my cable! Paying for local channels is ridiculous. I'm not a big earner i pay my fair share of taxes it's time for this to stop!! I refuse to pay more for my cable!

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[Like](#)



Angela Cope ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I don't and wouldn't give my money to cable and satellite services and rather take advantage of the free HD programs that local televisions stations do provide for Canadians. It's really sad that cable and satellite companies refuse to support local television. However, if I had to give money to support local television stations I would. Money isn't everything in this world.

2. Make the cable and satellite companies pay up. I'm sure a CEO from Rogers or Bell or any cable company can still put food on their tables if they had to support local television. Why should hundreds of local television employees lose their jobs just so CEO's can continue to receive their bonuses?

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[Like](#)



Kyle ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my subscription right away
2. Make sure that there a written guarantee that the money is going directly to the local TV stations to ensure that these companies are not just selling Canadians another lie. If they claim that the \$ is for this, they should have no problem providing the guarantee....right?

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

How much more should Canadians have to pay! We already pay enough tax! Say No to more tax!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Not Happy ★ [1 month ago](#)

1 -I would have to reduce my package because if the carriers are made to pay we will be the ones paying. The CRTC has run its course and should be done with as it caters to the industry and is not for us.

2 - For what local programming we get they can sureley make money with all the advertising they do during the news.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[andy10001](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

this is absolutely outrages, I will quit watching TV all together. Why do i have to pay more for those guys. I am not even watching those channels. If they cant operate anymore, let them quit their business. No more fees, I paid lots of taxes and fees already. I cant even afford basic TV package. This is really rediculous.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[andy10001](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I dont watch those channels
2. I dont care if they exist or not
3. Do not make me pay to support them, I've support the goverment enough
4. I cant even support Basic TV package
5. If u make me pay more, I have two options, Watch TV and go Homeless or Live in my house and watch no TV.
6. Canadians already pay enough taxes and fees. Please stop this nonsense.
7. Economic down turn has hit me and many of Canadians hard, we cant afford this. The only things can keep us going is TV, but dont take that away from us.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[C. de Campos](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Unaffordable! I will not pay to watch local TV.
 Otherwise it would be nothing but gouging further the consumer.
 Local TV stations better come up with some other alternative....such as using their services to earn more income...commercials, availability and willingness to provide their services to the public etc.....

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[facebook-1325257999](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I currently do not have pay TV (either cable or satellite), and will likely not get either if additional fees are added above and beyond what is already charged. I would also like to know what networks consider "local television" to be. The Global news in Ottawa is a Toronto broadcast. Is it considered "local television" for me to hear about something that happened in Mississauga, Vaughn, or Durham Region?

This leads me to the argument of what "local TV" really is: shows put on IN a geographic area FOR that geographic area. News should not apply, as this should be based on what is in the area (CTV, Radio Canada, and A-Channel do a decent job in Ottawa, CBC has improved since they added 10 minutes of local news after the National). The current satellite locations (e.g. the stations in your municipality) do nothing more than rebroadcast the parent network's feed. This is not local TV.

The last point I would like to make is the obscene cost of cable/satellite television: if I wanted to get CBC, CTV, Global, CITY-TV (Toronto), Sportsnet, and TSN all in HD, I'd be forced to pay in the neighborhood of \$120 PER MONTH, and I'd get hundreds of unwanted channels that I can pretty much guarantee I'd never watch.

The easiest way to end this is with a suggestion: IF cable companies are to start paying for "local TV", cable/satellite companies should have to publish a per channel cost (even it it is tiered) and allow customers to pick and chose only those that they want.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



Robin ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have not watched local TV for years as it is not part of my satellite service. I wouldn't mind it if the quality was decent. The problem with most "Local" stations is that they are no longer local. They are a front for some regional channel, giving you ten minutes of "local" news or information.

I would be willing to pay a small fee for local television if it met some requirements.

1. Was truly local. Not a front or repeater for some network office in Toronto.
2. Quality. Only 720p or better resolution. This would have to be via the provider of my choice. If it is over compressed, then it isn't worth the money. That is a cable/satellite provider issue and should be mandated.
3. No simsubs. If there are simsubs, then they get the commercial money for the programming. No simsubs then I will be willing to supplement their operations.

If local TV doesn't get a fee, then all providers, if they carry it must provide a way for people to get it from their service at no cost. If I live in Thunder Bay and I want local TV, then I should be able to purchase a Shaw Direct system and get the local stations for no monthly charge. Just a one time administration fee.

Any policy should be part of the move to digital television. Also cable companies must support cable cards for local TV.

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Like



kwreid ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's not clear to me what the definition of "local TV" is in this question. Are we talking about community TV channels for my City? Does this include local news programs in my city?

Regardless, I do not see why the cost should be passed on to consumers at all. My TV costs seem to be increasing year over year, and if anything the channels in my selected package are shrinking. What am I getting for the extra money I'm paying?

I may value local TV but I already receive it in my current cable plan. Why should I now have to pay more to keep my existing programming?

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RW99 ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would try to locate any option to lower my monthly cable costs. The cost of television services in Canada is quite high when compared to other nations with similar level of services. This out-weighs the importance of local TV services, as with my viewing habits I go online to connect to the community.

2. Local television is getting less viewership as people change their viewing habits. While the aging 'baby boomer' population benefits from local television, I believe it will become more irrelevant as time goes on. There should be no intervention that will undoubtedly force additional costs to the consumer for a service that is becoming dated.

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Like



RedDeer2 ★ [1 month ago](#)

My local tv station in Red Deer, AB has already been shut down. I would be against subsidizing local tv in other areas...what benefit does this provide me? None. That said, the local network here in Red Deer is hardly missed. Coverage in the local newspaper seems to be sufficient along with occasional coverage from either Edmonton or Calgary.

I do not think any measures should be taken to support local television with tax dollars (or other fees to those who purchase satellite or digital cable).

[Flag](#)

 Like*Lorraine C.* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is absolutely ludicrous! Given a choice, in this situation, I guess I wouldn't be watching any local TV. Don't we already pay an 'arm and a leg' for cable/satellite? What more do they want?? Why should the public have to come up with 'measures' to support local television? Shouldn't local TV know this before they went on the air??

[Flag](#) Like*Wen-lee* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We already pay more than enough for less and less suitable viewing. Advertising pays plenty for the program spots to keep programs on the air. That's what the ads are for after all. So why is it that you want to gouge more out of the consumers who are already paying more than enough for TV. Careful! You will price yourselves right out of a job. In this economy TV is a luxury that people will give up when push comes to shove. For the last several months I have sat back and wondered why I am paying for TV at all when I spend less and less time viewing because there isn't anything fit to view on. So, with that said, I for one will cancel my dish and stick to the computer if we are charge one more fee for anything!!! TV TAX INDEED! This is not England!

[Flag](#) Like*georgedyson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems only fair to me that broadcasters should receive payment for their content but I also think that cable distributors do not need to pass on this cost to subscribers. People should also be given the option to buy whatever channels they wish to watch and not be forced to buy bundles.

[Flag](#) Like*georgedyson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We need more competition in cable services. Currently there is a monopoly in many geographical areas where there should be choice of provider. We need to make content providers such as cable companies far more aggressive in cost and service.

[Flag](#) Like*Helen Graham* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my satellite service and go back to using my antenna. Local television through poor business practices have done this to themselves. Like every other business has had to do in this tough economic time local television stations need to manage their business better.

[Flag](#) Like*Mary* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable bill if the fee I have to pay is 10.00 this is outrageous

[Flag](#) Like*Tricia Anderson* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already paying a "basic package" cable fee for these local stations. I do not believe I should have to pay twice - with an addition fee which the cable and satellites would then levy - for the same service. If the cable and satellites feel they need to generate further money, they should bump up the cost of the optional channels they provide -such as american/foreign

premium networks and feeds. These are typically user-selected additions to subscribers' tv packages, and the user can then determine if their increased price is warranted by their value. I, for one, would love to see our local infrastructure stronger - as long as part of the profits the broadcasters receive by this measure is reinvested in local program development/production.

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Tricia Anderson ★ [1 month ago](#)

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2./ I, for one, would love to see our local infrastructure stronger - as long as part of the profits the broadcasters receive by this measure is reinvested in local program development/production. But, this fee should come out of the "basic programming fee" already charged by the cable and satellite companies.

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Branka ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Personally, I find the basic TV programming already expensive. Additional fee would make things worse. Furthermore, appart from local news, local TV station do not offer any local programming. They air US content for the most part!!! Why should I pay extra for that?! In any case, I prefer to continue listening to local news on the radio, on my way to work. In addition, I agree with many comments below, especially about a freedom to choose the channels I want and not be stuck with 20 channels I never watch.

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michelebrissette ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that local TV channels should be included in basic cable packages and there should be no extra fee for this service. I also stongly believe that cable should pay the local TV channels for providing this service. I do not feel that consumers should pay extra for the inclusion of local programming.

Local programming is an integral part of any community. Local news, weather, sports and general interest programming is just as critial to an audience as is access to national and international news and programming. I, as a consumer and citizen, need inexpensive access to local, national and international progarmming to be a reasonably informed citizen. Local content is a critial component to that mix.

I have been unhappy with the portrayal that cable is providing though it's avertising, calling remuneration to local chanells a "tv tax". I feel this charaterization is blatantly false, extremely misleading and prejudicial.

All copyright holders are entitled to remuneration for the use of their products. Why is local TV any different? I was surprised that cable doesn't already provide remuneration to local stations for their programming.

To summarize, due to the general public's need for local programming, I feel the CRTC should enforce the following:

1. Local programming should remain mandated as a part of basic cable packages.
2. Cable companies should be mandated to remunerate local channels on a per subscriber basis (I don't know what amount should be specified).
3. Cable companies should not be allowed to increase rates as a result of the previousl points. (Cable companies have gained financially from the copyrighted materiels of local channels for far too long already.)

Thank you.

[Flag](#)

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 *David* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable service and take the stations using an off-air antenna. It's free! I could even go to the broadcasters website and watch content there because they give it away there too!

These guys have made millions in profit. When bad times came around it would seem they began profitting from the economic situation by campaigning for extra cash.

During this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

2. Have the government or CRTC regulate how much local channels can spend on American content. It's becoming clear that the broadcasters are spending a fortune on content that doesn't direct help the broadcast industry.

Look at Ivan Fecan's office as well. What CEO should have a wall of TVs in his office to look at every CTV station. Somebody isn't counting their pennies wisely.

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 *davidjman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 *James Lapp* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are retired and on fixed (aka shrinking) income. Fortunately we have a choice. With a tower we can receive free HD signals from US broadcasters. With increased cost of fees/services on the horizon, the tower cost recovery is less than 24 mo. The downside is rotating the antenna to receive Canadian signals that aren't HD. Not sure the antenna would be frequently rotated. The money not spent on our current cable service will be used to cover increased costs created by the upcoming HST. We estimate our cost of living increase due to HST will be \$100/mo, close to what we now pay for cable TV service. We could break even. Everyone wins except the Canadian TV/cable industry.

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 *Jason* ★ [1 month ago](#)

My thoughts...

- Local tv stations already distributre their signals for free (airwaves as well as online to some degree). Why should some (like cable co's) have to pay for using it when consumers get it for free (and always have). I don't believe they should pay.
- Local tv presumably get's advertising revenues. If they are asking for funding are they also willing to share their revenues?
- Local tv stations are continuing to post profits. Why is this even necessary? Isn't this just a cash grab? If it's not broke, don't fix it.
- Why not allow the big cable cos to buy up the locals to refelct the changing face of providing entertainment?
- I worry of the possible job losses to the cable companies should this "tax" be implemented (because, don't kid yuourself, it will negatively impact them as consumers scale down their features and extras to accomodate the new tax).
- As a middle income consumer with 2 child family I cannot afford yet another tax (especially when they are showing profits). Already the cost of living has skyrocketed and if such a tax (even \$10.00/month) were enacted, it would have to serious financial implications on us, and many other Canadian families struggling to survive on modeste and fixed incomes.
- I do watch local tv, but not at any price. If it meant saving \$10/mo I would give up local tv.
- Local tv has to become more competitive against the alternatives. We shouldn't subsidize their lack of competitive success. Such a "tax" would further shelter them from being competitive.
- If local tv is to continue, I strongly feel that they should focus only on local tv. spending our m,oney buying foreign content is unacceptable. We already pay for foreign content with channels like ABC, Fox, CBS, CNN, etc and should not have to be doble charged.

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Jason ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Jason](#)

Jason, you are being charged for local TV right now by your cable company. Did somebody give you talking points?

[Flag](#)

Like



Imeyrick ★ [1 month ago](#)

My wife and I watch local TV. to stay in touch with what is going on in the areas. As seniors we are taxed enough. The cable companies make too much and rip off everyone. It is about time Government and other agencies started to do something right for those on fixed incomes instead off breaking the bank .

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Like



Ravi Sidhu ★ [1 month ago](#)

We alrady pay enough taxes. If the local stations are already making 400M, and the they are already getting a 1.5% Local Programming Improvement Fund fee already imposed by the CRTC then local stations should look for other means to increase revenue other then asking the governement to impose another tax on us. Why should I have to pay for something that i can get for free with some rabbit ears, or a digital signal converter? If these channels have been free for so long, why should we pay for them now

I would be perfectly fine with providers dropping local channels if the CRTC allows this tax to go through. Local stations will see a larger drop in revenue and be begging to be allowed back into the providers channel line up.

[Flag](#)

Like



Lu ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If my cable was to increase because of a local tv charge I would reduce my services. Before cable I was able to get local tv from an antenna and I didn't have to pay so why should I pay now?
2. Ads

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[Symphonic1](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

As it stands now, affording any type of cable television is a luxury my family cannot afford. I am a lone parent of two teens in high school. I work full-time to make ends meet. It makes me feel quite bad, to not be able to give my kids even basic cable television. They are in more need of internet services and as such, download what they can from there. They have adjusted but do feel embarrassed when friends come over, that we don't have cable.

This is a ridiculous shame! Just how much more money is needed? Will the amount EVER be enough to suffice? Stop the T.V. tax! This is just plain robbery!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[frankdrebin](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If charged for local signals, I would likely cut back on my cable offerings and seek any local content on the Internet.

Local television funding could be increased by a 0.5% increase to the LPIF.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[joe](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to frankdrebin](#)

Frank, you are already paying for local TV channels in your basic cable bill. Get in the know.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[Harry Speelman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. fees are outrageous already, Let industry take care of itself in regards to funding, If people want these services the stations will find a way to pay for it. Free market does work if there is demand for services

2. Can be paid for through advertising or as mentioned above if there is demand for certain stations the cable companies etc can negotiate on there own with the networks.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[MIKE PAQUET](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

This comment was flagged for review.

[Joe](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to MIKE PAQUET](#)

Mike, you already pay for local TV in your basic cable rate. Get informed.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[WDWS](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

First, I'd just like to state that I do watch some local programming (news, A TV Morning show and CBC kids programming). So when the Save Local TV campaign started, I agreed .. I don't want to lose all my local programming. But as the story unfolded, I've started to see what we're really looking at ..here's a few points to consider:

According to the Ottawa Business Journal, the TV stations are looking to be compensated up to \$1 per channel, per month, per subscriber from the cable/satellite companies. This is approx a cost of \$10 - 13 per month per subscriber. TV stations are saying that the cable providers (Rogers, Bell, etc) should just absorb this cost. This seems ludicrous. What company would willingly give up a chunk of their profits just because they're asked to. These companies have stockholders and investors that they are accountable to. It's unreasonable to think that they'll

just hand over a portion of their revenue to the TV stations.

As a subscriber, if I am going to be charged for the privilege of accessing these stations, then I think I should be entitled to the right to opt out of receiving them. Just like every other station in my cable package, I get to select what service I want. If I don't want the sports channels, then I don't pay for them. Makes sense, doesn't it. I would hope that our government would recognize that it's ridiculous to force us to pay for a service we may not want!

Lastly, let's face it. The economy isn't the best. So I can understand that the TV stations are taking a hit as advertisers aren't spending as much. But other companies are forced to deal with this downturn in our economy by finding ways to reduce costs. This includes the cable providers, who have been forced to cut jobs and tighten their belts to whether this storm. So why should TV stations be allowed to continue operating in the same manner they have been? It's time to think out of the box and come up with new revenue streams and ways to reduce operating costs. If they are so concerned about providing service to the public, then they should have at least made an attempt to save themselves before looking at cable providers ... and in turn the general population ... to save them.

In the end, I think there has to be a better solution to bailing out the stations. I don't think the right thing to do is ask the cable providers or the general public to foot the cost. If push came to shove, I'd rather lose local TV than have to give up over \$150 per year to support local TV. That money can be better spent on items and services that are vital to my families well being ... rather than on a few TV shows.

Just my 2 cents.

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Like



Michelle Scrimgeour-Brown ★ [1 month ago](#)

My household has a basic cable package. The channel offerings are minimal, and have not changed in 10 years time. The problem for me is that the price tag for the basic package has steadily increased over the years, and it is now over \$30. We were considering scrapping our cable subscription as we can watch most of our programs online now. If the price increases by \$10/month, as we have been led to believe, we will certainly cancel our cable.

[Flag](#)

Like



lillyobina ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not want to pay any extra money for local TV. How have we been able to provide that service to-date. If the cable companies are looking for more profit, the best way to do it is to create better programming but not try and get it by gouging the ordinary citizens. We get valuable information about what is going on in Ottawa through the local broadcasts. If that is taken away, we will not know what is going on at all. How about the low income people who can't afford any payment for TV even for basic cable. If I am charged for it, I will not order it hence make it an optional package.

[Flag](#)

Like



Peter Triantafillakis ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not support a TV Tax when broadcasters already receive government funding.

Enough is enough...we're taxed far too much as Canadians. STOP!

[Flag](#)

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Brian ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Peter Triantafillakis](#)

where do you get your information??

The only Network receiving Government money is CBC.

the cable companies on the other hand basically have a government protected monopoly.

I'd like to see the selling of cable services opened up. I'd love to have 4 or 5 Cable companies competing for my business, then we'd see prices drop!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Rafik Awadallah* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

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A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*D Edwards - Barrie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm already contemplating reducing my excessive cable costs which are already averaging \$75 a month for only television services that were once available with an antenna. I don't know understand how various government agencies believe there is some never ending source of money in the Canadian taxpayers. How did TV stations exist on advertising costs before cable and satellite providers came into being?

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Brian* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable companies have been receiving these "free to air" channels for years and charging cable users for them by including them in a "basic" package that includes cable only channels. Could they not include all "free to air" channels in a separate package for a nominal fee giving the user the option of paying for them if they wish?

Also I have tried to get my cable provider to offer a 3 year contract to avail. As it stands they can (AND DO) up the fee when ever they feel like it.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*simplefun* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Being a senior on limited financial resources, I'm already maxed out on entertainment costs. Having worked in the television industry some years ago, I am aware of the practices employed purchasing International programming with very little support for Canadian production.

We have some terrific talent here and should be encouraging locally based production rather than distributing dollars to other countries including the U.S.

I would rather do without television than add millions of more dollars to CTV and other networks where the profit margins are good for the networks and bad for the Canadian production industry.

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 Like*bradvaliquette* ★ [1 month ago](#)

SHAME, SHAME, SHAME. Why are all the CEOs' so FAT.

[Flag](#) Like*tonyroestenberg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Under no circumstance do I want to pay for local TV that anyone with rabbit ears can receive for free (which a friend of mine does who doesn't have CABLE).

Furthermore, I don't want to pay in particular for the CBC signal which I already subsidize through my tax dollars.

The private TV stations get enough support from the public purse to produce local programming supported by my tax dollars. To charge me a fee for these broadcast signals amounts to double taxation.

[Flag](#) Like*Aidan* ★ [1 month ago](#)

You are asking me the importance of local TV while at the same time suggesting a new TV tax be introduced lol...I'm appalled by this...another example where you come to the little guy (the everyday consumer) in the name of Corporate injustice to ask for a hand out to help large networks such as Global, CBC and CTV finance their inability to manage their businesses efficiently and failure to adapt to a rapidly changing world...Welcome to Globalization my friends. It sounds to me a bit like mismanagement. I'm sure if you looked inside your operation prior to stepping outside for a hand out (TAX) that will never stop once implemented you can find alternative ways to free up some cash to commit to our Canadian heritage and address the importance of local content. I say no to the TV TAX and if implemented by the CRTC say no to the CRTC!!! I will just cancel my TV service all together.

[Flag](#) Like*Aidan* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Flag](#) Like*Neal Kelly* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Charging a small amount (\$1 or less) might be acceptable; anything more is unacceptable; cable and satellite services are already expensive; the broadcasters are whining because of their revenue downturns due to the recession; you can be sure that they won't give back any increase the CRTC may grant them once the advertising market returns;

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 *DM* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There are couple things I would likely do if I were "asked" to pay for local TV:

- Firstly, I would pare down the total dollar value I spend to offset any increase. I would do this because I have a budget. If possible, I would reduce the actual amount of local TV I purchase because there are alternatives available (newspapers, radio, internet)
- Secondly, I would likely subscribe to a "gray market" service such as Dish Networks if I was required to fund or pay for these local TV services and did not have the ability to unsubscribe.

In my view, the best way to support local television is to let it thrive on its own without intervention. If people want local TV, then people will pay for it. If it's too expensive or irrelevant to them, they'll find their local news, entertainment, etc. via alternative methods such as newsletters, radio, internet, newspapers, doughnut shops, or other sources. Enable the "broadcasting" market to allow people to choose.

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 *DM* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 *qzt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not pay extra for local coverage, certainly not from the companies that provide it right now. It is something I can get from other places, such as newspapers, local magazines and local websites. Unless I am getting more, I am not paying more. If the giants want to charge me extra for local coverage, I should have the option to refuse it. These companies paid far too much to acquire their licences and stations over the last few years. I am not prepared to bail them out for their mistakes.
2. DIVIDE DIVIDE DIVIDE. The companies who control our local channels have no local interests. I can already watch American programs on ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX and other cable. Why should I pay money to watch the same shows with local ads on the local CTV, Canwest and City channels? It is time to end media consolidation and return local channels to local owners who are prepared to produce local programming instead of simulcasting content from the South.

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 *gbstone* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. most likely i would try to opt out of receiveing the local channel.
2. Owning stations could be granted more flexibility advertising and other content rules to allow them enought revenue to support the local broadcast

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 *johnnyblaze* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Enough is Enough...everything is going up except our paychecks...stop stealing our money in the dark.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*lenzenmi* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I wouldn't cancel my satellite subscription, however I would likely complain bitterly. I feel I'm already overcharged for what I receive. The current bundling system just adds to my frustration as I'm already paying for a bunch of channels I don't watch so this wouldn't be much different. That said, I do think that local stations do really benefit communities and local news is important (even if I get my news from the radio and interweb).

2) If local TV charges satellite/cable companies, than those companies will pass it on the the customer. This necessitates the need to make these channels optional, just like other paid channels. Aside from local news broadcasts, most local channels offer sub-par programing and I expect many people would not subscribe to them. This will in turn demolish their advertising revenue and could even leave them with less revenue than they have now.

If local TV is not profitable as is, it should be looked at as a public service, and operated as non-profits with local municipalities deciding if the service is worth funding from their operating budget since it is the community that primarily benefits from local news. This would probably lead us down the path of having a local CBC news station, and nothing else. Which I would be okay with.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*markburch* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cost to develop local content is \$0. Local citizens can create and publish their own content any time they like via common websites such as Youtube.com. Its easy. Walk out of your house with a video-cam and start. Upload it to YouTube and allow your community to have fun too. That's real local TV. They days of funneling gobs of \$ to central agencies should be long over. If the CBC/CTV really cared about Canadian content, they'd focus more on helping regular Canadians create online content (e.g. training, local publishing centres).

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Carolyn Tu* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not agree with consumers paying for local TV. We are already paying for our satellite services and broadcasters are already receive funding from governement. If they require additional funding, perhaps they should think about restructuring their business. That's what corporations and private companies have to do when they require funding, why can't local broadcasters do the same? Why is the burden being put on the consumers? We are already supporting them as it is? Are we not taxed enough? Do we have to go and find another reason to tax the consumer? Why can't we for once, force them to be accountable for themselves and do what they have to do to remain in operation, rather than putting on the burden on the consumer, who most likely doesn't consume local tv.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*johnnyblaze* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with BOB. This is ridiculous. Do they take us for idiots?

Johnny "Enough is Enough" Blaze

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Jim U* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we are paying to much Taxes, company's should manage their budgets as I have to. There is not much to watch on TV, I don't think an addition

Tax will improve this.

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[Like](#)

 *Tara* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would likely cancel my cable altogether. I should not have to pay more for local programming. Tax the US programming instead!

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 *Dave and Donna R* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The only local programming that is available from the TV networks is news which is presented to too long a time period in the evening and morning and by over-staffed and over-paid departments. There is virtually no other local programming from the networks and even the news programs often are nationally oriented rather than local.

On the other hand a lot of local programming is provided by our cable company and it is very much community oriented.

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 *girlrigger* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that it is the responsibility of Canadians to know what is going on in their own country, but how educated are you really if you are ignorant to what is going on in your own back yard. I think we need to support our local TV stations. I agree that we pay too much for cable and satellite, but why should cable and satellite not have to pay to broadcast these stations. Why should they get to take something created by someone else, sell it and keep all of the profit.

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 *A LOCAL TV SUPPORTER* ★ [1 month ago](#)

AS CANADIANS WE ALREADY PAY TOO MUCH FOR ALL TYPES OF TV. IT HAS INCREASED TO THE POINT WHERE NOW THE COMPANIES ARE BILLIONAIRES. LOCAL TV NOT ONLY IS A MUST IN LOCAL AREAS FOR KNOWLEDGE OF ONE'S COMMUNITY BUT IN THE GOOD IT PROVIDES IN RAISING AWARENESS IN CHARITY SITUATIONS, ALERTS ON HEALTH, CRISES IN LOCAL AREAS SUCH AS AMBER ALERTS. WE HAVE GIVEN SO MUCH TO THE POINT WHERE ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. THIS DECISION SHOULD BE DECIDED IN A BOARD ROOM NOT BY COMMITTEES AND ON GOING MONEY SUCKING ADVENTURES. THE FACTS ARE SIMPLE AND WE THE PEOPLE DESERVE THE RESPECT OF THE NETWORKS TO PROVIDE IN A COST SAVING MEASURE THE LOCAL TV WE HAVE COME TO EXPECT. THE FACT THAT CABLE AND GLOBAL COMPANIES ARE BANDING TOGETHER IN CORPORATE MEETINGS IS RIDICULOUS AND COSTLY. WE WANT THE SERVICE AND THIS SUPPORT IS BLANTLY OBVIOUS TO YOU...SO NOW EAT A BIT OF YOUR PROFITS AND SUPPLY IT TO THE CUSTOMERS WHO HAVE MADE YOU RICH. THERE'S NO NEED TO SPEND MORE CASH TO BASICALLY DECIDE WHAT THE PUBLIC WANTS, IT IS APPARENT. WE ARE ORDINARY CITIZENS, FARMERS, LOCAL HOMEOWNERS...WE DON'T NEED TO BE CHARGED MORE AS IT'S ALREADY RIDICULOUS WHAT IS CHARGED TO US. THREE QUARTERS OF THE STATIONS ON BASIC CABLE ARE REPEATS OF ONES ALREADY ON. SO WHAT WE PICK WHICH CHANNEL WE WISH TO WATCH THE SHOW ON? IT'S CRAZY, MISMANAGED AND CERTAINLY NOT ABOUT THE PUBLIC. WE ARE NOT FOOLS, NOR IGNORANT ON MATTERS. IT'S TIME FOR THE HIGH CASTLES TO FILL and relate to normal public demand and provide us with the local and the choices we pay so much for. IT'S TIME TO GET REAL.

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 *Chris Reinhardt* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch the commercials and the cable and satellite companies add makes me sick! They link all locals into one, before cable I got to have 3 channels from Buffalo, Global, London and more

free. I pay for them to Rogers, they need to use my money to pay for them the way they do the other channels like A&E Space ect.

Chris Reinhardt

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[scott a](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Based on the lack of quality programs we are subjected to already, a TV Tax will be the final impetus needed for this cable subscriber simply to cancel my subscriptions altogether - as more Canadians pull back and voice their displeasure with this move, perhaps the Big Business of TV will sit back and take notice that they are only as profitable as the willingness of their subscribers to pay - what the market will bear in this time of economic restraint is surely adjusting

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[Carolyn Tu](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Carolyn Tu](#)

consumer want free over the air TV. well nothing is free. advertisers have been paying for the content. tv isn't important so don't pay don't watch

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[toddphillips](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Right now I currently pay over \$100 a month for my Shaw. If it goes up even 5 dollars I would have no choice but to cut back my tv services, if not cancel it completely. If the extra dollars that I give do NOT give me anything extra but put more money into the pockets of other people then I have to say no. In today's economy my wages have dropped 20% but yet I'm expected to continue spending. It doesn't work like that. I say NO handouts!!!

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[cris](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree, I'm all for living without TV. I have have plenty of tapes and dvd's and now that they are putting tv shows on dvd, I wont miss out on anything. Thank god for movie stores. I know I'll be much happier with that \$55 a month going into my pocket instead of a company that already has too much of it and is now whining for more.

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[XR](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

As a Toronto citizen I can get free "over the air" signals from most if not all of the local stations. I should be able to get this same signal for free over the cable and satellite links. If we let the stations charge for their signals to the Cable/Satellite providers, then we, the

consumers will pay for this added charge one way or another. For consistency either the local TV stations should be free or not regardless of the medium of distribution.

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 *Brenda* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cable companies should pay for local tv - where in the world in business is there a free ride? How can they have the audacity to just broadcast something for nothing?

Pay more for cable? For what? Many of our local cable channels are useless, such as stations for gambling. We should be getting a rebate!

Make the cable companies pay for local tv, that is fair, not charging the consumer again for something we are already paying for!

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 *Bill Bowman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I support the cable companies paying for local content. Some local stations are already closed or threatened with closure. Communities need local programming to keep up with local needs and concerns, as well as interests. Cable companies charge for content and should pay for local content like any other.

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 *jeremie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that in no way WE should pay extra for the local tv stations. The big networks like CTV and Global made 400 000 000\$ in profits...PROFITS!!!!!! now why couldn't they use that money to pay the locals. Lets do a little math...wikipedia says we are 34 157 950 canadian citizens. Now $34\ 157\ 950 \times 10/\text{month} \times 12\ \text{months} = 4\ 098\ 954\ 000$. now of course that is exageration because there aren't 34million households but it gives you the right idea, all that to say that it is ridiculous and i will not accept to pay the local networks myself!

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 *Katherine Maas* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not believe consumers should have to pay cable companies for local TV. However, the cable companies should compensate local TV providers for the signals they are now picking up from them and distributing to consumers. Right now the cable companies are getting a free ride and passing the profits on to their shareholders.

Cable companies, who already make a huge profit, seem to be making a huge fuss about having to pay for services they now receive for free, and are intimidating many of their customers by threatening to pass on these charges to them.

On the other hand, local TV is operating on an extraordinarily tight budget -- to the point where many local television services' very existence is threatened.

Many people do not realize what they will be missing if local TV dies. Already the major global media control too much of what we see on TV. If we want to retain our Canadian identity, we cannot allow local TV to go the way of the dodo. Once it's gone, there will be no getting it back.

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 *TC* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Katherine Maas](#) 1 person liked this.

Sorry but this whooey and tripe. It is the the young people under 35 who perpetuate this ideal. TV and phones were free to use, just a simple access fee. Now you all think paying for

air time is cool. Pay for each second of use is the worst thing to happen to society. This all changed in the eighties when communications companies started gain great profits.

GREED!!!

Flag

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[gpan171a](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TVs should get pay from cable and satellite companies for using their TV shows. Free charge is wrong. But the following points need to be considered:

1. Currently, Canadians have paid too high fee to cable and satellite companies already. For example, a VIP TV package in Toronto is charged by about 70 CNDs, which is much higher than the fees in United States.
2. As I know, Rogers-the media tycoon doesn't serve the users appropriately. For example, I measured internet delivery speed over 10 times, but none of them reaches the promised speed (for high-speed broadband). Since last year October, I ordered high definition TV (VIP package), but the signal is not satisfied because the cable connected between my home and the Rogers distribution node is broken. Currently, Rogers just setup a temporary cable which goes from the Rogers distribution node through a tree branch then to my home. Although I complained many times, Rogers doesn't fix the broken cable (need to dig a trench to fix the problem) so far. From here, you can see the tycoon Rogers earn how high money (currently Rogers ranks the leading richest family in Canada).
3. TV stations should be examined for their programs and the values. To do that, Canada should allow TV subscriber to chose their favored channel. Currently, so-called TV package is very roughly selection. In fact, the user should be allowed to select channels one by one, not a package by another package. And, I thought only this way, each TV channel's value can be weighed. To some multi-cultured TV channels, considering the fact of minority viewers, an appropriate weighing factor needs to be calculated.

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[rohit](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

well cable providers are charging fees for all basics tv channel tv tax should be imposed only on them not indirectly on genral public

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[TC](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

First of all there are too many small local TV stations. In large metropolitan areas, there are as many as 10 stations all saying local news which is basically the domain of radio and the you can always get on the internet. Local TV was only instituted in the late 1950's, this was radios domain and newsprint until then. With the advent of the internet, we don't need all the local TV stations. A rate hike is out of the question, proper business management is what local TV needs. THE public already give too much to CBC, CTV, Global etc. As for Cable and Satellite, CRTC needs to tighten the way they are charging for services. They charge for both Standard Definition and High Definition of the same stations, this practise needs to stop now!!!

Canada is way too slow in regulating this practise and needs to enforce a freer distribution of HD Channel roll out. Tsn and Sportsnet should be forced to broadcast over the air as now you have to subscribe to them to watch nhl playoffs and Grey Cup games which were over the free air broadcast before. Pay per View should be regulated more, CRTC regulates internet broadcasts of movies from out of the country but will not allow regulated broadcasts to movies and American and British shows over the internet. Canada us to be a leader in communications but now they are far behind and DO NOT SEVICE the Canadian public.

Flag

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[Lois in Toronto](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I strongly believe local television should be compensated for the distribution of programming, however, cannot image consumers would be open to rec'ing any additional billing for this service. Any charges for local programming shd be combined with current cable and satalite

providers and not be seamless to consumers, a breakdown indicated on current billing. Fees for basic TV / basic TV pkg containing local stations shd be available to all consumers without adding on any additional stations if the consumer only wishes limited/basic programming.

The high cost of viewing has impacted many in recent yrs and cable/satellite giants continue to grow pricing viewing out of reach for a segment of the population, primarily seniors and people living on fixed incomes. There is no Fixed TV availability.

An option of a limited/basic pkg with nominal fee of \$10 to \$20 MAX is not available today through cable and would be one option to provide at least a few local stations to those who merely wish to keep up on local news.

The lowest monthly service, taking into acct all charges/taxes is over \$30.00 I personally am aware of people who have had to drop viewing/tv altogether.

Disgraceful in this media savy age

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 *Shawn* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that there should be a new "basic" tier that consists solely of local TV channels and should be priced at what the Cable companies pay for those channels plus a nominal fee of \$7 to \$14 dollars to cover the Cable companies infrastructure costs and investments. Simply put this is exactly what Phone companies do for ISPs who use their lines if the resident doesn't have a local phone line. The local phone company is basically paid a "dry loop" charge of \$7 to \$14 to allow the ISP to piggy back over their lines. So if Cable doesn't want to pay for local channels then they should be made available to consumers for a charge of \$7 to \$14 max to cover their costs.

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 *Tony Valenti* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not have cable or satellite service, and rely on broadcast signals for my television reception.

Because of CRTC policies, programming available to me has decreased drastically in recent years. I used to be able to watch the Grey Cup, the World Series etc, but now they are no longer available to me unless I pay a fee for cable or satellite services.

CRTC policies have changed the economics to favour cable and satellite providers, and have encouraged the demise of broadcast stations and the broadcast networks.

Cable and satellite providers should be required to provide programs of broad interest to local television broadcasters at no charge.

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 *Jackie Stalker* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am already paying an additional tax on my satellite bill (LPIF), when will it end? As I understand it, this was supposed to help fund local t.v. How many more taxes do we have to pay to support local t.v. I know it doesn't sound like much money, but we are being nickel and dimed to death. A buck here a buck there, next the HST. I believe many Canadians will end up telling the cable and satellite companies to shove it and go out and buy some bunny ears.

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Like

 *paulhawkins* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have always been under the impression that the airwaves are public property. Now that cable has taken over consumers don't have many options. If the cable companies are taking public

TV signals at no charge and charging me to view them on cable without compensating the source, that's wrong. The cables companies need to be subject to the same governmental laws and conditions as private networks. If cable companies are not compensating private tv stations they are in fact highjacking signals. What do the cable companies think of having their service used without payment? I am sure they would not approve. The cables companies have had a free ride for too long and it's time to reign them in. They need to be regulated just as other communications companies are.

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[stevewishart](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would have no problem paying for local television, and feel it is an integral part of my television experience. Without it we would lose a part of our heritage that is important to us all. Not having the ability to see local news stories and programming would limit us all to having to rely on big city networks to squeeze us into their shows, and we all know that just doesn't happen.

As for measures that can be taken. Companies like Rogers, Bell, Cogeco need to put more thought into their billing process. They are charging customers too much and simply not paying for services they redirect. Cable and Satellite companies should absorb the costs related to this and not pass it on to their customers. It is time for cable regulation to be mandated by the CRTC and take better control of the cable and satellite providers running rampant at the cost of the consumer.

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[TC](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to stevewishart](#) 1 person liked this.

Sorry but this whooey and tripe. It is the the young people under 35 who perpetuate this ideal. TV and phones were free to use, just a simple access fee. Now you all think paying for air time is cool. Pay for each second of use is the worst thing to happen to society. This all changed in the eighties when communications companies started gain great profits.

GREED!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Simon Lee](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV program distribution charge is actually a TV Tax that will hurt our customers and our business. The broadcasters are demanding more money to "save local TV" even as they close stations and spend ever more on U.S. programming - and they've never once committed to spending any of the new tax money they want on local TV. The TV broadcasters already receive more than a billion dollars of taxpayer money annually and about \$600 million a year in benefits from TV providers, even as they posted operating profits of \$400 million last year. Why do they need even more from Canadians? The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year. And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year! If the TV tax will be implmented, I will definitely unsubscribe for preimum channels and only stick with basic one as far as possible. It ends up who lose money? Both TV broadcaster and the TV program distributors and it will be a lose-lose game. They won't get what they want. Of course, it will be paid off by we getting less entertainments. I don't think that CRTC want to see and general public consumer want to see. Please post no TV Taxes!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Anne](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree with the idea of a "skinny basic" package. This would enable subscribers to get the local (broadcast) channels at a rate that is cheaper than the current basic rate, and without the

"extra" channels.

Flag

Like



richard ★ 1 month ago in reply to Anne

Customers don't want to pay for anything want free cable too.

Million people stealing cable and satellite. not paying for programming is same thing. jobs are not created from too much theft as money isn't invested in new programming or reduced quality of programming as no profit in making the shows so cheap shows are produced like news and talk shows. many of th shows are for pay-tv..movie producers or show producers sell to pay-tv channels

<http://www.usatoday.com/money/media/2002-12-01-...>

Flag

Like



Sean ★ 1 month ago

Local TV is important to me because it provides information on the current events going on in the community I reside in. That being said, it would seem that the TV broadcasters have forgotten the business model they themselves developed which is that all TV is essentially funded by advertising. The cost I pay as a consumer for TV is that I must endure seemingly endless advertisements to view what passes for 'content' which is being constantly eroded by more and more advertising (as my less than 12 minute attention span already attests to) whether I receive the signal over the air or by another means. Why should I pay more than I already do?? I have cable now and because of the way in which they set up their packages I receive 50 or more stations to get the 15 or 20 stations I actually watch with any frequency for more than I feel is a fair price but what competition is there, a satellite company that is just another arm of the same cable company? I reject the idea of paying TV companies directly for local TV as they should better manage their business and if they can't do that now, how can they be trusted to actually invest any revenue from a tax to local TV only? As for the cable and satellite gougers, they should be forced to provide more options for channel choices at a more reasonable price for consumers while recognizing that if there weren't TV broadcasters, they wouldn't be in business. If each and every station had a price tag on it, the market would choose, except for those few Canadians who get their signal and 3 or 4 stations only over the air.

Flag

Like



Anne ★ 1 month ago

I agree with the idea of a "skinny basic" package. It is a good idea for people who want to get better reception, but don't want to pay for or can't afford the current basic rate. They would get the local (broadcast) channels without having to get "extras".

Also, I believe the local programming fee should be charged to anyone with a TV, who watches the local channels.

Flag

Like



bchadha ★ 1 month ago

Hey CRTC,

1. TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell
2. Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.
3. The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year

4. And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

5. Taxes have never helped, all taxes seem to be going up, with no related benefits to the consumer. This is ridiculous that we are now required to pay taxes to keep channels in place that no one watches in any event because there is no quality in the first place.

6. Is this choice forcing people to pay? Please allow consumers to select the channels that you want to commit OUR hard earned money and based on choice of the channels you want to save - pay the taxes, and you go ahead and charge \$20 or more, you will find reality. Enough of bailouts, if the networks cannot ensure quality and compete after so many years of government dole outs, what makes you think that this money will help and not be miss used the OLG way or the Health Canada way or the Gun registry way.... This is a an EXTREMELY ridiculous proposal.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Kris* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local t.v should be offered for free from the cable and satellite providers since they do not pay to carry them! Even if they had to pay a fee for Carriage they should still be for free since they have made pure profit by not paying all these years and you can pick these signals up for free with an OTA HDTV Antenna which give better quality than the providers! The set \$ to pay local Canadian broadcasters should be based on what the providers pay to carry American stations like Fox,CW23,ABC,NBC,CBS,PBS,MyTV in their lineups which are all for free OTA,(over the air) but they pay these local broadcasters in other markets but not their own! The providers are no better than politician talking out both side of thier mouths!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *taxed_one* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I see no reason to support local TV. They have franchises granted years ago (by the CRTC) that made lots of money for the broadcasters.

Cable and Satellite were/are forced to carry local TV, which was a problem with limited channels. People buy cable and satellite to watch US channels not endless old reruns or lame local programs.

If the local broadcasters haven't improved their business model let them pass on like other non-viable businesses. Don't create another layer of civil servants funded by the public. Say no to more taxes.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *karenkemp* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the market should drive local TV. I think we already pay enough. This is ridiculous. We are overtaxed and now the government and big business seeks more ways to get our money. Let the locals pay for local television. Doesn't our taxes go to support the CBC??? Why don't they do this... or stop our taxation for CBC.... There are numerous sources of information such as the internet. Fund that.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Chris* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The compensation scheme is inherently unfair. As a cable subscriber, why should I pay for programming that is free if consumed over-the-air? Perhaps the CRTC could do any of the following: implement a British-style TV tax; make local station programming on cable an option that needs to be paid for; scrap the proposal completely. The TV tax would be every bit as unpopular in Canada as it is in Britain. If local programming was an optional package, there would be a LOT less local programming consumed.

Quite honestly, if I am going to be forced to pay extra for the privilege of consuming U.S. programming (via "local" stations) on cable, I'll just drop the cable, install an antennae and

watch it from U.S. stations directly. Everyone loses...the cable company loses the \$100/month I spend on cable programming, the local network loses more audience, and I lose convenience. But I do rather than pay yet another ill-advised "fee" to stations that merely paid to broadcast U.S. content in primetime.

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Like



Karen ★ [1 month ago](#)

We absolutely HAVE to maintain local television programming in our country. The more consolidated programming is into the hands of one or two companies, the less voice we have! People - if you save a dollar now (that the poor impoverished cable companies will have to add on to support local programming, sniff), you may pay dearly in the long run with a monopoly that doesn't have to listen. Also - for those who can't afford cable (and there are many), or who choose not to pay exorbitant cable fees, local channels let people stay "in the loop".

[Flag](#)

Like



barbarahorner ★ [1 month ago](#)

I already pay the satellite company a fee to watch my local stations, which is included in my regular package. If the local stations have not been paid by the satellite company then that issue is between the two companies. I should NOT have to pay more to view the stations I already receive in my contract with the satellite company. If I have to pay more to view the local channels then I want the options to NOT include them in my already paid-for programming and will NOT pay any extra then agreed upon in my contract with the satellite package. If I have to pay more to view the local channels then I DO NOT want them!

[Flag](#)

Like



Jim U ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think we are paying too much Taxes, companies should manage their budgets as I have to. There is not much to watch on TV, I don't think an additional Tax will improve this.

[Flag](#)

Like



Thomas ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television stations enjoy the coverage that is enhanced by the cable distribution network. I suspect that they use the coverage statistics when pricing and promoting their programming to potential advertisers - and why not. If this is true then an additional charge on signal distribution would result in a "double dip" of revenue from the local stations. The government should have no place in this discussion. Let the cable companies and tv stations battle for our attention. The consumers should not be forced to pay for a system that obviously is in need of creative solutions to the profitability woes of the networks. Be creative and solve your own problems. I think that that's what you are paid to do.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bernie ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Local TV Stations should be glad that the cable company is distributing their signal. Without the cable company the stations would not have any body watching their program and they would lose the revenue from advertising.

[Flag](#)

Like



danielsacolle ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think CATV companies should pay for it. Do the off-air station do business or charity

work? if they can support themselves, then allow them to go under. Someone will buy them out.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Ray_C](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Cancel my TV service or take a package without local channels. Some of us don't care about local content or rely on TV to supply local news etc.

2. Charge the fee to people who want to watch local channels, this will hurt the local advertisers... God forbid we actually force businesses to become self-sufficient and efficient to survive on their own, time to STOP THE BAILOUTS everywhere. Small/family/home businesses don't get bailouts, why should the local TV stations or car manufacturers, wallstreet?

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Gordon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

These broadcasters are a bunch of morons. They have no intelligence and no ability to run a vacuum cleaner let alone a broadcasting company. I am so tired of the Canadian approach to everything - just raise taxes and your deficit will go away. We as consumers cannot keep getting clipped by higher taxes and fees everywhere we turn. We are already getting slammed by McGuinty the liar time and again. These companies that are in financial duress deserve to fail. Good ole Asper drove Global into the ground with horrendous financial management and now he wants a handout - let him fail. Their mindset will never allow them to compete on the world stage. They have to learn to be creative and learn how to manage risk. They have already been turned down twice by the CRTC. DO NOT increase my cable bill another \$10. We Canadians have to be the most apathetic people in the world. Come on - stand up and tell them where to shove their tax.

[Flag](#)

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 [richard](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to Gordon](#)

crtc mandate is to make sure canadian media has canadian and local content and owned by Canadians, that is the mandate of CRTC and mandate of CBC is to broadcast Canadian news to every part of Canada even if it's not profitable. CBC is owned by Canadians and is non-profit.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Jarvis Hayes](#) ★ [1 month ago in reply to richard](#)

Yeah, there's so much Canadian content on Canadian networks these days. Let's see:

- All My Children
- 30 Rock
- Jimmy Kimmel
- America's Got Talent
- Kilmora: Life in the Fab Lane
- America's Toughest Jobs
- Cold Case
- Grey's Anatomy
- Supernanny
- Eli Stone
- Parks and Recreation
- Gossip Girl
- Battlestar Galactica
- Dirty Sexy Money
- High School Musical
- Fringe
- The Simpsons
- Tonight Show with Conan O'Brien

Jimmy Fallon
60 Minutes
Mad Men
Missing
One Life to Live
America's Next Top Model
Private Practice
Pushing Daisies
Samantha Who?
Supernanny
Terminator: Sarah Conner Chronicles
The Big Bang Theory
The Ellen DeGeneres Show
The Mentalist
The Jay Leno Show
TMZ
TMZ Weekend
Two and a Half Men
Whose Line is it Anyways
Who Wants to be a Millionaire
Wife Swap
Live with Regis and Kelly
The View
The NFL
The PGA
America's Funniest Home Videos
Bold and the Beautiful
Oprah
General Hospital
Dr. Phil
Access Hollywood
The Amazing Race
Law and Order
Law and Order: CI
Law and Order: SVU
CSI
CSI: New York
CSI: Miami
Don't Forget the Lyrics
NCIS
NCIS: Los Angeles
The Daily Show
The Colbert Report
So You Think You Can Dance
American Idol
Ghost Whisperer
Hole in the Wall
Numbers
Prison Break
Heroes
My Own Worst Enemy
House
90210
Kitchen Nightmares
Bones
Survivor
The Office
Kath and Kim
Life on Mars
Life
The Ex-List
King of the Hill
Family Guy
American Dad

Brothers and Sisters
 'Til Death
 How I Met Your Mother
 Do Not Disturb
 Worst Week
 Boston Legal
 Knight Rider
 Deal or No Deal
 E! Ture Hollywood Story
 My Name is Earl
 Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?
 Dateline NBC
 Eleventh Hour
 20/20
 Snoop Dogg's Father Hood
 Forbes Specials
 Extreme Makeover: Home Edition
 The Real Housewives of Orange County
 Cougar Town
 Modern Family
 Curb Your Enthusiasm
 The Biggest Loser
 Judge Judy

Good job CRTC!!!

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Like



Rene Petroski ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not believe I should pay for local TV. This is part of the existing mandate of Canadian TV broadcasters. If I am forced to pay for local TV, I should have the ability to opt out of the Canadian TV channels I do not watch, otherwise, this simply amounts to another tax that I am forced to pay.

Ultimately, I view TV as a commercial product. I should have the freedom to choose which TV channels I wish to subscribe to rather than be forced to accept bundles of channels, 90% of which I never watch but must pay for in order to get the other 10% I really do want.

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Gavin ★ [1 month ago](#)

1) I would not care of local TV goes. If the market is insufficient to support it through advertising, we should not subsidize it.

2) None -- if the market makes it a loser, so be it.

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Like



Larry ★ [1 month ago](#)

First of all someone needs to audit the books of local TV stations to see what kind of revenue they are generating now and whether or not they actually are suffering. It's very easy to get caught up in the hype. If it was decided that cable and satellite companies had to pay (and it is passed on to us) as a fee then what about all the people who still use antennae to pick up the local signals...how will you get them to pay? On the other side of the coin someone needs to audit the cable and satellite companies revenue and see if they can afford to pay local tv without passing it on to us.

The other thing to think about is for instance...I live in the national capital region so the only local station I generally care about are the one's in my area like CJOH so I do not really want to support local TV in other areas of the country!

Local TV is important if you have a local station in your area that provides local news such as does CJOH for Ottawa.

Flag

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StanF ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not impressed how the CRTC regulations enabled Local TV stations to be bought by the networks nor how the networks now believe they should be compensated by the cable and satellite redistributors under the guise of being local TV. In both instances the situation is "compliant" with CRTC regulations.

Perhaps the answer is for the CRTC to allow a free market battle between the networks and the cable/satellite redistributors. As consumers we should be allowed to buy what we want and what we can afford without CRTC intervention.

The current CRTC "hearings" in Hull don't seem to acknowledge that Canadian taxpayers really want a free choice of services from cable/satellite redistributors. Not the packages that the CRTC regulates they provide.

Do you really believe the CRTC will consult with you or any of the originators of the 4675 comments posted on this site to this moment?

I wrote to the PM regarding this matter. His office referred my comments to The Honourable James Moore, P.C., M.P. who responded by saying my comments should be referred to the CRTC. This is known as circular government and is pretty sure to result in the status quo.

Merry Christmas.

Flag

Like



Steven P ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay for local television, the reason I have cable/satellite is so I don't have to watch local tv. If I wanted to watch local tv I would never have subscribed to cable/satellite in the first place.

No additional measures / fees / taxes should be collected to support local tv, if local tv cannot support itself thru advertising or private donations then they should not exist. If I am looking for local activities or news that is what the internet and or the local newspaper is for.

Flag

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Like



Rob Purvis ★ [1 month ago](#)

HELL NO! Enough gouging Canadians for businesses mistakes. We are taxed enough for everything, we already pay tax for the privilege to watch television. Its not my fault that the cable companies are incapable of running a business model properly. If this tax goes through, they will not be getting one more cent from me as I will be canceling all my subscriptions and watch television through the internet.

Flag

Like

 Kathy ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'd rather have local TV than a lot of the dreadful US stuff we get - let's have local TV free and have the option to pay for the stuff that we get and might not want!

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Like

 bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Kathy](#)

it'll cost too much for each channel that is why the bundling and tier 1 tier 2 all those pay-tv channels have lots of advertising to

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Like

 Gerald Long ★ [1 month ago](#)

No, TV stations should carry on as always. There are a lot of people who rely on over air broadcast so people on cable would be taxed while over air people would not. How fair is this. This appears to be a new form of the radio license which was abolished years ago. If the local stations actually did exist for local programming they would not have to pay huge amounts to the americans. If they get money from cable they should have to share advertising dollars with the cable companies.

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Like

 entity_of_life ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is amazing the price of cable..The thieves are robbing everyone blind.. Is there no longer money being made in advertisements?..if that is the case..they should drop the commercials once and for all..lol...Wishful thinking..I know..

So..why do cable companies get to broadcast local channels..and not pay a cent to do so...but charge whatever they want ..to have it in with "cable" TV?

There seems to be a very lop sided field here to begin with..sort of like David and Goliath.

I think it is very obvious that something has to be done to compensate the local stations..and I am very disappointed in the CRTC in how they have handled it thus far..Now they are taking the easy way out..by asking for "free advice".

Perhaps if they had people that were actually capable of their job position..we wouldn't even be having this problem.

Fess up...Most at the CRTC got the "jobs" through political connections..and kickbacks.

What a sad situation to put Canadians in to begin with. Shame on them...and shame on us..for allowing these people (CRTC) control over our airwaves when they cannot do the job..

Perhaps they should dismiss everyone and send in a fresh group of Canadians..that have the capability and the conscience that is needed to govern Canada's airwaves.

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Like

 idariffel ★ [1 month ago](#)

I wouldn't call the Regina "local" channels "LOCAL". They are more PROVINCIAL. I am informed of more stuff going on in Saskatoon and PA, then with what's going on in Regina.

Also, I get channels from across Canada (Calgary, Maritimes, BC, etc). I pay extra for this service, so I assume the Cable company is paying these channels for this service. So to say local channels don't get anything from Cable companies, I would assume that's wrong.

Also, if I have to pay extra for local channels, then I want to be able to pick and choose each

channel (all of them) I receive for cable service. No more packages. Then we'll see which channels will survive and which don't.

Flag

Like



[GeoSv](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to idariffel](#)

But when they start charging per channel they turn that into a travesty too. Instead of a cost that's proportionate to the package cost, they ask \$2 or maybe \$1 per channel. You can't get a good deal. It is rotten.

Flag

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[briangare](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

To be honest the largest provider of local tv outside of large metropolitan centres is cable itself. I live in southwestern ontario. We are serviced by a number of tv services over the air. Only one provides local news to my municipality. The rest are simply repeater stations that either have news coverage of the GTA or carry no local programming at all. There are 2 reasons. First they only exist to guarantee access to cable grids. Secondly the CRTC has made it much easier for broadcasters to be licensed in many cases where they promise not to have local programming or sell advertising in the area. This was partly to protect the same single broadcaster who is holding our region hostage to this issue.

By the way the ATV station in our area seems to have been bounced around by large media interests who have seen playing the merger game. Every time a new owner takes over there is instability and insecurity in the staff. All the while Rogers becomes more involved in the community.

I see this whole issue as being a smoke screen for a couple of poor years and or some poor investments by the large media players. They probably are looking for extra money to help them with the digital transition.

If we are forced to pay a fee for their services , first it should not apply to the CBC as they are already subsidised by us, secondly they should only receive payments for additional local programming that is geared to small markets only. Local programming for large urban centres is profitable already and provided by many of these broadcasters. Thank you for this opportunity.

Flag

Like



[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to briangare](#)

so why are american channels getting paid for the channels and canadian channels are getting nothing cause they don't have to. i mean crtc is says you can't charge for your programs but another station can. stations are private business can charge whatever they want,,,the gov't should be regulating ;price or what a business is charging.

Flag

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[briangare](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to richard](#)

I dont think that cable pays for picking up signals from across the border.

Flag

Like



[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to briangare](#)

this whole national debate over \$5 fee is ridiculous

Flag

Like



[Phyl](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am NOT willing to provide a bailout for the big networks. It's time they start using their huge

operating profits to carry their own load instead of expecting the consumers to pay up so they can continue to make big profits! Cable & satellite fees are too high for sure!!

TV stations should charge the cable & satellite companies for distribution. In order to do business in Canada, cable & satellite companies should be mandated to distribute local TV signals as part of their basic service and NOT charge consumers for them. Local TV needs to be preserved and provided with opportunities to improve services to stay competitive, current and alive! I WANT local news & TV shows but NOT at a high price!

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Like

 *Marc N* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV means basically nothing to me. I do not watch it and if I do, it is not because of local content but because it carries shows most often produced in the US. I get my local information through other means such as CBC Radio or CBC online. I am not in support of paying more for local TV on top of what we already pay for cable services. I also do not think that cable provides good service for the money they charge. Fees keep increasing but the quality of offering does not increase.

Local television should be supported by local advertising. I would support development of Canadian content through partial support from the government. I would also support CBC through partial support from the government as it is the station with the least amount of bias and with lots of Canadian content.

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Like

 *Biff Scooter* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Don't care about local TV at all bar Breakfast Tv to read the news headline across the bottom and see if anything happened around my neighborhood I should be concerned about. Other than that I don't watch local programming. It's boring.

If forced to pay more for basic cable because of, I'd probably finally bag my cable, get a high-speed Net connection and watch TV online.

2. Local Tv should love and die by its own will. They signed that agreement back in the day with cable and like newspapers now they have not adjusted to the new age. Let market forces kill them off. Just don't care at all about local TV.

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Like

 *vertic* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Can't believe that I would have to pay even more for TV programming. It is already at the high end and will soon become unaffordable for most people.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *DJ* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my view our city (London Ontario) does not have a 'local' television station - it is a conglomerate that covers the entire region from Windsor to Kitchener. Add to that the fact that the 'local' programming is worth nothing to me - I only watch syndicated programs anyway - my response to being charged extra would be to reduce my billing in some other way. In short I do not watch local television and am not interested in it. My suggestion is that, if the giant, multi-million dollar cable providers cannot afford to support local TV out of the exorbitant fees they are paid per customer, then either they should give subscribers the choice to reject these fees (and the channels), or local TV can go to H-E-double.

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Like



Gary Douglas ★ [1 month ago](#)

Of course, local TV matters! But at what price does it matter? Cable and local TV are both to blame. They have divided and polarized the issue and it is ultimately the citizens (who the CRTC are fighting for) that will pay. They have conjured up a beautiful red herring which even I would not dare to not dig my teeth into. Stop paying exorbitant fees for CSI miami, New York, Las Vegas. And stop charging me, a Rogers VIP member for channels that I never, never use.

I have two young children. Just give me peace! That's code for channel 65, Treehouse Network where I live. A half-hour of bliss.....

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Like



Paul M-C. ★ [1 month ago](#)

I just don't care about local TV. The truth is I don't watch it, neither do I watch the standard network fare, Canadian or US. My complaint is that I don't want to pay for 'packages' let me pay for the channels I want and no more. If you allow the the locals to charge the cable companies, then let me decide if I want to 'subscribe' to the locals!

As for 'supporting' local TV, Why? I pay for newspapers, news magazines, and 'special interest' magazines, I am supporting what I think has value, whether for news or entertainment TV doesn't offer anything that I cannot get elsewhere, and better quality.

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philipconroy ★ [1 month ago](#)

I find that I will be asked to pay for the poor business practices of TV networks. I want to know what are the networks willing to provide for the money they are asking for?

They want something, they need to provide value for it!

If this fee is added, I will ask my cable provider to remove the basic channels from my service and continue to watch them "over the air".

I have a solution to which I would entertain this fee and it requires the networks to provide something tangible.

Commercials and other paid advertising be removed during programming. This can be accomplished in one of two ways, which are:

1. Broadcasting will be commercial free except for a 1/2 hour prime time slot where nothing but commercials are shown. This system is used in Germany by the two major networks there; or
2. Commercial slots are shown between shows. This would still allow shows to be scheduled as they are now and there would be no interruption during the show, but still have the same amount of advertising. This system is successfully used in France.

I find the networks are simply attempting a "cash grab" during economically hard times.

[Flag](#)

Like



Arnold Littlefield ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for my cable now. I could watch the local TV with rabbit ears for free so why should the cable companies have to pay.

Local TV needs to get out there and get advertising money. NO HANDOUTS

[Flag](#)

Like



Victor Amey ★ [1 month ago](#)

Allowing local TV stations to charge cable companies a fee for distributing their programs, effectively turns them into a quasi-pay television channel. They should not be allowed to charge this fee (the cable companies will only forward the charges to their subscribers). The TV stations should consider themselves lucky to have the cable companies distribute their signals - which expands their advertising viewer base. If they can't survive on advertising revenues, then they should get out of the broadcasting business - not leach off the cable companies/subscribers.

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G. Wozny ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should multi-million (billion?) dollar companies steal local TV signals and not have to pay for them? If a person goes into a store and takes whatever they want and does not pay for it, it is called shoplifting. If they are caught they are charged by the law. That person can not go to someone else and say, "since I stole that item, now you have to pay for it". There is no way that as a satellite customer I should have to pay extra for something that was included already in my programming package when I originally ordered it from our satellite provider. I don't know why there is such a big dilemma on this - plain and simple - the satellite/ cable companies should have to pay the local TV stations for their signal with no additional charges to their customers. In fact, shouldn't they be charged with theft???

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Like



Larry ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is very important and I would support having to pay a little more as long I did not have to continue to pay for the dozens of channels I currently receive and never watch. Why do we need access to multiple CBC, CTV and Global channels from all over the country? It seems to me that if Cable and Satellite providers did not have to carry all those repetitive channels more money could be directed to local channels. Our local channel is not even available on Bell.

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Like



walther ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree completely. A single person household has to pay the same monthly fee. There is only one potential viewer. A household with a large family pays the same but more viewers have a chance to pick their personal choice channels. Children can watch in the early evenings and in the weekend mornings. Housewives can watch in the afternoon, etc. Cable TV service is simply too expensive for a single retired person.

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Like



walther ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV was free when Television Service started. Advertisement paid for the programming. CBC was actually the first to broadcast television. It was supported by the taxpayers of Canada, no advertising, and no monthly bills. Cable Companies started later and connected homes to their service at a nominal fee. These companies developed evermore devious ways to increase fees, until it now turned into a monster money making machine.

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Like



Denis ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable rates are already high enough in Canada as are their prices for high definition converters. Broadcasters do deserve to receive a fee for the services they provide. I think that the answer may lie in what the CRTC did with telephone services and that is to allow competition in cable services, that would allow the cable companies to bid for broadcast television rights while keeping rates competitive.

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Like



betteb ★ [1 month ago](#)

Although I do NOT agree that Rogers should be able to access the programming from our local stations without charge... the fact remains that Rogers IS ALREADY CHARGING US for local programming, and has been for a number of months.

No matter what is done, it is the lowly resident who, like us, may be retired and on a fixed income who ends up paying for any increases.

Many of us do not have the funds to arbitrarily go out for entertainment on a 'whim'... so we sit and watch our TV in the evenings.

We are bound to cable just because of where our house is located... personally, we were only able to get the Barrie station and Global clearly through our antenna, and the over the past few years I find the cost of having cable is getting to be more and more unreasonable.

The public is being punished, and in this economical environment I do not feel this is fair...

many people are on fixed incomes and these are the people who can least afford any changes. With the pending HST this will only further increase the cost of our major source of entertainment.

It is rumoured that our A Channel is on the 'chopping block' anyway. When that happens... we will be forced to pay a charge for programming that is not even LOCAL! None of this is fair!

[Flag](#)

Like



Tina Mathieu & Kathy Shaw ★ [1 month ago](#)

Hello,

We live in Pitt Meadows, B.C. and have a HD TV. We currently pay \$70. per month for basic cable and \$9. per month for HD Plus. This is an outrageous amount of money. Because our cable comes in packages, we can't pay any less per month. We almost always watch the HD Plus channels. In these HD Plus channels we rely completely on Global, CTV, and CBC for Canadian news and Canadian content. We would be devastated and outraged if these channels, especially the news, was not broadcast on a daily basis. If these local companies are having a hard time financially then Shaw Cable (who provides our services) should share some of their profits with

them. If we could, we would cancel most of our basic channels for less money, and keep the HD Plus. In addition, CTV has now started broadcasting their news in HD. Wow, it's fantastic. And when the Olympics come we will be watching all of it through CTV in HD. Wow, are we ever lucky. Because we are paying so much money for our cable, we have seriously thought of going to a satellite dish. Curiously Shaw Cable who now operates Shaw Direct (Satellite) charges much less per month for about the same package that we are getting. There is no doubt that Shaw is making a lot of money on TV, way too much. If we had to pay for CTV, Global & CBC on an individual basis, we would seriously drop most of our basic package and just pay for them. These 3 channels are the most important to us. If they need money then give it to them, but honestly don't ask us for any more money for TV because we are already paying way too much.

[Flag](#)

Like



Merja Archer ★ [1 month ago](#)

There is a lot of air time being used to try and confuse the viewer. Both argue that the other is making huge profits. What is the reality? Are there profits or losses as the ads pronounce? I would really appreciate knowing the truth. Who's making money? Are the local TV stations on the brink of financial ruin? Will the viewer/consumer end up paying more to keep local TV? I want local TV. I don't want to pay more for cable service, I'll end up downsizing my cable in order to achieve this. Will that make cable companies happy???

[Flag](#)

Like



stormintv ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Merja Archer](#) 1 person liked this.

Hi Merja. You asked are the local stations on the brink of financial ruin. The local Ctv station is owned by Bell, they are not going anywhere. They got one job, suck \$50 out of your account and try and lower the quality of your service with lies.. and manipulative commercials that we are all sick of. I know it's crude, but that's how the CRTC get's jerked around by these downs.

[Flag](#)

Like



Paul ★ [1 month ago](#)

Stop gouging us. Cable companies are already overcharging. Giving us channels in packages we don't want or need. Make Cable companies deliver what they promise. Personal TV with personal channel choices. I don't want Hindu channels, shopping channels or Evangelist channels. Pay as you go and for what you want. Thecnology is there. Use it. AND we can get local TV via antenna for free, Yippee!

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Like



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Like



David Preston ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is essentially USELESS and I would NOT want to pay to support it. If it's not a viable business, then let it die. If a TV tax is added to my cable bill, I will cancel the cable!

[Flag](#)

Like



Daniel ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is a joke. Wake up and smell the coffee. This is a straight forward tax grab by television networks who can't manage their finances. Why would anyone expect the public to support television that is already running advertising every 4 minutes. I can't believe that the CRTC is even entertaining their arguments. Television is a business and if you're not making money get out of the business.

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Like



Shaun Ritchie ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable is too much now. I support local television but these costs should not come from the consumer but from the cable providers and the fees that they have already gouged us for. I want dish network. Offer more channels than Canadian providers at \$20.00/ month.

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Shaun Ritchie ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



Howard Nontell ★ [1 month ago](#)

"Local" TV stations are not local. Most of their programming is American and no different than what can be seen on a dozen or more other channels. I don't get any news from the local TV station. Their time has passed. I do not want to subsidize their poor business practise.

[Flag](#)

Like



Too much tax ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the local TV stations are already well subsidized and funded and have had huge earnings. I don't agree with that there should be an additional tax to give them more money!

[Flag](#)

Like



Nipigon1 ★ [1 month ago](#)

Asked to pay more, I would expect to have the choice of subscribing or not subscribing. The carriers should also have the choice of carrying or not carrying the local signal. Both sides of this issue mutually benefit from the current arrangement. The networks have their signal carried much farther than they can transmit it allowing advertisers on the networks to reach a much larger consumer base which means more dollars for the networks. The carriers use the feeds of the networks across the country to attract customers by offering time shifting service. Local tv needs to be able to stand on its own. Let the market decide. Let the consumer decide.

[Flag](#)

Like



S. Hastings ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel I already pay too much for the choice of programming I receive from my cable company. If my invoice was to increase by \$5 - \$10 more I would seriously consider cancelling my cable service.

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to S. Hastings](#)

cable will be \$20/month with less of the channels that nobody wants to watch. 28 channels in basic cable and 20 channels i rarely watch. all the good programs and shows are in free over the air american and canadian channels. there is only actually about 10 channels in basic cable worthy of watching. the rest is 'filler' stations most don't care to watch

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Like



russdebnam ★ [1 month ago](#)

Television is extremely expensive and poor selection with all the tier packages available. Canadian television is really bad programming and frankly boring to watch. The only thing worth while watching is local news to keep informed and is important for my area, from news to weather updates and beyond. The cable companies seem to have free reign on pricing and I have tried using an indoor antennae to bring these costs under control in my home (i live on disability) but cannot get a clear signal using an antennae or I would continue to do so. Seems to me the cable and satellite providers can pretty much charge what they want and the price is always on the rise. As a shut in basically this is my form of entertainment for the month and all I can afford and that is in great jeopardy at this time. Another tax for sevicees is unwarranted and nothing but greed from these providers. it is past time the CRTC put a stop to these rising costs and let the little guy, like myself, be able to afford these services and some are very needed for updates and emergency services. The cable companies report huge profits and the small local stations are getting the shaft from them. Perhaps if they got their fair share from the cable companies upgrades for better equipment could be had and I could and would get rid of my cable provider and only use the antennae for local programming. Stop the tax already!! Canadians are taxed to death and having to make hard decisions between utilities and basic needs like food and shelter.

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Like



Kenneth M. Simaluk ★ [1 month ago](#)

You may have heard this before but for some families this is the only entertainment they can afford any you, with your extra tax may just raise the cost to the unaffordable limit.

I know I will seriously consider cancelling my cable. It could save me over \$1,000 a year.

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Kenneth M. Simaluk](#)

basic cable is only \$30/month, with \$1000/year that is full premium package movie package. top of the line package. for a family it's worth it since kids and adults watch different channels. what i don't like is all those violent miami vice shows are gone no action, no sitcom all boring drama 90210 shows. all you see these days is gossip girl shows that was restricted to daytime hour, guys are playing violent video games are warcraft than watching drama shows because tv sucks for basic cable. you'll need to subscribe to full cable package to get any action movies like spike tv or showcase or movie packages. so basic cable has nothing to watch..not one violent gun shooting movie like miami vice on basic cable. too violent for kids

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Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Kenneth M. Simaluk](#)

free tv over the air is dead because viewers or the high income viewers who have PVR are not watching commercials. Advertisers won't pay for advertising if everybody is skipping commercials. the fact that people can record programming on PVR etc is intellectual property theft. why would anyone buy DVD if they can record all the movies on PVR. and skipping commercials. PVR wasn't possible even in 2005

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[Like](#)



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Kenneth M. Simaluk](#)

personal video recorders and digital tv is probably the biggest change in TV or cable in the last 40 years..cable tv didn't exist until the 70's and pay tv channels didn't exist til the mid 80's and back than was stealing cable and stealing pay tv channels with discramblers was rampant cause the technolgoy was impossible to stop like satellite theft without internet. satellite signals are one way. even satellite theft is dead if internet encryption.

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sophietremblay ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is a TV that is financed partly by my taxes. If they can not be competitive, shut it off. I leave in Quebec and I am already force to listen to bad french musique that I pay with my taxes because of the CRTC. Act like any private company: make good TV and sell publicity. Enough is enough with wasting tax payer money.

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[Like](#)



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to sophietremblay](#)

it's not a tax, it's fee for service. the cable company or tv stations isn't owned by the gov't. the mandate of CRTC is to regulate content and ownership and that is it's mandate.

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[Like](#)



danjorg ★ [1 month ago](#)

I sign up for Disqus e-mail message and i cancel it because i got about over 1000 crtc topic e-mail from this site but what i will say again

I do not support Sim-Subs or Blackouts on Off Air US Networks on Cable and No to Extra TV Fees from Cdn Off Air Station on Cable

and i just cancel my cable and unless they lower the rates, i love it without cable

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[Like](#)



Mutlee ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to danjorg](#)

" Email notifications are sent when comments are posted on discussions that matter to you. Enabled. Send me notifications. Disabled. Don't send me any notifications. "

That's plainly in your account options. How hard is it to choose ?

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Teather ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations were originally set up as a for profit business, with the down turn in the economy these businesses are looking for the viewers to help them turn a profit. About the only time I watch local programming is the news and I can get that through the news paper, radio or

internet. Will these companies ask to turn off their request for support once the economy picks up, I think not. If this becomes a tax I'll cancel my cable contract and put up an digital antenna.

Flag

Like



bill ★ 1 month ago in reply to Teather

people are not watching commercials with PVR and watching the programs that broadcasters pay to broadcast. as for canadian content 1 hour that is not broadcasting programs that are profitable means millions to the bottomline. CRTC regulates amount of canadian content. local content and even commercials broadcasters aer allowed to broadcast in canada. pricing of programs is something the 'free' market can do best. if the programs are worthless or channel is not even worth \$2 or local news is not worth it than don't make it and don't watch it. viewers wil have option of not watching any channel they don't want to watch

Flag

Like



maylan ★ 1 month ago

Fee for carriage? No way!

Canadian networks have run themselves into this mess.

I would cancel my cable before paying for those stations. I don't even want them, but I have to take them.

IF I am forced to pay for them than I want the option of not subscribing to them! Put them up in the 100s!!

Maylan

Flag

Like



billy ★ 1 month ago in reply to maylan

that is what will happen. all channels will be pay per channel. these aren't really local tv. only thing local is the local news. most of the programs are american programs.

Flag

Like



randyk ★ 1 month ago

I enjoy watching local TV news and depend on it to keep informed on what is happening in the community and area but do not think I should have to pay more to keep it...the cable companies are making huge profits and should be forced to pay a fee to the TV stations for the privilege of distributing their signals on their systems. I also hate the way cable and satellite companies bundle their packages...I have to buy a package of 7 or 8 channels for maybe 1 or 2 that I really want and never watch the rest...there should be a package of basic channels and after that, we should be able to pick and choose the channels we want to receive. I think local TV is important, but the cable and satellite companies should step up and pay their fair share...me as a consumer already pay to make these companies rich.

Flag

Like



traceyirwin ★ 1 month ago

when my husband and i purchased satellite service from bell (we are rural and cable is not available to us) we really did think it was pay for what you want television. we wanted commercial free movies and sports channels as many of our favourite sporting events were no longer available from our national broadcasters.(ie. too bad if you can't pay for satellite service or live outside areas serviced by cable)so, imagine our surprise to find out you don't actually get

to select what you wish to pay for. we were told that the crtc mandates the purchase of the "locals" as part of our package. when we complained that we shouldn't have to pay for what we receive for free, the salesperson told us that money (\$12 a month when we first purchased in the mid to late nineties) went to the broadcasters to pay for local and canadian content. that appeased us and more than a decade later we find out that is not the case at all! there is nothing that makes a consumer angrier than being played the fool and we are no exception. WE WILL NOT PAY THE SATELLITE COMPANY MORE TO SATIATE THEIR NEED FOR MORE. we have already paid twice some extra fee they are attributing to the crtc. they can pay for the fees the broadcasters are looking for as they are already charging us for it and there is no need to add further charges to pay for it. we are watching this issue closely, and if the crtc rules in favour of the satellite and cable providers, we are prepared to cancel our subscription. it will not be a hardship as their programming is truly awful and the only reason it has not been dumped already is the digital quality on every channel. but so what, my local news and cbc are still there, and we can get the scores and replays of sporting events on the internet minus the amateurish analysis of the tsn staff!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Rebecca D* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be willing to see the monthly fee raised by a few dollars (as in less than 5) per month to support truly local television (and by this I do not mean news piped in from Toronto and aired as "local" Montreal news, or US TV shows with Canadian advertising being called "local TV").

2. Local television should have local advertisements and product placement to help pay for it. Perhaps. if the station provided a minimum number of hours of local TV, they could become eligible for a tax break, or additional funding from the government as part of an arts and culture venture. But to get government subsidies of any kind it should be heavily audited to make sure that, as a minimally funded venture it does not become some kind of crown-corporation gravy-train. I want to be able to see where the money goes, and why--so that, should this come up again, and it will, we have records upon which to better draw conclusions.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mike* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important for connecting us to our immediate community. When A Channel Ottawa was getting cut back, friends of mine were outraged. It's not reasonable, however to have cable and satellite companies arbitrarily pay for these stations. It should be enough for these companies to simply carry them, free of charge. If the public decides it doesn't want the local product, it can choose to ignore it.

Funding for local TV is another thing entirely. Local TV should be augmented with a daring online program as well. Think public radio in the states, or even (dare I say it) conservative AM radio. But put in an online form where the community can be a part of the conversation instead of just being preached to.

What ever happened to Public Access TV? Can't the same concept be applied online? Though online ad revenue might not be enough to support this idea, direct sponsorship of online local programming might help.

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Like

 *Elisa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Honestly, I'd be annoyed. I barely watch TV as it is, why should I have to pay extra for more things I won't watch?
2. What about a bundle pack? Offer people the option of having their regular cable for cheaper if they add local TV, or offer them the regular price.

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Like



Doug S ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it is preposterous that we would have to pay more for local and federal television through Bell and Rogers. For years the antenna serviced TV has been free but with the advent of digital and difficultly receiving signals - and the phase out of antenna TV we are forced to go digital. In our household the TV is rarely on (less than 4 hours/week) but in order to see ANY TV we have to buy the basic digital package. We have to pay \$412/yr to watch the olympics in Vancouver. I don't think that's fair.

I think it could be reasonable to pay maybe \$10/month for basic TV - that's still \$120/yr as compared to the historical rabbit ear \$free which would provide the basic local channels and ensure some Canadian content. It would provide less channels than basic cable but still the mainstream Canadian channels. It could be mandatory for TV providers to connect this service without requirement to buy any additional services. It should also be reasonable in that the \$10/month should not be augmented as a requirement with the existing \$34/month bill or that any service fee for providing the channels be charged on an ongoing basis (i.e. cost for hook up and disconnect only -if there are any issues with service the government would pay for it unless it was related to the person's home connection.) From my observations there is very little that goes wrong once the installation is done.

I think the consumer is getting gouged and instead of passing along a decrease in costs because of an increase in efficiency as more people have TVs and get connected, the large companies are refusing to pass along the savings and lower the prices.

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Doug S](#)

nobody will sell a service and lose money nobody works for free. consumer want something for nothing if they can. like cable companies getting free canadian channels while paying american channels. american cable companies pay american channels a fee too.

[Flag](#)

Like



Matty ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not believe cable and satellite companies should have to pay a fee for local TV signals. Seeing as people do not currently pay for this, it is highly unlikely they will start doing so. If these stations wish to survive they need to change with the times.

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Like



Matty ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Matty](#)

if the channel isn't worth \$2/month you should not care if you don't watch it. yeah and you can just don't subscribe to that channel

[Flag](#)

Like



Linda Johnson ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is not important to me at all because, other than local news, weather and sports, there is nothing Canadian about them at all. If I am asked to pay extra for local TV, I will cancel my satellite subscription and erect a rooftop antenna.

2. Instead of entertaining a "Fee for Carriage", the CRTC should force the private Canadian

broadcasters to invest some of the money they spend on purchasing the exclusive rights to American programming in the local stations they own and restrict the amount of American content they are allowed to air during primetime hours.

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Like



[B. J. Howes](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the cable companies should pay for the stations they broadcast. I would be willing to pay a small increase in my cable bill to cover this. However, I am offended by Shaw Cable, my cable supplier, who has raised my cable costs frequently (up \$20 per month in the past 5 years) and who continue to move the channels I like to their digital service.

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Like



[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [B. J. Howes](#)

i notice the change in programming too. they do it so you have to get teir 1 or teir 2 or pay \$2/channels to get those shows. somebody owns those shows now..there is a show that only on pay-tv channels. consumers don't care about channels consumers watch content and shows. the only thing worth watching and paying for is local news. unique content and up to date. most of the shows in TV is reruns. reruns are cheap. new content is expensive

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Like



[bjhowes](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



[nan2kmw](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

As everyone knows, there are only three or four big companies, Coca Cola and Time Warner to name two, who control business affairs in The United States and much of Canada. It would seem that they would like nothing better than to see the small local channels disappear, forcing viewers to rely on whatever news "they" choose to show the common people. Since the Government of Canada usually follows along, before we know it the same thing will happen here. We need to know what is taking place in our locality, be it weatherwise, eventwise or what the local council is trying to do. I want to help and support what matters to me and my family, and local TV can make that happen.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Mutlee](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [nan2kmw](#)

"As everyone knows, there are only three or four big companies, Coca Cola and Time Warner to name two, who control business affairs in The United States and much of Canada"

What planet do you live on?

Coca Cola and Time Warner control business in Canada?

It's time to take the tin foil out of your baseball cap.

Coca Cola sells products all over the world, none of which relates to them controlling business in Canada.

Time Warner is a Cable, Content and Internet Company. They have no cable assets in Canada, Their internet presence is laughable, all you get here is TV, Movie, Music and Publishing content. None of which would constitute control over business affairs.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Paul Chislett ★ [1 month ago](#)

Believe it or not I have not owned a TV set in about three years. Local programming has been decimated by the merging of media monopolies like Canwest, Globemedia, and so on. Local programming is centralized and run by corporate interests which cater to advertisers. Local content is left up to underfunded CATV channels which do not offer enough airtime for local content. There should be funding for local community programming including TV and community radio. The CRTC must insure, by regulations, that there is media democracy, not just corporate dominated media which shape opinion themselves and then report that as news. I wouldn't pay for what is now available. I would pay a subscription fee in concert with government funding for media I can watch, listen to, and participate in.

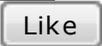
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 Like

paulpugh ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local Television news and community programs are of great importance to me. Cable and satellite corporations can afford to ensure our communities have proper coverage. I don't care if I ever watch a so-called "reality" show.

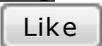
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 Like

tomarchibald ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think local TV broadcasters should be able to charge cable companies for their signals. Also, cable companies should not be allowed pass those extra costs on to their subscribers. Cable companies are cash cows, their ROE is more than sufficient to absorb the extra costs. Do you know any owners of cable companies who are not multi-millionaires?

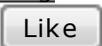
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 Like

Bill Creighton ★ [1 month ago](#)

We pay too much for the services we receive currently. I would very much like to see the CBC and local programming continue. The CBC offers programs and a perspective which will never be available from the Private sector. I would much prefer to pay for a TV licence than to endure all the nauseating advertizing. Ever thankful for the mute button.

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 Like

Wayne Clark ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would refuse to pay a cent and as a result, with regret, would end up not watching local television at all. If, for all these decades, local television and the national networks they were usually associated with were able to sell enough advertising to fund broadcasting and program development without directly charging viewers, I do not understand why cable providers feel they are offering, through local stations, anything that deserves additional compensation. If they want to offer specialty programming, that is their business and it will be my choice to subscribe or not. I wish to add that when I speak of local programming, I think primarily of news and information produced and reported by people in my community who by definition reflect many of my needs and perspectives on the world around us. What is important to my community is not a matter for bottom-line decision-making. It concerns more a society in which essential information is free and available to all.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Mike Clare ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy with that. Cable companies were set up initially with a monopoly under the

condition that they provide a free local station, what seems to me to be happening, as the cable companies merge territories, they themselves are dropping the number of community stations never mind what the networks have done. The networks have expanded too quickly and are now caught in a financial mess of their own making.

[Flag](#)

Like



bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Mike Clare](#)

industry changed not the same even 2005,,man viewers are skipping commercials that pay for the million dollar produced shows. actors, producers, writers etc don't work for free. new content is risky and expensive to produce,,bad shows nobody wants to watch get no advertisers. shows like friends, seinfeld mash shows need talent. thousands of jobs lost due to pirating of music,movies and now tv as viewers are not watching commercials or not enough viewers. advertisers pay by how many viewers watch the show. us is cheaper because there is just more people watching the shows. that could change too as shows will be paid on how many people watch it. tv industry is changing

[Flag](#)

Like



JohnC ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable fees are exorbitant, just like cellphone rates -- what's the common denominator here? In any event, cable companies should pay for the programmes they use to create their revenue and that includes the programmes they get from TV stations. And the CRTC should ensure that NONE of that payment is passed on to the cable companies' already overcharged subscribers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Tony Chadwick ★ [1 month ago](#)

My taxes already support the CBC,nationally and locally. I do not think an additional tax is needed or justifiable. Other local broadcasters, e.g. CTV, Global already make a considerable profit from their operations, and in any case do very little to provide Canadian content.

The cable companies should not continue to profit from the free-to-air signal, since they add no value. Those companies should pay a fee to CBC, and perhaps a lesser amount to CTV and Global, and should NOT be allowed to pass that amount onto their subscribers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kv ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would react negatively. I pay an exhorbanant amount for my cable as it is and even though it is bundled! But they always manage to beg the CRTC to up the rates to pay for rising costs,yet we never know what these costs are! But they have new vans and trucks to drive around in and can contract out to PVS services, get higher wages! The only way to try to keep costs low is to switch every year to a new provider in order to get the lowest possible rate, which is a pain in the neck. If this fee is going to be imposed the cable and satellite providers should reduce our costs by the same amount or more to keep our business...as for myself I am ready to ditch TV/cable/satellite altogether, I am tired of being gouged to watch continual repeats and channels I do not want or need without being given any real choice to get the package I really want without blatant costs! And besides where are the sponers that pay the local TV stations to advertise? I always thought that was how they operated?!

[Flag](#)

Like



Sue Rietschin ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems that the cable and satellite companies could give support without raising their rates. They get the advertising dollars, not the stations. It should be a mutually supportive relationship not competitive as it is now.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Kv* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would react negatively. I pay an exhorbanant amount for my cable as it is and even though it is bundled! But they always manage to beg the CRTC to up the rates to pay for rising costs,yet we never know what these costs are! But they have new vans and trucks to drive around in and can contract out to PVS services, get higher wages! The only way to try to keep costs low is to switch every year to a new provider in order to get the lowest possible rate, which is a pain in the neck. If this fee is going to be imposed the cable and satellite providers should reduce our costs by the same amount or more to keep our business...as for myself I am ready to ditch TV/cable/satellite altogether, I am tired of being gouged to watch continual repeats and channels I do not want or need without being given any real choice to get the package I really want without blatant costs! And besides where are the sponers that pay the local TV stations to advertise? I always thought that was how they operated?!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Amy Quinn* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am writing to express my concern over the loss of local television stations across the country, this includes the CBC and all of it's affiliates. Canadian television is more important now than ever before with world wide access to American television and the sale of American shows to Canadian stations we are on the edge of losing a host of jobs, careers and opportunities for Canadian talent. As well, local television does support local industry and keep us up to date on local news as well as national and international news. Please support Canadian stations and recognize that it is a difficult world in which they compete with the American broadcasters and it's view of their small world. Thank you

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Pat Tieleman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We are bombarded with terrible U.S. programs, with the exception of PBS, what are we paying for? I need local programming, and a choice of what I like to see and hear. Do something!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*L Brittney Salmond* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that cable companies should be paying SOMETHING towards local TV companies/channels. Local television and local news is extremely important and I feel it is the cable company's duty to put payments to these channels BEFORE any 24 hour sports or movie channels coming from the US. (I had always believed that cable companies had paid out to local Canadian channels, as I thought this was part of their obligation (and assumed at least part of the high cable costs I have been paying for was redirected to these channels. It has only been recently that I found out this was not the case.) If I was to get some of my money BACK from the cable company, I would direct funds myself to local TV, but I do not wish to pay more ONTOP of what the cable company already (misleadingly) takes from me.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*L Brittney Salmond* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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from the cable company, I would direct funds myself to local TV, but I do not wish to pay more ONTOP of what the cable company already (misleadingly) takes from me.

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Like



lewmacdonald ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would say "OKAY" to paying for local TV if it came with no ads. I currently do not pay for cable or satellite services as I do not wish to be subjected to the ads that come with the programming. We need to get advertising out of TV equation. I gladly pay for content (local and nationals) and pay what it actually costs - through (progressive) taxation and consumer licensing, with the emphasis on taxation.

[Flag](#)

Like



elizabethyoung ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the cable companies start paying for local television programs, will any of that money go to producing more Canadian television? If so, I am all for it if not, than why bother?

[Flag](#)

Like



JWH ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not believe additional payment for local TV is justified. The cable companies have enjoyed and continue to enjoy a near monopoly on TV broadcasting while local stations struggle to stay afloat. Cable companies should support local TV by paying them for broadcasting their signals.

[Flag](#)

Like



Norman Farrell ★ [1 month ago](#)

Take back the broadcast licenses and auction them to others for terms of 10 or 15 years. Let the market determine who should survive.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sally ★ [1 month ago](#)

Without local TV, the community has no voice. It's disgusting to be forced to pay for it, but it's essential.

[Flag](#)

Like



Katie ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion, the vertical integration of one company owning all aspects of media, such as newspapers, radio, and television is dangerous ground. It can prevent us from hearing a balanced view of local, regional, national or international events. The other danger in this integration is that some companies who own this tower of media outlets is bleeding money from the less profitable business areas, which is forcing them to cut back on the television production and broadcast. Under no circumstances should we reward these poor business practices by giving these companies more of our tax dollars to bail them out of their unsuccessful greed.

The federal government should look carefully at such mega-giants like Canwest. Their monopoly on our media should be broken, and a more competitive environment might result. This will eventually mean, I think, stronger local television programming and support for same. As viewers we will identify more strongly with a locally owned/managed station and rally for its continuance. It seems very hard now to attach loyalty when all of the management decisions are made deep in the bowels of a concrete bunker in Toronto.

[Flag](#)

 *larrynicolay* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable monopolies and satellite companies should pay for the TV signals they distribute, and they shouldn't be permitted to pass on these costs to the consumer. The rates for basic services should be re-regulated.

As for support to local television, compensation for their signals should be allocated based on the stations' Canadian content.

[Flag](#) *Cathy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I totally support local television and think the cable companies should be paying for the programming. I already pay grossly overpriced cable bills and feel that legislation should be introduced limiting cable bills and requiring them to pay for local programming.

[Flag](#) *Grant Waite* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would cancel my cable service, & go back to an aerial, We pay enough now. All we get are the same channels, on different stations.

[Flag](#) *Larry Nicolay* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite companies should pay for the local signals they distribute and should not be allowed to pass these costs on the consumer. Moreover, the rates for basic service should be re-regulated.

As for support for local television, compensation to local stations should be calculated by the level of Canadian and local content.

[Flag](#) *DavidJH* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable monopolies should pay for the local signals they distribute and they should not be allowed to pass these payments along to subscribers.

To make sure this happens, the rates for basic service should be re-regulated.

[Flag](#) *Katie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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made deep in the bowels of a concrete bunker in Toronto.

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Like



Mutlee ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Katie](#)

CanWest is bankrupt. They will be broken up. The only question remaining is how many creditors will be stiffed in the process. And if they can shield the profitable parts of the company from legitimate creditor claims. BTW CanWest's bunker is in Winnipeg.

[Flag](#)

Like



jonser5 ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. If my cable or satellite service cost anymore than they do now I would have to cancel them. Canadians are being charged far too much by satellite and cable providers as it is. With that being said, I do feel that local news is very important. This is where the second question comes into play. If I want to have local programming, but I don't want to pay for it, then where does the money come from? Fee-for-carriage is an option, after all, the cable and satellite companies basically get to sell a product that costs them nothing (local TV Stations) but then again local TV stations get a much wider audience because of the cable and satellite providers. It seems like they both need each other more than we as consumers need either of them. With the advent of streaming video and news sites I can watch whatever I like on the internet whenever I like... except for local news and programming. It seems that the providers and TV companies should be working together to ensure their own mutual survival. Why not give the TV companies fee-for-carriage. But when or if the ad revenue starts to come back taper the fee off. I just don't see how either player can win with out the other.

[Flag](#)

Like



Eric Berube ★ [1 month ago](#)

Many Canadians are running low on funds as it is, why should you make television even more unaffordable? Which do you believe is more important? Supporting a few dying local television stations or millions of Canadians not being able to afford their television bills anymore.

[Flag](#)

Like



Don Kletke ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems to me to be a no brainer that local TV is important to the population in general. We are too big a country to be homogenized into one big demographic. There are undoubtedly individuals and/or corporation who don't care about the issue as long as they make their pieces of silver from the pockets of ordinary Canadians, but the CRTC is supposed to be the servant of the electors and not the lap dog of the corporations. Therefore it should be the duty of the CRTC to insist that local TV stays healthy and the Cable or Satellite companies should not be allowed to pass on their extra cost on to the consumer as these companies already make an inordinate profit from us. Another issue is, that we are forced to subscribe to channels that we neither need or want to get the ones that we do want. A different system of bundling the channels could be instituted whereby we could ask for specific channels and receive them without all the other clutter.

[Flag](#)

Like



D. Rogers ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV does not do a good job providing local content. Most of the broadcast content, particularly prime-time content is American. Hence, local TV stations do not deserve to be able to charge a fee-for-carriage.

Radio, not television, is the best medium for local content and local programming.

I would NOT be willing to pay additional cable charges.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Kathy S* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is very important to me. I don't want to see the costs go up. I know if cable pays for the local service they will pass the cost on to me anyway. It is worth paying for local TV either way.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *John Liss* ★ [1 month ago](#)

the cable companies should pay for the signals they receive free, but should be regulated so that they don't simply bill their customers.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *chrissy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Under CRTC Regulations, cable companies are already providing local programming and doing an excellent job of it. Why should we have to pay more to Network stations because they made poor choices spending their money. I will not pay extra for stations like CTV, Global or CBC. They have access to advertising revenue and when the recession is over, these funds will again flow and they won't give back the money to us, yet they want it from us now.

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 *John Neufeld* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite providers are currently charging consumers for "off air" television channels that they are receiving free of charge. There is no valid reason for consumers to have to pay any additional fees for these channels if the CRTC regulates a fee-for-carriage. The small amount for a fee-for-carriage for the few local television stations that it would apply to would be a huge help for the local stations and a minor expense to Cable and satellite providers. There are very few businesses where you can take a product for free and resell it at a profit. Cable and satellite providers have had a free ride far too long and it is time for them to pay for the use of another companies product.

If my cable operator raises my rates or discontinues my local channels, I will reduce the number of channels I am subscribing to drastically. I am not interested in a substitute channel that I have no interest in watching. There are far too many of those already. The average subscriber watches perhaps 20 to 30 channels out of a possible 300. Substituting another channel that no one watches is not acceptable for the rates charged by cable and satellite.

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 *Sally Hansen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is an important component of community health. I completely agree with the recommendations made by FRIENDS and encourage you to adopt them:

local TV is under severe threat

to keep it alive, it needs new sources of funds

cable monopolies should pay for the local signals they distribute

cable should not be allowed to pass these payments along to subscribers

to make sure this happens, the rates for basic service should be re-regulated

the compensation to local broadcasters for their signals should be allocated based on each broadcaster's total audience for Canadian shows.

In particular, I ask that the Commission re-regulate the basic service of the big four cable monopolies and ensure that cable distributors do not pass along signal compensation charges

to their subscribers.

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 *bellweather* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I want local stations to be successful and financially viable; it is objectionable for us to be flooded with a tidal wave of American clap trap that leaves all Canadian TV at a serious disadvantage, and especially so local stations. It is important for us as a nation to have our own multiple voices: national, regional and local. To have our public opinion shaped by the likes of Fox news without a whimper in support of Canadian TV would be the shameful capitulation of a colonial backwater.

We need financial support for local TV and Canadian production; it should come from the Cable TV producers who cry poor even while they have a license to print money and an obligation to carry the very signals they don't want to pay for. They should not be allowed to pass legitimate payment for all Canadian TV and especially local signals back to the consumer. Perhaps if they don't want to negotiate in good faith, the cable TV outfits should be taken into the public domain as a crown corporation and operated as a utility providing service to the Canadian public. These corporations who think they can profit without limit while scamming the public with local monopolies and at the same time owe nothing in the way of social or corporate responsibility should be given to understand there are other options that involve accountability to the public served.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *S. Hansen* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like

 *petermoller* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do believe we need to do whatever we can to protect local TV coverage. For that reason, I believe the TV networks should receive compensation from the cable operators for using their signals. I believe they do pay for showing the specialty channels and I wonder if this is so different. Finally, I am aware that the cable operators are very profitable and can probably absorb the extra costs without passing them on to the consumer.

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Like

 *John* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be very resentful of any extra charges on my already way too high fees for cable TV to pay for local TV given the huge profits already enjoyed by the cable companies. I am a huge fan of local TV and CBC in particular and given the garbage available on so many of the other channels which I don't ever watch, didn't want but have to pay for anyway it is no surprise to me how often my channel is tuned into CBC. I would definitely consider cancelling my cable if I have to pay extra for the local CBC channel

[Flag](#)

 Like *Colleen Wolstenholme* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think the cable providers are being untruthful in their assessment of this issue and the local broadcasters are correct they should be paid by Rogers and the like for carrying their service and this cost should not be merely passed on to the customers as the cable providers would like. They have long been favored by the CRTC in the arrangements that have been made and it has ruined broadcast TV because their signals can't be picked up without cable anyway because of the interference.

[Flag](#) Like *frankmitchell* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable fees now are grossly excessive. I do not watch local TV stations since (a) too much time is taken with ads, and (b) the content lacks depth. Technological change is eliminating the viability of ad-supported newsgathering. A substitute must be found. Much larger public funding has a role to play. As for what programs appear on cable, I would be entirely happy to receive only Newsworld, Knowledge Network, PBS, BBC, and perhaps CNN, Al Gezira (when it arrives in Canada) and the classic movie channel. Bravo at a pinch.

[Flag](#) Like *Liz* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important to me as it informs me about what is going on in the community. These local community activities are usually without funding and need all the help they can get. They are extremely important to what makes a community successful. Keeps crime rates low as activities for all age groups are involved. The funding should not come from the users. Low income or limited income subscribers who need the local TV the most will not have the resources to access this valuable service.

[Flag](#) Like *Wesley Cragg* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't think subscribers should have to pay.

Cable companies should pay for the right to carry local news.

[Flag](#) Like *Janet Vickers* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is important to Canada and its struggle to maintain the ideal of a functional nation. I believe the cable companies - since they own pretty much a monopoly should support and pay something towards local television.

[Flag](#) Like *David BCL* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would also cancel my satellite services and go to over the air digital services. I can receive over 20 stations in the GTA for free, over the air (OTA). I think that it is completely reasonable that the satellite and cable companies should pay for the network signals they use - local TV could be readily subsidized in this way. It would then be up to the consumer to choose between OTA and cable/satellite.

[Flag](#) Like



Barbara ★ [1 month ago](#)

Our family watches local news every day. It is relevant to our immediate area and is very helpful in informing us what the local news, weather and events happening. Since this is where we spend our life, it is an integral part of our life.

I would not want to pay more than I am for my cable. If local programming production needs to charge for their programs so be it. I am not a fan of the cable company. I think I pay enough for the service that I get and would like to see a portion of that paid to the local programmers.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



saharaiced ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. i usually only watch local tv; why should I have to pay for local tv, shouldn't my cable provider pay for it, since I am already paying them a monthly fee to provide me with good transmission of this programming?

2. cable companies should pay

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



carolynnalder ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't love the idea of having to pay for local tv on top of my cable bill, but if that is what is required to keep local television alive, I would do it. I worry that paying for a service restricts access for those who can't afford it, and the idea of local programming is to keep more people informed, not less.

I think cable companies should have to broadcast local stations, and they should have to pay those stations for it. I watch local tv through my cable provider and pay them for it each month without fail. Some of that money ought to be passed along to the station. Everyone wants to externalize costs these days (including consumers) It makes sense that those benefitting from a service - both the consumer and the cable provider - should have to pay for it. At the same time, this needs to be balanced with the importance of not limiting access to information for those who can't afford to pay for it.

I think it is important to note that government can play a role in this. Local television is a public good, and efficient allocation of public goods usually requires some government intervention, whether it be a tax or regulation or whatnot. Maybe allowing more competition in the cable service provider industry will help normalize costs to the consumer with regards to cable provider profits

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



A no very well off pensioner ★ [1 month ago](#)

I wish to pay only for the channels I choose.

Public service channels (Knowledge network, CBC. C.P.A.C., PBS) should be free to the cable subscriber.

If a subscriber wishes to only receive the free channels they should only pay a \$5 a month fee to the cable company to cover the actual cable operating cost.

No charges paid by cable companies should be passed on to the subscriber by increasing fees. Cable company prices should be controlled by C.R.T.C.

Profits or cable companies ARE ALREADY LARGE ENOUGH TO ABSORB THESE CHANGES.

Cable companies should not be allowed to insert their own advertising or paid advertising they take from others in substitution for the channel's advertising.

There should be no tax on television reception or cable reception.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Buela ★ [1 month ago](#)

We have certainly come a long way from the privilege of putting up an aerial and receiving

current local and additional information and entertainment from our airways free. I believe in free enterprise but I also believe we the citizens and taxpayers are not being treated fairly. Since commercial advertising already provides income and we as viewers now have additional payment for cable or satellite, I believe the local tv service should remain free to the viewer and cable/satellite owners should pay them for programming.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jane H ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite companies should pay a fee for local TV signals. Nothing is free. The cable companies are making enough profit to be able to afford this. I have been offended by their blatant TV ads against paying a fee for the service.

[Flag](#)

Like



mikewalker ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. The only thing this socialist state does not yet tax is the air I breathe. Once the economy improves local TV stations will be able to pull their own weight, there is no need to further tax the consumer. If taxed for local TV I will cancel my cable.

2. The large communication corporations should be forced by government to keep their local stations going using the profit gained from the larger markets. The smaller stations will return to their former profitable status once the economy has improved. This will happen without the needless imposition of any further needless taxation imposed on the consumer. If the consumer is taxed in this case it would set a dangerous precedent that any unprofitable venture should be saved by the taxpayer. Any further revenue needed to maintain local TV should come from the cable and satellite signal providers deep pockets

[Flag](#)

Like



Pam Tonsaker ★ [1 month ago](#)

We have a shaw local channel now, and I really wonder what service that provides. As it cost Shaw to do this, why not delete that channel, and then take that money and give it to the other local channels who do provide relevant TV service.

Local news is a corner stone of any society or area, and how can we NOT live without such a service today, considering we are so media and a 24/7 society these days. We can't do without our blackberries and our cell phones, yet we can do without our local TV? Rethink that idea long and hard.

Also, our cable bill increases every six months well over the CPI, and yet what do I have to see from that? I would rather have some of that money go towards the local channels that I do watch, and that is done daily re news,sports and weather.

[Flag](#)

Like



Eric ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think cable companies should pay some sort of fee to the local station they distribute through cable service, but not so high a fee as to cause an increase in the cost to the consumer of this cable service. there's a fine balancing act.

i hear all the cable company ads and it can be best described as propaganda against the local tv stations whether they belong to a network or not.

it would be only fair for the cable companies to pay the original broadcaster for a channel they offer on cable. on the other hand the broadcaster does get access to a wider audience because of cable distribution.

it's not a black-and-white issue, so let's see if we can strike some sort of balance on this.

[Flag](#)

Like



Stuart Evans ★ [1 month ago](#)

In a traditional commercial distribution enterprise, the distributor buys a product, moves it to the customer, and then sells it for a profit. That cable companies distribute a product without paying for it, is a business anomaly. Cable companies should absolutely pay for the signals they distribute and profit from, including signals from the local stations.

A similar philosophy applies for the generation of the local signal. The local company pays for the content either by staffing up and generating the content locally, or purchasing prepackaged content from somewhere else. In all cases, I expect the advertising inserted into the programming should be payment enough for the content to be packaged and delivered. If I, through a cable company, am expected to pay for this packaged content, then I should be relieved of the advertising burden that fills approximately 1/3 of the time in existing programming.

If the advertising does not cover enough of the production or purchase cost of the program content, then the advertisers should pay more, or there should be a rationalization of the model. I personally devote my time to radio and television stations that do not include 3rd party advertising – I would be happy to pay for quality content without commercials on a subscription basis. Note that I said WITHOUT commercials.

[Flag](#)

Like



laseby ★ [1 month ago](#)

Our local Tv is one of the few sources of new items of importance to the residents of our city. National new broadcasts have no interest in small local items such as tax increases and other decisions of local councils.

There is also no control of the fees the cable companies can charge or the amounts by which they can increase fee to their captive audience.

I am forced to take a package that includes many channels I have no interest in such as sports. I would like to be able to purchase only those channels that I want for a reasonable price.

[Flag](#)

Like



ted ★ [1 month ago](#)

if the fee to satellite providers is imposed for local tv, there is no assurance the monies will be put towards local tv, it is just a cash grab at the viewers expense. the local channels already get benefit by additional advertising revenue from the exposure on satellite

also the quality of local tv is abismal, and will not improve with the addtional funds provided.

[Flag](#)

Like



Cs ★ [1 month ago](#)

It seems reasonable that if the local station is truly paying for the development and creation of Canadian programming, the local station's recouping of the cost is appropriate. The cable/satellite companies must not be able to keep that extra charge in any form.

If the alternative is the loss of local programming available with an antennae then an extra charge is appropriate. Complete control of television media by cable and satellite companies means that the poor in our society are being disadvantaged in terms of access to information. If the extra fee is \$60 as my cable provider suggests, then that is \$5 a month to ensure reception of local information for all in some form.

If there is no further development and support of truly local news and program then I object to an increase in fees by the cable companies.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Chris ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable TV fees should be re-regulated. Rogers is gouging us to feed us channels they don't even pay for. We need local TV - getting local news is essential for our democracy to function - we need information to take part in the decisions that effect our lives.

But we're already paying enough to the cable companies. Sometimes regulation is necessary because the market doesn't provide all of the answers (witness the banking fiasco).

[Flag](#)

 Like

susanfahey ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local programming is very important to me since I live in a small town in the BC interior. While CBC Vancouver is nice, I NEED my local programming. Make the cable companies pay it.

\$5.00 a month is well within my budget.

I wish I knew what to do to support local TV!!! I would do it.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Brian ★ [1 month ago](#)

I dont dont "pay" for tv right now because i want to watch 10 to 15 channel but Cable providers FORCE you to buy a package of 100 plus channels of crap. I want to watch CTV, Global, City, TVO, CBC some new networks and sports channels but im forced to get so many channels i will NEVER watch. Cable SHOULD pay ALL companies for thier signals. Canadian Broadcasters MUST fund local CANADIAN drama & comedy and NOT include this reality crap. For every CSI they buy the MUST be forced to invest hard dollars in CANADIAN shows (again no reality please!) Cable should match an amount of funding to. Be GREAT if canadian government would allow some for of tax credit or tax shelter so the coporate world could invest in Canadian TV too.

[Flag](#)

 Like

bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Brian](#)

reality tv and talk shows are cheap tv why do you think nobody watches tv anymore. only good tv is specialty channels or the movie channel or news that's it. tv is for entertainment first not to educate or journalistic b.s. or documentaries. viewers don't care if it's canadian content or american content and will watch what is entertaining. tv is about entertainment first. for couch potatoes not to educate or inform etc.

[Flag](#)

 Like

Hal F ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies are in the business of making money. Local TV streams, by being part of basic cable service, are therefore contributing value to the cable product. Cable companies have been getting a free ride from these free streams and have been making money because of their presence for a very long time.

If cable companies want to charge for local TV services, they should work with local TV to develop special programming that would be in sufficiently high demand that viewers would be willing to pay extra for it.

If I am asked to pay for local TV, I will drop all special services, including digital TV and the PVR provided by Rogers. I will next drop Rogers altogether then switch to an antenna for local TV and explore options to receive the very few other programs I care to watch.

[Flag](#)

 Like*mikewalker* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my cable and purchase an antenna.

2. The Networks should be legislated to keep all local stations on the air, these businesses will resume profitability once the economy improves. It is not the responsibility of the taxpayer to rescue every arm of a profitable corporation that is facing a temporary negative revenue stream thru needless taxation. The idea that cable and satellite companies can charge the consumer for something they receive for free is ludicrous. The only logical measure that can be taken is for the cable and satellite providers to begin to carry their own weight. If they then decide to pass along the fees they pay to the consumer, then the consumer can decide if they want to continue their subscription. That is the only democratic way to solve this non-issue

[Flag](#) Like*Nicole Chaplain-Pearman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think cable companies should shell out some money to support local tv and also offer more choice and flexibility in what cable channels people may choose. For instance they could charge for a package of 10 channels but those 10 channels would be your choice. If you wish you could expand to a bigger package, i.e., 15 channels of your choice, then 20 etc.

[Flag](#) Like*davurs* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would consider paying for local TV channels ONLY if we had the choice to subscribe to individual channels and not in package form. If we are required to take a package then the basic package should remain "free".

2. Local advertisers assisting toward a healthy local economy.

[Flag](#) Like*Guygee* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that we pay already too much to watch a minimum of 20 minutes of advertisements, with no possibility to choose the channels I want to pay for this make cable a luxury that personally I'm on the verge to cancel. Anyway my kids are barely watching they are more fed up than me. With no control on what channels I would like to purchase this is highway robbery. Cannot believe that this business is in such trouble when most of the population watch some kind of TV, more full stomach complainer I guess.

[Flag](#) Like*Rev. L. Bruce Pocock* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I can not understand the necessity of having all those local stations from across Canada. The only ones that are needed are the ones for immediate area or province. I know that, like the newspapers, local stations are being hit hard by the present economic conditions. Local stations are important. Cable can siphon off any local ad funds. Somehow we need balance. Local stations still need to be there for their constituencies. Cable needs to compensate them for using their signals. At present, it seems that their attitude is that, we have the biggest market and only that is important. It is just not so. Canada is broad and wide. The various regions have to have their own local news services and media access. They can not be left to die for the sake of greedy cable and satellite companies. Compensation seems to be the only logical way to keep both alive and well.

[Flag](#) Like

 [erussellsmith](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies should pay for the signals they distribute. I, on the other hand, should pay for and receive the channels I want and no more.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [alichelittle](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I could not afford any more than I pay now, with rent and food and other increases. I am retired 20 years, widowed, on a fixed income and TV is my main source of winter entertainment at the age of 80. I realize that I have been too long on the planet to suit the people in power to-day, and I am thankful to have seen more of the Leave it To Beaver times than those of Conrad Black, Tiger Woods, Reality shows and other money-grubbing ways and means committees. You will do as you wish - to the great detriment of many, many loyal and decent ordinary people.

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[Like](#)

 [alichelittle](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to alichelittle](#)

Can you take the typo Reality and get rid of one "i"?

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [M Taylor](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I should not have to pay extra to the cable firm for local TV

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Russell Smith](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We should have to pay for the distribution infrastructure and for local (news) programming on the Cable company's own channel if CTV or CBC (local) are not available. On the other hand, Local CBC should be universally available across Canada, subsidized by the federal Government.

All other channels should be paid for by the cable company and offered cafeteria style to the public, for a fee. We should be required to receive and pay for only the channels we want.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Tess](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would feel outraged, worse than I feel now, "cable companies" is no such thing in Toronto I do not have any choice in companies, Rogers has the total monopoly, because the satellite dish that Bell offer is even worse, both Bell and Rogers charge whatever they want, (actually they GAUGE) with ridiculous prices to offer irrelevant programming, slapping us again with the levy that the CRTC apply to support local TV, when their profits should be more than enough to absorb the levy, Canadian content is absolutely relevant to all of us, and diversity and being different from USA is paramount, charge the cable companies for the waves they get for free and with that pay to support local television that is relevant to where people live, there are things that are sacred and should be treated as a SERVICE, therefore not expecting to turn up a profit, we the taxpayers support all the already bloated bureaucracy INCLUDED the CRTC that SHOULD defend OUR interests, or then WHY TO HAVE IT AT ALL????

[Flag](#)

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 [Joan L. O'Laney](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I live in central west Toronto. My household pays for the Rogers cable tv package at \$75 per month. This is too costly, especially as we are pensioners on a limited income, and we are

therefore considering our options at this time. It is obvious that Rogers is using its ownership of the Blue Jays baseball team to put the squeeze on people to subscribe at high prices, which we consider to be highly exploitative. Welcome to the game (no pun intended) of cutthroat capitalism!

2. As far as local tv is concerned, we should absolutely have it -- and at no extra cost to the consumer!

[Flag](#)

Like



Guygee ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that we pay already too much to watch a minimum of 20 minutes of advertisements per hours, personally I'm on the verge to cancel. Anyway my kids are barely watching they are more fed up then me.

With no control on what channels I would like to purchase this is highway robbery.

Especially when juggling the poor quality content of most TV program .

Cannot believe that this business is in such trouble when most of the population watch some kind of TV programming, more full stomach complainer.

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Tess ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



Marjorie Eugene ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be using any pay tv if it weren't for the fact the tower that transmits CBC to my area was damaged and not repaired. Prior to that I could get CBC and a local Victoria, B.C. tv station without cable.

I had not used cable tv for many years but as local tv is very important to me I was forced into paying for cable tv so that I could receive local news, etc. Imagine my anger at having to now consider that I may have to pay more for cable in order to get the local channels that were, at one time, all the tv I watched!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



interested Canadian ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the cable companies should be paying local television to distribute their programs and that the public should not have to pay any additional fees for this - this should be absorbed by the cable companies as their fees are very high now. I would be very sad to have our local news discontinued. It is the best way to distribute news of local importance. It fosters a sense of community and allows the citizens to be informed about issues and events that are only relevant to the community and would not be covered by the larger stations in the bigger cities.

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[kmarley](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. It depends entirely on how much I'm asked to pay for local broadcasting. A few dollars I can live with. \$10 is insane. I do not believe that Shaw for example is indeed kicking back the appropriate fees to local tv right now. I just don't. They should be paying more than they are regardless. I pay ridiculous amounts of money for "cable" tv (which is hardly luxury television) and this shouldn't even be an issue--the cable companies should be able to afford to pay this to the local tv companies as it is. My cable fees go up EVERY year for less service!! As it is I can't access "Free tv" without cable anyway--they have a monopoly and they know it.

2. Stop allowing the cable companies to mandate the channels I am required to pay for. Make their pricing more fair if indeed a price increase does need to go through to support local tv. I would much rather pay \$1-\$5 per month for continued quality local tv than receive HGTV and MTV Canada every month among other channels I don't need just so I can access Turner Classic Movies! I should only have to pay for the channels I WANT. Not the channels THEY want me to pay for. Local tv has always played fair fee-wise--Cable should be forced to as well.

Of course Cable wants to prevent local tv from surviving. It's a no-brainer; media conglomeration means money and more importantly power. Don't let them do it.

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[Susanna](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I thought I already was paying for local television stations, that is part of the reason I subscribe to cable. I want to receive quality signals and have more choice than what I can get off the air, which isn't really an option anymore anyway.

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[JoanVinalCox](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local tv is how we know what's happening locally. That's important to help people maintain a sense of community, and the rights and responsibilities of living in a certain area.

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[kmarley](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

and one more thing--"free tv" exists in the United States, not in Canada, let's be clear on this. I know *maybe* 5 people who can actually access canadian television stations without subscribing to cable. It's a farce, a fantasy in this country. let's stop pretending it even exists. The last time I was able to receive a "free" tv signal in this country was 15-20 years ago on a black and white tv with rabbit ears. Not an exaggeration...oh except when I lived in the Northwest Territories and there wasn't any cable company. Had there been a cable company, it would have been different, believe you me. They have a real racket and the CRTC has let us down.

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[JoanVinalCox](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local tv is important because that's how we know about the area we live in and what our responsibilities and rights are for living in our community. If I was asked to pay extra for it, I wouldn't like it, and I'd probably cut down on what else I get from cable so the price remained about the same. But I'd be more cynical at and annoyed with the cable service.

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Like



[Loretta](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

No, thank you -- paying for local TV is the opposite direction from what the people of our communities need. Local stations signals should be paid for by cable and satellite companies or

alternatively, they should offer a free, basic service to all within their coverage area since they are getting the signal for free.

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[Loretta](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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[sandra corey](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I am not already paying for local tv what exactly am I paying for in basic service? It seems to me that cable and satellite companies have the consumer backed into a corner - pay the overinflated cost or do without. The fees I pay should already be paying for local tv.

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[DOUG G](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

FIRST OF ALL I DO NOT WATCH THE LOCAL CHANNEL IN KINGSTON CKWS AT ALL. SO I DO NOT WANT TO PAY FOR IT. THE ONLY LOCAL PROGRAMMING THEY SEEM TO HAVE IS THEIR NEWS CAST, WHICH IS IN MY OPINION NOT NEWS BUT FILLERS. THEY CARRY A LOT OF U.S SHOWS JUST AS CTV AND GLOBAL DOES. I DO NOT WANT TO PAY FOR THIS JUNK. THE CBC IS NO BETTER AS THEY SEEM TO TRY TO FORCE SOCCER AND HOCKEY ON EVERYBODY. NOT EVERYBODY IS A HOCKEY FAN. HOCKEY DAY IN CANADA? GIVE ME A BREAK. THE ANSWER IS LET THE SUBSCIBERS CHOOSE THE CHANNELS THAT THEY WANT NOT FORCED TO TAKE PACKAGES AS THEY ARE NOW. INCLUDING BASIC PACKAGE. THIS WAY THEY CAN CHARGE FOR THEIR SIGNAL AND IF I DONT WANT IT I DONT HAVE TO TAKE IT.

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[DOUG G](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like



[Susanna](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I used to think I was paying for local television stations, as that was part of the reason I subscribed to cable. I wanted to receive quality signals and have more choice than what I could get off the air. I was surprised to learn that local channels weren't getting any of my cable fees. I now understand the cable position that they give the local broadcasters other considerations but it still doesn't seem fair that cable pays for some signals and not others.

I have to admit that I am not all that happy with cable compnaies these days, as I recently moved and had to deal with getting a new cable hook up from one of the big 2 cable companies. And to be honest, it was a nightmare. I was previously living in a small town seviced by a small cable operator and had come to expect a certain level of service. But having moved to the big city I was finding it impossible to get through on the customer service line even after waiting over 20 minutes each time (what a joke) and even sending an e-mail took a week to get a response. So much for customer service.

And thinking that there is competition in the market is also a joke. I like local television and I like local community channels, so I wanted to get cable and not satellite. But there was little choice even in the big city, because the cable companies act like monopolies and run any competitor out of town with predatory pricing or whatever it is called when you undercut your price and drive the competition out of business. That is what happened in my high rise. A new entrant was pretty much put out of business.

So I think the CRTC should regulate basic cable packages to make sure they stay affordable, because my new cable bill feels like I am being gouged for everything. I only have one outlet but am being charged for more. Somehow the cable company rationalizes that by saying they just include that in the basic price, but I am still paying for it even if I don't want it. Same thing for my modem. I have an older one but they insist I use theirs and pay a charge each month for the rental. Again this is just included in the monthly fee, so again I have no choice.

Nope I am not fond of cable companies right now and if they want my vote they'll have to smarten up and start treating me like a valued customer and not just a profit source.

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Like

 *Lynn* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would not be happy to pay more for material I do not watch.
2. Consumers would support local tv if the content was worth supporting.

I would rather pay per view for each program I watched - the stong shows would survive and the weak would fail. Money talks. That's all for entertainment though. For news & world issues, who needs tv. I can read any article, at any time about anything I want in the entire world via the internet.

You can take local programming away as I will not pay anymore than I do today but don't take my internet.

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Like

 *georginarosewall* ★ [1 month ago](#)

IT WOULD BECOME FAR TOO EXPENSIVEFOR ME. IT IS CLIMBING EVERY BILL SO FAR. SO IF THE LOCAL TV CHARGES ANY MORE WOULD HAVE TO CANCEL IT. THE TV STATIONS WOULD ONLY PASS ON THEIR COSTS TO THE CUSTOMER IF THEY ARE CHARGED. IF THEY ARE CHARGE THE SATELLITE COMPANIES AND CABLE THEY SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PASS ON THE COSTS TO THEIR CUTOMERS.

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Like

 *lorne* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable and satellite distributors charge for tv channels. So how and why are they allowed to sell something when they get it for free?

[Flag](#)

Like

 *garyandcindyonstad* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not understand why I should pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for cable. It seems to me that cable should pay for the local services they distribute and they should not be allowed to pass these payments on to me. The rates for basic service should be re-regulated.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jim C. ★ [1 month ago](#)

My comment is in the form of a question. If local TV (as they call themselves) did not try to put the hit on the CRTC to assist in their funding by levying charges on Cable and Satellite Companies and if these companies did not exist, how would they expect to get funded? We all know that any additional charges will be funnelled down to the consumer, so in essence, it will be the consumer that will take the hit and this is not fair. I, like others, pay enough and this will be not an equitable decision for all concerned, mainly the household consume, especiall in these times of restraint. After all, this may be the only form of entertainment that some are able to obtain.

As for fianccial support let local TV rely on commercials as the larger networks have. They could also take a lead from the public television stations south of our Border.

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Themis ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't belong to facebook or twitter and have no interest in subscribing at the present. Rogers and other cable monopolies have a cash cow that they are milking to their advantage with the sanction of the CRTC. Rogers provides rotten duplicated programming on its basic channels then tries to lure customers into more lucrative options with acceptable programs at premium prices. For more than a decade Rogers has been purveying free broadcast television as a part of their product. That is nothing short of theft. Let's have more competition in public cable and all forms of media. Rogers and other cable providers should foot the bill for broadcast tv they steal from the public and pay for it at their own expense.

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garyandcindyonstad ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would ask my cable provider to pay for the local TV service.

2. Local TV can be supported by requiring cable monopolies to provide the source of funds for local programming.

[Flag](#)

Like



james s ★ [1 month ago](#)

My immediate reaction is to suggest that I thought I was paying for the delivery of Canadian programming to my home with the current fee structure. Thus if there is a fee to be paid it should be between the broadcaster and the BDU. However, in a non-regulated environment I can see where I would end up paying this fee under one guise or another. If I was a broadcaster I would be thinking about how to get around the cable companies thus developing my own unique delivery method (advertising vehicle).

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Murray balmer ★ [1 month ago](#)

We recently lost a local television station in this area.It was up for sale and, apparently, did not attract any serious buyers and was forced to close. Advertising dollars had been shrinking the past few years. There have been suggestions that thae local cable Co. may look into broadcasting local news as they now broadcast several local events.

Since there is no local TV station existing, I don't feel the local cable co. should be charged anything, and it should not have to subsidize other TV stations across Canada. I feel I am paying enough to the local cable co. and feel that I should not have to pay an extra fee to subsidize other TV stations.

I, therefore, say NO to the TV tax.

[Flag](#)

Like



Harry A. Leslie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think local broadcasters should receive a fee from cable redistributors and that they should be required to do so. I also feel that cable companies should not pass on this fee to their customers. I feel doubly so for CBC and TVO programs. I would react angrily if I was asked to pay for local TV on top of what cable companies collect now. Rogers is a private company with a regulated monopoly on servicing my area. I feel that the "public good" of local TV (especially CBC and TVO) far outweighs the interests of Rogers shareholders.

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harryaleslie ★ [1 month ago](#)

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susangurofsky ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm glad cable companies are required by the CRTC to distribute local programs. Since they charge for distributing programs which they receive for free, some of that charge should return to local TV stations. In a country as large as Canada there has to be support for local TV in the thousands of small towns and villages that are many hundreds of miles away from major cities. It's fine to talk about advertising revenues but clearly there has been a sharp decline in those lately or we wouldn't have a problem to discuss. Why lay off more specialized workers, abandon facilities, and become even more dependent on foreign media which do not put the needs of Canadians first?

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Like



ML Chown ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not in favour of paying more for local tv on top of what I already pay for cable. Local broadcasters should be compensated for their signals based on audience size.

[Flag](#)

Like



Karen Lippold ★ [1 month ago](#)

I want access to local television for the news, local shows and for the network shows that are delivered to us by our local television station. I am mystified as to why the cable companies feel that they should be able to "resell" content they have not paid for.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jane Anweiler ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not sure why cable companies should get local TV for free when they pay for all the rest. I believe that local programming is very important. Cable companies are making more than a healthy profit and can afford to pay for local signals. It may not be what they want to broadcast, but that decision should be the CRTC's not theirs and I hope you decide to legislate that they continue to carry those signals but are not allowed to pass the increased cost on to their customers.

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Like



derekmcgregor ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is appropriate that cable and satellite companies pay for the privilege of broadcasting local TV signals. I would be prepared to pay a bit more to the cable company to ensure local stations broadcast benefit financially.

If local stations are not broadcast on cable or satellite they would have few viewers.

Thankyou.

Derek, Diana and Jack McGregor

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Like



derekmcgregor ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that local stations should be broadcast by cable/satellite and should receive payment for the broadcasting of their signal. While people may not want to pay more, perhaps more bundling choices for consumers could help. While I have a wide variety of programming on my cable I enjoy and need local TV. I was surprised that my cable provider charged me to watch my local station yet paid nothing to that station.

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Like



jameshiller ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch relatively little television, given my aversion to constant commercial interruptions, and to the generally (but not universal) low standard of programming. However, I do value local TV news programming, which I view as an essential service It should be commercial-free (certainly for CBC) and available as part of any basic cable package. I would willingly pay more than I do now for such a service or services. Having identified myself as a minority of one, the only alternatives to increased rates or even more loathsome advertising, seem to be sponsorships on the PBS model or more federal funding, and the latter is extraordinarily unlikely.

[Flag](#)

Like



B. Gallpen ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am opposed to paying for local TV. Local TV is very important to me but I feel I am already paying too much for my cable services. If I have to pay for local TV stations then I would like to have the right to unsubscribe to the channels which I don't watch & there are many of them!

[Flag](#)

Like



shawnfaubert ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be in support of paying more for local broadcasters on top of my current cable fee. My feelings are that if local stations cannot be profitable on their own they should be left to fail, as in any business. There are too many stations currently and I think that the quality of the programs is reflected by this. There are too many low quality, low cost, programs that I hope would disappear if the number of stations were to decrease.

So, no I don't want to spend more money to prop up and industry that needs to naturally be parred down.

[Flag](#)

Like



kylekorneychuk ★ [1 month ago](#)

Quite frankly this is a simple issue. If the cable companies want to use local TV signal they need to pay for it. If they charge too much which is likely, I will simply watch my local TV, as long as it exists. It is very ironic as a company the local TV companies do not own their own signal.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*J.Horn* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I support all the publicly owned and non-profit television stations in their efforts to be fairly compensated from the public purse for their superior programming. Such stations should not have to pay to be carried by cable or other means of transmission. Commercial stations should be allowed to charge as a licence fee for their services what they can get in the public market. If the price is too high, then cable companies should be allowed to cut them from the list.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*jeremy morris* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Of course the cable companies must pay for local tv.... it's a no-brainer!!!!!! Canadian cable providers are already gouging their customers while posting record profits, so why should we, the end-user, have to pay for a service which we are already paying for???? Local tv matter to me, not the interests of corporate shareholders. Please do the right thing, save local tv stations from oblivion while giving us little guys a break for once!

Thank you.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*myrna franke* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think it is the responsibility of the CRTC to offer consider benefits to local broadcasters who focus on Canadian local news and content. Please consider the options shown by Mr. Morrison--keep the "True North strong" --free may can not any longer be applied to cultural values.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*jrossr* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A Canadian newspaper publisher boasted that owning a newspaper was like having a license to print money! Not so now! Newspapers will soon be gone. How to get decent local news coverage? Local TV, financially supported by cable companies who now have that 'license to print money'. Cable companies make big dollars by renting 'packages' of channels to their customers. All packages contain channels I never watch. I want the privilege of seeing local news coverage. I would be willing to share PART of the cost of a fee paid to my local TV station by cable companies. (33%:67%?)

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*myrna franke* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Consider the options shown by Mr. Morrison and Friends of Canadian Broadcasting. Our local news and broadcasters need the support of the CRTC --thank you.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*johngradwell* ★ [1 month ago](#)

All media groups that produce TV programs should be compensated. It makes sense that all be treated equally whether they are local, national or international. All of them have costs associated with the production of their programs.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)



Monte C ★ [1 month ago](#)

I understand cable companies are obligated to carry local TV. Free them of that obligation and watch how quickly local TV gets dropped. If the lefties want local TV carried in their cable let them pay for it. International news can be had over the internet, local news can be had by way of radio or local newspapers, such as they are.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bill Cullen ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is very important to me and should be paid for by the cable companies not the consumers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Kimberly Smith ★ [1 month ago](#)

All video signals including those on cable and digital media as well as free to air should be provided to people for FREE. Advertisers can pay for everything - not the people because advertiser are exploiting the people and it is ludicrous for the people to pay to be exploited. Advertisers will pay whatever it takes to get people to buy things. Deal with them as harshly and ruthlessly as they do the people.

[Flag](#)

Like



donotwanttopaylocal ★ [1 month ago](#)

local TV stations are private enterprises and we are not there to subsidize their losses. they lost the advertising revenue due to shift in our viewing habits. most of us do not watch TV and certainly not the local TV.

now local TV stations ask us to subsidise their losses and keep them afloat. this is a travesty.

We get better and less biased coverage online.

I do not want to pay additionally for local TV.

BTW, check your cable and satellite bill and you will see a few bucks going to local TV in a form of a subsidy.

[Flag](#)

Like



paul lavallee ★ [1 month ago](#)

..i would not pay for local tv on top of cable. my income is limited and i can not eat television programs. this does not mean that i don't appreciate the need for local tv. it plays a very important part in local democracy.

..if it were possible i would not have cable, only local channels meaning bc channels.

unfortunately good reception is not possible. it used to be with just an antenna. if just local is not possible than cable companies should pay. they are the ones that took us down the road of cable only/is better.

[Flag](#)

Like



kendalla ★ [1 month ago](#)

Where do the handouts end. If a local station is profitable

If a company is profitable it will stay in business.

Subsidising by consumers is a terrible waste of money and a temporary measure at best. We already have the CBC to pay for.

The more expensive cable/satellite becomes the more it hurts cable and satellite

companies, not the local carrier.

Do I see a Win-Win for local TV being slid under the door.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Mack Damon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

two words: "pirated satellite" if you impose ANOTHER stupid tax, i think more than a few Canadians will agree with me. how is that for lost revenue?

[Flag](#)

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[Kelowna Bob](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'd be pretty upset if I had to pay more to the cable company which already charges too much. How will local be defined? Here in the Okanagan Valley, we have only one truly local station which I watch only for the local news. Other measures such as used by the Knowledge Network or PBS in the USA should be used if local stations cannot survive on advertising alone.

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[janetmiller](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why in the world should we have to pay over & above what we're paying the providers? They're making huge profits while we're getting less & less for our money, primarily US programming, repeats of the same programs on so-called separate channels all owned by the same people. Get real. We fought so hard in the 70s to get local community access to the airwaves - I thought the point of having the CRTC was to reinforce the fact that the airwaves are in fact public property. This is not only a financial issue but a very important ethical one regarding both quality and origin of programming and access to information. Why must we keep reinventing the wheel?

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[Maggie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

There should be a mandate by government that stipulates a percentage of local broadcasting be exempt from any fees.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Joe](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

After reading some of these comments I see we are truly becoming another American State,,,, You too can watch Deal or NO Deal,, Survivor,, or Jerry Springer all this high quality TV for one low price. You will be spoon fed and well trained by FOX television. After all when you come home from working all day at Wal-Mart or McDonalds you don't really want to turn on a documentary such as "Why We Fight" this would cause your brain to think, and that would hurt! Leaders of the country don't want the people who are educated, because they will question and challenge the ruling class. Control the media and feed them crap so long as they are happy no one will challenge. So, if you believe in pure capitalism, bring on Jerry Springer after all that's what sells and makes TV programming profitable.

My name is Joe and I AM CANADIAN!

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[alanmyers](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were asked to pay for local TV, I'd want the option to refuse those additional charges.

What measures could be taken to support local tv? They already have measures in place. They lost their way when they cut local news to save money. They didn't seem to have the vision to

figure out that made them a redundant commodity.

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 [Myron Gulka](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

We in Red Deer alberta recently lost our only local broadcaster. If we had local television we could access 5 channel who broadcast primarily with programs which are of interest to us and not ones primarily focused on United States concerns. It would be nice to not have to subscribe to cable television and pay their outrageous prices and accept their selection of channels.

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 [Ted Hillier](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for my television service already. This payment is for the premium services and channels that I get from my provider. If I want to watch local programming I can get that for free off the air. I should not have to pay more to get it from satellite. I should not have to pay more for something others can get for free. These stations get more revenue from advertising due to the larger viewer base. I would rather not get the channels than pay for them. Forcing me to pay is not fair or acceptable. Local stations made significant profit last year and should not get a bonus from me. I have enough financial problems in these tough economic times without having to pay for TV stations to make MORE profit and line the executives' pockets. That this is even being considered makes me think the CRTC is not doing its job.

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 [kevins](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not want to pay for local TV on top of what I pay already for cable. Satellite providers have been given an exemption from carrying local stations. I know this partly due to technical issues, but there are also technical solutions which they really have been not sufficiently motivated to try (or develop -- consider this an opportunity to encourage some Canadian R&D!). I would require all satellite TV companies to provide access to local channels and simultaneously substitute the local signal where applicable.

Cable companies would also have to do all the above, but I believe they are doing this already.

If a local TV station is unable to survive with these advantages, then it should close.

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 [garywayne](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cable and TV companies have dished up an overdone red herring. Both sides have exhausted the media outlets in order to drum up public support. Well, it is not working. I see only 4,918 comments. How long has this site been made public? Go on twitter right now and type in "Tiger Woods" and you'll see excitement. Sorry, but the real issue is, who am I going to pay. Is it Rogers or CTV.

Whose to blame? We are. The issue of protecting what is 'Canadian' has historically been our obsession too long. And the CRTC will not solve it. Never have. They want Canadians to solve it. Well, they should listen now. Let Canadians choose.

Canadian programming is on the air. But what do people want to watch? Sorry. But, if Corner Gas and Little Mosque on the Praire are the only programs Canadians will watch then there is a big problem. No offence to the actors who do a fine job, but it is a ratings game. Why are the Leafs always on every Saturday night in Toronto and southern ontario? They are near the bottom in the league. The product with all due respect is bad. But people will always watch it.

Same with programming. Canadians watch CSI, Law and Order, Dancing with the Stars. Why? Because. That is all. Are they less Canadian? No! But the point is TV stations are paying more and more each year in order to view these "5 star" shows.

Just because the Yankees have the biggest payroll doesn't necessarily mean they are going to

win the World Series every year. So if CTV has all the big american shows it doesn't necessarily mean that they are going to draw in the most advertisers to boost their profits. Therefore, businesses have to cut to survive. It is happening to big american companies in the states. Rogers just laid off 900 staff. It is inevitable. The bottom-line rules.

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Annie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I wouldn't mind being charged for local programming if I had the right to unsubscribe to those channels that I don't ever watch

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Annie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would like the right to choose just the channels that I want and not have things bundled with channels I never watch

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Don ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion, the cable companies are doing a disservice to local broadcasters when they carry my signals without paying a fee to the stations involved. I always thought "rebroadcasting" required an agreement with the originator of the signal. Not to mention when the cable companies include local stations in their "basic" packages and charge their subscribers in the area a fee for carrying on air available (local) content.

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Annie ★ [1 month ago](#)

have the CRTC insist that local channels air more local programs

[Flag](#)

Like



Annie ★ [1 month ago](#)

give priority to Canadian programming

[Flag](#)

Like



bettyannwolder ★ [1 month ago](#)

Quality local programming is an essential element of quality Canadian television content and needs to be preserved by our regulator, the CRTC. Part of the cost should be passed on to the Cable and Satellite monopolies who presently distribute the major networks' signals without compensation to the networks. This is wrong. However, the cable and satellite monopolies should not be allowed to pass these proper charges to them onto the consumers. Cable and satellite TV rates have skyrocketed over the past few years without any serious effort by the CRTC to regulate or limit such increases, notwithstanding that the cable and satellite companies enjoy virtual monopolies. Many subscribers have little choice and most have no choice. Local programming can only be preserved by passing the cost directly on to the cable and satellite distributors and not to the general public.

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Carlos Martinez ★ [1 month ago](#)

Give us a choice of channels. And if this new tax goes through, then Canadian broadcasters must lose their "must carry" status, and we should have the option of subscribing and paying.

And stop these damn annoying simsubs already. They ruin the viewing experience.

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[phyllis shuell](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe local TV is important, but I do not wish to pay above my cable services. I believe that the cable networks can share more of their profits with the local TV stations

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Leon Hoffentoth](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were allowed to purchase only those channels which I wanted, then local TV, if it merited inclusion, would be one of them.

Local television, if it hopes to survive, needs to stop asking for hand-outs from government and viewers and instead provide a saleable product, both to viewers and advertisers. Otherwise, get out of the marketplace.

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[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Leon Hoffentoth](#) 1 person liked this.

this is no gov't handout or tax, it's pay the fee or don't watch it. no free loaders. there is no free cable so there is no free channels and programs are shows are not free if nobody is watching the commercials anymore.

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[bill](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Leon Hoffentoth](#) 1 person liked this.

a business has the right to charge a price for it's services. a consumer has the right to refuse the offer.

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[timrwood](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Extra costs should NOT be passed on to the consumer. Local TV has a revenue stream from advertising. I believe they should get INNOVATIVE not TAXING.

There are other options than TV evolving. eg internet delivered content youtube?

If they become more expensive they may be out of business. No matter how you cut it if cable is required to pay the consumer will eventually pick-up the bill. Cable may have to get INNOVATIVE in how they pass the cost on but they will.

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[Like](#)



[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to timrwood](#)

youtube has it's own problems..theft of intellectual property. youtube is scam,,it's obvious illegal pirated music is uploaded in youtube. all the channels will be pay per channel. having TV isn't a right either. people don't need 100 channels..only free tv will be CBC.

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[Like](#)



[billy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to timrwood](#)

CBC isn't free either, it cost a over 500 million /year or more just to keep CBC operating. thousands of workers just to keep the show running on TV and has advertising too.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*rapsac* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies make too much, should share with those who produce the content they distribute. Both local stations and network, should get royalties for the content they create.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*freewilly163* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Absolutely no to additional fees for local television. We need to realize that companies and executives have created their fiscal problems through mismanagement of their stations. Included in the fiscal issues, United States programming and associated costs for infrastructure...all based on greed and again, joe six pack is asked to foot the bill...the rich get richer and the poor remain poor.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*wizab* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i have been on cable,switched to sat.,but not happy with the high bills.
however i will say that i do get far channels than cable,but do not get all local tv stations.
the greed has to stop,we need help.
so crtc stand up for all the little people in canada

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*turquoise1* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable providers should NOT be allowed to pass on such costs---I believe they are making enough profit...much more than local stations. Therefore, they should have to pay for local station signals out of their already-substantial profit ie. to share & pay local stations appropriately as a condition of renewal of their CRTC licenses. I fully support the very well-informed, experienced position presentation of Ian Morrison for Friends of Canadian Broadcasting.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Richard J .Switzer* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations should not be allowed to charge cable companies for their usually poor programing & content.Shaw cable which I pay an outrages fee to watch seven channels is an act of corporate theft & MUST BE STOPED'. I should only have to pay for what I watch not all the other garbage that comes with bundle paks. Another PEEV is when a comercial comes on the movie should be stoped or paused. All commercials are good for is to go to the bathroom or get something to eat or drink. When will advertisers really think of veiwers as intelegent people & not 6 year olds & stop producing STUPID IDIOTIC & CHILISH COMERCIALS.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*bill* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Richard J .Switzer](#)

go to another company. subscribe to satellite..a consumer will have the option of a la carte or pay by the channel,,it's channel is \$2/channel..nobody gives away their content for free..advertisers paying for the content that fee is not even fraction of the cost of the program

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bill ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Richard J .Switzer](#)

and i want free internet too.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



Mutlee ★ [1 month ago](#)

Overall I see why the private broadcasters want to find new revenue streams to enhance their bottom lines; however, I believe the troubles are entirely of their own making. Here are my three main problems with the current system.....

1) The audience has been fragmented over the last two decades with the proliferation of speciality channels. Strangely enough the majority of the most profitable speciality channels are owned by BGM and CanWest. I can't help but wonder how servicing the debt load (particularly CanWest) has affected local TV.

CanWest is now bankrupt and still trying to save their specialty channels by moving them out of the reach of creditors. They have created a market where one hand is taking money from the other and in the end the only people who lose are consumers.

2) I'm hard pressed to see how Global and BGM's consolidation of news operations in Toronto benefits anyone but the respective networks. There was once a vibrant training ground for young broadcasters across the country, in secondary markets. These have all but disappeared. News and local programming is expensive, however, necessary not only for consumers and as a training ground for the next generation of broadcasters. I would view these operations not as money losing divisions but as an investment in Canada's broadcast industry.

3) Cable must change how consumers choose what they wish to see. I'm so tired of the CRTC mandating what I can watch and what I'm forced to pay for. If the commission is really here to look out for the end user, why isn't my choice of cable channels a la cart? Why do you force me to take "packages"? Or pay for ATN for example. I can tell you here in Montreal of the 105 channels available to me (without getting into digital channels) I delete at least 30 of them from by tuner. Why am I forced to pay for things I NEVER watch? Give me the choice to pay for what I want, not what the cable companies or the CRTC force me to pay for.

This new fee that the OTA broadcasters want to charge me is at best a stop-gap solution. The days of 'push' broadcasting are numbered. The model that has served the industry for so long is slowly being crushed by technology. While PVR's, VOD and other technologies are nice, they miss the point.

I want to see what I want, when I want, where I want, at a reasonable price.

If the networks won't give me what I want, when I want it and in a portable format the internet will.

I'm at the mid to upper end of the demographics; I'm in my peak earning years.

Yet there are entire industries giving me choice and control over my media consumption.

OTA TV isn't one of them.

Granted I'm vastly more technology savvy than many in my age group, however, the real problems are to come. Those 12+ are not going to accept that they have to get programming from the broadcaster as they want to provide it. They will just go and get it from iTunes, YouTube, Hulu, and the real killer, peer to peer networks.

Are there too few owners and outlets, definitely. Can this be changed...probably not. But we still have the chance to reform the system by letting us pay for what we want. Would this result in some channels going "dark" ? Probably.

At least we are letting the market decide, not Government or an conglomerate.

One last comment...If you are in the Golden horseshoe or anywhere near the boarder, do yourself a favour. Get an antenna and digital converter box. You will get lots of good US digital HD programming for free. See all the things you miss now courtesy of the government (like Super Bowl Ads). Plus the sound and picture are vastly better than what cable/satellite can provide you given the price (FREE)!

Maybe if we all drop the grid we can go back on, on our own terms.

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Jane P ★ [1 month ago](#)

Shaw keeps raising our fees, while they've actually stopped carrying one of the channels we used to rely on and bumped another to "the back of the bus." At the same time, the cable companies are making immense profits.

Certainly local stations should be paid for their material, and cable companies should be required to continue carrying them as well as to pay them as they do US-based (for example) and other channels. But, given the profits the cable companies already make, I can't see why we should pay more to have them continue carrying the local stations.

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E de G ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy at all; local TV is very important to me and I think it should be available to the public. even now it has way too much advertizing, which it needs to survive.

Cable companies should have to pay for the lines they get and CEOs make too much money!

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Brian MacDougall ★ [1 month ago](#)

- 1) I do support local TV but, I would strongly object to an increase in satellite/cable fees. I believe I already pay a significant amount for my satellite/cable services.
- 2) I believe service providers should pay for AND absorb the cost of local TV services or possibly increase the flexibility of delivery so that I do not have to purchase packages containing channels I don't want.

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Johanne Legault ★ [1 month ago](#)

It's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

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Brian_M ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would like someone to define what "Local TV" means.

Does it mean:

- 1) The closest geographical television broadcaster to where a given person lives (As an example in this case, Barrie's A-Channel would be a "local broadcaster")

or

- 2) Any "small or smaller" broadcaster regardless of their location with respect to the viewer's location.

(in this case Toronto's CITY-TV which was at one time an independent Toronto-centric station, located further away from my locale but their broadcasts were still available to me).

or

- 3) The local cable channel staffed by part-time amateur volunteers, whose content concerns itself with primarily "community" events and interests and has little or no advertising revenue.

Just wondering, since I suspect the term means different things to different people.

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 Like *cannurse* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I wish to make the following points with regard to Local TV:

- * local TV is under severe threat
- * to keep it alive, it needs new sources of funds
- * cable monopolies should pay for the local signals they distribute
- * cable should not be allowed to pass these payments along to subscribers
- * to make sure this happens, the rates for basic service should be re-regulated
- * the compensation to local broadcasters for their signals should be allocated based on each broadcaster's total audience for Canadian shows

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 Like *Darien Duck* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We're already being charged too much & for so many channels we don't want. We need to know what's going on locally, but as the cost rises especially with the impending addition of HST, many of us will have to reduce what we get from the cable company.

Also many of us are trying to afford a digital TV set, & wonder whether we'll have anything to see when all that's available is digital.

More increases hit the people who can least afford it.

[Flag](#)

 Like *Janice and Bob* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in Kitchener, ON and am a customer of Shaw Direct. We do not get our local television channel on satellite. When questioned, Shaw said CKCO TV doesn't want to participate. When questioned, CKCO TV said they'd love to be participate. I can watch my local channel when I visit BC - which I find very odd. I'd very much like to watch my local TV channel, but I believe the cable and satellite providers should eat any costs. My satellite bill just went up by almost \$3/mo - no notification - it just appeared on my bill.

This business of adding so many channels on cable and sat. is just a bunch of hogwash! Ten channels can be broadcasting exactly the same thing most of the time, with shows repeated every few hours! And, the quality of programming is mind deadening: reality shows? Hah! Video stores and our local library are getting our attention more and more.

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 Like *cyberclark* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies in Canada are providing lower speeds and higher costs now than is their counterparts in the US or Europe. There is little to protect the consumers in this country!

There is a link that provides a comparison between the various countries and Canada. It compares service and costs. <http://albertathedetails.blogspot.com/2009/11/s...>

They are receiving more than enough gold to pay for the local services without raising the costs to consumers!

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 Like *dave_v* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would reconsider my television subscription and possibly use the Internet as my source of television.
2. If local stations want me to pay directly for those channels, I first need to have the choice to

take or not take those channels individually. Then, the amount I pay for the individual channels can go directly to the TV stations.

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 [OLI COSGROVE](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I THINK THE CABLE COMPANIES HAVE HAD A FREE RIDE FOR TOO LONG ALREADY. I WAS ASTONISHED THAT THEY'VE BEEN USING LOCAL TV SIGNALS WITHOUT CHARGE. THAT'S AS BAD AS COPYRIGHT VIOLATION. AND NO, THEY CERTAINLY SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PASS THE COST ON TO CABLE SUBSCRIBERS; THEY OVERCHARGE AS IT IS, AND THEIR PROFITS GROW FATTER. THEY SHOULD THANK THEIR LUCKY STARS THEY HAVEN'T HAD TO PAY FOR THE SIGNALS UP TO NOW.

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 [Mike](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

shouldnt the local stations be paying the cable providers to distribute their signals? If the statement above is correct, it looks like the cable and satellite providers are providing the local station s a service.

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 [Kevin Charron](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

If had had to pay extra for local tv I would opt to not get it. I dont feel we should be forced to pay any tv tax. I enjoy my local tv but I cant afford to pay another \$120.00 per year for it. I'll just watch the US news.

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 [Bob2](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I really don't have any local TV other than the local cable channel and some local news reporters who work for a TV station 300 kms away. I don't want to pay more for this. If so called local channels are added to the pay for list, I want a choice as to whether I sign up for them -----or not. And I agree with the comments about the current costs being more than high enough. its interesting to watch one Canadian network who is in financial difficulty do airborne traffic reports with a helicopter on their evening news (who can watch that while they are driving) and from time to time send their news anchor to do on location news casts for reasons that are unclear to me. There are ways for all parties to save money and provide a high quality service....they should be looking for those ways instead of all the committee hearings and TV ads about the issue

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 [yao](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

With the internet, who needs local TV? I will NOT pay for so-called local TV. Why CTV and Global buy expensive US programmes if they have no money.

This is a bailout.

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[Like](#)

 [DWright](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Cable is already too expensive. I plan to cancel my cable and receive HD OTA from Detroit. The OTA picture quality is better than cable. My bill (cable, phone, internet) this month was over \$300. In January there is a 1.5% tax for "LPIF" being added to the bill.
2. Local TV should get thier funding from advertising. They should pay cable for distributing

their ads.

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 [tp](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Personally, the satellite companies receive enough money from me.

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 [lesleyhartman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe local TV is necessary and should have source of funding to enable it to continue to grow. Local TV is incredibly important to me, and I would be willing to pay for it. Having said that, I think there are other ways to support local TV that wouldn't involve increases passed along to consumers, and this should be looked at first. I support the re-regulation of cable fees; the charging of cable companies to carry local TV stations; and making carrying local TV stations a mandatory part of cable offerings, as it is now.

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 [lesleyhartman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Oops--I accidentally said I liked this comment. Not that I don't--but I disagree..haven't you heard that local newspapers are dying, too? Local reporters are too expensive, local newspapers are getting hit because of the internet. Where will get out local news? For that matter, where will we get any news eventually, because all news is local news somewhere...I cringe to think that we think in such small ways--down to the pennies in our pocketbooks--and may be creating a larger crisis for all of us down the road....a world without news is a world without democracy, freedom, human rights, and usually this means more poverty for most of us. Don't kid yourself, it is fear of negative media that keeps our governments working in our interests at all. Without that we would be in a mess. Small minded thinking that doesn't protect all local sources of news (which are all in danger of extinction being eaten by the giants) is like shooting ourselves in the foot.

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 [Ann Marie](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not want to pay more than 2 dollars per month for local channels.

Local TV should make money from advertising no ??? So I would think that the more viewers the potential more money.

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Like

 [Tom H](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The costs of cable Tv are sky high at the moment and their channel packaging is rather a marketing ploy than a reasonable service to Canadian consumers. I would rather go without local Tv than see another charges. Their programming will not be worth it. As it is now, the consumers do not have too much choice, if you want to watch world news on Shaw cable for example (CNN, BBC) you have to buy the whole cable for almost eighty dollars.

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Like

 [Leslie Pezzack](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is important to me.

I concur with Mr. Ian Morrison's submission to you regarding local stations and cable companies. Including:

- cable monopolies should pay for the local signals they distribute
- cable should not be allowed to pass these payments along to subscribers
- to make sure this happens, the rates for basic service should be re-regulated
- the compensation to local broadcasters for their signals should be allocated based on each broadcaster's total audience for Canadian shows

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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bill ★ [1 month ago in reply to Leslie Pezzack](#)

it's not important or worth anything if people don't want to pay for it.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bill Russell ★ [1 month ago](#)

Although this would be a new business model for private broadcasting in Canada, I believe a service with value should be paid for somehow. Broadcasting is a business and normally we let market forces sort out the winners and losers, I'm not sure why we are intervening now. In the past several decades, local broadcasters have chosen to program syndicated programs, many originating from other cultures, so I don;t think this issue is about preserving local culture. I believe cable companies have a responsibility to bolster local programming, not just with their shabby little local studios, but by supporting local programming initiatives from other private sources too!

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billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to Bill Russell](#)

only CBC would make canadian content and lose money in doing it. cable companies now want the heritage minister in this 'dispute' of fee for programming. do you need the gov't permission to charge fee for service or product. The crtc is actually saying the cable companies don't have to pay for signals or programming..the cable companies don't give their service away or give free cable. so why should anyone give their product or service for free.

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Like



billy ★ [1 month ago in reply to Bill Russell](#)

making a profit is crime in communism or state controlled industries. maybe the gov't should nationalize the cable, tv industry in canada.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ann Marie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not want to pay more than 2 dollars per month for local channels. Local TV should make money from advertising no ??? So I would think that the more viewers the potential more money.

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Edward DuCharme ★ [1 month ago](#)

1 . Currently I pay about 10 times more for cable/satellite connection than I did 10 years ago. A further increase and I will cancel and depend on off-air reception.

2. The non-stop advertising should be more than enough revenue to sustain local TV. More revenue from me will be used by them for corporate expansion such as to take over newspaper

publishers.

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devontaylor ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have certain shows I really enjoy and are on my watch list: NCIS, Bones, Lie to Me, The Mentalist, House, Medium. Unfortunately, I do believe they are all US programs, although I did see a Canadian flag in the background of a recent Bones showing. So, I want US programming. However, I don't want to pay twice for my local stations. I watch the news and special programming on those channels and would certainly miss the Canadian content I now enjoy. I agree that the Satellite stations should be required to pay our local channels for their signals and not raise their rates as they are already included in my package (or are they? I can't say that for certain. If they had to start paying local stations, is it possible that the rates for the basic package would increase because there was no current charge for the local stations? I do not know how that currently works.

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ADZ66 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I pay enough for cable already. The cable companies already charge us for a basic mandatory package which includes all local TV signals (Global, CBC, CTV, TVA, etc.). We should not be paying an additional fee since we are already paying for these channels.

The cable distributors (Videotron, Bell, etc.) should kick back a portion of the fees they already collect for basic mandatory packages back to the Local TV broadcasters to compensate them for their signals. Cable companies should recognize that for the past many years they have been getting a free ride but already charging us for signals which they get for free from the local broadcasters. They should now pay the local TV broadcaster from the fees they are already collecting from us from the basic packages. They should not be charging us additional fees. If the cable companies do decide to make us pay twice for local TV services by adding a TV tax of \$10 per month, I will cancel my services all together.

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Leslie Pezzack ★ [1 month ago](#)

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- cable monopolies should pay for the local signals they distribute
- cable should not be allowed to pass these payments along to subscribers
- to make sure this happens, the rates for basic service should be re-regulated
- the compensation to local broadcasters for their signals should be allocated based on each broadcaster's total audience for Canadian shows

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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Like



John ★ [1 month ago](#)

Like everyone else, I believe the price we pay for TV services is extremely high for what we get. I have somewhere near 200 channels and yet many nights go by where there is nothing worth watching (especially on local TV).

The only value local TV has is the daily news and that information is readily available online. Like newspapers, maybe it is time that local TV had a natural death rather than have us pay for something else we don't need or want.

[Flag](#)

 *kimbabcock* ★ [1 month ago](#)

i would not be in favor of extra fees on my satelite bill. The local stations need to find ways to be more competitive with the money they are already making. We can not continue to add charges to the end users to accomidate poor business. i will personally boycott my satelite and cable feeds. i will switch to internet feeds which will cost me nothing more and still provide me with programming.

[Flag](#) *Mark* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think as Canadian's we pay enough already in excess taxes and fees. Our TV bills are considerably higher than in the US. If we now have to pay an additional TV tax I will definitely cancel my service and use the internet or a free-to-air type service. Canadians, lets stand up together...this is enough!

[Flag](#) *fed up* ★ [1 month ago](#)

C'mon, we pay higher fees for cable, sattelite and internet than any other economically developed country. Enough is enough when will you stop favouring these corporations and stop to consider the population that is already being gauged by these industries. Just like everything else when you make things too expensive people will circumvent your pricey solutions for more economical ones and leave you wondering why subscriber base has gone down. Just like the person below who is switching to FTA

[Flag](#) *Serge Babin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

[Flag](#) *John Vaillant* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay for it, unless there was no advertising, and the programming was intelligent, creative and public-spirited like Public Television is (or used to be?) in the States.

Local TV is a public good; it is a means by which communities can exchange relevant information and disseminate quality programming from elsewhere.

The public is not the servant of the media; it is the client, and the media should behave accordingly, and respectfully.

[Flag](#) *coraleeb* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In response to the first question, I believe that local television is very important in terms of retaining my connection with the issues and events of my local community. I understand that net profits recorded by cable companies have been very high in recent years, helped by the large increase in subscriber fees since deregualtion occurred (so no, I don't believe that the cable companies should charge subscribers more for the local programming signals they carry). Conversely, there has been a disasterous effect by fragmented viewing patterns on the ad revenues and so overall income earned by local broadcasters.

If we stop to think for a moment about all of the stations in difficulty or closing down, we realize that these broadcasting companies are not, of course, suddenly all becoming inept at doing what they have done for many decades. They just cannot obtain the advertising income as in the past when viewing patterns were more focused.

In response to the second question, I think that it would be in the best interests of the Canadian viewing public if the cable monopolies were required to pay for the local signals they distribute. Further, I think that the cable monopolies should not be allowed to pass any portion of these payments along to subscribers because our fees already paid have financed the infrastructure used to carry those signals.

To make sure this happens, the rates for basic service should be re-regulated by the CRTC so that the cable monopolies must pay compensation to local broadcasters for their signals. The local-signal-support scheme should see payments allocated based on the total viewing audience for each broadcaster's Canadian programming.

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Victoria Lee ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be upset to pay more for local TV on top of what I pay for cable because I generally only watch local TV despite the fact I have cable. I have basic cable to get a clearer signal for local TV stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ted ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable bills are too large already.

Options are limited and without local TV how are you to know what is going on in your local area. TV is one of the greatest sources for most if not all people to obtain information however if rates are to climb I, as well as many others will have to cancel our cable services due to the already high cost of services.

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Steffi Ortiz ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were asked to pay for local TV on top of cable fees I would probably just revert to my radio for news. I might even cancel my cable altogether because TV is just not that appealing.

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Like



Steffi Ortiz ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were asked to pay for local TV on top of cable fees I would probably just revert to my radio for news. I might even cancel my cable altogether because TV is just not that appealing.

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Like



Len Gibson ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the service is available via a "personal" antenna or signal receiver why should one have to pay extra to a cable company for the signal?? I am not in favour of paying my cable company any additional fees; they charge enough now (and are not losing money as far as I know). Local production, like any other business, has to be economically viable. That said, I fully support systems such as PBS or BC's Knowledge Network who are mainly educating their viewers without advertising.

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Len Gibson ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Chuck ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will pay whatever it takes to keep local TV.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



James Lapierre ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay for local TV, they already have a source of revenue which is advertising.

We shouldn't have to pay for bad management and putting more money in rich peoples pockets.

Local television should be more innovative in their fund raising and not rely on us taxpayers to dish out more money (especially since most of these stations export our money to our neighbours for their shows instead of encouraging Canadian producers).

My 2cents.

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philharrison ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies must be made to pay for the local programming signal. Since they have a virtual monopoly, they should not be allowed to pass this on the consumer. As I see it, they are getting a free ride. Local stations are under threat and need funding, this in my view should come from the cable companies.

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ronny ★ [1 month ago](#)

Broadcasters have a societal responsibility to fully fund local stations, and they can help off-set the costs by charging cable for the services. And the cable providers must be obligated to absorb their portion of the cost *without* passing it on to subscribers. Broadcasters and providers can afford to do this, subscribers can't. The CRTC needs to act to ensure this happens immediately.

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tinafrascarelli ★ [1 month ago](#)

1- A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell. 2- Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming. 3- The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year. 4-And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this

year!

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 *ZEUS* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I had to pay extra I would probably cancel my cable. there is little that is worth watching. I do not receive good value for my money.

I object to the lack of choice when subscribing to cable. I also object to the lack of quality on my local TV station. I believe local TV is important, but it needs some quality control. My local "news" begins with 10 minutes of fluffy puff pieces that are not news.

While cable and satellite should carry local TV, and they should pay for it, at a reasonable rate, that expense should not be passed on to the consumer. the cable companies make enormous profits. Their upper management appear to make outrageous salaries. It is time to put a halt to unlimited corporate greed and this is a good place to start.

2. the best way to help local TV is probably through regulation. The number of stations owned by one corporate entity should be limited. There is great talent in Canada. Local TV should be regulated to ensure they use a fair portion of Canadian talent in each individual area, including writing, producing and music.

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 *David* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Enough already....cable is more expensive than telephone and internet combined...it is already too high (some of the highest pricing in the world) and this change will end up costing you know who...the consumer. I don't believe for one minute that the change being considered would increase local programming...it would only increase tv network profits and executive compensation (which is already outrageous when a CEO makes up to 15 times more than the lowest paid employee in that business. The networks are feeling the pinch of a paradigm change in their business (the effect of the internet, specialty channels and a loss of advertising dollars) and unfortunately those that make that 15 times more have not been smart enough to figure out how to change and evolve their business. This proposed money grab on their part will only disincite them away from finding solutions and effectively evolving their business model. Shades of General Motors. The business has changed, so should they and if they can't figure it out then let that company fail and let the strong prosper (those that come up with solutions rather than money grabs). Let's stop this hand-out mentality and put the burden on CEO's getting paid on results not handouts...please.....

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 *LBC* ★ [1 month ago](#)

There are a few facts that should be cleared up!! The cable company seems to be taking all the heat but I have ExpressVu and Sympatico and my rates are more than the cable operators rates in my area. From what I know the satellite companies and cable operators are just a carrier to get the channels out there to the public. The Canadian channels are a must carry for any of these operators so they have to carry them in their basic lineups. There is virtually no local programming available at all except for in the towns and cities where the cable companies community channels provide a true local presence. My satellite carrier has none at all except for the news from a city that is 100 kilometers away!! I agree the networks are just wanting to impose this tax to help bail them out from bad decisions they made in the past few years. Let the carriers (satellite and cable companies) drop a few networks from their line up and see what happens then!! Do we actually think if the Networks get more money they will increase local programming?? They will just be buying more foreign so be prepared!!

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 *Dawn Brier* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is already included in basic cable and satellite packages. Why should the consumer have to pay extra for the basics? We already pay extra for any specialty channels that we choose. I feel that the cable and satellite fees are getting out of control. People are losing

their jobs left, right and centre. I know as I am one of them. I am a single mom with no job for 1 1/2 years now. There is nothing out there to help me. All my bills seem to keep going up no matter how much I do to try and reduce them. Where am I supposed to get the money to pay more for something I already pay for? I should be able to turn on the tv and watch the local news without having to think about the cable and satellite companies sitting in their plush offices making millions of dollars in revenue and yet are greedy by asking for more. When is the government going to say enough is enough? Why not wait until this recession is over and people have jobs so they can pay for these things? When people are down, you don't turn around and kick them even further down. These companies should be saying, "Ok, let's wait. I would rather have 500 customers paying for cable or satellite than losing 250 of them because they can't afford it anymore. Let's help them out and not raise fees for now and discuss it again when everything turns around." But they don't do that. They are like Scrooge standing there with both hands out expecting more from us every year. They are like a little child saying "I want it now!!" Like I said, we already pay for local stations in our basics, why should we pay for it twice?'
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Like



[1harleygirl](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is already included in basic cable and satellite packages. Why should the consumer have to pay extra for the basics? We already pay extra for any specialty channels that we choose. I feel that the cable and satellite fees are getting out of control. People are losing their jobs left, right and centre. I know as I am one of them. I am a single mom with no job for 1 1/2 years now. There is nothing out there to help me. All my bills seem to keep going up no matter how much I do to try and reduce them. Where am I supposed to get the money to pay more for something I already pay for? I should be able to turn on the tv and watch the local news without having to think about the cable and satellite companies sitting in their plush offices making millions of dollars in revenue and yet are greedy by asking for more. When is the government going to say enough is enough? Why not wait until this recession is over and people have jobs so they can pay for these things? When people are down, you don't turn around and kick them even further down. These companies should be saying, "Ok, let's wait. I would rather have 500 customers paying for cable or satellite than losing 250 of them because they can't afford it anymore. Let's help them out and not raise fees for now and discuss it again when everything turns around." But they don't do that. They are like Scrooge standing there with both hands out expecting more from us every year. They are like a little child saying "I want it now!!" Like I said, we already pay for local stations in our basics, why should we pay for it twice?'
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[Cynthia Nidd](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yes. I would be willing to pay more to my cable company so they would carry local programming from CBC and Cable 10. There may be more but those are the ones I watch. I know the cable companies have great local programming. They should be paid when other stations carry their programming just as cable companies should pay to carry CBC programming. But if it would be a choice of pay or don't carry the programming, I want it compulsory to carry local shows. the amount paid, that gets added to the consumers bill after all, should be affordable per person. (a couple of dollars a month would not be noticed, it would be less than taxes, but would add up for all customers all over Canada.
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[Leo](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am not willing to pay 1 red cent to local broadcasters. I find their programs to be terrible and giving them more money would only reward mediocrity.
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[benjaminrowley78](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

In the UK people have to pay 243.86 for TV by having a TV license for every TV they have or they get a fined and that money go to the BBC. For Shaw to say it would be a tax is a load of

crap Shaw dose not have to pass it on and they would still make money. Jr Shaw is number 41 on the 100 rich Canadians list at net worth of 1.2 billion and Jim Shaw is not hurting for money and Ted Rogers family is number 4 at 5.05 billion the Cable company in Canada could help local TV without passing it on

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Like



Danny ★ [1 month ago](#)

I subscribed to Star Choice satellite TV very basic package - so I could get access the my local tv channel. Guess what my local PEI CBC channel is not on the line-up only the Halifax CBC broadcast is on Star Choice.

I will unsubscribe shortly... I basically listen to CBC, ATV/CTV and Goba and SRC all local channels but you can get with an rabbit eye antenna. The quality is very poor and the signal is no always dependable.

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mattawan ★ [1 month ago](#)

LOCAL TV

A lot of people do not have local tv although the networks would have you believe they cover the country.

Satellite is my only option for reception.

What passes for local tv is a CTV affiliate. Local programming consists of newscasts.

70% of the "local" news is Sudbury(2.5 hours drive away). Then there is the odd item from North Bay(an hour away). The there are items from Timmin(4 Hours) and finally Sault Ste Marie(5 hours of hard driving away).

I am supposed to pay extra for this service!

My satellite bill is \$62. It gives me access to over a hundred channels...I actually watch 8!

It is time to let us pick only the channels we want. I for one cannot afford to subsidize the rest anymore

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Like



Kat2010 ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would be upset to pay for local TV on top of what I already pay for my cable service because I believe it would be used to buy American Shows I already pay for on the American Stations provided by the cable company.

I think Local Stations should stop buying American Shows already available through cable and satellite and start using the money to produce Canadian Shows.

[Flag](#)

Like



louisd ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would mostly likely cancel my cable service. I pay a lot of money for the same channels in different time zones already. I want to pay for what I want to watch. I want to select the channels I want. I should have the freedom to choose. If the local stations can't survive on that model, then that's the way it has to be. My employer won't keep me employed if their business model didn't work.

Local advertisers.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ed MacKenzie ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think that the cable companies should have to pay local stations for the content they use but

the users should not have to pay extra - the cable companies are making enough money now.

[Flag](#)

Like



larryelliott ★ [1 month ago](#)

I live in area of this country that has no local TV and I get my community information and weather from radio. When I used a TV antenna I got three stations and none worth watching because of poor signal straight. It seems to me that satellite offers TV stations a larger viewing audience and if anything TV stations should be paying satellite for the larger viewing audience they offer. If I have to pay for local TV I am would be paying for something that doesn't represent me and want or don't need. Local TV should be supported by local business not a extra charge to subscribers.

[Flag](#)

Like



P J buxcey ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television are important and cable companies should help fund them without raising their already high fees. Customers should be able to choose the channels they wish to have in the list of stations they wish to receive.

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Like



williamalves ★ [1 month ago](#)

To be blunt, local TV doesn't matter. I'm not ready to pay more for local programming and I don't think the carriers should pay for it as well as ultimately the cost will be passed on to the consumer. If local TV matters to individuals they should be given the choice to either pay for it as an option or having the choice to not pay for it if it is not important to them. The time of national subsidies of these stations needs to end and by approving such a fee would be in effect subsidization. It's time to allow pay as you go choose what you want and let the consumer decide what will work and what won't. If it makes money they will survive, if it doesn't it will fail.

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scottibailey ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television should be treated like any other business and they must be allowed to succeed or fail on their own. The Canadian public should not subsidize these stations through an inflated cable cost. The only exception should be the CBC which already receives my tax dollars to subsidize its operations. I accept we must maintain a 100% National broadcaster. Other private companies should not be allowed to force charges on subscribers through cable fees. We have monopolies in Canada and unless cable is deregulated this is unacceptable.

[Flag](#)

Like



ptrnr ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel local TV is extremely important. We live in our communities, and need to be informed of local events and local news. I would pay if required, but feel it should not be necessary, with the revenue already taken in by cable/satellite companies.

[Flag](#)

Like



L.C.Johnson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I want to hear and see what is going on in MY Prov.and MY city..from people who are part of MY community..and paying more for it,is NOT an option..I pay more than enough for shows,that are reruns,bumped,cancelled without input,of no interest,etc;as has been suggested,I have be able to live without TV on many occasions..I will do it again.

[Flag](#)



AMADHA ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would react negatively to such an increase in charges for cable or satellite mostly because they need those channels to keep their Canadian content numbers up or it will impact their licenses. As we shift to digital, broadcast will become less viable (range issues of the signal) so broadcast ad revenue will decrease so there must be some justification to keep local stations open. Plus their charges are already ridiculous, they are monopolies.
2. Three actions should be taken. One: cable and satellite should be required to carry at least one channel that originates in their service area. Two: they should forward 1.25% of the charged rate to subscribers for service in that area to the channel or channels in that serve that area. Three: They should not be permitted to count their community channel broadcast time towards their Canadian content percentage. (This one move would forces satellite and cable companies to look more to local channels to meet their Canadian content requirements.)

[Flag](#)



wwwabit ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the local TV stations want to get paid per subscriber from the cable company like the "premium" channels, then they loose the prime space in the basic manditory package. They can go to a "pick and pay" channel just like the premium channels are, whould scare them to see who would (and would NOT) pay for their channel.

[Flag](#)



naomipriddlehunter ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is extremely important to me and I am not simply speaking in my "big city resident" voice, but also as someone with roots in the smaller communities of the Ottawa Valley and of Northumberland County. Local programming has been eroding in those regions for years and they need and deserve our support. I feel strongly enough that, if it was the only option I would pay a surcharge to keep that programming alive. I feel even more strongly that the profit-based cable and satellite service companies have been getting a free ride on the backs of the local media services for years and it is time that they were required to put money back into the system, specifically to support local programming. Their customers have supported those services for years with their tax dollars, so it seems unfair to "double-dip" and ask the public to contribute additional funds, when the cable and satelite companies have essentially been getting a free ride for years.

[Flag](#)



nerky ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV may provide too much network drivel but it does serve the purpose of keeping us informed of local news and events from a neighbour's perspective. I will not pay extra for continued access to local service, period. But, I do believe cable companies have seen sufficient profit over the last number of years to absorb a reasonable fee to the local stations; no one I have ever met feels properly served by "bundles" and I would suggest the average customer is forced to purchase 60% unwanted programming to get the 40% they do! Enforces the "make more crap make more money" merry-go-round we consumers are stuck on and the CRTC would appear to be greasing the gears on this ride. Cable and satellite can stand the hit!

[Flag](#)



Ted ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is very important to me. It provides a window in the regional and local community which is almost entirely missing from national feeds. At the same time, the cost of basic cable and the various additional channel packages already seems to be excessive. I would not support raising cable fees to cover the cost of cable companies paying for local tv -- this

seems to be a responsibility of the cable provider while it gives the local channel the opportunity to sell advertising content based on its local audience. Some support for local channels may be warranted but it should come from the cable companies' operating profit rather than an increase in basic fees.

Flag

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hankyoul ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not see broadcast TV as being local TV. The primary content that is local is the local news broadcast. I get most of my local content from the internet, rather than watching the local networks. Outside of that, the bulk of programming is purchased from American Networks to be rebroadcast to the Canadian public.

As local TV, Broadcast TV has been broadcast over the air for the history of TV. I never needed to pay for it to receive it. It was considered a public service. Asking Canadians to pay a premium for the Broadcast networks to remain on Cable and Satellite is grossly unfair to the Canadian consumer. If the Cable and Satellite companies stopped carrying Broadcast TV on their networks, then I would be equally as happy.

Broadcast TV seems to be intent on broadcasting American programming, not promoting and developing Canadian content. The only way I would accept this additional fee is if the fee is guaranteed to be used towards producing quality Canadian programming. Canadians are not interested in paying more fees to receive what has been traditionally broadcast over the air free. If Broadcast Networks are failing financially, then they need to look at a new business model. They should not look to the CRTC for a regulatory handout.

Flag

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Virginia Thompson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I suggest that cable and satellite companies pay for local TV signals rather than the cost being passed on to local consumers. The cable and satellite companies can bear the cost of distribution of local TV better than local consumers. Further, I doubt that local consumers would pay this cost in addition to cable fees which are already quite high. This lack of support might ring the death knell for local TV which in fact is the life blood of our country and culture as well as our democratic way of life.

Flag

Like



annalesgilbert ★ [1 month ago](#)

We have Starchoice. We think they get enough money from us for what we get in service from them. If local tv wants money, let Starchoice pay for it.

Our biggest bone with Starchoice is that we have to get packages of several channels in order to get the one channel we watch. We've written them and suggested that they offer each channel individually at a higher price per channel, but they basically told us what we want and that is packages.

We have an elderly person living with us and when she either passes on or we cannot care for her longer, we will go right down to basic or cancel tv service altogether. We always thought that companies should satisfy customers, not annoy them.

Flag

Like



bjbenson ★ [1 month ago](#)

It makes sense to charge the cable companies for the origin of the broadcasted signals they re-sell to their customers.

Flag

Like



anonymous ★ [1 month ago](#)

I will cancel my cable service. A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill

each month - it's not fair especially when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV Providers

[Flag](#)

Like

 *E J K* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The big BUT! I support local television BUT if they are not economically feasible, we should not be continually subsidizing them. Have we not learned anything from the current economic crisis or from our medical system, education system, need I go on? Not all business are designed to succeed.

I already pay taxes which are allocated to specific stations (ie CBC, Radio Canada). I fully support this. However paying an additional fee for stations that I do not use and are not profitable does not make sense.

Let the users of the local channels make the choice to pay. I should have the option of declining these stations, as well as the tax.

This isn't a question of whether or not I support local TV. Nor is it a question of whether or not the distributors are making more money. It is a question of subsidization.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Janice* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Let's see, the networks had a profit of \$400 million last year but the average Canadian is getting deeper into debt each year. Now really, why would they think that we can afford to pay for local TV? I am furious!

If the harmonized tax comes through and this...where do they think we are going to come up with the money? Our income is certainly not increasing! Something is going to give or more debt will be incurred which is terrible for the economy. Where does it end? What a mess we're in Canada.

This cost should be absorbed by the networks - the solution is simple!

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Like

 *Kate* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am a BIG supporter of the CBC, particularly Radio 2 (although perhaps not so big in its most recent reincarnation!). We most definitely should have a national broadcaster for both radio and TV as advertising-free as possible. Local TV does matter but I am getting tired of the incessant TV advertising. I do think I pay an awful lot for Cable service and do wonder where it all goes from time to time . reasonable profit is one thing, excessive profit is greedy.

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Like

 *Gordon Escott* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do think local TV is important, but it was my understanding that it was included in my basic cable company fees. So doesnt that mean i am already paying for them?I believe the cable companies have benefited big time over the years and they should deal in good faith with the networks involved. I think Canadians pay enough for cable already.I also believe the consumer should be able to select the chanells they want including local programing

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Jason* ★ [1 month ago](#)

If I were asked to pay even more than the ridiculous price I pay now, I would cancel my cable

or satellite service, and use my internet to watch my movies or shows, until they somehow (and they will) get a bigger piece of that. Prices are already way out of control !

To support local television (in terms of finance) I think it should be up to them to sell their services to advertisers. As well...how about the big shots in these companies take a pay cut? You have us hard working, mostly middle class people, making an average wage, struggling to make ends meet, and we pay for our cable or satellite just to get a little enjoyment at the end of our day, and you want to make us REALLY pay for it. Come on man...how far can you push a person before the give up?

[Flag](#)

Like

 L. ★ [1 month ago](#)

Charging an additional \$10 for "local programming"? With everything we are paying for today, what a rip-off. With all of the local TV channels being closed, I know the money won't go towards local TV.

Add the additional \$10 to my bill for local TV (that won't go to local TV), and I will cancel my TV service.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Joan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am confused. Local TV has always been free if you don't have cable or satellite. Those companies charge for it and they get it for free. If they have a tax imposed on them why are they passing it on to the consumer when they have reaped the benefits of it for free for years while charging subscribers?? If local TV stations want to bring us US network shows they pay for it. Do the cable and satellite pay them for it?

If I buy a TV today it is hard to use it without cable or satellite being hooked up. The old TV you could use an antenna for local TV and get it for free. It used to be a convenience that everyone switched to cable. There have been many years of profit for them that allowed their business to continue to grow. These new charges should not be passed on to the consumer but absorbed by the cable and satellite companies.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Ed Zobetz ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable companies should not be allowed to have proprietary remotes. Remotes should be universal. As a subscriber to Eastlink, I don't have the option to shop around if I choose to buy my own; however, subscribers to Rogers and Bell Expressview have that choice. Even though Rogers and Bell customers can shop around for a remote, they become locked in to that one service provider once they purchase a remote as the remotes are proprietary. With all the advances in technology, I still have to use both my original and Eastlink's remote to access my T.V.

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Like

 J Jameson ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would cancel my satellite service, for several reasons:

a - it's already too expensive.

b - many of the shows I watch are available on the internet on the networks' own websites. Many programs are available on DVD. So on-air broadcasting is no longer the monopoly that it once was. Adding fees and taxes just makes it easier to drop the traditional broadcasting services.

c - we receive NO local TV service over satellite in NB - the closest "local" TV comes from Halifax, NS, and it is NOT local. So what would I be paying for, if a local-TV Tax was levied? To support a TV Station in Toronto or Regina?

d - I don't see any differentiation between the program lineup in Toronto and the lineup in Vancouver, except perhaps the 5 o'clock news. Why would I want to see the local Toronto or Vancouver news anyway?

e - The only benefit to transmitting local TV across the country is time-shifting. I have a PVR and I don't need to be able to watch a particular program in 5 different time zones.

f - The satellite/cable services are doing the local TV stations a favour by broadcasting their signals. Presumably their viewership is larger because of the wider audience since more people can receive their signals. Their advertizing revenues should reflect that. Maybe the rebroadcasters should ask the local TV stations to pay a fee to have their signals on the air!

2. Many websites seems to be largely supported by advertizing; their business models seem to be extremely successful and highly lucrative (e.g. Google). So why are local TV stations (at least according to the broadcasters) having financial problems? Is it that their former customers are spending less on TV advertizing? Or are they pricing themselves out of the market? Times have changed, and perhaps local television is a dinosaur that no longer provides a financially-viable service. You have to prove to me that it is indeed worth supporting.

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ebram ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not agree with putting the burden of cost of poor TV management on the customers.

[Flag](#)

Like



AM ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am so sick of the cable companies telling me what good TV is and the inability to choose my own programming that I have gone back to local broadcast TV recieved by antenna only and am very happy with it. Cable companies have made it impossible to enjoy watching TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



TiGz ★ [1 month ago](#)

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH already!!!! How much do the big broadcasting companies need to make while giving NOTHING BACK! How much do the executives of these companies need to squeeze out of me. They're already getting subsidized with my tax dollars. Now, they want to squeeze me for \$10 more a month for useless TV? I say keep it.....I'll read a good book or pirate the services and when they need more money down the road because everyone has said stuff it, maybe they can start looking at efficiencies within their own damn house before they come to mine!

[Flag](#)

Like



TK ★ [1 month ago](#)

I cancelled cable a few years back and switched to satellite because the cost was too high. This year I got rid of satellite. When Shaw took it over, my same package jumped \$30 here in Northern Alberta. Unacceptable.

When I want news I read newspapers and I get it online. When I want entertainment nowadays I rent a DVD.

Fact is, the cost has gotten far too prohibitive.

I love local tv and support it, but I refuse to pay a company nothing but profits when they don't pay for the signals.

[Flag](#)

Like



jayrb ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. The importance of local TV to me is non-existent. I would be extremely unhappy if I had to pay for it.

2. Sponsorship would be my suggestion. Advertising starts with a presumption that enough people care to attract viewers. Sponsorship is the commercial equivalent of charity that companies do to make themselves look good.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [geoff001](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

i pay too much now!! no more tax

[Flag](#)

Like

 [geoff001](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

no mor tax let local tv sink or swim on it's own

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 [geoff001](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

no more tax let local tv sink or swim on it's own

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 [Ken](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that if cable companies are asked to pay for local signals, and since there is very little competition (in Toronto you only can choose Rogers or Bell), that the cost of providing the local channels needs to be regulated. The cable companies profits have sky-rocketed while profits for the broadcasters are very slim. It doesn't make sense that the distributors make all the money, while the providers make very little.

[Flag](#)

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 [Tony Scherer](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The basic premise of TV broadcasting is not to provide television to viewers, it is to make money by operating a business that "brings eyeballs to advertisers". The money to be made is from advertising. In order to attract advertisers, the quality of the programming must be such that enough viewers watch the programs to benefit advertisers who then buy ads.

Before the BIG television broadcasters purchased the "local" TV stations, they operated on a shoestring and provided low cost local programming. The BIG broadcasters bought the local stations because they believed they could make money - more money than was generated by the local owners. Now, because there business models have failed, and they spend their money on broadcasting shows on their National, or large market Stations and attract advertising dollars to pay for those broadcasts, they want the veiwers to pay for their failed business models. Other then local news shows, what programs are worth wathcing? What is the percentage of viewers watching the old re-runs instead of the new shows on the Natioanl channels? I would thing very low.

I guess that the TV broadcasters saw the bailout of the Automotive industry through the taxpayers and said, "what about us"? Small businesses fail all the time and no one is around to bail them out. Small business owners do not have large organizations to petition the Government and push for a "Tax" to bail out their mis-managed or not profitable businesses. Why should we bail out the BIG broadcaster? We should not. If they cannot succeed in the marketplace, the message is that we do not need them. We already subsidize CBC, and that's more than enough Public Television.

I say NO to any new charges to me to pay for the failure of BIG broadcasters to manage their business profitably.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Neil Jamieson-Williams* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable fees are too high to begin with (you really should regulate the satellite and cable companies more than you actually do) and I would not be happy if the providers simply passed this expense directly onto the consumer; then again, that is what they always do. However, I strongly believe that they should have to pay for local television -- the content creators have a right to receive compensation from the content distributors. There is very little risk in distribution (and the lion's share of the profits), whereas content creators are the ones who are taking the major risk in television.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Adam Kaufman* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be extremely disappointed as this would amount to my paying a subsidy while the cable providers pay nothing. There should be a premium paid by cable distributors to the original local TV broadcasters for the signals they use and pass on to customers. Paying a small premium to allow a profit margin for them is reasonable. Asking their customers to foot the whole bill is ridiculous.

2. Have the cable companies pay for the signals they use!!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*billy* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to Adam Kaufman](#)

customers are already paying \$30/month for basic cable. american channels are getting paid. i don't see when canadian channels don't get paid. it's a small amount and it's a fraction of the cost of of the channel, the advertisers still paying for the content.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*JOHN* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Totally off the wall. i don't need a "WAL MART' T.V. NETWORK. I NEED LOCAL TV.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*manny* ★ [1 month ago](#)

to keep local TV alive , cable monopolies must be made to pay local TV for their services.

This cost must come from the huge profits already being made by cable companies, and to ensure this ,basic cable rates must be re-regulated.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*billy* ★ [1 month ago](#) [in reply to manny](#)

cable companies don't give free cable or free high speed internet.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*JP* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I think cable companies should attempt to manage their business better. The days of looking for a 'cash grab' are all but gone, and local TV should be aware of this as they report on the economy within their regions. Enough. If local TV can't afford to be in business get out.

[Flag](#)

Like



anne G ★ 1 month ago

Although there is local news the station ownership is outside of the city
Local Tv should stand on its own merits sink or swim and already with quality being so poor I rarely watch the so called "local" station.
I will cancel my TV if this occurs
I am sick of all the taxes we have to pay and which is uncontrolled by the government.
Cable companies already make outrageous profits at our expense
The TV programmes are very poor quality in the main and although there are numerous channels it comes down to less than five that I consider worth watching and that is where I am with this.
As a retiree with limited income I am already at the basic subscription level
If the prices increase in I will not be able to afford TV anyway.

[Flag](#)

Like



Irin ★ 1 month ago

If I had to pay even more for Cable, I would cancel all together. This is ridiculous. Basic Cable alone can cost almost \$700 a year! That's insane. What a rip off. Local news is so important to thousands of communities all over Ontario and within Canada. If we were to lose our local news stations, how would we stay informed about community going ons and news events. Obviiously, this is another way for large corporations to push out the little guys and pad their bottom line at the risk of hurting innocent people!

[Flag](#)

Like



allanholmberg ★ 1 month ago

Local Broadcasters are an important part of any community providing employment, local information and a medium for local business to promote its wares. However the CRTC should not grant them monopolies or subsidize them as they are in fact free enterprisers and really just glorified advertising agencies. The market should be open so the best survive - but they deserve the same fees from cable companies as any other service carried.

[Flag](#)

Like



Anon ★ 1 month ago

A simple solution would be to let the people decide. In other words, only those that want the local stations would pay for it. Of course, if we opt for this option, then any fees that we are currently paying for local tv should consequently be removed. This seems too much like an idea inspired by the bailout plan for the finance sector in the United States to which many experts are of the opinion that it was not the best approach to have taken.Rick

[Flag](#)

Like



Kan ★ 1 month ago

A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Bell

[Flag](#)

Like



denise carrier ★ 1 month ago

1. outrage

2. Charge cable and satellite + allow more competition + find a way for the consumer to pay

less to cable and satellite

[Flag](#)

Like



billy ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [denise carrier](#)

it disturbs me that there is even a third party in this private business transaction. CRTC and any arbitration is a third party. unless these are private businesses. simple, you want the channel or product or service, you pay for it. it's not the mandate of the CRTC to force anyone to get something for nothing or regulate price.

[Flag](#)

Like



Milan Chvostek ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV should be available on all cable systems as part of the basic package as they are now. We already pay for the basic package and the cable companies are making a considerable profit from these basic payments plus a considerably greater profit from their highly publicised additions for which we pay extra. I have no problem with the local stations negotiating for payment for their signal as they do in the U.S. but I see no reason to increase viewer fees -- their profit is already substantial. With the economic downturn, local stations are struggling to keep afloat -- they do not have the luxury of receiving user fees.

The exception of course is the CBC for which we pay a minimal portion through our taxes. I emphasize "minimal" as the grants the CBC receives in no way allow them to fulfill their mandate, so they too are dependent on advertising revenue. When CBC shows are "sold" off shore to other networks they are of course paid. By the same token when their signal is re-broadcast by someone who charges viewers to see it, they should get some of that money.

It is very important for local TV to reflect it's audience and where there is no local CBC signal, the local TV station should receive the same per capita subsidy the CBC gets as long as it maintains a similar quality of broadcast and journalism that the CBC does.

It is interesting that private networks proliferated widely when they perceived there to be a considerably profit in doing so. "Service" to the community was simply a way to draw in advertising dollars -- the bottom line -- profit. The CBC's mandate on the other hand was, and I think still is, service both to the local community and to the nation as a whole. Ideally it should not depend on advertising dollars to do its job.

But unfortunately it does, thus incurring the jealousy and wrath of the private sector in its need to compete.

The CRTC does not deserve the maligning it gets from my front. I think it has done a capital job in juggling the balls, cubes, and tetrahedrons before it to keep the interests, needs, and desires of the public in the forefront. The big challenge now is the government...

[Flag](#)

Like



Bruce Elkin ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I'd stop watching TV, and read more books. And get my news via the web.
2. All measures possible!

[Flag](#)

Like



holeecrow ★ [1 month ago](#)

It doesn't make any sense to support local TV when the only thing that is local is the news. Everything else is the same as BCTV which is broadcast out of Vancouver. To pay extra to see the evening news is a waste of money and if cable was to expand their coverage on their local channel that would suffice.

If "local" TV can't stand on their own two feet they should close their doors like any other "normal" business would do.

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 Like *Chris davis* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Will the government collect any monies from this? Why are you allowing it to be called a TAX by the advertisements?

[Flag](#) Like *billy* ★ [1 month ago](#) in reply to [Chris davis](#)

it is a 'LIE' and irresponsible to say this is a tax or gov't bailout when it is not. more like the CRTC playing favouritism to incumbent cell phone companies and cable companies who have lots of money to pay the CRTC. that is a lot of power given to the CRTC which isn't their mandate to regulate price in a free market forces decide whether consmers want those channels and want to pay for those channels..\$20/month should be basic cable any channel you want.

[Flag](#) Like *roger h tawa* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Connection to cable or satellite is no different than in the old days of telephony. The telephone companies were considered public utilities and their operations and profit margins regulated. Now that they are competing their profit margins should be the same or less than in the days of wired telephony.

[Flag](#) Like *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#)

- The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

[Flag](#) Like *nausie* ★ [1 month ago](#)

- A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.
- Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.
- The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

[Flag](#) Like *Jason Cox* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

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 *Shaun Bailey* ★ [1 month ago](#)

We as Canadian's are already being taxed to death, Now in Ontario we are faced yet again with another tax with the introduction of the HST, higher TTC prices and now an increase on my cable bill. It's too much, I will have to give up something. and guess what, it will have to be TV because i'll be forced to pay the HST and I need the TTC to get to work! My only other option is to cancel the cable service. This is what is going to happen to a lot of People in Ontario. With all these new taxes we have to pay we are closer then ever to poverty! Nearly half my paycheck is about to be gone. I'ts going to become very expensive to live in Ontario.

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Like

 *mina* ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Like

 *JS* ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is crazy, The networks need to be responsible as a business...not pass the cost to the consumer through the cable companies in the form of a tax. I will cancel my cable subscription if this happens and everyone will lose.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mina* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers

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 *Martin* ★ [1 month ago](#)

In my opinion, if the local broadcasters want to charge us an extra 5-10\$ a month, we should have the option of havign or dropping those channels. There's nothing I would like more than to remove CBC and its poor programming from my channel line-up...

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Like

 *Kevin Wang* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't agree with this extra payment from end users.

As an immigrant, I very much appreciate the very good social systems here in Canada, health, community centers and so on. And I fully understand that it needs a high-tax system to support all these. However everything is about balance, we already see so many tax or other items' hike next year such as property tax , HST, auto insurance and so on, so basically I really don't hope to see any more than that. We'd better find some other solutions to solve the local TV problem than just simply collect more money from end users who are already with too much burdens, in this way Canadian will gradually be less attractive to new immigrants.

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 *Matt Smith* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local

television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

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guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

has the CRTC considered letting market forces decide? let the local stations charge the cable companies for their product, just like any other business, but dont mandate that the cable companies have to pickup/buy the signal, just like any other business. if the product is good, consumers will demand it and pay for it and the cable companies will purchase it....perhaps the crtc stepping back from regulation may be better for all.

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Trisha M ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Salman ★ [1 month ago](#)

Is our local TV 100% local? If yes why they telecast American programs? Currently people are forced to take local chanel as a basic service there should be more flexibility for users so they can choose or pick chanel.

CRTC should look both cable companies and local tv stations and check how much money is going out side of Canada regardless if it is in the name of buying US proگرامing or out sourcing jobs by cable companies. In either case both are hurting Canadians and by incresing cable bills in the name of local TV is not in the intrest of Canada as this money will not spend within Canada in any case.

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hugh tumilty ★ [1 month ago](#)

i think that the local stations should be looking to make changes to their business model instead of looking for more handouts that effectively come from the taxpayer who is really the one paying for the existing government subsidies.

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CYL ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers.

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jessica ★ [1 month ago](#)

Certain stations are not adapting to the increased trend towards internet television consumption, and are trying to cover up this fumble with an irreverent tax that further alienates already shakey viewership in a questionable economic environment. If only other industries could recoup costs with fake taxes.....

[Flag](#)

 *Fed up canadian* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

[Flag](#) *Ada Belmonte* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

[Flag](#) *MPR* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't agree with the networks asking the government to step in and make someone pay them. Leave it to free enterprise. Local TV gets funding already, if it still can't be profitable then let it go. But I don't think this is the case. I have yet to see any comments from the Networks as to how they will use these funds. How do they guarantee that any funds go just to local? It would get lost in the overall financials and be impossible to see it. I don't agree at all, let the networks deal with their own issue and don't ask the government and consumers to bail out companies that make millions in profit.

[Flag](#) *Bob* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

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[Flag](#) *GUEST* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

[Flag](#) *Suresh* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I simply fail to understand the logic of the government in asking all Canadians to pay an income tax and then for every service charge a separate tax. So what was the income tax being charged in the first place for ?!!

We in Ontario have been the victims of the latest tax grab, the HST and now TV Tax?!!!

Free to air TV stations should remain free to air. Their source of revenue is advertisements they get to put on their channels which in turn is dependent on the quality of their programs they produce.

I am against any tax in any form!!

All these taxes would ultimately lead to the downfall of the economy of Canada once people and business start moving out of Canada into more suitable environments for business in the world.

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Bob ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable is ridiculously expensive as it is. Maybe the CRTC could govern the prices a little!

[Flag](#)

Like



Craig Jackman ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the local stations are complaining that they are losing money, perhaps they should invest in their sales staff selling commercial inventory they already have. OTA networks have made no commitment to improve and expand local programming or even to keep stations on the air. Funny that they aren't talking about shutting down the network. Historically OTA broadcasters would be catastrophically worse off without distribution partners like cable and DTH satellite expanding their effective reach to their audience. I strongly agree with the proposal to take surplus commercial time on US network feeds, currently devoted to Canadian station promotion, and give that to local OTA broadcasters to sell as commercial inventory. As a consumer, if I have to pay for local channels I want the ability to choose, or not choose them, a la carte. If I really want them I can get them OTA for free. My cable bill is already high enough thank you. I also very much resent the local stations one sided coverage of this issue, increasing hysteria where it isn't required. The sky isn't falling after all.

I have to ask, how loudly are local stations going to complain when the era of analog transmission ends? They'll have to invest in digital transmission technology ... and their effective transmission area will shrink. Are they going to force Industry Canada to back up their long published deadline because they aren't ready?

This is just another sign of changing technology. I don't need the newspaper or magazine delivered, when I can read them online. I can stream my favorite radio station online. Some television programs are available online. Are local OTA broadcasters ready to compete online? Haven't they seen this coming? Where have they been hiding?

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antiadrienne ★ [1 month ago](#)

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dcalvert ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm already paying for local TV. The government pays for CBC. I pay for CTV, Global and other Canadian programming by watching the commercials on their channels and allowing them to generate advertising dollars. I refuse to pay money to gigantic networks like CTV and Global, both of whom have lost massive amounts of money in their newspaper businesses and now

want to recoup it by forcing cable companies to charge me. In spite of their crafty PR campaign, it's obvious that these networks don't care about local TV coverage. They care about revenues.

If the Canadian government insists on making us pay for these networks (networks I can get on my antenna for free, by the way) I hope that the government also allows cable companies to offer consumers an option where we don't have to include local signals in our package.

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Guest ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

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Denise Lafrance ★ [1 month ago](#)

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Zap ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay to watch local TV when I can watch it for free without cable. I can get me local news for free via the local paper or the Metro on the way to work.

[Flag](#)

Like



xja ★ [1 month ago](#)

Everything (TV, telephone, cable) going into internet and web. The pure local TV will out of the time. If they want to survive, they should find a way by them self. If local TV be support by tax, how can it keep independent when concern government issue?

[Flag](#)

Like



Andrea ★ [1 month ago](#)

The cost of cable/satellite services today are already much too high. There have been substantial rate increases over the years plus additional fees of 1.5% added to our bills already this year. The additional cost of funding local TV would force me to cut some of the services that I already enjoy. Should the CRTC decide, however, that consumers will have to pay to fund local TV programming, we should be given the option as to whether or not we want to subscribe to these channels/services and be able to select the packages and services that we subscribe to.

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Dave Hart ★ [1 month ago](#)

I was under the impression that the Federal Government already supports the networks through a Local Channel Improvement Fund that went into effect this year.

I know that the cableco's and satellite providers feed large amounts of cash into a "telefund" every year that the networks draw from for the creation of original programming. Seems to me, the cableco's and satellite services are already doing enough to help prop up the big networks.

Can their management be so inept that they can't compete for local advertising dollars? This isn't PBS in the states - I don't feel any obligation to share my hard earned wages with giant corporations like CTV, CBC, & Global. Let them sell off some of the more insipid specialty channels you folks allowed them to open if they find they can't support themselves as they always have. Their programming is free to everyone off-air. I already pay far too much for cable services and I won't stand for an increase to my monthly bill because a networks bottom line doesn't look quite as good as it did a few years ago.

[Flag](#)

Like



BOps ★ [1 month ago](#)

Being in rural NE SK, I am not sure what the definition of local television is anymore. Being outside of a municipal area, satellite delivery is really the only option from the 2 english channels available over-the-air. So my comments are from that perspective. The nearest CTV operation had their supper hour news shut down years ago and it now originates out of Saskatoon which, granted, does a reasonable job of providing major news coverage of this area. The nearest CTV operation, however, still does a half-hour noon cast Mon thru Fri. The rest of the "local" programming seems to be nothing more than local commercial inserts in network programming. We used to find the "local news" inserts on CTV's Canada AM informative and relavent and that has disappeared as well assumingly as a cost cutting measure.

In summary, I really don't have an answer to Question 1 as the local operations aren't able to offer anything much different then the other 3 or 4 stations of the same Canadian network that are in the same time zone being delivered by satellite.

I am afraid that once the transition to digital over-the-air transmissison is completed, the analogue rebroadcasters will not be upgraded and forcing the rural population into cable/statellite delivery as the only option. Then why would I pay to support a signal from hundreds of km's away that is not relevent to my area?

In response to Question 2, maybe the broadcast networks need to redo some of their thinking in that when it comes to local television that they have to include their own operations avialable on satellite as competing with their local over-the-air operations that are not available satellite.

[Flag](#)

Like



Vikram ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important if it provides programmes of local nature. As of now 95% of programmes on all channels are of US origin. Even the ad shown relate to US. I would NOT pay extra for local TV till I do not see any local programmes.

First of all there should be local TV before the question of support arises. Broadcasting local news and then switching back to US origin programmes does not constitute being local.

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Lisa ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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Rob Ross ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am against the TV networks charging money for their signals. The cable/satellite companies provide these networks with viewers, which in turn, generates AD revenues. I am against bailing out these networks because of bad business decisions. Keep in mind that these networks are already supported by Canadian viewers.

If they are allowed to charge money, then the Cable and Satellite companies should be able to charge them a fee for signal substitution.

If they are allowed to charge money, then the Cable and Satellite companies should have the option to drop the channels from their packages.

If they are allowed to charge money, allow US networks to get Canadian broadcast rights to US programming. That way, we can watch the shows on US channels and not have them blacked out. (I'd like to see US Superbowl commercials!)

If they are allowed to charge money, Canadians should have the option to subscribe or unsubscribe from the networks individually. Allow us to vote with our dollars.

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Like



alias520 ★ [1 month ago](#)

In Timmins, CTV made the decision 6-8 years ago to "pull out" of Timmins and provide a LOCAL NEWSCAST from Sudbury. They stopped being a LOCAL TV STATION at that point. There used to be 20-30 people who worked at the LOCAL TIMMINS TV station and now there are approximately 10. They currently usually have 2 stories about Timmins on the 6pm news and possibly one story at 11:30p. How can CTV say that they are a LOCAL and credible source. Their anchors are in Sudbury. CTV made the decision to pull out of Timmins years ago so they could add more to their bottom line and increase efficiencies. They didn't care about the citizens of Timmins, it was a business decision. Now because revenues are down and they have not addressed how to counteract all of the new technologies available they are looking for a handout. I just cannot accept that. There has been no commitment to LOCAL Programming for years in Timmins, Sault Ste MARie and North Bay. I am against this fee for carriage.

Angelo Lia

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Luis ★ [1 month ago](#)

what guarantees is the public being given that the \$\$ will be used for locally produced tv?

[Flag](#)

Like



Ian Cunningham ★ [1 month ago](#)

I feel that in inability of broadcasters to operate their businesses properly should not be shouldered by the general public. If the commission feels local programming is important to the fabric of what is Canadian culture, then the 1.5% Local Programming Improvement Fund that signal suppliers have been mandated to pay should suffice. If that fund is not large enough to support local TV, then the percentage should be increased. But in no way should Canadian citizens be burdened with supporting private business. We had no choice in funding big car companies during tough financial times and already pay the government to support the CBC and their local programming.

If the over-the-air broadcasters feel they are being treated unfairly by cable and satellite, then let them pull their signals and issue antennas to the households they want to be seen in.

Please, do not make Canadians suffer (again) for private sector's poor business plans.

And, thank you for the opportunity to have my, and other Canadian's, voice heard. It's better than what the current Government has offered us.

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No Thanks ★ [1 month ago](#)

I believe that broadcasters currently have the required resources to support local TV and that cable companies already contribute to local TV (i.e. Rogers 10 programming). Broadcasters in Canada are already provided with special consideration to protect against the influence of outside markets (i.e. advertising substitution, which often negatively impacts the viewing experience of the average Canadian). Consumers should not be asked to pay additional fees, which is what will result if fee for carriage is allowed. Another question we need to ask is whether or not we live in a free market. If so, shouldn't local TV production be required to sustain itself by being of a quality that attracts viewers or at the minimum, be considered part of the investment into an overall corporate image (i.e. Rogers 10 doesn't, as far as I know, generate revenue that matches the production expenses, but contributes to Rogers identity in the marketplace)? As taxpayers, we already subsidize the CBC. Should we now be required to do this for every broadcasting conglomerate?

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Faith. M ★ [1 month ago](#)

Since Cable and satellite companies include local TV by mandate and not by choice I do not think that we as consumers should pay any more than we are already paying for our cable and Sarellite services. If Candaians are expected to pay for local TV sperate from American TV stations then it should be a choice and not be sold as a bundled service.

I since the local TV stations are already funded by the government, I feel that an additional tax passed on the consumer would be an unfair tax.

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Calvin - Edmonton ★ [1 month ago](#)

I guess the problem here is not about to pay local TV stations but the inefficiency of CRTC. Why do we allow the American contents to be distribute freely on our air across bother without any form of control but to have a tight leash on our very own TV stations, restricting local innovations ratio.

Canada is already loosing the competitiveness on HDTV. Others (even 3rd world countries) had already upgraded majority of their OTA TV station to HD and we still have to regulate and wait until 2011. Newcomers in Canada are still restricted to "local content ratio" but US carrier is "OKAY" to broadcast without restriction. Ironic eh?

I suggest we charge a HUGE FEE for the cable carrier on local content as they do not produce locally. Anybody disagree could switch to antenna and watch them for FREE.

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Eric F ★ [1 month ago](#)

Yeah, like I really want to pay more money for my TV service. Sure, why not pay more money for showing the same shows over and over again and don't tell me it's because they don't get enough money that they don't play a better variety of shows. There's no excuse to show the same movie every day for a week. I work for a cable company and I'm a satelite customer so I see both sides of the story and both of them don't sound right to me.

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Andrew Rosser ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400

million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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NEEDLE ★ [1 month ago](#)

If the local TV stations are to charge the broadcaster a fee that would be passed on to the subscriber then the subscriber should have the choice weather or not they recieve this channel. This would be just like any other specialty channel. I like many others do not watch local TV, the ad companies know this and this is why local TV is losing money. Also why would I pay for programming when I can simply go to the TV stations website and watch programming on demand and for free.

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Christine ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not pay for local television when I can put up an antenna and get the channels for free. Frankly the programming on my local tv is horrible I I rarely ever watch it.

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Anonymous ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

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MM ★ [1 month ago](#)

This is not acceptable. I don't want another hand in my pocket.

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Ray ★ [1 month ago](#)

The fact is, that the TV tax is just that, a new revenue source and to add more money to the broadcasters pocket. If my business was in jeopordy, I wouldn't be able to run to the government to force a bailout.

TV stations are a business and they need to change their business model. There isn't a safety net for my business and in the end, one must change the way they operate in order to succeed.

One way or another, this proposed money is going to hit the consumer and the debate over "who pays for it" is irrelevant. The consumer will be hit for it and local tv stations should not benefit. In the free world, it comes down to best survive - not protectionism.

Please do not burden the public over this save local TV fee. They know the parameters to the business when they accepted a broadcast license. If they don't like the climate - perhaps they should return the license or sell it.

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Kerry Greenly ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV stations already "paste over" commercials from other stations on various channels. This gives them a huge advantage over competitors, now they want even more money due to

poor management and greed. This has nothing to do with "local news" and everything to do with finding another revenue stream which will ultimately be paid by us. This request is so absurd I don't know why we are wasting time discussing it. If your business model does not work, then change it.

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 [V. Coleman](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

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 [Ron Hillsden](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

CRTC has been very good at protecting the interests of the cable companies, not the public. As a result cable rates are far too high and the consumer doesn't even have good choices to help mitigate them. There are too many channels included in the basic package, and some times, two or three channels are showing the same US program. End bundling and let the consumer decide what stations to support. There are several local stations included in my basic bundle that I should not have to pay for whether or not they get any money from Shaw. Let the markets decide. The solution is not to let the TV stations get on the CRTC's gravy train. The solution is to kick Shaw off!

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 [mcdonnell_m](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

There have been many comments regarding the provision of local TV, however they overlook the fundamental issue – poor business planning by the networks.

Many areas had local stations that were independent (CHCH in Hamilton, VR in Barrie, and CITY in Toronto to name a few). These independents operated at smaller margins than the networks. The networks then moved in hoping to expand the advertising audience and consequently their revenue base. This was done not by cash purchases, but by leveraging themselves.

As recent years' revenue has fallen, expenses have remained including the interest payments. As independents, the local stations could absorb the revenue shortfall as their margins were lower than the corporate models, and they did not have interest payments due to their leveraging. However the networks faced the prospect of unhappy shareholders due to falling profits caused by smaller margins, as well as maintaining interest payments.

So now the networks are threatening to divest themselves of their local programming, which they gladly accepted in good times. The networks are essentially seeking a bailout for their poor business planning.

The carriers are the pipelines of the networks. Remove the carriers and the networks would not be able to successfully distribute their product, unless they set up a network carrier distribution system, financed by leveraging. We have seen the folly of that.

A sound recommendation would be to let the networks live with their poor business decisions, while having to maintain local programming at current levels. Let the networks' business planners who have so many great ideas earn their money instead of leeching the public. Perhaps any service cuts should come from the networks' executive ranks, as they are the ones responsible for their own misfortune.

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 [xah](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

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 [carolineb](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why not allow consumers to pay for the stations they want to watch, rather than these ridiculous bundles? Why don't cable companies simply put a fee per station, and you can select whatever ones you want? We pay a monthly fee so that we can ignore 75% of the channels we get! I would pay for two of our three local stations, and a smattering of other non-local content. I would be very interested to see what cable companies pay for other non-local content, and then allow local stations to charge a reasonable price for their programming. If consumers really do not want to support local tv with their dollars, then I guess local tv is truly not viable and will have to seek other ways to stay alive - web casts maybe.

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 [wmj](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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 [Stephen mccutcheon](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why does Rogers charge me \$29.99 every month for "basic cable" when I never view basic cable! I pay a hell of a lot more to watch my HD channels yet I have no choice but to pay the \$29.99 ! just charge me for the channels I watch not the extras you are forcing on me!

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 [petiteone](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television is vital to me to know what is happening in 'my own back-yard'. I value the information provided by local news more than any other. If this means I need to pay more to have this, so be it. If it was in the realm of around ten dollars, that amounts to the price of a couple of coffees, and quite frankly taking my mind out for some exercise is a lot healthier and well worth having.

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 [Robert Walsh](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television should be able to support themselves, and be responsible for their own decisions. If they're struggling in these hard economic times it is not fair of them to pass their expenses on to the broadcasters such as Rogers or Shaw. I don't even watch the stations that are proposing the tax. If they can't afford to do business it shouldn't become the tax payers problem.

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Ellen van der Feltz Frei ★ [1 month ago](#)

Watching bloggers' discussions shows a number of confused issues, though people clearly don't want to pay more for their cable subscriptions. A review of large profit margins made by the cable companies supports that point. Also, how well would the 4 major Canadian cable companies stand up against US business competition if they weren't protected by a 'Canada First' policy?

Digital conversion as part of the mix seems a red herring, as technology will change regardless. For a closely argued view, I appreciate Ian Morrison's, the spokesperson for 'Friends of Canadian Broadcasting'. His last point - #20 - noted that the large cable companies did some fudging of figures (lying??) in presenting their cases.

In short, local television is important to me. I'm in favour of supporting the CBC, though it can't afford to rest on its laurels.

A thinly-populated country with a large land mass like Canada needs a publicly supported national broadcaster - it's striking how little attention the bloggers I looked at reacted to the few comments from smaller population centres. Yes, people say they're proud to be Canadian, but how many of us are willing to put our money where our mouth is?

EvdF

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Garry ★ [1 month ago](#)

It is ridiculous that we should have to pay for local tv, they should have to look for sponsorship to keep them alive, I for one do not want an increase in my bill during these economic times

[Flag](#)

Like



Leo Nenonen ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is important and I would support any appropriate action to ensure that it continues. I believe that one of the most important roles for local TV is to provide a forum for citizens to discuss ways in which we can share in identifying and articulating our shared values and to develop a foundation for an authentic Canadian Constitution based on these values and the corresponding democratic political system in which the citizens would have the supreme power, not powerful interest groups as is the case in our existing plutocracy.

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anonymous ★ [1 month ago](#)

TV Tax will cost us MORE \$\$ on our TV bill each month!!!! it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers. Why not ask advertisers to fork the bill for a change?

And although I respect the fact that cable tv needs to keep afloat, and cable companies haven't given them any part of their profits, the reality is that cable companies are cooperations and will fork the bill on the average citizen so why should we pay for the mistakes of others?

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anonymous ★ [1 month ago](#)

just to get it straight .. your asking me to pay more on my bill so cable tv doesn't go under (a.k.a- in hopes of you keeping your job???) that doesn't seem logical to me...

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Ken ★ [1 month ago](#)

When they talk about local TV I assume that this applies to the big cities. Where I live we don't have any local stations, the nearest one would be 60 km. from here. They only carry what the network feeds them and have a not very good news show that I would not pay for though it is now free as part of my satellite package. If I lived closer to the local station I would get this free over the air. If advertising does not give them enough revenue now, how will any extra money make them any better. I doubt it.

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mikecleaver ★ [1 month ago](#)

What is local tv?

I live in Vancouver and the only "locally produced tv" is "newscasts" which really aren't newscasts any more with the drastic cutbacks in reporting staff and production people.

There are few, if any, locally produced shows.

Everything comes from the "network," be it Canadian or American.

Where is the local tv in that?

In the past, local tv produced children's shows, dramas, music shows, talk shows, etc.

All long gone, sacrificed on the altar of profit.

There are few, if any, public access shows, except on the CRTC mandated cable company "local" channel and these have become highly controlled by the cable company, with fewer and fewer community produced shows given airtime.

Again, the "Save local tv" campaign by the OTA's is a red herring.

It's more like "Bail our sorry asses out for our bad financial planning and overspending."

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grace ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable Companies should not have to pay for local broadcast TV stations. The cable companies already contribute to local programming through their grass roots community channels which features all local content. They also contribute to Canadian content through the Canadian Television fund.

I do not want to pay more for my cable with this tax grab. The big broadcasters have gotten into hot water by over spending on American programming and speciality channels.

Who laid all the cable to people's homes and service those homes? Not the broadcasters. And who has the luxury of being on the lower channels? Canadian broadcasters. This luxury should be taken away and the lower channel selection be at the discretion of the cable companies if this tax to cable customers goes through.

Also, whether or not they even carry these channels should be left up to the cable companies if they now have to pay for them.

Thank you

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Anne Whelan ★ [1 month ago](#)

I would not be happy to have to pay additional costs, I think this cost should be paid by Television stations. Local TV and run drives and special programming and ask for support on air like the WNED. This is about gouging and if stations want to keep local programming on air then they should become more competitive and willing to work for the dollars in the community. NO MORE FEES, Canadians can hardly keep up with tax upon tax. I will downgrade all my services and if I can I would not select any Local TV if this becomes a charge you pass on to me the consumer, who is already paying enough.

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Mickey ★ [1 month ago](#)

At the price of our cable/satellite bills are these days (and prices are still rising) ... I feel that any extra charges to these bills should be banned. Local programming has always be free of charge and should stay that way.

[Flag](#)

Like



Richard ★ 1 month ago

Pay for local commercial TV when they already base their ad rates on the exposure cable and satellite provide? That's ridiculous. I suggest the commercial broadcasters adopt better business practices to make money and stop whining about needing a bail out in an environment where they already have a monopoly on local TV.

[Flag](#)

Like



Roger Easton ★ 1 month ago

I am not interested in paying for local TV. It is interesting to note that their complaint about advertising revenue going to speciality channels, especially as companies like Globemedia and Canwest own several of these speciality channels.

Ayn Rand argues that the frequent spectrum was a scarce public resource (and we have seen Governments realize this with the recent auctions of cell phone spectrum). Rand argued that the difference between open bidding for this scarce resource and the present "cost" (the CRTC rubber-stamping dog and pony show) is, in effect, a subsidy to broadcasters.

If the CRTC , not especially known for putting the public interest ahead of industry concerns, goes ahead and introduces a local TV fee, I will cancel the equivalent speciality channels. I flatly refuse to pay more for Tv service.

The message should be loud and clear to local TV. You have had it too good for too long, so adapt to the new environment.

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Lolly Braga ★ 1 month ago

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

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lynncalhoun ★ 1 month ago

I would not wantto be paying anymore for local TV and as a mattere of fact I have been looking at other options before now thinking they have been asking too much for awhile and when I learned they made a profit of over \$4 million last year,I was then convinced they did not need anymore monthly money from me therefore.I would definately look at other options and ones that are being put forward soon I understand as I have watched on advertising blurbs.What they are exactly I am not sure at this time though, but I would be one of the first bunch to come on board you can be sure of that -me and many more as well the way it is going as it looks if we leave it up to the big networks only that is! Lynn Calhoun.

[Flag](#)

Like



Elissa ★ 1 month ago

No matter what the arguments for or against, no matter who is "right" or "wrong" in this situation, and regardless of how loyal people are to their local television stations, the bottom line is:

No one is going to want to pay extra for it. Period.

Scratch that...

No one can AFFORD to pay extra for it. I certainly will not. Enough said.

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Ms sheehan ★ [1 month ago](#)

NO TV tax. We get taxed enough in this country. People who can't afford to pay for cable will now have to pay for local TV, local news, learning about things that mater to them. It is never the rich people or the middle class who suffers but the poor. I think local TV does matter but a tax is not the answer. Thanks

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MSJ ★ [1 month ago](#)

NO TV tax. We get taxed enough in this country. People who can't afford to pay for cable will now have to pay for local TV, local news, learning about things that mater to them. It is never the rich people or the middle class who suffers but the poor. I think local TV does matter but a tax is not the answer. Thanks

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Gordon Webb ★ [1 month ago](#)

NO TO THE CABLE TAX

Broadcasters have always been free over the airways. Cable only carries signals that anyone locally can get. In addition, cable has always been forced to carry local stations and to substitute their commercials when programmes are simulcast on american stations. I, for one, seldom watch commercial networks, but pay extra to get the specialty tv channels. I do not want to be forced to pay extra for something I do not watch now. If broadcasters are finding it tough now that we are in a depression, well, that is their problem. Its called freedom and giving the people what they want. If they can't provide a product that subscribers want to watch, they do not deserve a subsidy on the back of the poor working man.

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Bilal ★ [1 month ago](#)

Fees can be added to cable broadcasters but only under select terms.

1. AFTER a 5 year price freeze that would ensure no increase in cost to consumers, all price changes would need CRTC approval or follow guidelines that would only allow them to rise with new services.
2. "Local" stations getting these funds must meet a higher standard of local TV (70% or more local content)
3. Conversely location stations could opt out and be offered to consumers at a price of \$1-3 per month.
4. The use of American publications: ABC and other American Reports should be banned from local stations, in turn they should send Canadian reports to cover the US in all instances of news.
5. The rules for US news providers should be eased so more can operate in Canada to complete with the revamped local TV

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ronaldja ★ [1 month ago](#)

Rogers and Shaw have done very very well in their respective protected markets, since they agreed years ago not to compete in each others markets. Keeping voting shares in the family means from time to time the next generation could be awarded "retention" bonuses (with other peoples money). These were apparently rewards for not going to work for someone else.

Having become fat and happy in their protected environment they are not pretending they could not afford to support local broadcasters.

Together, they have decided that we will be punished if they have to give up a free lunch.

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Like



Doug ★ [1 month ago](#)

Let the Market decide. Fee for Carriage for advertising sponsored local TV? I think not. I can access local TV news from many existing digital sources. If BUDs are legislated to pay for carriage of local tv, I will opt out of buying the local package bundle. If I need to, I can get the signal off-air. And it doesn't cost a dime. Bean counters at local TV stations have been adding to their bottom lines when cable began distributing their signals to wider audiences and opening up new markets. The local TV model is broke. Their bank accounts are not. Put that hat in your hand back in the closet, and re-invent yourself. Did you not plan for the digital revolution? Other media did.

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Like



jeremy ★ [1 month ago](#)

I am NOT willing to pay anymore for my cable bill. My cable company expands local audience pools by placing the signal on their system. (A placement, I might mention that is forced upon the cable company by the CRTC already)

I already "pay" for local TV by having my cable company overlay the Canadian signal of a broadcast that simulcasts with a US channel. I also sit through ads for Canadian services on American "specialty" channels.

[Flag](#)

Like



Rehan ★ [1 month ago](#)

we already are paying for Hydro One debit, Now HST is also coming from July and now TV tax to support local TV why every time we as consumer have to suffer its not fair, I will cancel all my cable/satellite services if this TV tax is implemented thats it enough is enough

[Flag](#)

Like



legendary111 ★ [1 month ago](#)

One thing is sure, I will cancel my services if this happens. We are paying way to much as it is.

[Flag](#)

Like



j knutson ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would do without tv, or go to the internet. Really all I care for is the CBC news.
2. More advertizing, some gov't support.

[Flag](#)

Like



Mike Tschetter ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local tv is worthless. Poorly run, global ctv and cbc can all disappear and no one would notice. Is the crtc going to help prop up these losers like they tried to stop new cell phone providers?

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Like



John ★ [1 month ago](#)

t.v tax is ridicolus.. stop it!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*slimsilver* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Give local tv a bigger part of the market.

Let them broadcast better programing and keep the Canadian content crap out of the picture better content would up there place in the market.

Give them the ability to have control over there own signal and charge for that signal the same as cable and satellite providers do.

And if they want Bell ' Rogers or any other broadcaster to pay for there programing they have the right to negotiate a fare value for it not have it taken and resold to the public for an outrageous fee.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Ragnar* ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. Local TV is largely unimportant to me. There hasn't been any programming on local stations that have interested me for years. When I was younger I enjoyed The Odyssey, Mr. Dressup, The Raccoons, etc. on the CBC... but as a grown man, there's nothing of interest. I do not watch local TV channels. If I do, I'm watching American shows that are just being rebroadcasted. If local TV is demanding an additional fee, then they need to start offering programming which is worthwhile to watch.

With the state of local TV as is, if I had to pay an additional fee, I would cancel my cable TV subscription and use the internet for all my viewing needs. I would feel no remorse for the loss of my cable TV. With the availability of online on demand services like Netflix and the ease of torrenting TV shows, both of which are advert free, cable TV is an annoying experience. Why must I sit through advertising on a service which I pay for?

2. I feel that no measures should be taken to support local television. They make plenty enough profits currently. If local television actually made shows worth watching, then I would have no issues with paying extra to support and maintain quality programming.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Vince Monteleone* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Why should we pay for local tv?? I can get it for free with rabbit ears and this new digital antenna. CTV and Global will only use the money to buy more american programming. I do not see any good reason to give them more money. Why do you not make all channels a level playing field in the future and let the consumer decide.

Do not black out the American channels to support the canadian channels because canadians will simply get the programs throught the internet because we're that savvy and or the grey satellite dishes

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*KG* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Cable companies are making very handsome profits.

The cable companies preempt advertising to insert adverts for which they receive payment – this deprives the programme providers of viewership for adverts that give them revenue.

Public services like CBC, CPAC, Knowledge, PBS, Provincial Government channels, weather, should be free to every one.

Viewers should only pay for the channels they want to view.

If they only want the Public services channels then a \$5 per month service charge (including HST) to the cable company is reasonable.

We welcome Freeview HD, and have experienced it in Europe and it is excellent. The public service channels on it, including the BBC, is all free.

There should be no tax on television viewing at any place in the process. Remember the Charter gives freedom of expression to mean freedom to hear and therefore of necessity to

view as well according to the Canadian Supreme Court ruling.

All cable rates should be set by the C.R.T.C. after public hearings and input.

Any rates/fees between cable companies and channel providers should be negotiated between the two parties and be subject to reviews and change by the C.R.T.C. both before and after coming into effect.

Alternatively a licence to receive television should be available from the government and the proceeds given to cable companies and channel providers with no other fee being charged to the viewer by the channel or the cable company. \$100 per year is a reasonable figure for this. Remember they both receive advertising revenue.

Alternatively charge \$200 per year and prohibit ALL advertising. This latter is the best in my mind. After all, who enjoys watching advertising? Knowledge network does very well without it, and is my preferred network.

We have no interest in Pay per view and do not and would not use it.

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Like

 [Nicole_in_NB](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television stations and the cable companies already charge too much for their services. They don't need more money, they are just being greedy. If their executives would stop padding their wallets with huge salaries and put that money towards everything else, this wouldn't even be an issue.

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Like

 [Lyle Urquhart](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

As far as I am concerned, we should not be subsidizing small market TV stations to produce local content. If these stations cannot support their productions with advertising from their area, they should not be continuing on the air. This is a very simple concept - if advertisers don't place ads on a given station, it is obvious that they are not getting the results they expect from their ads. The Canadian public should not be expected to subsidize any TV station. We, the Canadian public, has for far too long subsidized CRTC mandated stations which should not be on the air. Paying for local TV would be another form of subsidy for non profitable entities.

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Like

 [jeremyrempel](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

No more bailouts, no more government intervention. Go bankrupt and let someone else by the assets.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Cindy](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would disconnect my satellite service immediately!!!
2. Local Advertisers should share their profits to keep other local businesses afloat!

The government tries to get rich off the ordinary Canadian working stiff and now the CRTC is trying to get their fingers in the "pot" too.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Pat Lawrence](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The Television networks are private enterprise and need to manage their business in a strategic way. The web and alternate sources of news and entertainment have changed the playing field. They need to adapt and not ask for a public handout. I am completely against this idea

[Flag](#)

Like



[leafboy214](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I would be infuriated. Cable provider rates already increase on a regular basis and programs are increasingly filled with commercial advertising. Adding essentially a tv tax to what I already pay is unacceptable - we are taxed enough as it is. If local television feels the need to increase their rates, let them get bumped up to a specialty package that people can subscribe to if they wish. Why should I subsidize programming I have no interest in?

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[JOe](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Let the "fat cat" cable companies pay for the services and mandate they are not to be allowed to pass them on.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[JOe](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

Any one who thinks TV is a medium for entertainment is mistaken. It is and always was a medium for advertising. They have to give us something to entertain us in order to keep us in front of the TV so they can bombard us with their stupid and insulting commercials.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[Doug Harvey-Smith](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I watch TV for about an hour and a half per day and 90% of the time I watch local stations. If I were forced to pay extra for that privilege I would consider cancelling our cable subscription. I feel that the over \$400 per year that we pay for basic cable is already too much! I would suggest that since the main reason we are forced to pay the \$400 is so that we can watch the local stations then the cable company should pay the local stations for their signals. Also, a way should be found to reduce the \$400 fee.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)



[StanF](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

The CRTC supports local TV, Radio and News Papers here in Canada. The advertising on CTV who pretend to be "local" is quite deceiving when you look at their empire.

CTV Network

Alberta

CTV Calgary (used to be CFCN)

CTV Edmonton

CTV Lethbridge (CFCN)

British Columbia

CTV British Columbia (CIVT)

Manitoba

CTV Winnipeg (CKY)

New Brunswick

CTV Atlantic (Moncton - CKCW)

CTV Atlantic (Saint John - CKLT)

Nova Scotia

CTV Atlantic (Halifax - CJCH)

CTV Atlantic (Sydney/Cape Breton - CJCB)

Ontario

CTV Southwestern Ontario (Kitchener/London - CKCO)
 CTV Northern Ontario (North Bay - CKNY)
 CTV Ottawa (CJOH)
 CTV Northern Ontario (Sudbury - CICI)
 CTV Northern Ontario (Timmins - CITO)
 CTV Toronto (CFTO)
 CTV Northern Ontario (Sault Ste. Marie - CHBX)
 CJBN Keewatin (Owned by Shaw Communications)
 CHFD Thunder Bay (Owned by Dougall Media)

Quebec

CTV Montreal (CFCF)

Saskatchewan

CTV Prince Albert (CIPA)
 CTV Regina (CKCK)
 CTV Saskatoon (CFQC)
 CTV Yorkton (CICC)

*The above list also includes CTV HD East and CTV HD West

'A' Stations

Atlantic
 Barrie/Toronto
 London
 Ottawa
 Vancouver Island
 Windsor

Specialty Channels - Analog

BNN - Business News Network
 Bravo!
 CP24
 CTV News Channel
 Discovery Channel
 MTV
 MuchMusic
 MuchMore
 RDS
 Space
 Star!
 The Comedy Network
 TSN (Also includes TSN HD)

Specialty Channels - Digital

Animal Planet
 BookTelevision
 CourtTV Canada
 Discovery Civilization
 Discovery HD
 ESPN Classic
 FashionTelevision Channel
 MTV2
 MuchLOUD
 MuchMoreRetro
 MuchVibe
 NHL Network
 PunchMuch
 RIS Info Sports
 Travel + Escape
 TSN2
 TV Land

Other Assets in Conventional Broadcasting ACCESS

CTV Broadband Properties

CTV
Canadian Idol
CTV News
Discovery Channel
eTalk
The Comedy Network
TSN
MTV

Radio

Brockville – CJPT-FM, CFJR-FM
Calgary – CKCE-FM
Edmonton – CHBN-FM
Halifax – CJCH-FM, C100 FM
Kingston – CKLC-FM, CFLY-FM
Kitchener – CFCA-FM, CKKW-FM
Lindsay – CKLY-FM
London – CHST-FM
Montreal – CKGM-AM
Ottawa – CFRA-AM, CKKL-FM, CJMJ-FM, CFGO-AM
Peterborough – CKPT-FM, CKQM-FM
Toronto – CHUM-FM, CHUM-AM
Vancouver – CHQM-FM, CFUN-AM, CKST-AM, CFBT-FM
Victoria – CHBE-FM, CFAX-AM
Windsor – CIMX-FM, CIDR-FM, CKLW-AM, CKWW-AM
Winnipeg – CFRW-AM, CFWM-FM, CHIQ-FM

Print

The Globe and Mail
Report on Business Magazine
Autohound
Flag

Like

 dmclenaghan ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local television stations are important in fostering a sense of community awareness and involvement in their local broadcast areas. If broadcast more widely, beyond their local geographic region, they provide a broader perspective and connection for people from other regions of the country. It is essential that local local broadcasters across Canada remain viable and well supported to produce regional programming that reflects the diverse local perspectives that comprise the Canadian public. If programming becomes more centralized, Canadian society will become a weakened collection of isolated regions, each with little sense of any perspective beyond their own. That would be a disaster for Canadian unity. Modern media - whether they be video games, radio and TV broadcasts, or literature - are the means by which societies learn about themselves and their neighbors. The media facilitate mutual and self understanding and growth among communities, both geographic and cultural, and it would be dangerous to allow media programming decisions to become concentrated among a reduced or centralized collection of organizations. Just as healthy genetic evolution depends intermixing within a wide gene pool, for new more beneficial adaptations, so culture also depends on a vast array of unique voices as the building block of enlightened and progressive understandings and actions, on every level from individuals to massive organizations and governments.

If market conditions made local independent programming less viable, then government's responsibility is to put supports in place that correct that, while ensuring that high standards of

creativity and skill are rewarded.

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Like

 *Guest* ★ [1 month ago](#)

READ THIS YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT :) Hello this comment is to end the discussion on affordability. If we can afford the new HST then you can afford Local TV! The government should pay for local TV as it supports charities, government programs, LOCAL NEWS and information necessary for the healthy functioning of our GREAT society. Never before in history has a country like Canada existed and as Canadians we have a responsibility to keep our heritage and culture INTACT. In my opinion, the government should offer to pay for local TV since they pushed through the HST without any open public sessions which some feel is undemocratic but that is a whole other story. Sure it might create jobs but according to Dalton's past promises, the amount of jobs promised actually decreased. Even if the government doesn't pay for it which likely will be the outcome, then I ask Canadians, What is \$10 more dollars for your way of life? Are we so cheap that we will not spend \$10 on our Future? We will spend \$10 at McDonalds, we will spend \$10 on lottery tickets, we will spend \$10 on cover at a club/bar. So Why not preserve our quality of life and ensure a brighter future for all of us! Thank you.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *theworldisyours* ★ [1 month ago](#)

READ THIS YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT :) Hello this comment is to end the discussion on affordability. If we can afford the new HST then you can afford Local TV! The government should pay for local TV as it supports charities, government programs, LOCAL NEWS and information necessary for the healthy functioning of our GREAT society. Never before in history has a country like Canada existed and as Canadians we have a responsibility to keep our heritage and culture INTACT.

Local TV is important in more ways than one, even if you don't watch the news in particular, there are many other programs that the 3 Networks offer. One thing is for sure we have all learned something from the programming offered through these networks are we just willing to give that up FOREVER?

Our government should offer to pay for local TV since they pushed through the HST without any open public sessions which some feel is undemocratic but that is a whole other story. Sure it might create jobs but according to Dalton's past promises, the amount of jobs promised actually decreased.

Even if the government doesn't pay for it which likely will be the outcome, then I ask Canadians, What is \$10 more dollars for YOUR way of life? Are we so cheap that we will not spend \$10 on our Future? We will spend \$10 at McDonalds, we will spend \$10 on lottery or movie tickets and we will spend \$10 at a club/bar. So Why not preserve our quality of life and freedom as this will ensure a brighter future for all of us!

Thank you

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Like

 *oliver1959* ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not agree with paying more for local TV. We are already being ripped off by TV providers. The activities of bell/shaw/telus in regards to TV in BC is disgusting and I will not pay for more ever. Perhaps the CRTC should do its job and regulate so that Canadian consumers dont get gauged, Contracts for TV and over \$100 per month for programming is just pure greed. Perhaps the FREEHDCANADA.com can stir the pot enough to make the other providers wake up and stop ripping us off. This kind of BS from TV providers causes satellite piracy. As for local stations crying the blues I just dont believe it period. To many of the locals have been consumed by greedy corporate giants, are we not all feeling the pinch lately? I think that all TV will be internet based eventually, perhaps this is the only option for locals to survive, pay them directly online similar to what CTVNEWSNET has in place. The biggest problem with the present internet is the

TV providers control pricing which is way outta line and getting worse. Compared to other countrys we are paying way to much for limited bandwidth, MORE CORPORATE GREED!, and the CRTC just watches from the front row seats.

[Flag](#)

Like



Robert S ★ [1 month ago](#)

No. I am tired of the increasing cost being charged and the high cost I have to pay. Get rid of all the packages and let me buy what I want. I really don't like paying for channels I do not want or watch!!! Which is what I have to accept with our outdated system. Fix the system. Both sides of this debate (cable companies and broadcasters) are wrong...they have to work within the outdated models you have put in place. I have a friend who did something interesting, he cancelled all his TV, and series DVD's when they come out or just rents DVD movies...he might be on to something.

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Like



Shad ★ [1 month ago](#)

it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

[Flag](#)

Like



freddizig ★ [1 month ago](#)

- A TV Tax will cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers.
- Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.
- The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, receive close to \$600 million in benefits from satellite and cable providers annually, and they get more than a billion dollars in funding from the government each year
- And yet any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year!

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Dan Griffin ★ [1 month ago](#)

I agree, why give the parasites and leeches (Global, CTV) any more money.

The simsub rule was put in place so they could get additional ad revenues from a few US shows that they aired, and this money would be used to produce a lot more Canadian content. But instead, Global and CTV air the most amount of American programming ever in their history, and things are only getting worse. They are now just abusing the simsub rule to the max.

They will also abuse this fee as well if it is passed. They won't use it for local programming, but instead, they will use it to buy even more episodes of American Idol and House.

Just say no to the parasites and leeches.

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Like



Dashar ★ [1 month ago](#)

I have a satellite system with bell If this passes I will go grey market!! This is bull!!More choice is the answer and the right to be able to select only what you want to watch

[Flag](#)

Like



zee c ★ [1 month ago](#)

Affordable local TV will be even more important with the large number of people reaching 'retirement' age and having less spendable income and more time available.

Local TV is an integral part of our society and I believe that the MEGA monopolies have been utilizing something for which they pay nothing BUT reap large amounts of money. One just knows that the costs that SHOULD be assessed to these monopolies will be passed on to the end user with no options.

I am taking this situation so seriously that I will be cancelling my ONLY source of cable TV as soon as the Olympics is over. Alas the local TV signal is too powerful in my geographical area that I will be unable to receive the major local stations.

My decision is very reflective of how I feel about monopolies and ever increasing costs for services I don't really want. I'd be happy with just the local TV Stations being available to me as they used to be.

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Like



j.ellefson ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't want my cable payment to increase. The Broadcast companies better figure out better ways to sell their advertising.

For the cable companies I would prefer to pay 1\$ per channel, 25 minimum and pick the channels I want to look at. I like sports, business news, regular news, movies etc. I don't need French channels, Aboriginal channels, muslim channels, weather channels; all are superfluous to my needs.

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j.ellefson ★ [1 month ago](#)

Cable fees are too high now, and their 2008 profits support that statement. We should be able to subscribe for 25 channels at 1\$ each and all are chosen by the subscriber.

[Flag](#)

Like



R. Bender ★ [1 month ago](#)

cable @ satellite need no help! Enough of the Bailouts!

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Like



Bernard Raymond ★ [1 month ago](#)

Well

1 Satellite should never Had the right to use the TV stations programming for nothing.

2 I had quit satellite for 2 years I started up again oct.09 I am upset again that its costing me \$65.00 per month for nothing, over half the stations are cbc ctv global ect..

I am at the point of leaving again. if there is an increase I am gone. The new tv I WAS THINKING OF PURCHASING IS GONE. I would most likely set up an antennae and tune in to CBC.

If the public at large Started to take the satellite signal for free and sell it I guess it would be no different.

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Judy P ★ [1 month ago](#)

I had no idea local tv received nothing from the amount we pay satellite/cable until this issue

came up. Of course the local tv should get paid--they provide news, entertainment and charity programs suited to the area. The satellite charge for basic tv is already too high for channels we rarely use. I will not be renewing my contract unless local tv is included. I agree with SUSAN D that local advertising would help.

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[Fred](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I don't understand!

[Flag](#)

Like



[Fred](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

huh?

[Flag](#)

Like



[vincebyfield](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

From Wikipedia:

"In the Manitoba election of 1973, [Isadore Asper] promoted a laissez-faire economy" [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israel_Aasper]

Honour the man's values and you honour the man. Don't raise cable and satellite service fees one dime. Instead, deregulate and disentangle Ottawa's tentacles from the communications industry except to be one of a strong watchdog that prevents oligopolies, but nothing more.

[Flag](#)

Like



[Tripta Bharadwaj](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

In a country where you even have to pay for cow dung to fertilize your plants, cable companies should not be allowed to broadcast the programming of local television stations without paying for it.

The cable companies are trying to scare and manipulate customers with promises of higher cable rates if they have to pay for local television. They did the same thing with negative-billing, remember?

At the same time, they claim they pay big money into supporting Canadian-made programming.

Let me tell you something - the bulk of the channels I receive in my cable package are American, moreover, many of the so-called "Canadian-made" shows have nothing to do with local stories or Canadian culture... they are culturally watered-down for easy export to the US and overseas markets.

Increasingly, local television, especially local news, is the only thing that connects me to my community.

It's very very important that the CRTC enables whatever regulations it can to keep local television, and local news, on the air.

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Like



[ddddddd](#) ★ [1 month ago](#)

I'm all for local TV, that's fine. But I'm opposed to paying anymore for TV than I do already. There isn't enough competition for my TV dollar, so rates tend to be higher than I ever wanted to pay for it. Yes, I realize we get more TV than we ever did than the old days of using TV

antennas, but then again, back then, we didn't pay for any TV did we? Let the TV tax come out of the directors high salaries, on both sides...

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 *JudiB* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Seems local TV very important vis a vis weather/schools; traffic/accidents large and small; community events and a vehicle through which advertisers get their product/services out to the community. I would willingly pay a fee for that. However, I resent paying for a bunch of stations that I never want - about 5 are my regulars and feel I pay more than I should for the double ups of programming and for those that are forced upon me.

If cable keeps going up for whatever reason, it is a service I can do without (on a fixed income as a Sr.) and would just do more reading and listening to the radio.

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 *donnaf2* ★ [1 month ago](#)

NO they should not be allowed to tax us more - come on we already pay enough - why aren't they more cost efficient. I NEVER watch local tv (not even the news) or programming. - why should I pay for it? I get news from paper and internet. I do not like most canadian programs as they do not reflect my interests. If the programming was good and competitive, local TV would be self sufficient and would make money with out dole outs. If you allow them to charge then the satellite providers should be allowed to let consumers the choice of opting for local tv or not and therefore paying the additional \$ or not

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 *Frenchy* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

If this TV tax goes through, cable and satellite tv carriers should be allowed to forward the charges to the users. The users should also be allowed to decide whether they want to pay for these channels or not. They should no longer be part of basic cable and mandatory for all users. Any current subsidies forwarded to them by the government or the cable and satellite carriers should be terminated to put them on an equal playing field as all other channels.

As far as I know, the only broadcaster of local tv in the GTA area is Rogers. They cover all events in my municipality of Mississauga.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 *Ivan G* ★ [1 month ago](#)

Local TV is history, regardless of what the CRTC does!!

The ONLY local TV we have now is some local news on some local stations, thats IT!!
The rest of the Canadian TV is either imported from the US, or is 20 year old re-runs, total CR@P!!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Vincent Lizee* ★ [1 month ago](#)

For Question 1, I would object to paying an extra fee for local television on top of the TV fees I already pay. From the material I have read, Shaw claims they do give money to local broadcasters and they do make money. So perhaps the question is how much should cable companies give to broadcasters? The problem I see is because of the economic downturn over the last year, broadcasters have been hit with ad revenue losses. Instead of cutting back shows, they are trying to keep all their shows and their only means is to get more money from cable companies. I think broadcasters have to face the economic reality and cut back or cut out shows that can not survive. The broadcasters' complaints of cable companies looks suspicious when they decided only this year to publicize their complaints. If broadcasters had such a serious issue with cable companies, they should have taken up the issue years ago. The other reason I resent a local TV fee system is I am already paying for it with my taxes. I know that The government gives funding to some production and question if these shows deserve it. In some cases, the funding should be cut back or have different controls to be more accountable to the public. Case and point is the CBC. The CBC was mandated in the 1930's to broadcast Canadian content and to have Canadian perspectives represented in the media in face of the much more powerful American media. I see that the CBC has ignored its mandate and is producing shows that are inconsistent or in violation with the original mandate. Examples are "Being Erica" and "Little Mosque on the Prairie". The problem I see with the CBC is its trying to be all things to all Canadians in the all areas of television like sports, drama and news. The CBC does not have the resources and the talent to compete with American television, especially in the areas of drama and other entertainment-oriented shows. It seems to me some of the CBC shows are fascimiles of American shows or American TV genres. Thus, it should cut out some of its programs and focus more of Canadiana by sticking with mostly news, documentary shows, children's shows and some sports. As for Question 2, I think local television gets enough support. Shows that can not survive on regular television can survive on internet broadcasting and website viewing. I have seen many examples on YouTube in which individuals produce their own shows and past shows can be seen YouTube or websites. Thus, it seems to me broadcasters can do the same.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*brenthoran* ★ [1 month ago](#)

As I understand it the TV stations have made millions in profits and get funding from the commercials they air - do they need more? Do they need to be bailed out? They talk a lot about local TV but what have any of them done recently for "local TV" besides buy up hot U.S. Shows

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Thamesh* ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Jas* ★ [1 month ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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 Rick ★ [1 month ago](#)

1. I haven't heard this in my lifetime. Local television is always free for the consumers/viewers. They're making so much money from their sponsors, government grants and TV providers. This is unfair to consumer and I strongly dis-agree.
2. They're not losing money why do we need to support them, it doesn't make any sense? Where paying too much taxes already. We have family to feed, provide shelter and at least a descent leaving. Enough is enough.

[Flag](#)

Like

 John Flemming ★ [1 month ago](#)

I do not support more money for the broadcasters to (supposedly) produce additional local TV. The fact of the matter is, Canadian broadcasters are producing a product which is not attracting advertisers and viewers in sufficient quantities.

Ans so they must sink or swim....yes, that is how business works isn't it?

The CRTC has no business dictating or attempting to influence what Canadians want to watch.

I hope the the CRTC will just go away and let business take care of business.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Judy_L ★ [1 month ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Matt ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Regarding the possibility of being charged for access to local TV, I think this is a horrible idea. I already pay too much for access to TV. I live in the country where cable service is not an option for me and off-air availability is very poor. Satellite is my only option for TV entertainment and I pay what I consider to be an inflated price for service that already includes many channels that I have no wish to view, but pay for anyway. The digital carriers already make enough money off consumers that have little choice but pay whatever they ask, or are regulated to charge. Local programming is vital to support the community in which we all live, work, and play. In my opinion, the digital carriers should pay for the content provided to them by the local stations and offer it to their customer base at no cost, as a community commitment. Alternatively, if the consumer must pay for local programming, there should be an option to unsubscribe from stations currently bundled with their basic offering and be credited for them.

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 MS ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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Like

 Jeff G ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Local TV is very important. However, the fee for carriage that is being asked for by some of the larger networks is unreasonable and is a smokescreen to get more money from the cable and

satellite customer. Local TV wasn't important to them when they canned many local shows in the past! These companies are playing on the emotions of the viewer in order to brainwash them into supporting their position. They still make millions and millions of dollars.....but they're not making as much as they did before the current economic downturn. This is just a way to prop up their profits. If their business plan is not providing the return they want, they have to revise it...but not on the backs of the viewers. That's too easy for them. When their profits were "healthier" why were they not looking for the extra fees then? Don't be fooled by the "local programming" ploy. Rogers and Shaw are already providing good quality local programming and probably spend more than all of the other networks combined. Maybe the networks should take some tips from them.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *NB* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I think it's unfair to ask paying cable and satellite customers to pay an additional \$5 to \$10 on their monthly service when broadcasters already receive so much funding from the government and TV providers (cable and satellite).

How can one justify adding a TV tax to help big TV networks who made profits of almost \$400 million in operating profits last year and received almost \$600 million in benefits from the cable and satellite providers. Let's not forget that this would be an additional cost to consumers like me, who now have to pay a 1.5% Local Programming Improvement Fund fee.

I'm all for supporting local TV and I do, by subscribing, paying for the service and watching their programming, although very little content is local. If additional fees are charged to the consumer, I'm afraid that local TV will be required to ask for additional financial help, as there will be less consumers able to afford the service, therefore, jeopardizing the need for local TV.

If the local networks aren't able to survive on the profits and benefits they receive, then there is an issue that no Local Programming Improvement Fund can resolve.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mitch C. Toronto* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I do not believe a TV tax will encourage support of local TV...money will not reach the intended recipients..

I believe support for local TV should be derived locally through the host channels and community organizations, local advertisers and those who benefit directly through the medium

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Mitch C. Toronto* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I think there should not be a tv local tax..money for local efforts should come through the local channels, advertisers, communities and those who enjoy and benefit from that local program...money taken in the form of a tax would not reach the intended recipients...

[Flag](#)

Like

 *A.* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

STOP TV TAX!

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400 million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the

CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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nick ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

this new proposed tv tax is absolutely crazy. we already pay way too much cable these days and when taking satellite into account the average bills are close to 100 dollars a month already when you take into account all the specialty channels we have to order to watch regular sports games in HD etc...i would cancel my cable completely and find an alternate way to watch such as via internet....kill the tax

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campagnola ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Where I live, the only "local" thing on the local TV station is one newscast a day. And it is about 2 or 3 days behind, so it's no longer "news". Is this what we are debating saving? Like it or not, cable companies were forced to carry the signals of these stations when they were investing billions of dollars to get the signal into our homes one wire at a time. That allowed local TV stations to offer advertisers a big audience of eyes and ears. Now that they can't sell their advertising, they want more compensation from the companies that have invested in something the public actually wants, a decent quality signal. No one is going to pay for a channel they never watch. The only way that would happen would be to provide decent shows, and they aren't being made with the tons of money that is already given to these stations.

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KAG ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

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Ian Doig ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

In an ever-shrinking world, where the local is at risk of being lost in the mindless morass of the global I believe it is critically important for us not only to maintain but to nurture our more intimate local connections. I really don't care a rat's ass where the morning traffic jam are in Toronto, or wherever, but I'm very interested in what's happening in our own community and its neighbours.

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Julie Hoeree ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

An increase of cost for TV services will, as I foresee from a survey I conducted, in prompting more people to switch to a disk for tv programs as there is more choice than what the CRTV is offering, fuelled by sex, violence, chicanery and realism, its programs lack quality programs for family viewing.

Julie Hoeree

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pauldem1971 ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

The reality is that local TV stations are currently available off air but this may not continue in the digital world. Fine...I'll pay for them - but only for the ones I want to watch.

Is cable/dish expensive? Yep. But this is less an issue of how much cable costs and more about the CRTC forcing me to take crap local channels that junk up the airwaves with re-packaged US content (c'mon, at least buy some BBC) and a half-hearted attempt at the odd Telethon and "fire n' murder" news.

Canadian networks get prime placement, mandatory carriage and plenty of assistance and, apart from the CBC, actually produce little (and no, a Canadianized edition of a foreign reality show is not really Can Con now is it?). Now they want to grab for even more because of a cyclical downturn but are offering no guarantees to increase local content or to work towards a healthier business model.

Best of all they're now threatening to pull their somewhat unprofitable network channels and highly profitable specialties off of dish and cable networks if the folks who build and maintain the distribution network they use for free don't give in without a fight.

I'll happily pay for great local TV - as soon as I see some on the dial and when the Canadian networks stop using smoke and mirrors to disguise their lack of vision as a desperate cry-for-help from a presumed underdog. Ridiculous!

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[Joanne Huisman](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I would NOT want to pay extra on my cable bill for local TV. These stations are available for free right now to persons without cable. Local TV stations are corporations and if they cannot afford to continue operating, they need to look at making internal cutbacks just like any other business, or be forced to close. They generate revenue from their advertisers and shouldn't ask the public to pay for this service. Anyone who has cable will also have access to local news through the local cable TV station in their area.

I believe the CRTC should deny the request to make the Cable companies pay a fee for carriage.

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[parasitic](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

It seems that Broadcasters are laughing all the way to the bank. They already receive funding from taxpayers, in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5%, plus revenue benefits from Cable and Satellite Providers.

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[1960john](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I'm tired of my tax dollar supporting business and not me! Lets not forget that taxes were originally introduced as a "temporary" way of getting public dollars to support the war effort. When was that again. It was so long ago only old folks can remember! Now we get taxed on just about everything from the water we drink and flush to the FOOD we eat in Ontario(thanks to mcsquinty). On top of it all we pay tax on the taxes we're charged for many items and I assume this TV tax would be the same.

Wasn't the initial role of gov. designed to serve the people but now it seems it is used to serve big business with the gov. being the biggest business of them all.

It also seems to me that the businesses wanting this new tax are the media businesses that over extended themselves by buying other media businesses that were losing money. Why should we (the public) have to pay for their bad business practices? Had these same businesses bought into the cable and satellite companies we wouldn't even be having this forum!

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[Amy](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I appeared on local TV news recently. To obtain the link to see it, I would have had to pay,

which I cannot afford. I cannot afford to pay any more for TV than I already do, so if charging for local tv comes through, I will stop paying for any type of TV service.

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 *Danielle N* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I do not understand why large media conglomerates are asking for extra money. As far as I understand it, they have misspent money, paid their executives too much, and engaged in some poor business practices. Many of the "local TV stations" are owned by these large media companies, and I am concerned that any money charged by these local stations will end up at the top of these companies and not benefit the local stations at all.

I would not be willing to pay extra money on top of what I pay for cable, and I already believe that I pay too much for cable.

There are two solutions that will help local television. One is to force the large companies that own the local stations to be smart about how they spend money. The second is to let ownership of local stations pass to small groups of local people, as happened with Chek TV in Victoria. I feel it is unlikely that the first will occur, so maybe its time to let local TV stations actually become LOCAL.

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 *anonymus* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Personally, I don't watch much local TV channels. So, if I need to pay extra for the local TV, I wouldn't be willing to.

I think local TV gets some kind of support from their commercial customers. However, the local TV might need to attract a higher viewership rate in order to persuade their commercial customers to purchase a timeslot for the ads. If there's not enough viewership for the channel, no one is going to commit for the commercial time slot. In other words, if the local TV can produce better quality programs that attracts customers, money would come naturally from other sources.

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 *CaroleJ* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

The TV networks are already profiting, if they want to increase their profits, they should look at their own spending. Some of their staff, some who are unionized sit at their desks all day with little work to do. Why make the public pay for the networks' inability to manage their expenses? Enough with the misguided local tv ADs. Most of those small local town networks are not profitable now and even with extra money, they won't be. They should simply invest in better technology to deliver news across different cities

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 *CaroleJ* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

If you want to make a point to the networks and want free High Definition, go buy an Antenna for \$50 and you'll get HD CTV, HD GLOBAL and CBC... I still get US and Canadian programming and it costs me \$0 to watch HD service.

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 *John* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

No more TAXES....Enough is Enough...

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Judy ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I think that the CRTC should go back to giving their friends monopolies. Lets say; give Ontario to CTV; the West to Global; Quebec RDS; and the East to CTV (a monopoly already exists there). Newfoundland is still private. Each monopoly is given Local advertising rights and all companies can sell National advertising. One LOCAL Broadcasting Station in each area. This way the monopoly holder can screw everyone to death and provide no local programming while at the same time cutting jobs and shuttering stations while making a fortune.

This is what was done in Atlantic Canada in 1983 when CTV were permitted to shut down CJCB Television in Sydney and CKCW Television in Moncton. They still continue to sell Local Advertising today without 1 minute of LOCAL daily programming!!!!!!!!!!!!

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Like



Ian G ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Quite frankly I don't watch local programming, so I oppose what amounts to an additional tax. Ideally I could pick my own package of the half dozen channels I occasionally watch and not have to subsidize the rest. Maybe the reason these local channels are failing is because they don't have the viewership to justify their existence in the first place?!

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Andre Thibault ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

1- I cannot support paying any additional charges for "local TV" when in fact here in North Bay local TV consists of getting a regional feed from Sudbury, it's been that way for more than 5 years so this is not a new problem. And I haven't heard that paying more would bring back "local" TV.

2-Local support should come from the pool of money that TV is already receiving, they just need to do a better job of managing what that money is used for (U.S. programs?)

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maartens ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I already pay for local TV by watching their commercials ,the rates for cable are too high now . I will return totaly to my antenna , there are a number of digital channels on there now , will I able to drop those from my cable package ? as I receive them that way now.

Let the local stations go broke if thats what it takes or adjust their spending according to their income.

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Frustrated with more taxes ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Broadcasting companies need to better manage their business instead of continually looking for handouts. Average Canadians cannot in this economy continue to hand over more money for services. Especially when there is no guarantee they will put those additional monies directly into local programming.

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Kate Vincent ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I would like to be able to subscribe to local TV at a reasonable cost and opt not to receive or pay for other cable channels.

I believe that large cable companies make enough money to be able to provide local programming as part of their contribution to the community.

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Donald ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

There should be no Tax. Basic TV be free to living in Canada

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Like



muhammad1 ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

1. We are paying all the fees to cable/satellite companies therefore they made billion dollar profit in past. There is no expense to them. This time they should pay for it.
2. Quality of programs provide support itself. If they produce good programming everybody would like to watch and that is the program can get more advertising revenue.

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J. Rother ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I already pay more than enough for TV and in my hometown, we have already lost many local TV Shows. I have to watch other cities news and weather first thing in the morning. Now, with the HST being added this summer, if the cost of TV is increased, you will be putting this simple pleasure, out of the reach of many Canadians, especially seniors and others on fixed incomes. For many, television watching is their ONLY source of entertainment & escape from the drudgeries of life.

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Neesha B ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I am not willing to pay anymore than I already pay for cable. I am tired of companies with monopolies constantly insisting on consumers paying more, and yet offering less. If cable companies do end up paying a fee for signals, I do not want them to pass on the fee to me. And if they can't pay for the fees out of their profits, too bad. Let them sink, or learn to make do with less, like the rest of us do. I am tired of taxpayers being forced to bail out companies who want money when they don't have any, and yet do not pass on any sort of break or rebates to consumers when they do have money!

The only company I am willing to support is the CBC, who at least makes an effort to offer unbiased reporting.

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Tina Parnell ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I agree We pay to much now for cable and we already have enough commercials on Tv. They make more money then we do they should pay the fee instead of us

[Flag](#)

Like



wally686868 ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

This is simply a bailout for a bunch of networks that made almost \$400 million in profit last year...and they want more?!?!

No way!!!!!!!!!!!!

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Like



Chris ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I do not understand how local TV stations can even have the option of charging cable and

satellite providers when their content is available free to air. Not to mention CRTC regulations that require these channels be available in basic packages.

If local TV stations are allowed to charge then cable and satellite providers should be able to offer more diversity and choice in bundled packages and more individual choice to subscribers. However if this is broken to granular then I'm afraid all Canadian content will take a hit and the local TV stations will actually get less viewership.

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[slimsilver](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#) [in reply to Chris](#)

all we need to do is look South of the Border Cris.

In the satellite markets in the South they have two major satellite providers and both have totally different channel lineup's and offer two different set's of local's in the lower channel's. One is East coast and the other is west coast and all the other local's are in the higher channels and you can choose what local you want and only pay for your is you want to you don't have take East or West you have a choice .

And they offer all of them.

They don't pay ten dollars for each local channel and they only charge 1.99 a month to sub it.

And they still make a profit.

So for our two system's here in Canada to say if we have to pay for all the local's then we just wont carry them LOL yea right.

That is just a way for them not to have to pay anything for them.

If my Satellite provider is not going to carry local's i wont run his system cause i want my local's to if i am going to pay a big price for tv.

They need to take a look to the Southern Satellite providers and see how they are running there systems to get an idea how to operate a broadcasting system.

Not look for a free ride from the back's of us to keep them going.

Our cable and Satellite providers pay big buck's to broadcast A&E and Spike TV and other US proگرامing and don't want to cover some of the cost we the tax payers already payout for our local tv station's to operate and now they are saying if they have to pay to rebroadcast our local's they will pass the cost onto you again. That is just wrong we already pay for it.

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[Violet](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Local TV is a must in the City of Toronto for residents. I think the Cable Companies should pay for what they've been getting free. I don't want to pay for it on top of everything else. But if Cable charges another \$10.00 per month I'll disconnect TV altogether & go radio.

Let's all be reasonable and share the cost was spread between all three parties involved (Cable, TV Stations and consumers)

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[amalowan](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I do not support adding this fee to my existing service. There are better ways to support local TV.

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[dwallace](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

Throughout this whole debate, the big networks have never committed to keeping local television stations on the air or otherwise supporting local programming.

The TV Tax is nothing more than a bailout for the big TV networks. They made almost \$400

million in operating profits last year alone, and receive close to \$600 million in benefits from cable and satellite providers annually. Any new TV Tax will actually be charged in addition to the CRTC's Local Programming Improvement Fund fee of 1.5% that already went into effect this year.

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[nighthawk_474](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

We are paying too much already . Nearly 30% of an hour long show is taken up with advertising , often the same commercials playing back to back . I seem to be paying for the privilege of allowing annoying sales gimmicks to be piped to my house . How often do you flip through channels to see the same programs on several of the channels you pay for ? Frankly I'm sick of the crap forced on us and now you want to add more tax on top of that ? Who the heck is the CRTC supposing to be supporting ! I'm sick of it .

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[deniseblakebrough](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

We should not have to pay for local TV on top of what we already pay for satellite service. I am tired of paying extra for satellite, it keeps going up. I usually cancel in the summer because as a senior we can not afford the satellite year round. If it goes up again we will cancel altogether.

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[Lori](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I am not impressed with another fee that is ultimately going to be taxed again. I only watch about 5-10 channels at the most. Most of them are not the Canadian feeds because the quality is bad or because they leave off the ending of shows. This is truly disappointing that we continue to suffer the burden so that government agencies and large corporations can continue to make HUGE profits and big mistakes at the cost of the general public.

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[murray](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

The "great Canadian rip off" as usual, let's see how much more we can get from the consumer. Local TV let's see 10 mins commercials...2 mins programming etc etc. No I do not want to pay nor would I pay more..we pay more then enough now..let the cable/satellite companies pay but do not pass it along to us...why is it that we are always bailing out companies if they cannot make a go of it..no one bails me out if I can't live within my budget...But let's just think who will really benefit from "us" paying more...the CEO's \$1,000,000 plus bonuses and the Stockholders.... Thank you

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[YeahRight2](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I do NOT have cable or satellite. I get my content over the internet and via purchase of DVD's.

The only reason I would ever get cable or satellite is to get Northern Canada (Yukon) programming.

All local programming should be provided free-to-air.

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[Tami Wilkins](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

If I were asked to pay extra on my (Rogers) cable bill, I would be miffed because I think that Rogers is already charging me much too much for the service that I get - it seems to be going into this company's pockets without any choices for consumers about where to get what channels.

On the other hand, if I were to be charged more taxes annually to support local TV, I would support this. It is an important service for citizens and supports giving communities a voice in this country which is long and stretched out and dwarfed by the powerful media in the US. I think that Canadian LOCAL programming is critical.

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[Lynn Wolff](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Given the high profits of the cable companies, I think fees could paid to local TV and the rates either stay the same or go up by a small amount. I object to the high profits. I support local TV.

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[Micheal S](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Since I take advantage of time shifting on my cable package and seldomly watch local television, I would tell the cable company to stuff it. As indicated elsewhere, I am already paying for local stations and as such should not need to pay for them again. Split the local channels to a seperate package and see if anyone actually wants them given the other channels that they have available.

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[Pat Ward](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I think cable and satellite television is highway robbery. Fees are too high already. That is why I do not subscribe. We should have the option of getting television stations through the air as we used to in pre-cable days. As it is only people living in certain areas of the city/country can do this. I don't want to pay for keeping television stations that I have no interest in alive.

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[Chiclet](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I'm totally against this fee. I am a single parent and have recently lost my job! Let some of the CEO's go and save us all some grief and money. I have other issues on my mind like keeping a roof over our heads.

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[erinstockford](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I am absolutley disgusted that they want us to pay MORE, I do think local TV matters but if they are so broke how can they afford all these advertising campaigns why wouldn't that money be put towards local tv instead of getting word out to the public that cable companies are ripping us off. We already know that it has been happening since Cable service started. I think if the CRTC decides to tell the canle company to pay up that it should also stipulate that it can't do this by making the customer pay up for them. Since I am already being charged for local channels why should I be charged again.

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[Sue Green](#) ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

All companies have struggles, especially in times like these. However, having lost advertising revenue is not a reason to now charge others that had always been there supporting you, more money. They won't be getting any extra value for it! The local television is not what is costing

them the majority of thier revenue!

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Linda Connell ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

1. I am strongly opposed to ANY increase in my already pricy cable TV bill for ANY reason at all. Nothing would change for me - the same stations, nothing different except a higher BILL. I call it gouging.

2. I have absolutely no idea.

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Bill S ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

When Cable TV started, they used the included local Television as a selling feature. The fact that they charged for basic cable and paid nothing to the local stations means they haave made thier millions on the backs of local TV.

Local content is still a feature and should be paid for by the cable companies.

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Michelle ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I agree the cable bills are way to high!!!

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[Like](#)



Rick p ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I'm from Timmins and ower the past 2 decades our local programming has declined to the point currently our only so called local station CTV offers us with approximately 1-2 minutes of local coverage per day on their news. Quite often these little tidbits of news are fluff pieces. I am NOT willing to pay for this minimistic service whatsoever. They have brought about this decline in revenues by their own hand by continually failing to provide local programming. All other programming which they offer is available elsewhere on other stations. We currently have ,any other avenues to be informed locally about what is happening in and around our community, they include but are not limited to; our local newspapers, community television, radio stations. Please do not let our cable fees increase because as these monies will not be put back into our communities.

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dhupe ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

We pay enough taxes when is this going to end!

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[Like](#)



peeler ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I will reduce my service by at least the amount of the tax. Local TV has nothing to offer and if they are failing...let them fail. They get far too much money already which is wasted on "Canadian" content which is far below the material from US producers and directors. I am already paying far too much for my TV signals because the CRTC has a misguided philosophy to tell me what I want to watch and when. Case in point I tune to an american station and watch a program. Within seconds of the start time I am switched to a Canadian signal and signal provider and get bad reception in stormy weather. My point is I should be allowed to tunr in to a signal that provides the best reception regardless of where it originates.

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 Like *Guest* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

Both the cable/satellite companies and the big broadcasters should pay for local TV, and there should be more local programming. Our TV industry is suffering, and countless Canadian jobs will likely be lost if something isn't done soon. As a cable customer, I don't believe it is fair that the cable/satellite companies are charging as much as they are, and if they raise the prices again for local TV, we might cancel our cable. They are making so much money already, and often the quality is poor, so why should we be asked to pay more? Save local TV!!! We watch our local news daily without fail, and many other local and Canadian shows.

[Flag](#) Like *Erick Nettel* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

I agree with people's opinion that broadcasters already receive enough funding from government and TV providers like Rogers. The big networks have mainly committed to buying foreign content and the commitment to local television stations or local programming has been very limited. It is hypocritical of them to say they are defending local TV, when in reality most independent producers would not even be given the opportunity by any of these networks to pitch new local programs, let alone funding them.

On the other hand, a TV tax would definitively add close to \$10.00 dollars on a monthly basis to the TV bill. If approved, this Tax will not go to local TV, will not favour local independent producers and will be more expensive for Canadians.

[Flag](#) Like *seymour* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

As a low income senior I would have to cancel cable because I could no longer afford it. It's already a stretch because cable bills are very high.

Broadcasters have to learn to balance their books without penalising the Canadian public.

[Flag](#) Like *marktheremark* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

This proposed tax is ridiculous, Canadians already pay an exorbitant amount of money for Cable TV, now I'm going to be expected to pay more. I will just cancel my TV service and download every show I want from Torrent sites. No f'ing commercials then, let's see how local tv stations like it when nobody watches cable tv anymore. Will they be able to charge their advertisers millions of \$ commercial time for the 12 viewers they will have left?

[Flag](#) Like *Wilbert Lentz* ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

If local TV can't make money on their advertising revenue then THEY need to change how they operate. Do they really need two news anchors for week nights and another two for weekends? Do they need a full-time weather person (even if he spends most of his time going to schools to teach about weather)? Do they need multiple people doing sports? An entertainment reporter?

They built up this huge staff when the money was rolling in, and now they have to cut back and live within their means.

Would I pay extra for local channels? Only if the cable/satellite companies weren't forced to carry their signals and therefore lowered the basic rate, and only if we got to choose which local channel we pay for. (Goodbye CBC.)

[Flag](#) Like



Geoff ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

We as consumers are already paying too much for the service we get. It is not our fault that the big businesses did not save their record profits for the leaner times such as now. In the time of global recession it is too much to ask from the consumer. Make them show us what they have spent their profits on and why they need our money. All this is going to do is drive people towards is tv over the internet and free to air tv systems.

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Like



Tina ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

The CBC Is a bastion of liberal/eastern propaganda and does not represent half of Canada. Dissolve the CBC!!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



cesarestanziani ★ [4 weeks ago](#)

With the economy today, I any having a great deal of trouble getting work and paid. services keep going up at any rate that the providers feel necessary, yet no thought is given to people, where there profits actually come from. I pay my bills with or without penalties, and expect my providers to do the same in good times and bad!!!

[Flag](#)

Like



Gerry Koersvelt ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I see no reason why the broadcaster should charge the cable company for real local broadcasting as the cable systems enhance thier signal How ever the cable companies should pay for the right to rebroadcast outside the local market where they advertise providing 50+ channels in reality it is only 5 possibly six they tell us this gives us the ability to see the shows at different times so we can see a show earlier or later BS if we wish to do so we can get a recording device or pay for the ability to do so

The Cable company and I subscribe to 2 different ones ione in the city and another at lake /cottage in niether place do I have any desire to watch either Halifax or Vancouver stations I want to watch local stations and posibly some amaran and other specialty channels but the cable companies charge me to provide 10 versions of the same show and they can do so because they get all broadcast free The cable companies should pay for rebroadcasting Winnipeg stations outside the Winnipeg Market and same with any other areas anything broadcast outside the normal of air coverage should be paid for by the Cable companies and if I want to watch Halifax then I have no objection to paying for it

The other major waste of money is the regulators deciding who pays what for what and how without any real bussiness acumen or having to financially justify or risk thier own finances

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Trin ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV providers like Rogers.

2. Ads

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Like



Trin ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. A TV Tax could cost Canadians an additional \$5-\$10 on their TV bill each month - it's not fair and not needed when broadcasters already receive so much funding from government and TV

providers like Rogers.

2. Ad

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Like



D Alexander ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I don't think we should be asked to pay extra for local TV. They receive a lot of funding already and more money wouldn't necessarily ensure local TV would remain.

[Flag](#)

Like



Margaret Quinn ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Local TV is very important to me. I realize that more funds are needed to sustain it but cable companies should pay and should not pass costs on to subscribers. They make big enough profits to do so.

[Flag](#)

Like



aziz ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Public tv company should charge their viewer and finance their own buget through deferent means such as,more aggressive fund raising campain or. the public tv become part of major cable company.The price of tv channels are sky high as it is and the tv cable provider company are having monopoly for years and they become so power hungry to the extend that government is powerless to bring more competition to make the plan field more fair for cable provider and public consumer.Raising the cost of cale tv only open another door for illegle use of cable and lost of government revenue. Raising the cost of cable only contribute to open a door for illegal use of cable and create a underground economy and as the result of that a loss of revenue for government in the term,just like cigarete black market.Having a fair level field bring a healty market and happy consumer and more revenue for Government

thank you A.S

[Flag](#)

Like



Spazz ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Thought this story about Shaw leaders making \$50 mil last year would get more play. Just in Calg Herald though. <http://www.calgaryherald.com/entertainment/Shaw...>

[Flag](#)

Like



David Clark ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Not interested in paying any additional fees for local tv. We need access to more choice and competition - more tv we can access with antenna and free over the airways.

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marsan311 ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Why is it that I am being asked to pay for local stations on cable, but if I didn't have cable, those stations are available for free on air. If local broadcasters are sending the signal from their station cross the airwaves, and distributing them for free already, it doesn't make sense to me that I should be required to pay for it with cable.

If local broadcasters think they have such good stations, allow us to opt in or out of paying for the channel. I am sure they don;t want to take that risk though.

[Flag](#)

 Like *slimsilver* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

It's not that the Government can't bring competition to Canada to bring Cable and Satellite providers under control it is they wont. They are still under the belief that our Cable and Satellite providers still can not compete with Foreign Broadcaster's. And they are right. They just don't have the ability to understand that they need to offer programing and channels that are appealing to people and not all the crap channels and programing that they can get at a deal. Our beliefs are the same as they were in the 60s and 70s is that we have to stop all foreign companies from having any influence in our economy or we will loose our heritage and that is not true. This is a market that has a half a dozen players that have a piece of the pie and don't want to loose any of it and if they have any foreign competition they know they will loose it. With the new Cell phone competition coming in May Bell 'Rogers and 'Telus are crying wolf to the Government that they wont survive in the new market and we will loose all our local cell providers if they allow others in. But with new competition there will be a price war's and that is a good thing IMO. We have the highest wireless phone and internet rates in North America and they gouge us at every turn for texting and minutes and on the Pay as you go plan's and even for the privilege to have internet access. So we need a little competition here to rein in the providers and show them we wont let them take advantage of us anymore .

[Flag](#) Like *Jules* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Just checked my statement from Bell expressvu and they already charge me \$32.00 a month for basic service. I understand this is for basic CBC, CTV etc, a share of this charge should be shared with those providers for their content. On the same statement we observe the following taxes (charges) CRTC, digital service, GST, TVQ, this is enough. If a further charge is added we will cut into the programing since our monthly bill is already too high at \$87.08 including \$14.08 of taxes (19%)

[Flag](#) Like *johnrusich* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

What local tv? Since the concentration of all major television production(except for local news) to the major centers of toronto montreal vancouver ect I cannot support any additional fees to the cable companies or the so called local televisio co. (GLocal CTV ect.) If need be I will put up an antenna and buy a digital converter wich is a one time cost instead of paying what I feel are inflated monthly cable costs. I have cancelled my cable

[Flag](#) Like *Lucy* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) [in reply to johnrusich](#)

I was told by Futureshop we won't have to install digital converters unit 2015. Hope they're right, but even if they're not, I'll gladly buy a converter. Like you said, one-time charge, & it will pay for itself in no time.

[Flag](#) Like *mauricehartman* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I will not pay extra for local programing that I can find for free elsewhere. The CRTC insists that I receive canadian content with my cable package so I'm already paying for this whether I like it

or not. The local CBC already receives taxpayer funding and generates revenue from advertising. If they can't make this operation work then maybe they need to get out fo the television bussiness.

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willardlawrence ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Since cable companies access local TV for nil or next to nil, why should they charge for a service they removed our access from with digital TV. They made hundreds of millions of dollars last year, and the years previous to that. If they did not think to set aside a reserve to pay for upgrades while they were "rolling in the clover" so to speak, why should the user pay for their error. It's not like they are going to lose money this year if they do not get their increase. They are forecasting another "bumper crop" of customer dollars which they do next to nil to collect. Let's say no to the undeserved cable company fee increase.

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TED ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

One important category has been largely forgotten. Local advs. It is important to hear that the Ford dealer is offering free hotdogs out on the bypass Saturday 10 til 2. If we look at the latest products we might learn that something that seems alien (like a nav screen) really is an asset. National networks left to their own have brought us millions of dollars in (can you believe it) toilet paper advs.

Do they think we are still using the Eaton's catalog?

We are supporting 3 networks when any fool can see we can only afford 2.

Global has broken every commitment they ever made.

In Toronto a local station license was granted to worthy Westerners. When they crumbled under million-a-week losses, instead of revoking the license CRTC let another group seek the lowest common denominator.

CRTC needs to cull out non-performers OR just let us subscribe to DISH and be done with it.

[Flag](#)

Like



jamescrtc2009 ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I totally agree with Susan and Bob, I believe we should all cancel , as stated bu others we have mediocre programming on cable as it is, we are paying far too much as it is for the lack of good programming. If the broadcasters can't make it in business, then maybe its time for them to do some trimming or get out completely. I don't want to subsidize companies that can't operate a business successfully either.

The CRTC should act in the best interest of the viewers and stop being influenced by cable companies that are making millions already and operate on greed only not on services to the public as they should. They get paid big money by through advertising time spot and should not be allowed to gouge the public more than they do presently. The greed has to stop and only the CRTC are in power to see to it, in the publics best interest, not in the interest of big companies wanting to make more on the back of Canadians as they all do.

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kanatian ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Local TV is obsolete, and certainly not worth taxing citizens to save.

Your community paper and its website has more local news and events than the filtered content provided in the few minutes allocated to local TV news programs (between US reality shows, game shows and other US content).

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Like



Lynn Grant ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. Thinking about the importance of local TV to you, how would you react, and why, if you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services?

I don't watch TV. I use my cable for Internet access. Why should I pay for anything else?

2. In your view, what measures, if any, could be taken to support local television?

None, in my opinion. Let local TV sink or swim on its own merits. If people want to support it, great. If not, great.

Enough of the great "hold your hand out and whine until you get what you want" society, to paraphrase PET.

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concerned_mother ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

There are so many low income families who love to watch television with their family but can't afford the fees which keep going up and up and up . It's not fair .

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Like



terrymckinney ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

As to question one I think television is a business and as such should have to be self sufficient. The last thing I want is for them to receive a bailout, that's what they are asking for, a bailout. This will not be the end of it if television is truly not a viable entity. Listen to the whiny tone of their ads. They are begging for a handout. As a cable customer I am disgusted by this whole thing. Like any business they should either sink or swim like everyone else.

[Flag](#)

Like



Brian Kentville NS ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I see no benefit to paying more tax to bail out these TV companies for local programming. Indeed, what local programming. The local radio stations offer more local information and participation than all the TV stations combined. Actually the 1.5% fee I saw on my recent bills annoyed me.

Private industry needs to sink or swim and stop coming to the tax payer for bailouts.

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Like



Serenella ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

You have asked for comments on whether "local TV stations should be able to charge cable and satellite companies for distributing their programs". I prefer to respond a modification of this question: Should cable companies be allowed to obtain TV programs without paying for them and distribute them at great profit to themselves? Cable companies should pay for local TV signals and distribute them at no extra charge to the consumer in payment for their monopoly rights to the airwaves in their local areas.

The importance of news, national and local, is paramount to the proper functioning of a democracy. All media are feeling the pinch of the dispersal of advertising funds in many directions. We can see the results in thinner or disappearing newspapers and threats to the news gathering operations of our TV and radio stations. These outlets, not the news sites on the Internet, are the ones who pay journalists and send them to our capitals and all around the globe. The bills have always been paid by advertisers, consumers and, in a few cases, by government subsidy. The cable companies have enriched themselves on free access to this for too long. It is time they paid up.

[Flag](#)

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Henry Adams ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Yes, local TV companies should expect to be paid for their programming. This revenue is needed to provide a reasonable quality product.

BUT, the Cable companies should absorb some of this cost from their current profits. IF they do not they will risk losing customers. In my case, I pay only for basic cable and I feel that any significant increase would drive me away from cable TV completely. In city communities, which are presumably where most cable customers live, the cable distribution companies stand to lose out to competition from Internet broadcasts and to the almost limitless supply of cheap DVDs (and BDs) which people will rent, buy, borrow (or steal?) to avoid paying for poor quality programming (or even more commercials) and/or higher priced cable service. The writing is on the wall for TV distribution: it is all going to come through high-speed internet access one day.

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Nick Carasis ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

As most big markets already have digital broadcasting, I believe many of the big market's consumers currently subscribing with service providers would opt to go for an over-the-air solution. Who currently supports the small markets? The big markets. Who will lose? Both the service providers AND the TV networks, making the tax worthless. I believe the CRTC needs to bring both the service providers and the TV networks and come to a satisfactory conclusion for all parties involved, without having "taxes" implemented on subscribers.

The reality is some small market TV stations will have to close. This tax WILL NOT stop that from happening. The networks could reconfigure their broadcasting and create more regional TV stations, with repeaters in various areas in order for that entire region to continue to receive local TV (in the Toronto area, the best example would be "A" channel, which broadcasts for Barrie and most of the Georgian region). Yes, it costs money - everything does, but these networks are corporate entities, and have access to investor capital. Please CRTC, do not allow this tax to pass. It will destroy the Canadian broadcasting landscape.

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 Like

Amanda Hartery ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

As a current broadcast-television graduate, I do not think it is right for viewers to pay for local television - this should be a free service for those viewers who do watch local television. This service allows the community to keep up with it's own current events, and participate in their own local events. National news is important, but a way to relate it back to the community is equally important.

However, I do understand that local television should be allowed to make a profit - or at least cover the cost - of their own programming, and pay for their staff to produce these shows. As a volunteer of Rogers for many years, I do sometimes feel taken advantage of and unappreciated. Can local television make revenue off of their advertising? This would defer the cost from the viewer themselves. I often see Rogers advertising on TLC, etc. Is TLC paying to use this advertising, or is this a free service? Can networks using local advertising be held accountable?

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Ryton ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Local TV is important to me, however, this service must remain a private enterprise without government funding. Therefore, each subscriber must have a choice to subscribe to this service or not. As a result, if the offered local TV service is not financially viable it's because its local customer base has voted it so with their wallets.

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 judylns ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

We are sick and tired of always having our services increased and our income either stay the same or decrease. Why are the big companies always allowed to end up with such high profits at our expense. I think its about time our government did something to help us little people and not the large companies.

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 judylns ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I would be furious if the CRTC allows the cable/sat. companies to increase yet again our fees for TV services. My bill has increased 3 times in 2 years and I am fed up with it. The cable/sat. companies have big enough profits without charging us more.

Local television should receive part of the cable/sat.companys profits. Local TV is a large part of our lives giving us our local information(news,community happening) and should not be lost because of the GREED of the Cable/Sat companies as well as the Government.

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 Barry ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I already feel I am paying too much for my satalite service. My package is filled with channels for which I have no desire to watch and do little good, just to recieve channels we do wish to recieve. The company obviously places fringe channels with desired channels to be able to sell them.

Additionally even our internet service also costs far more than it should. We pay too much foir service which is too slow and becoming filled with popup advertising.

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 Huyen (Gwen) le ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I feel that I should not be charged for local television as I don't have a choice when subscribe for my cable pkg. I was forced to take it so why should I pay for something that I might not want? Local television already make money from advertising. If local television wants to charge extra from the cable company then the CRTC should make new rule to give consumer a choice when they subscribe cable that each of us should be able to choose the channel(s).

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Like

 wcorrigan@tandet .com ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

First off Cable TV companies are over charging and forces us to take stations we do not want Next they do not like it when the public steals their signal but they can steal CTV's signal are the airewaves free or not Cable companies charge way too much interrupt signals to mplace their own advertising as well

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 JOHN ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

CONSIDERING THE AMOUNT I PAY FOR CABLE AND THE FACT THE CABLE COMPANY HAS TO PAY FOR USA FEEDS, THEY SHOULD BE PAYING TO SUPPORT LOCAL TV WHICH I PAY FOR IN THE PACKAGE I HAVE

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Ken ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service.

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lorijerome ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Currently I pay for cable television. I purchase cable from Access Communications in Saskatchewan. We are limited as to what we have for cable in Shaunavon, we either go through Access, Shaw for satellite or Bell Expressview. As I cannot afford what the satellite companies charge I go through Access. I have the basic package and pay now upwards of \$50.00/month. I do not want my cable bill going any higher. As a taxpayer, I pay far too much when I see commercials on television offering cable deals in the US at \$20.00 per month. Why do we have to pay more money so that we can watch our local stations? The cable companies have a great deal now, no paying for television signals from Canadian networks. That is not fair, and if they pass the buck onto the consumer, I for one will have to cancel cable and get what I can (one channel in Shaunavon) that I can get over the airwaves. Peasant vision is not for me when I have 2 young children at home. And paying to watch CTV Regina is also not fair for me. If I have to go to airwave television, I will lose the ability to watch CTV Regina, Global Saskatoon and I will be lucky to get the signal for CBC. The cable companies do not care what they are doing to the consumer. I think that we all need to support local television, so that all Canadians can enjoy watching it. If I lose my cable because the cable company charges me more for local television, I lose the knowledge of what is going in Saskatchewan, Canada and the world. That is not healthy mentally, that is not allowing Canadians the opportunity to learn about our province, country or world. We need to allow Canadian networks to charge the cable companies a fair and equitable amount for the cable companies to air local television. We also need to make sure that the consumer does not pay extra for this service. Cable companies make enough from their subscribers that they do not need to add an additional amount on our monthly bills in order to make up the difference. For once, let the little guy win.

[Flag](#)



derekhrynyshyn ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

There is no need to charge extra for local services. The local services are provided by profitable corporations, who should be required to provide local news service as a condition of their licence to operate national networks. Furthermore, they should be required to broadcast a digital signal over the air for this purpose, and that signal should be free to anyone who possess an antenna. The airwaves are public and should remain so, and should be used to the public benefit. Local news is difficult to come by, even on the internet.

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Hans Tiel ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I don't like it. Cable or satellite tv is expensive as it is.

[Flag](#)



pamelajr ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

To think that television stations should continue to produce a product - a very valuable product, and not get paid for it by the cable companies is just unbelievable. In what world would anyone expect to get a product for free - we consumers pay through the nose for our television service. I am of the generation that grew up with television. I am truly so sick of the costs and the quality of television today, I am seriously thinking of cancelling it altogether. The only thing that keeps me watching is my local television station - access to community and news. Shaw makes

enough - PAY LOCAL TELEVISION and tell Shaw to take it out of the huge skyhigh rates they already charge me. If they raise my rates one cent - i will cancel it all. Personally think that is their aim - a totally charge for each show pay per view system.

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 [pamelajr](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

The CRTC - "Canadian Radio and Television Council" is a total joke. Radio is history and television is on its way out. AND these guys can't even "council" the issue of paying tv stations for their product and putting these greedy cable companies on notice? what good are they... a joke - dinosaurs... doing nothing and delaying the obvious - paying tv and forcing cable to do that without passing this cost on to the consumer - crtc doing nothing as local television dies and we consumers get madder and madder and eventually turn off the tv altogether. Nice job guys

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 [budojamie](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Well considering we are one of Canada's smallest Provinces if local cable were to stop, our little voice/ news/events would be gone and all we would here about is the bigger provinces like Ontario and Quebec.

The fact are still clear as part of what I already pay should be payed to Local tv..without local i have no reason to have tv. I would not have any tv if it was to go up, i would resort to free local pick up.

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 [philpcarr](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV ? my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service

At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right

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 [Dena](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I would cancel my cable service. It is already too expensive.

Local television needs to be able to charge cable companys for the programs they broadcast. Currently they rely on advertisers to fund them, but in poor economic times advertising is the first cutback companys do.

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Like

 [barbryder](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I ALREADY PAY THE CABLE COMPANY FOR MY LOCAL TV CHANNELS.

THE CABLE COMPANY IS RESPONSIBLE TO PAY MY LOCAL STATIONS FOR THEIR SIGNALS. THERE SHOULD NOT BE AN EXTRA CHARGE TO US CONSUMERS FOR THIS.

""MAKE" THE CABLE COMPANIES GIVE UP SOME OF THEIR PROFITS TO PAY FOR LOCAL STATIONS. CABLE KEEPS UPPING THE RATES WITH NO BENEFITS TO THE CONSUMER OR THE LOCAL STATIONS. THEY ADD CRAP CHANNELS AND EXPECT US TO PAY MORE. WE SHOULD BE

ALLOWED TO CHOSE WHICH CHANNELS WE WANT TO PAY FOR, NOT LET THE CABLE COMPANY DECIDE.

ALSO, I AM SICK OF ALL THE CABLE COMPANIES COMMERCIALS. IF I WANT THIS TO STOP I HAVE TO PAY FOR A DECIVE (PVR) TO GET RID OF THEM. REDICULOUS.

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Ted M. ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. I would think that is an outrageous cash grab. Why are service providers allowed to make obscene profits in a Federally governed monopoly and not pass on (on an equal basis) some of the revenue to those providing the material they are selling?
2. Force service providers to distribute revenues to the providers of the products they sell regardless of where they are located. Why does the CRTC require them to share revenue with foreign signal providers and then at the same time deny 'Canadian Content' providers any share of this revenue?

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Like



RJI Lucy ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Local tv is SO important! If it came down to it, I would pay extra for it, but I really shouldn't have to--the cable companies should pay for the signals they are receiving for free from the local stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



Justin ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I agree!!

1. I would cancel my cable service completely.
2. Local Advertisers.

Canadians are charged more for their cable and internet than any other country - I believe we have you to thank for that. It may take us a while, but we do get fed up, and when we do.....you all better have a plan B

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Rita ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

With so many areas of living increasing in cost, I feel that cable TV is costly enough at this point. If any more costs were to be added on, I would be considering of cancel my TV services altogether..... One of the main reasons that I have chosen cable TV is that regular local TV is difficult to get in a clear manner, but if need be, I will get rid of my TV services totally.

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Stefanie ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I dont think that we should be charged more for local tv on top of what we pay for our satelite service. The BIG cable companies should have been paying a fee for local television already. Big cable comlanies, example: Rogers, should eat the cost.. they charge a fortune for satelite tv as it is. Its not as if they dont make enough money. We look to local TV for weather reports and community news. How can anyone justify taking that away to begin with? Its redicilious. If the Big cable companies refuse to pay for local tv they will end up losing in the long run.. all of us will. I will cancel my services if that is the case.

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Danny Stewart ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Since the cable companies pay other cahnnels - why not the staions Canacians REALLY want such as Local TV? Out of all the channels they force me to pay for, I only watch about 5! Two of them are local TV Stations. I would like to pick the stations I watch AND the cable companies should pay the Stations I watch. They certainly do not want the public stealing their cable signal, so why i it OK for them to steal my loacal TV signal and sell it back to me - OUTRAGEOUS!

[Flag](#)

Like



sophie_rose ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I am 16 years old and I am one of the only ones in my class who is globally aware. I feel like a global citizen because I know what is happening around me. This is because of my local TV stations, like CBC and CTV. I stay up late most nights and watch the news with my parents.

1. my family only just got cable because we don't watch much television. we'd cancel our cable service if they made us pay for local tv too
2. I know my brother who moved out can't afford cable and he's a student so students need to speak up more that they need local tv for entertainment value and for news shows alike. How can the government say they care about youth and citizenship when they are willing to take away free channels from students??

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jep ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I've received so many fliers in the mail stating 3 services starting at \$68. per month for 12 months and after the 12 months are up my cost is 177.03 a month. How is this justified? Today another letter which states another increase of 1.5% plus taxes.

TV is getting a little too expensive for my retirement pension. Where does it stop?

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Like



alcormier ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Cable and Satellite companies are in my opinion robbing the public, 18 channels showing the same program. if I want CNN I must buy other programs I don't want to get it. Stealing is a way of life, get everything for nothing, I wish I had a choice I would watch local TV only, Knowing what goes on around me is important. All I do is give money away for programs I don't want to cable and satellite companies. Do like the rest of us Pay for what you get or do without, My satellite went up last month, so I cut off programs, if it goes up again I will cut more, I'm sick of paying just to make more money for others. without local TV I would rent movies. There I at least have a choice what I spend my money on.

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Like



simmonejoyette ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

i will want the cable companies pay for their services to local television and the rest of our community need local television to thrive for the near future and beyond.

simmone joyette

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Susan ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Local TV is our main source for local information including (but not limited to) news and entertainment. We pay enough to our cable service provider and we will not be paying our company any more money.

[Flag](#)

 *J Scott* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I think that is very important to have local TV available. I live in the city of Toronto and I love the fact that I can get Toronto specific news from a number of different stations. Growing up my family watched CTV news and I continue to watch CTV news now. I hope that my kids will be able to do the same whether they live in Toronto when they grow up or elsewhere.

With the cost of satellite and cable these days, I don't think that I should have to pay extra for local TV. My understanding is that back in the 70s when the original contracts were drawn up, cable companies didn't have to pay for the local TV feeds as the commercials were paying well enough to fund local TV. Fastforward to today when that revenue stream isn't enough to fund local TV anymore. I think that the cable and satellite companies should pay for the local TV feeds - they're already charging the end consumer for them. It's crazy for the end consumer to pay more for something that the cable and satellite companies get for free. Why does the consumer always have to get the shaft? I think that the cable and satellite companies have large profits that they can afford to pay for local TV without passing it onto the consumer.

[Flag](#) *Al & Elaine Englund* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

The CRTC has given Cable a License to Make Money and they keep up the Rate. Before cable we had a Tower outside our home and Cable was F R E E. Now TV Stations are suffering and so is the General Public. Shaw made clear Profit last Year of Two Billion Dollars and they are building Office Tower knowing they have Control from the Government. It's time our Leaders step in and say come on by its all yours.

[Flag](#) *pissedatcable* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Not sure how the cable companies figure it will cost a consumer \$10 per month, but I am hearing figures that are below \$1 per month. When you consider what you pay for newspapers in a given month, this is a deal.

Wish the CRTC would wake up and see that the cable companies are trying to kill the local stations so that they would have a monopoly with distribution as well as providing local television service! Do local cable companies currently fund their community channels from cable revenue - yes they do! However, they are claiming that they cannot pay the local stations anything even though they already charging the consumer and pocketing the money.

Last point. During the hearings last year, the cable companies chirped on and on about a minimal increase of \$1 per month being unacceptable. Check the rate increase they then passed onto consumers in the spring! It was huge and helped pad their already fat profits.

[Flag](#) *MW* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Remember when taxes were only supposed to be around to fund the war? That's why everyone doesn't believe what the government says. Tell me I'm posting in the wrong area. I don't care.

[Flag](#) *gordimoore* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I suggest the "local" stations buy out the cable/satellite companies then there is no argument or perhaps the other way around.

As for CBC, we are fortunate, indeed, to have a Canadian made service.

For the most part, American TV is a joke. American sitcoms are junk! Reality shows, such as

Dancing With The Stars, are at least fun although not truly "reality".
Too bad we can't have more European programming.

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Like

 *lululise* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

- It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

- We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV – my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service

- At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right to me

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Like

 *Elizabeth* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Pay Up Cable Compaies!! You have no problem cutting one's services if their bill isn't paid so stop hoarding the dollars paid to you(get rid of half lazy managers and layabouts) in your Costumer Service and maybe you'll be able to save money and paying our local tv stations will help you sleep a little better. You can't take it with you !!

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Like

 *LINO* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

WE ARE FORCED TO WATCH MORE ADVERTISING THAN REAL PROGRAMS ON ANY CHANNEL.
THIS IS NOT RIGHT WE ARE PAYING FOR PROGRAMS.

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Like

 *lululise* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

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Like

 *Fred Augerman* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I for one have not one ounce of sympathy for any cable company in this country. Of course there's only two and absolutely NO COMPETITION amongst them, how do we all get such a sweet deal. They gouge and gouge and gouge, under the guise of providing us with better

service and customer care. A total joke, and every other month thanks to the CRTC they can raise their monthly rate without even asking us, an even better deal! Please, let me run the CRTC for one year, and all this blue sky bullshit would disappear in a heartbeat! The Network & Cable guys have to sit down with a mediator, and work it out. We'll still be ripped off just as badly, because Local really does not matter to either of them, but at least the pretension of caring will be over and done with!

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Like



Leanne Ison ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I would NOT be happy about my Bill going up another \$5-\$10 per month. First, local TV is free to air so anyone with an Antenna can get local TV channels for FREE!

They receive priority placement on the channel line up's ie: Global being on channel 3, CTV on channel 8, etc. Most local TV programs only show news that is local. In the case of ATV Ottawa they don't even show that anymore (unless you count A-Morning) which most can't watch because we are too busy working hard to pay our BILLS! Slowly they cut the news out, first it was the news at noon and then the 6 O'Clock news.... Most programming is fed from the US. They don't show a lot of Canadian content in the programming as it is.

I do not want to pay more for TV. I pay almost \$70 a month now and quite frankly enough is enough! This has to STOP!

Local TV stations haven't even been able to guarantee that they would remain on the air, even if consumers are charged more on their bill every month & they collect the fee from the Cable/Satellite Companies. I am sorry but that is not acceptable.

At a place in our economy where a huge percent of people have lost their jobs or have had their hours drastically cut paying the CEO's of these Companies the amount they do is an absolute CRIME!

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Like



Penny Serediuk ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

- It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

- We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV - my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service

- At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right to me

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barbara ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I do not want to pay for local tv. It should and must be included in my cable TV bill. I pay enough to be able to watch TV. Cable rates are way to high and should be regulated. The cable tv companies make enough money and should help local tv stations stay on the air and provide their communities with local news. They should be doing this as they receive enough money from subscribers to include this with no charge to local tv stations.

[Flag](#)

Like



Sydney ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I am sick to death of Cable companies whining that they can't afford [insert complaint o the week]!

WE pay criminal amounts of subscription fees to line pockets already, and get increasingly awful, commercial-filled pap shoved down our throats.

I only wish it were possible to get local channels WITHOUT cable - I'd be gone today!

IF I am forced to pay for local TV, I would cancel cable immediately.

The cable companies should be paying the stations for local content, and there should be more local content required, consistently.

[Flag](#)

Like



mervillecraette ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

not a chance charge the advertisers not the public. product placement is the new wave of advertisement. not just general like tobacco or alcohol, but specific, like actors meeting at a burger king or wendy's. already specific car brands are used . even in real life like rcmp driving Ford. charge them all for this right.Divo is changing the face of tv,make use of it. Threaten the cable companies with more competition from the internet. bravo for placing shows i want to see on the internet!

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Like



wernerlinsenmeier ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

We are currently overcharged by a large margin. It diminished our faith in the ability of CRTC, as the big money people get their way. It will be no different here. The choice we have is to do without television all together, as our Seniors pension falls short in too many areas.

The CRTC needs to weigh wether ecessive commenrcials, and cable and satellite fees, already overcompensate these service providers. Soon the commercials will take the larger part of any programming (with rude loudness, at times), so doing without TV altogether may be the fate of a lot of Canadians.

Finally, the bigger question remains, who does the CRTC look after?

Respectfully.

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Robin Klassen ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

[Flag](#)

Like



L. G. ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

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Robin Klassen ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

yy

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CKelly ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Where did my comments go CRTC?

Flag

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Darcy G ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

- I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

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Wayne Carney ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I share the view expressed by nearly everyone that cable / satellite prices are too high. But I do not blame the cable and satellite industries for this. They are private companies seeking to maximize profits. In this regard they will (and should) keep raising rates until:

- a. they start losing customers and therefore suffer diminished profits; or
- b. the government steps in and stops them.

In my view there are two entities responsible for these exorbitant rates;

a. subscribers (myself included) who keep their cable services even though they know that they are being cheated; and

b. the government who has done nothing to foster competition or control the ever increasing costs.

In my view we would be in a better position if we terminated the entire CRTC organization and gave the resulting proceeds to local television. This would:

- a. provide funds to the local broadcasters to help them with their programming;
- b. free the Canadian consumer from the archaic mandates that force Canadian networks on us that broadcast mostly USA programs; and
- c. finally shatter the illusion that someone in the government is looking out for our interests, which might empower us to take personal responsibility.

Flag

Like



Nigel ★ [3 weeks ago](#) [in reply to Wayne Carney](#)

Remember Wayne:

Those in rural Canada , those who produce your food; look after the mining (coal) and gas/oil installations so that you lot can survive in cosy cities - have no choice but subscribe to satellite for local news and weather.

You're right though - local TV needs support by the satellite co's.

[Flag](#)

Like



wendywassink ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I believe our country should do everything it can to protect our citizens from losing local TV...for many of us this is the only way we connect with our community...OUR CANADIAN COMMUNITY.

[Flag](#)

Like



pogma ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

The question itself is flawed, it asks about "local tv" but most of the content on my "Local" TV station is not local at all. There is a lot of foreign content, some national content, and very very little actual local content, there is, in fact, much more local content on the cable TV local station. I would refuse to pay more on my cable bill to fund these stations.

The TV companies are complaining that the cable companies are making too much money, and they are losing money. So they want the competent corporation to give them cash so they may continue with their incompetence. I don't agree that consumers should be asked to pay to support companies lacking in business acumen.

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Cher ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I hope the CRTC is considering the fact that a lot of Canadians do not subscribe to cable or satellite tv, and do not download television shows on their computers. I am a baby boomer and I rely only on local free TV to keep me informed and entertained on my tight budget. There are many people like me who are getting ready to retired to a fixed income, and there are still many of our parents and grandparents generation in the same boat. Local TV must remain free for those of us who are still using an antennae. These local stations must be reimbursed so that they do not end up shutting down. I have been tempted to turn to cable but the minimum monthly charges for this are way too high. Thank you!

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Martin ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I value local tv, and those local suppliers that provide more than news shows, those that share in formats that engage community, demonstrate the diversity of community, establish ways for citizens/residents to participate in stories that value community.

I think that these valuable local tv story tellers are important to how our communities go forward.

National outlets cannot do that as well as locals...

Can the cable and satellite companies start to share in their monthly revenue sources? I am not sure that other people would agree but perhaps a one time tax on new purchases of tvs could be an approach that could be used.

[Flag](#)

Like



pat_b ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Local TV matters to me. We have already lost some of our local news programs. Local news and programming are an important part of our community.

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [shannonshepherd](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

If we were to loose local TV - we would loose OUR independence - we need to have local news to keep up with what is going on in our community. Everyone would suffer especially people who need help. WE DO NOT WANT TO LOOSE LOCAL TV. Canadians are proud and proud to be knowledgeable about everything Canadian and American. HOW ELSE WOULD WE KNOW ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE COMMUNITY WE LIVE IN AND AROUND OUR AREAS. DON'T LET US DOWN!!!!

[Flag](#)

[Like](#)

 [Karen](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I am interested in local programs and content shown on TV, it only makes sense that we would want to hear about our local news, sports, events and not something that is going on in the US. That would be totally boring, I know I'd be switching the channel if I was stuck with that and why shouldn't we be able to voice our opinion regarding this and have what the people want not what the CRTC or local cable companies decide for us. Stop with this nonsense and give us what we want, This is the second time I am writing about this to you, People shouldn't have to plead for this proگرامing , we pay enough that we should be able to get what we want. As it is they dictate what channels we can have by price of the package.

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[Like](#)

 [Wendy T.](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

The cable companies should be paying to fund local TV stations.. the cost for cable TV is outrageously high - when you consider the very limited programming ... the same programs on every bloody channel.. repeat, repeat, repeat.. for all the monies collected by the cable company; they should pay the local TV stations.. local TV is what keeps communities connected - and should NOT be an additional charge on the cable bill.

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[Like](#)

 [Somesh](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I strongly believe that cable and satellite companies should compensate fairly to broadcasters for their product, without any increase in cost to end customer. Cable and Satellite companies charge such high fees from customers like me for a product which is actually created by Broadcasters but don't pay anything to them. It is like a retailer such as Loblaws or Sobeys selling a product at price to customers without paying for it to their supplier. I feel that is unfair.

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 [Jean Maceachern](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. Given that I watch the local stations the most, I'd probably cancel my cable and go back to antenna and the occaasional period of poor reception. The other channels are used infrequently. An increase in cable fees is not worth it if local news is not part of the lineup. If there is no local TV I am paying nobody.

2. Cable and Satelite companies should pay the networks big bucks for their signal. If local TV remains as a result of this I would pay the additional fees and limit other cable options.

[Flag](#)

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 *Janice Lariviere* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I resent being asked to pay my cable company (videotron) more money. I pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate We definitely need access to local news, and cable benefits by having it as part of their service. I pay for many stations that I do not want to watch. My local station should be part of the basic service. And they should share their profits with local stations. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service.

We are already so separated from families & friends, we need to keep our local service.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Andrew Boyd* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Local television is not important to me. I do not wish to pay higher cable bill to support something I do not watch. If local television cannot survive because not enough people watch it then it should be allowed to die.

Cable companies should not have to pay for the local programming. It is through the Cable companies that this programming is able to reach a larger audience. It seems to me that the TV companies should be paying the Cable companies for distributing their signal.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *ronpritchard* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I would be willing to pay a modest increase in my cable service if this would help insure the continuation (and perhaps the increase) of local programming - including nearby US channels, such as Buffalo, and IF we were given more channels and more choices - especially in HD. I will offer more comments on the latter in the next section (choice in services).

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Like

 *Babette De Sousa* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

If we (the consumer) pay our cable company for local TV, then this \$\$\$ should go to the local TV station(s) that we watch every day! We've heard it over and over again "Local TV Matters" ...but it does!!! It is part of our identity...it is who we (the local viewers) are!

[Flag](#)

Like

 *mary coelho* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

the cable bills are already high and these companies can afford to pay the local stations but because of the shareholders they claim they cannot and therefore have to charge extra. this is wrong and must be stopped.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *RickysCV* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I think local TV is an important part of what being Canadian means. Stories about us on a local level build community and in turn build us as a nation. I think that the local stations should receive monies from the cable companies like other stations do and that the cable companies should not be charging us extra for that service. Cable costs have gone up many times over the past few years and our service has not really improved-the cable companies are just greedy. I don't want to lose my local stations and I really don't think they should be closing while the cable companies pay hundreds of millions to the US networks. Let's support Canadian broadcasting. You have a chance to make changes that will support all that is Canada-make the correct choice please.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [jozinabesuijen](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I don't get good TV reception where I am so I had to get cable in order to keep up with what's happening out in the world. If I could get reception of local TV I would be satisfied with that alone.

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Like

 [cjacks628](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

My husband and I have retired but due the rise in the cost of living we cannot afford a rise in Cable costs. He has already had to return to a low paying job to make ends meet. The Cable companys are making huge profits while seniors are worried about their next meal. Local TV is very important it keeps us from feeling isolated.

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 [pooretired](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

- I already pay for local TV as part of my basic cable rate, but none of my money goes to local TV stations

- It's time for cable to start paying for the local TV they charge me for. If the cable greed continues, I'm afraid my local TV station could be shut down forever

- We shouldn't have to pay more for local TV – my cable company can afford to pay. In the last five years, my basic cable rate has increased four times the cost of living with little to no increase in service.

It is not correct for Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels, when local TV channels in the USA are paid for their content by the USA cable and satellite companies. This stinks like Mafia control in Canada by the cable and satellite companies in Canada, at a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money,

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Like

 [Grace Clarke](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

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At a time when local Canadian television stations are closing down and Canadian networks are losing money, Canada's cable and satellite companies are paying over \$300 million a year to US cable channels. This doesn't seem right to me

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Like

 [keithbradley](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

The CBC should be run totally by the government and should be fee-only to eliminate commercials. Sponsors have too much influence on programming and should be eliminated. The CBC should be run by public servants and should be totally non-partisan. The CBC should report on facts, not opinions. However, there should be an opinion section, clearly labelled. I am willing to pay a license fee for this service. I already support PBS (Fargo) for \$100 per year

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*chargedagain* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

The monetary issues are between local TV and cable stations.

Why should the consumer absorb the cost that cable stations have been enjoying for years?

Cable companies are known to grab money by changing the packages.

So no matter which way you look at it, someone will want more money.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*D.S. Crawford* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I feel that local television is important, and should be fairly compensated for their intellectual property when the IP is resold and not directly consumed. I feel that the model where end-users have free access to local programming remains appropriate, but that firms that resell the programming from local television should be required to reimburse the local television stations. In short, consumer access should remain free, but the cable/satellite providers should pay for the resale of the signal and not pass the cost on to the end consumer.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Ghislaine Desjardins* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I already pay for these services in my cable package. Since the CRTC has already forced these local stations to become digital they have no choice but to broadcast through cable or satellite therefore the CRTC should oblige the carriers to include them in their basic package at no extra charge.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Nigel Scott* ★ [3 weeks ago](#) [in reply to Ghislaine Desjardins](#)

Not true. In Calgary the TV Stations can and do broadcast "airwise" digitally or at least ready to press the button to make it so. (equipment in place).

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*jeff grant* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

i want local tv to be not to going off the air. i support local television including a in barrie and ctv.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*jeff grant* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

i want to save local television including a news and ctv toronto

[Flag](#)[Like](#)*Bernice Wilson* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

HOW TO RESPOND IS VERY DIFFICULT, NOT FIRENDLY. Local TV has to stay. This is our community, where we need to see as well as be heard. Rogers basic cable TV is lousy, repeats always, not interesting, forcing people to costly upgrades. Where is the global news, what's really happening in the world, places we've never heard of?? Sure don't get it on Rogers!! E-TV I don't need or want. Who cares about Tiger, Enough garbage already!! How in the hell do I know

what measures can be taken to support local TV except to have Rogers etc. pay their share. I'm an average citizen and don't know much about how the communications world works. This is not my forte and quite frankly I'm getting really tired of having to take the responsibility for everything in my world, environment - packaging, garbage disposal - when I am not the expert in these areas. Sooo Government - CRTC help me - the average person - to get the best deal for my buck - the people you are supposed to be representing and pay your salary - the people who elect you - and not the big lobby groups - OOPs - And it seems to me that I'm already paying an additional fee on my bill for local TV. When did that start. I, quite frankly, don't know what I would do if my bill went up. But I'm a reader, soooo, I won't be buying a big digital TV for Christmas.

Flag

Like

 *Pat MacDonald* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

We do need local TV. Now we get no local news except of A mornings. Oh we can go to special channel to get CJOH 3 times a day for thier news.

As far as advertising all we get is what is on A channel. Otherwise we have to get ads from Montreal or Toronto. Our local advatisers need to be able to be shown more often.

If local TV is stopped it will be like watching Global, where all we hear about it Toronto. I live in Ottawa area not Toronto.

Flag

Like

 *ed butt* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

LOCAL TV MATTERS TO US ALL IT IS TIME TO STOP THE B/S THAT IS GOING ON ONCE AND FOR ALL . YOU PEOPLE SHOULD ACT LIKE GROWN UP'S AND NOT SPOILED RICH CHILDREN THAT'S GOT ALL THE MONEY AND LOCAL TV IS THE POOR CHILD. YOU PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW YOUR ASS FROM A HOLE IN THE GROUND.

Flag

Like

 *VideoDesigner77* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

At one time the local TV station ran locally created advertisements for area businesses. The viewers received the signal free through the air. The commercials paid to operate the station.

Is the complaint due to the percentage of local viewers using the free signal through the air is quite small?

Does it matter to the advertiser whether the respondents to their ads saw the ad for free, or paid to watch it by subscribing to a cable/satellite service?

The commercials are still being paid for by the advertiser. The commercials haven't been removed for the cable/satellite subscriber, who in effect, is paying to watch commercials.

My question is "Are viewers who pay to watch television not interested in local television?"

Are there numbers to show if viewers of subscription services actually watch local television channels through their service?

If Canadian cable/satellite service providers are getting local TV signals to rebroadcast for free, then why does the CRTC permit fees to be charged for local stations? Then this money should be passed on to the local stations.

Flag

Like

 *ne1roc* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Wake up people. It has been the big Canadian networks (CTV, Global, CBC) who have used the

advantage of cable and satellite to spread their signals clearly, for so many years, gaining huge audiences for their paid advertisers and turning huge profits. Why do these Canadian networks all of the sudden want money now? I'll tell you why, because advertising dollars are dropping, which means profits are also dropping. You can get these signals for free over the air and you can also go online to the network websites and watch it free as well. Advertisers are slowly moving to the internet and these networks know it, so they want us to subsidize their losses because they have had it too good for too long.

I personally don't want to pay more on my cable bill just because some little town in Frozen Snot, Saskatchewan (no offense intended) can't maintain a local tv station! I think it is these small communities that should have to pay more on their bill if they want local TV.

So there you go CRTC, let these small communitie pay for their own local TV if they want it.

[Flag](#)

Like

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Like

 *Ed Paquette* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I don't want to pay any new taxes. Local TV should support itself by selling advertising. The CBC should not take government money if it competes against private broadcasters.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Karina Larocque* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

To me local television is my lifeline to my home town, it keeps me informed of what is going on. I was always under the impression the high price I pay for cable includes local service. No, I will not pay more to get local news, that has to be in the package.

[Flag](#)

Like

 *Rob Perreault* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I live in the Windsor area and am now being charged an additional fee each month for local programming, but have never recieved any local channels through my Bell TV service. It seems criminal to have a mandatory charge applied to my bill for a service that I didn't ask for and will never recieve.

Given the \$75/month that already pay for TV service (without any special channels for movies or sports), I would think that the LPIF should come from Bell.

And please ... stop Bell from posting the charge on my bill as a 'contribution' (Contribution Fee to CRTC's LPIF). Contributions are voluntary and the only way I can avoid this fee is to eat the cancellation fee on my 3 year contract.

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Like



Mavis Moore ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Local programming is very important to us. We need to know what is happening in our own community as well as the world. The local component is vital to the life blood of the community do not take that away from us.

[Flag](#)

Like



Ewa ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I watch my local news everyday and I am not interested in paying more for something I don't use

[Flag](#)

Like



Ewa ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I watch my local news everyday and I am not interested in paying more for something I don't use.

[Flag](#)

Like



Jenk ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. I do not watch local TV as the quality is poor in our area. I could not afford to pay any extra for my services.

2. If local TV was a separate subscription option it would have to improve quality to fight for market share. This would also give a truer picture of those who watch it

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Like



Cheri ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. I would NOT be happy to pay for local TV on top of our satellite service. The cable and satellite companies have been gouging the consumer for years. Greed is greed-corporate bottom lines do not need to be in the multi-millions. It's time the CRTC steps up to the plate and does their job - make them pay for local TV service. Local TV should be important to all Canadian consumers. Do you want our news media to be totally controlled by an American perspective as blatantly as the entertainment industry? As a rural resident in Saskatchewan, I'm sorry, I don't want my only news source to be NATIONAL (from either CTV or CBC) being broadcast from the so-called centre of Canadian universe - TORONTO. Our country is unique in its vastness and regionality; each area having its own issues that are important to them. Let these issues have a voice from a local broadcast station. If we don't, we will be further eroding any Canadian identity we have left.

2. Make THEM PAY. End of issue.

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Like



L.S. Owens ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I absolutely refuse to pay for local TV. I do not watch local TV but looked at it to see if there was value. There is no value. There are other venues for local clubs/associations/special interest groups to get their message out. They can go to the newspapers and the internet. It is not sustainable to bail out local TV. Local TV must be a business and not a charity. It must be able to support itself.

[Flag](#)

Like



Bob ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

We already pay too much for what we get on Cable. I agree that local TV needs some support

but am not prepared to pay more. In the beginning Cable and local TV needed each other. If cable wants to charge more to give local TV some revenue, then let me choose all of the channels I want to drop from my service and reduce my bill accordingly.

[Flag](#)

Like

 Sonya ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I fully support my local tv channels. Given the choice between watching a Toronto channel and my local Barrie one I always choose local. Do I think it's worth paying for? Yes!

Having said that I'm tired of paying as much as I do for my monthly satellite services when I can't stand 80% of the channels that I have to take as part of a "package deal". If I could pick and choose my channels then my local station would be one of the channels I'd choose.

[Flag](#)

Like

 rkg ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

- I would like to be treated as a "consumer with rights" and not as a hostage to any broadcaster.

- Let the free market forces of supply and demand make these decisions, and do not impose a regulated situation on the consumer. By not respecting my rights as a consumer, you are relegating me to being a hostage of the broadcasters!

- These companies were not set up as philanthropic ventures. They were business ventures undertaken with the goal to make profit. Inherent in the pursuit of profit is associated risk. There is the risk that the venture will not be wanted by consumers, and will fail. It is the assumption of risk that corresponds to the entitlement to make profit. However, when you distort this relationship to guarantee them profit (without having to assume risk), this removes the incentive and requirement for them to produce something that the consumer will want to watch. Giving them this tax revenue does not make them stronger and better able to compete, it makes them a perpetual welfare recipient. The only true way to determine that what they are delivering is wanted by the consumer, it to let the unrestricted market forces of supply and demand play out without interference.

- If the broadcasters expect to be able to charge for their signal, then I should have the right to opt-out of their channel, and not be charged for it. Let the free-market consumer-oriented forces of supply and demand determine whether they should get revenue. I resent being extorted money for programming I do not have any interest in watching.

- The argument I kept hearing on TV by the broadcasters was that their local content is wanted (which is completely lacking of proof), but they still seem to have no shortage of dollars to buy US programming, and depend on me being unable to view the originating signal from the preferred US network. Why is my right & privilege to see the original signal from a US source considered worth nothing, and their grasp to have me as a hostage to their signal important? End the practice of simulcasting! If they purchase a US signal, they should need to do something value-added to get me to watch it.

- Further, they should not have the privilege of their signal being simulcasted, and me as the consumer gets stuck with a lower-grade substitute with content removed from the original program (including next week's spoilers). A good example is the Super Bowl, where the commercials are part of the unique entertainment, but I do not get to see them because of simulcasting. Another example is Global's purchase of FOX programming -- they cut-out the highlights of next week's episodes that FOX always provides.

- The world will always change, and people like business must learn and be able to adapt. Please do not give the broadcasters their welfare. Please do not diminish my rights as a consumer. Please end the practice of simulcasting, and let me receive the originating signal.

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Hoss ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I am tired of the misinformation of the BDU's campaign. Cable is not "stealing" the local signals, they are mandated to carry them and must include them in basic cable packages. They have no choice BUT to carry them. The BDUs benefit far more from cable than vice versa. How many hundreds of millions of dollars has cable/sat. put into their infrastructure to carry and vastly improve the local signals? Now how much have the broadcasters put into improving their over the air signal? Not to mention how many more viewers do the local channels reach because of cable therefore increasing the amount they can charge for advertising?

If they want FFC, let them drop mandatory carriage and substitutions. Let people decide if they want locals and let that money go to them.

Flag

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Mr. A Hoecherl ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

My comments are in context of a few things. 1. From the context of low income Canadians, and the context of Adjudicated proceedings.

For starters.. this sort of public battle one side opposed etc THE CRTC should be ashamed of it self. There should be stronger regulation on such disrespectfull business conduct.

As Far as cost subsidy.. As taxpayers we allready spend millions in subsidy of a media system called the CBC. In the areana of private enterprise, disagree with any extra levy or charges to cover operating costs. Like any other private business in Canada you have to Inovate, and rise to the challenges or get out of business period. Just like the Car companies , if they expected Billions in support they had to Give up control of thier board of directors. Is CTV really wanting me to sit as the chairman of thier board? If they are making a pleading for the publics support are they prepared for a change at the board level? I don't thing so.. In Canada there are so many Executives that are making insane levels of compenstation, from power companies to Nortel. We should see beyond this little pocket lining scheme and refuse the wealthy another red nickle of easy money. Further more the cable companies would love to entertain this levy? Why? Well we all know what they would do, they would skim off thier own handling and admin charges and give thier own CEO another " WELL DESERVED" compensation increase. When will we learn? And to the arts community... voicing that they need local TV give me a break , what about radio and Newspaper.. The content in a small 5 minute broadcast about some theater show, Withstanding the pretty visual images, does not compare in volume of REAL content that the other two mediums offer, nor does it compar to the volume of content that can be made available on the Internet. Delivery of local news on the internet is not the exclusive pervue of the media companies. I referance the ground swell of support for Obama.. It was not done via CNN or NBC it was carried out by grass roots medium.,

So my bottom line is this:

Answer to Question 1: Paying for local TV on top or normal charges.

A. Ethically it's wrong. It runs against simple free enterprise principals. Also in the free market economy.. the Local stations have the ability to raise funding through advertising dollars. Further more I have have watched local TV and other than OMNI or ACCESS, the other stations have very little local content, all they do is Rebroadcast US TV Feeds.

2. Local TV could be returned to community funded TV Similar to PBS in the States.

Local TV could be forced to increase thier % of Local programming During prime hours. Change the structure of local TV to A non Profit (like the United way) Make it dependant on Charitable funding , arts funding, and make sure that the executives are paid only an Honoraium. Rather that big fat wages. The millions saved in executive salary would fund many smaller market stations. And to make the Non profit work, the Government could honor Contributions as Charitable contributions. YES then Many Canadians who are committe to this cause, would recieve a REAL tax Benifit.

Flag

Like



georgemcnamara ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I was with Bell express view for a number of years, and their rate kept going up and there programing kept getting worst. so I got rid of my dish network , and hooked up to the TV antina I

had on the roof,I recive three channels which is good enough for me.As far as I'am concern Local TV is just getting on the greed gravy train. TV signals have been free for more then sixty years,an the Local networks never talked about charging anyone for their signals ,until new that they see some other outfit making money from it.Greed is a mortal "SIN" it tells you in the *BIBLE*!

[Flag](#)

Like



soundbite00 ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I feel that I pay to much for TV and that it has alot of American content and not enough Canadian content. I want to be able to see more about Canadian progams and Local Channels. News about where I live is just as important to me as news about things that are broadcast on the National News programs. I do not wish to have to pay for this as I know that I pay for things that show up on my bill for TV that I do not know what it is for. It is time for us to get more value for what we are paying for. I am tired of lining the pockets of the Cable and Satelite Companies at the expence of Local TV. Please tell the Cable and Satelite Companies that it is time to pay for and support ALL LOCAL TV themselves not at our expense. Also that we have to be able to no keep paying more and more for less and less programming.

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Like



Maria ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I think we pay a LOT for TV now, rates keep going up but we never get any better service. We watch a lot of US channels but at 6:00 we never miss watching our news and the things that are making news in our area. Everyone needs to know what is going on in their areas. It is important. I don't want to pay more for my cable, I already pay almost more than I can afford. We live on a disability pension and there is not much room for a TV tax in the budget. TV is practically the only thing my husband can do, and he can't see it he has to hear it. I am totally appauled that none of my cable fee goes to local TV. Cable companies have again increased our rate and again we don't get any more for the money. Our cable company pisses me off. I don't like them constantly billing me more for nothing.

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Like



Randall McKenna ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Please... no more taxes. I f local Tv cannot survive on advertising revenues then to bad. i run a small business and i can't get the government to impose a tax to support my business.... why should TV stations?

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Like



jimgl ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

We are against the so-called "fee for carriage".
 You have already imposed a small market TV station levy. Fine.
 The small market stations that the two main conglomerates (CTV and Canwest) are threatening to close are really just the satellite stations that are left after they had been gutted by their new conglomerate owners. They are now primarily "rip and read" news stations with a minimum of local input and almost no local production other than the 6:00 PM news.
 There is no logical reason for the consumer to be expected to fund the conglomerates for dismantling local TV.
 The conglomerates, themselves, are primarily satellites of the US broadcast system. With the exception of the CBC, there is very little Canadian programming developed so jobs are not at stake.
 The conglomerates complain that their advertising revenues have dropped and look to you to replace these with what some call the "TV tax". The fact that these signals are carried far beyond their over-the-air broadcast contours extends their potential audience reach and, therefore, should increase their billing rates.
 There is no logical reason for the consumer to be expected to fund the conglomerates for the regrettable losses due to an overall economic downturn. It would be dreaming to suppose that

these folks would drop their subsidies and lower their fees when the economy turns around. The conglomerates are making money. They complain about the decrease in viewership because of the fragmentation of the television viewing audience. In a major way, they are really complaining about themselves. They own the bulk of the specialty channels that contribute to the audience fragmentation. They still have the viewers, just not as many on the over-the-air segment.

There is no logical reason for the consumer to be expected to fund the conglomerates to make up for the reduction of their over-the-air profit component of their operations. The regulator must consider the totality of each company, including its specialty units. A current example is GE's recent sale of NBC Universal to Comcast. The two parties and commentators all recognize the weakness of the NBC broadcast component but put the value of the company on the successful specialty channel side of the corporation.

Finally, there is no logical reason for the consumer to be expected to fund the conglomerates' debt and foreign programming purchases.

If you recognize none of the above and decide to tax us, above what you have already levied, for further private corporation subsidies, we must be allowed to opt out of the channels that we do not want.

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 [jimgl](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

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 [lizette boekelman](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Pay for local TV stations? I was under the impression that this was included in my basic cable package. Cable companies should start paying local stations the money they collect from me.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[175803](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

i dont think that we as canadians should have to help the broadcasters out .we pay to much now for what they call good programs

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[jbondc](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1) If you were asked to pay for local TV on top of what you already pay for your cable and satellite services?

NO! We already pay enough "fees" as it is, there needs to be more competition in the market. I want to pay for what "I use". From I understand, they should be making enough money from advertising.

If they can't cover costs with advertising, clearly Canadians are not interested. On top of that, I don't expect "local tv" to be making abundant profits.

2) It's not very clear "what we pay already"

How much of our incomes taxes goes to the CRTC and local television already (in millions) ?

I do not want to pay for something I don't watch!

If like the local TV stations, I will pay for them.

On demand television is the future.

The CRTC should FORCE cable companies to offer channels individually. I should be able to pay for 3 channels or 15 channels or 31 channels...

If cable co's want to make bundle's, that's fine but let me chose channels I want and don't want.

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[hughgagnon](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I've had the privelege of working across this entire continent in my 30yr career. What I find sad is that too many local stations have had to close the doors, only for the larger cable companies to take over. In the US many cable companies are worried that the new administration will mandate a "Back to local television", "Back to local radio".

In our beautiful country, we are SO spread out that local tv does not have the market it needs to keep it financially strong into the future. Cable of course is not restricted to it's market. The decision is ours! Do we say good bye to what we knew when our forefathers gathered at the churches to get the news of what had happened in the area....to our loved ones.....our friends....our neighbours!

We pay for CBC because being in such a huge country no private carrier could possibly offer news in places like Nunavut, or Whitehorse without going broke the first year! They just don't have the population to sustain a local station.

No! For all the tax increases, and abuse of our hard earned dollars, I still want to know how you all are doing, how I can help in times of stress, and how my community is faring when all looks dark and lost. Local TV helps us all gather at our churches!

[Flag](#)[Like](#)[lyle busch](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

In rural Sask. I know of several families that can't afford cable or satellite tv. They only have the antennae on the roof and get cfqc-tv and cbc.It would be a shame if they would have to rely only on radio. That would be a shame for some not so rich families to have to bring their

families up without tv.

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Like



SANDY JAMIESON ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

The only time I watch local TV is for the news and that isn't even worth watching as they only have about a few minutes of local newsworthy information. The rest is stuff I can hear on the radio. I don't want to pay to watch it. If necessary I'll get bunny ears on one of my TV's to catch local channels but don't want to pay as part of a cable package. We already pay for too many channels we don't want or watch. Local TV needs to do the public service route and go for donations like PBS does. If we watch any shows its from American channels not the Canadian local ones.

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Like



Barry Klinger ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I think it is imperative that Canada allows local TV broadcasts. We are flooded with US program content which has a huge influence on our daily lives. We need to make every effort to maintain some semblance of individuality, however difficult this may seem. TV broadcasting companies are getting larger, smaller ones are getting swallowed up, program content is questionable in many cases and the US influence is increasingly ever present. We need to be able to have the ability to switch this off if we choose.

Yes, if I would pay for local TV. However, I would not like this to become another 'cash cow'. It would work for me if local TV charges were a part of every cable/satellite TV broadcaster's basic plan.

[Flag](#)

Like



cecilcode ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I do not wish to pay another \$10.00 a month for local TV. I feel they are making a profit and with all the advertizing that is incorporated with each program they should be making millions in profit. I pay enough for my tv programing without having to pay more for what I call poor programing with very little Canadian content.

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GeorgeToronto ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

So, how come there's no plan to charge people who don't even have cable? The people aren't getting targetted for this cash grab. But if people have cable, they're automatically fleeced. Faulty logic perhaps?

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GeorgeToronto ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Private TV stations that can't make money should get out of the business.

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Like



GeorgeToronto ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

People can cancel cable and watch TV stations with their antennae. So, does the CRTC want to fleece these people, too? If not, why not !!!!! Just because someone has cable/satellite TV, they're going to get fleeced, but not the smart ones watching TV for free with their antennae? I think they should consider equal-opportunity fleecing ... charge EVERYONE this ridiculous fee, or no one.

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Like



Beth ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

We pay for Cable and should not have to pay more for local news . We NEED to be able to know what is happening locally for everyday information , if it is local health , :ie H1NI clinics , accidents that may involve loved ones , weather in our area is very important to everyone . Many people are on a set income and cannot afford to pay more . What do they give up now--- eating properly ??

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Like



John Stoneman ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I believe the articles in todays Toronto Star accurately capture what are the issues in todays system. The networks pay too much for US shows and the cable guys charge too much and their service is terrible. I found it very strange that CFTO can run ads saying that CTV needs more money and at the same time having spent money to redo their set for the 6 o'clock news. CRTC needs to get into the details of both sides and not be afraid to air the inefficiencies of both!

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Like



William Hepburn ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. Since I already get local Canadian and US HDTV for free via OTA and have cable strictly for the specialty SD cable channels, I would react negatively to an increase in my cable bill for a channel that I already receive for free, especially considering that the over-compressed SD cable quality is much inferior to OTA HD. At the very least, the basic cable package should include local HDTV signals.

2. The CRTC could support local television better by a) not denying legitimate TV applications, such as TVN Niagara, by using hypothetical financial forecasts. Our metro area of 450,000 deserves a local TV station - someone was willing to build one - the CRTC shouldn't take the role of a banker, let the applicant take the risk, if the station fails, so be it; b) opening up calls for new TV applications and not constantly give the existing stations a free ride - who says the existing stations aren't lazy and that a new kid on the block could provide needed competition. The CRTC argument against new competition because of limited ad dollars has resulted in stagnant monopolies we see, especially in smaller cities. The CRTC protects existing stations much more than is required; c) limit the number of network-owned stations as is the case in the US. Allowing CTV to buy out the local affiliates has hurt local TV and turned all the stations into clones of Toronto & Vancouver; d) enforce Industry Canada's BETS-11 for local station identification. Canadians don't even realize they have a local station because of the vague network IDs that have no local mention. i.e.- "CKCO Kitchener" rather than just "CTV".

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Like



cornmatthew ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. I do not believe that 'local' TV is valuable enough to justify an additional charge on cable bills. Programming on local stations consists largely of American shows and local news. Local news shows are poor enough in quality that I rarely find myself watching them. There are plenty of other outlets for American shows.

2. Very little should be done. Global and CTV claim that they'll be forced to close local stations if they don't get additional funds. They're private companies formed to make money out of the public airwaves. If they can't do that, let them close and give somebody else a go.

If there's a feeling that assistance is needed to preserve Canadian culture on the airwaves, give the money to the CBC to make Canadian shows. The BBC is a good model here: quality programming with no commercials raises the bar for everybody. Don't give the money to private companies who'll send it straight to Hollywood.

[Flag](#)

 *catherinecharron* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I know that local tv is important to me. I like to know what is happening in Ottawa and the surrounding areas. however I am already paying my cable company for these stations and I will not pay twice for local tv. I would rather do with out cable and stick with local programing.

regards

merry christmas and happy new year

[Flag](#)

 *Peter Clark* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. "Local TV", as it currently exists in Canada, is a joke. It consists almost exclusively of local news shows that are not even locally produced. Local news anchors sit in front of a green screen and everything is dropped in from somewhere else. I should not be asked to pay more for cable service due to the incompetence of CTV/Global/CBC. If they can't make money, go out of business and let someone else try.

2. Nothing more. Enough is being gouged from consumers already with the LPIF. This money only feeds the habit of CTV/Global to buy more US programming and will do nothing to help "Local TV"

[Flag](#)

 *ckc* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

CBC should be able to charge just like any other crown corp like canada post and air canada. No more free lunches in this world....we all pay one way or another. And we pay for others who can not.

[Flag](#)

 *ckc* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I would not want to ever loose local television and radio so if charging someone someplace is our future than so be it. Not happy with satellites coverage of local stations but need their signals to get any tv. CBC is part of our National heritage and responsibility to cover the costs for freedom of information for all Canadians. And to hear both sides of the coin, ying yang!

[Flag](#)

 *danielwilliams* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I worked for three years for EastLink Television Productions in Nova Scotia as an Assistant Producer. I know that actual local TV is, not what the big networks pretend that it is. Local TV is TV produced in small markets, with local small community studios and local talent and local stories. A few brief news bits about some small towns in Nova Scotia and NB thrown out from a centralized studio (Moncton by Global, for example) doesn't count! I would gladly pay the extra money, if I knew that that funding would be poured back into such television producers to assist with wages, equipment and more locally produced TV shows, such as what EastLink Television already does here in Nova Scotia. That's why this extra tax is needed, but one one condition - not one red cent should go to the big broadcasters, but the local stations!

[Flag](#)

 *Kev* ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. Id pay it, just like I pay all these stupid fees on everything. Eco fees that do nothing, service charges, extra charge for this, extra for that. Just shove your hands more and more into our pockets! Local TV is terrible. That's why it has bad ratings. It's so insanely boring. I can't even

sit through a local news team for more than 10 minutes without laughing my face off and changing the station.

2. Let them rot. Our tax money already pays for our beloved biased CBC. If Local TV wants to do better, then they should probably work on their content. I don't see why people who don't even use their services should have to pay for them. That's not how business is meant to work.

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Like



Kev ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I'd also like to mention, if anyone has noticed, that localtvmatters.ca website is a complete sham. The whole website is completely BIASED so that local tv can try and make Canadians THINK that other Canadians feel the exact same way. The only quotes and comments that they allow are ones on the side of local TV. They also filter their twitter so that anyone who doesn't agree with them can't debate. That website makes me absolutely sick! If local TV is so poor then why can they advertise their sham of a website 1000 times a day AND NOT JUST ON LOCAL TV STATIONS!!! I've seen their ads on showcase! crooked crooked people

[Flag](#)

Like



lowellvessey ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

We have not had truly local television in Saint John, New Brunswick for years. In fact, all three networks have their feeds from Halifax, Nova Scotia. I do not want to pay more on my monthly bill for a service that has already been removed from my city and province! I don't know if any measures can or should be taken to "save" local TV. If I want to know what is going on in my city, I listen to the radio. Otherwise, I watch the national feeds on satellite.

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Like



larrypeters ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

1. CKCO TV Kitchener is our closest broadcaster. However I do not consider them to be "local TV". After all how much local programming do they really do? A newscast? That's hardly local TV. Everything else is network feed. As far as the news, we are 20 minutes from Kitchener and unless there is a fire or a murder, they do not cover our area. When I think of Local TV, I think of our cable companies Community Channel. As broadcaster decrease the amount of local TV the Community Channel provides news, sports and event coverage of our area.

I wouldn't miss local TV provided by CTV. In my view, Bell shouldn't be buying up all of the channels like A and Chum who did an excellent job at providing local TV and then cry that they need money. If it wasn't for cable distribution they would still be broadcasting to a small area with minimal advertising revenues. Now we can watch programming at CTV.ca. Who provides the bandwidth for that? The cable company. It seems that the cable company loses regardless. Let's keep the Status Quo.

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Like



Kristian Kurnadi ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

To : CRTC

Hi I'm Kris,

Speaking from my angle, the improvement for local tv programmings can be done financially and strategically by tv stations using a portion of their billions of dollars of profits that have been accumulated in the last decades. I strongly believe CRTC can not just charge 1.5% on tv stations' revenues that resulted in the additional fee that tv consumers have to carry without first consult with the tv stations. Furthermore, the improvement of local tv programming in the market of 1 million people or less should be able to be carried by CRTC with mutual collaboration by major tv station networks in our nation without need a single cent fee from consumers because I believe both CRTC and tv stations have more than enough profits from which a portion of that profits can be allocated to improve the tv programmings. If profits are allocated rationally with the long-term vision to create values for the consumers and (very

important) to keep unnecessary expenses low, then you won't need any form of subsidy - because subsidy can only make you weak (financially), not strong.

If you think in the best interest of canadian consumers, it would be wise to consider to free canadians from paying extra fees for the local tv programming fund.

Thank you CRTC.

Kristian - Ontario (North York)

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Like

 [rfdtvfan](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

There is no way we should be paying for local TV. Local broadcasters have lost touch with the community and overspent on buying US programing. They do not deserve a bailout. If push comes to shove, let me choose which local channels I want. In my market, there are at least five, but only one deserves support.

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 [sdwalks](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

The key is that the cable company must distribute the "Local" stations. Why should the cable company pay a media company that is hitching a free ride. In Vancouver/Burnaby we can receive only one station with an TV aerial. All of the other "Local Stations" do not broadcast a signal that can be clearly received anywhere in the lower mainland. They are getting a free ride. They don't have to build adequate broadcast facilities because the cable, telephone and satellite companies must carry their signal.

The money problems that the media companies are having is completely due to them spending too much to try and control every single media source. Why should I watch news on TV when I read exactly the same story, by the same reporter, with exactly the same words in the newspaper owned by the company that owns both?

Is there some weird rule that says a recent show is not Canadian content, but a show that I watched as a child is exempt? Is that why I am subjected to MASH, Three's Company, etc.?

I don't watch the local channels because I already saw all those shows. If the carrier of my signal didn't have to carry those channels, I wouldn't have to click my way through them when looking for something that isn't a rerun, a reality show, or an infomercial.

I pay \$104.60 a month to Shaw Cable. I am a pensioner who gets \$1508.28 per month in income. That bill is already where I resent paying it for what I get. If it increases, I simply will not be paying for TV. I can learn how to get the shows I want to watch off of the Internet, it can't be that much harder than reading the newspaper online.

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 [sdwalks](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#) [in reply to sdwalks](#)

As I weeded through the mass of comments that have appeared in my email, one theme keeps reoccurring.

Why do people have the idea that cable is a monopoly? They are not. I can get TV from Telus, Shaw, Bell Express Vu or Star Choice. However, all of them MUST carry the channels the CRTC has designated "Local Channels" despite the fact only one of them has a transmitter placed so that most people can get the channel with an TV aerial.

Talk about really insulting reverse option billing. The companies must carry the channel, now the channels want to also force the companies to pay for being forced to carry the channel. AND, I as a consumer, must pay for a channel that I won't watch.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [jquest21](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Why should I have to pay additional charges to get something on cable which is free over the air with an antenna?

They are already getting all the benefits of being able to cut over other channels to add their own commercial content.

I am not happy to pay more. I am not really happy as it is to have to support channels that basically no one wants to watch. Not saying local channels per se, but there are many more channels...that we basically have to pay to keep afloat. Supply and demand. If not making the cut, they should go away.

[Flag](#)

Like

 [Andrew](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

The CBC shut down Local Television Stations in 1990 that were in LIBERAL ridings across Canada. CBIT in SYDNEY N.S. is one example. The CBC receives 1.2 Billion Dollars a year from the TAXPAYER in subsidies. The CRTC should have called for an expression of interest in all markets that CTV and CBC abandoned and DENIED them permission to sell local advertising in those markets unless they provide LOCAL programming!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!A

[Flag](#)

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 [briandeathe](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I would agree with the fact that local TV needs funding. From where?? I am not sure. I have lived in the Annapolis valley since 1969, and have never had great reception from the CTV network. CBC works good, but CTV needs an external antenna just to get Halifax programming. But then again, I don't know if there is such a thing as local programming. It has been many years since I can recall a supertime news show coming from Halifax. Now it is Maritime News.

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people all over the country are having a tough time and here is another attempt to squeeze the last pennies out of them. why should the funding of local tv be separated from the millions made in profit from popular programs ?

the tragedy of this discussion is that in the end the consumer always pays and big business always laughs its way to the bank.

what we need are honest and committed career regulators who are not afraid to stand up to lobbyists and pass the laws that make both tv channels and cable operators give something back for the millions they are making.

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 [Sarnian](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

Local TV is non existent here in Sarnia. Whatever local coverage was available at one time was useless. I get more from the local cable channel. I am totally against paying any fee to the television companies period. Let them die if they can't survive.

Keep CBC but set it up on the same model as TVO. No advertising, strictly government grant and donations.

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 [VanIslander](#) ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I do not agree with cable companies being charge to rebroadcast local stations. Local stations are free with an antenna so I would object to being charged for what is free. (Originally one of the reasons for cable was to get rid of antennas on roofs.) I would object to having two local stations charging me to receive their signal. We already are charged to support Canadian productions for broadcast.

Look at how to encourage and develop true local ownership and control similar to how CHECK Victoria (and others) have recently. Paying for 'local TV' as it is now is just going back to a large multifaceted communications company in Ontario.

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Victoria ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

I already have access to excellent, pertinent local TV through my subscriptions to my cable provider. They have a channel dedicated to community/local issues and events. I strongly object to the proposal of so-called "local networks" to have cable companies levy additional fees to support their "local" programming. All of these Canadian networks rely heavily on American programming for their menus and their offering of Canadian content is abysmal. If they truly want to provide Canadian content and to be treated equitably, then they should revise their business model which obviously isn't working effectively. When your spending exceeds your income (ie revenue), adjustment is critical for survival! Every responsible citizen knows that and acts accordingly! Successful organizations who plan to survive economic challenges and crises, do so by having their fingers on the pulse, being pro-active relative to flexing their strategies and then implement and operate accordingly.

Enough of the crybaby ads claiming "no fair".... Please insist that, if these networks want equitable treatment, they can have it by being treated like everyone else and not relying on our government mandating that their poor business practices be subsidized by already drained consumers. Enough is enough!

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1. if you charge (via subscription) you have to let consumers decide if they want the channel or not. Perhaps smaller regional stations should reduce hours to save money and carry national programs except for news which is in demand locally.
2. Current ad revenue is likely not sustainable with prerecorded video service. you might have to work toward more subscription based pay for service.

Pam

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Jim Brown ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

TV locally is having enough trouble. They don't need more from cable companies!

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Chris Codrington ★ [3 weeks ago](#)

My cable bill (the basic package plus one small additional level) is my LARGEST monthly bill. I know I have the choice NOT to have any cable, however I believe the media exposure we are all part of should be reflective of local news items, issues and stories of human interest. Why charge a premium for this - expensive imported programming appears to aim for the lowest common denominator, not to mention giving Canadians a very limited choice of talented performers and journalists.

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