

A Resolution on Community Television
Presented by the BCLA Information Policy Committee to the AGM April 2005

Moved by Heather Morrison/Seconded by Deborah Hutchison

Whereas, in many parts of the world, Canada is recognized as the birthplace of the community channel;

And Whereas, cable companies in Canada are permitted to charge a levy of 5% of gross subscription revenues to support community television, amounting to substantial sums: \$80 million annually across the country, \$5 million in the Vancouver area alone;

And Whereas, a Parliamentary Committee has expressed dismay about lack of information on how this money is spent, while community groups report that their access to air time has been severely curtailed;

And Whereas, the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage report: *Our Cultural Sovereignty*, includes two important recommendations for community television: 9.1, which requires, not just recommends greater access, and 9.8 establishing the Local Broadcasting Initiative Program to fund community television;

Be It Therefore Resolved that BCLA ask the Government of Canada to implement recommendations 9.1 and 9.8 of *Our Cultural Sovereignty*.