

June 2, 2009

907 Alness Street
Toronto, Ontario
M3J 2J1
Attention: Mr. Slava Levin

The Canadian Radio-television and
Telecommunications Commission
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N2

Re. Notice 2009-254,

This is a brief in regards to the CRTC notice 2009-254 that was placed on the CRTC's Website for Aljazeera English. The current letter is a declaration of RyeTSA's (Ryerson Tamil Students' Association) support for Al Jazeera English to be able to be allowed to broadcast to Canadians, and for its highly regarded news channel to be made broadly available across Canada.

One of the many factors RyeTSA greatly admires about Al-jazeera English News is its tendency to highlight the perspective of the poorest people to its North American viewers. The viewpoints of developing communities are often untouched in discussion on global issues. The Aljazeera programming provides proper recognition to cultural subgroups wherever they may be; important peoples that go unnoticed by most news channels.

It's a sad reality that Canadians have such little choice when it comes to news channels in our country. We find that not only are the news choices very limited, but much of the media is controlled by a limited number of large corporations. The existing Canadian media is far too complacent when it comes to reporting news fairly and equally. We are long overdue for the greater variety that Aljazeera will bring.

We trust that the CRTC regulators offices will take note of our wishes, and those of countless Canadians like the RyeTSA members who are anxious for a well-balanced and representative international news channel on cable. RyeTSA wholeheartedly encourages you to approve of Al Jazeera English's application, to enable it to broadcast freely in Canada as rapidly as possible. Canada badly needs the insight and perspective to global events that AJE will bring.

Yours truly,

Kajananth Thirunavakkarasu
President – Ryerson Tamil Students' Association