
APPENDIX

CBSC File 09/10-1834 CP24 re 30th Annual Pride Parade

The Complaint

The following complaint was sent to the CRTC on July 4, 2010 and forwarded to the CBSC in due course:

At 14:00 on Sunday, July 4, 2010, CP24 broadcast a live program of the Pride Parade in Toronto and repeated this program at 20:00 that evening. Although the program was preceded by a warning of nudity, I feel that it was an inappropriate program to be broadcast live at 14:00 on Sunday and also that the rebroadcast at 20:00 is also too early in the TV schedule for this type of programming.

Broadcaster Response

The broadcaster replied to the complainant on July 22:

Dear Ms. S.,

I am responding to your email, forwarded to CP24 by the Canadian Broadcast Standard Council (CBSC) on July 14, in which you express concern about nudity shown during our live broadcast of the Pride Parade on Sunday July 4, 2010.

Before I address your specific concern it should be noted that CP24 follows the Canadian Association of Broadcasters' (CAB) *Code of Ethics*, *Code of Violence* and the Radio Television News Directors Association (RTNDA) of Canada's *Code of Ethics*. (If you would like to review the CAB and RTNDA codes, you may do so at www.cbsc.ca).

CP24 is a 24-hour news station that regularly broadcasts live cultural festivities taking place across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). The Pride Toronto Festival is an annual event attended by over a million people that exists to celebrate the history, courage, diversity, and future of Toronto's LGBTTIQQ2SA* communities. (*Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer/Questioning, 2 Spirited, Allies.) It is a positive and inspiring event held in the spirit of diversity and acceptance.

Anticipating that some in the community attend wearing provocative attire, a viewer advisory was aired at the beginning of the program, coming out of each commercial break, and leading into the live segment that stated: "The following is a live event and may contain scenes of nudity. Viewer discretion is advised."

Care was taken by our live television crew to minimize the amount of nudity shown. However, as it is a prevalent component of the event and arguably of Pride culture, some

brief shots were included in our coverage. We do not feel that nudity in this context is problematic as brief shots are not exploitative or gratuitous, but are aired in the context of a specific culture's celebration. As stated above, the coverage was accompanied by an appropriate viewer advisory alerting our viewers of material they may find offensive.

The CBSC has also ruled in previous decisions that nudity alone (without sexual contact or activity) is not problematic for viewing outside of the Watershed period which runs from 9 pm to 6 am.

I hope this response has been helpful. CP24 is proud to be a member in good standing of the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council and adheres to its policies and guidelines.

Additional Correspondence

The complainant responded to the broadcaster on July 22 with the following:

Thank you for your response. My complaint focused on the time the program was broadcast (weekend afternoon live at 14:00 and taped version at 20:00) and not the content. Even with the station's viewer advisory I do not feel that it was appropriate to be shown at those times.

She then filed a Ruling Request on August 9:

I had initially contacted the station directly; however, I did not receive a response until the CBSC was contacted. The program not only included visual concerns for the viewer but also verbal discussion by the presenters, for example, discussing sex trade workers. My concern was the time the live program was aired at 14:00 and a taped version at 20:00.