

Recognizing the structure of the campaign and the fact that political discussion within Quebec at that time will centre almost exclusively on the referendum question, the Board of Directors of the CBC has decided to suspend the regular federal and provincial free time broadcasts within Quebec during the formal campaign period. They will, of course, continue in the rest of Canada.

Paid Commercial Messages

The Board of Directors of the CBC has also reviewed the question of selling air time to individuals or groups during the referendum discussions. It sees no evident or compelling reason to change the CBC's longstanding policy of not selling air time for the presentation of points of view on matters of public debate.

The CBC has always felt that the airwaves entrusted to Canada's national broadcaster should not be sold for this purpose. To allow the purchase of air time opens unanswerable questions on the right of others to reply and it flies in the face of the CBC's longstanding policy to safeguard the full and balanced interchange of opinion and discussion.