

3. In its report the Royal Commission agreed that the principles underlying the Government policy of 1949 "are well calculated to serve the needs and interests of the Canadian people". The Commission strongly recommended the development of a national system of television broadcasting. It recommended specifically that the CBC proceed with plans for the production of television programs in French and English, and for national coverage. It also recommended that all private stations licensed be required to serve as outlets for national programs.

The Commission recommended that the capital costs of the national television system be provided from public money by parliamentary grants, and that the costs of the system for programs and current needs "be provided by licence fees on television receiving sets at rates recommended by the Board of Governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and approved by Parliament, by commercial revenues, and by such statutory grants as may be necessary."

4. The House of Commons Committee of 1951 said:

"Your Committee is strongly impressed with the vital need for the development of a television system that is essentially Canadian and which gives expression in this new form of broadcasting to Canadian ideas and aspirations. It agrees with the Royal Commission that the situation must be avoided under which commercial pressures will lead to the major part of the material on Canadian channels being non-Canadian. Your Committee supports the recommendations of the Royal Commission regarding television development and your Committee recommends that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation proceed as soon as practicable with the extension of television coverage."

5. In May 1952 the Corporation submitted to the Government a plan for the development of a nationwide television system. This was to consist of CBC stations and production centres at key points across the country as a basic framework, with individual private stations in other areas, all extending coverage of the national system and affiliated to it. The Corporation estimated that such a nationwide system could be developed and supported through the years at a cost of approximately \$15.00 per television home per year, together with commercial revenues. It estimated that this amount would provide for a basis of Canadian programming and for coverage of about 75 percent of the Canadian population.

6. In the Fall of 1952, the Government approved and announced the plan for development of the nationwide television system. In a statement of Government policy on December 8th, in the House of Commons, Dr. McCann said:

"The Government believes, with the Royal Commission, that television should be developed in Canada with the aim of benefiting our national life and that it should have the structure and the means required by Canadian conditions to ensure an adequate amount of suitable Canadian programs for Canadians as well as using some material from outside the country. Television will undoubtedly play a considerable part in the lives of many Canadian families. It is bound to have a strong effect on the growing minds of young people watching it in their own homes. The Government believes it should be so developed in Canada that it is capable of providing a sensible pattern of programming for Canadian homes with at least a good portion of Canadian content reflecting Canadian ideas and creative abilities of our own people and life in all parts of Canada."