

Maintaining independent ad-free public media is extremely important to me as a Canadian. I am proud of the CBC and think they do excellent reporting. I lived in the USA for many years where public media is (proportionately) much smaller than in Canada and I can say that I prefer the Canadian model. NPR in the USA has been forced to take on commercial ads, creating conflicts of interest: for example, it's hard for NPR to cover the fossil fuel industry honestly since they are underwritten by the American Natural Gas Alliance.

Additionally, Canada should support small scale independent media outlets across Canada, perhaps through the creation of a large number of small grants to Canadian digital media start-ups. This could be as small as a few thousand dollars to help an individual run a blog. It's important to promote new voices in a new era, rather than spending all of the money attempting to prop up legacy media companies.