



Communiqué

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Private Radio Honours The Trews, K-OS, George Canyon, Ron Sexsmith and more of Canada's hottest up-and-coming music artists

Toronto, March 5, 2005 – Canada's private radio broadcasters and the Canadian Association of Broadcasters (CAB) honoured Canada's hottest up-and-coming music artists at the 8th annual Canadian Radio Music Awards (CRMA) held during Canadian Music Week.

"The CRMAs recognize some of the best and most promising new musical talent Canada has to offer," said Glenn O'Farrell, President and CEO of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters. "Private radio broadcasters' continued commitment to supporting and encouraging Canada's up-and-coming artists plays an essential role in helping them on their road to success."

"On behalf of Canada's private radio broadcasters, I want to congratulate this year's winners and nominees of the CRMAs," said Gary Slaight, President and CEO of Standard Broadcasting Corporation and one of the founders of the CRMAs. "We are proud to play a role in the rise of these new Canadian music stars by providing them with name and song recognition, driving CD sales and on-air promotion of tours and musical events. Our commitment is unflinching."

The CRMAs honour first-time top-charted artists in different radio formats. The winners are determined by votes from radio station program and music directors and on-air personalities from across Canada. Nominees are selected based on radio "spins" in different radio formats as recorded by Broadcast Data Systems (BDS) for one year.

Three non-voting awards were also presented during the 2005 CRMA: the FACTOR "Breakthrough" Award for most airplay for a new artist; the SOCAN Songwriter Award for most airplay for a songwriter; and the Chart Topper Award for most airplay overall. See below for the complete list of the 2004 CRMA winners.

Again this year the CRMAs, hosted by radio personality Carla Collins, included the Fans' Choice Award that was awarded, for a third consecutive year, to Avril Lavigne. Radio listeners from across the country could vote online for their favourite radio artist at the Canadian Music Week Website.

Canadian private radio contributed over \$40 million from 1999 to 2004 to talent development initiatives such as the CRMAs, the Radio Starmaker Fund / Fonds RadioStar, and FACTOR / MUSICACTION to name only a few.

About Canadian Music Week

Canadian Music Week is the single largest entertainment initiative in Canada dedicated to the expression and growth of the country's media and entertainment industries. CMW combines two information-intensive conferences; a cutting-edge trade exposition; five awards shows and the Canadian Music Week Festival. Held over a four-day period from March 2 to 5 in Toronto, the event attracts participants from across the country and around the world.

About the Canadian Association of Broadcasters

The Canadian Association of Broadcasters (CAB) is the national voice of Canada's private broadcasters, representing the vast majority of Canadian programming services, including private radio and television stations, networks, specialty, pay and pay-per-view services.

For more information, please contact the Canadian Association of Broadcasters:

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Best New Group or Solo Artist (ROCK)

THE TREWS — *NOT READY TO GO*

Best New Group or Solo Artist (CHR)

K-OS — *CRABBUCKIT*

Best New Group or Solo Artist (COUNTRY)

GEORGE CANYON — *GOOD DAY TO RIDE*

Best New Group or Solo Artist (HOT AC)

K-OS — *CRABBUCKIT*

Best New Group or Solo Artist (MAINSTREAM AC)

RON SEXSMITH — *WHATEVER IT TAKES*

DANCE URBAN RHYTHMIC

K-OS — *CRABBUCKIT*

FACTOR "BREAKTHROUGH" AWARD

AARON PRITCHETT

SONGWRITER AWARD Sponsored by SOCAN

FINGER ELEVEN "ONE THING" WRITERS: SCOTT ANDERSON AND JAMES BLACK

"CHART TOPPER" AWARD

SHANIA TWAIN

FANS' CHOICE AWARD

AVRIL LAVIGNE