

Copyright Reform Strategy

Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA)

(Approved by CCA Board of Governors: October 20, 2006)

The engagement of the CCA in the area of copyright goes beyond the immediate questions surrounding the impending round of legislative revisions. Indeed, Copyright issues are virtually present in almost every public policy file the CCA addresses as priorities, namely:

- Canadian ownership and content rules,
- Taxation of artists and creators,
- International trade agreements,
- Funding of artists and the arts,
- Building a creative economy,
- Internet based creation, distribution and access issues for artistic and creative content.

The Board of the CCA has therefore endorsed the following statement of fundamental copyright principles that it will use as the basis of all interventions with the federal government and Parliament on cultural policy issues:

- The CCA's determination to continue to promote the "droit d'auteur" model as the most responsible basis for copyright policy. The CCA will promote the primacy of copyright owners, be they artists, creators, or producers, as the final arbiter for the negotiation of rights payments, terms of use, and enforcement thereof.
- The CCA will not promote or endorse any exemption to the legislated provisions of the *Copyright Act*.
- The CCA will continue to promote the exemption of copyright income revenue from federal income tax.
- The CCA will, within the resources available to the organization, promote public and sectoral awareness of the centrality of contemporary copyright provisions to a healthy creative and artistic sector in Canadian society.
- The CCA continues to endorse the principle of collective rights management as the administrative mechanism of choice for copyright owners and to facilitate reasonable access to copyright users.
- The CCA will consult with key stakeholders in the copyright community before finalizing any submission, commentary, or proposal to Government, the arts cultural sector, or Parliament.



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