



CANADIAN PUBLISHERS' COUNCIL



Canadian Educational
Resources Council

10:00 a.m.

September 29, 2011

Publishing associations welcome Reintroduction of Copyright Modernization Act (Bill C-11)

The Canadian Publishers' Council (CPC) and the Canadian Educational Resources Council (CERC) are pleased that the Government has undertaken to reintroduce the proposed legislation swiftly upon its return to Parliament. This demonstrates a clear understanding of the need to amend the current Copyright Act to bring it more in line with our times. It is imperative that creators and producers who make works available can confidently invest and innovate in copyright works —particularly in this rapidly evolving marketplace and the digital world.

When Bill C-32 was introduced on June 2, 2010 we applauded the forward strides taken toward ratification of the WIPO digital treaties and the full frontal attack on piracy. Clauses that addressed the need to secure respect for the use of Technological Protection Measures (TPMs), and exert some authority on internet service provider sites were welcomed.

At that time we also expressed our concerns about the ramifications of wording in those sections of the Bill related to 'education as a purpose for Fair Dealing' and to the proposed permission of digital acts within the Inter-library Loan (ILL) section of the current Act. We believe that the serious harm that could befall writing and publishing from the wording of those sections was unintended. The Ministers' background documents stated clearly that there was no intent to amend the current legislation in a manner that would provide for free what had previously been fee-based uses of copyright works. The new background documents for C-11 effectively restate that.

David Swail, Immediate Past-President of the CPC (President, McGraw-Hill Ryerson Limited) said today, "We have been assured that the Government is prepared to entertain technical amendments that will clarify language and will allow Government to achieve its objectives at the same time as ensuring that the indigenous publishing industry can continue to produce original Canadian content in all formats for the education of students from kindergarten through post-graduate studies."

We look forward to working with the Legislative Committee and the officials of the Honourable Ministers Paradis and Moore. "We are confident that technical amendments to bring additional clarity to the Copyright Modernization Act will serve the interest of all stakeholders", Gerry McIntyre, Executive

Director, CERC and Jacqueline Hushion, Executive Director, CPC said in a joint statement today, "because, in the final analysis, we all benefit from strong and precise copyright legislation that provides incentives to protect rights holders while advancing education in this highly competitive knowledge economy".

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