



**CANADIAN PRIVATE COPYING COLLECTIVE**

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**30-03-23** - The Canadian Private Copying Collective, our member collectives, and rights-holders from across Canada are disappointed in the Government of Canada's inaction in Budget 2023. Despite its commitment to long-overdue copyright reform in Budget 2022, a year later the Government continues to fail Canada's recorded music sector by not bringing the private copying regime into the 21st century.

A functioning, modern copyright framework is a critical building block to a thriving artistic sector. Rights-holders with predictable, healthy royalty streams produce both cultural riches and employment and investment opportunities for creators, labels, publishers, managers, recording engineers, live music venues, and thousands of other Canadians from coast to coast to coast.

Unfortunately, Canada's private copying regime is an international outlier that continues to leave rights-holders unpaid for billions of unlicensed copies of their work stored on everyday devices like smartphones and tablets. Without an update to the *Copyright Act* to make the regime technologically neutral, right-holders will continue to suffer.

In a cost-of-living crisis, annual royalties from the private copying regime have plummeted from \$38 million in 2004 to less than \$1 million in 2021 – even though annual copying activity has more than doubled, and large international technology companies take in huge profits every year from making private copying possible.

The Government has committed to engaging meaningfully in copyright reform. The Liberals promised it in their platform. The Prime Minister tasked Ministers Rodriguez and Champagne with it in their mandate letters. Budget 2022 committed to action this fiscal year. Sadly, rights-holders continue to wait. We need the Government to take action now to ensure rights-holders are fairly compensated for the use of their work.

“With royalties for billions of private copies of their work approaching zero, rights-holders need the Government of Canada to step in to make copyright work again. Fixing the private copying regime is easy – it just has to be updated to account for everyday technologies, like phones and tablets, that were not available when the regime was designed. Budget 2023 gives rights-holders little hope that this fix is coming. We, at the CPCC, call on the Government of Canada to take action now to reform Canada's *Copyright Act*.” – Lyette Bouchard, CPCC Board President

We have also heard from Canadian artists who strongly support our message to government.

Carolyn Victoria Mill is a songwriter, vocalist, producer, and artist manager living and creating with her partner Reid Jamieson in Vancouver. "We cannot continue to create without fair compensation for the value we bring to the industry. We cannot let outdated legislation continue to damage the livelihoods and creative output of artists in this country."

Edgar Bori is a singer-songwriter from Quebec. "La réforme pour justement rétribuer les créateurs est essentielle. La culture d'ici est en péril."

About the CPCC:

Established in 1999, the Canadian Private Copying Collective (CPCC) is an umbrella organization whose member collectives represent songwriters, recording artists, music publishers and record companies. The CPCC is the non-profit organization responsible for collecting and distributing private copying levies on behalf of its member collectives: the Canadian Musical Reproduction Rights Agency (CMRRA), SOCAN for Performing Rights, SOCAN for Reproduction Rights, and Re:Sound Music Licensing Company.

For more information, please contact CPCC Executive Director, Lisa Freeman at [lfreeman@cpcc.ca](mailto:lfreeman@cpcc.ca).