

NAME

House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6

November 18, 2014

Dear **MP name**,

In recognition of the occasion of the second anniversary of the Copyright Modernization Act coming into effect, the Canadian Library Association (CLA) wishes to congratulate the government on passing an important piece of legislation.

The Copyright Modernization Act, or Bill C-11 as it was known moving through Parliament, was a very complex issue and it took significant effort on the government's part to balance the many interests of stakeholders and the needs of Canadians. An area of improvement that deserves specific mention is the inclusion of education as a category of fair dealing. This has had and will have a positive and lasting effect on Canadians.

The Canadian Library Association is Canada's largest national library association, representing the interests of approximately 57,000 library staff in libraries of all kinds, as well as all those concerned with enhancing the quality of life for Canadians through access to knowledge, literacy and lifelong learning.

As libraries, we work tirelessly to ensure Canadians can access information for non-infringing purposes. We believe opportunities for improvement exist but we have been encouraged by the steps taken to modernize an outdated system. Now two years later, we have seen the benefits to Canadians that the Copyright Modernization Act brought forth.

CLA feels there are opportunities to make learning information more widely accessible. The fair dealings provisions need to be extended, and amendments to improve user rights for people with perceptual disabilities would be welcomed. The issue of greatest concern is that the digital locks provisions have remained unchanged.

A new provision in the Copyright Act stipulates that the Act will be reviewed every five years by a committee of Parliament. CLA hopes the government will seize the opportunity in this ever changing world of learning materials to continue to improve non-infringing access to information. We believe this is in the best interest of all Canadians.

CLA will continue to work with libraries across the country to provide guidance on copyright issues. We will also be available to Members of Parliament as copyright issues continue to adapt.

Thank you sincerely for your continued support of the matter.

Kind Regards,



Valoree McKay, CAE
Executive Director, Canadian Library Association