



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, November 12, 2010

Writers' Rights Coalition on Copyright Modernization

Seven leading professional writers' organizations, including PWAC, representing nearly 5,000 creators released their Brief today on the proposed *Copyright Modernization* legislation (Bill C-32) that received second reading in Parliament last week and is expected to go to Committee in the near future. Their document was sent to Heritage Minister James Moore and Industry Minister Tony Clement as the two cabinet officers responsible for copyright.

The purpose of the Brief is to alert the government that some aspects of the proposed law pose very real dangers to the writing and publishing industry in Canada, a sector that underpins the knowledge economy that all informed observers see as key to our collective prosperity.

The areas in the bill that writers need to see amended include Fair Dealing in education, User-Generated Content and Statutory Damages for Infringement among others.

Please refer to the brief at www.pwac.ca/files/PDF/WritersRightstoMinistersBrief.pdf along with the accompanying letter and background information, at www.pwac.ca/files/PDF/WritersRightstoMinistersBrief-Letter.pdf, on the organizations that form the coalition.

PWAC, established in 1976, is the national organization representing over 600 freelance writers and journalists in Canada.

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