

INDU Committee: Statutory Review of the Copyright Act

Links to Relevant Facts and Reporting



Submitted by The Writers' Union of Canada (TWUC)

STUDENT COSTS

Students Report Significant Increase in Course Pack Costs Under New Copyright Arrangement (The Varsity)

Some course pack prices doubled after collective licensing was dropped. This is likely the impact of increased administration to clear copyrights and assess fair dealing outside a licensing context.

Source thevarsity.ca/2014/09/21/after-access-copyright

Public Education School Fees Across Canada (The Tyee)

Every single fee for extra service regularly charged to parents in Canada is significantly more expensive than a respectful and affordable collective copyright license for access to millions of pages of copied work.

Source thetyee.ca/News/2017/08/24/Public-Education-School-Fees-Across-Canada

The Cost of a Canadian University Education in Six Charts (MoneySense magazine)

Books and course materials are 4% of the total average cost for post-secondary education. Adding an affordable collective licence would actually reduce this percentage.

Source moneysense.ca/save/the-cost-of-a-canadian-university-education-in-six-charts

DAMAGE TO THE WRITING AND PUBLISHING SECTOR

Major Income Decline (Access Copyright Annual Report 2017)

The report shows an 89.1% decline in education revenues, which is all money that would be distributed to writers and publishers.

Source accesscopyright.ca/media/115217/access_2017ar.pdf

Canadian Writers Working Harder While Earning Less (The Writers' Union of Canada)

Results of TWUC's 2015 income survey clearly show the effect of education's refusal to pay collective licensing for Canadian work — already a significant licensing income drop.

Source writersunion.ca/news/canadian-writers-working-harder-while-earning-less



DAMAGE TO THE WRITING AND PUBLISHING SECTOR CONT'D

Economic Impacts of the Educational Sector's Fair Dealing Guidelines

(PwC Report)

"The Guidelines have caused an atmosphere where unlimited copying has become commonplace, while content producers are unable to assert their intellectual property rights in any meaningful way."

Source accesscopyright.ca/media/94983/access_copyright_report.pdf

LIBRARY SPENDING

We have been told that academic libraries are spending more than ever on materials. And yet there is an academic library budget crisis in Canada.

University of Ottawa Puts Thousands of Journals on the Chopping Block

(CBC)

"The University of Ottawa's library is moving to cancel subscriptions to thousands of academic journals to make up for a budget shortfall, but the academic community has started an online petition calling on the school to rethink the plan... The library will reduce spending on subscriptions to thousands of online and print journals and databases to make up \$1,527,000 of the shortfall, and will reduce book purchases by \$400,000."

Source cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/university-ottawa-library-budget-journal-cuts-1.3815030

Library Budgets in the News

(Ryerson University)

"Along with all other departments on campus, the library has had to reduce its base budget for eight consecutive years. Sustaining journal subscriptions on an annual basis requires base funding."

Source library.ryerson.ca/blog/2015/12/library-budgets-in-the-news

Long Overdue: Taking a Closer Look at University Library Funding

(Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives)

"...spending on libraries, as a proportion of university spending, has fallen by over 15% from 2007 to 2016 in both average and median measures — a significant cut, particularly when considering the modest size of library department budgets... As in other sectors, both inside and outside education, dwindling resources and a downward slide on the administration's funding priority list have resulted in some university libraries hustling for private funding sources. In some cases, student levies have been tapped as an additional source of dollars, further accelerating the university's shift from a publicly-funded institution to a private one."

Source behindthenumbers.ca/2017/11/14/longoverdue