

To Whom It May Concern:

DOC is the collective voice of independent documentary filmmakers across Canada, a national non-profit arts service association representing over 650 directors, producers and craftspeople from all provinces and regions of the country working in the documentary genre. DOC advocates on behalf of its members to foster an environment conducive to documentary production and strives to strengthen the sector within the broader film and television production industry. In doing so DOC seeks to make documentary production sustainable and therefore accessible viewing for Canadians across the country.

The work of the Copyright Board of Canada is critical to the future of our members who rely on fair value for their work delivered in a timely manner. We are both users and original creators. Creation of our property often requires knowledge of the copyright of others. Ownership of our intellectual property is directly linked to revenue generation.

We believe streamlining decision-making so that it is timely, transparent and easily understood is important. We would also appreciate efforts to improve predictability and reduce administrative overhead. We support the measures suggested to clarify the Board's framework, mandate and decision-making processes.

Documentaries are important to Canadians and the Canadian screen-based industry system both for their intrinsic value as an important contributor to the diversity of the production ecosystem but also for the important role they play in developing an informed citizenship and a more tolerant and compassionate society.

We look forward to participating in the broader review of the Copyright Act expected later this year.

Sincerely,

Joanne Levy, Chair

Advocacy Committee

Documentary Organization of Canada