



February 5, 2015

To All Board's Stakeholders,

**Re: Discussion Paper of the Working Committee on the Operations, Procedures, and Processes of the Copyright Board**

On November 26, 2012, the Copyright Board asked an ad hoc committee to look into the operations, procedures and processes of the Board so as to make them more efficient and more productive. The committee chose to address the following issues first, as it considered them amenable to significant improvements within a fairly short time frame:

- The identification and disclosure of issues to be addressed during a tariff proceeding;
- The interrogatory process; and,
- The confidential treatment of information.

The discussion paper I am releasing today for public consultation is the committee's first work product. It deals with the first two issues. The third issue will be the subject of another discussion paper to be made public at a later time. I expect that over time, the committee will help to conduct a thorough review of the Board's processes in general and of the Directive on Procedure in particular.

Though the matters addressed in the paper are fairly specific and narrow, the recommendations it contains are nevertheless helpful and potentially significant. Asking that parties focus the issues early into the process should bring about some efficiencies. Helping the parties to exchange interrogatories that better target relevant issues should help to lighten the burden of responding to them.

I thank the committee members and its facilitator for their help in bringing about this paper. Their names are listed in Appendix A of the Discussion Paper.

The Board is asking for comments from its stakeholders on the matters addressed in the discussion paper. Comments should be addressed by email, to the Board's Secretary General, Gilles McDougall, at the following address: [gilles.mcdougall@cb-cda.gc.ca](mailto:gilles.mcdougall@cb-cda.gc.ca), no later than **Friday, March 6, 2015**.

Comments will be posted on the Board's website shortly thereafter. The stakeholders will be allowed to provide a response by emailing it to the address indicated above at a date to be determined by the Board. The responses will also be posted on the Board's website. Comments and responses should be in a format that allows the Board to import the text, in whole or in part, into a word processing software.

After reviewing the comments and responses received, that Board will make public the changes it will implement.

I thank in advance all those who will participate in this process.



Claude Majeau  
Vice-Chairman & CEO