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To: copyrightconsultation / consultationdroitdauteur (PCH) <copyright-consultation-droitdauteur@canada.ca>

Subject: CUSMA copyright term extension

Preface:

Copyright term extension is an entirely negative process which breaks the copyright system and grants additional power to large corporations, while reducing the entirely necessary rights granted to citizens. It is the work of a cowardly government and its political cronies, and should be outright stopped, as it is not in the best interests of Canadians.

Seeing as the federal government is committed to this path, even when they've rejected it in the past, all processes should be aimed at minimizing the damage this will cause to our economy and culture.

Recommendations:

- and increased transitional term of at least 5 years where the old term rules still apply.
- no change the status of items which have already passed out of term, or which will pass out of term during this transitional period.
- orphaned and/or out of commerce works should be explicitly excepted from these rules.
- blanket exceptions to this extension for works in the public interest, such as those with artistic merit, educational value, or political implications.
- a second class status for works in this extended term period, where owners must pay a tax to the federal government every year for each work that the copyright is extended on, and all tax money collected this way must be spent by the government on grants for Canadian media production. this tax should be a percentage tax, based on the gross revenue the copyrighted work generates over the year.

Summary

failure to add comprehensive reforms to these overreaching term extensions, so as to protect Canadian cultural and economic losses guaranteed to be caused by them, is completely unacceptable. the short, unpublicized consultation period, during a global pandemic, is cowardly and not in keeping with the laws we have in place to prevent this kind of governmental abuse. it is especially telling that this government has rejected term extensions in treaties with non-white countries, but has wholeheartedly embraced them with the United States.

all civil servants involved in this process should soundly reject both this government's goals, and its strategies for accomplishing them. they are harmful to all Canadians, and come from a clear position of racism and American corporate cronyism.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Tessa Nordgren
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