CPC supports key elements of INDU Report

TORONTO, ONTARIO—(June 7, 2019)—The Canadian Publishers’ Council (CPC) is encouraged by several key recommendations contained in the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology (INDU) Statutory Review of the Copyright Act Report, released earlier this week. In particular, the committee’s call for dialogue to resolve issues relating to educational fair dealing is taken as a positive and much overdue step towards resolution.

“We are pleased to see the committee recognize the need for a solution to differing views on educational fair dealing, as reflected in recommendation 16,” said Craig Swinwood, CPC Chair and CEO of HarperCollins Canada and Harlequin. “CPC and its industry colleagues have been calling for this for several years now, and it is a relief to see signs that INDU has finally recognized this need. What’s important now is quick action from government to move this solution forward.”

The INDU report, compiled with extensive input from key stakeholders, shares some important common ground with Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage report Shifting Paradigms, released May 15th. The recognition that current approaches to educational copying are not tenable is among the most important and provides the impetus for dialogue. In particular, the clarification of educational fair dealing and a return to collective licencing are key elements to legislative solutions that CPC urges the government to move forward on. In addition, INDU’s support for a harmonization to statutory damages, contained in Recommendation 32, is a third tool at government’s disposal that will provide stability and viability to a market that has been destabilized since the CMA was introduced in 2012. “Writing and publishing are critical to Canada’s creative sector and have been in need of strengthened support for some time,” said CPC President David Swail. “INDU has a critical role to play in driving much needed legislative reforms that will support not only Canadian culture, but key employment and economic contributions that a healthy creative sector deliver,” he added.

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About CPC:

Founded in 1910, the Canadian Publishers' Council (CPC) represents the interests of publishing companies that publish books and other media for elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, professional and reference markets, the retail and library sectors. Members employ more than 3,000 Canadians and collectively account for nearly three-quarters of all domestic sales of English-language books, with a significant presence in French-language publishing in Quebec. As importantly, member firms pay over $36 million in royalties to Canada's writers and creators.

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