

## CANADIAN COPYRIGHT INSTITUTE

*Established to promote a better understanding of copyright and to encourage its use in the public interest*

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Intervention by the CCI to the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR 40)  
of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

20 November 2020

Thank you for the opportunity to make this intervention.

The creators, producers, publishers and distributors who participate in the work of the Canadian Copyright Institute strongly support the Proposal for a Study Focused on Public Lending Right prepared by the Government of Sierra Leone.

We in Canada have the good fortune to live and work in a country where the Public Lending Right (PLR) was created by our national government in 1986 and has been centrally funded ever since. After decades of national experience with PLR, we recognize the important contribution PLR makes to the livelihoods of working authors, and its particular contribution to freedom of expression through supporting independent and marginalized authors. We note its essential fairness: PLR helps ensure that free access to published works through libraries does not equate to authors working for free.

We believe that PLR falls within SCCR's scope, and that SCCR is not yet well informed on PLR. We therefore respectfully recommend that members support the proposed study.

Glenn Rollans  
Canadian Copyright Institute

