



## Copyright licensing agencies as the last line of defence

At the Annual General Meeting held on June 14, the delegates from Copibec's eight member associations elected a new Board of Directors for 2012-2013.

Of course, controversial Bill C-11 was the main topic of discussion. Despite all the efforts devoted to making the Conservative government realize that the Bill's many exceptions without fair compensation would undermine copyright, it wasn't possible to make them see the light, and the Bill is expected to be adopted without any major amendments. But as H el ene Messier, Copibec's Executive Director explained: "Copibec is resolutely focused on the future and will continue to energetically defend copyright and provide access to creative works while ensuring that the rights of the authors and publishers we represent are respected." Dani ele Simpson, outgoing Chair of the Board, noted quite incisively that "copyright licensing agencies are the last line of defence for intellectual property." In other words, this isn't the time to give up!

For the coming year, Gaston Bellemare (*Association nationale des  diteurs de livres*) will act as Copibec's Chair of the Board and Dani ele Simpson (*Union des  crivaines et  crivains qu b cois*) will be Vice-Chair. V ronyque Roy (UNEQ) will serve as Treasurer and St phane Lavoie (ANEL) has been appointed Secretary. The other members of the Board are Andr  Roy (UNEQ), Nicolas Langelier (*Association des journalistes ind pendants du Qu bec*) and Lise L tourneau (*Regroupement des artistes en arts visuels*), representing the author segment, as well as Yann Pineau (*Les Quotidiens du Qu bec*), Jean H. Lachapelle (ANEL) and Francine Bergeron (*Soci t  de d veloppement des p riodiques culturels qu b cois*), representing the publisher segment.

During her report on Copibec's operations, H el ene Messier indicated that \$15,140,000 in royalties (licence fees) had been collected in 2011-2012 from users who made copies of copyright protected publications, an increase of 4.2% from the previous year. On the distribution side, she reported that nearly \$115,500,000 had been paid out to copyright owners since Copibec launched its operations in April 1998.

Lastly, on a more emotional note, the announcement was made that Fran ois Coderre would be leaving after a decade on the Copibec Board and its various

committees. H el ene Messier described him as a generous and decent man, and he will be missed by all his colleagues and by Copibec employees alike.

## **Royalty distributions**

The analysis of **university copy logs** for the **2010 winter, summer and fall** semesters has now been completed. Payments were made to rightsholders whose works were copied, with a total of **\$4,059,594** being shared by the rightsholders of approximately **42,332 Canadian and foreign titles**.

Based on the **118,826 copy logs analyzed**, the breakdown of university copying by category was as follows: **74.7% books, 24.73% magazines and 0.57% newspapers**.

## **Elementary and high schools**

### **New survey sampling and excellent participation rate**

The 2011-2012 school year has drawn to a close and Copibec will soon be receiving the data for the third collection period (April to June) in the preschool, elementary and high school sector. For the first two data collection periods of the year, 91% of the surveyed schools submitted copy log forms, with 4,580 of those forms reporting copies of excerpts from copyright protected works.

The Quebec ministry of education, recreation and sports (M ELs) has randomly selected 350 schools to take part in the 2012-2013 data collection process. On an exceptional basis, the coming year's sampling comprises only public schools. Our short-term goal is in fact to ensure that all Quebec schools have been surveyed at least once.

Based on M ELs estimates, only 250 schools have never participated in Copibec data collection up to this point. In the subsidized private education sector, all the schools have taken part in data collection at least once.

The 2012-2013 sampling covers all of the province's school boards and regions as well as a large number of professional training centres, a category that has been under-represented until now.

## **Touring the province**

We've been pleased to continue visiting Quebec's various regions in order to meet with teachers, management personnel and teaching professionals in the province's schools, colleges and CEGEPs. The number of presentations about the *Copyright Act*

and the contents of our copying licences has been growing. We're always willing to talk about copyright with any group that invites us!

During the 2011-2012 school year, Émilie McAll Pinard, our Liaison Officer, met with teachers from 63 schools, management personnel from 150 schools and representatives from 14 school boards. Criss-crossing the province from Montreal to Saguenay and back from Laval to Donnacona, Émilie gave overviews of the *Copyright Act*, outlined the terms of the copying agreement between Copibec and the ministry of education, recreation and sports (MÉLS) and explained the data collection process.

## **New licences and ongoing negotiations**

In recent months, a number of users of copyright protected content have renewed their copying licences or signed their first agreements with Copibec. The *Agence du revenu du Québec*, Quebec Lobbyist Commissioner, *Centre de justice de proximité de Québec*, *ÉtudeSecours*, *CPE Château des neiges* and *Ordre des psychoéducatrices et psychoéducateurs du Québec* are among the new users who have been issued licences by Copibec.

We've also continued our efforts to contact daycare and early childhood education centres in the Quebec City area to inform them about copyright compliance. Copibec representatives also met with the *Association des centres jeunesse du Québec* to explain the various licensing options available from Copibec.

More recently, we initiated the process to contact the 89 regional county municipalities (MRCs) in Quebec to remind them about the importance of making sure their copying practices are legal and to describe our licensing options. In collaboration with the *Association des directeurs généraux des MRC du Québec*, the first step will be to distribute a questionnaire to the various MRCs so they can tell us about their copying practices and needs when it comes to copyright protected works.

This year, Copibec handled a large number of requests from publishers who wanted to reproduce excerpts from already-published works as part of new publications. In all, since November 2011, approximately 275 licences have been granted to Canadian and foreign publishers for print and digital format titles.

As this issue of the newsletter was being prepared, Copibec and the Conference of Rectors and Principals of Quebec Universities (CRÉPUQ) were holding final discussions to renew the university licensing agreement. Watch for more news in the next issue!

## Copibec on the Web

Copibec now has a channel on the popular [YouTube](#) video sharing website. You can view videos for teachers in elementary/high schools as well as the college sector. Thanks to our presence on [Vimeo](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), it's easier than ever to stay up to date!

What's more, our website is being revamped. You'll soon have access to our updated site. Users of our online services – including authors, visual artists, publishers or content users – will have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with our new online copyright licensing and rights management system called Savia. Prior to the launch of the new service, current users of our site will be sent an email reviewing the steps to take in order to access their accounts. As always, Copibec personnel will be available to answer any questions you may have!

## Are you moving this summer?

Whether you're a writer, a freelancer contributor to newspapers and magazines, or a visual artist, it's important to notify us about your change of address so you can continue to receive royalties when your works are copied.

### What if you haven't registered with Copibec yet?

It's easy. Register online now.

### What if you have questions?

- **Writers and freelance contributors to newspapers and magazines** should contact **Anouk Pérusse**, Communications and Rightsholder Services Officer, at [a.perusse@copibec.qc.ca](mailto:a.perusse@copibec.qc.ca) or 1-800-717-2022 or 514-288-1664 ext. 228.
- **Visual artists** should contact **Isabelle Billeau**, Communications and Rightsholder Services Officer, at [i.billeau@copibec.qc.ca](mailto:i.billeau@copibec.qc.ca) or 1-800-717-2022 or 514-288-1664 ext. 235.

## News about our team

We're proud to announce that Jean-Philippe Bergeron, Research and Data Entry Assistant, was selected as one of the three finalists for the *Prix Émile-Nelligan* and one of the five finalists for the *Prix Estuaire* in recognition for his poetry collection *Géométrie Fantôme* published by *Poètes de brousse*. This is the fourth collection of his career. We'd like to congratulate him and wish him continued success in the future.

Coordinator: Caroline Lacroix

Contributors: H el ene Messier, Fr ed erique Couette, C ecile Gascon, Rose-Marie Lafrance and Nicolas Boudreault

Translator: Brian Colwill

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