

“That Canadian song creators are not adequately protected against the realities of the modern world is unconscionable. I ply my trade like any other artisan and my livelihood deserves to be protected. This legislation should be firm enough to guarantee my right to control how my own work is distributed and flexible enough to respond to the needs of our children as our world continues to evolve.”  
– Great Big Sea

“As a recording artist in the early stages of my career, it is crucial to find people to invest in my product, and this is difficult to find in the era of “free” downloading. Artists across Canada need the government to act to protect our ability to make a living.”  
– Pat Robitaille

“As technologies for the distribution of music are changing rapidly, it is important for Canada to be in the forefront in protecting the intellectual property rights of Canadian artists and performers. We all value the contributions of the Canadian cultural community. It is our duty and obligation to see that these creative artists are treated fairly. I urge the Canadian government to join the EU, USA and the rest of the developed world, and enact legislation implementing the WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organisation) treaties.”

Mark Tetreault, Principal Tuba, Toronto Symphony Orchestra



“I’m an artist who wants to own my music. It’s so easy to download it and forget to buy the record. Without stronger copyright laws, I fear for the industry. It’s hard work to become an artist. It’s even harder now. If you don’t support the musicians, you won’t get good music. It’s my artwork and I respect it, and I expect the same thing coming back.”

– Tim Edwards (Crash Parallel)

“Artists should have the ability to say or choose whether or not they want their music shared freely or not. People have this attitude or misconception that all artists drive these big, beautiful cars, and that we’re living the high life, but really, and especially at the beginning of your career, it’s a real struggle.”  
– Divine Brown

“As young artists just starting out, we’ve learned first hand how hard it is to crack this business. Lugging our gear on endless drives to gigs across the country, the countless hours spent writing and recording, putting on our best show every night even if we’re too sick or tired to stand up straight! We do it because we love music, plain and simple. However, the reality is that in our country we have inadequate laws to protect the intellectual property of our artists in this digital age. If we do not change with the times young Canadian artists will not have the same chance to break through as others have had in the past.”  
– Inward Eye

---

## More Artists Speak Out on Copyright Reform

---

“As a former artist, and now as an artist manager, I have seen first hand the damage done by the uncertainty that exists here in Canada as to what’s legal and what’s not. We need clarity now to support Canadian artists and to be protected like our fellow artists in almost every other developed country in the world.”  
– Andy Curran

“For Canada to continue its legacy of world-class songwriters, the government needs to ensure that artists and the works they create are protected. As musicians at the beginning of our career, this support is vital if we are going to be able to make a living from our craft.”

– Sheila Carabine & Amanda Walther of Dala

“Music is so important to so many Canadians – it’s part of the lifeblood of our culture. Unfortunately, weak copyright laws in Canada mean it can be treated as though it has no importance and no value. We need to change this – artists and their true fans deserve nothing less.”  
– Brian Melo

“Copyright makes it possible for artists like us to earn a living. It allows us to sell our music, or if we so choose, to give it away. But without adequate copyright protection, our recordings can be freely stolen and distributed on the web, right in front of our eyes. All I’m asking for is a law that gives us a choice.”  
– Eva Avila

“I would challenge any individual, group of people, or in fact any judge who believes that music should be free, to write a book, rent out a property he or she might own, or in fact give their expertise away for no pay, if they truly believe that music should be downloaded for free. After all, creators do not one day just overnight learn to play an instrument, write or produce music. It takes years of hard work and dedication to create something of value... I would say to all those who think music should be downloaded for free, to work at their job for free, build a home for free, grow crops for free. That the public has any right to anything for free is totally absurd.”  
– R. Harlan Smith & Chris Nielsen

“As a manager and investor I feel downloading affects us as investors trying to recoup our investment. Allowing this to continue only drives us away as I’m sure others who are there to support, promote and assist many artist careers within the recording industry.” – Don Adams (Co-Producer/Artist/Public Relations Merritt Mountain Music Festival, BCCMA (President))

“Why would Canada choose not to protect the intellectual property of the creators who are at the heart of its multi-billion dollar arts industry? How could that possibly be to anyone’s advantage? Copyright protection benefits everyone.”  
– Lhasa