



MUSICIANS' NEIGHBOURING RIGHTS ROYALTIES

General Information on Neighbouring Rights & The Private Copying Levy DO WE HAVE MONEY FOR YOU?

For many years Canadian composers and authors have received payments for works they have created through copyright from organizations such as SOCAN. In 1997 the Copyright Act of Canada was amended to acknowledge the involvement of performers and makers in the creation of sound recordings. This right to equitable remuneration became known as a "neighbouring right" because it is similar to the existing copyright.

In 1997 the Neighbouring Rights Collective of Canada (NRCC) was formed to file and defend tariffs with the Canadian Copyright Board and to collect neighbouring rights royalties in Canada. The American Federation of Musicians (AFM) is represented on their Board of Directors and is one of the sub-collectives responsible for distributing these royalties.

In 1999 the Canadian Private Copying Collective (CPCC) was established to collect money arising from private copying levies on blank recording media. The AFM is represented on the CPCC Board of Directors under its affiliation with the NRCC and is also one of the sub-collectives responsible for distributing these royalties.

All of the above-mentioned royalties are paid out based on eligibility requirements and according to samples of commercial radio play and/or album sales. Neighbouring rights royalties are paid retroactively to 1998 whereas royalties derived from the private copying levy are paid retroactively to 2000.

To ensure that you receive these royalties, you must assign your collecting rights to the AFM or one of the other performer sub-collectives of the NRCC (You do not have to be a union member of the AFM to collect these royalties from the AFM). Completing and returning a signed copy of our *Appointment and Authorization* form is essential. This form authorizes us to collect these royalties on your behalf.

For the purpose of determining eligibility and registering your work, we also require that you submit details of your repertoire (a list of songs which contain your recorded performances). This can be done by using our *Repertoire Form* and/or by submitting other documents that contain the necessary information (CD's, liner notes, recording contracts etc...). All necessary forms, along with additional information on neighbouring rights can be found on our website: www.mnrr.ca.

While neighbouring rights and private copying royalties are becoming increasingly popular both in Canada and around the world, there are still many unidentified but eligible musicians who could be benefiting from this revenue. Please make this known to your fellow musicians!

For more information please contact: akaris@mnrr.ca
Or visit the AFM's Musicians' Neighbouring Rights Royalties website: www.mnrr.ca