

Re: A Response to Issues Paper
Att: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

As an emerging author in New Zealand it is becoming clear that the ability to generate income from my work is going to be a large barrier to my ongoing creative labour. One way that income creation can occur is through ensuring that I have some protections - just like any other worker. Copyright provides such protections and I urge you to ensure that the current Copyright Act Review strengthens and increases these protections.

A writer wants their work 'out in the world'. Writers want readers. But why should I be paid if my books are taken out from some libraries and not others? Why should I be paid if my book is read on paper but not on screen? Exceptions to my copyright should be mine to give away, not dependant on a complicated and seemingly arbitrary set of exceptions set up by someone else. This is especially true online where internet companies have continuously proven they are unable to self regulate and protect citizens. Leaders in the technology space (such as President and Chief Legal Officer of Microsoft, Brad Smith) are calling for more government intervention online - the Copyright Act Review is an opportunity for New Zealand to show leadership in this space.

The government tells us they want people to embark on careers for which they are passionate, for which they are highly trained and invested. It also tells us that a culture which is our own, created here by New Zealanders in sustainable creative careers is important. I ask that the Copyright Act Review reflect these values.

Nga mihi,

Elizabeth (Libby) Kirkby-McLeod

<https://ekirkbymcleodauthor.com/>