

Paying for
music

How **SOCAN** collects and distributes royalties



SOCAN

Society of Composers, Authors and
Music Publishers of Canada

Société canadienne des auteurs,
compositeurs et éditeurs de musique

“The next time you send your licence fees to SOCAN, remember that you’re not only gaining access to virtually the world’s entire repertoire of copyright-protected music but you’re also giving a boost to the careers of young, immensely talented Canadian songwriters.

When the next Canadian songwriter breaks onto the world stage, you can boast that, through your partnership with SOCAN, you played a part in their success.”

–Earl Rosen, President, SOCAN, 2004

why pay for music?

Music touches us in every part of our lives. A song, a melody, a symphony – if music exists, somebody created it. Royalties paid for public performance of their music is part of how those somebodies (songwriters, composers, lyricists and their publishers) make a living.

Few would question the value of music. It’s easy to see – and prove – the contribution it makes to businesses. (See brochure, *“Imagine your Business without Music!”*)



ABOUT SOCAN

SOCAN is a member-owned collective representing the people who create the music that is such an important part of our lives. Our members number more than 100,000 Canadian songwriters, composers, lyricists and publishers. And through our affiliations, we represent hundreds of thousands of other creators and publishers around the world. For those who use music as part of their businesses or functions, SOCAN sells access to virtually the world's entire repertoire of copyright-protected music for public performance and telecommunication.



WHAT'S INCLUDED?

The above includes public performances at receptions, conventions, on the radio, at retail stores, at fitness clubs and even music on hold. Fees for all the different types of music use are determined by tariffs set by Canada's Copyright Board. SOCAN collects the fees and distributes the monies to those who earned them – with remarkable efficiency.

More than 80% of all monies collected from fees makes its way into the pockets of those who created or published the music.

WHEN SHOULD YOU PAY?

Music owners have a right to be paid for the public performance of their music. That includes live, recorded or broadcast music. SOCAN actively licenses all of these uses, including radio and TV, bars, restaurants and night clubs, concerts, movie theatres, fairs, exhibitions, theme parks, dances and dance clubs, skating rinks, recreation centres, fitness clubs, sporting events, circuses, ice shows, comedy shows, airplanes, boats and trains, stores and malls.

The tariffs take into consideration the relative value of music to a particular business.

TRACKING MUSIC USE

Commercial, campus and community radio performances are tracked using surveys of their station's music programming. Pay audio performances are also surveyed. Concerts are logged based on reports submitted by members or their agents (managers, publishers, etc.). We receive census reports for broadcast and cable TV and CBC national and regional radio programming. We survey cinema use. And our foreign affiliates track international performances.

DISTRIBUTING ROYALTIES

Monies collected are distributed to our members and members of our international affiliates in the form of royalties based on six different "payment pools": television; cable; cinema; radio and general licensing; concert and pay audio. SOCAN also receives and distributes royalties from those same affiliates for the performance of Canadian works worldwide.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

If you'd like more details about SOCAN and why you pay for music, please check us out at www.socan.ca or contact your local SOCAN office. We also have pamphlets on the value of music to businesses, who pays for it and why, plus more. As always, we're here to assist you and to answer any questions you might have.

SOCAN Head Office

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what's right for music
la musique a ses droits