

REPLY TO NOTICES OF GROUNDS FOR OBJECTION

Filed with the Copyright Board by SOCAN on 2025-01-24 pursuant to Rule 21 of the *Copyright Board Rules of Practice and Procedure*

SOCAN Tariff 26 – Pay Audio and Ancillary Services (2026-2028)

1. This Reply is in response to the Notices of Grounds for Objection filed by Bell Canada, Rogers Communications Canada Inc., Cogeco Communications Inc., Québecor Média Inc., TELUS Communications Company, the Canadian Communication Systems Alliance (the “BDUs”), and Stingray Group Inc. (collectively, with the BDUs, the “Objectors”).
2. The Objectors have filed numerous grounds for objection. SOCAN denies these grounds and any factual or evidentiary assertions made in the Notices of Grounds for Objection and puts the Objectors to the strict proof thereof.
3. The BDUs have objected to the music use reporting requirements set out in the proposed tariff. The music use reporting requirements set out at section 7 of the proposed tariff are not new. These requirements are part of the approved tariff. The proposed tariff moves these requirements to a new section and refines the language in this section. The proposed tariff also provides that the same music use reporting requirements that apply to pay audio services also apply to semi-interactive or non-interactive streaming services. For the years covered by the proposed tariff, it should not be a challenge for online streaming services to provide the basic music use reporting data required by the proposed tariff.
4. Similarly, the BDUs object to the records retention requirement in the proposed tariff. The records and audits provisions in the proposed tariff (including the retention requirement) are standard terms that appear across all of SOCAN’s approved tariffs, including approved Tariff 26.