

We acknowledge the recent introduction of Bill C-7, the *Status of the Artist Act* and Bill C-62, the *Telecommunications Act*. These Bills address two components of the policy development structure that we recommend. We anticipate their consideration and debate both within our Committee and in Parliament.

Other areas of urgency for federal government policy, legislative or program action, include increased recognition of the rights of artists to be fairly compensated for their creative works, and we have called for amendments to the *Copyright Act* in this regard. As well, we recommend an industrial strategy to emphasize programming excellence in Canadian film and video production, together with initiatives designed to market and distribute Canadian cultural products more successfully within Canada and abroad. We suggest further strategic policy planning to strengthen Canada's publishing industries, and to complement recent initiatives taken by the Minister of Communications in support of this sector.

Finally, we have addressed the need for a comprehensive federal heritage strategy which would help to promote and preserve those common denominators of history and heritage which in themselves contain so much potential to join Canadians together. We have suggested an arrangement which would bring the principles of *arm's length* and *peer review* more fully to heritage preservation, perhaps as an extension of Canada Council activities. We further suggest a program to preserve on tapes and in films appropriate representations of Canada's audio-visual and performing arts heritage. We were reminded of the deterioration which is occurring with respect to library materials, and suggest that measures be introduced to enhance the production and use of stable alkaline paper. We emphasize the importance of immovable heritage properties, and the need to encourage their preservation and restoration.

CONCLUSION: THE TIES THAT BIND

Throughout our report, we have quoted widely from our witnesses. In carefully choosing the quotations, and in the accompanying text and recommendations, we have tried to convey the message and the theme expressed in the title of our report. Culture and communications are fundamental investments that will help to achieve renewal of our sense of pride and unity as a nation. We sincerely believe that, in both resolving the constitutional crisis which now confronts us and fulfilling the distinctive constitutional promise which lies before us, *culture and communications will truly prove to be, "the ties that bind"!*