

Premier Gordon Campbell
Room 156, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4
Fax: 250 387-0087

October 27, 2009

Dear Mr. Campbell,

The Writers' Union of Canada represents more than 1,850 professionally published book authors. Our members are incensed to learn that the Arts and Culture branch of British Columbia's Ministry of Tourism has removed a total of \$96,000 from the Association of Book Publishers of British Columbia, BC BookWorld and the BC Association of Magazine Publishers. These organizations play an essential role in the promotion of reading, Canadian authors, and the literary community in our country.

The Writers' Union requests the restoration of the funding to; BC BookWorld (\$31,000), the Association of Book Publishers of BC (\$45,000) and the BC Association of Magazine Publishers (\$20,000). Additionally the Union is asking for stable funding for the BC Arts Council so that programs for writers and publishers remain viable. The current system, of using gaming money to bolster the Arts budget, provides no stability for the arts community. The Union requests that this organization funding be allocated from legislated appropriations

Yours sincerely,

Deborah Windsor
Executive Director

C.C.

Hon. Kevin Krueger, Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts
Hon. Rich Coleman, Minister of Housing and Social Development (Gaming minister)
Hon. Colin Hansen, Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier
The Coalition for the Defence of Writing & Publishing in B.C.