

SWG Copyright Policy

As an organization that represents writers in the province, the SWG upholds the values of copyright and fair dealing for writers and other creators. The SWG strives to ensure that copyright is respected in all its activities.

This policy applies to all publications (print or digital) where the SWG has agreed to publish the work of a creator in any of its publications, on its website or by any other means of dissemination.

In addition to respecting copyright in its role as a publisher of creative work, the SWG will respect copyright and fair use principles in all areas of its business, including Guild's use of the copyrighted materials belonging to others.

Copyright

Copyright provides protection for literary, artistic, dramatic or musical works (including computer programs) and other subject matter known as performer's performances, sound recordings and communication signals.

In the context of this policy, copyright is understood to apply to every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work that the SWG may wish to license in order to publish or disseminate it. The license allows the Guild to use the work for certain purposes and under certain conditions. Rights licensed to the SWG are non-transferable.

Copyright belongs to the creator or owner of that work.

Work product

This policy does not apply in the case of materials produced for the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild by staff members. Work product is the property of the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild. When the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild uses external consultants to develop material that can be protected by copyright, copyright ownership of the materials produced is articulated in the signed agreement between the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild and the consultant at the time of engagement.

Roles and Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of all SWG staff to ensure that they respect copyright in their own work, and the operations of the SWG generally.

When acting on behalf of the SWG in its publishing programs, whether as an editor or other staff member, each individual must ensure that copyright is considered and that permission is obtained for the use of copyrighted material in Guild publications.

Copyright, Licencing and Permissions

Editors and staff of SWG publications are responsible for clearly outlining copyright obligations in publishing agreements.

Contributors are required to ensure that the work they submit for publication is their own and that the use of samples, quotations or other copyrighted material is cleared with the rightsholder.

Fees for use of copyrighted material are the responsibility of the contributor. The SWG reserves the right to decline to publish material it deems a copyright violation.

Copyright for all materials published in SWG publications is dictated by the contract initially signed; however, cannot be used or reprinted without permission.

Credit will be given for reprint of author photos.

Plagiarism

The SWG takes copyright and plagiarism seriously and we encourage transparency, integrity, and honesty. All work must be original and human-generated from start to finish.

Plagiarism, for all participants of SWG programming/services, whether from the web, from other students, or from published sources (digital or print) is a serious writing offence. Plagiarism is the presentation of words or thoughts of someone else as if they were your own – exceptions are proverbial sayings or common knowledge.

Avoid charges of plagiarizing by acknowledging your sources in your work and be sure that all words and phrases from the source are in quotation marks.

Contracts and Licencing Agreements

The Saskatchewan Arts Professions Act requires written contracts between professional artists and those who hire them or use their creative work. In the context of this policy, the contract will also outline which rights the SWG is licencing, for what purpose and any other conditions that may apply. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the SWG will license only those rights indicated in the agreement between the contributor and the SWG.

Authority

Canadian Copyright Act (2015)

Arts Professions Act (Saskatchewan)