

2001:02

ROYALTIES TO CANADIAN ARTISTS ON THE SECOND SALE OF VISUAL ART

Whereas: Canadian Visual Artists, those who are Canadian citizens, are among Canada's most important and valuable natural resources and they are supported with pride by other Canadians; ("Visual Arts" refers generally to original paintings, sculpture, and graphics

[drawings, engravings and prints] and sometimes original manuscripts, not photography); and

Whereas: other countries have acknowledged that artists have a right to be equitably reimbursed for their work as their art becomes more valuable and the artist more famous, through the payment of royalties on the second sale of art, commonly known as "droit de suite"; and

Whereas: in other countries such as Spain, Germany and France and in the state of California (USA), it has been found that the payment of these royalties on second sale of art is a fair and equitable way to reimburse artists for their work as their fame and reputation grow; and

Whereas: Canadian Visual Artists should have rights with respect to royalties as visual artists do in other countries; and

Whereas: such royalties result in remuneration or the artist or his/her heirs or other beneficiaries, in the form of a royalty that is usually calculated as a percentage of the sale price paid upon the resale of a work; and

Whereas: in order to encourage Canadian Visual Artists to continue living in Canada and in order that they are acknowledged and their work accredited as "Canadian Art" they must be able to make a living and receive equitable remuneration for their works of art; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as its policy that royalties be paid to visual artists who are Canadian citizens for the second sale of Canadian art; and be it further

RESOLVED : that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to create and pass legislation which gives Canadian Visual Artists the right to have fair and equitable royalties paid on the second sale of art, pursuant to a formula (to be decided on with due consideration given to the royalties paid in other countries).