

Copyright Modernization Act: In force?

By Kristina Oldenburg and Tracy McLean.

The long-awaited, mixed-feelings inspiring, [Copyright Modernization Act](#), SC 2012, c 20 should come into force on November 7, 2012.

Royal assent

Canada's *Copyright Modernization Act* [received royal assent](#) on June 29, 2012, making it an act.

However, it was not declared in force at that time. Until that happens, none of the changes will actively apply to Canadian copyright law.

Delayed coming-into-force allows time to write regulations, which deal with the details of how an act is administered.

Coming into force: The documents

The folks at Courthouse Libraries BC have posted information about [the proclamation](#), officially called [P.C. 2012-1392](#), that helps bring the *Copyright Modernization Act* into force.

It is available from the Canada Privy Council's [Order in Council database](#).

Lawyer and copyright expert Howard Knopf [blogged about P.C. 2012-1392](#), and has also uploaded a copy of the proclamation.

Making it Official: Canada Gazette, Part II

The proclamation states how the Act will come into force; once P.C. 2012-1392 appears in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II, most sections will come into force.

Note that a few sections come into force the latter of publication in the *Gazette* II, or the coming into force of [WIPO Copyright Treaty](#) or [WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty](#) for Canada. Please see [the proclamation](#) for details.

The next *Gazette* II should be online November 7, so [watch for it!](#)

Proclamations don't always cause this much excitement, but this one is burning up the charts (links?) on the Courthouse Libraries BC website.

Tracy McLean wrangles proclamation announcements, in addition to her many other exciting responsibilities at the Courthouse Library.

Kristina Oldenburg was fortunate to take on some of those legal info-seeking duties while Tracy was on maternity leave. She currently lives in Vancouver, BC.