

Is the Heritage minister an agent of foreign influence?

By Vincent Gogolek
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**To: Richard Fadden
Chief Spook
The Bunker, Ottawa**

Dear Mr. Fadden,

I am writing to you about disturbing evidence that the Federal Heritage Minister James Moore may be an agent of foreign influence.

Knowing how sensitive you are to the subtleties of foreign influence, there are many subtle clues in Moore's recent statements about copyright law that would indicate that he is under undue and possibly unknowing influence of American cultural industries, their lobbyists and possibly the U.S. government.

He may be feeling the strain of being such an agent. Your remarks earlier this week may have led him to fear being identified by CSIS as an agent of influence, although you have been very circumspect about divulging names.

Recently Moore branded those opposed to the government's copyright legislation as "radical extremists." This would seem to include the majority of the 8,000-plus respondents to his own consultation about reform of intellectual property law earlier this year. Our organization, the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association, made a submission and appears to fall under this heading.



Heritage Minister James Moore accuses 'radical extremists' of opposing legislation. He uses U.S. cultural products, too.

**Photograph by: Reuters Files,
Vancouver Sun**

The government's legislation provides Canadians with certain limited rights to copy videos, recordings or other materials for their own personal and other permitted uses. However, it would completely defeat anyone exercising those rights by making it an offence to interfere with digital lock on these materials put on by rights holders.

This appears to be a direct gift to rights holders and a victory for their lobbyists in Ottawa, since it would make it virtually impossible for Canadians to legally make copies of locked materials for their own personal use.

Although Moore is not the minister directly responsible for this legislation, he has been attacking anyone seeking to change it.

Some examples:

He suggested that consumer groups who are seeking

amendments did not represent consumers, and that chambers of commerce are the true representatives of consumers.

A respected University of Ottawa law professor, Michael Geist, who supports the government bill with amendments has come in for special attack, although Moore has never identified him by name (similar to your approach to agents of influence).

In light of this copyright legislation, which would provide major benefits to American companies, and the vicious and baseless attacks Mr. Moore made on anyone questioning it in even the mildest terms, I am sure you will want to investigate him as a possible agent of influence.

His frequent use of American cultural products, travel to the United States (which may include visits to Hollywood and/or Disneyland) are the kinds of signs you have identified as hallmarks of dupes and lackeys of foreign powers and commercial interests.

Vigilantly yours,

Vincent Gogolek
Director, policy and
communications
BC Freedom of Information and
Privacy Association

<http://www.vancouver.sun.com/news/minister+agent+foreign+influence/3226752/story.html>

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