

August 6, 2015

Dr. Steve Crocker
Chairman of the Board
ICANN
(steve.crocker@icann.org)

Mr. Fadi Chehade
CEO
ICANN
(fadi.chehade@icann.org)

Dear Messrs. Crocker and Chehade:

Re: .Music Community Application

I am writing on behalf of the Society of Composers, Authors & Music Publishers of Canada / La Société canadienne des auteurs, compositeurs et éditeurs de musique (SOCAN).

[SOCAN](#) is a member-based organization that represents the Canadian performing rights of more than four-million Canadian and international music creators and publishers. SOCAN is proud to play a leading role in supporting the long-term success of its more than 130,000 Canadian members, and the Canadian music industry overall. SOCAN licenses more than 125,000 businesses in Canada, and distributes royalties to its members and music rights organizations around the world. SOCAN also distributes royalties to its members for the use of their music internationally in collaboration with its peer societies. www.socan.ca

As you may know, our members have a substantial interest in ensuring the digital marketplace evolves into a mature, innovative and safe environment for the legitimate creation and dissemination of music. Global music revenues are increasingly derived from digital music services, which generate over 50% of recording industry revenues in many major markets including the U.S.

Unfortunately, the digital ecosystem has also been awash with piracy, and online copyright infringement of our members' works is rampant. We believe there should be strong protections against online copyright infringement in all TLDs, whether legacy gTLDs or new gTLDs, and that any gTLDs which particularly target music or digital content should have increased commitments to guard against such infringement. These safeguards are critical to protect the public interest in the creation and dissemination of music and other cultural works, and to ensure that the DNS ecosystem and its constituents contribute to creating a safe, legitimate and innovative Internet. We ask ICANN to ensure that this happens in a responsible and effective manner.

With respect to the .music gTLD, we support applicants that have publicly committed to, and will be bound to, implement meaningful and robust safeguards to protect against online

infringement. Given the Public Interest Commitments recently submitted by DotMusic Limited for their community application, we understand that DotMusic has made such commitments. Accordingly, we support this applicant (in addition to our support for the other community priority applicant for .music).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gilles Daigle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gilles Daigle
General Counsel

GMD/jb