

February 7, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Action required to better protect child performers' income in British Columbia

As the voice of nearly 6,000 professional artists engaged in the live performance industry across Canada, Canadian Actors' Equity Association supports regulations that safeguard the earnings of child performers and hold a portion of their earned income in trust, protecting the interests of these minors until they reach the age of majority.

We share the concerns voiced by our fellow unions and guilds, alarmed by the results of the survey conducted by UBCP/ACTRA which indicates child performers and their guardians have lost confidence in the provincially mandated trust, Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT), due to PGT's exorbitant fees, poor administration of the fund, and lack of transparency in managing child performers' earnings.

As such, Equity calls on the province of British Columbia to amend the Employment Standards Regulations to remove PGT from regulation 45.14 and enable guardians of minors to choose for themselves a minors' trust program that best meets the needs of the child performer; one which charges fair administrative fees, produces a rate of return commensurate with other comparable trusts, and reports to their stakeholders with full transparency.

Sincerely,

Regards,

CANADIAN ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION



Scott Bellis
Council President



Arden R. Ryshpan
Executive Director