

BC Library Trustees' Assoc.

From: BC Library Trustees' Assoc. [admin@bclta.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2006 8:04 PM
To: BCLTA - Library Board Chairs (lib-bd-chairs@interchange.ubc.ca); BCLTA-Liaisons (bclta-liaisons@interchange.ubc.ca)
Subject: BCLTA - Forwarding Industry Canada statement on CAP - Dated Oct 12/06

To: Library Board Chairs and BCLTA Liaisons

Below is a news release for your information regarding the federal Community Access Program.

Regards,
Maureen Black
Executive Director, BC Library Trustees' Association

OCTOBER 12, 2006 - 18:53 ET**Industry Canada: Minister Bernier Issues Statement on the Status of the Community Access Program**

OTTAWA, ONTARIO--(CCNMatthews - Oct. 12, 2006) - The Honourable Maxime Bernier, Minister of Industry, today issued the following statement regarding the status of the Community Access Program (CAP):

"In recent days, the federal Community Access Program has been the subject of much media coverage and public debate. Unfortunately, this has led to some misconceptions about the current status and long-term future of the program.

"It is important to note that transition work for this program was already well underway when Canada's new government came to power in February 2006. In fact, it is the previous Liberal government that reduced CAP funding from \$25 million in 2005 to \$8.8 million in 2006.

"These past reductions required me and my officials at Industry Canada to look at options for the long-term future of the program. I can assure you that this work is ongoing and all options are currently being considered.

"However, contrary to some reports, this review is in no way related to the spending restraint measures announced on September 25, 2006 by the Minister of Finance and the President of the Treasury Board.

"To facilitate the ongoing operation of this program while future options are being considered, I have directed transitional funding to ensure that CAP network partners are able to plan for the rest of the fiscal year, until March 31, 2007.

"Once the examination is complete, Industry Canada will announce its decision regarding the long-term future of the Community Access Program."

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of the Honourable Maxime Bernier
Minister of Industry
Isabelle Fontaine
613-995-9001

Anne Morgan, Library Consultant
Public Library Services Branch
Ministry of Education
tel: 250 387-5277
fax: 250 953-3225
BC Toll-free 1-800-663-7051
<mailto:Anne.Morgan@gov.bc.ca>