

As a magazine journalist, photographer, writer, editor and small-press publisher, I have made my living in the arts for two decades. As a sole proprietorship, I have invested nearly half a million dollars out of my own pocket to publish my own work, as well as the work of other deserving Canadians.

Unfortunately, over time, I've watched as the media (newspapers and magazines), and now books have been dramatically impacted by the digital era. Once a challenging industry, it's now all but impossible to earn a living wage from publishing.

Canadians value content. But in general, they no longer want to pay for it. The freedom of the Internet has brought positive changes, but if Canadians want to encourage time and monetary investments in quality content for both the media and the arts, we must be willing to support these sectors. I would therefore support an Internet tax (or some variation) that would do this unequivocally.