



Arts Access Australia

10 August 2004

General Manager
Public Broadcasting

Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

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13 AUG 2004

General Manager

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Dear Ms Nelson

RE: Creating an Indigenous Television Broadcasting Service

Arts Access Australia is the peak national non-Government body for arts and disability. Indigenous arts and wellbeing is one of our identified priority areas and DCITA's review into the viability of creating an Indigenous Television Broadcasting Service is of interest to us. Indigenous television is already a reality in other countries like Canada and New Zealand. We believe that a similar Government supported concept should exist in Australia because it will:

- Increase Indigenous representation and perspectives contributing to national identity and strengthening understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians
- Provide significant training and employment pathways for Indigenous people
- Support the reclamation and development of Indigenous languages
- Provide entertainment, information and education for Australians of all ages
- Complement existing organisations involved in Indigenous production, broadcasting and re-broadcasting from the AFC, SBS and ABC to the specific Indigenous media associations like CAAMA, Imparja, Goolari etc and BRACS services.
- Strengthen community health and education initiatives

Arts Access Australia encourages DCITA to involve Indigenous people with knowledge of cultural and media issues in developing the recommendations arising from this Review and their future implementation.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss the points raised here.

Yours sincerely

Gareth Wreford
Executive Director

CC: rachelp@mira.net