



MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 1 March 2016

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE
COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS

Chairman: The Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP
Deputy Chairman: Mr Tim Watts MP

Major media and arts players to give evidence to parliamentary Committee

Public and commercial broadcasters, peak industry bodies and arts groups will address the House of Representatives [Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts](#) next week in Sydney for its inquiry into broadcasting, online content and live production to rural and regional Australia.

Committee Chairman the Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP said the Committee is keen to hear about the services currently being provided to rural and regional Australia by broadcasters, as well as the experiences of key arts groups in promoting and delivering the arts in non-metropolitan settings.

Mrs Bishop said that the evidence received from a variety of groups and individuals emphasises that access to the arts, news and other services, and local content, contributes significantly to the vibrancy of Australia's rural and regional communities.

"The Committee is pleased with the response it has received to the inquiry, with many informative submissions from a variety of places throughout Australia and we look forward to hearing from as many stakeholders and interested parties as possible during the conduct of the inquiry," she said.

Public hearing details

Date: Monday, 7 March 2016

Time: 9.00am to 5.00pm

Hearing program:

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| 9.00am | Australian Broadcasting Corporation |
| 10.00am | Free TV Australia |
| 10.30am | Commercial Radio Australia |
| 11.15am | Special Broadcasting Service Corporation |
| 12.15pm | <i>Lunch break</i> |
| 1.15pm | Prime Media, WIN Network and Southern Cross Austereo |
| 2.15pm | Seven West Media |
| 3.10pm | APN News and Media |
| 3.40pm | Community Broadcasting Association of Australia |
| 4.10pm | Optus |
| 4.40pm | Aurora Community Television |
| 5.00pm | <i>Finish</i> |

Date: Tuesday, 8 March 2016

Time: 9.00am to 1.30pm

Hearing program:

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| 9.00 am | Opera Australia |
| 9.45am | Australian Major Performing Arts Group |
| 10.30am | Sydney Dance Company |
| 11.00am | <i>Break</i> |
| 11.15am | ABC Regional |
| 11.45am | Australia Council for the Arts |
| 12.30pm | The Australian Ballet |
| 1.00pm | Screen Producers Australia |
| 1.30pm | <i>Finish</i> |

Location for both days: Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices, Level 21, Meeting Room 2,
1 Bligh Street, Sydney. [Live webcast \(audio only\)](#)

Note: Due to access restrictions at the venue, members of the public and media are required to **pre-register interest to attend** by contacting the Secretariat on communications.reps@aph.gov.au or 02 6277 4386 by close of business **Thursday, 3 March 2016**.

For media comment:

The Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP (Chairman of the [Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts](#))

Phone: (02) 6277 4210

For further background information, including [programs](#) for the hearing and copies of submissions, please visit the Committee website www.aph.gov.au/communications or contact the secretariat: (02) 6277 4386 or communications.reps@aph.gov.au