



Regional access to news and the arts up for discussion at Melbourne hearing

Arts and broadcasting groups will address the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts next week in Melbourne 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 will build on the valuable evidence already received at its hearings in Sydney and Canberra, when it hears from groups in Melbourne. It looks forward to learning from the perspectives that these groups will provide based on their Victorian and broader regional experience in arts and media matters.

“The Committee believes that while rural and regional Australians face a number of challenges, they should not have to compromise on access to reliable news services and emergency broadcasts, and to quality arts performances. These services are vital to these communities where almost a third of Australians live,” Mrs Bishop said.

Public hearing details

Date: Tuesday, 22 March 2016

Time: 10.00am to 3.15pm

**Location: Parliament of Victoria, Room G3
55 St Andrews Place, East Melbourne, Victoria**

[Live webcast \(audio only\)](#)

Hearing program:

10.00am	Live Performance Australia (Submission 25)
10.45am	Regional Arts Victoria (Submission 1)
11.30am	Australian National Theatre Live (Submission 52)
12.00pm	Lunch break
12.30pm	ACE Radio (Submission 15)
1.00pm	Deakin University (Submission 19)
1.30pm	Australian Children’s Television Foundation (Submission 29)
2.00pm	National and State Libraries Australasia (Submission 38)
2.30pm	Screen Australia
3.15pm	Finish

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