



Public hearing in Canberra – 21 June

Tuning into community broadcasting

The Australian Indigenous Communications Association (AICA) will appear at a public hearing for the inquiry into community broadcasting in Canberra tomorrow. The inquiry is being conducted by the Standing Committee on Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

AICA represents all Indigenous organisations and individuals that are actively involved in the media, communications or entertainment industry in Australia. AICA's primary objective is to advocate, lobby and formulate policy that supports the Australian Indigenous media and communications industry.

Committee Chair Jackie Kelly said there are some very strong and vibrant community broadcasters in Australia, but others struggle.

"The Committee is keen to hear how community broadcasters work and how they contribute to Australian society. We want to know what the particular threats are to the survival of community broadcasters and we will be looking at ways to support the sector" Mrs Kelly said.

The Federal Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Helen Coonan, has requested the Committee to inquire into and report on:

- The scope and role of Australian community broadcasting across radio, television, the internet and other broadcasting technologies;
- Content and programming requirements that reflect the character of Australia and its cultural diversity;
- Technological opportunities, including digital, to expand community broadcasting networks; and
- Opportunities and threats to achieving a diverse and robust network of community broadcasters.

Public Hearing Program – Wednesday 21 June

Venue: Committee Room 2R2, Parliament House, Canberra

9.05 am Australian Indigenous Communications Association (Sub. 72)

Further details on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, membership of the Committee and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/cita or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4601 or emailing cita.reps@aph.gov.au.

For media comment, please contact Emily Tinson (Jackie Kelly's media officer) on (02) 6277 2369 or (02) 4732 2844

For background information, please contact the Committee Secretary, on (02) 6277 4601