



FM 98.5

4 YOU

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OWNED & OPERATED BY GARRIGONI COMMUNITY RADIO 4 YOU INC.

Secretary:.....
RECEIVED
26 OCT 2000
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STANDING COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS TRANSPORT AND
THE ARTS

House of Representatives Standing
Committee on Communications,
Transport and the Arts
Submission No:123.....
Date Received:26/10/00.....
Secretary:Janet Holmes.....

24 October, 2000

The Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Communications Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

RADIO INDUSTRY INQUIRY

On behalf of Community Radio 4 YOU I wish to submit the following, as set out in the terms of reference:

1. Social benefits and influences in comparison to other media sectors:

Radio has a significant part to play in the life of those who are vision-impaired, confined to home, hostels, hospitals etc.
It also has the advantage of being able to be heard whilst listeners are engaged in other occupations, e.g. housework, manual labour, and while travelling, which is not the case with newspapers and television.

Request programs very, very popular – Listeners appreciate the “personal touch,” and feel a rapport with the presenters.

Willingness of supporters to donate old records and unused CD’s provides opportunity to play music often not available on other stations.

2. Future trends and employment opportunities:

Opportunity for training in spare time – helpful in seeking employment in the radio industry, particularly young people.

3. Effect on individuals, families and small business:

Ability to feature local news, sport and community service announcements. Lost and found notices able to be put to air at very short notice. Weather information, especially during cyclone season very important.

Opportunity for small businesses to make their products and services known through a local radio station more effective and personal, with the ability to change details at short notice, as well as gauge effectiveness of sponsorship.

Retired members of the community able to find fulfilment in involvement with radio, either "on air", which is a new learning experience, or in other areas such as administration, preparation of programs etc.

4. New technology:

Will cause a strain on financial and labour resources, as it is difficult to obtain help from people on a voluntary basis – no pay – no commitment! Limited staff do not have time to learn new technology on an on-going basis.


As can be seen from the above, community radio stations play a significant part in the life of a large proportion of the community. However, lack of funds for paid employment and provision of suitable buildings and equipment slows down progress considerably. Time spent raising money could be better spent in "hands on" work, providing better service to both listeners and sponsors.

Government funding for large projects such as buildings and new equipment is vital for improvement in quantity and quality of radio services in regional and rural Australia.

Our Committee appreciates the interest taken by the Minister for Communications, and the opportunity given to us to contribute, and looks forward to a favourable outcome.

Trusting this submission (put together between taking phone calls about lost cats, the name of the song played between 11 and 1 last Tuesday, country program requests, etc. etc. etc.) will be of assistance in the Government's inquiry.

Yours sincerely,



Estelle Watson
Secretary