

From: Geoff Fortune [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 5 August 2001 1:06 PM
To: ecita.sen@aph.gov.au
Subject: Inquiry on ABC Board Appointments
Attention: Members of the Senate Inquiry on ABC Board Appointments

For Democracy to mean anything in our community, we must have a **properly funded, independent public broadcaster.**

The ABC is critically important for the culture and education of the nation. As such, it must be **adequately funded.** The triennial funding must be restored, in real terms, to at least the 1995/96 level.

The devastation caused at the ABC, in such a short time, by board chairman Donald McDonald, and particularly, by managing director Jonathan Shier, has been appalling. They should resign immediately. In future, board members should be **appointed on merit, having a strong commitment to the independent ethos of the ABC, and completely independent of both political parties and governments.**

The ABC has, and continues to be, a critically important part of my, and my family's, life. This erosion of its independence and funding must be stopped.

I call on the Senate Inquiry to act.

**Anne Fortune
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