

Dear Friends in Government

I have heard with much dismay that the government may abolish the staff-elected position on the ABC Board. How will the Board find out what the staff are able to deliver in the way of information, news, research and views, or how they are able to apply technology to fulfil this crucial task, if there is no one directly representing the staff? Do you suppose each Board member is going to take the time to talk to them and ask what are their latest ideas? If the Board makes decisions without such information, how can it expect cooperation from the staff? We, the public, for whom the ABC exists, want the very best work in all areas of the ABC's service. So we want expertise (unhampered by lack of facilities), independence (unconstrained by demands from a Board unaware of how the staff function) and accountability (possible when communication is immediate but difficult and unwieldy otherwise). The most effective way to provide this is for a staff member to be on the Board. It is most unfortunate that it is even being considered removing that position.

Please do not let that happen.

Yours in concern  
Solway Sager-Nutting