HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS

Issued: 9 February 2017

Chair: Mr Luke Howarth MP

Inquiry into the Australian Film and Television Industry

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts has received an inquiry into the Australian Film and Television Industry and is calling for submissions.

The inquiry's **Terms of Reference** are:

Factors contributing to the growth and sustainability of the Australian film and television industry.

Committee Chair, Mr Luke Howarth MP said: "the committee wants to hear how Australian independent filmmakers, and major film and TV companies can expand and better compete for investment with producers and multi-platform production companies from overseas."

"We also want to hear from investors and the industries that support local production, for example: digital animators and editors, and sound and set production companies," Mr Howarth said.

<u>Screen Australia's Drama Report</u> (2015-16) notes that Australian films have recently performed the strongest in more than a decade, with four titles each earning over \$10 million (including: Mad Max: Fury Road, The Dressmaker, Oddball and The Water Diviner) and contributing 7.2 per cent to total box office sales.

Screen Australia's report also suggests that 2015 was a standout year for Australian films – well up on the previous year, when the share was 2.4 per cent, and above the 10-year average of 4.3 per cent.

Mr Howarth added: "As a committee, we believe Australian film and TV can be more competitive, and we will be investigating ways the Australian industry can grow sustainably."

Submissions are being sought by Friday, 31 March 2017, and can be made online through the webpage: www.aph.gov.au/FilmTV or emailed to the secretariat at communications.reps@aph.gov.au.

Inquiry updates, submissions and public hearing transcripts will be published on the webpage as the inquiry progresses.

For media comment, please contact

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