

SUBMISSION TO THE SENATE INQUIRY INTO RECENT ABC PROGRAM DECISIONS

I am writing to express my disappointment at the direction the ABC is heading with program decisions. The reduction in local content is quite alarming. The ABC has a responsibility to the people of Australia, given that it is funded by taxpayers. We rely on the ABC to provide a true Australian voice, which is often not provided by commercial channels. These latter have to make as much profit as possible and cater to popular demand.

The ABC is relied upon by taxpayers to cater to a probably smaller market who are interested in a diverse range of subjects and cultural matters not covered by commercial channels. These programs include “Collectors”, “Art Nation” and “The New Inventors” recently announced to be axed. These programs have a distinct Australian flavour and are educational.

I am concerned that the innovation and quality we have come to associate with the ABC is being dissipated and will be lost forever unless there is immediate intervention to stop these program decisions.