

I Paul Battista councillor of Southern Grampians shire wish to place forward to your committee my submission in to changes effecting Our A.B.C!

I am a keen listener of the services the ABC provides and the local content that is given.

It would be a great loss to move towards a commercial type arrangement and I fear the A.B.C would lose its independence of telling the public how it is. The morning programs are vital in local news services as are the drive programs at the end of the day.

I would like for the committee the need to Broadcast sport even from pay services as it allows those less fortunate to be able to follow there respective interests. The current test series between New Zealand and Australia is a perfect example of this issue. I feel for the disabled and lower socio economic members of the public that miss these important sporting event . Because the Corporation cannot afford the media rights. The ABC should be treated differently to commercial .

I support a rural advisory board to push the advocacy required to protect out ABC after all it's owned by the public we must get a say in its future!

Regards

Cr Paul Battista.