



Public hearing in Canberra – 24 May

Tuning into community broadcasting

Melbourne's **3RRR-FM**, one of Australia's most well known community broadcasters, will appear at the first public hearing for the inquiry into community broadcasting in Canberra tomorrow. The inquiry is being conducted by the Standing Committee on Communications, Information technology and the Arts.

Ms Kath Letch, 3RRR's Station Manager is a former President of the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia. Ms Letch will discuss the role that stations like 3RRR play and the contributions made to Australian community broadcasting. Ms Letch will also outline the issues that may have an impact on the community broadcasting sector.

Committee Chair Jackie Kelly said there are some very strong and vibrant community broadcasters in Australia, but others struggle.

"The Committee is keen to hear how community broadcasters work and how they contribute to Australian society. We want to know what the particular threats are to the survival of community broadcasters and we will be looking at ways to support the sector" Mrs Kelly said.

The Federal Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Helen Coonan, has requested the Committee to inquire into and report on:

- The scope and role of Australian community broadcasting across radio, television, the internet and other broadcasting technologies;
- Content and programming requirements that reflect the character of Australia and its cultural diversity;
- Technological opportunities, including digital, to expand community broadcasting networks; and
- Opportunities and threats to achieving a diverse and robust network of community broadcasters.

Public Hearing Program – Wednesday 24 May

Venue: Committee Room 2R2, Parliament House, Canberra

9.05 am 3RRR (Submission 110)

Further details on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, membership of the Committee and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/cita or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4601 or emailing cita.reps@aph.gov.au.

For media comment, please contact Emily Tinson (Jackie Kelly's media officer) on (02) 6277 2369 or (02) 4732 2844

For background information, please contact the Committee Secretary, on (02) 6277 4601