25 September, 2006

Submission by Northern Access TV for Broadcasting Services Amendment Bill (Media Ownership)

We are a community membership based broadcaster and one of the long standing member groups holding the Channel 31 community broadcasting licence. We have a long history of training, developing and promoting community groups and issues relevant to the northern suburbs of Melbourne.

With thousands of hours of community television production under our belt we are qualified to make this submission to contribute by requesting some programming and production issues that, we believe, could well be addressed in consideration of the abovementioned Bill.

These are that Northern Access TV supports any amendments to the law that lead to and encourage greater cultural diversity in broadcast of television programs in Australia.

We have found that by helping new arrivals and smaller isolated members of local, culturally diverse and isolated and special interest communities by helping to produce and broadcast relevant programming that society benefits multifariously.

Could the Inquiry report on how these amendments will lead to more diversity of programming relevant to the many culturally diverse communities living in Australia?

Richard Micallef Vice Chairperson Northern Access TV