



MEETING OF CULTURAL MINISTERS

Communiqué

A meeting of Arts and Cultural Ministers was held in Adelaide today, Friday 11 October 2019.

Attendees

Australian Government: the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts

South Australia: The Hon Steven Marshall MP, Premier

Australian Capital Territory: Mr Gordon Ramsay MLA, Minister for the Arts, Creative Industries and Cultural Events

New South Wales: The Hon Don Harwin MLC, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts

Northern Territory: The Hon Gerry McCarthy MLA, representing the Hon Lauren Moss, Minister for the Arts

Queensland: The Hon Leeanne Enoch MP, Minister for the Arts

Tasmania: The Hon Elise Archer MP, Minister for the Arts

Victoria: Mr Martin Foley MP, Minister for Creative Industries

Western Australia: The Hon David Templeman MLA, Minister for Local Government, Heritage, Culture and the Arts

New Zealand (International Member): The Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, representing the Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister

Observers

Mr Adrian Collette AM, Chief Executive Officer, Australia Council for the Arts

Cr Linda Scott, Australian Local Government Association Vice President, President Local Government NSW, Councillor, City of Sydney Council NSW

Invited guests

Ms Pat Rix, Founder and Chief Executive Officer and Artistic Director, Tutti Arts Inc.

Apologies

The Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand

The Hon Grant Robertson, Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, New Zealand

The Hon Lauren Moss, Minister for Tourism, Sport and Culture, Northern Territory

Meeting summary

Welcome to Country was presented by Issac Hannam, a Kurna and Ngarrindjeri man, who, through learning and practising culture, is aiming to restore and integrate it as part of everyday life.

At this meeting Ministers:

- Welcomed New Zealand as the first International Member of the Meeting of Cultural Ministers, which will strengthen cultural ties between both countries.
- Welcomed the presentation by Ms Pat Rix, founder and Artistic Director of Tutti Arts Inc. on the work the company undertakes each year.
- Noted the progress in developing and implementing the New Zealand Government's wellbeing framework in New Zealand.
- Following advice from officials, it was agreed that Circa is invited to become a major performing arts company under the 2011 Major Performing Arts Framework.
- Agreed to replace the Major Performing Arts (MPA) Framework with the new National Performing Arts Partnership Framework, recognising that continued fine-tuning will be required to the new Framework and jurisdictions will continue to work in relation to further changes that are jointly agreed to be required, with that work to be concluded by the end of February 2020.
- Ministers asked Australia Council to review competitiveness across existing companies, within their markets and provide appropriate advice to governments.
- Responding to the outcomes of public consultation conducted in 2018, the new Framework retains the most effective elements of the current Framework, while providing a clearer pathway to expand the cohort of funded companies, a new process to reward excellence and improve contestability and public reporting requirements to increase transparency. The new Framework is available on the Australia Council's website. The Australia Council and relevant state arts agencies will provide further information to companies currently funded through the MPA Framework and to the broader sector in the near future.
- Noted progress on the National Touring Scan being conducted by the Australia Council. The National Touring Scan will be the first in an ongoing series of periodic sector scans that research and document performing arts issues and trends.
- Agreed to a new Visual Arts and Craft Strategy Policy Framework for 2021–2024. Ministers also noted the annual update of governments' joint investment for 2018–19 and an evaluation report on the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy Policy Framework from 2016–2019.

- Noted the progress of work to renew the National Arts and Disability Strategy, which will see it included as a key part of the National Disability Strategy.
- Agreed to continue to co-operate by sharing findings and taking action to enhance access to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander products and curb the sale of inauthentic products.
- Noted the update on activities related to the International Year of Indigenous Languages. Some notable activities include: the release of a unique 50 cent coin by the Royal Australian Mint that incorporates translations for the word 'coin' from 14 different Indigenous languages, as well as an empty space to represent languages that are no longer spoken; the release of Australia Post's commemorative \$1 stamp featuring the United Nations' official logo for the year; additional Australian Government funding of \$20,000 to each of the 21 Indigenous Language Centres, through the Indigenous Languages and Arts program, for activities to mark the year; increased funding for the Puliima Indigenous Languages and Technology Conference held in Darwin this year attracting approximately 500 delegates including international speakers; and support from Australia's national broadcasters through inclusion of content to celebrate Indigenous cultures and languages across their national platforms in partnership with Indigenous communities and the peak organisation First Languages Australia.
- Noted the Australia Council and New Zealand's Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage joint research project on the contribution of the arts to wellbeing, public value and social inclusion in Australia and New Zealand.
- The 2020 Meeting of Cultural Ministers will be chaired by New South Wales.
- Culture and Arts Ministers acknowledge and value the important role of Local Governments in the arts and culture landscape.

Media contacts

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Secretariat

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