

Meeting of Cultural Ministers Communique

A meeting of Arts and Cultural Ministers was held in Fremantle today, Friday 4 November 2016.

Attendees

Australian Government: Senator the Hon Mitch Fifield, Minister for the Arts

Australian Capital Territory: represented by official Mr Adam Stankevicius, Director, Cultural Canberra

New South Wales: Mr Kevin Anderson MP, Parliamentary Secretary for the Deputy Premier

Northern Territory: represented by official Mr Hugo Leschen, Executive Director, Arts and Museums

Queensland: represented by official Ms Kirsten Herring, Deputy Director General, Arts Queensland

South Australia: The Hon Jack Snelling MP, Minister for the Arts

Tasmania: The Hon Dr Vanessa Goodwin MLC, Minister for the Arts

Victoria: Ms Judith Graley MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier

Western Australia: The Hon John Day MLA, Minister for Culture and the Arts

Observers

Mr Tony Grybowski, CEO, Australia Council for the Arts

Mayor Dave Burgess, Australian Local Government Association

Ms Karen Adair, Ministry for Culture and Heritage, New Zealand

Mr Sam Walsh AO, Member of Board of Australian Council for the Arts

Invited guests

Mr Rob Tranter, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Professor David Throsby AO, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Macquarie University

Ms Lesley Wilkinson, Director, People and Communities, City of Mandurah

Ms Fiona Menzies, CEO, Creative Partnerships Australia

Dr Helen Nugent AO, Chairman, National Opera Review

Apologies

Gordon Ramsay MLA, Minister for Arts and Community Events

The Hon Troy Grant MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing

The Hon Lauren Moss MLA, Minister for Tourism and Culture

The Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk, Premier and Minister for the Arts

Mark Ryan MP, Assistant Minister of State Assisting the Premier

Meeting summary

Welcome to Country was presented by Matthew McGuire.

At this meeting Ministers:

- Acknowledged the important role of cultural diplomacy, including the promotion of Australia's cultural and creative industries overseas, and agreed to work together to further international cultural engagement and collaboration.
- Welcomed the presentation by Professor David Throsby AO on the findings of the first module of a National Indigenous Artists' Survey recently undertaken in Western Australia and proposal to extend the survey to other remote areas.
- Acknowledged the National Local Government Cultural Forum's work on measurable cultural outcomes.
- Noted the work being done by Creative Partnerships Australia to build the capacity of small-to-medium arts and cultural organisations to embrace innovative philanthropy, fundraising and partnership models.
- Noted New Zealand's progress to develop the national commemoration acknowledging the 250th anniversary of the first meetings of Maori and Europeans through Captain Cook's landing in 1769.
- Committed to investigate the potential of a national framework which recognises the importance of maintaining traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island culture and heritage, as a foundation for contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island arts and cultural practice.
- Welcomed the presentation by Dr Helen Nugent AO of the findings and recommendations of the National Opera Review. Ministers acknowledged the detailed and forensic analysis undertaken by the Review Panel and agreed to consider the recommendations in the report.

- Noted the update of Australian Government investment under the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy for 2015-16, including the distribution of over \$4 million to 28 National Leadership Organisations and almost \$623,000 to nine national initiatives from January 2016, and a further \$1 million for the creation of new work and \$570,000 for contemporary touring initiatives.
- Noted the progress of the triennial evaluation of the National Arts and Disability Strategy for the period 2013-2015.
- There was discussion on the VET Student Loan Program. Feedback regarding potential implications for the creative industries sector was provided to the Australian Government.

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