

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public

Individual

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Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

My vision and hope for Australia is that we are a thoughtful, kind, tolerant, and inclusive society.

I am in a men's book club. Every month I meet with men who accept and support and respect each other. It serves as an aspirational model for Australia.

We do not always agree but we give each other space. We work on projects and challenges together.

Talking about books is great. They expose us to different ways of thinking and different ideas. They are a means of connection and build understanding. They help us to listen to others and understand that while we are different we can still be united.

The book club is a forum for volunteering where we can value people and goals that are not financial and promote what makes life worthwhile and fulfilling and wonderful.

We must preserve our opportunities to read and to connect.