

National Cultural Policy Submission

1469863

Public

Individual

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Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

Here's a more casual, down-to-earth version while still sounding thoughtful and respectful:

Submission to the National Cultural Policy Consultation

As an Aussie tradie and a dad, I appreciate the chance to have a say in the National Cultural Policy consultation.

I think books, reading and storytelling are a bigger deal than people sometimes realise. They help kids learn, keep communities connected, and make sure Australian stories and culture don't get lost. In a world where everyone's glued to phones and social media, getting people reading again is more important than ever.

A few things I think the Government should focus on are:

1. Put more support into reading programs for kids and adults.

Reading helps people understand different perspectives, improves communication, and gets people thinking properly instead of just scrolling all day. It's good for learning, mental health and bringing communities together. Australian books and stories also help keep our identity and culture strong.

2. Make sure every school has a proper library and trained librarians.

Not every school has decent library access, and that needs to change. Libraries give kids access to books, technology and a quiet place to learn, but librarians are just as important. Kids need help learning how to research properly and work out what's real online and what's rubbish. Good school libraries make a real difference to education outcomes.

3. Back local libraries and bookshops.

Libraries and bookshops are a big part of local communities. Libraries give everyone free access to books, computers and learning programs no matter their background. Local bookshops support Aussie authors, create jobs and help keep communities alive instead of everything moving online.

4. Support reading programs in regional and aboriginal communities.

Regional and Indigenous communities should have proper access to books and literacy programs that reflect their culture and experiences. Reading and storytelling help keep language and traditions alive and give young people a stronger connection to identity and community. Better access to books can also help close education gaps in regional areas.

At the end of the day, supporting reading is about more than just books. It's about education, culture, community and giving kids the best chance possible.