

## National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public

Individual

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Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

Hi, I'm a nonfiction author and Lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Queensland, who has published *LIVING WITH THE CLIMATE CRISIS* (as Contributing Editor, 2020), *HAZELWOOD* (2020), *THE COAL FACE* (2015) and *MORON TO MORON: TWO MEN, TWO BIKES, ONE MONGOLIAN MISADVENTURE* (2013). It's really hard to continue writing and teaching in this climate. For the National Cultural policy I support the ASA in calling for:

- Direct investment in authors and illustrators
- Investment in First Nations-led writing and publishing
- Solutions to the unprecedented theft of Australian authors' work by multinational tech companies operating within Australia (that is, Gen AI companies using pirated copies of works)
- Tax reform to support author careers
- Adequate resourcing for Writing Australia
- Commitment to educational interventions that support Australian authors and writing careers.

I teach hundreds of undergraduate students every year, and they're passionate about writing and contributing to Australia's literary culture. They're also often terrified, and furious, that AI is already taking away their future life-chances, both as creatives, and as would-be knowledge workers using their day-job wages to support artistic practices. Things have gone too far already, and unless meaningful reform occurs, it's only going to get worse.

Sincerely,

Dr Tom Doig