

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public and anonymous

Individual



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I have been a professional writer in the screen industry for nearly twenty years. I am not affiliated with any production company - other than those who option and produce my work. For over ten years, I have worked with a writing partner, developing original content and helping others with theirs, and picking up commissions for drafts in a range of genres and formats.

The rate of attrition - the collapse of the screen writing community - in recent years has been shocking. There are, of course, many factors for this although, interestingly, Covid was not one of them for me and my partner. (Production companies and individuals turned to development, work online meant interstate 'walls' came down, and we had financial support.)

Writers of all kinds currently face existential threats. And if key creatives disappear, Australia faces a future of cultural regurgitation and stagnation.

A National Cultural Policy for these challenging times could include:

1. A Basic Income for Artists scheme - successfully rolled out in many places, but Ireland most specifically.
2. AI regulation that future proofs protections for writers and their writing.
3. Superannuation guaranteed on writing commissions.
4. Tax reform to assist writers/creatives with their highly variable incomes.
5. Protection of First Nations cultural assets in the context of AI.
6. Funding for agencies (screen, literary, art) to be increased with CPI with secured amounts to be spent on development, transitional projects (ie book to screen), and supporting micro creative businesses.