

National Cultural Policy Submission

1472803

Public

Individual

Melissa Lucashenko



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

Literary prizes are a key component of writer's incomes. They should be made tax-free so that up to one third of prizes aren't immediately returned to the ATO rather than staying with the artist. One third of a significant prize is normally enough to fund a draft of a novel or a non-fiction book. Losing that income interrupts a writer's output and damages their career. It should not be difficult for literary prizes to be treated in the same way other windfall amounts of money are from unproductive activities like gambling.