

THE TURNBULL COALITION TEAM

CCHQ 2016



27 June 2016

Mr Paul Murphy
Chief Executive Officer
Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance
Via email: ceo@meaa.org

Dear Mr Murphy,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the views of the Coalition on important issues facing your members. On behalf of the Coalition Members of Parliament and candidates I am pleased to respond to your letters regarding arts funding and whistleblowers.

Australia's future depends on how well we can continue to grow and shape our economy.

Only the Liberal and National Parties have an **economic plan** to do that and ensure Australia's future.

We have a clear plan to transition the economy from the mining and investment boom to a stronger and more diverse economy.

The key elements of our national economic plan for jobs and growth are:

- An Innovation and Science programme bringing Australian ideas to market. This means greater investment and more jobs and opportunities for our young people;
- A New Defence Industry plan that will secure an advanced defence manufacturing industry in Australia. This will create thousands of new hi-tech, higher paying jobs;
- Export Trade Deals that will generate more than 19,000 new export opportunities. These will create many more jobs for our urban and regional families;
- New Tax Incentives, which will include tax cuts for more small businesses. More than two million businesses can benefit, to deliver more growth and jobs; and
- A Strong New Economy with more than 200,000 jobs expected to be created.

Our national economic plan and management is already paying dividends. Last year our economy continued to grow creating almost 300,000 new jobs, many of them in small business.

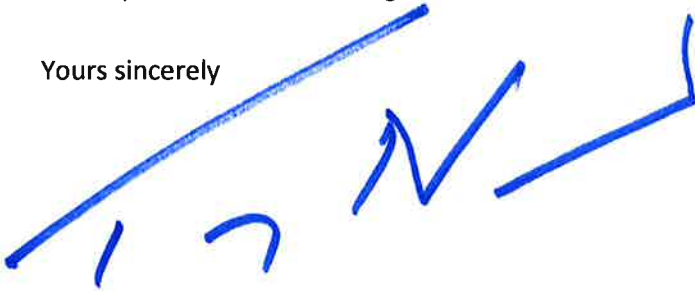
We cannot put economic growth and the jobs that come with it at risk with a return to Labor and their debt and deficits, high taxing, big spending ideas.

Only a Liberal and National Party Government can protect Australia's future.

Once announced, our policies will be available at www.liberal.org.au and www.nationals.org.au.

Thank you for communicating the Coalition's commitments to your members.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Nutt', written over the 'Yours sincerely' text.

Tony Nutt
National Campaign Director

COALITION RESPONSE TO THE MEDIA, ENTERTAINMENT AND ARTS ALLIANCE

Arts Funding

The Turnbull Coalition is strongly committed to backing arts organisations – particularly small to medium organisations – all over the country, through the Australia Council and Government funded programmes including Catalyst.

The Catalyst programme was created in response to feedback from the sector and was designed to support small and medium organisations. Around 79 per cent of successful applications to the Catalyst programme so far have been from small to medium organisations.

The Australia Council's most recent funding round is actually higher – at \$28 million – than the previous investment in operational funding for the small to medium arts sector, which was around \$22 million.

The Coalition Government's Location Offset top ups of \$21.6m for *Pirates of the Caribbean 5* and \$47.2m for *Thor Ragnarok* and *Covenant* are bringing \$400 million of investment in Australia that would otherwise be spent elsewhere.

The Turnbull Government is investing \$2.7 billion into the arts and cultural agencies over the next four years. The Coalition has on average invested more per annum in arts and cultural agencies than Labor did during their time in Government.

Whistleblowers

The Coalition recognises the importance of strong legal protection for legitimate whistleblowers.

The Coalition is committed to the whistleblower protections offered to public servants under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013* and we are not currently considering any changes to these regulations.

The Turnbull Coalition Government will introduce new whistleblower protections for people who disclose information about tax misconduct to the Australian Tax Office. Whistleblowers will have their identity protected and will be protected from victimisation and civil and criminal action for disclosing information to the ATO.

These protections will encourage whistleblowers to come forward and help support compliance with Australia's tax laws.