



MEDIA RELEASE

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New ABC boss presents opportunity for a reset

New ABC managing director Hugh Marks must seize the opportunity to make cultural change in the organisation and to restore the confidence of editorial staff that senior management will always have their backs.

The Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance said Mr Marks will have a full in tray of issues to deal with when he starts in March, including implementing the recommendations of the *Listen Loudly, Act Strongly* review of racism.

The acting Director of MEAA Media, Michelle Rae, said journalists would be looking for a strong signal from Mr Marks that he would protect the editorial independence of the ABC from outside attacks or interference.

That should begin with bringing to a close the legal saga caused by the sacking of Antoinette Lattouf from ABC Sydney radio a year ago.

“There is no more important job in the Australian media industry than managing director of the ABC, and it is a position that requires strong, responsible, consultative and accountable leadership,” she said.

“MEAA members welcome the appointment of Hugh Marks with an open mind but will expect him to quickly demonstrate that he understands the unique role of the ABC and will put the ABC and its staff first.

“His appointment, along with the announcement today of \$126 million in additional funding from 2026-27, will hopefully bring to an end the instability and uncertainty of the past 12 months.

“Staff want an end to the perpetual cycle of redundancies and restructures so they can have confidence that they can have viable, secure careers at the ABC.

“MEAA members will approach the new era of leadership with a spirit of collaboration and expect that to be reciprocated by consultation with staff.”

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