



The Hon Tony Burke MP
Minister for Home Affairs
Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Cyber Security
Minister for the Arts
Leader of the House

MS24-001686

Mr Michael Ebeid AM
Chair
Screen Australia Board
GPO Box 3984
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Ebeid

I am writing to outline my expectations for Screen Australia in the 2024-25 financial year, which will be known as the 2024-25 Statement of Expectations.

It has been over a year since the Australian Government launched Australia's cultural policy *Revive* and I would like to acknowledge Screen Australia's efforts to incorporate it into its 2023-24 activities and future plans. As the Government's primary agency for supporting Australian film, television, documentary and digital media makers, Screen Australia holds a position of influence in the local industry and its support is vital to implementing *Revive*.

Revive Pillar 1, First Nations First, commits to recognising and respecting the crucial place of First Nations stories at the centre of Australia's arts and culture. Productions supported by Screen Australia such as *The New Boy*, *Total Control Series 3*, *The Moogai* and *Thou Shalt Not Steal* are essential to achieving this. I expect Screen Australia to continue developing, funding and promoting high-quality First Nations stories, told by First Nations peoples.

Revive is also underpinned by a commitment to recognise the value of Australia's cultural and creative practitioners, to create safe and secure workplaces, and to provide sustainable pathways for artists, creative workers and screen enterprises. Skills gaps and capacity issues are an ongoing concern for the Australian screen sector. I expect Screen Australia to continue its efforts to support capacity building and skills development in the Australian screen sector through its various programs and initiatives, and through engagement with the Office for the Arts, state government agencies, educational institutions and industry.

I expect that supporting and promoting the development of a highly creative, innovative and commercially sustainable Australian screen production industry will remain the agency's key focus for 2024-25. I expect Screen Australia to continue to deliver in the areas of industry support and development, screen culture, funding, international partnerships and professional development.

I expect Screen Australia to focus on the following principles in 2024-25:

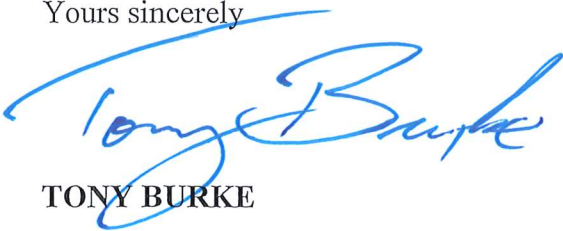
- Adhere to and promote Australia's cultural policy *Revive*;
- Continue to support First Nations voices through the creation and sharing of First Nations stories and identifying and championing talent;
- Work with federal and state entities to address capacity gaps the sector;
- Engage with industry on training opportunities to support the Government's workforce capacity requirements under the Location Offset and other initiatives;
- Promote Australian content in the international marketplace;
- Engage with the Australian games development industry in relation to support for small and medium games studios and the Digital Games Tax Offset;
- Support the production of Australian children's content including through the partnership with the Australian Children's Television Foundation on a Kids IP Incubator initiative.
- Continue to undertake data collection and research to strengthen understanding of the challenges and opportunities for the sector, including the economic value, and
- Support productions to secure the strongest pathway to audiences.

In delivering on Screen Australia's core work and these priorities, I ask that Screen Australia continue its strong positive relationship with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (my department), and other portfolio agencies. I would like to express my appreciation for Screen Australia's work with my department on developing and promoting the changes to the Location Offset and Producer Offset. These offsets are a significant mechanism for incentivising local and international productions in Australia.

I look forward to your response to this letter in the form of a Statement of Intent as to how Screen Australia will meet the Government's expectations. This Statement of Expectations and your corresponding Statement of Intent form an important component of Screen Australia's governance framework. As such, I expect both documents will be made publicly available. I am writing to all arts portfolio agencies in similar terms and have copied this letter to the Chief Executive Officer of Screen Australia, Ms Deirdre Brennan.

Screen Australia's ongoing contribution to the Australian screen sector is highly valued, and I wish you every success in continuing this contribution.

Yours sincerely



TONY BURKE

11 / 10 / 2024