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**Conversation:** AIC(V) Arts Industry Bulletin

**Subject:** AIC(V) Arts Industry Bulletin

# Arts Industry Council (Victoria)

*- the independent voice for the arts*

## BULLETIN

### In this Issue:

- 1. Teaser: Victorian State Election**
- 2. Federal Labor Arts Policy Discussion Paper – call for submissions**
- 3. Australia Council Changes**
  - 3.1 – New Media Scoping Study**
  - 3.2 – Community Partnerships**
- 4. Become a member today!**

***FEEL FREE TO FORWARD TO INTERESTED PEOPLE!***

### **1. Victorian State Election**

The State election is scheduled for Saturday, 25th November and AIC(V) has been working to finalise its lobbying agenda over the last few months. We have set a Performance Indicator for getting arts on the agenda: to have the Premier or Treasurer to mention the word "Arts" in an election speech. It might not seem much, but to get that far will indicate that arguments have been made, heard and – hopefully – acted upon.

Our draft lobbying agenda has been based on feedback from members over the current term of government, points we set before the last state election (which still remain on the agenda!), resulting in a 10-point Plan. This is currently being revised to bring it down to a 4-point plan which even politicians can understand. Following this revision we will be circulating the Plan around to the arts sector for feedback. We are NOT planning to hold an election forum, but instead will concentrate on getting in the ears of MPs and chasing some publicity for arts issues. Stay tuned.

### **2. Federal Labor Arts Policy Discussion Paper**

On July 31st, this discussion paper was released by

Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for the Arts, Peter Garrett MP. It's a 20 page, wide-ranging document in response to submissions to the review held in 2005. It includes a statement of principles and a handful of possible commitments.

The paper is available at:

<http://www.petergarrett.com.au/FederalLaborArtsPolicyDiscussionPaper.pdf>

Comments by August 25 to

[andrew.palfreyman@aph.gov.au](mailto:andrew.palfreyman@aph.gov.au)

We encourage you to download the paper and make submissions, or feedback responses or comments to us by Monday 21st August.

### **3. Changes at the Australia Council**

As AIC(V) pointed out in 2005 when the Federal Government announced the triennial funding for the Australia Council, Ozco will be facing hard decisions in setting directions for this 3-year period. As the new structure established in 2005 bites, it's still not easy to find out how the new structure will work in practice. There have been two Scoping Studies (see below) and the Theatre Fund has issued a discussion paper, "Making It New" exploring ideas on how to spend their limited funding. It raises questions about cutting some triennially funded companies and finding new ways of supporting new work and new companies and independent producers. The other Ozco Boards are tackling the funding shortfall in a variety of ways. We're interested in hearing any stories you may have of how the changes (real and proposed) are effecting you.

#### **3.1 New Media Scoping Study**

In July this Scoping Study was announced. For details, go to:

[http://www.ozco.gov.au/news\\_and\\_hot\\_topics/hot\\_topics/new\\_media\\_scoping\\_study\\_discussion\\_paper\\_released/](http://www.ozco.gov.au/news_and_hot_topics/hot_topics/new_media_scoping_study_discussion_paper_released/)

We're interest in hearing from you with any feedback or submissions you have made to this Scoping Study.

#### **3.2 Community Partnerships**

The Scoping Study Report was tabled at the June 1st Meeting of the Australia Council and most of the recommendations were accepted. These include:

- A Creative Communities Strategy to be in place by November;
- A peer reviewed grants program – the state-based assessment model that caused some concern was dumped – with coffers reportedly equal to or larger than 2004;
- A new model for funding state and national organisations to form a national network.

For details of the report, go to:

[http://www.ozco.gov.au/news\\_and\\_hot\\_topics/hot\\_topics/community\\_partnerships\\_scoping\\_study\\_information/](http://www.ozco.gov.au/news_and_hot_topics/hot_topics/community_partnerships_scoping_study_information/)

#### **4. Become a member today!!**

AIC(V) relies on membership to survive, and your membership fees fund a small secretariat. If you support the work of AIC(V), dissemination of information and cross-arts collaboration on lobbying and funding, then join up your organisation or join as an individual TODAY! Membership application forms can be downloaded from our website:

<http://www.aicv.org.au/>

If you have any queries regarding any of these items or would like to join this e-list, send us an email.

Yours,

Kevin Brennan  
Executive Officer

#### ***Arts Industry Council (Victoria)***

*- the independent voice for the arts in Victoria*

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- The Arts Industry Council (Victoria) is a membership-based not-for-profit lobby organisations seeking to represent the interests of the arts community.
- We receive no on-going support from funding bodies and rely on membership fees to survive.
- To contact us or to join email [<mailto:kevbre@netspace.net.au>](mailto:kevbre@netspace.net.au) or phone 03 9421 2798.

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