



Arts Industry Council (Vic)
c/- 222 Bank Street
SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205

18 August 2014

Dear Members of the Arts Industry Council (Vic),

THE AUSTRALIAN SEX PARTY ARTS POLICY

Thank you for providing the opportunity for the Australian Sex Party - Victoria to respond to your letter regarding the Arts Industry Council's (AICV) 2014 Victorian Election policy platform.

The Sex Party is a libertarian, political response to the needs of Australians in the 21st Century. The Sex Party respects the rights of all individuals to live their lives in the ways they choose without infringing the rights or causing harm to others. In exercising their rights and freedom, individuals should accept responsibility for their actions while being tolerant of the choices made by others.

Since its inception, the Sex Party has campaigned with an arts policy at both a federal and Victorian state level. The policies have largely focused on the rights of artists and supporting artists with disabilities, the independent, and community arts sub-sectors. The Sex Party continuously fights against issues of censorship and opposes legislative measures that impose upon freedom of expression and freedom of speech. The Sex Party is also interested in alternatives to existing copyrights laws that reflect the changing needs of our digital economy, exploring how the rights of individual artists can be upheld whilst acknowledging changes to consumer consumption models.

From the perspective of the upcoming Victorian state election, the Australia Sex Party - Victoria will run a campaign for the arts that focuses on ensuring that the live music sector continues to thrive in Melbourne and across regional Victoria. The Sex Party will also champion a decrease in annual appropriation for the metropolitan-based state-owned cultural institutions, redistributing one



percent per annum for five years to the small-to-medium sector with the view of increasing this sector's ability to generate their own income. Furthermore, we will advocate for a change in entry fee structure for the state owned cultural institutions that continues to provide free entry for Victorians but charges a nominal fee for interstate and international visitors.

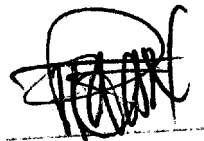
The Sex Party recognises the value of the arts on a social, cultural and economic basis. We derive value of the arts on an intrinsic (aesthetic), instrumental and institutional level - the impact of the arts does not just benefit artists. In fact, we recognise the contribution arts education can have on other areas of education, in particular mathematics and English. Whilst recognising these benefits to individuals but more broadly the state economy, the Sex Party would like to see an increase of private, corporate and philanthropic support, with the view to decrease state support of the arts.

If I win a seat in the Victorian Legislative Committee (the upper house) I will introduce a Private Member's Bill to repeal the *Graffiti Prevention Act 2007* (Vic) and seek the support from other individual members and parties. We see this law as a major imposition to freedom of expression. Moreover, these laws are somewhat contradictory to practices and acceptable tolerance of graffiti within Melbourne's CBD.

The Sex Party will not provide comment on the other questions outlined by the AICV's letter on the basis that these questions are aimed at Labor and the Coalition and their views on the machinery of departmental administration - views that are those of the party that forms government.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate in contacting Joel Murray, Business Manager by email joel@sexparty.org.au or phone 03 9347 2332.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Patten', written over a horizontal dashed line.

Fiona Patten

President

THE AUSTRALIAN SEX PARTY