

29 September 2008

Comments to Screen Australia on Draft Statement of Intent

OPEN CHANNEL's mission is to provide centralised and relevant resources for the independent screen industry in Victoria and its 1100+ members. It provides production support programs, mentorship and advisory services as well as accredited training, professional development and equipment hire. It is also an introduction to the industry for the up and coming filmmakers through many networking events and seminars promoting the strongest elements of Australia's screen culture.

There is no doubt that OPEN CHANNEL as well as its sister organisations forming the Screen Development Australia (SDA) are playing a unique and necessary role to sustain the screen industry. As such we are pleased to be involved in the consultation process for the delivery of the SOI to the Minister and we would like to highlight two main concerns from the SOI:

- The screen industry is composed of many types of organisations that should be supported by Screen Australia. The SOI focuses on the Production Companies and we feel it should be broadened to other screen businesses to deliver many SA programs concerning for example: Enterprise and Professional Development; Marketing and Distribution; and other community related programs.
- Screen Australia should recognise the Screen Development Australia (SDA) national alliance as partner with AFTRS, NFSA, ACMI, AFI and Ausfilm as mentioned in the SOI.

Martin Renaud, Executive Director; Leslie Wood, Chairperson; Jean Leeson, Treasurer; Directors: Miles Bennet; Frank Howson; Michael Agar; Julie Belle; John Hipwell; Caroline Waters.

