

5 February 2025

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate
ACT Government
GPO Box 158
Canberra ACT 2601
By email: budgetconsultation@act.gov.au

Dear Chief Minister

RE: Budget support for Screen Canberra

On behalf of [Screen Producers Australia](https://www.screenproducers.org.au), I am writing to provide our strongest support for the important work of **Screen Canberra** and to endorse their case for a renewal of their funding in the forthcoming Budget for the ACT.

A successful local screen industry for Australia relies heavily on the work of screen agencies such as Screen Canberra to build pathways into the industry for emerging filmmakers and to foster the development and career progression of existing practitioners. Other States and Territories are recognising the important social and economic function role our industry adds, the ACT should continue to seize this opportunity.

Screen industry jobs are highly skilled and bring both creative thinking and technological adaptation to a local economy. The multiplier effect of public investment in the screen industry across all parts of an economy is proven. In addition, as our creative industries become increasingly important in a diversified economy, it is important for screen agencies to be well funded to foster new talent and guide the growth trajectory.

The most recent success of the ABC series "**Austin**", produced by SPA member, Northern Pictures, is a testament to the importance of investment in the industry by the ACT Government. Filming in the ACT has added a critical and important dimension to this television series. The support provided by the ACT Government and Screen Canberra through the CBR Screen Attraction Fund and CBR Screen Investment Fund, has been critical to this success.

In addition Screen Canberra support is vital to local screen businesses like WildBear Entertainment also a SPA member. Investment in the ambitious SBS series "**A New Anzac**" directly leads to local jobs and skills enhancement helping ensuring long term viability in the industry.

Finally, SPA has advocated in other jurisdictions for the importance of funding autonomy for screen agencies, to ensure that agencies have the full capacity and flexibility to meet the needs of local industry with the resources needed to support their sector. Screen Canberra has managed to be responsive and has specific expertise to meet the needs of industry.

Yours faithfully



**Matthew Deaner – CEO
Screen Producers Australia**