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Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate  
ACT Government  
GPO Box 158  
Canberra ACT 2601  
[budgetconsultation@act.gov.au](mailto:budgetconsultation@act.gov.au)

**By email**

Dear Chief Minister

**FY2027 BUDGETARY SUBMISSION: GRANT FUNDING FOR SCREEN CANBERRA**

I write on behalf of Screen Producers Australia (**SPA**) in relation to funding for Screen Canberra into the next financial year. SPA is the industry body representing the independent screen production sector in Australia, with over 750 members who are independent screen production, service and infrastructure businesses working across Australian film, television, and interactive and online platforms.

SPA applauds the [ACT Government's commitment](#) to investing \$5.029 million over four years to continue support for the local screen and digital games industries (the **Commitment**). While this is obviously heartening, SPA is concerned that these funds are not being allocated or made available with reasonable notice to industry, leading to a degree of instability or uncertainty.

Screen production, especially in the local independent sector, often relies on multiple funding sources. In this context, having certainty about the availability of funds at a given time from government screen agencies is critical to project cashflow and investor confidence. We understand that in FY26, the amount of funding for disbursement was only announced on 4 December 2025. Such timing posed problems for screen producers seeking funding across the first half of the financial year. We understand this affected both Screen Canberra's capacity to open funding rounds and ultimately producers' willingness to work in the ACT.

Projects that independent producers have slated for FY27 will already be seeking funding support and may already be in development. Understanding whether funds will be available during the next financial year may be critical to commercial decisions about projects' viability and risk profiles. In the face of this uncertainty, producers may have no choice but to locate (or relocate) their productions to states or territories with confirmed availability of Government investment. The ongoing uncertainty of the quantum of funds for the next financial year has already had an economic impact. This impact is likely to significantly exacerbate, if uncertainty continues closer to the new financial year.

In short, regardless of the quantum of funds the ACT Government is able to commit across FY2027 for screen projects, it is imperative that both the Screen Canberra (in its dealings with the sector), and producers are able to plan projects with financial certainty. Without sufficient notice, funding announcements and allocations, welcome as they are, may fail to deliver fully the support that they intend. Therefore, in seeking to maximise the economic value of any committed funds, SPA strongly

urges the Government to provide clarity as soon as is possible about what funds may be available, and when, across the next financial year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Deaner', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

**Matthew Deaner**  
CEO  
Screen Producers Australia