

Date: 20 July 2018

From: Progressive PR and Publicity on behalf of *Australian Book Review*

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Hands off the ABC!

Australian Book Review shares many Australians' concerns about the health and viability of the ABC. The threats are myriad and sustained. Funding cuts, political interference, and frequent taunts from News Corp have weakened the organisation. Recently, the Liberal Party's Federal Council voted to privatise the organisation. This would surely spell the beginning of the end for the national broadcaster. We take things for granted in the Lucky Country, but can we really be sure that the ABC will be around in 2028 to celebrate its centenary – searching, unfettered, well resourced? More and more people think not and have begun to lobby government. *ABR* supports them wholeheartedly. Meanwhile, one hundred writers, artists, commentators, and public figures have signed our Open Letter in support of the ABC.

Peter Rose, Editor and CEO of *Australian Book Review*

'When I was growing up, the ABC represented my imagination. It is the voice of Australia, and yet its throat is being cut.'

Thomas Keneally

'Those who say that the ABC will be around for years to come have their heads truly in the world of denial.'

Ranald Macdonald

Those who have signed our [Open Letter](#) include:

Louise Adler AM
Brook Andrew
Robyn Archer AO
Neil Armfield AO
John Bell AO
J.M. Coetzee
Paul Collins
Glyn Davis AC

Brett Dean
Robert Dessaix
Morag Fraser AM
Anna Funder
Helen Garner
Anna Goldsworthy
Gideon Haigh
Marieke Hardy

Lindy Hume
Barry Jones AC
Michelle de Kretser
Ranald Macdonald
Robert Manne
Kerry O'Brien
Kim Scott
Fiona Stanley AC

[Click here to read the Open Letter](#)

More information about *Australian Book Review* can be found on the [ABR website](#).

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