

Subject: Review of the National Museum of Australia Exhibitions and Public Programs

Dear Ms Harrison,

As a Friend and corporate sponsor of the Museum I feel it only natural to forward my thoughts on the Museum to the review committee.

Overview

I have been involved both personally and professionally with the Museum from its launch to the present day. I have visited every major exhibition and also been involved with sponsor events as well. I feel that the Museum has been largely successful in its role and functions.

The Museum is a unique institution. It is the only place dedicated the Australian Story. As such it deals with a complex mix of our past and our future and in doing so redefines Australians perceptions of what a museum is and also where they themselves connect with Australia.

One must consider that the Museum is a subjective experience and as such there is no right or wrong. The one thing the Museum should do however is encourage debate and reflect the dynamics of Australia.

It is not a historical institution and therefore we should encourage some minor content changes (ongoing) to reflect the changing shape of Australians present and possible future which the museum represents.

The Museum needs its funding as its audience is the entire population and each Australian should be aware of its existence. Currently it suffers from a lack of general awareness outside of Canberra. Surely before we start strongly debating its progress we should extent a greater invitation to all Australians to take a look.

I trust these brief thoughts will help the museum continue its journey.

Rob Currie