



SENATOR THE HON MITCH FIFIELD
MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
MANAGER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS IN THE SENATE

Mr David Jones
Chair
National Museum of Australia
GPO Box 1901
CANBERRA ACT 2601

National Museum of Australia – Statement of Expectations

Dear Mr Jones

David

I am writing to you to outline my expectations for the National Museum of Australia (NMA) for 2017-18. The allocation for the NMA in 2017-18 is \$43.365 million. This includes \$3.2 million from the Public Service Modernisation Fund.

Let me firstly acknowledge the achievements of the NMA in 2016-17, particularly the outstanding success of the *History of the World in 100 Objects* exhibition. I note that the exhibition is the most successful exhibition to be staged at the museum and this is testament to the efforts of the NMA to deliver world class exhibitions.

More broadly, I acknowledge the efforts of the Council in fostering a strong vision for the museum including clear and achievable objectives for its operations and consistent delivery of world class exhibitions.

I anticipate that during 2017-18 the NMA will continue to perform its core function of developing and maintaining a national collection of historical material. I would like to take this opportunity to outline some strategic priorities that I expect the NMA to focus on in 2017-18. These are:

- Build on the success of the *100 Objects* exhibition to pursue opportunities to grow private sector support and increase own-source revenue.
- Continue to progress redevelopment of the permanent galleries at the NMA.
- Deliver the Cultural and Corporate Shared Services Centre.
- Consider opportunities for the NMA to contribute to the Government's innovation agenda.
- Contribute data on the sector and the agency's performance to national reporting and planning, including through the next iterations of the artist survey and the audience participation survey.
- Contribute to the Government's diversity and inclusion objectives including Closing the Gap, through its programs, processes and council membership.
- Continue to identify and implement operational efficiencies in line with our expectation that all departments and agencies assist the Government in achieving budget repair.
- Contribute to the Government's cultural diplomacy outcomes within existing resources and with particular focus on China, Singapore, India, Germany and Japan.

I note that many of these areas are already being actively progressed, and thank you for the considerable work you have already done to implement efficiencies and streamline operations. In particular I acknowledge the leadership role of the Museum in developing the Cultural and Corporate Shared Services Centre which will create longer term efficiencies by allowing the participating collecting institutions to focus resources on the delivery of core services and programs.

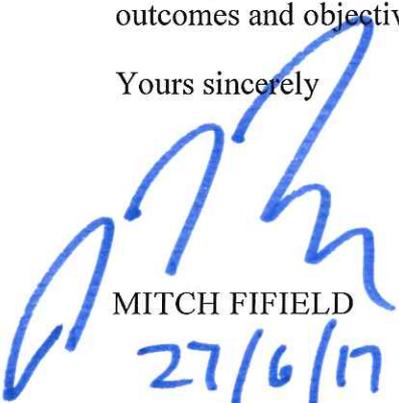
I encourage you to continue to work cooperatively with the Department of Communications and the Arts and other portfolio agencies in contributing to the Government's policy settings. I also appreciate you alerting me to any significant events related to NMA activities or functions.

I intend to schedule an annual meeting with you and the Museum's Director to discuss plans for the year. I suggest this could be held in advance of the next iteration of your Corporate Plan. This would provide a formal opportunity to discuss the Museum's plans as well as Government priorities.

This Statement of Expectations and your corresponding Statement of Intent form an important component of the Museum's governance framework. As such, I would expect both to be public documents. I have written in similar terms to all arts portfolio agencies, and have copied this letter to the Director of the NMA, Dr Mathew Trinca.

Thank you for your ongoing stewardship of the NMA. I wish you success in meeting your outcomes and objectives for 2017-18.

Yours sincerely



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27/6/17