# **National Cultural Policy Submission**

#### **Beechworth Arts Council**

Submitted: On behalf of a not-for-profit arts organisation; As an artist and; As an individual

What challenges and opportunities do you see in the pillar or pillars most relevant to you? Feel free to respond to any or all pillars:

### **First Nations**

Support for first nation artists in rural Australia is increasing a priority, the first nations population is a growing force in Rural Australia into the future.

## The Centrality of the Artist

Support for emerging and mature career artists in rural Australia that is not project based and can support individual

## **Strong Institutions**

Essential to build the five pillars is the strong support for arts education in early learning settings, primary and secondary schools and for tertiary education. Arts education has been hollowed out and the future for the creative arts is under threat without future teachers, educators, artists and infrastructure.

Having had an arts worker in local government (Indigo Shire Council) for 8 years in the past, the position did not have continued support. National Government support for the Arts and Culture industry is essential for all local government areas to engage staff and initiate programs to support arts infrastructure, organisations and individuals, where support for sport, recreation (cycling) and promotion of food and wine if generously funded and has taken the place of creative industries.