



Ambassador  
Cate Blanchett  
Patron  
Dr George Miller

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017

Peter Tonagh  
Chief Executive Officer  
Foxtel

(12)

Angus Ross  
Director of Programming  
Seven Network

Dear Peter and Angus,

Thank you for your letter of December 1 regarding the forthcoming AACTA Awards.

I assure you we share your commitment to creation of a safe and respectful workplace for all employees.

We acknowledge the statement made by the STC relating to Geoffrey Rush is serious in nature and regret the timing of these claims being so close to our major event of the year.

Geoffrey has acknowledged that recent events would be having an adverse impact on our programs and as such has decided to step aside as President of AACTA until these matters are resolved. He certainly does not want his predicament or even his presence to detract from what should be a celebration of the achievements of our film and television industry.

In early planning for our show on Wednesday evening Geoffrey was to have significant involvement including performing in a special sketch to open the show with Rebel Wilson. We are now creating an alternative opener for the show.

We are also developing contingency plans around the red carpet segment of the broadcast. This segment will be tailored to ensure its tone and vibrancy are reflective of the show. As there is a 2 hour turnaround there will be an opportunity also to edit the show itself as required to ensure a very upbeat celebration for broadcast.

As safety in the workplace is such an important matter and such a focus in our entertainment industry currently, we are also considering a brief constructive/positive AACTA statement on this subject in the show. We will consult you on its form when it's more developed. Such a message would build on our

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existing strategies around workplace safety such as the promotion of the forthcoming Safer Workplace Strategies event @ AFTRS on 12 December as set out in the email attached to this letter.

We welcome any thoughts and suggestions either Foxtel or the Seven Network may have.

Both Foxtel and the Seven Network have been incredible partners of the AACTA Awards. This support is sincerely appreciated and we very much look forward to continuing to work with you to create ongoing celebrations of our film and television industry befitting the very special industry that Australia has.

Yours sincerely,

Damian Trewhella  
Chief Executive Officer  
AFI AACTA

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