

To: Chief of Staff      **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Strong opposition promised to Liberals ABC privatisation move**

Victorian Liberals are urging Tony Abbott to privatise the ABC, in a motion to be voted on at the party's state conference this weekend.

"Has the Liberal Party learnt nothing from the time the Howard Government sought to undermine the ABC?," asked Glenys Stradijot, a spokesperson for Friends of the ABC (Vic)

"If they move to downgrade the ABC, they are both foolish and blind – blind to the importance of a national public broadcaster to this country, and blind to the strong and overwhelming community support for the ABC.

"FABC can promise a campaign of huge community opposition if the Liberal Party proceeds to attack the ABC.

"The ABC provides an essential service to the nation and to its citizens, with content that is uncompromised by political and commercial influence.

"Australians depend on the ABC for independent information, education and ideas. The public broadcaster provides quality entertainment and is important to the maintenance of our local culture.

"Importantly, it is accessible to all in the community without cost.

"The failure of the business model that supports commercial media has highlighted the importance of ensuring that public broadcasting flourishes.

"With a Federal election approaching, the Coalition must now make clear its intentions for the ABC," said Glenys Stradijot

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