



Department of Culture and the Arts  
Government of Western Australia



ScreenWest

## Media Statement

Level 7 Law Chambers, 573 Hay Street Perth Western Australia 6000

Tel: (08) 9224 7340 Fax: (08) 9224 7341

Email: [info@screenwest.com.au](mailto:info@screenwest.com.au) [www.screenwest.com.au](http://www.screenwest.com.au)

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### Change of reigns for ScreenWest

Acting Director General of the Department of Culture and the Arts Allanah Lucas today announced that ScreenWest Chief Executive Tania Chambers has tendered her resignation, effective 29 January 2007.

Ms Chambers has been at the helm of ScreenWest for more than six years and is leaving Western Australia to take up the position of New South Wales Film and Television Office Chief Executive in February 2007.

Ms Lucas congratulated Ms Chambers on her appointment.

"Tania has made an important contribution to the development of the screen industry during her time at ScreenWest," Ms Lucas said.

"Initiatives such as the Western Australia On Screen program and the highly successful *Deadly Yarns* initiative, a key partnership between ABC, ScreenWest and the Film & Television Institute to mentor Indigenous talent and produce five Indigenous short films, have been successfully introduced under her leadership.

"Tania has also developed a strong partnership with ABC TV and SBS, which has resulted in the production and national screenings of stories that showcase Western Australian talent."

ScreenWest Chair Debra Shorter said Ms Chambers had done an outstanding job in leading ScreenWest during her tenure.

"Tania has had a considerable impact on screen culture in this State. Her dynamic leadership style, intellect and real connection with the industry means she will be sorely missed," Ms Shorter said.

"She has been instrumental in developing ScreenWest's Strategic Plan 2006 – 2011 and helping to shape an exciting future for an industry that she cares passionately about."

Ms Chambers said she was sad to be leaving Western Australia, her home of 15 years, but looking forward to a new professional challenge.



“Six years as CEO of ScreenWest is a pretty good innings and it has been an exciting time assisting the progression of such a dynamic industry. However, I am sure ScreenWest and the industry will benefit from ‘fresh blood’ and a new perspective once the future Chief Executive is appointed,” Ms Chambers said.

“I’m proud of the WA screen industry’s achievements during my time as Chief Executive. The number of hours of production funded by ScreenWest has increased from 32 hours in 2001/2 to 72 hours in 2005/6, with total production budgets increasing from \$14 million to \$40 million. We’ve secured new funds to the industry from the WA Government via West Coast Visions (including five low budget features and key Indigenous funding), geared up key production partnerships with the ABC and SBS, received excellent support from Lotterywest and consolidated the key screen resource organisation Film and Television Institute.”

The WA film and television industry is currently thriving with a slate of world-class drama productions set to screen in 2007 including *Lockie Leonard*, *Sleepover Club*, *The Circuit*, *Marx and Venus* and *Dogstar*, and documentaries and factual projects *Shipwreck Detectives* (Series Two), *Dark Science*, *Burning Daylight*, *Eco House*, *Who Do You Think You Are?*, *Pipe Dreams* and *Air Australia*.

ScreenWest will commence recruitment for the position of Chief Executive in the immediate future.

ScreenWest media contact: Louise Merrillees 9224 7342/ 0438 764 197  
[louise@screenwest.com.au](mailto:louise@screenwest.com.au)

