



7 November 2017

Dear Members of the Film and Television Industry,

I want to acknowledge the constructive engagement that I have had with the film and television industry in recent weeks. As you will be aware, the Labour Party has a long-standing policy that the people who work in the film and television industry ought to have the right to bargain collectively. Our new Coalition-Government plans to progress this policy and we want to implement this in a way that best suits the needs of the industry and the people who work in it. I appreciate the need for certainty to encourage continued investment in New Zealand.

My conversations with representatives from the Screen Industry Guild and Equity NZ have been positive and productive. Equity NZ has expressed to me a strong desire to work with the Screen Industry Guild in finding a durable solution. The same sentiment to work collaboratively has been voiced by the Screen Industry Guild in our discussions.

Based on these conversations, I believe that together we can find a mutually agreeable solution that restores the right of workers within the industry to bargain collectively without necessarily changing the status of those who wish to continue working as individual contractors.

I have therefore asked my officials to work closely with the key stakeholders in this important industry to find a joint solution. Recognising the need for certainty, I encourage all parties involved to come together and begin dialogue on this issue.

The film and television industry is vibrant and growing, and the Government values the contribution the industry and the people who work in it make to New Zealand's cultural and economic make-up. I appreciate the willingness from parties to put a line under the issues of the past, to work together and to seek open dialogue with open minds. I believe we all share the same goal of a vibrant, strong and world-leading film industry, a goal we'll achieve through working collaboratively.

I look forward to working with you all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iain Lees-Galloway', written over a circular stamp or mark.

Hon Iain Lees-Galloway  
**Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety**