



## Office of Hon Craig Foss

MP for Tukituki

Minister of Commerce  
Minister of Consumer Affairs

Minister of Broadcasting  
Associate Minister for ACC

17 APR 2014

Corey Fuimaono  
[fyi-request-1561-4f419d58@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-1561-4f419d58@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Corey Fuimaono

Thank you for your email of 23 March 2014 regarding non-commercial television.

The Government has no plans to establish a new non-commercial television channel. While we agree public service broadcasting has an important role to play in New Zealand media, our approach is to support broadcasting content for mainstream audiences through NZ On Air, rather than directly funding individual broadcasters.

Funding content through NZ On Air ensures high-quality local television not only gets made but is available across all our major free-to-view channels, reaching the greatest possible range of viewers. NZ On Air's Platinum Fund supports the production of quality television genres such as current affairs, documentary and drama and the contestable funding model ensures only the very best projects make it to our screens.

The Government is committed to returning to budget surplus by 2014/15. Despite this commitment, and the constraints we have been operating under, I am pleased to note we have maintained our support for all forms of public broadcasting, with around \$207 million allocated this year for this purpose. This includes NZ On Air's \$81 million of contestable funding for the production of local content, as well as funding for Māori Television.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CF', written over a white background.

Hon Craig Foss  
Minister of Broadcasting