

Hon **Colin Holt** MLC

Member for South West Region

Our Ref: 2939/89

10th October, 2012

Mr Mark Warner
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
GPO: Box A11
PERTH WA 6837

**RE: SAVE THE DENMARK MUSIC AND ARTS PROGRAM COMMUNITY
PETITION - 5147**

Dear Mr Warner

I write to the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs as the member of the Legislative Council responsible for tabling the above mentioned petition on 27 September 2012.

Denmark is a vibrant community which is highly dependent on environment and arts based tourism as a major economic driver of this community. Denmark is highly reliant on music and the arts to compliment other tourist attractions like wineries, cheese and chocolate factories and the many festivals and fairs for which the region is renowned.

Regional communities should have access to their sort of courses, especially communities like Denmark which has such a compelling history in the Arts field.

I support the efforts of the chief petitioner to raise the concerns of the local community regarding the future of the music and arts program currently run by the GSIT.

I ask the Committee to investigate the process by which the decision to drop specific courses for 2013 was made, and what the long term options are to ensure the necessary music and arts based expertise is retained in the Denmark and Great Southern region.

I thank the committee for their consideration on this issue of high importance to the community of Denmark and the Great Southern. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Kind regards



Hon Colin Holt MLC
MEMBER FOR THE SOUTH WEST REGION

PUBLIC

