

18 May 2014 (UPDATED 20 May 2014)

The Coalition for Better Broadcasting is disappointed at the lack of recognition for Radio NZ in the 2014 Budget. In fact the Budget represents a drop in funding for the public broadcasting sector in general, delivering gains to Sky TV in the process.

- Radio NZ must survive another year on 2008 budget levels. This is despite warnings from RNZ bosses they are close to making cuts to their on-air service.
Who does this favour? Commercial radio networks such as Mediaworks, the company partly established by Cabinet Minister Steven Joyce.
- NZ on Air receives a funding boost of \$500,000. This is a minuscule amount which actually only reinstates money diverted to NZ Film Archive for the last few years.
Who does this favour? No-one really, it's a fudge.
- TVNZ Archive gets \$2m as a separate allocation from TVNZ. This is to fund the merger with NZ Film Archive. With the archive removed from TVNZ expenses TVNZ may be expected to return \$2m more in dividend.
What is the impact? The creation of separate funding for a separate Film and TV Archive paves the way for the sale of TVNZ.
- In the Maori Affairs allocation, Iwi Radio funding has increased by \$3m ending a funding freeze of 13 years! Iwi Radio has been waiting far too long for this but we applaud the increase. On this basis RNZ will get their next funding increase in 2021.
Who does this favour? Iwi Radio and it's many listeners.

The Coalition for Better Broadcasting is a non-profit charitable trust formed by organisers of Save Radio NZ and Save TVNZ 7.

More information re Radio NZ including funding comparisons –
www.betterbroadcasting.co.nz/defrost-rnz-funding-freeze

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