

BOWEN COMMUNITY BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION INC.

95.1 GEMFM



COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION POLICY

Background

To make sure that community radio stations have written policies and procedures in place that promote diversity and encourage community participation.

Interpretation:

The Act: The Broadcasting Services Act 1992 (BSA)

The Code: The Community Radio Broadcasting Codes of Practice 2008 (CBAA) - Code 2.1

Purpose

Our station will make sure that people in our community who are not adequately served by other media are encouraged and assisted to participate in providing our service. We will have in place policies and procedures to support this commitment. We will document evidence of our efforts to encourage community participation. To be read in conjunction with Programming Policy Code 2.2.

Policy- we recognise and acknowledge that we shall:

- Encourage and welcome the active involvement of members of the community it serves to participate in the selection, production, and provision of programs.
- 95.1GEMFm shall ensure: -
 1. Access and equity in participation in the station
 2. Promote its services to be open and accessible to the community.
 3. Invite the community to participate in the station.
 4. Make the community aware of the ways in which people can participate.
- 95.1 GEMFM recognises that community participation in the station includes: -
 1. Involving a group of individuals who share a common interest in its community of interest.
 2. People who live and/or work in the area.
 3. Sections of the community who are excluded from or not adequately catered for by mainstream radio stations.
 4. Document all steps taken to encourage community participation in the station.
- Recognise and acknowledge that membership and membership involvement in 95.1 GEMFM is the key to participation. Membership of 95.1GEMFM means financial membership and shall confer the following rights:-
 1. To participate in decision making
 2. To become a member of the management committee or any sub-committee
 3. The right to attend volunteers meeting and general meetings.
 4. The right to attend Committee Meetings in a non-voting capacity upon invitation.
 5. Aim to have a Management Committee that has the expertise to adequately govern and encourage the membership to seek nomination to the committee every 12 months.
- Continue to represent the community interest it represented at its last licence application renewal or to seek a change in the community of interest.
- 95.1GEMFM will recognise that the community interest may be general within the geographic area of its licence or specific to identifiable groups with the general community.

Community Participation Policy

- Recognise that its community interest includes: -
 1. Needs of local community
 2. A particular sector of that community
 3. The interests of people who:
 - a) Live or spend a substantial amount of time in its local geographic area.
 - b) Share an ethnic or cultural background.
 - c) Share religious beliefs.
 - d) Share or identify with some particular characteristic or interest.
- Use a range of initiatives and measures to encourage the community to participate in the operation and development of 95.1 GEMFM. This shall include: -
 1. Outside broadcast- school fetes, local markets, sporting events, fundraising & charity events etc.
 2. Lifestyle programming to invite engagement with the listening audience.
 3. Giveaways and promotions
 4. Local news, sports update
 5. Broadcast local and live music.
 6. Provide regular on-air community announcements.
 7. Provide training programs to equip potential volunteers in their involvement with the station.
 8. Provide access to information through our website.
- Regularly monitor and respond to the changing needs of the communities it serves.
- Develop and maintain a program schedule that reflects the needs of the community it serves.
- Encourage and assist people who are not adequately served by other media to participate in the programming, operation, and development of 95.1GEMFM.
- Encourage members of the community to have input into the programs broadcast on 95.1GEMFM.
- Promote 95.1GEMFM within the community as an organisation that is responsive and welcomes community input.
- Ensure the station is familiar with the community interest and any relevant changes.
- Aim to involve local youth in producing programs for their peer group.
- Will encourage presenters to use social media to promote their shows.