

Legal assistance for First Nations businesses and organisations

As a large, national law firm, Hall & Wilcox offers a one-stop-shop for First Nations businesses, not-for-profits, land councils and other community-controlled organisations.

We recognise that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses and other organisations face unique challenges and opportunities, and need legal advisors who 'get it'. With broad capability in all areas of law, including commercial transactions, corporate structuring, governance, intellectual property, employment, litigation and dispute resolution, we are your firm.

Our expertise

- **Commercial contracts** – we advise on all aspects of contractual negotiations and can draft tailored commercial contracts. This includes shareholder, partnership and joint venture agreements; supply, distribution and agency agreements, as well as licence agreements. Our advice always takes into account our client's strategic and operational needs.
- **Not-for-profits and the ACNC** – we can assist with all aspects of setting up, managing and running not-for-profit organisations, including regulation by the charity regulator, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.
- **Capital raising** – we can assist your business to raise capital in the most effective and appropriate way, whether through private investment, venture capital, grants, debt or other ways.
- **Corporate structuring and governance** – we can advise you on the best structure for your business, such as an Aboriginal corporation, joint venture or partnership, and can assist with all governance matters, including directors' and officers' duties and liabilities, shareholder rights, and compliance with the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006*.
- **Intellectual property** – we can advise you how to best protect and maximise the value of your business' intellectual property, including lodging trade mark applications, and by drafting commercialisation agreements, licensing agreements, and more.
- **Human resources** – we can assist with employment contracts, workplace policies, performance management and other human resources issues, award compliance, termination of employment and redundancy, and more.
- **Discrimination, bullying and harassment** – including the preparation of policies and procedures, tailored development and delivery workplace training, and defending these claims in state and federal tribunals and in court.
- **Underpayments** – advising clients on the identification, investigation, rectification, disclosure and prevention of underpayments, including award interpretation, liaison with the Fair Work Ombudsman, and more.
- **Unfair dismissal** – and other employment claims in courts and tribunals.
- **Contractors** – preparing independent contractor agreements and advising on contracting relationships and compliance with statutory obligations, including sham contracting laws.
- **Litigation and dispute resolutions** – we can provide advice and assist to resolve any kind of dispute with third parties, including litigation in any court or tribunal in Australia.
- **Pro bono** – we can provide free legal assistance to eligible organisations working to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people or reconciliation generally.
- **More** – just ask us: chances are we can help!

Our proven commitment to reconciliation

At Hall & Wilcox, we have a proven and ongoing commitment to reconciliation and to assisting First Nations businesses and other organisations to thrive.

Internally, we have a Reconciliation Action Plan that sets out how we intend to create stronger connections with First Nations peoples and organisations, and how we intend to take an active part in our nation's endeavour to listen to the voices and stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

As a firm, we are committed to creating and maintaining a diverse and inclusive workforce that reflects our clients and our community. Part of this is ensuring that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are welcomed at the firm and have opportunities to prosper and grow their careers.

We are also a proud supporter of the Uluru Statement from the Heart calling for a constitutionally enshrined First Nations' Voice to Parliament, which we consider to be an integral step towards achieving true reconciliation in Australia. As lawyers, we look forward to contributing and to making this a reality.



Key contacts

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