



ORIC's first RAP

The Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) launched its first Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) during NAIDOC Week with a free sausage sizzle and some great entertainment from Mary G.

A good crowd gathered in the Woden Town Square in Canberra for the welcome to country by Aunty Ruth Bell and the Registrar's address about the importance of ORIC's first Reconciliation Action Plan. Ms Barbara Livesey, Chief Executive of Reconciliation Australia also spoke and congratulated ORIC on the way the RAP had been developed in consultation with staff and clients.

ORIC's RAP is aligned with the government's plan for closing the 17-year life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. It outlines what we are currently doing and what is planned to promote reconciliation through the development of actions in the key areas of relationships, respect and opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

Key areas of ORIC's RAP

Relationships

Respectful relationships are the fundamental underpinning of reconciliation. These can be nurtured in the workplace by having a balance of Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff working together and spending time together to listen and learn from each other.

Respect

Respect is the basis of any successful, productive relationship. At ORIC we actively encourage our staff to take part in cultural awareness programs and activities to promote understanding of Indigenous culture.

Opportunities

An organisational culture that promotes skill sharing and supports Indigenous capacity is in everyone's interest. ORIC intends to recruit more Indigenous staff while retaining a balance to reflect diversity in our decision-making processes.

Tracking progress and reporting

Internal reporting and external advice on progress towards implementing our RAP will be measured and publicly reported each year.

See pictures of our launch on the back page.



FURTHER INFORMATION:

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Move to CATSI—workshops

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations have until 30 June 2009 to move to the new CATSI Act. Now is the time to update your corporation's rule book. ORIC staff will be running workshops to help corporations with their rule books before the deadline—we call them our transition workshops. If you don't have a final rule book by this deadline, the Registrar has the power under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (the CATSI Act) to give you a set of rules.

What's it all about?

The transition workshops are all about helping corporations make the change to the CATSI Act. ORIC will hold workshops around Australia in some Indigenous Coordination Centres.

Corporations who register to attend will work with ORIC staff to draft their rule books in the two days following the workshop. These draft rule books can then be taken back to the community so your corporation



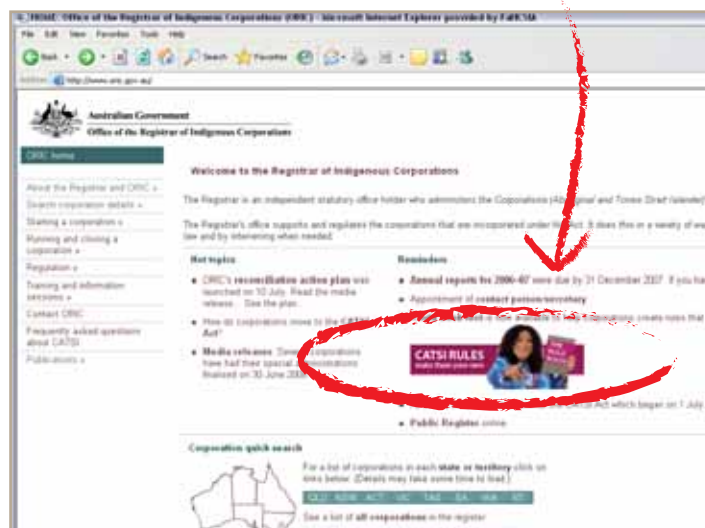
members can have a say. ORIC staff will also demonstrate some of the self-help tools that corporations can use.

The ORIC website (www.oric.gov.au) has a number of resources that can help you with your rule book redesign. Corporations are encouraged to have a look at this information before attending the workshops.

What do we need to do?

1. Nominate two people who can attend the workshop and who will be responsible for helping your corporation to transition.
2. Make sure the two nominees are prepared to set aside one to two days from their busy schedules to participate actively.
3. Ask your nominees to complete an application form (available from our website or call our freecall number 1800 622 431) and indicate if they would like a follow-up appointment after the workshop.
4. If you have a draft copy of your corporation's rule book, bring it along to the workshop.
5. Have a look at our website (www.oric.gov.au) at the different resources we have available to help you with your rule book redesign. For example, we have a very handy rule book etool.

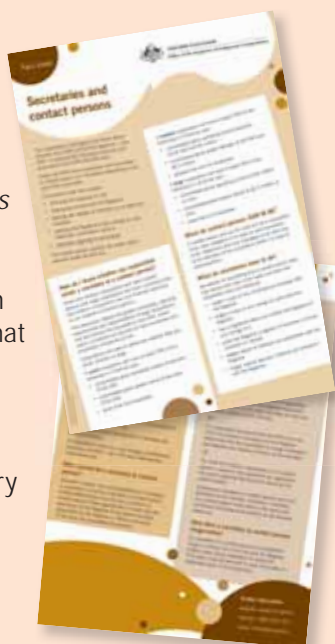
There is a link to the rule book products on our homepage.



Fact sheet in the spotlight

Our latest fact sheet, *Secretaries and contact persons*, is now available. When do you need a secretary? What size corporation needs a contact person? And what do they actually do?

To find the answers to these questions and a lot more, go to our website to download this very important and useful fact sheet. You can also order it by phoning our freecall number.



Click on this link and it will give you all the information you need to start to transition to the CATSI Act including access to the rule book etool and guidelines on how to download the documents.

There are also some handy fact sheets for existing corporations on the rule book webpage. These fact sheets include suggested wording to adopt a new rule book which complies with the CATSI Act. For example, our fact sheet, *Resolution for existing corporations to adopt new rules under the CATSI Act*.

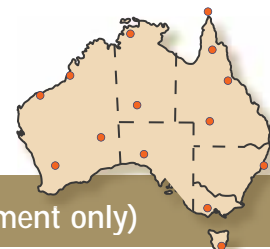
ORIC can help you

On the home page of our website (www.oric.gov.au) you will find a link to our training webpage that has all the information on the workshops (Training program 2008–09). Just choose the location where you want to do the training and apply online. Places are limited, so be sure you get your application form in quickly. Workshops are free for participants.

Individual sessions with corporations who need more help with their rule books will be available after the workshop.

If you want to book a session, you will have to apply on our website or give us a call on 1800 622 431 for your very own rule book session.

Remember that we have support materials and publications available on our website or get copies by calling our freecall number (not free from mobile phones) on 1800 622 431. You will also find other training opportunities on our training webpage.



Where and when?

The transition workshops are being held in the following ICC regions:

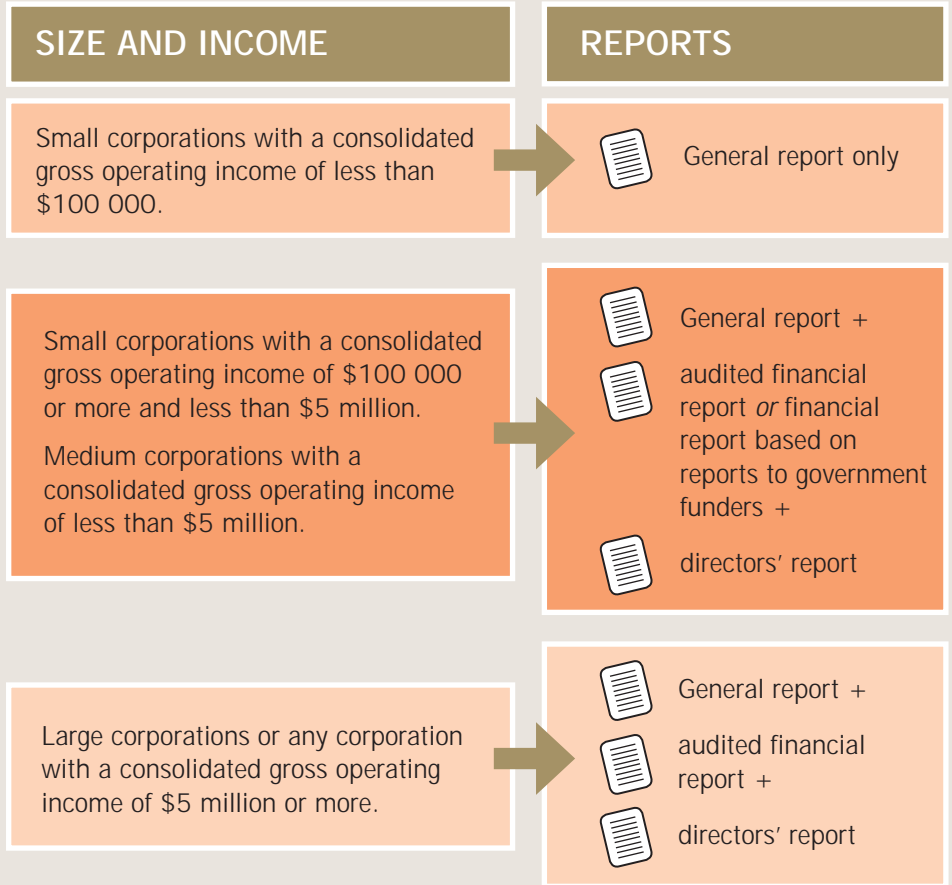
Location	Workshop (9.30 am to 5 pm)		Follow-up (by appointment only)	
	Date	Location	Date	Location
Perth	11 August	Perth Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), Level 10, 55 St Georges Terrace	12–13 August	Perth Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), Level 10, 55 St Georges Terrace
Kalgoorlie	25 August	Kalgoorlie Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), 39–43 Boulder Road	26–27 August	Kalgoorlie Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), 39–43 Boulder Road
Alice Springs	8 September	All Seasons Hotel, 10 Gap Road	9–10 September	Alice Springs Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), 2nd Floor, Jock Nelson Building, 16 Hartley Street
Darwin	22 September	Darwin Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), Building 2 13 Scaturchio Street, Casuarina	23–24 September	Darwin Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), Building 2 13 Scaturchio Street, Casuarina
Broome	6 October	The Mangrove Resort Hotel, Carnarvon Street	7–8 October	Broome Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), 1 Short Street
Roma	6 October	Roma Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), 101–107 McDowell Street	7–8 October	Roma Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), 101–107 McDowell Street
South Hedland	20 October	South Hedland Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), Commonwealth Building, 3 Branch Street	21–22 October	South Hedland Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), Commonwealth Building, 3 Branch Street
Melbourne	20 October	Melbourne Indigenous Coordination Centre, Level 26, Casselden Place, 2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne	21–22 October	Melbourne Indigenous Coordination Centre, Level 26, Casselden Place, 2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne
Cairns	27 October	Mecure Hotel Harbourside 209–217 The Esplanade, Cairns	28–29 October	Cairns/Cape York Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), Level 2 111 Grafton Street
Hobart	27 October	TBA	28–29 October	Hobart Indigenous Coordination Centre, Level 5, 25 Argyle Street
Townsville	10 November	QCWA, cnr Denham and Walker streets	11–12 November	Townsville Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), Level 4, Stanley Place 235 Stanley Street
Port Augusta	10 November	TBA	11–12 November	Port Augusta Indigenous Coordination Centre, 38–40 Stirling Road
Thursday Island	24 November	Tropical North Queensland TAFE	25–26 November	Tropical North Queensland TAFE
Coffs Harbour	1 December	Coffs Harbour Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), 17 Duke Street	2–3 December	Coffs Harbour Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC), 17 Duke Street

How's your financial reporting going?

In 2008–09 corporations must report under the CATSI Act as small, medium or large depending on their income and registered size, unless you were one of the few who wrote to the Registrar for an exemption. All reports must be lodged with the Registrar every year between 30 June and 31 December.

You can now also do your reporting online! It's easy and it saves you time. Go to our website and check it out (<https://online.oric.gov.au>). Of course you can still submit it in hard copy if you choose to do so.

Make sure you get your reporting requirements right and on time. If you have any problems, don't hesitate to call the ORIC staff on 1800 622 431.



Registrar and staff at the ORIC Reconciliation Action Plan launch.

