

who

Who is the Registrar?

The Registrar of Indigenous Corporations is an independent statutory officer appointed under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (CATSI Act). The role of the Registrar is to administer the CATSI Act and provide support services to corporations registered under the Act.

About the Act

The CATSI Act is modelled on the *Corporations Act 2001*. Where it differs is in allowing greater flexibility to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations for cultural practices and individual needs.

Who we are

The Registrar is supported by staff of the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC).



What we do

Under the Registrar's direction, ORIC regulates and provides support services to corporations registered under the CATSI Act. This means we:

- offer information and advice
- help corporations comply with the law and intervene only when necessary or if invited
- deliver accredited and non-accredited corporate governance training
- provide services, such as:
 - » a **call centre**—for free, quick and easy access to ORIC staff
 - » **LawHelp**—a free legal service for not-for-profit corporations
 - » **Corporation jobs and ORIC Recruitment Assistance (ORA)**—to help select the right candidate and provide a tailored employment contract
 - » **Independent directory**—a service matching independent directors to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations
 - » **online lodgment**—for easy lodging of general reports
 - » a **dispute management** process—to help solve corporation difficulties before they get out of hand.



Australian Government

Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations



who we are what we do

STRONG CORPORATIONS, STRONG PEOPLE, STRONG COMMUNITIES

Contact details

Freecall: 1800 622 431 (not free from mobiles)

Email: info@oric.gov.au

Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations
PO Box 29 Woden ACT 2606

If you have any queries or suggestions about ORIC's services don't hesitate to contact us. We want to hear from you.

www.oric.gov.au



ORIC

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF INDIGENOUS CORPORATIONS

Becoming a corporation

If your Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander group is seriously thinking about becoming a corporation under the CATSI Act, we will take you through the steps and make the process of registering as easy and as free of red tape as possible.

And after you have registered we will continue to give you support.

For example, we can show you how to write your own rule book, elect directors and hold meetings.

Running your corporation

We can help you lodge your general reports and assist you with other aspects of the paperwork. You can ring us for advice at any time and we can also give you some helpful publications, ranging from our 'quick tip' fact sheets to *The rule book info kit*.

Also check out our **Healthy corporation checklist** at www.oric.gov.au.

Training

Before you decide to become a corporation director find out what's involved. Our practical governance courses are designed to cater for different needs and levels of education. After just a small amount of training you'll feel much more confident about your new role, duties and responsibilities. Alternatively, if you just want to learn more about your rights and obligations as a corporation member, we can help there too.

For more information about accredited and non-accredited corporate governance courses see **Training** at www.oric.gov.au.



Regulation

To make sure your corporation is running properly we will check up on you—it's our job! If we find your corporation is not following the law we will issue you with a legal notice.

Equally if your corporation is in trouble the Registrar has the power to intervene. Often in such cases the directors request assistance from the Registrar. Under the CATSI Act the Registrar has the power to appoint a special administrator to help corporations fix their own problems.

Special administration is a unique measure under the CATSI Act.

It's important to us that your corporation is set up in the way you want, reflecting your needs and your aspirations.

Dispute management

If you think a dispute is threatening your corporation's viability we can help. ORIC has staff that can work through problems and bring together disputing parties.

Don't let small matters grow into big ones.

Public register

ORIC maintains a public register of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations registered under the CATSI Act. This is useful if you want to look up any registered corporation's details, such as its name, Indigenous corporation number (ICN), date of registration, and name and address of the contact person or secretary. The public register also allows you to view key public documents, such as a corporation's rule book and general reports.

You can search the register at www.oric.gov.au.

What we don't do

ORIC is not a funding body. We don't provide financial assistance to corporations.

www.oric.gov.au

1800 622 431

(Freecall: not free from mobiles)