



NEW GRADUATES IN GOVERNANCE

Today in Cairns, Queensland, 13 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students will graduate with a Certificate IV in Business (Governance).

The Certificate IV in Business (Governance) is part of a national accredited training package developed specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who wish to improve their corporate governance and management skills. It is fully funded by the Australian Government through the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC).

The training, which complements rather than duplicates mainstream programs, is offered by the Registrar to targeted localities around Australia, including remote regions.

The Australian Government is determined to build the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to take control of their own economic development which includes running successful corporations.

‘All of our graduates today are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander directors and members, or key staff of corporations,’ said Joe Mastrolembo, Deputy Registrar of Indigenous Corporations. ‘They come from across Queensland and one is from Western Australia.’

Graduate experiences of the program, its content, style, logistics and delivery have been very positive. One student commented, ‘The teaching style and teacher were fantastic! Felt relaxed and confident studying.’

‘ORIC is committed to providing training and other educational support to people who want to strengthen their corporate governance skills and knowledge,’ Mr Mastrolembo said. ‘Our aim is to develop stronger governance and therefore better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities.’

Background

The *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* provides a unique platform for the Registrar to respond to problems in the Indigenous corporate sector. The training program is part of the Registrar’s regulatory function of providing public education. It is designed to support ORIC’s vision for strong corporations, people and communities.

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