

LAW-JUSTICE

ACAP & THE LAW INSTITUTE OF VICTORIA SUPPORT FIRST NATIONS LAW GRADUATES



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THE GDLP FIRST NATIONS SCHOLARSHIP

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ACAP and the Law Institute of Victoria are proud to announce a new First Nations scholarship aimed at empowering and creating opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander law graduates. The First Nations scholarship covers 100 per cent of the course fees for one eligible student enrolled in ACAP’s Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice (GDLP).

Torres Strait Islander woman and Tarwirri member, Shona O’Brien, was awarded the inaugural First Nations Scholarship following a “strong application that exceeded the criteria”.

ACAP CEO, George Garrop, expressed his enthusiasm for the new scholarship, which supports “positive change” within the legal profession.

“Through this new scholarship and our partnership with the Law Institute of Victoria, we aim to provide First Nations law graduates with financial support, access to industry-led learning and meaningful connections within the legal profession,” Mr Garrop said. “Furthermore, we acknowledge the invaluable perspectives that First Nations students bring to the classroom and contribute to the wider ACAP community.”

“This new scholarship represents a significant step towards addressing the barriers faced by First Nations people and reinforces our dedication to promoting diversity and inclusion.”

Law Institute of Victoria Chief Executive, Adam Awty, emphasised the importance of creating pathways for First Nations people within the legal profession.

“As the peak body for Victoria’s legal profession, representing more than 18,000 lawyers and professionals working in law, we have a responsibility to actively address inequities and create opportunities for underrepresented groups,” Mr Awty said.

“Through our partnership with ACAP, we are dedicated to breaking down barriers and cultivating a more diverse and inclusive legal workforce. This scholarship is a tangible demonstration of our commitment to supporting First Nations law graduates on their journeys towards becoming legal practitioners.”

ACAP’s GDLP course stands out for its practical and flexible approach, simulating real-life scenarios, providing 15 days of work experience, and a unique opportunity to credit engagement with the profession as part of their course completion. All enrolled students also receive a one-year complimentary LIV membership.

First Nations Scholarship applications for the Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice are now open. [For eligibility criteria and more information.](#)

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