

# Memorandum

**To:** Directors, Constituent Body Presidents, Constituent Body CEOs, Section Chairs and Chairs of the Indigenous Legal Issues Committee

**From:** Jonathan Smithers, Chief Executive Officer

**Date:** 18 September 2018

## 2019 John Koowarta Reconciliation Law Scholarship

### Action Request

1. The Law Council is pleased to inform the Directors, Constituent Bodies, Section Chairs and members of the Indigenous Legal Issues Committee that applications for the 2019 John Koowarta Reconciliation Law Scholarship (Koowarta Scholarship) are now open.
2. The Law Council would be grateful if you could please promote the Koowarta Scholarship through your publication and social media channels.
3. Applications close on **30 November 2018**.
4. The Eligibility Criteria for the Koowarta Scholarship is attached with this memo and is also available [online](#). Scholarships will be awarded on the recommendation of an Advisory Committee appointed by the Law Council of Australia. The successful applicant will receive a scholarship to the value of \$5,500 for the 2019 academic year, or, on a pro-rata basis an offer for periods of part-time study.

### Background

The Koowarta Scholarship was established in 1994, with the aim of promoting the study and practice of the law by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and, commemorates John Koowarta as a member of the Winychanam community and a traditional owner of the Archer River region on the Cape York Peninsula in Queensland. John Koowarta is widely regarded as being at the forefront of Aboriginal land rights in Australia during the late 1970s and early 1980s. He is today revered as one of the most important figures in the progression of Native Title rights for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Koowarta Scholarship is available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in an Australian tertiary institution undertaking an approved course of study provided that may lead to admission as a legal practitioner in any Australian jurisdiction.

For further information please contact Krystal James, Communications Officer on 02 6246 3788 or [krystal.james@lawcouncil.asn.au](mailto:krystal.james@lawcouncil.asn.au)



**Jonathan Smithers**  
Chief Executive Officer