



BOWDEN McCORMACK

Lawyers + Advisers

Overview

Bowden McCormack specialises in commercial law and has earned, and continues to earn, a reputation for achieving excellent results in the provision of high-level legal and strategic advice. This is due to the fact that our team, with their knowledge and experience, take the time to learn about and understand the needs of you, our client, then guide you to your most successful commercial outcome with vigour and tenacity.

We do not try and be all things to all clients, seeking to monopolize work regardless of the outcome, and will always acknowledge when a certain activity or request is not within our area of services. Accordingly, we have developed relationships with other professional firms so that we can confidently direct work to these firms, as and where appropriate. Our strongest relationship is with Melbourne- and Sydney-based legal firm Arnold Bloch Leibler, which acts for many high net-worth individuals and corporations.

We represent numerous individuals, communities, Indigenous clan groups, mining companies, small to large businesses and various associations and other organizations across the Northern Territory. Our team have specialized experience and expertise in relation to Aboriginal land matters, including access, community development and cultural issues. Our firm is in a unique strategic position within the Northern Territory community and has an elevated capacity to advise clients with an interest in such locations. Our team members have the expertise and judgement to transform challenges into creative, cost-effective opportunities.

Services

Bowden McCormack has established practices in the following key areas:-

Climate Change & Sustainability

Bowden McCormack understands the importance of a sustainable approach to life and the integral role climate change, and the legal framework applied to it, will play in our everyday futures. We also understand the unique part legislation like the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act (1976)* (Cth) and the *Native Title Act* (Cth) play, or can play, in the debate that is now taking place in Australia and will continue to take shape over the years ahead. We are currently working with a number of clients to advise upon strategies dealing with climate change, including carbon abatement. Our aim at all times is to achieve sustainable outcomes that understand the present whilst looking to the future.

Commercial & Corporate

The Northern Territory is a unique jurisdiction, with often extraordinary challenges commonly placed before business people including remoteness, lack of infrastructure, language and cultural differences, and complex dealings with government, regulators, land councils and traditional owners.

Bowden McCormack understands these challenges and provides tailored and pertinent advice with respect to mining and resource matters, business structuring, contracts, compliance and stamp duty.

Employment

Bowden McCormack is able to guide you and provide advice concerning such matters as employee entitlements and employment conditions, the drafting of contracts of varying complexity, contract disputes and resolution, discrimination, sexual harassment, unfair dismissal and occupational health and safety. The firm is also able to advise on the operation of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Cth).

Estate Planning

Our firm offers advice on the preparation of a will tailored to suit your needs; estate planning; business succession; administration of estates and, should a will not have been prepared, intestacies.

Property

From Aboriginal land and Native Title matters to leasing, our firm is uniquely positioned. We work closely with all stakeholders to a transaction and pride ourselves on seeking and obtaining solutions to problems that are win-win for the parties. We understand the legitimate expectations of third parties who come into contact with land rights or native title law as part of a development process; we understand the rights of traditional owners and native title holders; we understand the important role of Land Councils in the Northern Territory; and we understand the commerciality involved in property negotiations and transactions, large and small.

Business support

Businesses across the Northern Territory often struggle to deal with the administrative obligations imposed upon them, particularly upon commencement. We can assist by providing a 'one-stop shop' which offers legal professionalism, cultural understanding and administrative capacity.

Cross-cultural awareness

Time spent with Aboriginal people and being on their lands has enabled the firm with valuable experiences and insights continually used within the business and legal world. Community development and on-ground empowerment for Indigenous people are high priorities, and Bowden McCormack is able to assist those working in a remote context with the provision of general and specific advice, and in-depth background through cross-cultural awareness training.