



REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017



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Christmas Opening Hours

Both offices will be Open from 8am to 4pm on the 22nd, 27th, 28th and 29th December 2017 and then in the New Year, from 2nd January 2018. Both offices will only be **Closed** on the weekends and Public Holidays including the 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 30th, 31st December 2017 and in the New Year, 1st January 2018.

Foreign Resident Capital Gains Withholding

The Australian Taxation Office is simplifying the way in which foreign resident capital gains withholding (FRCGW) payments are made. From 11 December 2017, only one FRCGW payment is required per settlement, even if two or more purchasers are included in the transaction. When purchasers lodge their *Purchaser payment notification*, they will receive a single payment reference number (PRN). This is sent to the person listed as the primary contact on the purchaser payment notification form. They will also be sent one payment slip with a barcode that can be used to pay the withholding tax. Only a single payment is required to pay the total withholding amount. However, where two or more purchasers are included in the transaction, they may choose to make separate payments. In this instance, the same payment slip should be used for each payment. For more information please visit the ATO Website at www.ato.gov.au/FRCGW

E-Conveyancing Update

Please be advised that the Northern Territory Land Titles Office will be pushing back their start date for E-Conveyancing from November 2018 to 2019/2020.

Locality Diagrams

Please be advised that the locality diagrams which appear at the end of the record of administrative interests do not form part of the Land Register and do not appear on a title search certificate. Information contained in the record of administrative interests, including the locality diagram, is subject to the following disclaimer - *The Record of Administrative Interests and Information is not part of the Land Register and is not guaranteed by the Northern Territory of Australia, and the NT Government accepts no Liability for any omission, misstatement or inaccuracy contained in this statement.*

Births, Deaths and Marriages Remote Circuit

The office of Births, Deaths and Marriages is currently trialling a remote community visit program which will run from November 2017 until February 2018. Staff will be issuing NT birth certificates and processing name changes free of charge as well as, amending any registrations as required. The project will be evaluated at the end of 3 months in order to determine if this will be an ongoing service. The staff have already had successful trips to Jabiru, Oenpelli, Yuendumu, Papunya and Maningrida and will also be visiting the following locations:

- Wadeye – 12th and 13th December 2017
- Borrooloola – 8th and 9th January 2018
- Hermannsburg – 22nd January 2018
- Alyangula – 23rd and 24th January 2018
- Elliott – 7th February 2018
- Wurrumiyanga – 13th and 14th February 2018
- Kintore and Mutijulu – 27th and 28th February 2018

New Registrar-General

We are delighted to welcome back Mr Jim Laouris as our newly appointed Registrar-General, Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages and Public Trustee. Jim has been employed in senior management positions and statutory roles within the NT Government for the past 20 years and has extensive knowledge in a range of areas in the NT Public Service. He has been admitted to practise as a Barrister and Solicitor in the Supreme Court of the NT and with his past experience as Deputy Public Trustee, Public Trustee and Acting Registrar-General, we know that it will be a smooth transition into the new role.

Marriage Equality

On 7 December 2017, the Australian Parliament passed laws which amended the *Marriage Act 1961* in order to provide for marriage equality in Australia. This means from 9 December 2017 onwards, it will be legal for same-sex couples to marry in Australia, with the right to marry in Australia no longer being determined by a persons' sex or gender. The normal requirements for couples wanting to get married still apply and a Notice of Intended Marriage form will still need to be lodged at least one month prior to the wedding ceremony date. Please note that the marriage forms have been updated and couples wishing to lodge their intent to marry must use these new forms from 9 December 2017. Please contact the Births, Deaths and Marriages Office for further details on (08) 8999 6119.

The Registrar-General and staff would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

