

# LEGAL LEADERS

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE  
AND OPPORTUNITIES



## 2020 ACC CHAPTER GRANT INTERIM REPORT

**SUBMITTED TO:** Sherwin Valerio, Manager of Chapters  
**PORTFOLIO MANAGED BY:** Ingrid Segota, Executive Director ACC Australia  
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### GRANT OVERVIEW

ACC Australia was granted funds of **US\$5,000** (approximately AU\$7,300) to be to secure high calibre speakers for Legal Leaders events.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

Initially we planned an in-person leadership series with a range of “futurist” speakers. We had the opportunity to conduct one event at the Victorian In-house Counsel Day. The first event was with futurist Jason Clarke, who spoke at the Victorian In-house Counsel Day. (Details below). We had intended on doing two more events in WA and NSW, however with COVID-19 and lockdowns and the changes to social distancing, we had to change plans.



The first Legal Leaders event was launched at the In-house Counsel Day (Victoria) \$AUS6,500

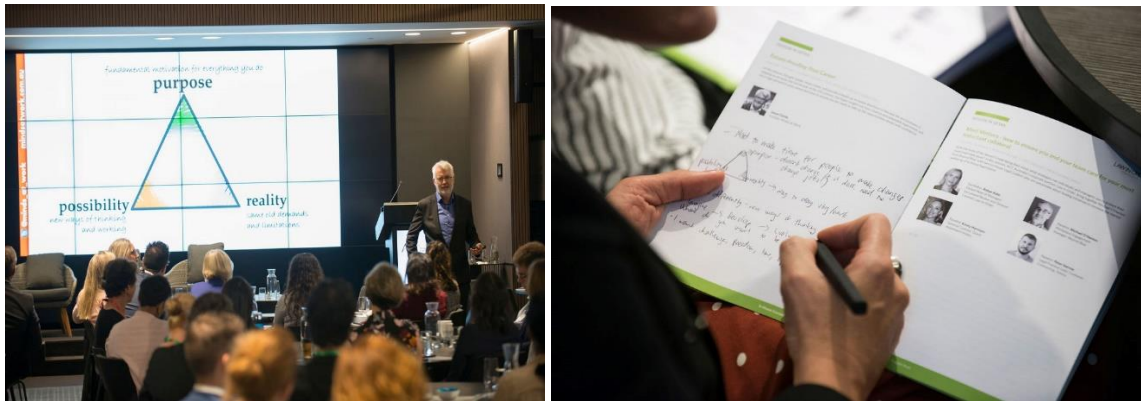
**Topic:** Future-proofing your career

**Speaker:** Jason Clarke, Founder, Minds at Work

**Blurb:** The pace of change we face at the dawn of a new decade is unprecedented. Innovation, entrepreneurship, global competitive forces, shifting employment models, ideologies and cultural

diversity have led to the demise of jobs and industries, while opening opportunities for those with creative vision and adaptability. More than ever, company leaders require rapid decision-making to stay ahead of the field. This adds pressure to in-house legal teams, as they need to adopt a future-oriented commercial mindset to ensure their company's direction is risk-proof and ethically sound as well as competitive and profitable.

In this session, thought-leader, Jason Clarke, provided a heads-up on future directions in the way life and business is shaping in the 3<sup>rd</sup> decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Jason challenged members to face the future with courage and an open mind to gain insight into how legal minds can future-proof and ensure in-house counsel are ready to take on opportunities ahead with confidence.



### **Virtual Events**

We continued with the futurist leadership series in a virtual environment with Stephen Scheeler, ex CEO of Facebook. Asia Pac, who ran two webinars \$AUS2000.

1. Stephen Scheeler's first session, [After the Lockdown: How Technology, Data & A.I. Will Transform Business in a Post-COVID-19 World](#), was held on 15 July, with over 450 registrations.
2. Stephen Scheeler's second session, conducted on September 1, [Beyond the Pandemic, Diving Deeper](#) and received 250 registrations.

Feedback on the speaker was extremely good and members enjoyed the virtual networking opportunity after each of the webinars.

We had initially planned to charge a registration fee for event attendance, however after surveying the members were clear that they would not pay for webinars. Therefore, we offered these sessions for free. This impacted the projected funds these sessions were proposed to generate. However, we hope that the new format will enable more members to attend, therefore increasing the sum result of holding the webinars.

### **GC Circles**

GC Circles have been created with regular meetings scheduled where five to eight General Counsel meet to discuss a topic of interest in a group mentoring environment. This inspires members to learn, connect and progress in their personal and professional development and is being rolled out nationally.

### **Legal Leaders Government**

Developed a Legal Leaders Government subgroup. It is a newly formed interest group, bringing together ACC Australia members from Government Authorities nationally. This dedicated interest group has been formed to meet member needs for greater engagement and relationship building.

Broadly speaking the Legal Leaders Government interest group has been formed specifically for our members employed in Government Authorities, to:

- Share information and resources;
- Develop continuing legal educational programs;
- Create ties to foster communication between in-house counsel practitioners, with respect to developing leadership and strategy skills to increase the operational efficiencies of their law departments.
- Develop superior leadership skills within the membership base and
- Provide a vehicle for members to network.

## SUMMARY

Despite the unexpected curve ball delivered by COVID19, we managed a strong start with the Legal Leaders Program and ensured that ACC Australia remained relevant to senior leaders. The value proposition of Legal Leaders - building on knowledge to create an advanced approach; creating opportunities to network; and finding new personal and professional horizons – was achieved in both the large, virtual events, the smaller, more intimate settings of the GC circles and the in the dedicated sub interest groups.

We have a dedicated term of reference for the group that can be adapted to all sup groups.

We have also added to the awards with a new General Counsel [award](#).