

# News and updates

**Kellie Grainger**

CEO

Law Society Northern Territory



Law Week 2018 has been broadly celebrated in the NT—from the Top End to Central Australia. This year the Society, particularly through the hard working Law Week Committee, has engaged with other organisations to promote activities with a focus on involving and engaging the broader community in Law Week. Of course the traditional Law Week events for members remain—the Great Debate held by the NT Young Lawyers along with Law Week lunch and dinner. An old favourite, the Tug of Law, returns and a new event joins the program—a Law Week trivia night. We welcomed members getting involved and celebrating Law Week with us.

The celebrations for the fifty-year anniversary of the Society are now underway. The Society is very grateful to Chief Justice Grant and the Supreme Court judges and staff for the opportunity to hold a ceremonial sitting at the Supreme Court in Darwin on 4 May 2018 to mark the Society's anniversary. We also appreciate the video-linking of the sittings to Alice Springs and Katherine to enable practitioners across the Territory to be part of this occasion.

It's that time of year again when most practitioner's regulatory obligations fall due—Annual CPD Certificates by 31 March, practising certificate renewals by 31 May (to avoid the late fee) and trust account annual reporting notifications from April through to the external examination report due by 31 May. If you have any questions about any of these requirements, head to the Society's website for further information or check out *The Practitioner* for reminders and links to the forms.

Maria Savvas and I have enjoyed the opportunity over the past couple of months of getting out and meeting sole practitioners and the principals of law firms in the NT to talk about the issues affecting them. If you haven't already taken up the invitation to catch up with us, please get in touch.

The Society's committees have been active over the past months contributing to submissions made by the Society, for example, the modernisation of the *Anti-Discrimination Act*, proposed amendments to the *NTCAT Act* and a call for a review of the *Construction Contracts (Security of Payments) Act*.

You can find copies of the Society's submissions on our website. If you are interested in getting involved with any of the Society's committees, please send an email to me—you can find a list of the Society's current committees in the 'About Us' section of our website.

We welcome our new Professional Development Officer to the Secretariat. Heather Traeger joined us in March and is looking forward to meeting and getting to know members and their CPD needs. If you have an idea for a CPD or are keen to present a CPD please get in touch with Heather. Our ever cheerful receptionist Tizi De Grandi has recently left the Secretariat so in the near future there will be a new voice welcoming you on the telephone or at our reception.