

International

<http://www.bloorstreet.com/300block/ablawleg.htm>

This site is well set out, containing links to sites of relevance to Aboriginal law and legislation in the United States, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. The links to Aboriginal resources on the net expands to South America.

Community Organisations

<http://www.antar.org.au> - Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation (ANTaR).

Contains information on the activities of ANTaR as well as media releases.

<http://www.tcgproject.org> - Towards Common Ground.

Community based group promoting local mediation and resolution of native title.

Recent publications

The publications reviewed here are not available from AIATSIS. Please refer to individual reviews for information on obtaining copies of these publications.

Governance Bodies and Australian Legislative Provision for Corporations and Councils, Garth Nettheim, Discussion Paper 7, Governance Structures for Indigenous Australians on and off Native Title Lands, University of New South Wales and Murdoch University, 1999.

This discussion paper looks at governance structures devised for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, apart from the structures devised for land holding and land management purposes. The paper includes substantial excerpts from legislation and reports. Nettheim steers away from arguments, preferring instead to list brief comments and discussion points at the end of each chapter. The paper is one of a series and is part of a project to develop recommendations for more effective interaction between Indigenous and non-Indigenous governance structures. For example, in order to receive title from the Indigenous Land Corporation, Indigenous people are required to incorporate under the *Land Fund and Indigenous Land Corporation (ATSIC Amendment) Act 1995* (Cth), the *Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act 1976* (Cth), or other legislation. This requirement can present tensions between the requirements of Australian law and the traditional laws and authority structures of the particular Indigenous group for whom a land purchase is proposed.

Another area of tension is the design of Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRBs) to perform various functions under the Native Title Act. Nettheim asks, "What is

the likelihood that NTRBs will be capable of being constituted, and of proceeding in ways that are 'culturally appropriate' without falling foul of the 'external' accountability regime?" Other governance structures covered by the paper are the Aboriginal land councils and Aboriginal legal services of New South Wales, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander bodies in general.

The discussion of governance structures for Indigenous Australians by papers such as this one is critical if the current community debate about a treaty is to be an informed debate.

A copy of this paper is available from the Indigenous Law Centre at the University of New South Wales, telephone 02 9385 2787, or from Austlii at <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/special/rsjproject/rsjlibrary/arccrp/index.html>

Indigenous Governance by the Inuit of Greenland and the Sami of Scandinavia, Donna Craig and Steven Freeland, Discussion Paper 8, Governance Structures for Indigenous Australians on and off Native Title Lands, University of New South Wales and Murdoch University.

This discussion paper is an overview of Indigenous land holding and governance structures in Greenland and the Scandinavian countries with a Sami population - Norway, Sweden and Finland. Examples of contemporary arrangements between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in other countries provide a contrast to Australia's historical neglect of constitutional guarantees for Indigenous Australians. This paper is in the same series as the governance discussion paper reviewed above, and is part of a project to develop recommendations for more effective interaction between Indigenous and non-Indigenous governance structures.

The establishment of the Greenland Government (previously referred to as 'Home Rule') was not benevolently granted by the Danish state, rather it was a result of the struggle by Greenlanders for increased rights. This achievement made the Inuit of Greenland the first population of Inuit to achieve a degree of self-government over a large region of the high Arctic. It has meant a relatively high degree of political autonomy, however Greenland remains partially dependent on Denmark, especially for economic support. The Sami are the native people of the area in northernmost Europe formerly known as Lapland. They have managed to maintain access to much of their traditional land in spite of living under the jurisdictions of four different governments and the ongoing debate regarding the true legal ownership of the land. The Sami have historically regarded the reindeer as the basic guardian of their culture and their efforts to maintain their reindeer herding rights have represented an important focus for the ongoing existence of Sami culture.

A copy of this paper is available from the Indigenous Law Centre at the University of New South Wales, telephone 02 9385 2787, or from Austlii at <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/special/rsjproject/rsjlibrary/arccrp/index.html>