

2026 NQLA CONFERENCE

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specialist accountants & advisors

TOWNSVILLE, 14 MAY - 16 MAY 2026

10CPD
POINTS

PRACTICAL LEGAL ETHICS
PROFESSIONAL SKILLS
PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS SKILLS

ETHICS & PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS SKILLS
SUBSTANTIVE LAW, PRACTICE & PROCEDURE, EVIDENCE
BARRISTERS' SKILLS



NQLA

North Queensland
Law Association

BOOK NOW: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJFMP>

THURSDAY, 14 MAY 2026

4:30pm-
5:00pm

Delegate Registration | The Ville Resort-Casino, Daintree Room

5:00pm-
7:00pm

Welcome Drinks | ardo Rooftop bar

After collecting your delegate registration package, head on up to Ardo Rooftop and enjoy some welcome drinks with your fellow delegates. The night is then yours– with multiple options for dining at various restaurants in the area.

Welcome Drinks tickets are included in your Conference Registration. Additional tickets can be purchased for \$44.00 (inc. GST) per person.

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8:00am-8:30am **Delegate Registration** | The Ville Resort-Casino, Daintree Room

**For delegates who did not register on Thursday, 14 May 2026.*

8:30am-9:15am **Conference Opening & Welcome to Country** | The Pavilions
 Presenters: **Wulgurukaba Walkabouts** | Traditional Owners
Sarah Singh | President, North Queensland Law Association
Michael Brennan | Director, SV Partners
Peter Jolly | President, Queensland Law Society
Chief Justice Helen Bowskill | Supreme Court of Queensland

9:15am-10:00am **PLENARY 1 | The Evolving Anti-Money Laundering Landscape in Australia** | The Pavilions
 Presenter: **Matt Dunn** | Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Law Society
 Chair: **Sarah Singh** | President, North Queensland Law Association

10:00am-11:00am **COMPULSORY CPD | Legal Ethics** | The Pavilions
 Presenters: **Judge Dean Morzone KC** | District Court of Queensland
Callum Copland | Senior Associate, Jensen McConaghy
 Chair: **Michael Murray** | Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

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AI is transforming the legal profession, changing how lawyers research, draft, advise and manage matters. This session explores the opportunities that AI presents, alongside the ethical responsibilities that come with its use.

11:00am-11:30am **MORNING TEA** | The Ville Resort-Casino

11:30am-11:45am **COMMERCIAL LAW**
 Sponsored by: **First Title**

FAMILY LAW
 Sponsored by: **FLPA**

LITIGATION & ADVOCACY
 Sponsored by: **31 Sturt Chambers**

Presenter: **Gary Lee**

Presenter: **James Bailey**

Presenter: **Claire Grant KC**

11:45am-12:45pm **If, and only if – aspects of the law bearing upon unilateral contracts.**
 Presenters:
Michael Jonsson KC
 Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers
 Chair:
Mark Metzeling
 Principal Solicitor, Macpherson Kelley

Not a Mere Mouthpiece: Exercising Forensic Judgment in section 102NA matters
 Presenters:
Deanna Musumeci
 Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
Michael Murray
 Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
 Chair:
Rebecca Casanovas
 Solicitor, Family Lawyers Mackay

True Crime Podcasts: Help or Hinderance?
 Presenter:
William Mitchell OAM Hon LLD
 Principal Solicitor, Townsville Community Law Inc.
 Chair:
Jessica Hine
 Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

12:45pm-1:45pm **Running an Oppression Claim: from pleading to buy out**
 Presenter:
William Evans
 Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
 Chair:
Michael Brennan
 Director, SV Partners

Division 2: Latest & Greatest
 Presenter:
Judge Corey Jenkins
 Federal Circuit & Family Court of Australia (Division 2)
 Chair:
Kellie Mythen
 Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Beyond a Reasonable Doubt: where did it come from?
 Presenter:
Anthony Collins
 Barrister-at-Law, Castle Hill Chambers
 Chair:
Nick Westcott
 Osborne Butler Lawyers

1:45pm-
2:30pm

LUNCH | The Ville Resort-Casino

2:30pm-
3:30pm

A few good workplace rights... a case involving the laws of general protection, discrimination and whistleblowers.

Presenter:

Keta Roseby

Roseby Law

Chair:

Lynette Lyons

Associate, WGC Lawyers

Court is not casual: the solemnity of Court & Section 102NA: An important provision but do you think it needs reform?

Presenter:

Justice Jacoba Brasch

Federal Circuit and Family

Court of Australia

Chair:

Judge Corey Jenkins

Federal Circuit and Family

Court of Australia

Can a Machine Think Like a Lawyer?

Presenter:

Dr Matt Collins AM KC

Barrister-at-Law, Aickin Chambers

Chair:

Michael Murray

Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt

Chambers

3:30pm-
4:30pm

COMPULSORY CPD | Practice Management Skills | The Pavilions

SOLICITOR

"Big Little Lies": an examination of the tips and traps in misleading and deceptive conduct cases under the ACL. Plus bonus chapter: ethical obligations of legal practitioners not to mislead or deceive Courts or colleagues

Presenter:

Merissa Martinez

Barrister-at-Law, Paloma Chambers

Chair:

Lynette Lyons

Associate, WGC Lawyers

BARRISTER

Life at the Bar: The Good, the Hard and the Practical

Presenters:

Andrew Philp KC

Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers

Claire Grant KC

Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Andrea Lawrence

Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Chair:

Michael Murray

Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

4:30pm-
6:00pm

Enjoy some leisure time to unwind or connect with colleagues

6:00pm-
10:00pm

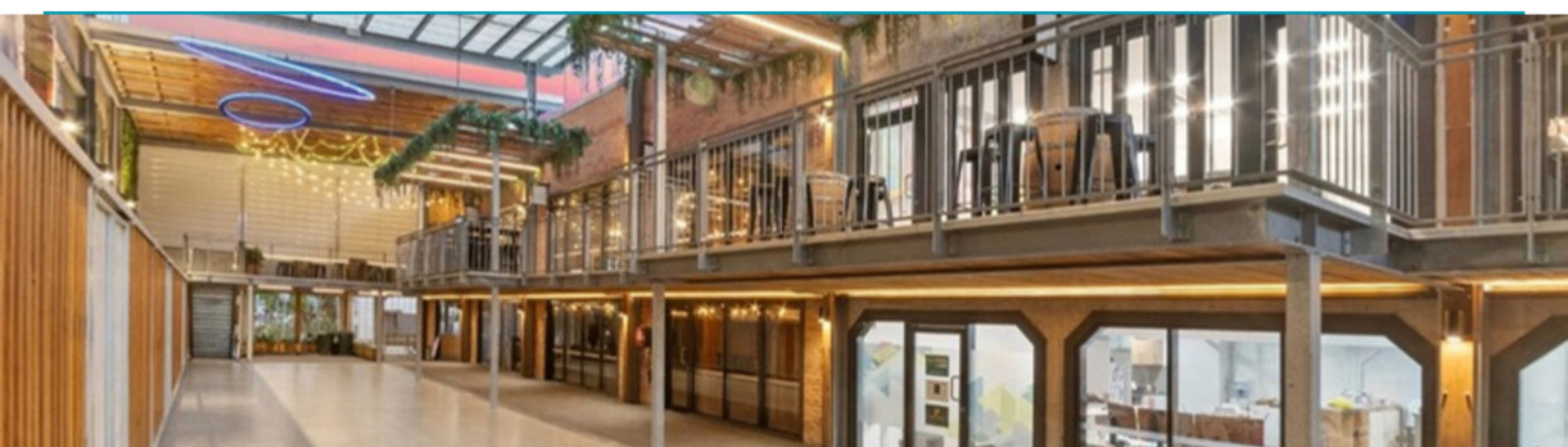
Flinders Lane After Dark | The Laneway, Flinders Lane Townsville City

Step off the street and into Flinders Lane – a stylish Townsville venue with a modern, New Orleans vibe. It is the perfect location to unwind, relax and connect in a truly unique setting.

Cocktail attire. Buses will depart The Ville reception from 5:45pm, returning to the Ville from 9:45pm. Tickets are included in your Conference Registration. Additional tickets can be purchased for \$82.50 (inc. GST) per person.

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9:00am-10:00am **PLENARY 2 | A View from the High Court |** The Pavilions

Presenter: **Justice Robert Beech-Jones** | High Court of Australia

Chair: **Chief Justice Helen Bowskill** | Supreme Court of Queensland

In this session, Justice Beech-Jones will share insights from our nation's highest court, offering reflections on contemporary legal issues, the evolving role of the judiciary and trends shaping Australian law.

COMMERCIAL LAW

Sponsored by: **First Title**

FAMILY LAW

Sponsored by: **FLPA**

LITIGATION & ADVOCACY

Sponsored by: **31 Sturt Chambers**

10:00am-11:00am **Clubs, sports and schools: "Judicial Review" in domestic tribunals**

Presenter:

Matthew Paterson

Barrister-at-Law, North Quarter Lane Chambers

Chair:

Kate Bone

Principal Legal Counsel, Mackay Regional Council

DV Applications and the ADF

Presenters:

Group Captain Scott Geeves

Deputy Chief Judge Advocate, Australian Defence Force

Major Nathan Smith

3rd Brigade, Legal Officer, Australian Army

Chair:

Lorelei Billing

Solicitor, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (Qld) Ltd

The rollercoaster of the Jury Trial: persuasion on the run

Presenters:

Saul Holt KC

Barrister-at-Law, 8PT Chambers

Matthew Jackson

Barrister-at-Law, 8PT Chambers

Chair:

Jessica Shuttleworth

A/Senior Legal Officer, Office of the Director of Public Prosecution Queensland

11:00am-11:30am **MORNING TEA |** The Ville Resort-Casino

11:30am-12:30pm **Matters of life, death and Estate Planning**

Presenters:

Paul Radford

Partner, Connolly Suthers

Nicole O'Bree

Partner, Connolly Suthers

Chair:

Jessica Alexander

Associate, Macrossan & Amiet

Practical issues in Family Law property proceedings

Presenter:

Philip Looney KC

Barrister-at-Law, French Quarter Chambers

Chair:

Peter Finocchio

Director, Legal Funding Australia

Speed Dating with the Chiefs

Presenters:

Chief Justice Helen Bowskill

Supreme Court of Queensland

Chief Judge Brian Deveraux SC

District Court of Queensland

Chief Magistrate Janelle

Brassington

Magistrates Court of Queensland

Chair:

Andrew Philp KC

Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers

12:30pm-1:30pm **A perspective on contemporary commercial law**

Presenter:

Justice Christopher

Johnstone

Supreme Court of Queensland

Chair:

Sarah Singh

President, North Queensland Law Association

Joint decision-making and the death of week about?

Presenter:

Alex Raeburn

North Queensland Family Law Chambers

Renae Stocks

North Queensland Family Law Chambers

Chair:

Kelly Whitten

Senior Associate, WGC Lawyers

Committal Hearings – the do's, don'ts and whys

Presenter:

Rémy Kurz

Barrister-at-Law, 8PT Chambers

Chair:

Magistrate Bronwyn Hartigan

Magistrates Court of Queensland

1:30pm- LUNCH | The Ville Resort-Casino

2:30pm

2:00pm- 2026 NQLA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING | Pavilion 1, The Ville Resort-Casino

2:30pm

2:30pm- **COMPULSORY CPD | Professional Skills | Barrister Stream + Solicitor Stream |**
3:30pm The Pavilions

Avoiding Burn Out in Legal Practice

Presenters: **Matt Heelan** | Barrister-at-Law, Brisbane Chambers

Dr Tania Rose | Consultant Psychiatrist

Chair: **Dannielle Woodward** | Senior Associate,
Wallace & Wallace Lawyers

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The legal profession is demanding, fast-paced and increasingly high-pressure, making burnout a growing risk for practitioners at every stage of their career. This session explores the practical causes of burnout in legal practice, how to recognise the early warning signs and realistic strategies to manage workload, stress and professional expectations.

3:30pm- **Closing Remarks** | The Pavilions

3:45pm Presenter: **Sarah Singh** | President, North Queensland Law Association

3:45pm- *Enjoy some leisure time to unwind or connect with colleagues before our closing event.*
6:00pm

6:00pm- **Gala Dinner** | The Pavilions @ The Ville Resort-Casino

11:00pm

The learning is over – now let the fun begin! While you get glammed up, the Pavilions will be transformed, ready for an unforgettable evening. This event will be the social highlight of the conference calendar - an evening to unwind, connect and celebrate the legal profession.

Black Tie dress code.

Tickets to this event must be purchased separately for \$198.00 (inc. GST) per person.

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CONFERENCE TICKETS

(all ticket prices include GST + \$0.50 trybooking fee)

Member standard	\$1,100.00
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Registration includes NQLA membership, Conference proper, "Welcome Drinks" and "Flinders Lane After Dark"

Corporate Package Three (3) transferable delegate tickets	\$2,970.00
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Registration includes NQLA membership, Conference proper, "Welcome Drinks" and "Flinders Lane After Dark"

One Day Registration One day registration (standard)	\$550.00
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Registration includes one day at the NQLA Conference as selected by the delegate and entry to "Welcome Drinks" (if attending Friday) or "Flinders Lane After Dark" (if attending Saturday)

Junior Practitioner Registration	\$880.00
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Available to practitioners who have three years or less PAE.

Registration includes NQLA membership, entry to the Conference proper, "Welcome Drinks" and "Flinders Lane After Dark"

Student Registration One day registration (student)	\$330.00
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Available to law students. Registration includes one day at the NQLA Conference as selected by the delegate and entry to "Welcome Drinks" (if attending Friday) or "Flinders Lane After Dark" (if attending Saturday)



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THE NQLA
SOCIALS**

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SIGNATURE SOCIAL EVENT TICKETS

(all ticket prices include GST + \$0.50 trybooking fee)

Thursday Night – Welcome Drinks | additional tickets (each)

\$44.00

Included in Conference registration

Thanks to:

A traditional start to the SV Partners 2026 NQLA Conference. Welcome drinks will be held at Ardo Rooftop, Ardo Hotel, a short stroll from the Ville. Drinks and canapes provided (and it's all included in your delegate registration)! Come up, say hello, and have a well-deserved cold one, with an incredible view of the sunset! Then it's a night at leisure, with plentiful dinner options, so make sure you book early to secure a table!

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Dress: Smart Casual

Friday Night – Flinders Lane After Dark | additional tickets (each)

\$82.50

Included in Conference registration.

Thanks to:

Step off the street and into Flinders Lane – a stylish Townsville venue with a modern, New Orleans vibe. It is the perfect location to unwind, relax and connect in a truly unique setting.

Splatt
Lawyers

Buses will depart The Ville reception from 5:45pm, returning to the Ville from 9:45pm. Tickets are included in your Conference Registration.

Dress: Cocktail

Saturday Night – Gala Dinner | tickets (each)

\$198.00

Tickets must be purchased separately

The learning is over – now let the fun begin! While you get glammed up, the Pavilions will be transformed, ready for an unforgettable evening. This event will be the social highlight of the conference calendar - an evening to unwind, connect and celebrate the legal profession.

Dress: Black Tie

Thanks to:



SPEAKERS

Judiciary	Justice Robert Beech-Jones High Court of Australia	Chief Justice Helen Bowskill Supreme Court of Queensland	Justice Jacoba Brasch Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Div 1)
	Justice Christopher Johnstone Supreme Court of Queensland	Chief Judge Brian Deveraux SC District Court of Queensland	Judge Dean Morzone KC District Court of Queensland
	Chief Magistrate Janelle Brassington Magistrates Court of Queensland	Judge Corey Jenkins Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Div 2)	GPCAPT Scott Geeves Deputy Chief Judge Advocate, Australian Defence Force
Barristers	Andrew Philp KC Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers	Dr Matt Collins AM KC Barrister-at-Law, Aickin Chambers	Saul Holt KC Barrister-at-Law, 8 Petrie Terrace Chambers
	Philip Looney KC Barrister-at-Law, French Quarter Chambers	Michael Jonsson KC Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers	Claire Grant KC Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
	Anthony Collins Barrister-at-Law, Castle Hill Chambers	Andrea Lawrence Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers	Merissa Martinez Barrister-at-Law, Paloma Chambers
	Alex Raeburn Barrister-at-Law, North Queensland Family Law Chambers	Matt Heelan Barrister-at-Law, Brisbane Chambers	Matthew Jackson Barrister-at-Law, 8 Petrie Terrace Chambers
	Renae Stocks Barrister-at-Law, North Queensland Family Law Chambers	Deanna Musumeci Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers	William Evans Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
	Rémy Kurz Barrister-at-Law, 8 Petrie Terrace Chambers	Matthew Paterson Barrister-at-Law, North Quarter Lane Chambers	Michael Murray Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
Solicitors	William Mitchell OAM Hon LLD Principal Solicitor, Townsville Community Law Inc.	Michael Brennan Director, SV Partners – Townsville	Paul Radford Partner, Connolly Suthers
	Nicole O'Bree Partner, Connolly Suthers	Keta Roseby Director, Roseby Law	Major Nathan Smith 3rd Brigade Legal Officer, Australian Defence Force
	Callum Copland Senior Associate, Jensen McConaghy		
Key Note Speakers	Matthew Dunn CEO, Queensland Law Society	Peter Jolly President, Queensland Law Society	Dr Tania Rose Consultant Psychiatrist

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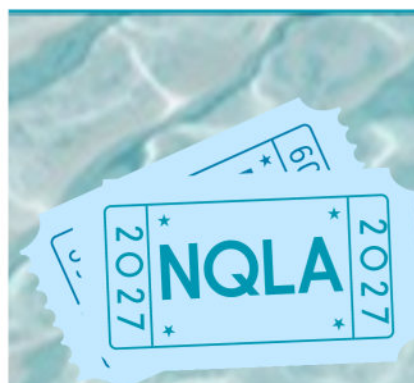
Townsville BMW



WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

2027 conference planning is under way! Contact us to register your interest for sponsorship and speaking opportunities:

 secretary@nqla.com.au



ACCOMMODATION



The NQLA has been able to secure 10% off the best available rate at The Ville Resort-Casino and Ardo Hotel across 14, 15 and 16 May 2026.

To take advantage of this discount, contact the Reservations Team on (07) 4722 2333 or email TSVL.reservations@the-ville.com.au and quote "NQLA2026"

DINING OPTIONS



A place where the rhythm of the sun rules, and the rules don't matter. Refreshments on repeat with views to the horizon that just won't end.



With the bright lights of Tokyo as Terasu's muse, they've created a lively take on casual Japanese dining that packs a punch.



A union of land and sea, where ocean meets pasture in elevated Australian dining.



Alfresco, casual dining by day. Playground by night. Welcome to Quarterdeck: Restaurant. Bar. Icon. Serving cocktails + dreams + good times with some of the best views of Magnetic Island Townsville has to offer.



Experience the unexpected delights of contemporary buffet dining in Townsville, with breakfast and dinner in casual resort comfort at The Palm House. Featuring live cooking stations, a show kitchen, and an eclectic selection of cuisine borrowing inspiration from across the globe, this is a buffet revival.



Retreat to the comforting classics at Spin Café: the perfect place to unwind and catch up for a chit chat over some coffee and cake, a light meal, or a full on feed.



