

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

College of Law Victoria’s CEO welcomes Law Institute of Victoria’s establishment of indigenous scholarship

On the same day as the PM’s apology, Law Institute of Victoria President, Tony Burke, announced an annual scholarship for indigenous law students

February 21, 2008: The Law Institute of Victoria (LIV)’s announcement of an annual scholarship for indigenous law students was timely and welcome according to the CEO of The College of Law Victoria, Ms Anita Kwong.

The announcement by the LIV’s President, Tony Burke, coincided with the Australian Prime Minister’s historic apology to the stolen generation.

Ms Kwong said “Not only was it a significant moment for the nation, but also an important moment for both The College of Law Victoria and the Law Institute of Victoria.”

Ms Kwong said the scholarship would be awarded annually to an indigenous law student to fund their practical legal training with The College of Law Victoria.

She said the College was already an enthusiastic supporter of Tarwirri, the Indigenous Law Students and Lawyers Association of Victoria with bursaries already being offered to indigenous students to cover enrolment costs.

LIV President, Tony Burke, said the LIV was keen to support the Federal Government’s apology and, through the scholarship, mark its significance in Australia’s history.

The College of Law Victoria is a joint venture with the Law Institute of Victoria and provides practical legal training as a path to admission in Victoria.

Ms Kwong said the College’s program was an alternative to Articles of Clerkship (to become Traineeships in July this year), which are traditionally very competitive with limited places.

“The College of Law’s practical legal training program on the other hand can be completed in just seven months,” she said.

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The College of Law Victoria is a joint venture between The College of Law and the Law Institute of Victoria and offers practical legal training as a path to admission in Victoria. More information can be found at www.collaw.edu.au

The Law Institute of Victoria is the professional association for Victorian solicitors. The LIV represents its members' interests and works to improve the law so that it better serves a changing society. More information can be found at www.liv.asn.au.

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