



Law Council
OF AUSTRALIA

*From the Office of
the President*

Glenn Ferguson

president@lawcouncil.asn.au

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIAN LEGAL PROFESSION

SPONSORSHIP OF AUSTLII

I am writing to encourage members of the profession to provide sponsorship of AustLII.

AustLII provides free centralised access to Commonwealth, State and Territory databases of legislation, case law and related legal materials. It also provides access to a wide range of international legal materials.

AustLII is an essential tool for many legal practitioners. If it was not freely available, many legal practitioners would have to use highly priced commercial services. In addition, some of AustLII's databases are not available through commercial services at all, so it supplements those services which are used by some legal practitioners.

AustLII now also provides training for practitioners in the use of online research tools.

AustLII provides access to free legal information for any member of the public. Such access supports the rule of law and should be upheld by the profession.

In 2009, AustLII's daily usage increased by approximately 30% demonstrating its continuing use, including by many members of the profession.

AustLII first approached the Law Council in 2007 for assistance to address an unexpected shortfall in its funding. Since that time, the Law Council has regularly encouraged members of the profession to provide sponsorship for AustLII.

Sponsorship is by way of tax deductible donation.

I ask you to consider making a donation to AustLII, particularly if you use its service. You can do so by going to www.austlii.edu.au or www.lawcouncil.asn.au

Yours sincerely,

Glenn Ferguson

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