

Media Release

Perpetual scholarships open for Indigenous business leaders

15 November 2018

Perpetual has announced applications are now open for 17 scholarships to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business leaders to enhance their governance expertise.

The Norman H Johns Trust and E B Myer Charity Fund, managed by Perpetual, have funded the scholarships which are administered by the Australian Scholarships Foundation ("ASF"). It is the first year the scholarships will be focused exclusively on supporting Indigenous communities. The scholarships will be open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander new or existing directors, public officials or senior executives reporting to a board. Recipients will be offered a place at a five-and-a-half-day *Company Directors Course for Indigenous Business Leaders* led by the Australian Institute of Company Directors ("AICD").

Perpetual General Manager – Community and Social Investment, Catriona Fay, said the scholarships are aimed at improving governance capabilities among leaders of the Indigenous business community to support them in affecting positive and long-lasting impact for their organisations.

"We recognise access to education, training and development can be challenging, especially for Indigenous businesses and their leaders. This is an area of focus for us and these scholarship opportunities are just one of the initiatives we're undertaking to help Indigenous leaders enhance their governance expertise and apply it to their missions.

"We've already seen the impact that these scholarships have had across the not-for-profit sector in previous years and we're pleased to be offering them again specifically to this community."

The Australian Institute of Company Director's Managing Director and CEO, Angus Armour, said, "The AICD is committed to improving access to governance education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We are proud to partner with Perpetual and the Australian Scholarships Foundation to provide these scholarships to Indigenous business leaders.

"We have adapted our flagship education program to target the needs of Indigenous communities and look forward to helping develop the governance capability of the scholarship recipients."

The Australian Scholarships Foundation's CEO, Sam Sayers, also acknowledged the importance of governance education.

"We are delighted to be able to support Indigenous leaders to access governance education. Our partnership with Perpetual and AICD is important because these scholarships provide opportunities that may otherwise be difficult for Indigenous communities to access, and we see first-hand the benefits that governance training brings to recipients and their organisations."

Between 2011 and 2016, Perpetual funded almost 1,700 scholarships to empower and enhance skills among not-for-profit directors and chairs across Australia, in partnership with ASF and AICD.

Applications are now open to directors, public officials, or senior executives reporting to a board until Monday 10 December 2018. Applicants need to identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage. The 17 scholarships include AICD offering two full scholarships, Perpetual two full scholarships and 13 part scholarships. The course will be held in Perth in April 2019. For more information and to apply, visit www.scholarships.org.au/educators/aicd.

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For media enquiries, please contact:

Alicia Eu
WE Buchan
02 9237 2804 | 0412 552 004
aeu@we-buchan.com

Note to editors

About Perpetual Philanthropic Services

Perpetual is one of Australia's largest managers of philanthropic funds, with \$2.7 billion in funds under advice for charitable trusts and endowment funds as at 30 June 2018. Perpetual is trustee for approximately 1,000 [charitable trusts and endowments](#) and provides individuals and families with advice on establishing charitable foundations and structured giving programs. Perpetual also assists charities and not-for-profit organisations with [investment advice and management](#).

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About the Australian Scholarships Foundation

Australian Scholarships Foundation (ASF) is the only Australian organisation solely focused on funding and facilitating scholarships for Australian not-for-profit (NFP) directors and staff to undertake education, training and mentoring programs that improve their ability to lead and manage their organisations. ASF's purpose is to increase the overall effectiveness of the NFP sector through education, training and development of the sector.

ASF has funded and facilitated over \$9m of scholarships for the NFP sector over the last ten years and has partnerships with 25 universities and private education providers across Australia. Further information about ASF is available at www.scholarships.org.au.

About the Australian Institute of Company Directors

The Australian Institute of Company Directors provides education, information and advocacy for company directors Australia wide, with offices in each state to cater for more than 35,000 members. Our members work in diverse corporations such as small-to-medium enterprises, the ASX200 corporations, public sector organisations, not-for-profit companies, large private companies and smaller private family concern.