



Capability Statement



With over 30 years of dedicated involvement in mining, resources, international and Indigenous affairs, I bring unparalleled experience and a deep commitment to delivering unique and impactful outcomes.

Here's an overview of my key offerings:

Strategic Advisory in Indigenous and International

Affairs: Drawing on 30 years of experience across Australia, Africa, and the Pacific, I provide comprehensive insights and tailored advocacy solutions. My expertise includes crafting and delivering strategic communications, stakeholder engagement frameworks, and action plans, alongside workshop facilitation to help clients shape impactful narratives. I also lead and support environmental and social approvals.

Executive Coaching and Mentoring: I offer leadership coaching and mentoring with a focus on Indigenous and international cultural issues. As a Fellow of the Institute of Managers and Leaders and with extensive professional experience, I equip leaders to excel and be effective in diverse environments.

Mediation and Dispute Resolution: I am a nationally accredited mediator providing services for employers, the Native Title sector, and specialised areas, promoting positive outcomes and resolution. My appointment to the Queensland Land Court's Assisted Dispute Resolution (ADR) panel, the State Justice Department ADR panel and national accreditation by the Resolution Institute reflect my commitment to effective dispute management.

Creative Engagements: My passion for storytelling, photography, writing, and voice-over artistry enhances my professional services, adding depth and creativity to my training and solutions.

Facilitation: I am an accomplished facilitator, public speaker, and presenter, experienced in guiding high-stakes negotiations, leadership workshops, and team-building sessions. My approach is grounded in creating constructive dialogue, supporting collaboration, and achieving shared outcomes. I am an Endorsed Facilitator with the International Association of Facilitators (IAF) and regularly work with executive teams, boards, and diverse stakeholder groups to navigate complex discussions and build alignment.

About New Moon (Aketi Meb) Consulting: New Moon (Aketi Meb) Consulting finds its origins deeply rooted in the cultural heritage of the Meriam people of Mer (Murray Island) in the eastern Torres Strait. The term 'Aketi Meb' stems from the Miriam Mir language, where it signifies the new moon or thin crescent. This name reflects the ancestral wisdom of the Meriam people, honouring the cycles of nature and the significance of new beginnings. It embodies the consultancy's ethos of guiding clients through transformative phases, harnessing opportunities for growth and renewal. Our ACN is 675 893 562 and our ABN is 31 675 893 562.

I look forward to bringing my extensive experience to your projects, helping to achieve positive and impactful outcomes for all stakeholders involved.

Regards,

Adam C. Lees
Director

Employment Summary

March 2024 – Present	Director, Brisbane	New Moon Consulting Land Court of Queensland, Assisted Dispute Resolution (ADR) Panel Member Queensland Department of Justice - Dispute Resolution Branch ADR Panel Member (Mediator)
April 2021 – December 2023	Rio Tinto Australia, Brisbane	Chief Advisor – Indigenous Affairs
August 2015 – April 2021	Woodside Energy, Perth	General Manager – Indigenous Affairs (2018-2020) Senior Manager - Exploration & Development (2017-2018) Corporate Affairs Manager – Operations (2015-2017)
May 2012 – August 2013	AngloGold Ashanti, Tanzania	Vice President, Sustainability Tanzania
January 2008 – April 2012	BHP Billiton based in Angola, Zambia, Gabon, Ethiopia	Environment & Community Specialist, Africa (2009-2012) Manager – Community (2008-2009) BHP Billiton Diamonds & Specialty Products – Angola Diamonds Exploration
August 2004 – January 2008	BHP Billiton, Iron Ore (Perth and Newman, WA), Guinea and Liberia	Manager – Public Affairs covering Growth and Asset Development Projects and Concept and Feasibility Study Team for Nimba Project in Liberia and Guinea (2006-2008) Manager – Public Affairs Newman/Mt Whaleback Mining Operations and Satellite Mines (2004-2006)
January 2000 – August 2004	Mount Isa Mines Ltd, Mount Isa	Senior Advisor, Indigenous Affairs (2000-2002) Senior Advisor, Community Relations & Indigenous Affairs (2002- 2004)
January 1994 – January 1999	Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade, Canberra and Apia, Samoa	Third Secretary (Apia, Samoa) Diplomatic Posting (1996- 1999) Graduate Administrative Assistant (1994-1996)

Education & Publications

Education	2004 – Graduate Diploma of Diplomacy & International Trade, Monash University 2003 – Bachelor of Arts (Humanities), Griffith University 1994 – Bachelor of Business Communication, Queensland University of Technology
Certifications	2024: Nationally Accredited Mediator, Resolution Institute 2024: Fellow, Institute of Managers and Leaders 2024: Supply Nation Certified 2024: Journalist Member - Media Entertainment Arts Alliance (MEAA) 2025: Endorsed Facilitator: International Association of Facilitators (IAF) 2025: Psychosocial Risk Management for People Leaders (Griffith University)
Publications	As of June 2024, I regularly contribute opinion pieces and columns to the Koori Mail, Australia's oldest independent fortnightly Indigenous newspaper. The Black Pearl: Life of An Island Digger acquired by Magabala Publishing (release date TBC). Growing Up Torres Strait Islander in Australia: Black Inc Books (April 2024 release) – Contributing Author Zocalo Public Square: University of Arizona 'I'm Indigenous Australian, and I work for a mining company' – August 2023 – Essay A Question of Colour – My Journey to Belonging: Magabala Publishing (2020) Lonely Planet Guide to Aboriginal Australia and the Torres Strait Islands (2000) - Contributing Author
Boards and Advisory Groups	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA), Advisory Panel Member & Consulting Assessor (current as of August 2025) Pinnacle Foundation, Non-Executive Director (current)
Indigenous Australian/ Traditional Owner Status	Registered Member - Cape York Land Council Registered Member, Gudang Yadhaykenu Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC Registered Member, Yadhaigana Natives Aboriginal Corporation

