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 executive coaching and mentoring for leaders in complex, cross-cultural, and high-stakes settings. My approach is informed by broad experience in corporate, government, and community sectors, with expertise in Indigenous leadership and international engagement.

I help leaders build self-awareness, navigate complexity, and lead with clarity, accountability, and impact. My support includes addressing cultural dynamics, managing stakeholder relationships and conflict, and enhancing decision-making and leadership effectiveness.

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.

I was a finalist in the 2026 Australian Dispute Centre ADR Practitioner of the Year and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mediator of the Year awards categories.

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

	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)
	Rio Tinto Australia, Brisbane	Chief Advisor – Indigenous Affairs
	Woodside Energy, Perth	General Manager – Indigenous Affairs (2018-2020) Senior Manager – Exploration & Development (2017-2018) Corporate Affairs Manager – Operations (2015-2017)
	AngloGold Ashanti, Tanzania	Vice President, Sustainability Tanzania
	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
	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)
	Mount Isa Mines Ltd, Mount Isa	Senior Advisor, Indigenous Affairs (2000-2002) Senior Advisor, Community Relations & Indigenous Affairs (2002- 2004)
	Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade, Canberra and Apia, Samoa	Third Secretary (Apia, Samoa) Diplomatic Posting (1996- 1999) Graduate Administrative Assistant (1994-1996)

Education & Publications

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

2026

· Collective Leadership Assessment™ (CLA) Certified Practitioner

· Leadership Circle Pulse™ Certified Practitioner

· LEGO® Serious Play® Certified Facilitator

· CINERGY® Conflict Coaching Certified

2025

· Endorsed Facilitator: International Association of Facilitators (IAF)

· Psychosocial Risk Management for People Leaders (Griffith University) ·

Cultural Intelligence (CQ®) Certified Facilitator

· Leadership Circle Profile™ (LCP) Certified Practitioner

2024

· Nationally Accredited Mediator, Resolution Institute 2024: Fellow, Institute of Managers and Leaders ·

Supply Nation Certified

· Journalist Member – Media Entertainment Arts Alliance (MEAA)

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

Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA), Advisory Panel Member & Consulting Assessor (currrent as of August 2025)
Pinnacle Foundation – Non-Executive Director (August 2021 - December 2025)

Registered Member – Cape York Land Council

Registered Member, Gudang Yadhaykenu Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC Registered Member, Yadhaigana Natives Aboriginal Corporation