

Former AHRC president to speak at CLC conference



BIG LAW | 07 MARCH 2018 | JEROME DORAISAMY

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The most recent head of Australia's peak human rights organisation has agreed to speak at an annual state conference for community legal centres.

Community Legal Centres Queensland announced earlier this week that former president of the Australian Human Rights Commission, Professor Gillian Triggs, will deliver the keynote address at its State Conference, being held on the 8th and 9th of this month.

Professor Triggs is set to draw on her distinguished career in academia and international and human rights law, when speaking to the CLC workers in attendance.

CLC QLD director James Farrell said the organisation is honoured to have Professor Triggs attend the event.

"As communities' groups are faced with tighter restrictions on our advocacy work, we are looking forward to hearing Gillian reflect on the important role of community legal centres in advocating for access to justice," he said.

"Gillian is a strong voice for vulnerable and marginalised Australians – the type of people that access community legal services everyday."

Professor Triggs said: "Everyday, community legal centre staff hear from people who have had their basic human rights violated."

"My presentation is an opportunity to encourage them to continue to be the voice for their clients and let governments know how their decisions impact people's daily lives," she said.

Her address will focus, CLC QLD noted in a statement, on the importance of strong and active civil society, including the vital role of community legal centres speaking up for everyday people with legal problems.

"The Queensland government has committed to stronger laws to protect and promote human rights, and we stand with Gillian in supporting this sensible and important reform," Mr Farrell noted.

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"We are delighted that Gillian Triggs accepted our invitation to speak, which recognises community legal centres' roles of protecting and promoting Queenslanders' human rights."

Other presenters at the conference will include Australian Law Reform Commissioner Helen Rhoades, Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman Judi Jones, and Monash University professor Adrian Evans.

The State Conference will be held at the Oakwood Hotel in Brisbane next week.

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