



# culturev8

Professionals enhancing community led development.

## Capability Statement



culturev8.com.au



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### Our story

Culturev8 was founded by Dr Chris McLaughlin, whose work across the Torres Strait and regional Australia shaped his philosophy that culture is the foundation of strong, resilient communities.

His experience supporting regional, rural, remote and Indigenous communities, alongside government, industry, and the non-profit sector, continues to guide our approach.

Today, we are a trusted multidisciplinary consultancy supporting councils, NGOs, and private sector partners across Queensland, and beyond.

We strengthen communities through culturally grounded engagement, and support organisations with strategic, practical solutions that deliver real impact.

We feel so strongly about this philosophy that we named ourselves after it...

*cultivating culture (culturev8).*

### Memberships

#### Local Buy Prequalified Supplier (QLD/NT/TAS)

- LB308 - IT Support
- LB309 - Business Management and Consulting Services
- LB311 - Legal Services

#### Registered Lobbyist (QLD/AUS)



### Our services

**At culturev8, we offer our clients professional integrated services in law, business strategy, and engagement, aimed at enhancing community led development.**

We support community service providers to navigate the unique complexity of regional, rural, remote and Indigenous communities, and deliver on community vision. Our key specialties include:

#### Strategic Planning & Business Development

Strategy, policy development, organisational planning, and capacity building, tailored to local priorities and operational realities.

#### Indigenous Land Management

Advice on Indigenous Land Management (including Deed of Grant in Trust, Native Title and Cultural Heritage).

#### Legal, Governance & Compliance

Advice on legislation, regulatory compliance, governance frameworks, and policy.

#### Change and Risk Management

Support for risk identification and mitigation alongside practical strategies for organisational change, and workforce adaptation.

#### Stakeholder Engagement & Political Advocacy

Strategic and community engagement, government relations, and advocacy to shape policy outcomes and build strong community and sector partnerships.

#### Project Management and Grants

End-to-end project support from planning and stakeholder alignment, to execution, funding readiness, and evaluation.

#### ICT & Digital Strategy

Fit-for-purpose ICT planning, digital transformation support, systems optimisation, cyber security, cloud transitions, and workforce capability development.

# Our team



**Dr Chris McLaughlin – Practice Director and Lawyer**

Lawyer, academic and senior executive, Chris leads culturev8, guiding service providers through complexity and change, with a focus on strategy, governance, and impactful leadership.



**Melanie McLaughlin – Director and Practice Support**

Qualified educator and practice director, Mel ensures seamless administration and quality outcomes, supporting operations and delivering lasting value for clients and communities.



**Katherine Wiggins – Senior Governance and Engagement Lead**

Experienced in policy, governance, and engagement across government and social sectors, with expertise in deep listening and First Nations engagement, delivering tailored solutions that strengthen organisations.



**Rob Dwyer – Senior Risk Management Specialist**

ICT specialist with over 30 years' experience, Rob focuses on strategy, infrastructure optimisation, and cyber security, delivering robust project management solutions for clients.



**Julia Mauro – Senior Lawyer**

Experienced government lawyer with expertise in local government, compliance and community legal issues. Delivers practical legal solutions for complex statutory and governance challenges.



**Sarah Rizvi – Engagement, Planning and Environment Specialist**

Urban and regional planner with Queensland experience, Sarah specialises in strategy, communications, and project delivery, focusing on meaningful engagement and practical community outcomes.



**Oliver Gilkerson – Special Counsel**

With over 30 years' experience, Oliver is a leading Queensland lawyer in Indigenous land tenure and infrastructure law, providing strategic advice to advance community interests.



**Dr Alan Clough – Lawyer**

Professorial Research Fellow at James Cook University and practising solicitor, Alan is nationally recognised for legal-policy integration, public health, and reform, supporting community advancement through research and leadership.



**Leigh Harris – Creative Director, Ingeous Studios**

Digital innovator with over 25 years' experience, Leigh specialises in inclusive design and technology, creating award-winning digital solutions for regional and remote communities.

# Our Commitment to Social Responsibility and Innovation

We are different because as well as providing exceptional professional service, we care about the communities we live and work in, and we've made important business decisions to back this up.

**1. We are paperless** - We have seen enough destruction of our forestry, so we embrace cutting-edge technology to seamlessly and securely offer our services to you, anywhere, anytime.

**2. We communicate smarter** - We reduce our carbon footprint by investing in cutting-edge technology to communicate smarter and more often with you, utilising video conferencing and cloud-based applications. Pay for expertise, not frequent flyer points.

**3. We work where we are** - We don't pay for boardrooms, so you don't have to! We are entirely decentralised and mobile, working wherever we are, with no commuting to and from work, significantly reducing our carbon footprint. If you need office space, just leave it to us. We have secured cracking deals on premium 3rd party office space by the hour, to ensure you only pay for what you need.

**4. We champion local and Indigenous opportunity** - We create and promote local and Indigenous opportunity, both economic and cultural.

## Our valued clients

