5th International Conference on Taxpayer Rights

Curtin Tax Clinic | 26 May 2021
Presentation Outline

Below is an overview of what we will discuss this evening

- Introduction
- About the Curtin Tax Clinic
- Community engagement
- Key takeaways
- Questions
Meet the Founders

Lecturers with a passion for advancing tax education

The Curtin Tax Clinic was founded in July 2018 with the dual purpose of:

- Responding to the evolving demands placed on Australian tax and legal education in view of the emerging needs of industry
- Facilitating access to free and reliable tax advice for unrepresented taxpayers seeking to meet or comply with their tax affairs

Donovan Castelyn
Clinic Supervisor

Annette Morgan
Clinic Director
Clinic Services

As a boutique tax practice, the Curtin Tax Clinic offers the following suite of services to unrepresented members of the community

**ASSISTANCE**
We assist eligible unrepresented taxpayers with their tax affairs

**REPRESENTATION**
We strive to represent our clients in their dealings with the ATO

**EDUCATION**
We educate taxpayers, students and the broader community

**ADVOCACY**
We advocate for the rights of all taxpayers
Community Engagement
Engaging the community is an evolving journey

Establishing the Curtin Tax Clinic
- Clear vision and purpose
- Creating the Curtin Tax Clinic narrative
- Stakeholder identification and outreach
- Delivering on the vision

Developing and maintaining stakeholder and community relationships
- Communication and value creation
- Mutual respect
- Shared objectives
Case Study: Broome

3 supervisors, 2 student volunteers, 1 research assistant and a shared goal

Background

- Regional outreach initiative which saw the Curtin Tax Clinic travel to Broome and establish a presence for the period of one week

Why?

- Distinct and often unrecognised tax issues that present in regional and remote regions
- Under-represented members of the Western Australian community
Case Study: Broome

“We do not judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds that you plant” – Robert Louis Stevenson

Pre-departure strategy
- Targeted social and traditional media advertising

Arrival and duration engagement strategy
- Familiarisation and pamphlet distribution
- Serendipity

Post-departure strategy
- Follow-up and maintenance
Key Takeaways

Our five-point framework for success

1. Know your product, brand and purpose
2. Know your market and be prepared to advocate for your cause
3. Be adaptable and open to opportunity
4. Active communication promotes engagement
5. Appreciate the impact of authenticity

“Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value” – Albert Einstein
THANK YOU

Make tomorrow better.

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