

From: york@college-of-arms.gov.uk
To: [McGill, Brianna](#)
Subject: RE: College of Arms enquiry [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Date: Thursday, 14 February 2019 9:00:10 PM
Attachments: [image002.jpg](#)

Dear Brianna,

Thank you for sending this through.

I suspect that the best way forward would be for the design of the new Arms to be created in close consultation between yourselves and the College of Arms. We have expertise in heraldic design and a knowledge of what works well for the long term. We also have the official records of previously granted coats of Arms and can therefore avoid any duplication or lack of the necessary distinctiveness.

The Arms I expect would be best assigned by Royal Warrant of the Queen of Australia, to avoid any doubts over the powers required. The text of the documents required would be prepared here in close consultation with yourselves of course.

There would be an official fee payable to cover the costs of preparing the documents including heraldic artwork of the new design, and placing the whole, including the texts of the documents, on official record here. I am not sure what exactly that fee would be at this stage.

I hope that this is helpful. Please do let me know if there are any further questions about this process.

Kind regards,

Peter

Peter O'Donoghue, MA, FSA
York Herald

College of Arms
Queen Victoria Street
London EC4V 4BT


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From: McGill, Brianna <Brianna.McGill@parliament.act.gov.au>
Sent: 13 February 2019 22:36
To: york@college-of-arms.gov.uk
Subject: RE: College of Arms enquiry [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Hi Peter,

Thanks for your email, the correspondence is attached (and signed original is in the post).

Please let me know if you need further information in order to respond.

If you have capacity to discuss College of Arms procedures by phone or email, my details are below (country code +61).

Kind regards,

Brianna

Brianna McGill

Committee Secretary | Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services
Office of the Legislative Assembly for the ACT

 | Email brianna.mcgill@parliament.act.gov.au | Online
www.parliament.act.gov.au



From: york@college-of-arms.gov.uk [<mailto:york@college-of-arms.gov.uk>]

Sent: Thursday, 14 February 2019 1:53 AM

To: McGill, Brianna <Brianna.McGill@parliament.act.gov.au>

Subject: College of Arms enquiry

13 February 2019

Dear Ms McGill,

Thank you for your enquiry of 12 February regarding the Australian Capital Territory. I should be happy to look at any scanned documents and offer advice on whatever subject is raised. Images can be sent to me by email at this address.

Yours sincerely,

Peter O'Donoghue

Peter O'Donoghue, MA, FSA
York Herald

College of Arms
Queen Victoria Street
London EC4V 4BT


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From: york@college-of-arms.gov.uk
To: [McGill, Brianna](#)
Subject: Arms for ACT
Date: Friday, 22 February 2019 1:34:18 AM

21 February 2019

Dear Ms McGill,

Thank you for your email of 15 February. The questions raised are somewhat complex and I shall pass your enquiry to my senior colleague Garter King of Arms who will be best placed to advise on the procedure by which Arms might be granted for the ACT. I am confident that this can be done but he will know best how to approach it.

I can say that Royal Warrants (also known as Royal Licences) are legal instruments that are issued by the Crown, using powers that stem from the Royal Prerogative. They have the force of law and are akin to a Statutory Instrument. I am not sure at present what the history is of the Queen of Australia issuing Warrants of this kind since the passage of the Australia Act 1986. If it is not possible to grant using this method, the way forward would be for the Earl Marshal, who acts on behalf of the Governor General of Australia, to issue his own Warrant to the Kings of Arms here to grant Arms. This would have the same effect as a Royal Warrant.

Kind regards,

Peter

Peter O'Donoghue, MA, FSA
York Herald

College of Arms
Queen Victoria Street
London EC4V 4BT

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From: garter@college-of-arms.gov.uk
To: [McGill, Brianna](#)
Subject: Arms for ACT
Date: Saturday, 23 February 2019 2:30:45 AM

Dear Ms McGill,

York Herald has passed me your correspondence. All Coats of Arms under English heraldic law are granted under the Royal Prerogative. Since the early 15th century The Sovereign has delegated the power to the three senior heralds or Kings of Arms to grant arms and in 1484 the heralds were incorporated into a College of Arms to act as an official registry of Arms. Nearly all grants of arms are made by letters patent of the Kings of Arms, but in a few cases such as States or the equivalent in other countries of which The Queen is Sovereign the grant is initiated by an approach from the state either through the Governor General or through the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to the Sovereign and the grant is made by Royal Warrant. In both cases the grant is dealt with by the College of Arms and recorded at the College of Arms. If a grant was to be made by Royal Warrant, I should therefore approach the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on your behalf.

Where a corporate body has a Coat of Arms and cease to exist such as in the case of The Federal Capital Commission then those arms unless specifically mentioned as being transferred do not pass to a successor authority but have to be transferred by Royal Licence. Such Royal Licences are obtained through the College of Arms.

In this case you seem to want a new design. Designs have to obey the laws of arms, so it is much more satisfactory to deal with a small group of people when designing arms. Competitions particularly those involving school children produce dreadful designs. I have some experience of them from sitting on the Royal Mint Advisory Committee.

I think that your suggestions for involving the whole community are as good as one could achieve. First have a nomination of symbols. Usually one design is produced on the basis of consultation and this can be refined or altered. I should be happy to try two or three designs. The problem when there are completely different designs is that the grantees sometimes start producing other completely different designs.

The cost turns on whether you want a shield alone or arms and a crest with or without heraldic supports. I hope this email is a start.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Woodcock

Garter Principal King of Arms
The College of Arms
130 Queen Victoria Street
London, EC4V 4BT
