

## LIA FINOCCHIARO

NAME	Lia Finocchiaro MLA
QUALIFICATIONS	BA Laws and BA International Studies, Grad Dip Legal Practice
GROUPS YOU BELONG TO	Palmerston Football Club Palmerston Combined Probus Club University of the 3rd Age Palmerston Palmerston Cricket Club Italian Festival Association Sids & Kids NT Palmerston Regional Business Association Business and Professional Women
COUNTRY OF BIRTH	Australia
OVERVIEW	 <p>I am a born and bred Territorian and live and breathe Palmerston. My parents built their family home in Gray in 1986 where I grew up. My parents still live there today.</p> <p>I attended Gray Primary School and Sacred Heart Primary School in Woodroffe before completing high school at Kormilda College.</p> <p>I was an Army Cadet for 5 years, during which time I opened the first Army Cadet Unit in Alice Springs and became the highest ranking cadet in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>After high school I started my legal career, completing a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of International Studies at the University of Adelaide. Upon returning to Darwin in 2008 I commenced work as a graduate clerk at Clayton Utz, a top tier national law firm and also completed a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice which enabled me to practice as a lawyer in the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory.</p> <p>Prior to entering politics I spent two years specialising in commercial litigation at Ward Keller Lawyers. In this role I advised clients in the areas of property, construction, debt recovery, insolvency, professional negligence, contract and personal injury law.</p> <p>I am a passionate believer in pro bono work and am heavily involved in Northern Territory business, social and multicultural communities.</p> <p>I was the President of Business and Professional Women</p>

(Darwin) from 2010-2012 and grew the group's membership from just 7 members to the largest Business and Professional Women's club in Australia. I was also the Secretary of the Palmerston Regional Business Association from 2009 - 2012 and am a founding member of the Italian Festival Association in the Northern Territory. For my work in these organisations I was named a finalist in the Australian of the Year Young Achiever (NT) category in 2012.

I enjoy volunteering for Sids & Kids and Duke of Edinburgh (NT) and am the proud patron of the Palmerston Football Club, Palmerston Combined Probus Club, University of the 3rd Age Palmerston and Palmerston Cricket Club.

On 25 August 2012 I was elected Member for Drysdale. I am fiercely passionate about grassroots representation in parliament and spend much of my time immersed in my electorate. I focus on making myself accessible and accountable to all of my constituents.

I am also the Government Whip, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee and member of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee which are extra roles that are both rewarding and challenging.