The State of Victoria introduced an alternative settlement framework to the claims system under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) in 2010. This alternative framework is provided by the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 (Vic) (the TOS Act). The alternative framework does not require recognition or extinguishment of native title under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth), but provides for the State’s recognition of a group of people as the traditional owners for a particular area together with other benefits. A recognition and settlement agreement under the TOS Act is underpinned by the registration of an indigenous land use agreement on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

The Australian Coat of Arms was designed by Sir Charles Toleman, Australia’s first official herald. The design was completed in 1910 and the official Arms were proclaimed on 13 September 1911 by the Governor-General, the Right Honourable Sir George Reid, KCH, PC. The design is based on earlier heraldic devices, particularly the St George of 1901, and the British West India Company’s arms of 1660. The arms were designed with the specific purpose of symbolising and representing the new nation and the Commonwealth of Australia, including its colonies and states. The coat of arms consists of a shield, an orb and sceptre, a motto and a crest. The design is intended to be meaningful and symbolic in its entirety and is protected by copyright. The arms are registered under the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) and are published in the Australian Register of Copyrights (AROC), as recorded and authenticated by the Register of Copyrights. The arms are reserved for use only by the Commonwealth, States and Territories of Australia, and by certain other organisations and persons as provided by law.