

Queen's | LAW REPORTS ONLINE

JANUARY 2019

ADVANCING RECONCILIATION

Answering calls to action

(see page 24)

Education technology innovator

Meet our new Assistant Dean

(see page 12)

How to leverage a Queen's JD

Law'93 classmates give advice

(see page 20)

Newest 'Rising Stars'

Five grads on Lexpert's list

(see page 38)



Queen's
UNIVERSITY

COVER STORY

24 **Advancing reconciliation**
From an art installation and a pro bono project to understanding through learning on a Mohawk Territory, Queen's Law is answering calls to action.



FEATURES

12 **Education technology innovator joins Queen's Law**
Meet Laura Kinderman, PhD'15, our new Assistant Dean of Students.



20 **How to leverage a Queen's JD: Advice from Law'93**
Frank Walwyn, Emily Steed, Jin Choi and Sheila Colman – on a panel moderated by Art Cockfield – share how they secured top positions in their different types of careers.



38 **Five 2000s grads among Lexpert's newest 'Rising Stars'**
Melissa Binns, Kyle Brunner, Kwang Lim, Andrew E. Stead and Clarke Tedesco talk about their career satisfaction, law school experience, and tips for new lawyers.



DEPARTMENTS

- 2 SCHOOL NEWS
- 14 QUEEN'S LAW CLINICS NEWS

- 34 ALUMNI NEWS
- 48 STUDENT NEWS
- 60 ALUMNI EVENTS

DEAN'S COUNCIL MEMBERS

Sheila A. Murray, Law'82 (Com'79) Chair
President and General Counsel
CI Financial Corp.

David Sharpe, Law'95 Vice-Chair
President and CEO
Bridging Finance Inc.

David Allgood, Law'74 (Arts'70) Past-Chair

Peter Brady, Law'96
Partner
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Betty DelBianco, Law'84
Chief Legal & Administrative Officer
Celestica Inc.

James Dorr, Law'87 (Artsci'84)
General Counsel & Secretary
Orbis Investment Management Ltd.

Janet Fuhrer, Law'85
Partner
Ridout & Maybee LLP

Peter Griffin, Law'77
Managing Partner, Toronto Office
Lenczner Slaght Royce Smith Griffin LLP

Jennifer Keenan, Law'90
Chair, Board of Directors
Dignitas International

Kelley McKinnon, Law'88 (Artsci'85)
VP and Chief Compliance Officer
BMO Capital Markets

Kristin J. Morch, Law'85 (Artsci'80)
General Counsel
Continental Saxon Group

Anton Sahazizian, Law'94
Managing Director, Head of U.S. Mergers & Acquisitions
Moelis & Company

Stephen Shamie, Law'86
Managing Partner
Hicks Morley Hamilton Stewart
Storie LLP

R. Paul Steep, Law'80 (Artsci'77)
Partner
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Richard Tory, Law'89
Managing Director
Morgan Stanley

Patrice Walch-Watson, Law'91
Senior Managing Director, General Counsel &
Corporate Secretary
Canada Pension Plan Investment Board

Frank E. Walwyn, Law'93
Partner
WeirFoulds LLP

Alan Whyte, Law'79 (Artsci'76)
Partner
Cunningham, Swan, Carty, Little & Bonham LLP



Queen's Law Reports Online
is a periodic electronic update of **Queen's Law Reports** magazine published by

QUEEN'S FACULTY OF LAW
MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS
Matt Shepherd, Director
Macdonald Hall
Queen's University
Kingston ON Canada K7L 3N6
law.queensu.ca

Editor
Lisa Graham, Com'88, Artsci'92, MPA'08
Manager of Communications
Tel: 613.533.6000, ext. 74259
Fax: 613.533.6611
Email: grahaml@queensu.ca

Contributors
Quinn Brown, Law'21
Phil Gaudreau
Justin Murphy, Law'19

Design + Production
Base design:
Larry Harris, Queen's University Marketing
Production and layout:
Amanda Black



ON THE COVER

Recreations of seven wampum belts are hanging from the ceiling of the Faculty of Law building. (Photo by Phil Gaudreau)

Class of '69
Bayne, Don...4

Law'71
Beaman, Roger...35
Parks, Jim...35

Class of '74
Allgood, David...33

Class of '77
Anderson, Robert...34

Class of '81
Charlesworth, Sue (Justice) ...17, 35
Walker, Jim...35

Class of '84
Addison, Sharon...36
Ahmed, Firoz...36
Finley, David...36
Frater, Robert...36-37
Huscroft, Grant (Justice)...36
Overholt, Carman...34, 35
Stratas, David (Justice)...19
Wilson, Darla (Justice)...36

Class of '85
Read, Jeff...34

Class of '87
Spencer, Keith...34

Class of '88
Kissick, Peter (LLM'98)...18

Class of '89
Kershaw, Jim...34
Sutherland, James (Justice)...34
Walters, Mark...2-3

Class of '90
Ball, Anthony...60-61
Plaxton, Tamsin...34

Class of '92
Tanovich, David...4

Class of '93
Choi, Jin...20-23
Colman, Sheila...20-23, 34
Steed, Emily...20-23
Walwyn, Frank...20-23

Class of '94
Ferguson, Jennifer...60-61
Mackillop, Carol...60-61

Class of '95
Sharpe, David...33

Class of '97
Krawchuk, Leanne...62-63

Class of '99
Cruise, Shelley...58-59

Class of '00
Mulqueen, Courtney...16-17

Class of '05
Lim, Kwang...38-41
Stead, Andrew...38, 42

Class of '06
Binns, Melissa...38-39

Class of '07
Tedesco, Clarke...38, 43

Class of '08
Brunner, Kyle...38, 40

Class of '09
Gangji, Amaan...18
Houlden, Kathryn...18
Lui, Matthew...18
Quick, Paul...19
Spencer, Andrew...18

Class of '10
MacLennan, Kate...62-63

Class of '11
Karyampudi, Rupa...16-17

Class of '12
McGavin, Allan...34

Class of '13
WhiteKnight, Warren...44-45

Class of '14
Kuehn, Natalie...46-47

Class of '19
Davis, Claire...18
Durward, Russell...58-59
Gallant, Josef...58-59
Guilbault, Liz...28-29
MacDonald, Sierra...58-59
McLeod, Tristan...58-59
Mullins, Ryan...19
Paulin, Ellis...30-31
Piazza, Frank...19
Smirnova, Alina...30-31
Vogl, Jake...56-57
Yu, Jing Bo...58-59

Friends
Cardinal, Douglas (LLD'18)...24-25
Claus, Hannah...24-25
Cole, Bonnie...28-29
Dockstator, Mark...33
King, Joyce...26-27
Oakes, Rick...26-27
Ransom, Kyrie...26-27, 28-29

Machum, Henry...56-57
Maclean, Patrick...5
Rim, Joshua...5
Sturgeon, Shannon...58-59
Sullivan, Chris...5
Winkler, Lauren...32, 33

Class of '21
Alvi, Alizeh...56-57
Doblej, Darian...28-29, 30-31, 52-54

Gallo, Anthony...30-31
Maracle, Brandon...30-31
Vani, Mark...56-57
Wall, Emma...56-57

Graduate Students
Mekuanent, Hiwot (PhD)...48-49
Okubote, Abayomi (PhD)...50-51

Faculty and Staff
Choquette, Hugo (Law'05, LLM'10, PhD'17)...30-31
Cockfield, Art (Law'93)...20-23
Crew, Blair...14-15
Dahan, Samuel...5
Deer, Ann...26-27, 30-31, 32
Dubey, Shai (Law'94)...5, 6-7, 60-61
Flanagan, Bill (Dean)...6-7, 34, 60-61, 62-63
Henderson, Gail...8-10, 28-29
Imseis, Ardi...28-29
Jarvis, Morgan (Law'10)...6-7, 18, 60-61
Kaufman, Amy (Law'04)...26-27
Kelly, Lisa...4
Kinderman, Laura (PhD'15)...12-13
Knutson, Erik...11
McGrath, Karla...60-61
Mills, Jana (Law'92)...17
Molas, Mike...30-31
Shepherd, Matt...19
Stuart, Don...4
Thomas, Jean...2-3
Webber, Grégoire ...2-3

Professor Webber's new book *Legislated Rights* 'bears important lessons for all who work to secure human rights in law'

An overarching message of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* is that the rights of Indigenous peoples, seniors, voters, families, persons with disabilities, and others are the responsibility of government. In the book *Legislated Rights: Securing Human Rights Through Legislation* (Cambridge), Professor Grégoire Webber and his co-authors explore some of the philosophical underpinnings of this commitment. In light of some rulings by the country's highest court over the past years, the book couldn't be more timely.

The Supreme Court of Canada has struck down legislative prohibitions on physician-assisted suicide, restrictions on judicial discretion in criminal sentencing, prisoner voting bans, and others, in each case finding that interferences with rights and freedoms could not be justified. That judicial power has been a significant contribution of the *Charter*.

But to Webber, Canada Research Chair in Public Law and Philosophy of Law at Queen's, there is another more fundamental and more significant promise in the *Charter*. "It is one that is less celebrated, too often overlooked and sometimes overshadowed by the important role of courts under the *Charter*," he says. "That promise is to have government and Parliament actively and consciously committed to the respect, protection, and promotion of rights. It is a promise to situate the *Charter's* influence within the workings of government and Parliament."

The legislature is well placed to secure and promote human rights, argue the authors. "It may seem an obvious proposition," says Webber, "but its truth and importance have been obscured in modern, court-centred modes of human rights discourse."

"Our title, *Legislated Rights*, signals a contrast to the theory and practice of much contemporary human rights law, which privileges the judiciary as the principal defender of human rights," he adds. "We aim to shift key premises of debate in human rights law, where it is regularly assumed that human rights are the special province of the courts and that legislation represents a threat rather than a means of protecting them."

According to the authors, many aspects of human well-being identified in human rights instruments can be adequately advanced only through general measures adopted through legislative action. The book explores the moral value of legislation and its capacity to realize human rights, as well as the special role and responsibility of the legislature in securing human rights in positive law.

Even something as technical and detailed as legislation governing building codes can be understood to relate to human rights, purports Webber. This is something he and some co-authors witnessed first-hand in 2015, following their presentations of a few book chapters at the Pontificia Universidad Católica in Santiago, Chile. "While later touring Valparaíso, we experienced an 8.3-magnitude earthquake that struck the region," Webber says. "Tsunami warnings resulted in the precautionary evacuation of roughly one million people. The lives of many, including those in or in proximity to high-rises, were saved by legislated measures imposing strict building code standards and a coordinated emergency response strategy."

"It is tragic that 15 people are reported to have lost their lives as a result of the earthquake – one in Valparaíso and most others in locations where it seems that modern codes have not been implemented," he continues. "It is a testament, we argue, to the relationship between the right to life and positive, legislated measures that the casualties were no higher."

Legislated Rights was officially launched before students and faculty members at Queen's Law on November 19 in Webber's panel discussion with Professor Jean Thomas of Queen's Law, Professor Mark Walters, Law '89, of McGill Law, and Chief Justice Glenn Joyal of the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench.

Thomas highlighted "the way the book makes a distinctive and important contribution: bringing together natural law theory, on one hand, which claims that law plays the necessary role of specifying abstract moral requirements; and a certain strand of rights theory, on the other hand, which points out the way in which the protection of a given human right



Professor Grégoire Webber (far right) at the Queen's Law book launch for *Legislated Rights: Securing Human Rights Through Legislation*, with panelists Professor Mark Walters of McGill Law, Chief Justice Glenn Joyal of the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench, and Professor Jean Thomas of Queen's Law. In the book, Webber and his co-authors "aim to shift key premises of debate in human rights law, where it is regularly assumed that human rights are the special province of the courts and that legislation represents a threat rather than a means of protecting them."

requires the imposition of many different duties. The legislature is the lawmaking body, so the book argues, that can best perform these two connected roles." She then raised some potential challenges associated with the relationship between human rights and politics and also queried the extent to which the book's argument leaves scope for democratic deliberation and action.

Walters called the book an "eloquent exploration of a concept of the legislature that is based upon a tradition in legal thinking that stretches back to classical sources but which is not well-understood today – that the legislature's principal task is to articulate in concrete ways legal relationships between us all that secure for us our human rights." However, he stated, this view of the legislature is premised upon an understanding about how legislators approach their job. "Legislators must engage in reasoning about justice and just relations between people, and not simply about what their constituents want. Of course, it is not clear that legislators actually do this. But the

book is a reminder of an ideal conception of the legislature that, if it played a bigger role in practical politics, would certainly be a good thing."

Joyal gave his perspective on how political responsibility for rights can help shape a political culture in which the political branches assume primary responsibility for securing human rights.

In the [first published book review](#), Professor Adam J. MacLeod of Faulkner University states that "though *Legislated Rights* is primarily written for legal philosophers, it bears important lessons for all who work to secure human rights in law. It competently challenges conventional views about the supremacy of courts in specifying and vindicating rights. And it achieves its stated goal to reorient general thinking about the nature of rights, legislatures, and courts."

For more information and to order a copy of *Legislated Rights: Securing Human Rights Through Legislation*, visit the [Cambridge University Press website](#).

Renowned defence lawyer Don Bayne endows a criminal law legacy

This is a case of one Queen's criminal law legend paying tribute to two others, securing opportunities for students with career interests in criminal law. Don Bayne, Law'69, LL.D'17, has added an influential gift of \$250,000 to the Stuart Delisle Criminal Law Fund established six years ago to honour Professors Don Stuart and the late Ron Delisle, LL.B'64 (BSc'59).

"This is an important investment in our criminal law program, from a long-time and most generous supporter of the school," says Dean Bill Flanagan. "Don Bayne's pledge will more than triple the fund over the next five years, making a significant impact on our criminal law program and on students' learning opportunities. Those could include specialized courses taught by senior practitioners and judges, moot competitions and internships, high-profile guest speakers and teaching fellows in residence."

Faculty will also benefit. Professor Lisa Kelly, Visitors' Committee co-chair, says, "Junior faculty members are especially grateful for the opportunities this gift creates for cutting-edge scholarship, advocacy and teaching. Thanks to Mr. Bayne's generosity, we will be convening a panel event this

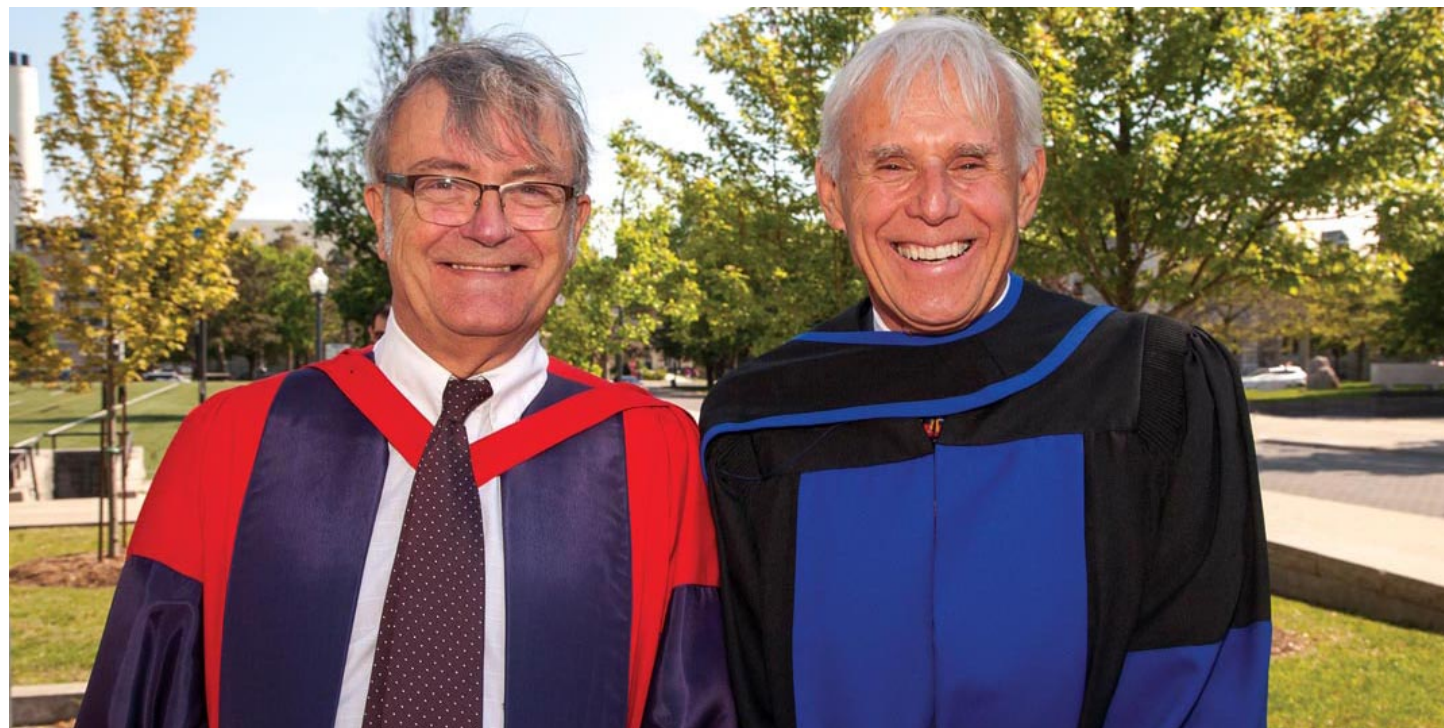
winter to celebrate Professor Stuart's still-growing legacy. It will feature leading criminal law scholars from across Canada, among them Professors Lisa Dufrainmont (Osgoode), Janine Benedet (UBC), David Tanovich, Law'92 (Windsor), and Steve Coughlan (Dalhousie)."

Kelly will guest edit all panelists' papers for a special spring volume of the *Queen's Law Journal*. Stuart taught both of *QLJ*'s Law'19 co-editors-in-chief, Levent Karademir and Ryan Mullins.

For the multiple-award-winning Bayne, known across Canada for defending high-profile clients in challenging cases at all levels of court, the decision to donate was easy, he says. "I think the world of Don Stuart, Ron Delisle, Stuart Ryan, Bill Lederman, Dan Soberman and others who made my Queen's Law experience one of excellence but also warmth and humanity.

"For decades the work of those criminal law scholars has been invaluable not only to students but also to practitioners. I'm delighted to give back to the school through a program so close to my heart."

— LISA GRAHAM



Two criminal law giants reunite as Professor Don Stuart congratulates Don Bayne, Law'69, for receiving an Honorary Doctorate of Laws at Spring Convocation 2017.

GREG BLACK

Queen's Law presents a glimpse into the high-tech future of legal practice

Does technology pose an existential threat to one's future career as a lawyer? Entrepreneurs, practitioners and academics discussed that key question at a Queen's Law conference on November 17. The day-long event, "Lawyer 2.0: The Future of Legal Practice," gave law students and new lawyers an opportunity think widely and creatively about their legal education and its potential in an increasingly digital age.

Conference co-organizers Chris Sullivan and Joshua Rim, both Law'20, were happy to see their ideas come to life, in a showcase of law and technology to the Queen's Law community.

"The goal of Lawyer 2.0 was to broaden the horizons of law students in thinking more creatively about their future careers in light of the changes taking place in the legal services industry," says Rim. "Our excellent slate of speakers shared their experiences and delivered insightful talks to our audience, so we think our conference was very successful in delivering unique value to law students," adds Sullivan.

The event's keynote speaker, Law Made Inc. co-founder Jason Moyse, discussed the challenges associated with project management in a traditional law firm business model.

"Law firm leaders – the brain of the law firm – are enlightened," admitted Moyse. "But they face a synaptic problem when it comes to managing projects. They can't get the arms and legs coordinated to move."

Professor Shai Dubey, Law'94, Academic Director of the [Graduate Diploma in Legal Services Management](#), spoke to the profound effect current students will have on legal practice's future.

"In five years, there will be more millennials in legal practice than there ever were baby boomers," proclaimed Dubey. "Current students will have a huge impact on what happens next in this industry."

Professor Samuel Dahan also spoke at the event, to present on behalf of his [Conflict Analytics Lab](#) and showcase the wide-ranging impact of predictive software in future arbitration proceedings.



Jason Moyse, co-founder of Law Made Inc. presents "Law School Road Show: 21st Century Legal Services and the T-Shaped Professional" at the Lawyer 2.0 Conference.

Patrick Maclean, Law'20, was inspired by the conference's broad range of topics and guest speakers.

"Attending Lawyer 2.0 challenged me to think about the law outside of our traditional training," says Maclean. "The breadth of perspectives created a confluence of the vision for future lawyers, and how we, as students, can contribute to the growth of the profession through the adoption of technology."

The event was organized in partnership with the Conflict Analytics Lab, Legal Hackers, the Queen's Technology Law Club and the Queen's Venture Law Society.

— JUSTIN MURPHY

Alumni to drive enterprising undergraduate and professional programs at Queen's Law

Over the past two years, the undergraduate [Certificate in Law](#) program has grown to seven courses with an enrolment of almost 2,000 students. This academic year saw the launch of the first two courses in the [Graduate Diploma in Legal Services Management](#) program, and registration will be open to legal professionals starting with this spring's offering. Overseeing the growth of these online programs are Shai Dubey, Law'94, and Morgan Jarvis, Law'10 (Artsci'05, MSc'08).

Dubey has been appointed the school's first Executive Director of Undergraduate and Professional Programs, and Jarvis the school's first Academic Director of the Certificate in Law.

"I am delighted to announce the appointments of Shai and Morgan to these new strategic leadership roles," says Dean Bill Flanagan. "Both have a

mandate to ensure high academic quality in these programs and seek further opportunities for growth."

"Queen's Law is a pioneer in online legal education in North America," says Dubey, who is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor and Distinguished Faculty Fellow of Business Law at Smith School of Business. This term he is teaching *Shaping the Future of Legal Practice*, a course he developed for the Graduate Diploma.

"The undergraduate Certificate has been a great success for the school," he adds, "and we have already seen a great deal of interest in the Graduate Diploma from both law students and law firms."

In his new role, Dubey will manage the growth of both initiatives and will look for new opportunities for the school to apply its academic legal talent, as well as its technical skills in online program delivery.

"I want to develop a team that thrives in an environment of innovation," says Dubey. "I hope that Queen's Law will be seen as 'Canada's law school' as we help lawyers be better at what they love to do by understanding the business of law, and by making law more accessible through programs that reach more people. I am looking forward to working with faculty, students, staff and alumni to make a real difference, one of the real reasons that I chose to become a lawyer myself."

Jarvis, who will continue as Director of the Queen's Business Law Clinic (QBLC) on a part-time basis, became involved with the Certificate in Law program last year. He developed the Intellectual Property course, which he taught in the fall.

"I'm thrilled to be joining the team of incredibly capable staff and instructors who are responsible for the success this program has seen over the past couple of years," Jarvis says. "We're in the fortunate position of having a proven concept with almost unlimited potential for growth. We'll be working now to see just how many Canadians we can bring access to legal education to, while upholding the university's reputation for unrivalled quality."

Crediting the school for already doing a "fantastic job" of looking towards the future of the legal profession and preparing law students for it, he notes how there are so many more people who should have access to legal information, and variations on a legal education that suits their needs. These include undergraduate and college students for whom an understanding of the law applicable to their field would be extremely valuable. Others are those in the workforce; they could learn how to do their jobs much better and to more effectively use legal counsel with a better understanding of the applicable law.

"Really, all Canadians should have a basic understanding of how the law impacts them in their

daily and working lives, so we're really excited about the opportunity in front of us as we look to serve that greater audience."

With the Certificate courses, he explains, the focus is on the practical application of the law. "We want to connect with a full range of students from undergrads to continuing education learners out in the workforce. To do that, we aren't just introducing them to the law, but to how it matters to them in the real world. It isn't law school, where we need to teach them the theory and history, the why and how behind the law that they need to think like lawyers; we just want to help them better navigate the law as it applies to them. Our courses will help them know when they need to hire a lawyer, or help them use their lawyers more effectively."

It's that practical aspect of the Certificate in Law program that ties in with Jarvis' work as QBLC Director. Being involved with the QBLC keeps Jarvis on top of what matters to students and others out in the community starting businesses and running local not-for-profits and charities. "These clinic clients are in some cases quite literally our students in the Certificate program," he says. "In my Certificate IP course, I used a lot of our clinic student work as examples to practically illustrate what I was teaching. Some of the students in that class then applied to the clinic for help starting their business."

Both Shai Dubey and Morgan Jarvis are taking on their new roles with great enthusiasm and expectations. As Jarvis puts it, "Our mission, really, is to contribute to the great brand Queen's Law is building as an innovative leader in legal education."

[Watch a video of Shai Dubey, Law'94, explaining how Queen's developed the ideal business skills program for lawyers.](#)

— LISA GRAHAM



Shai Dubey, Law'94, and Morgan Jarvis, Law'10 – the school's newly appointed Executive Director of Undergraduate and Professional Programs and Academic Director of the Certificate in Law, respectively – have a clear mission: "to contribute to the great brand Queen's Law is building as an innovative leader in legal education."

Meet our faculty: Gail Henderson

Professor Gail Henderson’s research looks into how consumers are protected and informed about financial products, and how banks are regulated.

What got you interested in the intersection between law and financial regulation?

I was doing research in Ireland on the Irish banking crisis in 2008. I originally approached the situation from a corporate governance angle – when the Irish government guaranteed the liabilities of the local banks and building societies, they said they want to make sure these organizations were not engaged in risky activities on the backs of the taxpayer. So, they appointed public interest directors to keep an eye on the way the banks were being governed.

In studying that crisis, I realized the way banks are regulated is so essential to the average citizen’s daily life. It’s not a very popular area of research – it is very technical and has been more dominated by economists and finance scholars.

My work on the potential role of public interest directors on Canada’s big six banks led me to connect with Professor Jerry Buckland, who has become a frequent collaborator, including a recently-completed project on Group RESPs and an ongoing project on financial empowerment.

What is a group RESP?

If you open an RESP at a mainstream bank, you put money in as you’re able to. Maybe you have a scheduled payment, but you could change that at any time. It’s just your money in the account.

When you sign up to a group RESP, you commit to a certain amount – a certain number of units – and making contributions on a monthly or annual schedule. The appeal of the group RESP is that the monthly payments can be very small – less than \$10 per month per unit. They are heavily marketed to low- and middle-income Canadians.

The risk with a group RESP is that if the investor drops out of the plan, or their kids don’t attend post-secondary education, the earnings on their investment are redistributed to the other investors in the plan. Group RESP promoters also charge an upfront fee which you won’t get back. You would just get back your contributions.

Group RESPs predate the tax benefits associated with RESPs – at one time, this was the only option. When they were originally conceived, it was more of an insurance product. They were marketed at a time when fewer people went to university, so you were insuring against the risk that your kid would pursue post-secondary education.

Now they are sold as an investment product to increase savings for post-secondary education. The problem is the additional risks of a group plan. If you can’t make the payments, you could lose out on the money paid towards the upfront fees, plus the earnings on your contributions.

Also, if you drop out of the plan, the government takes back the grants it has added to your contributions and some of those government grants can’t be re-earned. So, they are very risky for low- and middle-income Canadians, particularly those with volatile incomes who might not always be able to make the monthly payments.



GREG BLACK


FAST FACTS

Law Degrees: LLB (Osgoode), LLM, SJD (Toronto)

Hometown: Brockville, ON

Research area: Regulation of financial institutions

Teaching Subjects 2018-19: Contracts, Corporate Governance, Securities Regulation

 [@hendersongaile](#)

[Learn more about Gail Henderson](#)

The marketing of group RESPs is also very aggressive. Sometimes, salespeople approach new parents in the hospital. Group RESP salespersons will offer to visit new parents at home, where they use high-pressure sales tactics. Group RESP promoters have been sanctioned by the Ontario Securities Commissions because these tactics are illegal under Ontario securities laws.

These products are also very complicated – I read the prospectuses, and it took me all summer! The rules have changed a bit in recent years, but I would still say they are a predatory financial product.

Why do predatory financial products tend to target lower income Canadians?

I think it is primarily because they are less likely to have an established relationship with a bank, and therefore be aware of, or have access to, other options.

What is the Financial Empowerment project?

The Financial Empowerment project is a five-year SSHRC Insight Grant-funded project in which we ask participants to track their finances and share this information with us over the course of a year. It’s based on the U.S. Financial Diaries project. Professor Buckland is the principal investigator. ►

The project aims to draw on the experiences of low-income Canadians and see how that lines up with the initiatives of government and the non-profit sector to improve their financial well-being and the rules that are supposed to protect them.

My role in the project is looking at the legal side of things, such as the regulation of access to a basic bank account, payday loans, tax advances, group RESPs, installment loans, prepaid credit cards, and all those services that fall outside of mainstream banking, which are more likely to be relied on by low-income Canadians.

I look at how those are regulated and how well low-income Canadians are protected from more onerous terms and the regulation of the cost of those products, which tend to be high cost.

Most of us take for granted that we have a credit card in the event of an unexpected expense. But if you don't have a credit card, or if you can't get one due to your income or credit history, and you have an unexpected expense, your ability to obtain credit some other way can be very expensive.

Tell us about your financial literacy work with Professor Pamela Beach in the Queen's Faculty of Education.

Our focus is on financial literacy education materials produced by the financial services industry and whether the key themes and messages in these materials are different from those produced by individuals, government or non-profit organizations.

We're also gathering data on whether Ontario elementary teachers are incorporating financial literacy education into their classrooms and if so, how they do so and where they access materials.

Why did you make the switch from private practice to academia?

I enjoy being able to spend the time thinking about policy questions, particularly questions about financial consumer protection and investor protection, and the best answer to those questions.

How have you enjoyed living in Kingston?

Kingston has been great. It is a bit of a homecoming for me, as I grew up in Brockville.

On your Twitter bio, you mention wanting to teach a course about sports law someday. Tell us about the course.

This would be my dream course. In law school, we

"I enjoy thinking about policy questions, particularly questions about financial consumer protection and investor protection, and the best answer to those questions."

— PROFESSOR GAIL HENDERSON

tend to separate subjects out into silos – tax, corporate, tort, municipal, personal injury – so this would be a way to, under a common theme, show how these fit together. If you're in-house counsel for a professional sports team, or owner, for example, you have to think about all these issues – municipal, zoning, liability for players and fans, intellectual property.

I also have an interest in corporate social responsibility, and there is an intersection between corporate social responsibility and professional sports leagues – you're seeing concerns about future liability, player mental health ... and there is a connection between mental health and financial health.

Financial literacy is a big issue for professional athletes, and there has been some work in some leagues to educate its players on what to do with their money. All their earnings are up front in their early years – how do they invest the money, make sure it lasts, and not get taken advantage of?

What are you reading and watching these days?

I read about the consequences of our growing income and wealth inequality, the financialization of the economy, and how low- and middle-income families and individuals cope with those changes in the economy.

There is also the recent Supreme Court decision around a national securities regulator, so we'll see if there is any movement. I think it will be helpful to have a regulator with more resources for enforcement to tackle securities fraud. I will be talking about that in my classes this term.

I tend not to watch law or finance shows – you see those shows and go, "This is not how this works in the real world!" If I am watching TV, it's sports – primarily baseball and basketball. I see the Raptors going further this year, though the Western Conference looks tough to beat.

— PHIL GAUDREAU

Queen's Law professor selected to help define U.S. laws

What does [Erik Knutsen](#), Associate Dean (Academic) at Queen's Law, have in common with most sitting justices of the United States Supreme Court and many of America's other senior legal figures? They are all elected members of the American Law Institute (ALI), known as "the leading independent organization in the U.S. producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and otherwise improve the law."

Knutsen is one of only a dozen Canadians ever selected to the ALI, which caps membership of "highly accomplished academics, judges and legal professionals" at 3,000. "I am honoured and humbled to be a Canadian on the American Law Institute," he says of his election in December. "The selection process (from confidential nominations submitted by ALI members) for non-Americans apparently adds an additional hurdle – one must also be seen to be providing some comparative international insight of value to the organization, and in an array of subject areas that are germane to the work of the ALI."

As a member, Knutsen will be bringing his expertise to help clarify the law through ALI-produced Restatements, Principles and Model Codes. Already he has become part of three working groups directly related to his main subject areas: liability insurance, torts and consumer contracts.

Members participate in Member Consultative Groups (MCGs), reviewing the work of Reporters who take on the task of initial drafts of a project. "The MCG members debate and engage with drafts of Restatements projects, refining the project as it progresses." "The final project results in an authoritative Restatement of the American law in a particular subject matter, useful for courts and lawyers," explains Knutsen. "It is quite a scholarly, iterative process."

Knutsen has co-authored *Canadian Tort Law*, a leading Canadian tort treatise, *Stempel and Knutsen on Insurance Coverage*, a leading American insurance law treatise, the leading casebook on Canadian civil litigation and one of the core casebooks on American insurance law. Top-ranked Canadian, American and international journals have published his articles and he has presented his work in North America, the U.K. and China. A multiple teaching-award recipient at Queen's Law, he has also taught in the Queen's School of Medicine and as a core faculty member in the Queen's interdisciplinary Master of Science in



GREG BLACK

Associate Dean Erik Knutsen has become one of only a dozen Canadians ever selected to the American Law Institute's membership of accomplished academics, judges and legal professionals who "produce scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and otherwise improve the law."

Healthcare Quality program, and received the 2018 Queen's University [Chancellor A. Charles Baillie Teaching Award](#). He is often relied upon as a consultant to lawyers taking cases to trial or appeal – some of these at the Supreme Court of Canada and the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom.

With his ALI membership, his connections and influence will expand deeper. "The ALI provides a prime opportunity for international networking with top American scholars and jurists," he says. "With 50 states, multiple levels of courts in each state, and a unique, corresponding federal system with its own trial and appeals, there is a lot of law going on in the United States.

"I'm hopeful," he adds, "that providing a comparative Canadian experience can be of assistance when wrestling with how to define what is the law on a particular subject."

— LISA GRAHAM

Education technology innovator is new Assistant Dean of Students at Queen's Law

Over the past decade, Laura Kinderman, PhD'15, has been a leader in educational development and research at Queen's University. In her most recent role as Associate Director of the Faculty of Health Sciences's undergraduate program, she led the planning, development and delivery of several initiatives, including the new online Bachelor of Health Sciences program. For her outstanding leadership in the innovative uses of technology in teaching and learning, she received the School of Medicine's 2017 H.F. Pross Educational Technology Award. The holder of a doctoral degree from Queen's in English Language and Literature, who also has an MA from Dalhousie University (2006) and an Honours BA from the University of Victoria (2004), she is pursuing her Executive MBA degree from the Smith School of Business. Now she's applying her skills and knowledge to Queen's Law as Assistant Dean of Students.

Upon her January 1 appointment, Laura Kinderman spoke with *Queen's Law Reports* about her experience with educational technology initiatives and her plans for JD students and the JD program.

What attracted you to the Assistant Dean position at Queen's Law?

I have been very impressed with the reputation of the Faculty of Law at Queen's, as well as the new and innovative practices it has been engaging in, such as incorporating undergraduate education and online learning. I was attracted to this position as it is an opportunity to bring my skills and experience to a new area and continue to build on them. I see this role as an opportunity to grow, both for me and for the position.

Tell us about how you have been involved with innovative uses of technology in teaching and learning at Queen's University.

I have long been interested in technology-enhanced learning. I was the operational lead for the development of the Bachelor of Health Sciences

(BHSc) program, a fully online undergraduate degree that launched in September 2016. Prior to that, I led the interdisciplinary training program for the Canadian Frailty Network (a Networks of Centres of Excellence Program), as well as for three NSERC-CREATE (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Collaborative Research and Training Experience) graduate degree programs in different interdisciplinary areas: Bone and Joint Technologies, Ultra-Large Scale Software Systems, and Sustainable Engineering in Remote Areas. In addition to these online design and administrative aspects, I also bring the lived experience of designing and teaching courses in professional skills, teaching and learning, writing and adult literacy.

How will you use that experience at Queen's Law?

I am excited to become part of such an amazing community. I will look to use my experience in supporting and enhancing teaching and learning by bringing these transferable skills and perspectives to Queen's Law. After having the opportunity to work alongside professional programs in the health sciences, the opportunity to be part of the JD program, and support the JD student experience, is a special career opportunity for me. I look forward to learning about a disciplinary context that I'm less familiar with, and to working with my colleagues and seeing some of the synergies from a cross-disciplinary perspective.

As Assistant Dean of Students, what do you look forward to over the next year?

I look forward to learning this new role, and to becoming embedded in the different areas that focus on enhancing student experiences in the Faculty of Law. The opportunity to appreciate the intricacies of the Law context at Queen's especially excites me. I look forward to fostering an inclusive environment for students to feel welcomed, providing a confidential space for learners to discuss and explore different areas of concern, and to being physically located in an office that is a hub of student activity.



As the newly appointed Assistant Dean of Students at Queen's Law, Laura Kinderman, PhD'15, has set her top priority: "to support JD students in gaining the best possible learning experiences in the JD program."

I am excited to learn about my portfolio, which includes recruitment and admissions, enrollment and records, international exchanges and experiential learning opportunities, education development support for faculty and online learning, student health and well-being, and career services for students. I myself believe strongly in the principle of giving back. I am currently serving in the role of Vice-President on the Board of Directors of our national Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. For many years I was involved with Kingston Literacy & Skills, assisting in the cause of providing learning support and enabling access for

adult learners in the Kingston region.

What are your top priorities for JD students and the JD program at Queen's Law?

My top priority is to support JD students in gaining the best possible learning experiences in the JD program. I strive for students to see my office as a welcoming place, a space to bring questions, share experiences, and have their concerns heard and addressed. I am looking forward to learning more about the JD program, and to having conversations with students about their lived experience.

Experienced clinic lawyer takes the helm at Queen's Legal Aid

Blair Crew brings a wealth of experience in clinical education to his new role as Director of Queen's Legal Aid (QLA). From 2005-2018, he was Review Counsel at the University of Ottawa Community Legal Clinic (Faculty of Common Law), where he was responsible for all aspects of supervising student caseworkers in cases brought before various courts and review boards. As a sessional professor at Ottawa's Faculty of Common Law for the past 15 years, he taught Sexual Assault Law, Criminal Law and Procedure, and the Law of Evidence. Since 2016, he has served as a panelist on the Government of Ontario's pilot program that provides independent legal advice for survivors of sexual assault. He holds an LL.M. from Cornell University (2005), an LL.B. (Magna Cum Laude) from the University of Ottawa (1998) and an Honours BA from the University of Toronto.

Before assuming the directorship of QLA on January 7, Blair Crew spoke to *Queen's Law Reports* about his motivation for delivering pro bono legal services, his previous experience as a clinic supervisor, and his plans for leading the largest of the school's five clinics.

What interests you most about providing legal services to low-income people?

Economics provides one of the most significant barriers to access to justice in Canada's legal system. Courts of every level, including members of the Supreme Court of Canada, have recognized that the cost of legal services in Canada has now gone beyond what is affordable even for people who have a moderate level of income. People of low income often face discrimination and an inability to access legal services based on factors such as race, gender identity, or disability, including mental health challenges or addictions.

I feel that is a real privilege to be able to use a legal education to address these barriers to access to justice. When billable hours are not a concern, the



MAGGIE DOHERTY

Blair Crew, the new Director of Queen's Legal Aid, is ready to build on the clinic's "long-standing tradition of excellence in providing both legal services to the community and hands-on experiential learning opportunities for law students."

students and I are free to explore every avenue, and to put in as much work on a case as is required to achieve a fair legal result, without being bound by the limitations imposed by what a client can afford.

How have you previously supervised clinical program students?

For 13½ years, I was Review Counsel at the University of Ottawa Community Legal Aid Clinic, uOttawa's equivalent of QLA. While I was primarily responsible for the clinic's Criminal Division, I also have extensive experience before the Landlord and Tenant Board and Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

My approach to supervision begins with the notion that I should be directly accessible to the students. Most of my weekly schedule is reserved for direct consultation with students. I strongly believe in letting students take the lead in developing both a legal strategy to resolve a client's legal problem, and a plan for effective communication with the clients about that strategy.

It has been my personal practice to attend at courts or tribunals when a student has an actual hearing or trial: clients almost universally require direct and immediate legal advice from a lawyer in the last minutes before a trial or hearing begins. That said, I have learned that I can "sit on my hands" as an observer when I am present a trial, as a student who is well prepared can think their way through almost any situation that arises. By being present, I am able to provide meaningful feedback on what many students describe as one of the most thrilling experiences of their time at law school.

What attracted you to Queen's Legal Aid?

I am excited about the depth of opportunities for file work that QLA presents to students. Between group leaders, litigation students participating for course credit, and volunteers, QLA provides opportunities for as many as 96 students a year to gain practical, hands-on legal experience. Easily the most attractive aspect for me of working at QLA is the opportunity to act as a mentor for these students.

I am also attracted to the model of having five co-

located clinics operating under the umbrella of the Queen's Law Clinics, and the opportunities for collaboration that this presents. In addition to the added convenience for clients who may require services from more than one of the Queen's Law Clinics, I am looking forward to the having access to the insight that the staff and students of the other clinics will provide.

By joining the staff of QLA, I am joining a team of experienced staff with a demonstrated record of being strong role models to students. Part of my role includes mentoring students *beyond* their time at Queen's Faculty of Law. It has been fulfilling for me to watch my former students become partners, associates and sole practitioners, particularly in the area of criminal law, at many of Toronto's and Ottawa's leading firms. I enjoy being able to use these connections to assist students seeking out articling and early career opportunities.

What are your plans for the clinic as the QLA Director?

QLA has a long-standing tradition of excellence in providing both legal services to the community and hands-on experiential learning opportunities for law students. My first plan is to take some time to learn what it is about QLA that has contributed to this effectiveness and reputation. I also recognize that both methods of delivery of legal services and philosophies of experiential education are always evolving, and that any law practice needs to innovate to stay current.

Beyond that, I am new to Kingston. I look forward to being able to renew and strengthen connections between QLA and other agencies that are involved in the justice system and/or the provision of services to low-income people, including other clinics funded by Legal Aid Ontario and social services agencies. I find that having people at such like-minded agencies in my cell-phone contacts list always increases the range of options I can present to clients seeking practical solutions to legal issues.

Disability lawyers credit their firm's success to QLA student experience

The oldest and largest of the five Queen's Law clinical programs, Queen's Legal Aid (QLA) has been a vital part of the Faculty's service to the community for more than four decades. Over that time, thousands of students have got a leg up on their careers from the invaluable practical experience they gained as clinic caseworkers and volunteers. For Courtney Mulqueen, Law'00, and Rupa Karyampudi, Law'11, the founders of MK Disability Lawyers, the QLA experience continues to influence the direction of their careers and how they practice law.

Mulqueen's and Karyampudi's paths first crossed in 2012, when they were both practising at a busy plaintiffs' litigation firm in Toronto. At that time, Karyampudi had just completed her articles at a personal injury boutique and was determined to build on her QLA experience, with the goal of one day starting her own law firm. She wanted to experience advocating for plaintiffs having financial, physical and emotional barriers to justice. "I knew early on that I wanted to work in a legal practice where I was helping individuals, particularly vulnerable ones," she says. "This was in large part due to my experience at QLA, where I learned so much about the practice of law and also about interacting with clients and helping them through very difficult times in their lives."

Like Karyampudi, Mulqueen had also envisioned having her own law practice one day. Prior to working on behalf of plaintiffs, Mulqueen had spent several years as in-house counsel, defending long-term disability insurance claims before she realized how much she missed the personal and professional satisfaction that came with helping individuals in need as she had done so many years earlier at QLA. This realization led her to make the switch to representing disabled people against the insurers she had previously defended.

In terms of the transition, Mulqueen recalls, "The substantive part was easy. It was going from representing corporate clients to individual disabled clients that was the bigger challenge. That's where my QLA experience proved to be invaluable. I drew heavily on that experience in terms of my approach

to my clients and the strategies I used to accommodate and address their individual financial, physical and psychological needs throughout the litigation."

Not long after first meeting, the pair began discussing their experiences at Queen's Law and in particular, their roles as caseworkers at Queen's Legal Aid. Mulqueen and Karyampudi realized that, stemming from their common QLA roots, they shared a common vision of how they wanted to practise law. In 2016, they took the leap, realizing their common vision and founded MK Disability Lawyers (Mulqueen Karyampudi LLP), a boutique law firm dedicated to representing disabled plaintiffs in their long-term disability insurance disputes.

Speaking about their work, Mulqueen says, "Our clients are people who had been working before becoming disabled. They come to us when their long-term disability benefit claims are either denied or terminated. They suddenly find themselves without an income, but they are unable to work. It's a very difficult time for our clients and their families. They are often very ill and now have added financial stress."

Although MK LLP specializes in long-term disability insurance litigation, they frequently represent their clients in related employment, human rights, personal injury, motor vehicle accident and Canada Pension Plan (Tribunal) claims. In addition to providing comprehensive legal services to their disabled clients, MK Disability Lawyers also accommodates clients who are unable to leave their homes due to mobility or mental health issues and those who do not live in the Toronto area, yet require specialized legal representation for long-term disability benefit disputes.

It was in the course of meeting with some Kingston-area clients last winter that Mulqueen and Karyampudi visited the downtown Queen's Law Clinics that since 2015 have housed QLA, as well as clinics in business law, elder law, family law and prison law. Mulqueen recalled the time when QLA worked out of a small room on the upper level of the law school and in trailers parked in the community,



Rupa Karyampudi, Law'11, and Courtney Mulqueen, Law'00, credit their QLA experience for providing them with direction and in motivating them to form their own firm, MK Disability Lawyers.

and she was excited to see the bright and welcoming office space now dedicated to the clinic.

In addition to a tour of the new clinic space, the law partners enjoyed reminiscing with QLA's then-Director, Sue Charlesworth, Law'81 (who has since been appointed to the Nunavut Court of Justice), and Review Counsel Jana Mills, Law'92, and learning about the clinic's growth and initiatives in the community over the past several years. They discussed challenges common to their respective practices, including the hurdles faced by some of their most vulnerable and disadvantaged clients and in particular, those clients struggling with mental illness.

Addressing mutual concerns regarding access to justice issues underscored the strong and lasting influence the clinic has had on both Mulqueen's and Karyampudi's perspectives and their approach to

their law practice. They credit their QLA experience for providing them with direction and in motivating them to form MK Disability Lawyers.

Mulqueen explains, "It was my experience at QLA that made me realize how my compassion and legal training could make a real substantive difference in people's lives. At QLA, I saw firsthand what can happen when clients feel they are being heard and understood and when they are supported and informed. For me, practising law is not just about seeking justice for my clients but also about providing them with a sense of empowerment, direction and hope.

"Queen's Legal Aid showed me early on the incredible opportunity I had been given to do some good and it has influenced the way I practice law, ever since," she adds. "For that, I am truly grateful."

— QUINN BROWN

Queen's Business Law Clinic turns 10

Highly sought after by students and clients alike, the QBLC has grown this year to 24 students gaining hands-on experience working on a caseload of about 150 files. They deliver legal services to a broad client base that now includes entrepreneurs and social enterprises in addition to non-profit organizations and small business start-ups.



QBLC Director Morgan Jarvis, Law'10 (right), discusses a client matter with student caseworkers at the Queen's Law Clinics in downtown Kingston.

"Working at the clinic provides a unique opportunity to tackle substantive legal matters that typically are handled by junior associates at many law firms."

— MORGAN JARVIS, LAW'10 (ARTSCI'05, MSC'08), QBLC'S DIRECTOR SINCE 2017 AND ITS FIRST STUDENT MANAGER IN 2009-10

Those First QBLC Students ... Where are they now?

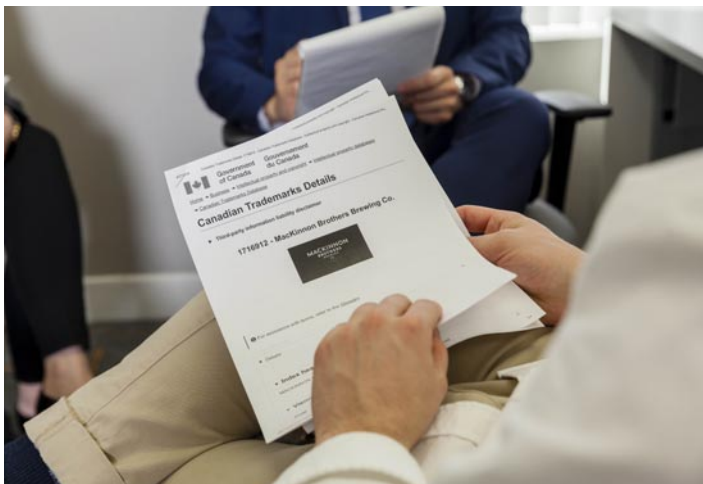
The idea of a clinical program in business law began in 2008 when four Law'09 executive members of the Corporate Law and Investment Club submitted a proposal to Dean Bill Flanagan. Shown in 2009 with then-QBLC Director Peter Kissick, Law'88, LLM'98 (2nd right), they are each reaping the rewards of their student initiative:

- Amaan Gangji, Partner, Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver;
- Matthew Lui, Senior Associate, Torys LLP, Calgary;
- Kathryn Houlden, SVP, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, DealNet Capital, Toronto; and
- Andrew Spencer, Legal Counsel at Goldcorp, Vancouver.

To make a gift to the QBLC, please go to <https://givetoqueens.ca/businesslaw>.

"I enjoy the variety of files and clients at the QBLC. Small businesses are really exciting because they often represent a critical juncture in a person's life – becoming an entrepreneur and taking a financial and social risk by doing something different. Some people think business law is the antithesis of social responsibility, but I learned how a business can be both economically viable and socially oriented and that, in reality, businesses are a huge part of a community's culture."

— CLAIRE DAVIS, LAW'19, 2019-20
ARTICLING STUDENT WITH WEIRFOULDS LLP IN TORONTO



Clinic Briefs

Queen's Business Law Clinic

The fall of 2018 was another great semester for a new QBLC class. With more students came the capacity to handle more files, and the complexity just keeps increasing. By the end of the fall semester, students had tackled matters ranging from complex share structures for technology start-ups, through a patentability opinion on an exciting new automotive intention. They drafted the usual range of contracts from software to leasing, but also saw some interesting regulatory research questions, including advice on medical device classification, and the legality of business on pot.

Queen's Elder Law Clinic

After a successful fall term, QELC student caseworkers are deep into the busiest winter semester yet. Client meetings at Providence Care, local retirement residences and Kingston General Hospital added an interesting and gratifying dimension to file work, where students assisted clients in palliative or long-term care. In addition to drafting wills and powers of attorney, the QELC assisted several clients with court applications, paving the way for the release of estate assets and the timely administration of estates. The QELC is adding an extra summer student caseworker this May to assist with the transition between academic years and to help manage the increasing number of clients in Kingston, at local penitentiaries, and from the QELC's partnership with the Northumberland Community Legal Clinic in Cobourg.

Queen's Family Law Clinic

The QFLC is celebrating the success of a single mother who faced a complex child support matter. Prior to QFLC involvement, this client had hired a law firm but she ran out of funds. The clinic assisted her with an initial court application, a motion and a case conference before referring her to a new lawyer. Ongoing collaboration between this lawyer and QFLC student caseworkers and review counsel has contributed to an important court decision regarding paternity testing in an international context. See *W. v K.*, 2018 ONSC 7765.

The Queen's Law Clinics gratefully acknowledge the support of Legal Aid Ontario, the Law Foundation of Ontario, Pro Bono Students Canada, the Class of Law'81, the United Way of KFL&A, and alumni and industry sponsors.



Queen's Legal Aid

A QLA public legal education campaign designed to inform students of their responsibilities at social events has been successful. The "Skip the Ticket" campaign, designed by QLA Research and Outreach Coordinator Frank Piazza and the Faculty's Director of Marketing and Communications Matt Shepherd, provided information about Kingston's University District Safety Initiative, under which those charged for committing an alleged offence under the *Liquor License Act* or city by-laws would be required to appear in court. Students commented that they appreciated the informational posters and the number of charges dropped significantly after the campaign launch.

Queen's Prison Law Clinic

In November, the QPLC was successful at the Federal Court of Appeal. *Sharif v Canada* concerned the scope of the "assault"/"fight-with" offence in federal prison legislation (whether "fighting" could include non-aggressive conduct), and the level of scrutiny to be applied by a reviewing court when prison disciplinary convictions are reviewed for reasonableness. The well-reasoned decision by Justice David Stratas, Law'84, granted the QPLC client's appeal and ordered that the disciplinary charge be dismissed. Advanced Prison Law student Ryan Mullins assisted lawyer Paul Quick, Law'09, with this important case. The QPLC also intervened at the SCC in *Chhina* and the *Trilogy*.

How to leverage a Queen's JD: Law'93 grads advise students



GREG BLACK

Law'93 panelists Frank Walwyn, Emily Steed, Jin Choi and Sheila Colman, and moderator Art Cockfield discuss how Queen's Law students can leverage their degrees to achieve success in a variety of careers.

At a special Homecoming event for students, four Law'93 classmates shared their advice on what students should do while studying at Queen's Law to prepare for career success. The panel, made up of alumni who hold top positions in different types of careers, was moderated by fellow Law'93 grad, Professor Art Cockfield. "It's great privilege," he told the audience, "to introduce these people who have made an impact not just in Canada but all around the world."

The panelists were:

- Jin Choi, Managing Director & Head of Asia, Genii Capital, Seoul, South Korea;
- Sheila Colman, VP, Legal and Corporate Secretary, Lundin Gold Inc., Vancouver;
- Emily Steed, Executive Director, Global Financial Crimes, Morgan Stanley, New York; and
- Frank Walwyn, Partner, WeirFoulds, Toronto. ▶



GREG BLACK



Jin Choi, former Law Students' Society President, says, "I always intended to go into business; law for me was a way to do it." He went on to work in Toronto, Hong Kong, Tokyo and then to Korea, where he started a small private equity firm in 2005. His company buys real estate in big cities around the world – Paris, London, Brussels – and once owned Bell Canada's Eastern Canada headquarters. "I source and underwrite the deals, and even though I'm technically no longer a lawyer I've done more law now than when I was practising because I spend all day dealing with law firms and tax firms."

What's his main recommendation for law students? "Network and broaden your base; that's really the key," he said. "Alumni can help you so much. It's incredible."

Sheila Colman agreed. "You are coming from a school that really has a strong sense of community and you are joining a profession in which there is lot of collegiality," she told students. "Leverage the

school and leverage the profession."

Colman experienced her first taste of being an in-house counsel during her articles when she accepted a secondment to work with one of her Bay Street firm's clients. "It let me see practice from the other side and is a really great way to learn how clients use the product that law firms generate."

Following in-house stints at Labatt and with a uranium mining company, she joined Lundin Gold as one of its first three employees in 2015, when it just acquired what is now considered the highest-grade gold deposit being developed in the world. From her Vancouver base, she frequently travels to the Quito, Ecuador office of the company that has grown to 1,300 staff, and to its mine site located deep in the jungle on the border of Ecuador and Peru.

Competitive mootings was Emily Steed's favourite part of law school and piqued her interest in being a criminal prosecutor. After working in an Ontario



Crown office for a few years, she completed an LLM, and initiated a series of meetings with lawyers in areas related to criminal law, asking such questions as "What do you like about your work and what do you not like?" Realizing an interest in financial fraud compliance issues, in 1997 she joined Toronto firm Heenan Blaikie, where she worked with Joseph Groia to defend Bre-X geologist John Felderhof in a case involving the biggest mining scandal in Canadian history. For the past two decades, she has worked in the U.S., and is now part of the Financial Crimes Group of a New York bank, helping them prevent and detect money laundering and corruption.

"I think it's just really important to try to be a little bit thoughtful about who you are and what you like, and really try to pursue things that feel authentic to you," she said. "You're going to succeed at work that you enjoy."

Frank Walwyn learned that lesson, too. While

initially he was set on a corporate law career, at his Bay Street firm he soon became fascinated with litigation. For over 15 years, he has been practising multi-jurisdictional litigation in cases that can involve parties in six different countries. Many of the new files are products of worldwide bribery and corruption scandals. As co-chair of his firm's Caribbean Practice Group, he travels to that region regularly. It's in those offshore countries, now called International Financial Centres, where many businesses around the world set up holding or parent companies because of the favourable tax regimes.

"Your Queen's law degree is transportable and opens doors all over this world," he said. "We learn how to be lawyers at Queen's and as Canadians, we are viewed and respected as the go-to people for balanced, rational advice."

For more sage career advice from the Law'93 panel, [watch their discussion.](#)

— LISA GRAHAM



Words that are lasting: Indigenous art in the Queen's Law atrium



The fall of 2018 saw the culmination of a multi-year project to introduce Indigenous art into the atrium at Queen's Law: a public work to honour both Canada's Indigenous legal traditions and the principles of reconciliation.

Artist Hannah Claus prepared this artist's statement, now featured in the atrium along with the work: *Wampum belts are woven lengths of purple and white shell beads that record nation to nation agreements and governance structures in the oral tradition for Eastern Woodland nations, and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy in particular. As mnemonic tools, every aspect within a wampum belt is significant: from its dimensions, to the symbols, to the lengths of sinew that hang down from either end. A wampum belt is a living object and embodies an active engagement. Its words are meant to last "as long as the waters flow, the sun shines and the grasses grow."*

Six of the suspended units in this installation represent existing Haudenosaunee belts: *Everlasting Tree*, *Dish and One Spoon*, *Ojibwa Friendship*, *Old Fort*, *Council Fire* and *Kahswentha or Two Row*. Squares and diamonds signify the council fires of distinct nations. Vertical lines indicate the bonds between them. The seventh unit however, is an invention. Its blue colour is a reminder of the Bay of Quinte and the sky. Its three diamonds honour the *Kanyenkehá:ka*, the *Algonquin* and the *Mississauga*: the three nations that are the custodians of this territory. Together, the seven belts speak to the past, present and future of Indigenous relationships.

The artist would like to acknowledge the assistance of Alan Corbiere (Anishinaabemowin Revival Program Coordinator, Lakeview School, M'Chigeeng First Nation, Researcher, Historian) Jan Hill (Director, Indigenous Initiatives, Queen's University and Clan Mother, Tyendinaga) and Jonathan Lainey (Curator, First Peoples, Canadian Museum of History) in the research of this artwork, as well as the online resources of the Jake Thomas Learning Centre and the Wampum Shop – the website of Ken Maracle (Faith Keeper of the Lower Cayuga Longhouse).

PHIL GAUDREAU

Recreations of seven wampum belts are hanging from the ceiling of the Faculty of Law building.



PHIL GAUDREAU

Following her selection as creator of the Indigenous art installation in the atrium of the Queen's Law building, artist Hannah Claus sat down with internationally renowned architect and Indigenous activist Douglas Cardinal, LLD'18, to discuss art, architecture, and the importance of reconciliation – particularly at law schools.



Hannah Claus also provided more in-depth comments about the work, the creative process, and its resonance for her and for the Indigenous community in a follow-up interview on the day the work was mounted at Queen's Law:



Hannah Claus is a visual artist of English and Kanyenkehá:ka heritages, currently living in Tiohtià:ke (Montreal). She is a member of Tyendinaga - Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte.

Queen's Law community inspired by visit to Akwesasne Mohawk Territory

For the second consecutive year, 25 students, staff and faculty jumped at the opportunity to gain direct insight into Indigenous legal perspectives of some of Canada's First Nations peoples. The Queen's group took part in "Understanding Through Learning," a full-day roundtable discussion with Akwesasne community members on November 2.

Ann Deer, the Indigenous Recruitment and Support Coordinator at Queen's Law, organized the visit to Akwesasne Mohawk Territory – a region that straddles modern-day New York, Ontario and Québec. The event presented Queen's Law community members with the chance to visit the Akwesasne Court, discover historical conflict resolution techniques and explore the concept of restorative justice.

"Akwesasne is the only Indigenous community with its own court system in place," states Deer. "This made for a unique chance to learn first-hand, from the

Indigenous leaders who built the on-reserve court and developed its laws, and how the current state of the law works for and against Indigenous peoples."

The roundtable was borne out of numerous student conversations that sought to build upon the Queen's Law curriculum and enhance its integration of Indigenous legal concepts. Deer says it offered students an exceptional opportunity for the Queen's community to better understand Indigenous legal ideas and contrast them with the Canadian system.

Participants learned about the role of Indigenous traditions in shaping North American laws and borders, the impact that multiple levels of government can have on Akwesasne residents' daily lives, and how other Canadians may draw inspiration from Indigenous customs to improve the country's current system.

"Participants walked away from this roundtable, understanding how little they know about Canada's Indigenous peoples," affirms Deer, "and that each of them can make a difference in the spirit of reconciliation."

The head of the Lederman Law Library at Queen's, Amy Kaufman, Law'04, also attended and was grateful for her opportunity to visit the Akwesasne Mohawk Territory.

"I greatly valued the chance to learn from community members about the thoughtful and important work they perform in their justice system," says Kaufman. "I appreciated learning about the Great Peacemaker, as well as the meaning and significance of the two-row wampum belt."

The trip also helped launch the new **Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) Akwesasne Self-Governance Project** in partnership with Queen's Law and Akwesasne. The project involves PBSC students doing research, supervised by Queen's Law professors, for the Akwesasne Justice Department. Olivia Bonham-Carter, Law'20, program co-coordinator for PBSC– Queen's, notes that she was immediately struck by the impact of Canada's legal



Members of Akwesasne and the Queen's Law community at the end of the day-long "Understanding Through Learning" roundtable held in Akwesasne Mohawk Territory.

system on the Akwesasne community.

"This visit fostered a great deal of learning and discussion," she acknowledges. "We were motivated to consider how the Canadian legal system perpetuates inequalities and imposes heavy burdens on our Indigenous peoples – from removing their ability to move freely to limiting their access to justice."

Bonham-Carter says that she was particularly moved by the event's rousing guest speakers, Elder Rick Oakes and Joyce King, Akwesasne Justice Department Director.

"I was so inspired listening to those who worked in the Akwesasne Justice Department and learning about the justice system they've created to respond to their community and its values," says Bonham-Carter. "Elder Oakes best summed up the day's purpose by asking us to take what we learned about Indigenous legal perspectives in Akwesasne, and use it in our futures as lawyers, judges and professionals. I appreciate that they shared their culture, their history and their passion for justice in their community."

— JUSTIN MURPHY

[Read more about Indigenous Initiatives at Queen's Law.](#)



Akwesasne Justice Coordinator Kyrie Ransom displays a Six Nations confederacy belt as Elder Rick Oakes, Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs Community Helper, explains the origins of confederacy to Queen's Law community members at the "Understanding Through Learning" roundtable held in Akwesasne Mohawk Territory.

Pushing the boundaries on Indigenous self-governance: Queen's Law gets first-hand account

The Mohawks of Akwesasne are creating their own laws – and that will lead to new experiential learning opportunities for Queen's Law students. During a visit to the school January 21-22, two officials from the Akwesasne Justice Department met with faculty and students to discuss legal research projects, an international trade law practicum and a Pro Bono Students Canada initiative. Over a coffee chat, they talked about how they are shaping a court system unique to their community's philosophy.

Kyrie Ransom, Justice Coordinator of the Akwesasne Justice Department, and Bonnie Cole, Legal Counsel for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, spoke in front of two dozen Queen's Law community members. They offered reflections on their objectives in developing Akwesasne's alternative sentencing structure, as the community takes steps with potentially wide-ranging implications for self-determination in an Indigenous context.

"My role as Justice Coordinator is to oversee our community's legislative development," said Ransom, a member of the Wolf clan. "I ask questions like, 'What does Akwesasne want to see as a society?', and 'how do we get there?'"

Cole added that as Legal Counsel, she seeks to accomplish two primary objectives. "We want to capture both theory and philosophy within our legislation," asserted Cole. "But we also want to formalize the courtroom systems we've been developing for decades within our community. We've come a long way since the *Indian Act*. External courts don't fit our needs. In reality, Mohawk problems need to be solved by Mohawk people. We are building a fundamentally community-based approach."

In implementing this vision, Ransom emphasized the importance of translating modern academic discussions on Indigenous law into concrete solutions that improve the lives of Akwesasne members.

"In academic realms, a lot of time is spent theorizing about Indigenous philosophies and taking an abstract view of Indigenous law," noted Ransom. "But in the process, we hit a wall. What do these academic pursuits mean for our people on the ground? How do we apply Indigenous law, and develop our institutions that put our people at the forefront?"

Ransom views traditional legal perspectives as excessively focused on incarceration and punitive measures, rather than rehabilitation. For this reason, she emphasized a need for her community to be unafraid to challenge predominant narratives in establishing its legal framework. "We must



Kyrie Ransom (5th left) and Bonnie Cole (4th left) of the Akwesasne Justice Department speak with students and faculty how they are shaping a court system unique to their community's philosophy.

ask, 'Why do we even need a punitive system in place?' In developing our community's laws and institutions, why don't we flip the script and build a society that lives out the culture our community carries?"

An important aspect of such efforts is bolstering the amount of Indigenous law education provided in Canadian law schools. "When I was in law school, Indigenous students were allowed to put their medals on once a year and parade down the street – but you could never take Indigenous law as a subject," shared Cole. "That was unfortunate, because Indigenous law is exactly what law schools need. Its philosophy is about looking at all individuals as people. You cannot reduce them to mere defendants or offenders. That's somebody's child, wife, grandparent... That's somebody's 'somebody.' Indigenous law abides by the mantra that we want to make others whole again, using rules by which we collectively agree to abide."

Professor Ardi Imseis, who attended the coffee chat, came away from the event excited to learn more about Akwesasne's efforts. "The guest speakers quite clearly indicated that Akwesasne is pushing boundaries," noted Imseis. "Akwesasne is improving everyday lives, in sectors both mundane and highly important, as it administers justice in its community. Yet its practices, and Canada's response to same, offer broader opportunities from an

international law perspective: to progressively develop the normative concept of self-determination of peoples both here and abroad. I look forward to visiting Akwesasne and learning more from the vitally important work they are doing there."

Professor Gail Henderson, also in attendance, was equally inspired by the chat and the wide-ranging implications of Akwesasne's self-governance for the law. "I thought it was a very thought-provoking presentation," she says. "For example, thinking about the words we use for labelling roles in the justice system, and how these words influence the role itself, such as 'prosecutor' in the Canadian criminal justice system, and coming up with new words that better reflect what we want that person to do."

Darian Doblej, Law'21, actively facilitates that as a volunteer on the Pro Bono Students Canada - Queen's Chapter Akwesasne Self-Governance project. "Akwesasne's steps towards self-governance in legal administration and jurisdiction creates a very exciting time to be a student-at-law," says Doblej. "Akwesasne's assertions challenge everything we know about the law. As a proud Ojibway man, or what Canadian laws know to be 'Indian,' I am thrilled by the prospect of taking control of our own legal mechanisms and not asking permission from Crown. The Treaty area from which I come never asked to be

subservient, and so this change on the part of the Mohawks of Akwesasne, and their assertion of power, excites me."

For her part, Liz Guilbault, Law'19, asked Ransom and Cole about their view on the relationship between provincial courts and Akwesasne's legal mechanisms. "The guest speakers at the event highlighted that their preventative measures led to far fewer Akwesasne members going through the Canadian court system," said Guilbault. "Not only is the restorative justice council far more effective for Akwesasne members who come before the Akwesasne Court, but its other restorative programs are working. Akwesasne is a fantastic example of a successful alternative to Western judicial systems, and an alternative system that should be looked at for anyone who recognizes the harms of the Canadian justice system itself."

Having visited Akwesasne in 2017 as part of a Queen's contingent, Guilbault came away from the event even more inspired by the community's resilience and confidence in shaping a court system that better reflected its philosophy. "The people of Akwesasne did not wait for permission from Canada or some other authority to do what is right for their community, said Guilbault. "Kyrie Ransom and Bonnie Cole spoke to their people's understanding that they've been governing themselves for centuries, and one day Canada will catch up and realize this."

— JUSTIN MURPHY

PBSC-Queen's students help promote reconciliation



PBSC-Queen's Akwesasne Self-Governance Project students Alina Smirnova, Anthony Gallo and Brandon Maracle in the Queen's Law atrium that features a permanent art installation of historic Wampum belts.

The Pro Bono Students Canada - Queen's Chapter, an organization dedicated to providing free legal services to low-income Canadians and non-profit associations, is advancing reconciliation with local Indigenous peoples through its new Akwesasne Self-Governance Project.

The initiative connects the [Akwesasne Justice Department](#) with Queen's Law student volunteers who assist with the department's most pressing legal issues. Under the supervision of a Queen's Law academic advisor, students research Canadian laws, the Akwesasne community's bylaws and other supporting documents to develop a Justice of the Peace (JP) curriculum. This will help Akwesasne-based JPs better understand the law and appreciate the community's perspective.

Hugo Choquette, Law'05, LLM'10, PhD'17, is a project supervisor, guiding students' legal research efforts, supporting their learning and achieving concrete results for the Akwesasne community.

"The project's goal is to develop a lasting, meaningful and mutually beneficial relationship between Queen's Law and Akwesasne," says Choquette. "The community is providing Queen's Law students with a unique opportunity to learn about the legal challenges this First Nations community faces, and the creative solutions they've developed in response. Students also learn about Indigenous laws and knowledge."

In return, he says, students offer their skills and knowledge to help the community pursue its goals and overcome its legal obstacles.

"As highlighted in the report of the Queen's Truth and Reconciliation Committee (TRC), a key part of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples is to build meaningful relationships with local Indigenous communities," emphasizes Choquette. "Queen's Law has taken the lead on this partnership. We certainly hope our relationship with Akwesasne will only grow and deepen over time."

Olivia Bonham-Carter, Law'20, and Ellis Paulin, Law'19, are PBSC-Queen's program co-coordinators and are overseeing the initiative. "This is the first year of the project, so our main focus is laying the ground work for the years ahead," states Bonham-Carter. "We are hoping to build this project, so that it becomes one of Queen's' signature initiatives. A few volunteers have told me they're already interested in continuing it next year."

Akwesasne's territory overlaps with five legal jurisdictions: the federal governments of United States and Canada, and the state/provincial governments of New York, Ontario and Quebec. This creates challenges involving multiple areas of law, often forcing local residents to cross international borders for work or school. These challenges involve multiple areas of law, making Queen's Law volunteers all the more influential to Akwesasne's future.

"This is an incredibly important step towards achieving the Akwesasne Justice Department's mandate of empowering the community," declares Paulin. "We hope that this project will help the department provide services and develop a self-governance framework that can become a model to communities across Canada."

As program co-coordinators, Bonham-Carter and Paulin work largely behind the scenes, assisting student volunteers and ensuring they remain committed to the initiative. The project was made possible by the enormous contribution of time and effort of Ann Deer, the school's Indigenous Recruitment and Support Coordinator who hails from the Akwesasne community, as well as Mike Molas, career counsellor and a program supervisor for PBSC-Queen's.

The Akwesasne Self-Governance Project is led by Alina Smirnova, Law'19, with the aid of volunteers Darian Doblej, Anthony Gallo and Brandon Maracle, all Law'21.

For Doblej, this volunteer experience represents more than just a positive step toward reconciliation efforts by Queen's Law with Canada's Indigenous peoples. "This goes above and beyond the Truth and

Reconciliation Commission call upon Canadian law schools to take a course in Aboriginal people and the law," professes Doblej. "This partnership showcases the high calibre of students at Queen's Law. We actively work with First Nations to achieve self-governance, and in the process gain the opportunity to mould an entire system's future."

Gallo and Maracle are equally excited to be involved in the project. "It's incredible to work with fellow students who share a passion for Indigenous issues," says Maracle.

For her part, Smirnova is grateful to the Akwesasne Justice Department for showing her group its impressive work and hosting the Queen's Law community on multiple occasions. She believes that working with them is essential in taking the TRC Calls to Action seriously.

"The TRC has specifically called on law schools to take action in order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance reconciliation," stresses Smirnova. "We are in a privileged position to understand the legal system and work on others' behalf to meet their goals and to affect change not only in Akwesasne, but in Canada more generally."

So far, Smirnova is impressed with the Akwesasne Justice Department's capacity to address issues in ways that respect local needs, traditions and laws. In addition to passing laws and adjudicating issues in the Akwesasne Mohawk Court, she cites the department's extensive community consultation methods and plain-language legal drafting as common-sense approaches that foster legitimacy, accessibility and compliance with the system.

"As a law student, I feel lucky to have the chance to learn about legal traditions from this different perspective," she admits.

If Queen's Law students are interested in learning more about the issues facing Canada's Indigenous communities, Smirnova recommends that they join the [Indigenous Law Students' Alliance](#) on Facebook and get involved with the PBSC-Queen's Akwesasne Self-Governance Project next year.

— JUSTIN MURPHY

Queen's is ahead of the curve in its Indigenous recruitment and outreach

"It has to be a team effort in order to be successful," Ann Deer says, as she reflects on the key lesson she has learned in the two years since she was hired at Queen's.

Her role has evolved in that time – what started as a recruitment-focused position for three separate faculties has now become centred on recruitment and Indigenous student support for Queen's Law and the Smith School of Business.

That teamwork approach extends not only across faculty lines – it also extends to students. A pair of Indigenous students – Lauren Winkler, a second-year JD degree student, and Chipewyan McCrimmon, a student registered in the Master of Management Innovation and Entrepreneurship program – are planning a new conference focused on economic reconciliation to help create greater community resilience and economic prosperity for Indigenous peoples. Deer is supporting this initiative with the coordination of administrative assistance from the Faculty of Law and School of Business.

"I am really excited about the support I have received for new ideas to engage the students," she says, referring to both the conference and an annual gathering she organizes for Indigenous students.

Another way she has engaged both students and community is through a series of coffee chats that she launched in the Faculty of Law. This initiative has resulted in a [relationship with Akwesasne](#)



Ann Deer of Akwesasne Mohawk Territory is the Indigenous Recruitment and Support Coordinator at Queen's Law and Smith School of Business.

ANDREW VAN OVERBEKE

[Mohawk Territory](#), where students make an annual trip to learn about its unique Indigenous court system.

She notes Queen's is ahead of the curve in its Indigenous recruitment and outreach – when she encounters other school recruiters, many have one person for the entire institution. Like his Queen's Law counterparts, McCrimmon, a Dene with origins in the Northwest Territories, noted the fact that a Queen's Faculty had its own Indigenous support person was a key reason he decided to enroll.

Ann Deer is Mohawk of the Wolf Clan, and hails from Akwesasne Mohawk Territory. — PHIL GAUDREAU

Queen's conference to strengthen commitment to economic reconciliation

On Saturday, February 2, the Queen's Indigenous Law Students' Alliance (ILSA) and Corporate Law Club (CLC) will team up to present the first-ever "Reconciliation on Bay Street" Conference at Queen's.

Designed to engage law and business students alike, the conference will explore the theme of economic reconciliation and the roles that Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities can play in its attainment. The event will kick off with a screening of the 2018 documentary [Reconciliation on Bay Street](#) by filmmaker Andrée Cazabon that features Bridging Finance CEO and Dean's Council Vice-Chair David Sharpe, Law'95. A Q&A with the two of them will follow.

Organizers will also host a variety of workshops and guest speakers throughout the day, many of whom are Indigenous lawyers and professionals. The event will finish with a keynote address from the President of the First Nations University of Canada, Professor Mark S. Dockstator, on inspiring future leaders to contribute to reconciliation in both their professional and personal lives.

When asked what inspired this collaborative effort, Lauren Winkler, Law'20, event co-organizer and ILSA representative, cites viewing the film as a main factor.

"Last spring, David Sharpe shared the trailer for Reconciliation on LinkedIn, and we at ILSA were immediately inspired by the idea of convening business and law students for a conversation on economic reconciliation," admits Winkler. "As someone with little interest in corporate law, I found the documentary very interesting and informative. I was proud of how it presented the many contributions of Indigenous peoples to the Canadian economy."

The documentary, which also features Dean's Council Past-Chair David Allgood, Law'74, situates economic reconciliation in the history of relations between the current settler-state and different Indigenous communities. *Reconciliation* not only showcases the resilience of those communities themselves, but the various means by which corporations and firms can better include Indigenous peoples in decision-making.



A main goal of the February 2 "Reconciliation on Bay Street" Conference is "to eliminate barriers for students who are either unaware of how to engage in conversations on reconciliation, or what role to play in the process."

"I believe that screening this film at the conference will inspire new allies and equip them with unique skills and experiences," says Winkler. "It will show the audience a more meaningful, constructive way to engage with Indigenous peoples. Our friends in the Corporate Law Club shared this commitment, which led to us collaborating to host this conference."

Chief among the conference's main goals, Winkler says, is the elimination of barriers for students who are either unaware of how to engage in conversations on reconciliation, or what role to play in the process.

"At some point in each of our careers, we'll likely all work with Indigenous communities or businesses in some capacity," asserts Winkler. "This conference is merely a starting point. You can only build stronger relationships by better understanding one another, and this conference will help us to do that – both as students and as future leaders."

The event will be held on campus from 10 am – 7 pm. Tickets for are \$10, including lunch and dinner. Please visit the [Facebook](#) event and [conference website](#) for more info. Spaces are limited, so attendees are advised to register as soon as possible. All Queen's students, staff, faculty and community members are welcome. — JUSTIN MURPHY

Queen's Law strengthens bonds with B.C. alumni

"In British Columbia, we have a great community of lawyers who are loyal graduates of Queen's Law," says Carman Overholt, QC, Law'84, founder of Overholt Law Barristers & Solicitors in Vancouver and a member of the new Queen's Law Alumni B.C. Council. "The Council will allow us the opportunity to stay in contact with and maintain this important community and our relationship with Queen's to whom we owe so much."

Launched to enhance the school's link with alumni and the larger community in the western province, the B.C. Council will build financial support for Queen's Law, advocate on its behalf, and provide external perspectives and advice to the Dean.

"I am delighted that the tremendous support and enthusiasm shown by our alumni in British Columbia has paved the way for creating our second alumni council in Western Canada," says Dean Bill Flanagan. "Like members of our Alberta Council, our new B.C. Council is composed of leaders in the legal profession and the community who bring a diversity of experience and knowledge to the mission and vision of Queen's Law."

Members of the B.C. Council include:

- Keith Spencer (Chair), Law'87, Partner, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP;
- Robert Anderson, Law'77, Partner, Farris Vaughan Wills & Murphy LLP;
- Sheila Colman, Law'93, Vice-President, Legal and Corporate Secretary, Lundin Gold Inc.;
- Jim Kershaw, Law'89, Senior Vice-President and Pacific Region Head, TD Wealth, Toronto-Dominion Bank;

- Allan McGavin, Law'12, Associate, Farris Vaughan Wills & Murphy LLP;
- Carman Overholt, QC, Law'84, Founder, Overholt Law Barristers & Solicitors;
- Tamsin Plaxton, Law'90, Co-President and Managing Director, Tamwood International College;
- Jeff Read, Law'85, Partner, Lawson Lundell LLP; and
- Justice James Sutherland, Law'89, Provincial Court of British Columbia.

At the first meeting, hosted by chair Keith Spencer at Fasken's Vancouver office in late November, Dean Flanagan updated the members on the latest developments at their alma mater. These include a significant increase in the number of faculty members, the undergraduate Certificate in Law, the Graduate Diploma in Legal Services Management, and a student body that reflects the country's diversity.

"The school has made remarkable progress and achieved great success that will continue to attract great students and support the needs of our community," says Overholt. "The widespread support for Queen's Law from graduates across Canada reflects the recognition of the unique nature of the school, the valuable educational opportunities and the leadership of the school in Canada."

"We cannot take for granted the greatness of Queen's Faculty of Law or assume that the school will always flourish," he continues. "As graduates, each of us has a meaningful role in maintaining the greatness of the school and ensuring that future students have the opportunities that allowed us to pursue our dreams."



Dean Bill Flanagan (4th left) and Development Counsel Paul Marcus, Law'85 (far left), at their first meeting in Vancouver with members of the B.C. Dean's council: Carman Overholt, Robert Anderson, Allan McGavin, Jeff Read, Keith Spencer (Chair), and Justice James Sutherland. Not shown: Sheila Colman, Jim Kershaw and Tamsin Plaxton.

Alumni Notes

Roger Beaman, Law'71, was awarded the 2018 Ontario Bar Association Award of Excellence in Municipal Law. Retired after 44 years of litigation practice with Thomson, Rogers, he was senior editor of the Ontario Municipal Board Reports from 1978 to 2016 and was recognized by LEXPERT®/*American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada* since 2006 as one of the Top 500 Lawyers in Canada in the Property Development category.



Jim Parks, Law'71, was thanked by Dean Bill Flanagan for 10 years of outstanding contributions and loyal service as a member of the Dean's Council from 2008 to 2018.



Carman J. Overholt, QC, Law'84, is delighted to announce that Brent Mullin (BA, MA'76, LLB), Past Chair of the B.C. Labour Relations Board from 2002 to 2017 has joined Overholt Law as Associate Counsel. At Overholt Law, he will practise labour relations and conduct mediations, arbitrations and independent investigations. In addition, he will assist the lawyers of Overholt Law in its growing employment, labour relations and human rights law practice.

Sue Charlesworth, Law'81, former Senior Review Counsel with Queen's Legal Aid, was sworn in as a judge of the Nunavut Court of Justice in Iqaluit on November 16.



Jim Walker, Law'81, accepted the 2018 J.A. (Alec) Corry Distinguished Alumni Award (for excelling in a career outside the traditional practice of law) from Dean Bill Flanagan at a Dean's Council meeting in Toronto on December 3. A co-founder of a successful mid-market Canadian private equity firm, a CEO of a leading publicly traded real estate company part of the Brookfield group of companies, and currently a Managing Partner of HOOPP Capital Partners investing private capital around the world, Jim has enjoyed a highly successful and diverse career in the fields of merchant banking and principal investing. He is also currently Chairman of Champion Petfoods and Spectrum Healthcare. Earlier in his career, he was a partner with Fraser & Beatty (now Dentons), specializing in mergers and acquisitions and securities law. Over the years, Jim has been a loyal alumnus and dedicated Queen's Law booster.



Law'84 grad publishes comprehensive guide on Canada's *Cannabis Act*



Robert Frater (2nd right) at the *Cannabis Law* book launch with his Law'84 classmates Firoz Ahmed, Justice Darla Wilson, Justice Grant Huscroft, Sharon Addison and David Finley.

When the recreational use of marijuana was legalized in Canada on October 17, it unleashed a plethora of legal issues – and opportunities. To make sense of all aspects of the newly enacted Bill C-45, federal regulations, and the complementary provincial laws and regulations, Robert Frater, QC, Law'84, co-authored the practical guide *Cannabis Law* (Thomson Reuters). The timely book was launched on December 6 at a Toronto gathering

filled with lawyers and judges. Several of them were members of Law'84 who also came to celebrate their classmate's achievement.

"The book is largely descriptive rather than analytical, because knowing what the law is with so many statutes and regulations is a formidable task," says Frater, Chief General Counsel with the federal Department of Justice.

Criminal law, commercial law, workplace law and human rights law are just some of the areas affected by the *Cannabis Act*, and covered in the book. One topic in the criminal and regulatory offences chapter is about cannabis-impaired driving. "This is a subject much in the news lately, and there is a prominent advertising campaign by MADD," says Frater. "Along with the *Cannabis Act*, the federal government overhauled the provisions of the Criminal Code dealing with drug-impaired driving. It is very complicated stuff."

The first chapter contains a history of cannabis regulation in Canada. "It was the most fun to write," says Frater, who has argued numerous high-profile cases before the Supreme Court of Canada, appeared in appellate courts in several provinces and territories, and lectured and written on a wide variety of subjects.

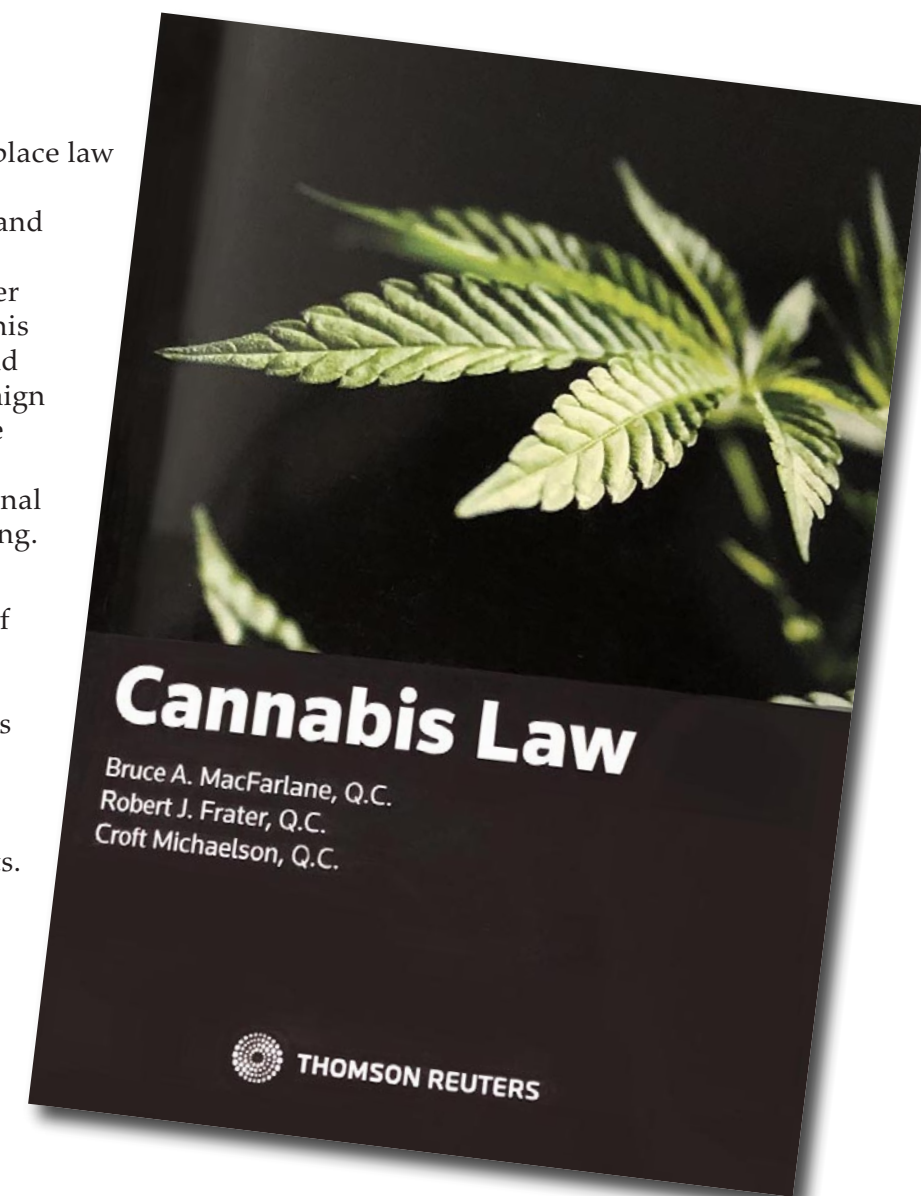
Frater and his *Cannabis Law* co-authors, Bruce Macfarlane, QC, and Croft Michaelson, QC, also wrote the fourth edition of the loose-leaf book *Drug Offences in Canada* (Thomson Reuters, 2015), a detailed and cutting-edge analysis of complex legal and strategic issues that can arise in cases involving drugs. Next year marks the fortieth anniversary of the leading text, which judges and lawyers use as an authority on the conduct of drug cases.

"We thought that since we would have to research the new laws anyway for that book, we might be able to do a second one on cannabis law easily," says Frater. "Boy were we wrong! Cannabis law involves so many different areas of law, and so many different

statutes and regulations, it was a daunting task."

2019 will also see the publication of two more related books by Frater and his co-authors: *Cannabis Law – The Legislative Framework*, a companion book of statutes; and a French translation of *Cannabis Law*.

— LISA GRAHAM





Five Queen's Law grads among Lexpert's newest 'Rising Stars'



Saluted for their skyrocketing careers are five 2000s alumni:
Melissa Binns, Law'06, Kyle Brunner, Law'08, Kwang Lim, Law'05,
Andrew E. Stead, Law'05, and Clarke Tedesco, Law'07.
They have been named to Canadian publisher *Lexpert's* 2018
honour roll of "Rising Stars – Leading Lawyers Under 40."

All five of these dynamos talked to *Queen's Law Reports*
about their career satisfaction, law school experience,
and advice for students and new lawyers.



Melissa Binns, Law'06 (Artsci'01)

Partner, Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP,
Hamilton, Ontario

With expertise in a broad range of areas, including patent and trademark litigation and trademark prosecution, pharmaceutical law, copyright and commercial litigation, Melissa Binns' practice at Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP spans the biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, apparel, software, food/beverage and manufacturing industries. After obtaining a degree in Life Sciences, Binns worked in the molecular biology and microbiology field. She is a registered trademark agent and provides advice to clients on the protection and enforcement of Canadian trademark rights. She has acted in IP litigation proceedings, including *Gilead Sciences v. Idenix Pharmaceutical*. Outside of her practice, Binns is involved in a number of local and national organizations related to the life sciences and technology fields, supporting and liaising with a broad range of emerging businesses. She is also a leader in Gowling WLG's biologics and biosimilars practice area. (*Lexpert*, November 2018)

What do you find most fulfilling in your career?

I love working in a fast-paced team environment that allows me to combine science and technology with law. IP litigation has allowed me to pursue both of these areas working with a wide range of clients. I am also particularly passionate about working with and supporting technology and life science innovation in my local community.

How did Queen's Law prepare you for your career?

I have so many fond memories of Queen's Law from the engaged faculty and the close student community to the local community and pro bono program involvement. While I enjoyed taking a broad range of courses at Queen's Law, it was my involvement in the Competitive Moot Program that really sparked my interest in litigation and had a significant impact on the direction of my career. Through mooting, I developed both written and oral advocacy skills, as well as effective teamwork strategies with mentoring from our dedicated faculty coaches.

What advice would you give law students and new lawyers for a successful legal career?

I would encourage law students to take full advantage of the programs and opportunities offered at Queen's Law, including a moot and extracurricular involvement. I also have the benefit of working alongside a number of great mentors throughout my career (both in formal and informal capacities) and would encourage students to seek out a diverse range of mentors as well as become mentors themselves throughout their careers.



Kyle Brunner, Law'08

Vice-President, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, Seven Generations Energy Ltd., Calgary, Alberta

Throughout his career, Kyle Brunner has worked on commercial arrangements, financing transactions, and mergers and acquisitions. As Vice-President, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary at Seven Generations Energy Ltd., he has led the execution of a number of significant transactions and manages all other legal matters for the company, including litigation files, regulatory, employment and income tax matters. Leading a team of four lawyers, Brunner is continuously involved in Seven Generations' business development opportunities and he is also a Director and Officer of the company's US subsidiary. Brunner is a member of the External Engagement Committee of the Board of Directors of the Calgary Science Centre Society. He volunteers with the Calgary Drop-in Centre, and has volunteered as an instructor for the Legal Education Society of Alberta and as a camp counsellor with the Kids' Cancer Care Foundation of Alberta. (*Lexpert*, November 2018)

What do you find most fulfilling in your career?

When I began my undergraduate studies, I had my sights set on obtaining a BCom (finance) degree and a law degree. My hope was that I would eventually be able to work my way into an executive management role with a company. It is a privilege to have the role that I want with a company that I love working for. The law and business environments are constantly evolving and my work is fascinating, challenging and intellectually stimulating.

I relish opportunities to leverage my education and experience to help my colleagues and provide legal advice in furtherance of our company's objectives.

How did Queen's Law prepare you for your career?

Everything I learned at Queen's Law has helped me at various points during my legal career. The professors at Queen's were first-rate, the faculty had a genuine concern for the well-being of students, and I appreciated the camaraderie among my classmates.

What advice would you give law students and new lawyers for a successful legal career?

It will always serve you well to have integrity, work hard and be dependable. Building friendships with co-workers has been one the most enjoyable parts of my career to date and is something that I would highly recommend. I think it is useful to set long-term career goals and make a conscious effort to ensure that work and extra-curricular activities are well-aligned with such longer-term objectives. If you keep your goals in mind, it is easier to calibrate when you are trending off course and determine when it may be time to pursue other opportunities that would be better aligned with your longer-term objectives. This probably seems obvious, but I have observed that many smart, hard-working, lawyers progress rapidly in their careers by excelling at whatever challenges and opportunities come their way, but such progress does not always take them where they ultimately want to be.



Kwang Lim, Law'05

Partner, Bennett Jones LLP, Vancouver, B.C.

Kwang Lim's Business Law practice at Bennett Jones LLP includes Corporate Finance and M&A. He advises entrepreneurs, start-ups, scale-ups, public companies, agents/underwriters and other advisors across various industry sectors involved in domestic and international financings and transactions. He also advises on Securities Law compliance and Corporate Governance issues. Lim is a member of the Firm's Cannabis and Fintech & Blockchain practice groups and its Information Technology Committee. He is the Firm's Regional Co-leader in BC for the Technology Fast 50 Program. Lim is a regular guest lecturer for the Capstone Business Law course at the Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia. He is also a member of the International Association of Korean Lawyers (Co-chair for the M&A/Corporate Committee), the Canada Korea Business and the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers, and 100 Men Who Give a Damn (Vancouver). (*Lexpert*, November 2018)

What do you find most fulfilling in your career?

Every day presents an opportunity for me to assist clients in creative and meaningful ways. In doing so, I get to interact with and learn from smart, ambitious and talented clients and colleagues.

How did Queen's Law prepare you for your career?

Queen's Law equipped me with the practical knowledge and skills, resources and tools that I needed to launch into the legal field. Queen's Law also provided me with an invaluable network of friends and colleagues that I remain in close contact with.

What advice would you give law students and new lawyers for a successful legal career?

Anticipate and prepare for what's next.



Andrew E. Stead, Law'05 (Artsci'03)

Partner, McMillan LLP, Calgary, Alberta

Andrew Stead leads McMillan LLP's Calgary litigation team. His practice includes product liability defence and commercial litigation with a focus on the energy sector, construction and regulatory law. Stead has successfully obtained precedent-setting judgments on issues of contractual limitation of liability, the duties parties have in construction litigation, awards of solicitor-client costs, and the application of Section 121 of the Constitution. His pro bono activities include spearheading and supervising McMillan Calgary's participation in the Duty Counsel program at the Calgary Courts Centre. Stead volunteers at Calgary Legal Guidance and he is the Marketing Chair for the Fire Science Litigation Specialized Litigation Group. (*Lexpert*, November 2018)

What do you find most compelling in your career?

No clients enjoy litigation; compared to our transactional sisters and brothers, it's akin to being the undertaker instead of being the obstetrician. Given that reality, I enjoy strategizing with clients to identify the best possible endgame, and then aggressively working to get our clients out of litigation as efficiently as possible.

However, it's critical to be part of a great team, and I enjoy mentoring our junior lawyers and students to ensure that we have the team we need to do excellent work. It's a pleasure to be a part of recruiting great talent and then helping to provide an environment that fosters success.

How did Queen's Law prepare you for your career?

I had a wonderful, enriching Queen's experience. I was there for seven great years. The wonderful classmates, extra-curricular activities, and gorgeous campus (plus Mac-Corry) all shaped who I am. But, we benefit so much from our great professors. The names that immediately come to mind are Geoff Simpson, Anthony D'Elia, Sue Miklas, Mark Weisberg and Kim Brooks.

What advice would you give law students and new lawyers for a successful legal career?

Think about the kind of clients you want to work for. They are all important, but they all present different benefits and challenges. Then, after putting yourself in the position to act for those clients, focus on finding opportunities and working hard when they come available. Perfect doesn't exist; working hard to go as far as you can on the path available to you is really good.



Clarke Tedesco, Law'07 (Com'04)

Partner, Crawley MacKewn Brush LLP, Toronto, Ontario

Clarke Tedesco's practice at Crawley MacKewn Brush LLP focuses on civil litigation and enforcement proceedings before securities regulators. He successfully defended a technology company and certain of its directors and officers in *Halsey v. Genoil*. Tedesco led a firm initiative to create a standardized precedent system, has been at the forefront in pushing for electronic integration and has had a key role in mentoring the firm's juniors. He has also been actively involved in the development of new lines of business for the firm. Tedesco has acted as a mentor for young lawyers through the Toronto Lawyers Association. He participates in events put on by legal associations, including The Advocates' Society, and he takes a leading role on the Governance Committee of a local golf club. He has a longstanding commitment to community sports, having organized a local hockey association for the last five years. (*Lexpert*, November 2018)

What do you find most fulfilling in your career?

I find my interactions with colleagues – both within and outside my firm – to be very rewarding. My firm, Crawley MacKewn Brush LLP, is a true boutique

(it currently has fewer than 15 lawyers) and I always make an effort to foster an environment of collegiality within the firm. I learn new things every day from colleagues both my senior and junior, and I try to provide mentorship, guidance and support to my newer colleagues in the profession wherever possible.

How did Queen's Law prepare you for your career?

The focus on writing skills, combined with the opportunities provided to practise oral advocacy and public speaking, was instrumental in learning the skills that are now important to my litigation practice. In particular, participating in the Competitive Moot Program at Queen's Law was an excellent way to develop those skills.

What advice would you give law students and new lawyers for a successful legal career?

My advice would be to seize the opportunities presented to you when they arise, and distinguish yourself from there. While it can be difficult to recognize it when going through the standard recruitment process, 'success' is different for everybody and there is more than one path to get there.

Small-market practice gives Kingston lawyer the ‘big-city’ legal experience

The door to where law can be practised is wide open like the practice of law itself. At Queen's Law, the Career Development Office (CDO) equips students with the tools to accomplish what they want to achieve and where they want to achieve it, whether it's in a large urban centre or in smaller regions and municipalities. Warren WhiteKnight, Law'13, took full advantage of the CDO's services and resources throughout his legal studies, and found that pursuing a small-market practice was the right path for him.

When Vermont-native WhiteKnight accepted his offer to the Queen's JD program, he had never been to Kingston before. Shortly after settling in to his new home, he “fell in love” with the region. Now he has a thriving practice in the “Limestone City,” focusing on injury law and medical malpractice. He's as an associate lawyer with Bergeron Clifford LLP, a firm ranked by *Canadian Lawyer* magazine as one of Canada's top 10 personal injury boutiques.

Practising in a smaller market that is central to Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa, WhiteKnight explains, has all the benefits of work-life balance that one would expect while still providing the excitement of “big city” legal opportunities.

“In Kingston, I am able to work on the same calibre of legal tasks that my Toronto and Ottawa colleagues do,” he says, noting how easy it is to travel by train to and from the bigger cities in order to attend courts throughout the Eastern Ontario region.

As for practising in the city of his alma mater, he finds it provides wonderful opportunities to network with fellow alumni, which in turn has been a boon to his practice. He enjoys developing and deepening his ties to Queen's Law as a volunteer, a mentor and since 2016 as a sessional instructor of an Alternative Dispute Resolution class. “I am truly privileged to get to return the favour of good teaching and mentorship,” he says.

His subject area, which involves mediation and negotiation, fits with his professional expertise. “I try to give students a feel for running a ‘real’ file to help encourage them in thinking purposively about their legal practice, extracurriculars and life goals,” he says. “Being a lawyer is not a job – it's a vocation and a privilege.”

When he was a student, he found that the Queen's Law Clinics and the diverse range of extracurricular offerings gave his legal education greater scope and depth. “I was a volunteer with Pro Bono Students Canada in my first year, and acted as the Program Director at Queen's in second year,” says WhiteKnight of his most memorable extra-curricular legal experience. “My involvement with PBSC gave me a perspective into how national legal organizations tailor that large scale to the local needs addressed by the individual programs.”

Rounding out his student experience, he sang in an a cappella barbershop group, All The Queen's Men, and played pick-up soccer each day right next to the Faculty building. During his time at Queen's, WhiteKnight found that the blend of highly structured and intensive study was nicely balanced with opportunities for unstructured fun and collegiality with students in law and other professional programs.

Reflecting on those student days, WhiteKnight credits the CDO for being indispensable in assisting his job search and networking process once he made it known that he wanted to stay in Kingston. “Career Development helped me with the important details of polishing my resume and cover letters, but also instructed me on how to get face-time with decision-makers at the firms I was interested in,” says Warren. “The staff helped with the smaller details of how to develop a system for tracking my applications and follow-ups and the bigger ones about small-market practice.”

For students interested in a small-market practice, WhiteKnight gives this advice: “Join the local law association as a student. Volunteer. Go to breakfasts and lunches of the local business association.” Connecting with local lawyers to gain insight about

the market is an invaluable lesson, he stresses. “The most important thing in a small market is not telling people but rather *showing* people that you are serious about integrating into the community.”

— QUINN BROWN



Warren WhiteKnight, Law'13, has found professional and personal fulfillment in Kingston, where he teaches at Queen's Law and has a thriving legal practice in a firm that's been named one Canada's top 10 personal injury boutiques.

BERGERON CLIFFORD LLP

Assistant Crown Attorney brings Queen's community values to southwestern Ontario practice



When Natalie (Johnson) Kuehn, Law'14, began her studies at Queen's Law in September 2011, she knew her preference for practising in a small market would not be brushed aside. After all, the school's Career Development Office (CDO) has long been known for supporting students in finding the path that is right for them. By her fourth week, Kuehn was already well on her way to developing a career management plan with the CDO as she prepared her application for a summer position at the London Crown Office. She got the job and went on to become a valuable member of the Crown's team.

One word to describe her small-market practice now? "Busy!" exclaims Kuehn. "The job is challenging and fast-paced, so every day is different. I love that our office has an emphasis on mentorship, and I work with phenomenal lawyers who have expertise in different areas of criminal law. It is a demanding job, and one that you really get out of it what you put into it."

The big-city experience of taking on large cases is not unknown to her smaller practice. In fact, she's had the opportunity to take on larger cases earlier in her career than one might have in larger cities. Besides the exciting case work, Natalie values the 25 Assistant Crown Attorneys in the office, the Deputy Crown and the Crown. "The best part of my job is the people I work with. I was born and raised in London, so to me it's important that I have my 'team' with me and I can't imagine practising elsewhere."

Back in late September 2011 when she was preparing that summer job application, the CDO was instrumental in helping her get a foot in the door with Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General. "I quite honestly knew nothing yet, and the applications were due a week later, so the QL Career Development Office went into high gear to get me ready." The CDO connected her with other students who had summered and articulated for the Crown, edited and reviewed her application, provided her with resources on past questions used in interviews, and gave her advice on how to study.

Recognizing the value in such CDO resources, during her upper years she helped students interested in taking the same path by running mock interviews, speaking on panels and helping to develop materials on Crown jobs. "I very honestly could not have achieved success in that interview – as a brand new law student! – without the help of the QL Career Development Office."

As she expected, Queen's Law with its tight-knit, smaller community feel was a great fit for her. "I think I've always been attracted to that type of environment, where I'm not simply a number." Being able to easily connect with her professors, classmates and staff members – and the opportunity to get to know them well – were important to her. Working in a smaller market, she finds, is a similar environment, where one knows all of the other lawyers, judges, court staff, and various community justice partners. "Being at Queen's Law you learn how to really be part

of a community, and how to contribute to a community. Those skills will carry you through life regardless of what you end up doing for a career."

It was her second-year moot experience on the Arnup and Sopinka Cup teams that she credits for shaping the advocate she has become.

For today's students looking to practise in a small market, she recommends putting the community's values first on their lists of things to know. "Talk to people who work there and live there. Get a feel for it and make sure you can see yourself being there. Know the community. What's unique about practising in this city or town, as opposed to a bigger jurisdiction?"

A small-market practice is filled with early career opportunities and challenges, she emphasizes. "Don't assume because it's a small market, you're not going to be busy. Trust me, the work is there!"

— QUINN BROWN

Natalie Kuehn, Law'14, has already taken on large cases as Assistant Crown Attorney in the smaller city of London, Ontario. "Don't assume because it's a small market, you're not going to be busy," she says. "Trust me, the work is there!"

PhD student plans to make her African country disability-friendly

Ethiopia native Hiwot Mekuanent will be applying her doctoral work at Queen's Law to help improve the lives of people with disabilities in her homeland. Admitted into the school's PhD program as an "exceptional faculty leader" from the University of Gondar in Ethiopia, she has received a MasterCard Foundation at Queen's University Scholarship to complete her studies.

With an LLM in human rights law from Addis Ababa University, she also has over six years of experience in the area. She is a lecturer and the Director for Disability Studies and Service Directorate at the University of Gondar, where she focuses on creating conducive learning and working environments for students and employees with disabilities.

Hiwot Mekuanent spoke to *Queen's Law Reports* about the focus of her dissertation, how she became an expert in the area, and her plans for the future.

Tell us about your research.

My research focuses on the issues that people with disabilities and their families face in Ethiopia. My dissertation critically examines Ethiopia's institutional and legal framework that governs the rights of persons with disabilities. Specifically, I explore why Ethiopia still has discriminatory laws and institutional frameworks while committed to both domestic and international human rights instruments that guarantee equality for persons with disabilities. For example, the Ethiopian Custom Authority enacted a directive that allows persons with disabilities to import a personal-use car duty

free. While this provision may seem progressive, it only benefits persons with disabilities who appear at the Social Affairs Office in person and claim their rights. So in practice, it discriminates between persons with different types of disability.

What led you to the area of human rights law, and more specifically to disability rights law?

My brother has an intellectual disability and I've seen him face a number of challenges throughout his life. This has made me passionate about dedicating my education and career to breaking down barriers for persons with disabilities. I started with my undergraduate thesis that explored the "Rights of Persons with Disabilities under Ethiopian Legal System." I built on this knowledge in my master's degree in human rights law obtained from Addis Ababa University, where I wrote my thesis on the "Right to Education of Children With Intellectual Disability and its Implementation in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia." Particularly, my master's degree allowed me to see the different concepts and issues of disability from a human rights perspective. I started to think about the international instruments and guarantees that protect the rights of persons with disabilities. Moreover, my experience serving as the Director of the Disability Studies and Service Directorate of the University of Gondar exposed me to different laws and procedures that are discriminatory to persons with disabilities and challenged me to explore them in greater depth. My academic foundation and first-hand experience in the directorship role at the university are my main inspirations to continue my studies of discriminatory



With funding from the MasterCard Foundation, PhD student Hiwot Mekuanent is using her evidence-based study and scholarship at Queen's Law to find the right solution to end discriminatory laws and practices in Ethiopia.

laws and practices in Ethiopia. I truly believe that evidence-based study and scholarship is the best way to find the right solution.

What are your future plans after graduation?

My plan after graduation is to continue to actively engage in disability advocacy work. I believe that it is important to turn my knowledge and expertise in the area of human rights law into practice. I would like to establish an organization that is dedicated to creating disability-friendly environments in public institutions. I am sure that my four years of PhD studies under guidance from Queen's Law faculty will help me reach my goals and that I will gain important new perspectives from Canada that will shape my future.

What do you like best about your Queen's Law studies in Kingston thus far?

I receive excellent supervision from my advisors, Professor Ashwini Vasanthakumar (Queen's Law) and Professor Heather Aldersey (School of Rehabilitation Therapy). I appreciate their guidance and support of my research. What I like best about Queen's Law is the Lederman Library and full support of faculty in accessing the plentiful resources in the library.

What do you like to do outside the classroom?

Outside of the classroom I enjoy spending time with my husband and two children. As a mom, taking care of my family and helping my children grow is important to me. I believe I have the responsibility to help shape the next generation be the best they can be to take care of our world.

Doctoral student Abayomi Okubote developing a framework to regulate third-party funding in international arbitration

In his PhD studies, Abayomi Okubote is expanding on his experiences as a lawyer, arbitrator and vocation leader in his native Nigeria. The LLM grad from the University College London has advised government agencies on several cutting-edge projects and on cross-border deals in finance and international arbitration. He has also founded the Association of Young Arbitrators (AYA), co-founded Africa Arbitration, and is managing editor of the Africa Arbitration Blog. For his research this year, his second in the doctoral program at Queen's, he has received a Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) International Law Research Program Graduate Scholarship and is also a recipient of a scholarship from the International Academy for Arbitration Law. In his thesis, he is exploring the utility of third-party funding in international arbitration in the face of rising arbitration costs and is proposing a harmonized framework for the regulation of this funding mechanism.

In an interview with *Queen's Law Reports*, Abayomi Okubote talks about his PhD research, his work experience in a top African commercial law firm, and why he founded two arbitration associations in Africa.

What interested you in international arbitration law?

When I began my career in 2010 as a commercial litigator, international arbitration didn't catch my fancy. Back then, I would not advise clients to include an arbitration clause due to the perception that most arbitrations end up in the courtroom. My first opportunity to study international arbitration law was during my master's program at the University College London, and that was where this perception changed. Studying arbitration law in the international context is extremely fascinating because, regardless of the type of arbitration, you are always experiencing a mix of different cultures, languages and personalities. The conflicts of laws and perks of the comparative approach that come with studying international arbitration law are of great interest to me.

Tell us about your research.

My research focuses on third-party funding (TPF) in international arbitration. TPF is an arrangement between a party and a funder whereby the funder covers the costs of prosecuting a claim in exchange

for a percentage of any proceeds derived from the proceedings. TPF is useful because arbitration, like litigation, is becoming expensive. TPF provides a means for those without the ready cash to prosecute their claims and may be particularly valuable in investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS), when the same state actions that are the subject of a claim (e.g. expropriation of profitable investments) may have deprived the investor of the financial means to launch an arbitration. Private enforcement of legal rights should not be an entitlement of the rich alone.

Despite the benefits of TPF, there are concerns that the direct or indirect relationship between a funder and an arbitrator may affect the impartiality and independence of the arbitrator. These concerns have triggered debates on the need for some form of regulation. While the TPF industry is growing rapidly, it is still considered a "wild west" due to lack of regulation in most countries and inconsistent rules in others. The few countries that regulate TPF have a mix of partially overlapping regulations – national laws, arbitral rules of procedure, ethical guidelines, and industry regulations – leading to inconsistencies and lack of clarity in the TPF regulatory framework. The ultimate objective of my thesis is to develop a proposal for a harmonized framework for the regulation of TPF in international arbitration and the key expected output is the drafting of a model law on TPF that will be useful to policy makers from around the world.

How has your work experience over the past five years at Olaniwun Ajayi LP in Nigeria impacted your graduate work?

Olaniwun Ajayi LP (OALP) is one of the top full service commercial law firms in Africa, with a strong track record for project finance, acquisition finance, power and infrastructure, oil and gas, and dispute resolution. While working with a top law firm comes with exposure to cross-border deals and big-ticket disputes, the work is extremely demanding and most times, rigorous. The rigour of the work at OALP, prepared me for the PhD. Also my exposure to cross-border deals and experience in finance and international arbitration, gained while working in OALP has greatly impacted my graduate work, which focuses on arbitration finance.

What motivated you to get involved with the Association of Young Arbitrators and to co-found Africa Arbitration?

I founded the [Association of Young Arbitrators](#) (AYA) after participating in an international secondment program for top talents in Africa, organized by the International Lawyers for Africa (ILFA) in 2015. I was seconded to Baker McKenzie (London office) for three months and exposed to the international aspect of cross-border disputes. I benefitted from lots of networking events in London and understood the opportunities in developing relationships and networks within the international arbitration community. I started AYA with a team of brilliant young lawyers who have passion for arbitration and are seeking to overcome the perception that arbitration is open only to senior practitioners. We have brought together an excellent Board of Advisors to assist us in developing initiatives to help young arbitration practitioners succeed within the international arbitration community.

When I started my PhD program in September 2017, I encountered difficulty in accessing data, decisions and resources on arbitration in Africa. I co-founded [Africa Arbitration](#) – a one-stop online platform for arbitration resources in all countries across Africa. AA has been able to put together a world-class Board of Advisors drawn from across Africa, North America, Europe and the Middle East, including my PhD supervisor, Professor Joshua Karton (Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research). AA also features the [Africa Arbitration Blog](#), which provides a wide-reaching platform for brilliant arbitration practitioners to project their thoughts on arbitration issues to the international arbitration community. I serve as one of the Managing Editors of the Africa Arbitration Blog.

Why did you choose Queen's Law for your PhD studies?

Having done a graduate program in a reputable university in London, I was looking for a top-ranked law school in Canada with a smaller PhD size. As I understand it, top law schools like Queen's Law with a small PhD group give more attention to their students and have supportive faculty members. I was right! The faculty members and staff here have been great and my PhD supervisor, Professor Joshua Karton, has been extremely supportive. In spring 2018, Professor Karton



GARRETT ELLIOTT

PhD candidate Abayomi Okubote has received a prestigious CIGI-ILRP Graduate Scholarship for his research on the utility of third-party funding in international arbitration in the face of rising arbitration costs.

introduced me to the scientific committee members who organized an international event to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards. The event was organized in partnership with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) in Seville, Spain. I presented a paper at the international conference and Kluwer Law International is publishing the paper. Professor Karton was also supportive when I applied for the CIGI's International Law Research Program Doctoral Scholarship. I was happy to have been selected for this scholarship and I'm grateful to Queen's Law for providing the platform for winning such prestigious award. Since joining Queen's in 2017, I have also been nominated for several leadership awards in Nigeria and England.

I am glad to have chosen Queen's Law and the growing diversity in the Queen's community makes Kingston a home away from home. It is gratifying to know that Queen's Law has a sustained track record of international excellence based on the production of empirically rich, conceptually sophisticated and policy relevant research.

What do you enjoy doing outside of the courtroom and classroom?

My hobbies include watching soccer – I am a passionate fan of Chelsea Football Club in England. I also love to play chess with my friends and debate politics with my wife, who is also a lawyer.

First-year student represents Canada as part of international delegation to strengthen democratic institutions

Darian Doblej, Law'21 (Artsci'18), participated in key international deliberations at the German Foreign Office, having been selected as one of a handful of youth chosen by the Young Diplomats of Canada. The small delegation, affirmed by Canada's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was in Germany from December 6-15 to discuss German-Canadian relationships and the future of Canada's transatlantic relationships.

In the delegation's conversations with dignitaries, including Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland, ambassadors and diplomatic staff, Doblej notes that a recurring mantra emerged: that Western democracies are in a state of constant, unpredictable change. Recent attacks on the freedom of the press by news outlets and politicians alike have only amplified this uncertainty, he says.

"Attacks on the media and the independent press give agency to those challenging the rule of law to reject positive change, and bring about unnecessary socio-political unrest," declares Doblej. "The lies, the alternative facts and the propaganda weaken the foundations of reliable news and, as result, seek to undermine our democracy. I think, to get on a better, more safe path, we must identify and strengthen the weak pillars of our system that's at risk due to these efforts. I appreciate that Germany and Canada are working together to determine how to accomplish this."

Doblej, a Two-Spirit Anishinaabe citizen with an impressive history of advocacy for Indigenous and LGBTQ2SI+ rights, acknowledges that his past efforts likely played a role in his selection.

Since beginning his studies in political studies and Indigenous studies at Queen's in 2014, Doblej has played an active role in the Queen's community. He has founded and then co-chaired two Queen's Native Student Association conferences, sat on the University Council on Anti-Racism and Equity, co-founded the Aboriginal Youth Leadership Program, volunteered on the [Pro Bono Students Canada \(PBSC\) Akwesasne Self-Governance Project](#), and is spearheading the Open Arms Scholarship for queer individuals fleeing violence.

Recently, Doblej also served as a reservist for the Canadian Armed Forces, a commissioner to a Chiefs of Ontario Special Inquiry into Sexual Violence and Harassment in First Nations Communities, a Primary Advocate for Youth for the Independent First Nations in Ontario, an intern in the Prime Minister's Office, a policy analyst to the Ontario Ministry of Education's Indigenous Education Office, an advisor to former Premier of Ontario, and member of a ministerial working group on child and family well-being.

"It may be because of my previous engagements

with government at the federal and provincial levels," speculates Doblej about the reason he was chosen to join the delegation. "More broadly, it could be part of the federal government's plan to include more Indigenous people in its diplomatic efforts."

Sent on a fact-finding mission, the Canadian delegation to Berlin sought to better understand Germany's institutions, and how they have weathered the gusts of rapid social and political change over the past century. One example is the state parliaments which, as Doblej explains, have played a key role in developing Germany's identity.

"Given my past experiences as a policy advisor focusing on education, and education as a peace-builder, I was interested to discover that state parliaments, not the national parliament, are responsible for educational and social policies," shares Doblej. "They had told us that this was designed to limit the ability of future leaders, following the Nazi government, to unilaterally change the curriculum and ideals taught to German citizens. Contrast that with the fact that Canada has decentralized these powers not to prevent its leaders from changing curricula, but to accommodate local and religious needs."

Among other themes discussed during the week were the rules-based nature of international affairs, the role of innovation in international trade, start-ups and sustainability, a reluctant hegemon, and the wide-ranging effects of bilateralism.

"Western democracies are in the most protectionist time since World War II, perhaps since the 1930s," admits Doblej. "A big take-away from these discussions was that economic and political stability at home does not necessarily translate into stable transatlantic relationships. We and our allies must work together to solve issues of mutual importance." ►



Stéphane Dion, Canada's Ambassador to Germany, meets with Darian Doblej, Law'21 (4th left), and other student delegates to discuss challenges and opportunities of diplomacy in modern times.

SYDNEY OAKES



ADAM SCOTTI

After returning from Berlin, Darian Doblej, Law'21, meets Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in Kingston, where he shares his experience from the German-Canadian discussions.

Canada's Ambassador to Germany, Stéphane Dion, met with the delegation to reflect on the challenges and opportunities of diplomacy in modern times. He praised youth engagement in diplomacy, explained the recent global trend toward populism, and provided best practices on how to engage with those seeking to challenge pro-democratic institutions. Doblej shared Ambassador Dion's thoughts as part of his [Queen's Law Instagram](#) takeover on December 8.

The delegation also had the opportunity to hear from Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister, Chrystia Freeland, and discuss the current global challenges to the rules-based international system. Upon

meeting Freeland, Doblej says he was impressed by and excited to meet one of his favourite cabinet ministers again.

"Minister Freeland is strong, determined, humble, fun, knows her stuff and is a great negotiator," says Doblej. "She is incredibly personable and, if given the opportunity, I could sit with her all day."

When he had the chance to meet with Freeland one-on-one, Doblej spoke about his Open Arms Scholarship initiative at Queen's, and expressed his appreciation for her as a staunch defender of queer rights internationally.

"She was so excited, and recognized its potential to help so many people in need," says Doblej. "Her speech in summer 2018 at the international Equal Rights Coalition conference in Vancouver during their pride week had inspired me to start this initiative to help queer people fleeing violence. She spoke to the importance of LGBTQ2SI+ rights across the globe and reaffirmed Canada's commitment to ensuring a safe place for queer people. Our Foreign Affairs Minister infamously condemned intolerance in all its forms, which had such a profound effect on me."

Upon meeting Prime Minister Justin Trudeau when returning to Canada, Doblej was equally awe-struck.

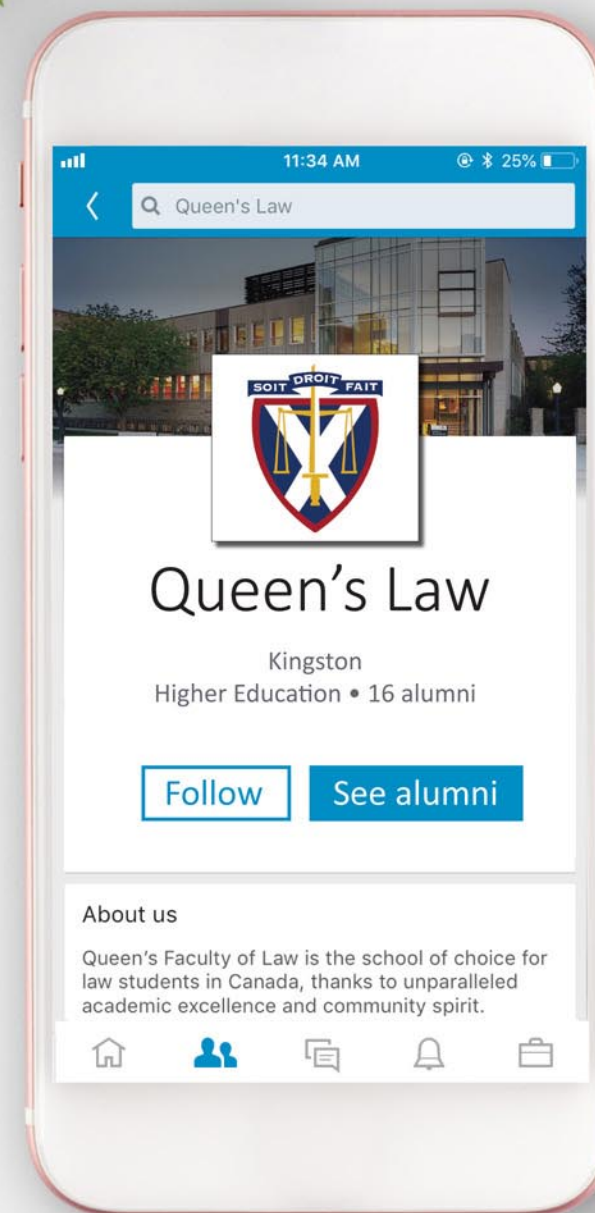
"The Prime Minister seems genuinely interested in everything you have to say," remarks Doblej. "He doesn't hesitate to ask follow-up questions when he doesn't fully understand. He's down to earth, humble, committed to helping the middle class, and taking positive steps towards reconciliation with Canada's Indigenous peoples. He's super nice. You could say anything to him, and he'd respond well to it."

"If I could get a cider with him, I would," jokes Doblej.

— JUSTIN MURPHY

Find Us On LinkedIn

Queen's | LAW



Follow us and
add Queen's Law
in the education
section of your
profile

linkedin.com/school/queen'slaw

Student group creates more innovative business law opportunities for peers

The Queen's Venture Law Society (QVLS) has formed a slew of new partnerships to bolster experiential learning for Queen's Law students interested in business law.

Nataly Dil and Heather Bonnell, both Law'20, co-founded QVLS in Spring 2018 to help connect law students with start-ups, venture capitalists and innovative industries. By organizing events and producing digital content, they aim to engage local businesses while offering students opportunities to gain practical experience. QVLS's executive members include Jake Vogl, Law'19, as well as Jerome Biroo, Jenna Calderon and Henry Machum, all Law'20, and Emma Wall and Marc Vani, both Law'21.

The team's signature partnership with the Queen's Business Law Clinic (QBLC) seeks to provide learning opportunities for first-year Queen's Law students.

"Both Nataly and I volunteered last year with the QBLC while we were in first year," says Bonnell, "but there wasn't a formal volunteer program for the QBLC like there is for Queen's Legal Aid. With QVLS, we want to help first-year students get involved in business law or in the start-up/venture law space. We view our partnership with the QBLC as a meaningful way to bridge that gap."

Dil and Bonnell hope that the program helps first-year students learn the basics of business law. The team will assign a legal issue to each volunteer, who will in turn provide an overview of that client's available legal options. These overviews will become helpful QBLC promotional materials in the form of posters and presentations – which will simultaneously help the QBLC promote its services and inform Kingston entrepreneurs of relevant developments in the law.

Student volunteer Alizeh Alvi, Law'21, speaks highly of what this opportunity has meant to her at this stage in her legal education.

"My undergraduate background is in science," shares Alvi, "and seeing innovative entrepreneurs with science backgrounds, disrupting the market with their new business ventures, is what attracted me most to Law. I wanted to help grow a company from the very beginning, and the QVLS' new pilot program with the QBLC will give me that chance. I am excited to start learning about a lawyer's role in building a start-up. By engaging with legal practitioners in the field, I have broadened my understanding of what a lawyer can accomplish."

Beyond its partnership with the QBLC, the QVLS boasts a new sponsorship from the Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre (DDQIC). This collaboration links Queen's Law with the thriving entrepreneurial community on campus, and gives students international exposure to innovation.

"Just this month, I went to Boston with DDQIC for the MassChallenge Awards and a tour of the Boston innovation ecosystem," says Bonnell. "It was an amazing opportunity to learn more about this kind of work from world-class facilities and programs like MassChallenge, MIT and the Cambridge Innovation Centre."

The QVLS has also partnered with Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP and its start-up program, Blakes Nitro, which connects emerging ventures with the firm's impressive investor network. This collaboration will consist of a four-session "StartupSeries" that invites guest speakers in law, business and venture capitalism to describe an emerging venture's life cycle and its legal implications. If students participate in at least three of the four sessions, Blakes Nitro and the QVLS offer them a certificate of completion.

"Many of these innovation networks stem from national firms who have well-connected entrepreneurs-in-residence and start-up programs, like Blakes," admits Dil. "We thought that it would be great to connect with them, and promote both



Discussing the QVLS's latest partnership to help connect students with start-ups, venture capitalists and innovative industries are executive members Heather Bonnell, Law'20, co-founder and co-president; Emma Wall, Law'21; Henry Machum, Law'20, and Marc Vani, Law'21. Executive members not shown are Nataly Dil, Law'20, co-founder and co-president; Jake Vogl, Law'19, Jenna Calderon, Law'20, and Jerome Biroo, Law'20.

lawyers and clients as our guest speakers. Given that law is a client-serving industry, why shouldn't law students be trained to reflect upon legal issues from a client-focused perspective? We want to understand the qualities that clients value most in a lawyer, so we can more effectively cater to their needs."

StartupSeries' first session, "Ideation + the Lawyer's Role," took place on October 29 and approximately 50 students attended. Guest speakers included Marc Shewchun, counsel at Blakes and chief architect of the Blakes Nitro project, and Dan Forte, Chief Operating Officer of Portl Media. The second StartupSeries installment, titled "Protecting Ideas + Innovations," was held on November 19. Future topics are titled "Capital Structure, Raising Capital + Implications" and "Growth + Exit."

The QVLS is also spearheading its digital "Industry Focus" series, a content-based project intended to highlight such high-growth industries as cannabis, social enterprises and artificial intelligence that are facing complex legal challenges. "Industry Focus" will consist of infographics and interviews with legal

and industry practitioners.

"We want to produce social media content along with our events, because we know how busy Queen's Law students are," acknowledges Bonnell. "It can be difficult to attend every single club event during the school year. With our Industry Focus series, we aim to leverage our online platforms to share information on industries that fascinate us."

Despite the many associations keeping the QVLS busy, they are always open to collaborating with other campus groups. For instance, the QVLS joined with the Queen's Technology Law Club to promote the intersection of technology, innovation and the law as part of a "TechNOVation" lecture series in November. This partnership exposed students to legal technology, intellectual property law and professionals operating in the space.

Students can get involved with the QVLS, and stay up-to-date on their upcoming events, by liking their [Facebook page](#).

— JUSTIN MURPHY

Queen's Law students gain experience – and earn credit – in federal government internships

“Over the years I’ve had the pleasure of supervising several Queen’s Law interns and I am always so impressed with the quality of their legal work and the ease with which they integrate into our legal services team.” Those are the words of Shelley Cruise, Law’99, legal counsel with the Global Affairs Canada Legal Services Unit of the Department of Justice Canada. “In my experience, the interns add a lot of value to our office not only through their legal contributions but also through their enthusiasm and dedication.”

Each year, about 15 Queen’s Law students are

selected to participate in the school’s Federal Government Internship program, working one day a week for a 12-week term in Ottawa at a Government of Canada office that provides legal services. They develop legal research and communication skills through preparing and presenting legal opinions, briefing notes, policy memoranda and/or litigation reports. Upon completion – and a passing grade from the supervising lawyer – the interns receive academic credit towards their JD degrees.

Tristan Mcleod, Law’19, who worked with the

Trade Law Bureau in the fall 2018 term, says such legal internships are invaluable to the professional development of law students. “These practical experiences better prepare students for life in the legal profession by allowing us to develop and apply important legal skills to real-world issues,” he says. “I strongly encourage students to take advantage of the variety of experiential opportunities offered at Queen’s Law!”

For Jing Bo Yu, Law’19, interning with the Department of Finance Canada’s Tax Counsel Division, was “a profoundly enriching experience” and he highly recommends the program. “I found a passion for working in the public sector and talked about some of my experiences in articling interviews,” he says. “I believe this demonstrated interest along with the legal skills that I gained during the internship set me apart from other candidates and led to me securing an articling position in the public sector.”

The files he worked on often involved policy issues distinctive to government. “This gave me a better idea of the kind of legal work the public sector engages in and their unique approach and perspective on legal work.”

For Shannon Sturgeon, Law’20, the best part of interning with the Public Service Commission of Canada’s Central Agencies Portfolio was applying the skills she learned in school to actual client matters. “My supervisor involved me in as many matters as possible, giving me the opportunity to see a broad range of what the department does, from contract law research to employment law appeals at the Federal Court of Canada.”

Russell Durward, Law’19, says he had “an amazing experience” working with Global Affairs Canada Legal Services. “I learnt effective research techniques for varying legal issues, ranging from simply doing case law research on Westlaw, to using LegisInfo and looking through proposed bills and committee

discussions. These are practical skills that will help me once I become a lawyer.”

Sierra MacDonald, Law’19, says she was surprised by the variety of work she was able to do as an intern with the Centre for Information and Privacy. Her research for six assignments ranged from international, foreign and comparative law, to legislative interpretation and immigration law. “Overall, I became very interested in learning the intricacies of information and privacy law across a variety of issues and subject areas,” she says. “This internship was an excellent opportunity to learn new areas of law and to build and develop my research skills in a real environment.”

Josef Gallant, Law’19, spent about 100 hours in the fall interning with the DOJ’s Family, Children and Youth Section. During that time, he conducted policy-based research into federal, territorial, provincial and foreign laws. He also researched academic commentary, media reports and case law as he compared laws from different provinces and examined foreign legal systems. “My internship provided the opportunity to sharpen skills I learned in school as well as develop new ones performing obscure research tasks,” he says. “I found policy-oriented research tasks to be intrinsically rewarding and meaningful because they often centre around reform to accommodate changing social values and concerns.

“I would recommend the Federal Government Internship program to any student interested in working in public service,” Gallant continues. “It provides valuable insight into performing legal policy work, as well as a window into the dynamics of working in a federal government office.”

Placement supervisor Shelley Cruise would certainly recommend Queen’s Law students. “If the Queen’s Law interns we’ve hosted are any indication, the future of law is in great hands and I hope that at least some of them consider a career with Canada’s legal team at the Department of Justice.”

— LISA GRAHAM



Queen’s Law students gain “valuable insight into performing legal policy work” through internships with a variety of Government of Canada offices in a program coordinated by the school’s Career Development Office.

'Twas the season for celebrating Queen's Law in Kingston

"We are fortunate to have such a collegial legal community in Kingston," says Anthony Ball, Law'90, a sessional instructor at both Queen's Law and St. Lawrence College. "Some of that has to do with its size but much has to do with many of us being graduates of Queen's Law."

He and a few dozen of his fellow local grads joined faculty and staff for the Queen's Law alumni holiday reception on December 13. They exchanged season's greetings before a cozy fire in the decked halls of the University Club.

"I think that the law school fostered an approach



to learning and an environment for friendly interaction that set the tone for future legal careers," Ball continues. "Receptions such as these are always enjoyable and a great opportunity to see that collegiality and friendship in play among Queen's Law alumni."

Agreeing with him is Carol Mackillop, Law'94, owner and managing counsel of Mackillop Law Professional Corporation. "What fun to meet some new colleagues, and catch up with old friends, including two from my first-year small-section class led by Professor Hugh Lawford."



Dean Bill Flanagan pointed out three alumni involved with the school's programs: Shai Dubey, Law'94, **Executive Director of Undergraduate and Professional Programs; Morgan Jarvis, Law'10, Queen's Business Law Clinic Director and Academic Director of the Certificate in Law;** and Karla McGrath, LLM'13, Executive Director of the **Queen's Law Clinics**, which offers local residents free legal services while providing students with a unique hands-on clinical experience in business law, family law, elder law, poverty law and prison law.



Carol Mackillop, Law'94 (middle), at the Kingston alumni reception with classmates Shai Dubey and Jennifer Ferguson, reveals what's best about working in the city: "We have all the advantages of a close connection with Queen's Law, and a great quality of life."

The Dean also informed the enthusiastic crowd about some of the school's other recent achievements: a **95 per cent placement rate for JD students**, a **JD student body that is more diverse than ever and whose GPA and LSAT scores are among the best in Canada**, and the increasing popularity of the **undergraduate Certificate In Law program**.

"I learned about some exciting new programs," says Mackillop. "Did you know that there are about

2,000 undergrad students taking courses offered by the law school?"

For Mackillop and other alumni in attendance, there is no place like their law school town. "I love practising in Kingston," she says. "We have all the advantages of a close connection with Queen's Law, and a great quality of life."

[Check out and download more photos in our gallery!](#)

PHOTOS BY ALYSSA DE HOOP

Queen's Law grads in Edmonton promote their alma mater

It was a typical chilly fall evening in Edmonton on November 27, but the 20 Queen's Law alumni gathered for a reception in the downtown office of Dentons Canada LLP felt nothing but the warmth of camaraderie.

"We had a fantastic evening reminiscing about our experiences at Queen's Law with our fellow Edmonton alumni," says event host Leanne Krawchuk, Law'97, a partner with Dentons and a member of the school's Alberta Alumni Council. We all agreed we feel so lucky to have the opportunity to come together at least once or twice a year to keep our Edmonton alumni connected."

In attendance were grads from the 1970s to just last year. "We are all strong advocates of promoting the law school and we encourage our children, their friends, our friend's children and other undergrads to enrol at Queen's and to continue the tradition," Krawchuk says.

At the reception, Dean Bill Flanagan presented grads with an update on Faculty programs, teaching innovations and other successes. These include a **95 per cent placement rate for JD students**, a **30 per cent expansion in faculty numbers over the past five years**, and the **new online Graduate Diploma in**

Legal Services Management.

"The event gave us a great opportunity to network with other Queen's alumni and to hear updates regarding the school and what Dean Flanagan has planned," says Kate MacLennan, Law'10 (Artsci'07), an associate with Birdsell Grant LLP located in nearby Stony Plain and an Alberta Alumni Council member. "The Graduate Diploma in Legal Services Management is particularly exciting and shows that Queen's Law is trying to lead the way in providing an avenue for young lawyers to acquire additional information and skills that will make them successful in their careers."

Krawchuk calls it a privilege to have been able to host the event. "I, like so many fellow alumni, have such memorable and fond memories of Dean Flanagan's Business Associations class, where he taught us the concepts of oppression remedies, fiduciary duties, corporate governance, and shared real world examples of public and private companies involved in a myriad of corporate disputes.

"He has been a visionary for the law school," she adds. "We have all been touched and inspired by his tremendous enthusiasm and support for the school, the faculty, the students and alumni."



Dean Bill Flanagan (far right) shares the school's achievements and initiatives with alumni at an Edmonton reception. Event host Leanne Krawchuk, Law'97, says, "We encourage our children, their friends, our friend's children and other undergrads to enrol at Queen's and to continue the tradition."

Upcoming Events

Vancouver Alumni Reception

Save the date! April 24

Calgary Alumni Reception

Save the date! April 25

Celebrate Queen's Law in Toronto

May 23

5:30–7:30 pm

CI Financial, 15 York St, 9th Floor



Queen's Law Communications Manager Lisa Graham is eager for any and all alumni news and notes for this magazine, our website, and more!

Contact Lisa at grahaml@queensu.ca or 613-533-6000 ext. 74259

@queensulaw