

Grégoire Webber, M.S.M.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Queen's University
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Queen's University, 2014–
Professor of Law and Philosophy

- Canada Research Chair in Public Law and Philosophy of Law, 2014–2024
- Professor of Law, 2020– ; Associate Professor of Law, 2014–2020
- Cross-appointed to the Department of Philosophy, 2018–
- Founding convenor, Colloquium in Legal and Political Philosophy, 2015–

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), 2009–2014
Associate Professor of Law, 2012–2014; Assistant Professor, 2009–2012

- Major Review Teaching Prize, 2012

VISITING APPOINTMENTS

University College London (UCL)

- Visiting Researcher, Global Centre for Democratic Constitutionalism, Faculty of Laws, 2026–2027

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
Visiting Senior Fellow, LSE Law School, 2015–2026

Université Paris-Panthéon-Assas (Paris II)
Professeur invité, 2024–
Villey Fellow, Institut Michel Villey, 2023
Enseignant invité, Institut Michel Villey, 2011–2013

University of Oxford (Faculty of Law and St John's College), 2023
Visiting Researcher (Trinity Term)

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

University of Oxford (Balliol College), 2004–2008
Doctorate of Philosophy (DPhil) in Law

- Trudeau Scholar, Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation
- Captain, Oxford University Ice Hockey Club (OUIHC)

Law Society of Ontario, 2004–
Barrister and Solicitor

McGill University, 1999–2003
Bachelor of Common Law & Bachelor of Civil Law (*Great Distinction*)

- Valedictorian, Convocation Ceremonies
- Editorial Board, McGill Law Journal
- Chief Justice Laskin Constitutional and Administrative Law Moot, 2003
- Dean's Honour List

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Supreme Court Advocacy Institute, 2006–
Executive Director (and joint founder)

- The Institute offers to all counsel with an appeal before the Supreme Court of Canada a free oral advocacy session with a panel of experienced barristers

- More than 67% of cases before the Court benefit from the Institute's advocacy program annually
- Received a Meritorious Service Medal (M.S.M.) from the Governor General of Canada for improving 'access to justice for all Canadians' and for increasing 'the effectiveness and the quality of advocacy before the Court'

Department of Justice, Government of Canada

Legal Agent, 2017-

- Appointed by the Assistant Deputy Minister (Public Law and Legislative Services Sector) to provide legal advice to the Department on key files

Office of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Government of Canada, 2016-2017

Legal Affairs Advisor to the Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, P.C.

- Principal areas of responsibility focused on the Attorney General of Canada's role as the Chief Law Officer of the Crown providing legal advice to the Government of Canada and having carriage of litigation involving Canada
- Participated in the development of the *Principles respecting the Government of Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples*, the introduction of Charter Statements to accompany every government bill, the appointment of Supreme Court Justices, and other initiatives in relation to Indigenous justice and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Privy Council Office, Government of Canada

Senior Policy Advisor, 2008-2009, part-time 2009-2012

Policy Advisor, 2007-2008

- Principal areas of responsibility included democratic, electoral, and parliamentary reform and supporting legislative drafting and litigation in related areas
- Drafted Memoranda to Cabinet and briefing notes to the Prime Minister and Ministers and provided briefings to Ministers and senior staff

CLERKSHIPS

Supreme Court of Canada, 2003-2004

Chambers of the Honourable Justice W. Ian C. Binnie

Quebec Court of Appeal (student clerkship), 2001-2002

Chambers of the Honourable Justice André Rochon

HONOURS & MAJOR AWARDS

Governor General of Canada

Meritorious Service Medal, 2015

Academic Medal (Bronze), 1997

Royal Society of Canada

College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists, 2019

Canada Research Chair programme

Appointed Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Public Law and Philosophy of Law 2014-2019 and renewed 2019-2024

Queen's University

Inaugural recipient (joint), Les Green Prize for Excellence in Research, 2024

Chevrette-Marx Annual Lecture in Constitutional Law

Delivered the 2019 Lecture at the Université de Montréal

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation
Trudeau Scholar, 2004–2007

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

1. *Political Constitutions* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming) (*with* Graham Gee)
2. *Droits et droit* (Montréal: Thémis, 2020), xvii, 62 pp.
3. *Legislated Rights: securing human rights through legislation* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018; paperback edition 2019) (*with* Richard Ekins, Maris Köpcke, Bradley Miller, Francisco Urbina, Paul Yowell), xi, 209 pp.
4. *The Negotiable Constitution: On the Limitation of Rights* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009; paperback edition, 2012), viii, 231 pp.

Edited collections

5. *Constitutional dialogue: rights, democracy, institutions* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019) (*edited with* Geoffrey Sigalet and Rosalind Dixon) xi, 471 pp.
6. *Proportionality and the Rule of Law: Rights, Reasoning, Justification* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014; paperback edition, 2016) (*edited with* Grant Huscroft and Bradley Miller), ix, 421 pp.
7. *The Limitation of Charter Rights: Critical Essays on R. v. Oakes / La limitation des droits de la Charte : Essais critiques sur l'arrêt R. c. Oakes* (Montreal: Thémis, 2009) (*edited with* Luc B Tremblay) iv, 181 pp.

Journal articles and chapters in edited collections

8. 'Opposition in the separation of powers' in Mathieu Leloup et al. (eds.), *The Cambridge Handbook of the Separation of Powers* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming)
9. 'L'article 33 de la Charte canadienne et le rôle du tribunal' in David Robitaille et al. (eds), *Affirmation, autonomie et leadership : Mélanges Benoît Pelletier* (forthcoming)
10. 'Les droits et les mesures progressives du droit' (2026) 20 *Revue de droit parlementaire et politique* 85-94
11. 'Liberalism as a good way of life' (2026) 51 *Journal of Legal Philosophy* 82-89
12. 'Gilead constitutionalism' in Thomas Adams, Kate Greasley, and Denise Réaume (eds.), *The Morality in Law: Themes from the work of Leslie Green* (Oxford University Press, 2025) 55-79
13. 'Section 1: Reasonable Limits' in in Richard Moon, Howard Kislowicz, and Asha Kaushal (eds), *The Canadian Constitutional Law Open Access Casebook* (2nd ed, CanLII 2025, *with* Emily Kidd White)

14. 'Opposition' in Richard Bellamy and Jeff King (eds.), *The Cambridge Handbook of Constitutional Theory* (Cambridge University Press, 2025) 262-278
15. 'Rights and the law's progressive measures' in Emmett Macfarlane (ed.), *Rights and Parliamentary Systems in Canada and Beyond* (University of Toronto Press, 2025) 16-31
16. 'Modes of collaboration in a collaborative constitution' (2024) 35 *King's Law Journal* 527-533
17. 'Legislative measures and legislators' motives' (2024) 2 *Comparative Constitutional Studies* 150-157
18. 'The notwithstanding clause, the operation of legislation, and judicial review' in Peter Biro (ed.), *The Notwithstanding Clause and the Canadian Charter: Rights, Reforms and Controversies* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2024) 93-108
19. 'The notwithstanding clause and the precedent in *Ford: le dit et le non-dit*' (2023) 32 *Constitutional Forum* 13-19
20. 'What *Oakes* could have said (or how else to read a limitation clause)' (2023) 112 *Supreme Court Law Review* (2d) 61-82
21. 'Can the constitution of a fruit fly be written?' in Michelle Dempsey and François Tanguay-Renaud (eds.), *From morality to law and back again: Liber amicorum for John Gardner* (Oxford University Press, 2023) 17-37
22. 'Vignettes of insight' (2022) 67 *American Journal of Jurisprudence* 327-348
23. 'Human goods and human rights law' in Tom Angier, Iain Benson, and Mark Retter (eds.), *The Cambridge Companion to Natural Law and Human Rights* (Cambridge University Press, 2022) 324-337
24. 'Notwithstanding rights, review, or remedy? On the notwithstanding clause and the operation of legislation' (2021) 71 *University of Toronto Law Journal* 510-538
25. 'Legislación, derechos humanos y derechos legislados' (2021) 12 *Revista del Centro de Estudios Constitucionales* 81-135
26. 'Human rights and justice' in Mortimer Sellars and Stephan Kirste (eds.), *Encyclopaedia of the Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy* (Springer, 2021)
27. 'The Rule of Law in a pandemic' (2021) 46 *Queen's Law Journal* 317 (with Victoria Carmichael)
28. 'Legislated Rights and contemporary constitutional government' (2020) 11 *Jurisprudence* 632-644 (with Richard Ekins)
29. 'Proportionality and limitations on freedom of speech' in Frederick Schauer and Adrienne Stone (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Freedom of Speech* (Oxford University Press, 2020) 173-192

30. 'The duty to govern and the Rule of Law in an emergency' in Colleen Flood, Jane Philpott et al (eds.), *Vulnerable: The Law, Policy, and Ethics of COVID-19* (University of Ottawa Press, 2020) 175-182
31. 'Legislated Rights in the real world' (2020) 21 *Jerusalem Review of Legal Studies* 145-170 (*with* Paul Yowell)
32. 'A conservative disposition and constitutional change' (2019) 39 *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies* 526-552 (*with* Graham Gee)
33. 'Past, present, and justice in the exercise of judicial responsibility' in Grégoire Webber, and Rosalind Dixon (eds.), *Constitutional Dialogue: Rights, Democracy, Institutions* (Cambridge University Press, 2019) 129-160
34. 'The "What" and "Why" of Constitutional Dialogue' in Geoffrey Sigalet, Grégoire Webber, and Rosalind Dixon (eds.), *Constitutional Dialogue: Rights, Democracy, Institutions* (Cambridge University Press, 2019) 1-31 (*with* Geoffrey Sigalet and Rosalind Dixon)
35. 'Legislated Rights in the Anglo-American Tradition' (2018) 10 *Faulkner Law Review* 129-169 (*with* Richard Ekins)
36. 'Judicial power and judicial responsibility' (2017) 36 *University of Queensland Law Journal* 205-220
37. 'Loyal Opposition and the political constitution' (2017) 37 *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies* 357-382
38. 'The Question Why and the Common Good' (2017) 8 *Jurisprudence* 99-109
39. 'Proportionality and absolute rights' in Vicki Jackson and Mark Tushnet (eds) *Proportionality: New Frontiers, New Challenges* (Cambridge University Press, 2017) 75-99
40. 'Asking why in the study of human affairs' (2015) 60 *American Journal of Jurisprudence* 51-78
41. 'Eulogy for the constitution that was' (2014) 12 *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 468-486
42. 'On the loss of rights' in Grant Huscroft, Bradley W Miller, and Grégoire Webber (eds.), *Proportionality and the Rule of Law: Rights, Reasoning, Justification* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) 123-154
43. 'Introduction' in Grant Huscroft, Bradley W Miller, and Grégoire Webber (eds.), *Proportionality and the Rule of Law: Rights, Reasoning, Justification* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) 1-17 (*with* Grant Huscroft and Bradley Miller)
44. 'Parliament and the Management of Conflict' [2014] *Public Law* 101-112
45. 'Rationalism in Public Law' (2013) 76 *Modern Law Review* 708-734 (*with* Graham Gee)

46. 'Rights and the Rule of Law in the Balance' (2013) 129 *Law Quarterly Review* 399-418
47. 'A Grammar of Public Law' (2013) 14 *German Law Journal* 2137-2155
(with Graham Gee)
48. 'Some Internal Points of View and the Study of Law' (2012) 28
Constitutional Commentary 325-345
49. 'L'activité politique et la constitution de Westminster' (2012) 9 *Jus
politicum* 1-17
50. 'The Polycentricity of Political Financing' [2012] *Public Law* 310-327
51. 'Originalism's Constitution' in Grant Huscroft and Bradley W Miller
(eds.), *The Challenge of Originalism: Theories of Constitutional Interpretation*
(Cambridge University Press, 2011) 147-178
52. 'Legal Reasoning and Bills of Rights' in Richard Ekins (ed.), *Modern
Challenges to the Rule of Law* (Lexis Nexis, 2011) 143-164
53. 'What is a Political Constitution?' (2010) 30 *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*
273-299 (with Graham Gee)
54. 'Proportionality, Balancing, and the Cult of Constitutional Rights
Scholarship' (2010) 23 *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence* 179-202
55. 'The Unfulfilled Potential of the Court and Legislature Dialogue' (2009)
42 *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 443-465
56. 'La disposition limitative de la Charte canadienne : une invitation à définir
les droits et libertés aux contours indéterminés' in Luc B Tremblay and
Grégoire Webber (eds.), *La limitation des droits de la Charte : Essais critiques
sur l'arrêt R. c. Oakes / The Limitation of Charter Rights: Critical Essays on R.
v. Oakes* (Thémis, 2009) 37-57
57. 'Introduction: La fin de Oakes?' in Luc B Tremblay and Grégoire Webber
(eds.), *La limitation des droits de la Charte : Essais critiques sur l'arrêt R. c.
Oakes / The Limitation of Charter Rights: Critical Essays on R. v. Oakes*
(Thémis, 2009) 1-12 (with Luc Tremblay)
58. 'L'utilisation de la procédure de l'avis consultatif devant la Cour suprême
du Canada : Essai de typologie' (2003) 82 *Revue du Barreau canadien* 757-
780 (with François Chevrette)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PUBLIC DEBATE

- 'L'État, c'est Trump', *Le Devoir*, 28 February 2025
- 'Une idée reçue sur la disposition dérogatoire' (with Robert Leckey and Eric Mendelsohn), *IRPP Options politiques*, 10 May 2019
- 'The faulty received wisdom around the notwithstanding clause' (with Robert Leckey and Eric Mendelsohn), *IRPP Policy Options*, 10 May 2019

‘The Charter Party and the work of Parliament’, *IRPP Policy Options*, 27 January 2016

Interview with editor: ‘Grégoire Webber, de LSE: “Una Constitución debe ser del pueblo, por el pueblo y para el pueblo”’ *Pulso* [Chile], 26 April 2016

Interview with editor: ‘Grégoire Webber y proceso constituyente: “La gente tiene que reconocer a la nueva constitución como la válida”’ *Pulso* [Chile], 23 September 2015

‘The Two-Party System Is Imperfect, but More Effective’, *The New York Times: Room for Debate*, 9 September 2015

‘The Current System Holds Parties and Candidates to Account’, *The New York Times: Room for Debate*, 6 May 2015

‘Judges transcend political labels’ (*with* Lorne Sossin), *The Globe & Mail*, 18 December 2014

‘Charte des valeurs québécoises - Où sont les bombes, Madame Marois?’, *Le Devoir*, 9 September 2013

‘From London, Marois’s view of British multiculturalism sounds odd’ *The Montreal Gazette*, 12 September 2013

‘Most of us are not bilingual, so our leaders must be’ *The Ottawa Citizen*, 20 April 2010

‘Bilingual Justice and Legal Competency’, *The Mark News*, 15 April 2010

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Court of Appeal for Ontario

- Honorary Guest Speaker, Judicial Education Spring Conference, Muskoka, Ontario, 05/2026
- Honorary Guest Speaker, Judges’ Education Seminar, Stratford, Ontario, 06/2018

The Cambridge Lectures

Invited Speaker, Canadian Institute for Advanced Legal Studies, Cambridge, UK, 07/2023

Federal Court of Appeal

Speaker, Federal Court of Appeal Education Seminar, National Judicial Institute, Kingston, Ontario, 10/2019

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation

- Director, Board of Directors, 2026-
- Member, Comité consultatif, *Colloque Trudeau sur la Charte canadienne*, 2024-2025
- Member, Application and Nomination Review Committee, 2021
- Founding President and Executive Committee member, Trudeau Foundation Alumni Association, 2010-2013

Royal Society of Canada

- Member, Selection Committee, Kitty Newman Award, 2024, 2025
- Member, Selection Committee (Law/Politics/Business), College of New Scholars, 2020

Parliament of Canada

- House of Commons Legislative Committee on Bill C-20, invited to testify in 2008 as a public servant with joint policy responsibility for Bill C-20, Senate Appointments Consultation Act
- House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, invited to testify in 2006 during the Committee's review of s. 25.1 of the Criminal Code, which authorises public officers and others to commit acts or omissions that would otherwise constitute offences

Editorial boards

- Modern Law Review, 2013-
- American Journal of Jurisprudence, 2019-
- Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence, 2015-
- Queen's Law Journal (joint Faculty advisor), 2015-
- Hart Publishing, Constitutional Systems of the World monograph series, 2011-2016

Queen's University

- Member, Law Appointments Committee, 2015-2016, 2017-2018, 2023-2025
- Member, Workload Policy Review Committee, 2023-
- Member, Standing Research Review Committee, Office of the Vice Principal Research, 2023-2024
- Member, Vice Principal (Research)'s Nomination Committee for the Canada Excellence Research Chair in World Constitutions, 2022
- Chair (joint), Strategic Plan 2021-2026 Implementation Committee, 2022
- Chair, Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion Committee, 2020-2022
- Chair (joint), Committee for the Faculty of Law Strategic Plan 2021-2026, 2020-2021
- Reader, Major Admission Award (undergraduate applicants), 2019-2020
- Member, Principal's Advisory Committee for selecting the new Dean of Law, 2018-2019
- Senator (Law), Queen's Senate, 2018-2019
- Member, School of Policy Studies Transition and Implementation Working Group, Office of the Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic), 2018

London School of Economics

- Director, Summer School Law Programme, 2012-2014
- Director, Double Degree Programme with Columbia Law School, 2010-2014
- Faculty representative, Strategic Planning Committee, 2012-2014
- Member, Research Quality Investment Fund (RQIF) special appointments committee, 2012-2013

GRANTS & AWARDS

Canada Research Chair (Tier 2)

- Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) (renewed), 2019-2024, \$650,000
- Canada Research Chair (Tier 2), 2014-2019, \$650,000

Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

- Insight Grant, 2024-2028, \$58,700

- Insight Grant, 2021-2024, \$85,725
- Institutional Grant, 2024-2025, \$6,850
- Institutional Grant, 2020-2021, \$6,870
- Insight Development Grant, 2017-2019, \$58,181

Queen's University

- Bruce Mitchell Research Program (Doctoral Trainees) Award (joint *with* Ashwini Vasanthakumar), 2024-2028, \$140,000
- Catalyst Fund, 2020-2021, \$24,725
- Research Leaders' Fund, 2017-2019, \$48,200