A beautiful spring evening in an elegant lounge with a rooftop patio offering a spectacular view from Maple Leaf Square provided the perfect backdrop for celebrating all things Queen’s Law. Over 150 alumni, faculty, staff and students gathered for the school’s annual Toronto event, where they enjoyed good company, applauded the stellar results of a major fundraising campaign, met a new key figure in the business law program, cheered on an outstanding young alumnus, and reflected on the career of a criminal law giant.

“What a wonderful mini-reunion!” exclaims Kathy McBey, Law’80. “It gave us the chance to celebrate and be inspired by the achievements of the school and colleagues who honour the high ideals of Queen’s Law and have found creative ways to make this the kind of world in which we all want to live, learn, grow, and give back.”

And best of all, she adds, was doing all that in the company of a friendly, congenial, loyal and upbeat crowd of grads from all years. “Every one of us is always delighted to connect with friends old and new, and share memories of the joys and hijinks from back in the day,” she says.

“IT’s been a remarkable year for Queen’s Law,” Dean Bill Flanagan told the crowd.

To mark the school’s 60th anniversary and continue building upon a long legacy of leadership and success, an ambitious target was set last fall to raise $600,000 for bursaries to support students with financial needs. “I’m delighted to announce we have well exceeded our target, raising close to $700,000,” he said. “I want to thank all of you who generously contributed to our QL60 campaign. Our students are also most grateful to you.”

Brian Kolenda, Law’10, the newest partner with Lenczner Slaght Royce Smith Griffin LLP, accepted the 2018 Dan Soberman Outstanding Young Alumni Award. “It was very special to be able to celebrate Brian’s award – a well-deserved honour,” says Chris Rae, one of several Law’10 alumni in attendance. “It was also great to be able to catch up with so many classmates.”

Don Stuart, the legendary and beloved criminal law professor, was also honoured. Paying tribute to him were former students, Justice David Stratas, Law’84, LLD’12, and Pam Hrick, Law’13, and colleague Professor Nick Bala, Law’77. “This year’s event was memorable for the heartfelt outpouring of affection for Don Stuart,” says Tim Bates.

For the fourth consecutive year, the event was hosted in the heart of downtown Toronto at CI Financial Inc. by Sheila Murray, Law’82, CI Financial’s President and General Counsel, and Chair of the Queen’s Law Dean’s Council.

“From start to end,” says Kathy McBey, “everything was super.”

Watch for the July 2018 issue of Queen’s Law Reports Online for more coverage on Rob Yalden’s introduction as the first Sigurdson Professor, Brian Kolenda’s outstanding achievements as a young lawyer and the tribute to Don Stuart.

QL60 Bursary Campaign results will be featured in Supporting Excellence 2018.

— LISA GRAHAM
Robert Yalden, one of Canada’s foremost corporate lawyers, was introduced as the inaugural holder of the Stephen Sigurdson Professorship in Corporate Law and Finance. He spoke to the crowd about his former mentor, the late Stephen Sigurdson, Law’84, and expressed his thanks for the “extremely exciting opportunity.” And he met some alumni who contributed to the professorship, which was established with an endowment totaling $1.5 million.

Watch for more stories about Rob and his work in upcoming Queen’s Law publications.
Brian Kolenda, outstanding young alumnus

Brian Kolenda, Law’10, introduced by Dean Flanagan as a “rising star among Canadian litigators,” accepted the 2018 Dan Soberman Outstanding Young Alumni Award. Celebrating his achievement were several of his Law’10 classmates.

Watch for the story on Brian in the July issue of Queen’s Law Reports Online.
Paying tribute to Don Stuart

Criminal law legend and beloved professor Don Stuart is retiring. Speaking in his honour were Justice David Stratas, Law’84, LLD’12, Pam Hrick, Law’13, and Professor Nick Bala, Law’77. Joining Don in the celebration were his wife Pam, daughters Chloe and Joanne, Law’03, and son-in-law Alexis Lachaine.

Watch for stories about Don in Queen’s Law Reports 2018 and the July issue of Queen’s Law Reports Online.
Seated: Sheila Murray, Law'82, (Chair); Dean Bill Flanagan; Richard Tory, Law’89; and Kelley McKinnon, Law’88. Standing: Stephen Shamie, Law’86; guest Robert Yalden, Sigurdson Professor; Paul Steep, Law’77; Peter Griffin, Law’77; Betty DelBianco, Law’84; Frank Walwyn, Law’93; Jennifer Keenan, Law’90; Alan Whyte, Law’79; Kristin March, Law’85; David Allgood, Law’74 (Past Chair); Peter Brady, Law’96; Anton Sahazian, Law’94; David Sharpe, Law’95; and Paul Marcus, Law’85 (Development Counsel). Not shown: James Dorr, Law’87; Janet Fulker, Law’95; James Parks, Law’71; and Patrice Walch-Watson, Law’91.