



LANDS

Monthly Newsletter



ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the December edition of the Law and Society Students' Association Newsletter! In this newsletter, we bring you updates on legal news, insightful recommendations and highlights of our club activities and events.



IN THIS EDITION, YOU WILL FIND:

- ◆ EVENT UPDATES
- ◆ LEGAL READS
- ◆ MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS
- ◆ LEGAL NEWS UPDATES
- ◆ AND MORE!





Whats New For LANDS

Check Us Out!



@landsyu



The Law and Society Students' Association



www.landsyu.com



Previous Events:

- **Bake Sale Tabling - Nov. 4th-8th**
- **Azimi Law Panel - Nov. 18th**
- **SGLD Glubs Fair Tabling - Nov. 19th**

LANDS EXEC RECOMMENDATIONS



STUDY SPOTS RECOMMENDATIONS

★ **Victor Phillip Dahdaleh Building** - The ground floor of this building offers a quiet, simple study environment, perfect for those seeking a peaceful place to focus. With the newly renovated Tim Hortons nearby, it's an ideal spot for both studying and a quick break.



★ **Vari Hall Rotunda** - The second and third floor balconies of the Vari Hall Rotunda offer an array of seats and power outlets for a lively study space to focus and socialize. This dynamic space allows students to grab a seat and study with friends, while having the perfect view of new events in the central location of York's Keele Campus.

FOOD RECOMMENDATIONS ON CAMPUS

★ **z-teca Mexican Eatery (York Lanes)** - The breakfast bowl at z-teca is a lifesaver for students seeking a budget-friendly start to their day. With options to add a drink and hashbrowns to your meal, it's the ideal smooth and satisfying breakfast choice for a busy morning on campus.

★ **Aroma Espresso Bar (York Lanes)** - The variety of comforting drinks at Aroma Espresso Bar to suit everyone's taste, whether that is a double shot espresso, cappuccino, matcha latte, and many more, is the perfect pick-me-up between classes. There are a variety of breakfast pastries, lunch sandwiches, and salads to keep students fueled through the day.



ADVICE THEY WOULD GIVE TO STUDENTS GETTING INTO LAW SCHOOL

★ My biggest piece for law school admissions would be to focus on being a well-rounded candidate. A high GPA and LSAT score are essential, but a compelling personal statement is just as critical. Gaining relevant experience through volunteering, internships or work will help you define your purpose of studying law and make your application more distinctive. Balancing strong academics with meaningful experiences shows law school that you're committed, dedicated and ready to make a unique impact to their community.



Legal News Update

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THE LAW AND SOCIETY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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Canada's Immigration Minister says the era of "unlimited supply of cheap foreign labour is over."

During a recent speech to the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, Canada's Immigration Minister Marc Miller said "*the age of unlimited supply of cheap foreign labour is over,*" and higher wages need to be offered to attract Canadian workers. Miller emphasized the need to recognize and take action on the imbalanced relationship between employer and employees, especially low-cost temporary foreign workers, also known as migrant workers. The migrant worker crisis in Canada has involved exploitative relationships between Canadian employers and its foreign employees in low-wage labour sectors such as agriculture and food production.

To combat the issue of industrial reliance on low-wage labour, Canada has limited the amount of temporary foreign workers in many sectors and increased minimum wage during the past year. Together with this working solution, Miller addressed the need to increase enforcement and resources in removing temporary visa and work permit holders from staying illegally in Canada by hiring more Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) officers. A national shift in focus will be directed to Canada's permanent resident program for immigrants, and foreign workers with temporary permits can later claim permanent residency.



Miller also addressed the need for joint enforcement of the Safe Third Country Agreement, an agreement that manages the flow of refugee claimants in North America's shared land border. The proper regulation of irregular migrant workers by reducing temporary residents in Canada aims to enforce and maintain worker's rights. Most importantly, there should be a shift in national focus to providing assistance and acceptance to incoming permanent residents who are seeking refuge and asylum.

"Indigenous Bar Association appoints Stuart Wuttke to the Indigenous Peoples Counsel"



The Indigenous Bar Association (IBA) has appointed Stuart Wuttke, a prominent Indigenous legal professional to the Indigenous Peoples Counsel (IPC) designation. This Indigenous legal trailblazer has been a member of the Manitoba Bar since 1996, the Ontario Bar since 2006, and currently serves as general counsel at the Assembly of First Nations (AFN). Wuttke has made significant contributions to the advancement and recognition for Indigenous governance and rights by influencing landmark legal initiatives of Indigenous peoples. For example, he has played a crucial role in implementing the Indian Residential Schools Settlement agreement of 2006 to enforce governmental compensation for Indigenous communities of historical injustices in Canada

Wuttke also contributed to an agreement that nationally addressed the discrimination against Indigenous children and youth in 2022. He further enforced human rights through the shaping of federal child and family services legislation. Wuttke's career has reflected commitment to fostering a new generation of Indigenous and non-Indigenous lawyers to advocate for Indigenous and human rights. This further promotes the reconciliation of Indigenous communities and Canadian society through representation and diversity in Canada's legal system.

Pollution to Preservation: The Rise of Environmental Law

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By: Joel Thomas

Environmental law started as a critical field in response to the growing environmental impact of industrialization and the need for legal structures to prioritize both ecological and human health. The concept of “polluter pays”, which originated in the 1970s from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), has been the founding principle that has been holding polluters financially responsible for the damages they have caused and therefore prompting industries to adopt cleaner practices (OECD, 2008). This approach underscores a significant shift towards accountability in environmental policy, reflecting society's acknowledgment that those who harm the environment must carry the cost of rectifying their actions and this should not fall into the hands of the public or the future generations.

Environmental law had developed through key areas, including air pollution control and climate change mitigation. Air quality laws have sought to curb emission from industrial sources and vehicles, a priority following the severe health impacts of pollution seen in major industrial cities. The U.S Clean Air Act of 1970 set a precedent by regulating pollutants such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides aiming to reduce the health risks and environmental degradation (United States, 1970). Today, these laws focus on limiting greenhouse gas emission and promoting adaptation strategies such as the Paris Agreement which is a landmark international treaty which shows us the global cooperation on climate action, aiming to reduce global warming and its subsequent impact (UNFCCC, 2015).



The effective enforcement of environmental laws relies on national agencies and international cooperation, such as the U.S Environmental Protection Agency. Their role towards enforcing penalties and supporting sustainable development goals is one that needs a crucial effect on today's environment. International treaties, like the Paris agreement, plays a crucial role by creating frameworks through which countries commit to shared targets and encouraging a unified global approach towards environmental protection (UNFCCC, 2015). As environmental issues continue to escalate, environmental law will remain important as it creates a medium to enforce and collaborate to address and challenge these complex issues.



OECD (2008). The Polluter Pays Principle: Definition, Analysis, Implementation. OECD Publishing, Paris <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264044845-en>.

United States (1970). Clean Air Act. U.S. Government. <https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-clean-air-act>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2015). Paris Agreement. UNFCCC. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement>



CATCHING UP WITH *Alumni*

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NAFEESA'S PATH FOLLOWING LAW & SOCIETY AT YORK UNIVERSITY

Post grad, it would be a lie to say that I wasn't a little bit lost. Sometimes you have your life planned out, but the real world teaches you that things do not work at your own timing, or necessarily in the way that you assume it will. While I had the intentions of attending law school, I recently came to the profound conclusion that becoming a lawyer is not something that I want anymore. Thus, I am furthering my career by entering a UX/UI program so that I may become a UX writer and/or researcher someday. As that is happening, I am currently working at Pearson International Airport as a beauty advisor for Duty Free- expanding on my once hobby and interest in makeup as a under graduate student when I was in attendance at York University.



Nafeesa Khan
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Class of 2023

ADVICE FROM EXPERIENCE

Always do your readings! Don't assume that you can pretend your way through lectures and seminars. Many of your essays will be based on your ability to incorporate core theories and concepts from the authors your professors cover. I recommend making a timetable or schedule for what day of the week to do these readings so yo won't loose track of them. Moreover, don't be afraid to ask questions when you don't understand something. A lot of your professors want you to succeed. Always remember, having notes on your essays and papers from your profs and TA's should not be viewed in a negative light. Try and understand what they want from you in the future, and trust me, it will help you improve your writing.

SPECIFICS FOR STUDENTS

The most valuable thing I learnt during my time as a LASO student is time management and written/oral communication. With many research essays in my final years -all due around the same time, and all long and extensive- making a strict schedule and sticking with it has allowed me to be more organized. I have learnt how to prioritize, be time efficient, and work under pressure more effectively this way. In addition, analyzing readings and writing in a professional and eloquent way has allowed me to be better at communicating with various people in different settings. I have learnt how to view politics intellectually, and have utilized my writing abilities to land me many writing based roles

OTHER COMMENTS?

You are your only competition. Never strive for perfection in this program, but to intellectually grow alongside your peers with the guidance of amazing professors and TA's. Be prepared for many readings, and a thorough understanding of marginalized communities through a legal lens!

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Achievements

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Santiago Chin Aleman

Santiago began his university journey in September 2023, majoring in Sociology at York University. In the winter semester, he applied to the Law and Society's Student Association during the winter semester, where he would work his way from a 1st year representative all the way to a Student Experience Vice President. This achievement has allowed him to foster a better environment for all students interested in law and to move forward the interests of the Law and Society Student Association.





LAW SCHOOL

Trivia



Test your knowledge on Canadian law school!

1. Which Canadian law school is the oldest in Canada?

- a) University of Toronto Faculty of Law
- b) Dalhousie University Schulich School of law
- c) University of Alberta Faculty of Law
- d) Western Law

2. When was that law school founded?

- a) 1924
- b) 1850
- c) 1883
- d) 1903

3. Which province does NOT currently have a law school

- a) Manitoba
- b) Prince Edward Island
- c) British Columbia
- d) Saskatchewan

4. How long does it take to complete a Juris Doctor (JD) degree in Canada

- a) 1
- b) 2
- c) 3
- d) 4

5. What is the name of the national exam that Canadian law graduates must pass to practice law?

- a) AILT
- b) SAT
- c) Bar Exam
- d) LSAT

6. What law school has the most Supreme Court of Canada Judges?

- a) McGill Faculty of Law
- b) Osgoode Hall Law School
- c) Uoft Faculty of Law
- d) uOttawa common law

7. Which is Canada's most recently founded Law School?

- a) UQO
- b) Lincoln Alexander School of Law
- c) Lakehead Bora Laskin Faculty of Law
- d) Thompson River U Faculty of Law

8. When was that law school founded? (2011)

- a) 2002
- b) 2005
- c) 1996
- d) 2011

9. How many law Schools are currently in Canada? (24)

- a) 24
- b) 15
- c) 19
- d) 22

10. When was Osgoode Hall law school founded?

- a) 1945
- b) 1889
- c) 1990
- d) 1923

How well did you think you did?
Check the bottom of the newsletter to see the answers!



LAW SCHOOL

Trivia Answers



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1. **Answer: a)** University of Toronto Faculty of Law
2. **Answer: c)** 1883
3. **Answer: b)** Prince Edward Island
4. **Answer: c)** 3
5. **Answer: c)** Bar Exam
6. **Answer: a)** McGill Faculty of Law
7. **Answer: d)** Thompson River U Faculty of Law
8. **Answer: d)** 2011
9. **Answer: a)** 24
10. **Answer: b)** 1889