ALUMNI MAGAZINE 2024

PETER A. ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW

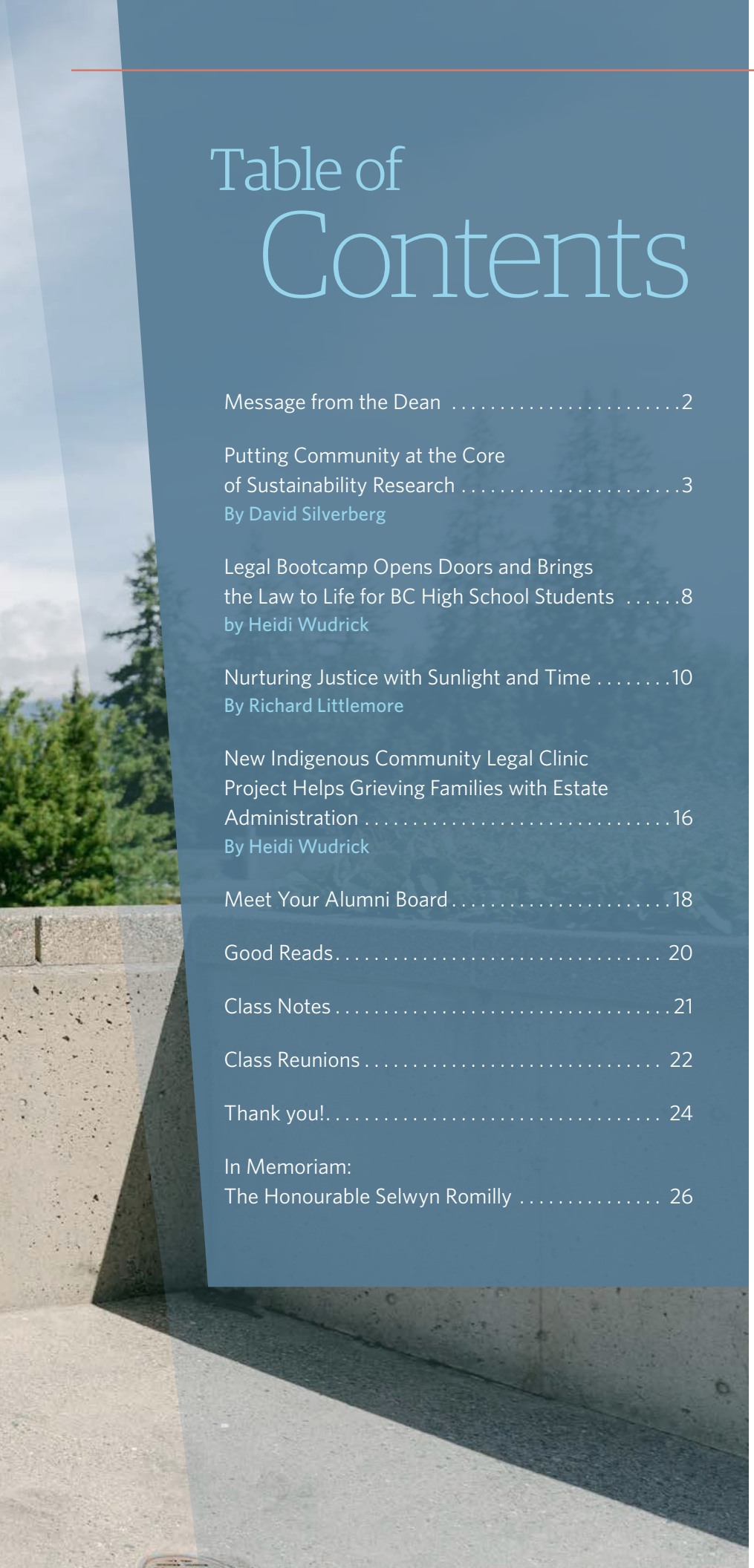
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Nurturing justice with **sunlight** & **time**

Allard faculty and alumni working to get the best from Canada's Commissions of Inquiry

Dr. Kim Stanton (LLB '99)
Commissioner to the Mass Casualty Commission

Allard Law Class of 2024 graduate celebrating above the UBC Rose Garden.



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Message from the Dean

THIS EDITION OF THE ALLARD LAW ALUMNI MAGAZINE highlights the many connections between the law school and the communities we live and work in. Working against traditional conceptions of the university as an ivory tower separated from real-world impact and results, our professors are engaging in meaningful community-based research, here in British Columbia, across Canada and internationally. Our faculty teach students about community advocacy and impact, bring the community into the law school and advise clients in the communities they live in. Beginning on the next page, you'll learn about some of the important community-based research and teaching that our faculty are engaged in.

Many of our alumni are equally committed to helping train and mentor the next generation of legal professionals and using their skills to build stronger communities. Our cover story shows how our alumni and faculty have worked together to investigate and find solutions to address complex social and political challenges through Canada's Commissions of Inquiry (page 10). On the back cover, we honour the legacy of the Hon. Selwyn Romilly, one of the first Black graduates of the law school, a central figure in the development of law in British Columbia and an energetic and committed mentor within the Black legal community. In this issue, you'll also learn how one alum came to help lead the Vancouver Summer Mentorship Society's Legal Bootcamp, giving high school students the opportunity to learn about the legal profession (page 8).

Our alumni give back in many other ways. You're connecting with our students through programs including the CBA Mentorship Program and the Lawyer Wellbeing Mentor Program, as guest speakers at the law school, and more informally through our student–alumni dinner program. As moot coaches and judges, you're helping our students reach their full potential in moot court and as future advocates. And before the start of each academic year, many of you have taken the time to write personalized cards welcoming each of our 200 incoming 1L students.

Our alumni are also dedicated to maintaining strong connections with one another, taking the initiative to organize milestone reunions (page 22) and to connect with one another at law school and alumni events throughout the year. Our Allard Law Alumni Association board members help further strengthen these connections — and in this issue, you'll also have the chance to meet our four newest board members (page 18).

Our law school has more than 11,000 alumni, and I continue to be thankful for all of your many contributions and connections to Allard Law. You have donated your time, expertise, wisdom and money so that our students can learn and benefit from many of the same opportunities that you enjoyed during your time as a law student — and so that we can create new programming and support that further enrich the law school experience.

For those of you who have not yet had the opportunity to engage with the law school since joining our alumni community, I hope learning more about the ways alumni are remaining connected with the law school and giving back to the Allard Law community sparks an interest. I'm also eager to learn how we can create even more avenues for alumni to connect with the school.

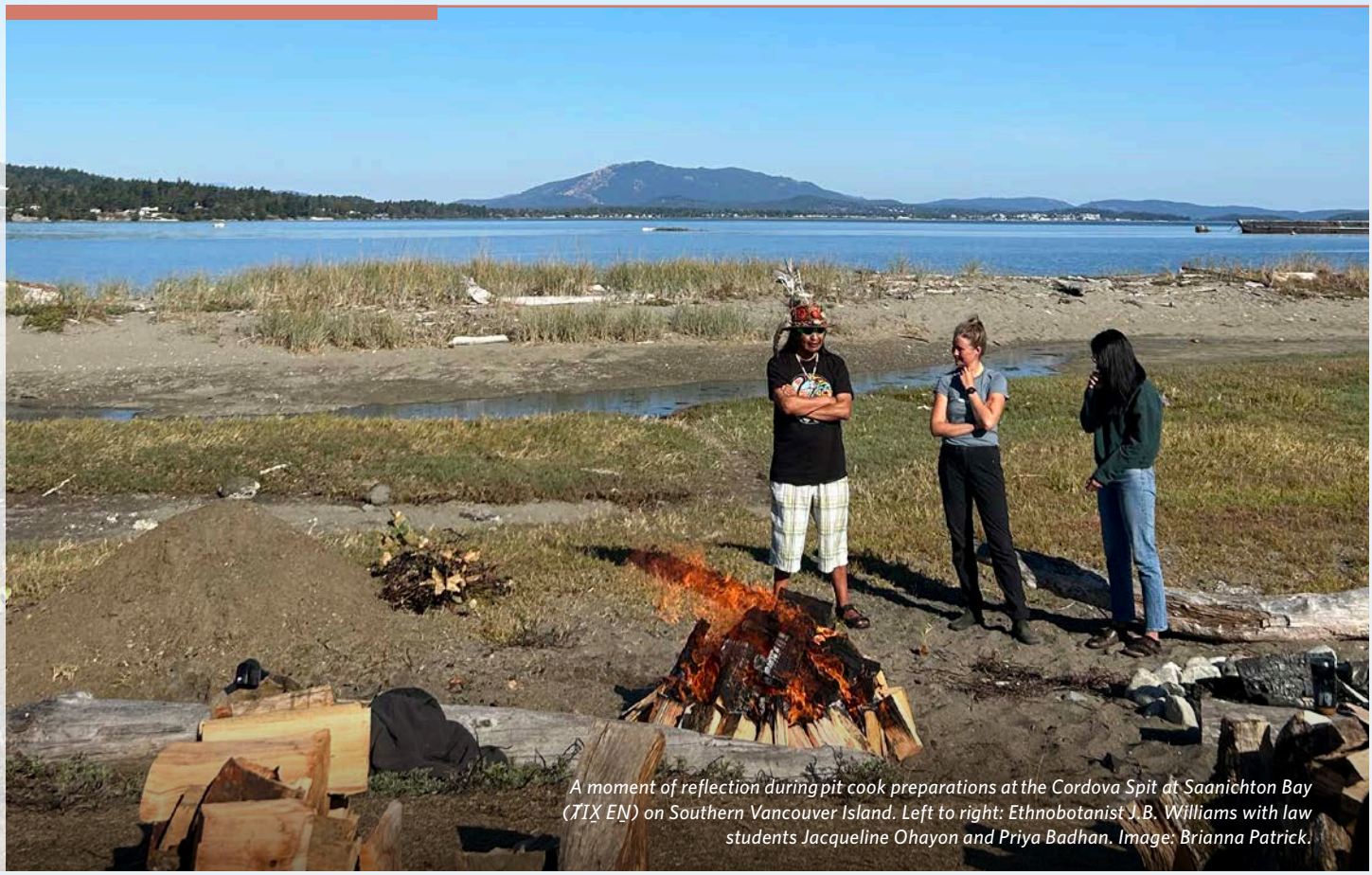
I'm proud of the breadth and depth of the law school's community connections, and I thank all of our alumni who help make these connections possible.

NGAI PINDELL
Dean, Peter A. Allard School of Law

Putting Community at the Core of Sustainability Research

BY DAVID SILVERBERG

ĆELÁNENEŁ field course students on Pender Island (SḎAYES). Image: Kyra McGovern.



A moment of reflection during pit cook preparations at the Cordova Spit at Saanichton Bay (TIX̱ EN̲) on Southern Vancouver Island. Left to right: Ethnobotanist J.B. Williams with law students Jacqueline Ohayon and Priya Badhan. Image: Brianna Patrick.

DR. JUDITH SAYERS, CM (LLB '81), president of the Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council on Vancouver Island, sees a disconnect between what Indigenous communities need to know about projects taking place on their land and how to properly assess their impact. That's because Indigenous communities often do not have the resources to fully assess the economic, environmental and cultural effects of, say, a forest-clearing project before the chainsaws begin whirring.

"It's a huge job to assess these projects," says Sayers, "and for so long the provincial government has come to Indigenous communities with idiotic consultations, and Indigenous territory leaders may not have the dollars or expertise to really look at them closely."

That frustration led Sayers to become a senior advisor to the Balance Co-Lab: Collaboration for Sustainable Communities, a new initiative supported by several Allard Law professors that seeks to build out a replicable model for the assessment of projects taking place on Indigenous land in BC.

Community-based research is at the centre of this and other initiatives by Allard Law faculty who are forging deeper relationships with Indigenous leaders and with sustainability-focused community organizations. In community-based research, it's the community members, rather than the researchers, who are setting the agenda. Community involvement throughout the research project is also key. Through these collaborations, these projects instigate knowledge gathering, empower communities and give students a holistic look at different kinds of legal structures they may not have encountered otherwise.

Cultivating community connections

Allard Law Professor Dr. Robert Clifford wants his students to recognize the many ways Indigenous law connects to the land they live on. "When we think about the state of the climate crisis and what continues to propel and entrench that vast harm, we need to realize that Western law doesn't have all the answers, and we can look at Indigenous systems that engaged with the land and water for thousands of years," says Clifford, who teaches the biennial course ĆELÁN̲ENEŁ: A Field Course in the Re-emergence of W̱SÁNEĆ Law.

A partnership between Allard Law and the University of Victoria Faculty of Law, the course gives Allard Law students the opportunity to experience immersive, land-based learning on W̱SÁNEĆ territory, on and around the Saanich Peninsula of Vancouver Island. Students spend days hiking through mountains and along rivers as they develop relationships with Indigenous community members to learn more about W̱SÁNEĆ legal structures and community projects they can help support.

Indigenous knowledge is shared in a number of different ways, says Clifford, who is a member of the W̱SÁNEĆ nation. "To begin, the first month of the course is spent on the land learning from elders and knowledge-holders about W̱SÁNEĆ law, culture and connections with place.

Dr. Robert Clifford

> "[W]e need to realize that Western law doesn't have all the answers, and we can look at Indigenous systems that engaged with the land and water for thousands of years."
>
> *Dr. Robert Clifford*

In this way, students receive an intensive introduction to W̱SÁNEĆ knowledge from a variety of different voices and perspectives," he says.

"Students seek to understand, advocate for and uphold W̱SÁNEĆ perspectives in any way they can. In that way, they try to give voice to the W̱SÁNEĆ communities and advocate for their interests," Clifford says. "And with laws predating Canadian law, these Indigenous communities have a lot to teach students."

With immersive learning as a base, students are ready to dive into working on land-based projects. In one recent project, students collaborated with the W̱SÁNEĆ Leadership Council on their QENTOL, YEN W̱SÁNEĆ Marine Guardians Program, which aims to restore the relationship between the orcas and the W̱SÁNEĆ people and to help orcas thrive. Students monitored rivers, such as Goldstream, and throughout the project developed a stronger understanding of the importance of protecting orcas in the region.

That project inspired students to help grow and support the work of "a guardianship program that addresses the community's interests and concerns to do more to protect the killer whales," says Clifford.

"Each of those projects is identified in consultation with the W̱SÁNEĆ community and considered important and ongoing work," Clifford notes. And each project is about putting W̱SÁNEĆ law into action and furthering W̱SÁNEĆ governance.

For Brianna Patrick, an Allard Law student from Roseau River First Nation in Manitoba, the biggest takeaway from the course is how intertwined Indigenous law is with everyday life — and how critical it is to understand the context behind Indigenous laws. She cites the example of learning about "how to treat salmon with respect in Indigenous territories due to the creation story of the salmon and how it was brought to the people there" — and that "there is a relationship between everything in Indigenous communities."

Patrick adds that anyone coming from outside of those communities needs to do more than "just point to Indigenous laws written on documents. They need to know everything else about the context of why a certain law matters."

ĆELÁṈENEŁ is meant to be reciprocal, Clifford says. "Students are engaged in land-based learning with elders and knowledge-holders to learn more about Indigenous laws and history, and W̱SÁNEĆ communities benefit by that learning being translated on the ground to assist with projects important to them," he notes.

Patrick echoes Clifford, saying, "What I'm getting from the course is not something I can learn in the classroom. Going forward in my career I want to have a better understanding of what it means to engage with Indigenous communities and how their law is so different from what I know about Western law."

Partnership addresses Indigenous community members' needs

ĆELÁṈENEŁ puts the W̱SÁNEĆ community in the driver's seat — it focuses on projects that are critical to the community within the context of W̱SÁNEĆ laws and territory. The Co-Lab Project offers a different model of community-based research, but many of the aims are similar.

In this unique initiative, project leaders will work with six Indigenous communities, and they have engaged with two BC nations so far: the Toquaht and the T'Sou-ke Nations.

Johnny Mack, assistant professor at Allard Law, is one of the project co-applicants, and has a personal connection to the Balance Co-Lab's mission. Hailing from the Toquaht Nation, Mack says he finds it fulfilling to be involved in a budding initiative that aims to "promote sustainability in that community and


Johnny Mack

develop new forms of economic development that are more appropriate for First Nations needs — and offer them expertise and resources in order to help them preserve their culture and also find ways to those development goals."

He adds: "The Toquaht, like many other First Nations, wanted to develop responsibly, in a way that prioritized local community wellbeing and is informed by Toquaht cultural values."

Strengthened with $2.5 million in funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Partnership Grant, the initiative will evaluate the potential influence of project proposals by looking at four areas of well-being: economic, environmental, cultural and community.

> "The Co-Lab gives students the opportunity they might not often have in thinking about legal traditions and learning from the communities themselves — beyond firm or court work."
> *Johnny Mack*

The first phase involves scoping out potential projects to assess which affect T'Sou-ke Nation communities. Each project will address issues that First Nations are often not very well equipped to undertake, says Mack. "Climate change is important to these communities, and so with monitoring environmental concerns, this collaboration will find ways to assist with issues that may require software, hardware and expertise available to universities," he says.

Other Allard Law professors involved in the initiative as collaborators include Andrea Hilland, KC (LLB '02, LLM '13), who is a member of the Nuxalk Nation, Dr. Carol Liao (LLB '03, LLM '10, PhD '16), Dr. Graham Reynolds and Dr. Stepan Wood. Mack notes that Allard Law students will also be folded into several approaches to working with Indigenous communities interested in building long-term sustainable solutions.

Similar to Clifford's ĆELÁN̓ENEŁ, Mack says the Balance Co-Lab will give students a rare glimpse into the nuances of Indigenous law while assisting First Nations "with advancing their own goals," adding that "the Co-Lab gives students the opportunity they might not often have in thinking about legal traditions and learning from the communities themselves — beyond firm or court work."

Mack says the project is international in its foundation. Civil engineer and environmentalist Kēpa Morgan, who has long blended environmental innovations with modern science and Indigenous knowledge, has applied the sustainability assessment systems model with Māori partners in New Zealand to figure out the best approach to environmental remediation after the largest maritime disaster in the country's history, the wreck of the MV *Rena* in 2011. The Toquaht Nation has also used the system to analyze the impact of all of its own economic development efforts since 2018.

Sayers, who is also an adjunct professor with the Gustavson School of Business and the School of Environmental Studies at UVic, is optimistic that the Co-Lab's assessment tools will have a far-reaching impact thanks to on-the-ground collaborations between professors, students and Indigenous community members.

"When we have someone like Johnny involved, it gives everything more credibility since he has roots in the land and in the community he is serving," Sayers says. "Learning more about a proposed project's effect on, say, revenue and jobs will give us a framework that we can bring to other proposals down the road, and the beauty of it all is that First Nations communities can decide what's important to them."

Dr. Hassan Ahmad

In a landmark case, seven young climate activists sued the Ontario government over weakened greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. Back row: Shelby Gagnon and Madison Dyck. Middle row: Beze Gray, Sophia Mathur and Shaelyn Wabegijig. Front row: Zoë Keary-Matzner and Alex Neufeldt. Image: Tilly Nelson. Set design Kendra Martyn & Kira Evenson.

A precedent in climate change litigation

Empowering community groups to fight climate change and holding corporations accountable are key motivations for Allard Law Professor Dr. Hassan Ahmad.

Ahmad is passionate about combatting the "harm that corporations put forth into the world that affects all of us" through his research and advocacy work. An expert on climate change litigation in Canada, he represented Citizens for Public Justice, a grassroots environmental justice NGO, at the Ontario Court of Appeal in the hearing in *Mathur v. Ontario* in January 2024.

The case was first before the courts in November 2019, when a group of seven youths sued Ontario Premier Doug Ford's government for replacing the province's previous greenhouse gas emissions reduction target with a weaker objective. *Mathur* made history in 2023 when a judge ruled — for the first time in Canada — that courts can consider whether a government's response to climate change policies infringes upon human rights.

In a court presided over by Justice Marie-Andrée Vermette, Ontario argued that the Province's contributions to global emissions were relatively low.

Vermette slapped down this argument and noted that climate change is a global problem that requires collective action. Still, the court held that Ontario's watered-down climate target failed to violate the right to life, security of the person or equality under Sections 7 and 15 of the Charter.

The recent appeal sought to reverse that decision, with Ahmad representing Citizens for Public Justice, one of a dozen interveners involved in the case. The court has yet to issue its ruling.

Ahmad says he was impressed with the *Mathur* appellants' creative arguments. "They want a return to what the government was previously doing," he says. "Typically, Charter arguments don't involve the court forcing the government to do something, to pass legislation. We elect politicians and leave them to enact laws."

At the hearing, Ahmad argued that Section 7 of the Charter — that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the person — should include an appreciation of the public trust doctrine, which holds that certain natural resources are so vital that the government is obligated to protect and preserve them for public use, now and in the future.

Ahmad draws a link between this case and what he can bring to the classroom in his Torts course, among others: "*Mathur* teaches students about the judiciary's limits in adjudicating what would largely be seen as policy issues that affect a broad swath of society. Traditionally, courts would be reticent to hear such cases. Climate change litigation, like *Mathur*, is again testing those boundaries."

Maryo Wahba, climate justice policy analyst and communications coordinator at Citizens for Public Justice, says Ahmad's involvement lends legitimacy and power to his organization's efforts to give a voice to the community of Canadians concerned about climate change. "We are really appreciative of using a legal strategy as a way for advocating for the climate," he adds, "and the legal expertise Hassan [Ahmad] brings to our intervention is invaluable."

> "*Mathur* teaches students about the judiciary's limits in adjudicating what would largely be seen as policy issues that affect a broad swath of society. Climate change litigation, like *Mathur*, is testing those boundaries."
>
> *Dr. Hassan Ahmad*

Legal Bootcamp students gather in front of the House Post of qiyəpleɬəx^{w} (Capilano), outside Allard Hall.

Legal Bootcamp Opens Doors and Brings the Law to Life for BC High School Students

BY HEIDI WUDRICK

SHORTLY BEFORE RANA HAZARAT (JD '17) was born, her family fled Afghanistan for the United States. After being denied asylum in the US, Hazarat and her family came to Canada, where they were eventually accepted as refugees, after four long years of waiting.

"My dad was the only provider of a family of eight, and we often had to rely on income assistance," Hazarat says. "I knew that if I was going to university, I'd have to figure out how to pay for it on my own. Not because my parents didn't want to, but they just couldn't afford it."

Today, Hazarat is one of the directors of the Vancouver Summer Mentorship Society, who for the past 12 years have brought BC high school students to Allard Hall every spring for their Legal Bootcamp. Developed by friends and lawyers Alon Mizrahi, Isaac Filaté and Karenna Williams, this free, week-long bootcamp provides an intro to law school and the legal profession. Hazarat first joined the team as a student coordinator while she was still studying at Allard Law.

Students who attend the bootcamp typically have top marks and are curious about law, but most have also faced challenges, says Hazarat. One recent bootcamp grad maintained straight A's throughout high school, despite having to work long hours to support her grandmother.

"I can't emphasize how amazing and resilient these students are. We need their unique perspectives and lived experiences in the courtroom," Hazarat says.

Rana Hazarat (front, left), Alon Mizrahi (middle, left) and student coordinator Whitney Morrison (front, right) with Legal Bootcamp students in 2023.

Adjunct Professor Jon Festinger, KC, delivering a lecture to Legal Bootcamp students.

The path to law school wasn't certain for any of the program's organizers. Each of them makes a point of talking with students about their own families' stories, emphasizing that financial obstacles can be overcome. "My story, Alon's story, Isaac's story and Karenna's story — each of us has something about our background that resonates with the students," adds Hazarat.

But encouraging students to consider a legal career is not the program's only objective.

"The goal isn't to make everyone a lawyer," says bootcamp co-founder Mizrahi. Instead, the main thing he wants students to take away from the program is that they have the ability to achieve their goals.

"I'm trying to ensure that students who maybe aren't in the best social situations know about the opportunities that are available to them," he explains. "They may be the only one in their group of friends who is focused on school, and their friends probably don't even know just how well they're doing."

A crash course in law

Throughout the bootcamp, Allard Law professors and practising lawyers lecture on topics ranging from environmental to video game law. Mizrahi says that about half of Allard Law faculty have volunteered to speak at the bootcamp at some point over the years.

> "When you've helped to change a person's career choice, the doors that open will change the circumstances for their future family."
>
> *Alon Mizrahi*

"The professors give these 101 lectures with the same enthusiasm as when I was in law school," says Hazarat. "It makes me proud to be part of the Allard alumni community."

Professor Nikos Harris, KC (LLB '95) has lectured on wrongful conviction year after year since the program began. He says he comes back each year because students who don't already have connections to the profession are far less likely to consider it. "The program helps make sure large, diverse groups of students get an intensive introduction to the legal system and working as a lawyer," he adds.

Mentorship is another key part of the program. Each student is paired up with a practising lawyer, and the team strives to ask lawyers from a wide variety of backgrounds to lecture throughout the week.

"Students come up to each of the directors and say, 'It was so inspiring to see lawyers who look like me,'" says Hazarat. "I think seeing is believing for them."

Inspiring future lawyers

Since the bootcamp first launched in 2012, several bootcamp alumni have since gone on to law school. McMillan LLP Associate Navaneeth Ravichandran completed the bootcamp in 2015, as a grade 12 student at Vancouver Technical Secondary School. He was considering a career in law when he signed up, and the experience helped make up his mind.

"I hope people know how unique this program is," says Ravichandran. "Unless a child has a family member working in law — and most BIPOC immigrant families don't have this privilege — it's difficult to get any type of inroads in the industry. It's a program that has impacted lives."

At bootcamp, Ravichandran met Vancouver lawyer Chris Gear, then general counsel for the Vancouver Canucks. "I'm not sure if sports law is in the cards, but Chris convinced me it's an option. I found that so thrilling."

Inspired by stories like Ravichandran's, the team is committed to keeping the program going. "How do you judge success?" asks Mizrahi. "This one lawyer — what does that change mean for his or her life, family and the people around them? When you've helped to change a person's career choice, the doors that open will change the circumstances for their future family."

Dr. Kim Stanton (LLB '99), Commissioner to the Mass Casualty Commission

Image: Greg Samborski

Nurturing justice with **sunlight** and **time**

Allard Law alumni and faculty working to get the best from Canada's Commissions of Inquiry

BY RICHARD LITTLEMORE

IN AN OFTEN adversarial legal world, in which lawyers battle to assign fault, Commissions of Inquiry (royal and otherwise) can contrast as unusually collaborative and forward-facing processes — dedicated to fact-finding and clearing the air, but also committed to resolution and reform.

On a host of critical issues, such as Indigenous rights and governance, commissions at the federal and provincial levels have accelerated — or sometimes stalled — the march toward justice. A huge number have also attracted grumbling that their processes were little more than political distractions, producing doorstop reports that were rushed to the dustiest corner of the Parliamentary Library and left to rest, unimplemented and often unexamined.

Against this complicated history, Allard Law alumni and faculty have been recruited at multiple levels by several recent commissions, applying their skills, their insights and their advocacy not just to contribute to the commissions' successes, but also to reassure Canadians about the strengths, the potential and the demonstrable value of these wide-ranging legal mechanisms.

A leading voice in this group is Allard Law alum Dr. Kim Stanton (LLB '99), who sat as one of three commissioners on the Mass Casualty Commission, the public inquiry into the April 2020 shooting deaths of 22 people in Nova Scotia.

"Commissions are more than just the reports they produce," Stanton says. First, they are by definition inquisitorial, providing a broad legal mechanism by which to investigate and illuminate issues of critical public concern. The Mass Casualty Commission, jointly appointed by the federal and provincial governments, had the authority to subpoena documents and require the cooperation of witnesses at all levels of government, as well as in the federally mandated RCMP. It's unlikely that any other process could have achieved such a comprehensive understanding of what occurred in the 13-hour shooting rampage, what contributed to it, and what might be done, systemically, to prevent such a thing from occurring again.

> "[Commissions] produce an incontrovertible record — a factual record — after which, what happened cannot be denied." *Dr. Kim Stanton*

Convoy protesters face police officers on foot and horseback near the truck blockade in Ottawa in February 2022. Image: The Canadian Press

Stanton also notes that commissions are by nature public. They initiate research and investigations, and they hold hearings at which they receive and reveal information and evidence. Stanton says that on any number of issues — including some that are low profile or poorly understood — "they present an opportunity for the public to become aware." Even aside from making recommendations, she says, "[Commissions] produce an incontrovertible record — a factual record — after which, what happened cannot be denied."

This is an aspect of particular interest to Stanton, who is also the author of *Reconciling Truths: Reimagining Public Inquiries in Canada*, on the role and implications of inquiries such as Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (2008–2015) and the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (2016–2019), which were both instrumental in confirming and calling public attention to incidents in Canadian history that had often been ignored or denied.

Getting matters of national interest onto the public record was also a crucial function of the Public Order Emergency Commission (POEC). The Commission was triggered in February 2022, when the Trudeau government declared a national emergency to manage the so-called Freedom Convoy's occupation of downtown Ottawa, the blockades of Canada/US border crossings, and other protests and obstructions across the country.

Allard Law Professor Dr. Jocelyn Stacey, one of seven members of the commission's Research Council, says the POEC was unique, and uniquely successful, because rather than having to wait until a government is compelled by circumstances to call a commission, as is usually the case, the Emergencies Act requires that a Commission of Inquiry be completed within a year of any emergency declaration. So the government knew, even as it began contemplating using emergency powers, that all of its decisions and actions would be subject to full public scrutiny. In that way, Stacey says, this particular commission had an effect even before it was formed. "It was a good example how to ensure public scrutiny of the exceptional use of emergency powers, in a comprehensive and time-sensitive manner," she says.

Paul Champ (LLB '99), an Allard alum and Ottawa litigator focused on human rights, employment, labour and constitutional law, says the POEC hearings, which began in October 2022, were

By the end of the Public Order Emergency Commission hearings, the public had access to more than **300 hours of recorded testimony, thousands of pages of transcripts** and approximately **9,000 exhibits.**

Source: Report of the Public Inquiry into the 2022 Public Order Emergency (Volume 4: Process and Appendices)

Published in February 2023, the Public Order Emergency Commission's report made 56 recommendations, touching on areas including policing, federal intelligence collection and coordination and reforms to the Emergencies Act. Image: The Canadian Press

particularly welcome among those who had been most directly affected by the long and noisy protest. Champ won standing before the Commission to represent a coalition of Ottawa residents and businesses, all of whom were "looking to get on the record the degree to which the convoy protest was anarchic — a breakdown at all levels."

"The process says a lot about Canada," [Champ] observes, pointing particularly to the willing participation of the convoy organizers, whom he describes as members of "an anti-authoritarian group with extreme political views" who nevertheless "still felt this was a process they could trust."

So, Champ says, the hearings, in which the level of anarchy was extensively recorded, "were incredibly cathartic for the people of Ottawa." On days he could be seen cross-examining witnesses in the televised sessions, he says, "Strangers would hail me in the street and say, 'You're Paul Champ! Can I buy you a coffee?'"

Champ, who is accustomed to the adversarial nature of most court proceedings, says he was also impressed by the credibility and collegiality of the POEC. "The process says a lot about Canada," he observes, pointing particularly to the willing participation of the convoy organizers, whom he describes as members of "an anti-authoritarian group with extreme political views" who nevertheless "still felt this was a process they could trust."

Champ also reports what he describes as "a kind of Stockholm syndrome among the lawyers," whomever they were representing. He says that he and the convoy organizers' lawyers would sometimes eat lunch or dinner together and would collaborate when their interests aligned. "We all felt we were working together to tell the story."

In a third example, the Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia, the key function of fact-finding was a particularly prominent feature — and ultimately a huge public benefit. Allard Law alum and former Associate Chief Justice of the BC Supreme Court the Honourable Austin Cullen, KC (LLB '75) was appointed Commissioner in 2019. He credits some early finders of fact with providing inspiration for the Commission in the first place, pointing in particular to some "canny and effective reporters" — especially Sam Cooper, of *The Province* newspaper and later Global TV — who were tireless in bringing the issue to light.

Cooper and others had produced a steady string of stories on people arriving in BC casinos with hockey bags full of cash, only to gamble, lose a little, and then leave at the end of the night with a cashier's cheque — the original dollars cleansed of any previous association. Because a significant amount of the casinos' profits were going directly into government coffers, Justice Cullen says there was an implication that government ministers might have been turning a blind eye to obvious cash-washing — and to any predicate crimes. No such association was ever proven, but, Justice Cullen says, "A concern about corruption is a good reason to have a commission." He adds that it was "enormously useful to have a thorough

Commissioner Austin Cullen (LLB '75) listens to introductions before opening statements at the Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia, in Vancouver, on February 24, 2020.
Image: The Canadian Press

and transparent airing. It triggered a lot of useful discussions."

Justice Cullen says that the Commission was also well informed by two major *Dirty Money* reports by Allard alum and current President of the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform Dr. Peter German, KC (LLM '90). These had been commissioned, originally confidentially, by the BC Attorney General, and they had already revealed the likely impact that money laundering was having on such things as real estate, luxury vehicles, professional services and horse racing. During the Commission's operations, it also became clear that some of the money was connected directly to the importation and sale of drugs such as fentanyl — a crime that was more profitable to commit precisely because that income could be washed and reused.

While Commission of Inquiry veterans point out the value of deep investigation and wide public disclosure, that doesn't mean they are less than determined to bring full effect to the ultimate opportunity — to use commission findings and recommendations to change policy positively for the future.

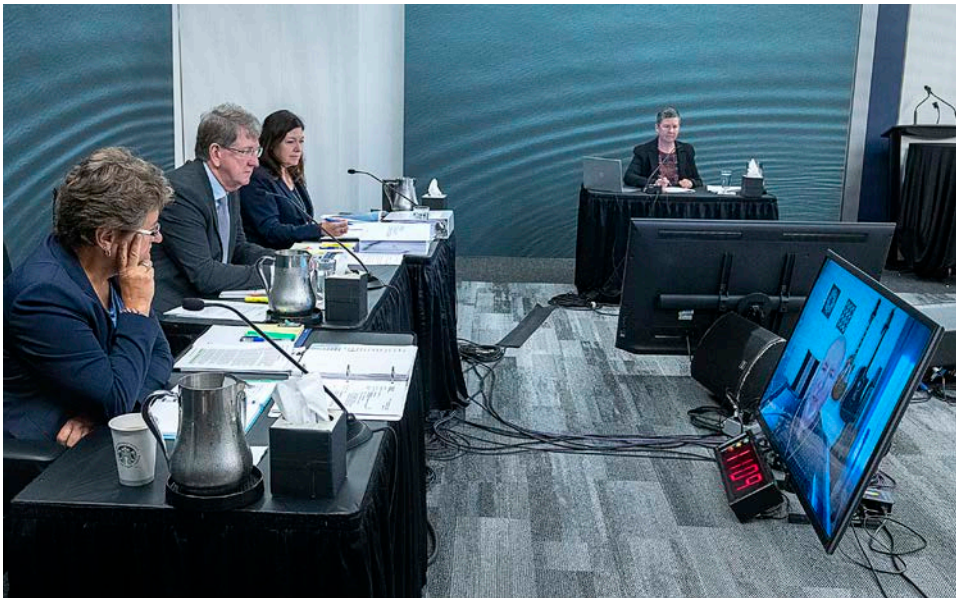
Allard Law Professor and alum Dr. Emma Cunliffe (LLM '03, PhD '09) worked with Stanton on the Mass Casualty Commission as its Director of Research and Policy, charged with building a knowledge base on which the Commission could make novel, pragmatic recommendations with the best chance of actually being implemented. Cunliffe says, "We wanted to be sure [the Commission] was not a box-checking exercise that would be quickly shelved."

With help from a team including Emma Ronsley (JD '18), an Arvay Finlay litigator who had also worked as Cunliffe's research assistant during her studies at Allard, they read widely among reports from previous inquiries, looking for what had been recommended, what had been implemented, what had *not* been implemented — and then trying to determine why not. They then worked to fill knowledge gaps, through documentary research, by commissioning expert reports and by running public roundtables at which experts and community members could discuss key issues. Other Allard Law professors contributed their expertise to the research and policy work of the Commission, including Dr. Benjamin Goold, Isabel Grant and the Honourable Lynn Smith, OC, KC (LLB '73).

Ronsley says that working with the Commission, already an honour for someone who had only been called to the bar earlier the same year (2020), was exciting for its potential. She says that while litigation is backward looking — you narrowly define an issue, establish liability and prove damages — commissions are forward looking: "They are oriented toward finding the truth and sharing that finding with the public, and then looking to the future to determine how to make it better — something you rarely do in litigation."

That said, Ronsley is also pragmatic about the prospects of quick change. The Mass Casualty Commission focused on a host of topics, including access to arms, policing, mental health and gender-based and intimate-partner violence. Ronsley says, "These are deep-seated systemic issues — things that will require a lot of will and effort. You can't solve gender-based violence with a one-off training course."

Stanton finds a degree of hope in that practical, long-term perspective. She says, "It's not just a matter of getting recommendations implemented immediately. It's an opportunity to shift the narrative over time." As an example, Stanton points to the impact of Indian Residential Schools, a topic that was not just ignored but actively avoided through much of the last century. That started to change in the 1970s, when the late Justice



Commissioners Leanne Fitch, the Honourable J. Michael MacDonald and Dr. Kim Stanton, along with research director Dr. Emma Cunliffe (left to right), conduct a virtual session on contemporary community policing, safety and well being at the Mass Casualty Commission inquiry.
Image: The Canadian Press.

Allard Law Professor and alum Dr. Emma Cunliffe (LLM '03, PhD '09) served as the Mass Casualty Commission's Director of Research and Policy.

> "It's up to government to implement the recommendations or risk seeing history repeat itself."
> *Dr. Kim Stanton*

(and Allard alum) Thomas Berger, OC, OBC, QC (LLB '56) included a paragraph on the subject in his commission report from the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry. Twenty years later, the report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples included a full chapter on the subject, and by the early 2000s, in the midst of settlement suits involving the federal government and the Catholic Church, the issue was a forcing factor for the establishment of the 2008–2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

Stanton says, "It's a 40-year arc, in which the public starts to understand something that is not easy to contemplate or take in. But if you hear it enough, you begin to see a shift." You also better understand "how commissions contribute to social justice over time."

That said, commissioners, researchers and legal staff alike still wait anxiously for action on reports already filed. Justice Cullen, for example, points out that "criminologists have reported that $40 billion a year is laundered in Canada," and given what he learned during his own commission, "that seems to fall within a reasonable range." So, he is very keen to see uptake on one of his principal recommendations, the establishment of an anti-money-laundering commission — an independent office of the legislature designed to monitor the effectiveness of anti-money-laundering efforts, to identify emerging areas of vulnerability, and to work with enforcement bodies to limit the damage.

Stanton, too, mixes the practicality of her patient perspective with a different and more urgent kind of pragmatism. Looking at her own commission, she says, "It's up to government to implement the recommendations or risk seeing history repeat itself." There's no question that the issues are complex and that, even after an excellent process, they resist solutions. And the Mass Casualty Commission's recommendations were wide ranging: "It's expensive to implement," she says, "but more expensive not to."

New **Indigenous Community Legal Clinic** Project Helps Grieving Families with Estate Administration

Legal Services Director Salima Samnani on the Grant of Probate Applications Project and the ICLC's community impact.

BY HEIDI WUDRICK

LOCATED IN THE heart of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, the Indigenous Community Legal Clinic (ICLC) is dedicated to helping meet the needs of everyone who steps through its doors, says ICLC Legal Services Director and Allard Law lecturer Salima Samnani. It's that ethos that inspired the ICLC team to begin working with Indigenous families who had lost a loved one, to help them navigate the complexities of estate administration.

The Clinic's new Grant of Probate Applications Project, funded by the Law Foundation of British Columbia, is making it easier for Indigenous families to gain access to funds that are owed to them, including class action settlements that were awarded to now-deceased survivors of residential schools.

Here, Samnani reflects on the ICLC's new project and the Clinic's broader impact.

Allard Law students at the Indigenous Community Legal Clinic in Vancouver.

Images: Macy Yap


Salima Samnani

What inspired the ICLC's new Grant of Probate Applications Project?

Samnani: We see a lot of families whose loved ones have passed away without a will, and the family has nowhere to turn to navigate the very complex and expensive process of applying for a grant of probate, which is what allows someone to be named an executor.
The ICLC has also been involved in helping survivors and their families apply for compensation for the horrors they suffered in residential school, day school and the Sixties Scoop. Many of these individuals passed away during the process, and when the compensation came through, it got stuck in limbo. Families had cheques they could not deposit or money that was not being released to them. Creating an estates program felt like a natural extension of our work. There are very few places in Vancouver that offer free estate services to the Indigenous community.

How have Allard Law students been involved?

Samnani: Students work with families to get a grant of probate. Applying for a grant of probate is complex and finicky, so from a legal perspective, students learn how to navigate complex Supreme Court legal paperwork and understand how to work with registries.
On a human note, students get to work with clients who educate them on the very worst parts of colonization. And students learn the value of being trauma informed and compassionate when working with clients.

How would you describe the impact of the Grant of Probate Applications Project and the ICLC's broader work?

Samnani: Many of the folks who come to us are distraught and do not feel safe or have the funds to retain a lawyer. The Grant of Probate Applications Project has made it so much easier for families to finally access the compensation they are owed.

Beyond this one project, the Clinic has had an indelible impact on students and the Indigenous community. Allard students consistently report that the ICLC was one of their best law school experiences because it's where they came into themselves as future lawyers and saw how justice unfolds in complex ways.

Clients say the ICLC is one of the few safe spaces where they always feel welcome, heard and championed. We do not turn anyone away from our doors. Everyone leaves with something, even if it's a cup of coffee and a compassionate conversation. We offer complex legal help in novel areas of law, and that's a unique service in the DTES.

Are you interested in supporting the ICLC's Grant of Probate Applications Project? Alumni who are experienced estate lawyers and who are available to answer students' questions or help troubleshoot more complex legal issues are warmly invited to get in touch: iclc@allard.ubc.ca.

Meet Your Alumni Board

Welcome to our Newest Board Members

Meet the four newest members of your Allard Law Alumni Association's Board of Directors. They took the time to share a bit about who they are and why they're excited to join the Board.

Members of the Allard Law Alumni Association Board of Directors. Front row, left to right: Nassim Baharian, JoAnne Barnum, Jessica Burke, Phebe Chan, Özge Yazar, Alexander Bjornson. Back row, left to right: The Hon. Jon Sigurdson, Connor Bildfell, Kinji Bourchier, KC, Richard Johnson, Nic Tsoi, Rod Urquhart, Dan Barber. Not pictured: Martin Ferreira Pinho, Claire Haaf, Katrina Harry, KC, Claire Hildebrand, Derek LaCroix, KC, Emily MacKinnon, The Hon. Madam Justice Miriam Maisonville, Arun Mohan, Richard Pearce, Susan Van der Flier.

KATRINA HARRY, KC (LLB '04)

When did you realize you wanted to be a lawyer?

As a child and youth, I experienced a lot of anti-Indigenous discrimination. I realized I was a natural advocate. I also realized the most effective way for me to advocate for myself and others was to do it through law, rules and policies. While I didn't know any Indigenous lawyers at that time, I knew that's what I wanted to be.

What advice do you have for our new grads?

Be open to trying new practice areas. Reflect on who you are, who you want to be, your values and who inspires you, then find like-minded people to fill your circle. Remember that no matter how badly you wanted to become a lawyer, there will still be tough days. Build a fulfilling life outside of your professional persona. Law is a profession, and there is a lot of life to be lived.

NASSIM BAHARIAN (LLM CL '15)

Why did you decide to join the Allard Law Alumni Association Board of Directors?

I joined the Board to give back to the school that has given me so much and helped me, a foreign-trained lawyer, to get qualified to practice law in Canada. My goal as a Board member is to represent and advocate for the interests of the alumni and to assist the students through mentorship, career coaching and networking.

Why do you think it is important for alumni to stay connected to their alma mater?

Alumni engagement and staying connected are very important, especially if you are just starting your career, for various reasons, including networking and career opportunities. It's also a very good way of paying it forward by helping current students.

JESSICA BURKE (JD '14)

Why did you decide to join the Allard Law Alumni Association Board of Directors?

I believe strongly in the power of community, and this was a great opportunity to reconnect with fellow alumni, engage with current students and give back to a community that supported me.

What advice do you have for our new grads?

Let your curiosities guide you. Your career path does not need to be linear, but it needs to be true to you. Follow opportunities that feel energizing for you and that bring out your personal strengths.

What three albums OR three books would you bring to a deserted island?

I would try to negotiate — I'll only bring two, if I can choose one book and one album. Album: *Bruce Springsteen – Greatest Hits* and book: *Braiding Sweetgrass*.

ÖZGE YAZAR (JD '19)

What is your favourite part of your job?

My favourite part is making oral submissions in court! Oral argument gives lawyers a chance to really focus on the heart of the issue in dispute, and I enjoy the process of preparing speaking notes and the challenge of thinking on my feet during a hearing.

Why did you decide to join the Allard Law Alumni Association Board of Directors?

I wanted to stay connected to Allard Law and other alumni in order to maintain and develop my professional network and to contribute to the student experience. Connecting with legal professionals is an essential part of the law student experience, especially for students who don't have lawyers in their families or personal network. I would like to be a mentor, friend and role model.

What three albums OR three books would you bring to a deserted island?

Social Cues by Cage the Elephant
Symphony, No. 25 by W.A. Mozart and
Romeo and Juliet by Sergei Prokofiev.

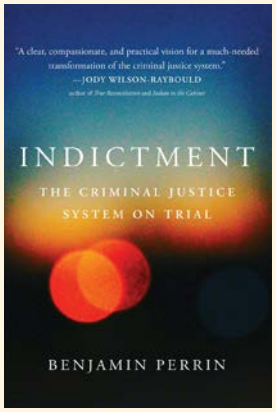
Good Reads

Looking for your next read? New books by Allard Law professors **Shigenori Matsui** and **Benjamin Perrin** provide fresh perspectives on critical legal and social policy challenges, offering new paths forward.

Here, Professors Jie Cheng and Joel Bakan explain why these books should be next on your reading list.

Indictment: The Criminal Justice System on Trial

Professor Benjamin Perrin; University of Toronto Press 2023



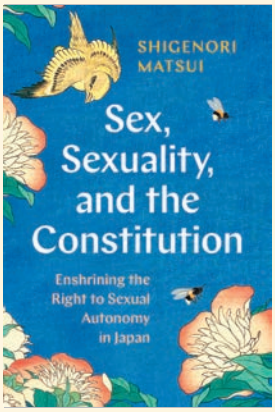
Indictment is at once a revelation and a model for great non-fiction writing. In it, Ben Perrin thoughtfully and carefully deconstructs Canada's criminal justice system. He reveals it to be an inhuman, ineffective and Kafkaesque monolith that not only fails miserably to serve its stated purposes but also causes people real harm, especially if they are Indigenous or Black, afflicted with substance addictions and other mental health issues or experiencing homelessness and poverty.

Perrin indicts Canada's criminal justice system with the analytical rigour and painstaking research one would expect of a distinguished scholar like him. But what makes the book truly revelatory, as well as deeply moving and persuasive, is the way Perrin weaves into his arguments and data the stories and insights of the people most affected by the system's failings — survivors, accused and Indigenous leaders — and the broad array of frontline workers who work within, and deal with the fallout from, a flawed criminal justice system. Not content to simply deconstruct the system, Perrin also provides a pathway towards reconstruction. Whether one agrees or not with every aspect of Perrin's plan, his forceful and elegant articulation of it inspires hope that positive change is possible.

***Joel Bakan** is a professor at the Peter A. Allard School of Law. He writes and researches in the areas of constitutional law, socio-legal studies, legal theory and economic law.*

Sex, Sexuality, and the Constitution: Enshrining the Right to Sexual Autonomy in Japan

Professor Shigenori Matsui; UBC Press 2023



Shige Matsui's *Sex, Sexuality, and the Constitution* offers a systemic examination of Japan's legal landscape concerning sexual autonomy from three key dimensions: the right to determine sexual identity, the freedom to engage in or abstain from sexual activities and autonomy in decisions related to parenthood. Matsui's analysis provides a rare and comprehensive exploration, shedding light on the intricacies of Japan's societal norms.

A noteworthy aspect is Matsui's exploration of the government's response to the challenges posed by an aging population. The book adeptly navigates the complex interplay between sexual autonomy and population policies, offering valuable insights into how Japan addresses its demographic concerns. Another critical matter brought to light by Matsui is the absence of a constitutional entitlement to sexual autonomy, distinct from the constitutional right to sexual equality. This raises significant questions about the legal framework governing sexual autonomy and its implications for individuals in Japan.

In addition to its normative stance advocating for the right to sexual autonomy, the book serves as a compelling call to action. Moreover, Matsui's exploration of the potential consequences of addressing the aging population issue through the lens of sexual autonomy emphasizes the delicate balance required when navigating individual liberties and broader societal concerns.

***Dr. Jie Cheng** is an associate professor at the Peter A. Allard School of Law. Her teaching and research interests include Chinese law and government, comparative constitutionalism, judicial politics, freedom of information and Hong Kong Basic Law.*

Class Notes

1970s

William McLachlan, KC (LLB '74) was awarded the KC designation.

Thomas Roper, KC (LLB '74) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Peter Grant, KC (LLB '75) was awarded the KC designation.

Ross Beaty, CM (LLB '79) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

1980s

Judith Sayers, CM (LLB '81) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Sue Paish, OBC, KC (LLB '82) was appointed to the Order of British Columbia and was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Edward L. Wilson (LLB '82) was awarded the Georges A. Goyer, QC Memorial Award for Distinguished Service by the Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch.

Anders Ourom, KC (LLB '83) was awarded the KC designation.

The Honourable Steven Point, OC, OBC (LLB '85) was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Don Sihota, KC (LLB '85) was awarded the KC designation.

James Speakman (LLB '85) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Simon Buck, KC (LLB '86) was awarded the KC designation.

Michael McDonald, KC (LLB '88) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Shirley Nakata (LLB '88) was awarded the UBC President's Service Award for Excellence.

William Westeringh, KC (LLB '88) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Shafik Bhalloo, KC (LLB '89) was awarded the KC designation.

Brad Dixon, KC (LLB '89) was awarded the KC designation.

1990s

Chris Gardner (LLB '91) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

The Honourable Madam Justice Janet Winteringham, KC (LLB '91) was appointed to the British Columbia Court of Appeal.

Brendan McCabe, KC (LLB '92) was awarded the KC designation.

Jean Yuen (LLB '92) was awarded the YWCA Women of Distinction Award in the Reconciliation in Action — Indigenous Ally category.

Michael Libby, KC (LLB '93) was awarded the KC designation.

The Honourable Judge Paul Sandhu (LLB '93) was appointed to the BC Provincial Court.

The Honourable Justice J. Scott Bodie (LLM '94) was appointed to the Tax Court of Canada.

Rosanne Kyle, KC (LLM '96) was awarded the KC designation.

Victoria Shroff, KC (LLB '96) was awarded the KC designation.

The Honourable Judge Jeremy Hermanson (LLB '97) was appointed to the BC Provincial Court.

Christian Lim (LLB '97) was recognized as one of *Canadian Lawyer Magazine's* Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers for 2023.

Stephen Ballard, KC (LLB '98) was awarded the KC designation.

Stacey Edzerza, KC (LLB' 98) was awarded the KC designation.

Gurminder Sandhu, KC (LLB '99) was awarded the KC designation.

Kory Wilson (LLB '99) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

2000s

Joanna Wrzesniewski (LLB '00) was recognized as one of the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce's 2023 Top Forty Over 40.

Peter Lawless, KC (LLB '01) was awarded the KC designation.

Susanne Elliott, KC (LLB '02) was awarded the KC designation.

Miranda Lam, KC (LLB '02) was awarded the YWCA Women of Distinction Award in the Business and the Professions category.

Karen Snowshoe, KC (LLB '02) was awarded the KC designation.

Michael Feder, KC (LLB '03) was awarded the Harry Rankin, QC Pro Bono Award by the Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch.

Louise Kenworthy, KC (LLB '03) was awarded the KC designation.

Celeste Haldane, KC (LLB '04) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Katrina Harry, KC (LLB '04) was awarded the KC designation.

Shannon Salter, KC (LLB '05) was awarded the KC designation and recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Elin Sigurdson, KC (LLB '05) was awarded the KC designation.

Geordie Hungerford (LLB '06) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Joan Rush (LLB '82, LLM '06) was named an Honorary Fellow by the American College of Dentists.

Daniel Song, KC (JD '06) was recognized as one of *Canadian Lawyer Magazine's* Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers for 2023.

Bruce McIvor (LLB '07) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Colleen Spier, KC (LLB '07) was awarded the KC designation.

Samantha Cunliffe (JD '08) was recognized as one of Canada's leading lawyers under 40 as a Lexpert 2023 Rising Star.

Byron Shaw (LLB '08) was recognized as one of Canada's leading lawyers under 40 as a Lexpert 2023 Rising Star.

Daniel Barber (JD '09) was recognized in the Benchmark Litigation 40 & Under List.

Christina Cook (LLB '09) was elected as a Law Society of British Columbia Bencher.

Elizabeth McCarthy (LLB '09) was recognized as one of Canada's leading lawyers under 40 as a Lexpert 2023 Rising Star.

2010s

Arash Amouzgar (JD '10) was recognized as one of Canada's leading lawyers under 40 as a Lexpert 2023 Rising Star.

Karn Manhas (JD '10) was recognized as one of *Business in Vancouver's* BC500.

Michael Byers (JD '11) was named to the Benchmark Litigation 40 & Under List.

Kyla Lee (JD '11) was recognized by the Clawbies Canadian Law Blog Awards in the Best YouTube category.

Yun Li-Reilly (JD '11) was recognized in the Benchmark Litigation 40 & Under List.

Robert Veitch (JD '11) was recognized as one of Canada's leading lawyers under 40 as a Lexpert 2023 Rising Star.

Morgan McDonald (LLM '13) was recognized as one of Canada's leading lawyers under 40 as a Lexpert 2023 Rising Star and was named to *Business in Vancouver's* 2023 Forty Under 40 list.

Tyson Lamarsh (JD '13) was recognized as one of Canada's leading lawyers under 40 as a Lexpert 2023 Rising Star.

Zach Romano (JD '15) was recognized as one of Canada's leading lawyers under 40 as a Lexpert 2023 Rising Star and was named to *Business in Vancouver's* 2023 Forty Under 40 list.

Sania Chaudhry (JD '17) was recognized as one of *Canadian Lawyer Magazine's* Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers for 2023.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If an error is noted, please contact ***alumni@allard.ubc.ca.***

Class Reunions

In 2023, Allard Law reunions came in all shapes and sizes — and each one involved a lot of warmth, laughter and shared memories. Thank you to our alumni reunion organizers who worked so hard to bring their classmates together and thank you to our alumni who came out to celebrate these important milestones.

Gary Griffiths and Angela Swan, OC, at the Class of 1963's 60th reunion at Allard Hall. Swan, who notes that she has moved since completing each significant educational stage in her life, says it's her UBC experience that she treasures the most. "And I love seeing my old friends," she adds. Swan and all of the members of the class are grateful to Darrell Roberts, KC, who has dedicated countless hours to organizing each and every Class of 1963 milestone reunion.

The Class of 1968 and the Class of 1983 celebrated their reunions at the Dean's Community BBQ at Allard Hall in September. Although the rain forced everyone inside, their spirits weren't dampened as they reconnected with one another over burgers and fries.

The Class of 1988 gathered at the Pan Pacific Hotel to celebrate 35 years since graduation. Catherine Sas, KC (second row, centre), who has been integral to bringing her class together every five years since graduation, shared that "Connecting with our law classmates has never been more essential as some of us retire, some of us pass on and others of us continue to practice. The connections that we made at law school last a lifetime and are worth celebrating."

The Class of 2003 reunited for an evening at Riley's Fish & Steak. Geeta Gill, Lucy Schilling, Shelby O'Brien and Shakeela Begum (left to right) were thrilled to reconnect with one another. "Reunions offer a precious opportunity to deepen connections and collectively celebrate the diverse paths our lives have taken," says Begum.

Following the Dean's community BBQ at Allard Hall in September, the current Beavers and Badgers took on an alumni crew in a hard-fought game, followed by a social at the Gerald McGavin UBC Rugby Centre.

We are grateful to David Kemp (JD '15, far right) who has championed these alumni games for the past few years in an effort to strengthen the connection between alumni and current students.

For more Allard alumni reunion photos, please visit **allard.ubc.ca/alumniphotos**

Thank you!

We sincerely thank our donors, whose generous support and leadership help enable our students to reach their potential.

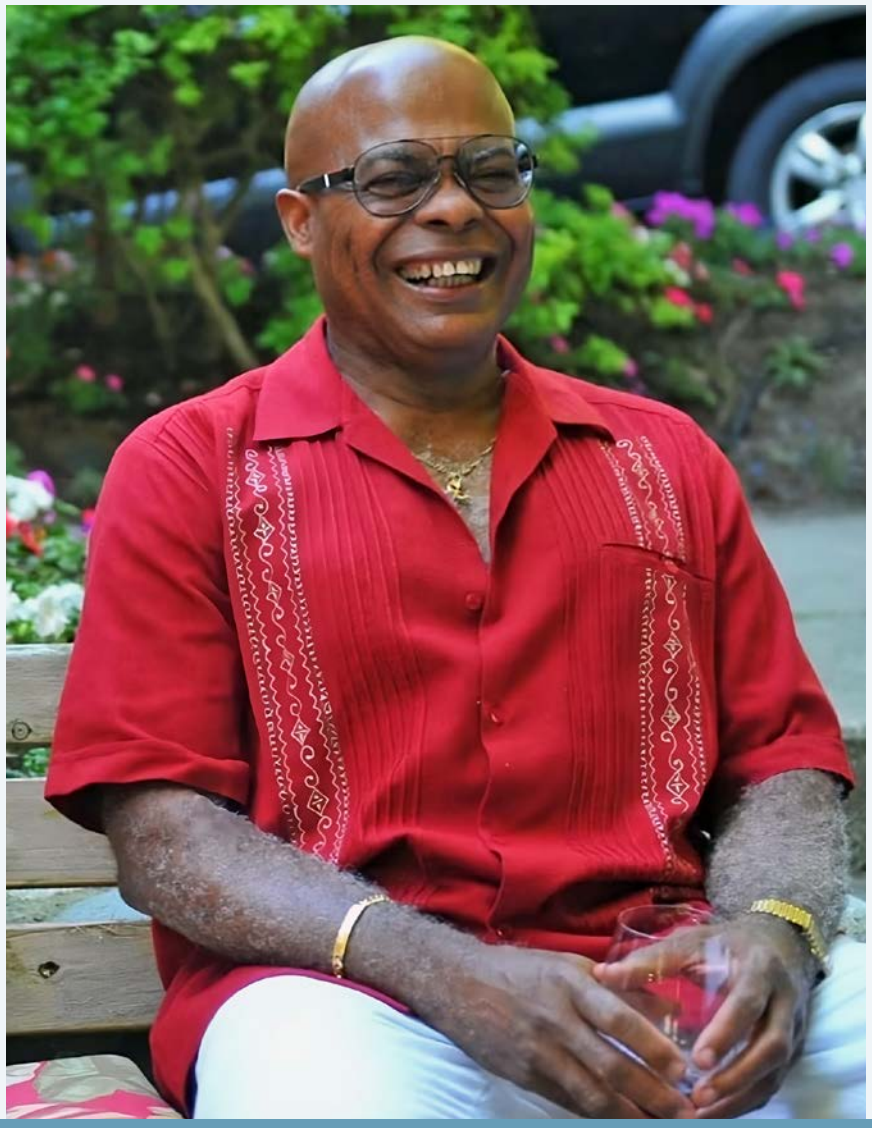
Every gift to the law school makes a difference, no matter its size. Recent larger gifts have funded new student financial aid programs, making an immediate impact on students' lives by removing barriers to their legal studies. Donors have also funded new faculty positions, bringing innovative approaches to teaching and learning and enabling impactful legal research. Smaller and recurring gifts in support of existing initiatives at the law school have created a vital base of support that we rely on to continue longstanding academic programming, experiential learning opportunities and student financial aid.

We're also grateful to the many alumni who continue to support our students through volunteering and mentorship.

Thanks to your contributions, we can help shape a just and thriving society.

In Memoriam

The Honourable Selwyn Romilly



THE HONOURABLE SELWYN ROMILLY (LLB ’66) passed away in 2023. He was born in Trinidad and Tobago in 1940, and in 1960 moved to Canada to attend the University of British Columbia. He entered law school in 1963 and was one of the first Black graduates of the UBC Faculty of Law.

After law school, he found success as a lawyer in Smithers, BC. In 1974, he became the first Black person appointed to the Provincial Court of British Columbia, and in 1995, he became the first Black person appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia. He spent a combined 40 years as a jurist. Throughout his career, Judge Romilly was well-respected and praised by his judicial peers and the legal community for his sense of justice, his high regard for the rule of law and his grace.

After retirement in 2015, Judge Romilly continued to serve as a passionate role model for students and lawyers, especially Black students and lawyers, to achieve their professional dreams. He is remembered for his many contributions to the development of the law in British Columbia, for the barriers he broke and as an inspiration to countless law students and lawyers.