

NEXUS

UNB LAW ALUMNI MAGAZINE



*New Brunswick Law
Foundation Makes*

\$3.25M

Commitment to UNB Law

CONTENTS

11 *Former Afghan judge Sudaba Yameen Joins UNB Law*

21 *NBLF Makes \$3.25M Commitment to UNB Law*

31 *A Conversation with Supreme Court Justice Sheilah Martin*

- 02** *Dean's Message*
- 04** *A Life in Two Acts: Phil Dwyer's Journey from Jazz to Law*
- 08** *Career & Community: UNB Law Honours Frederick McElman*
- 13** *From Barre to Bar: A Conversation with Hayley Bone*
- 17** *Introducing the International Law Group*
- 19** *Caitlin Grogan Recognized for Student Leadership*
- 23** *Alumni Updates*
- 25** *Kerry O'Reilly Wilks & Frank McKenna Headline UNB Talks: Trends in the Energy Sector*
- 28** *UNB Law Hosts Leaders in Fintech & Digital Transformation*
- 33** *Remembering Thomas Kuttner, K.C.*
- 34** *In Memoriam*





Michael Marin, K.C.
Dean of Law

Dean's Message

The Dynamism of UNB Law

As I reviewed this holiday edition of Nexus, I was struck by the dynamism and richness of the UNB Law community. In this issue, you'll read stories about a world-class musician, a professional dancer, a leader of an international charity, a law student and mother of four, and a former Afghan judge.

These multi-dimensional lawyers, law students, and jurists represent the breadth of experiences and perspectives that make UNB Law such a special place to learn and work.

I often say that one of the great privileges of my job is getting to know all of the amazing people who are affiliated with our Faculty. I'm continuously inspired by the dedication of our professors, the accomplishments of our alumni, the enthusiasm of our students, and the professionalism of our staff.

But what strikes me today is the varied backgrounds that all of these people bring to our Faculty.

This is a real strength for an institution dedicated to advancing legal knowledge. In order for the law to be effective it must have legitimacy in the eyes of its subjects. In a pluralistic society like ours, the law's subjects have myriad histories, beliefs, viewpoints, experiences, talents, interests, and characteristics, all of which shape how they perceive and experience the law.

So, those who are tasked with ensuring the law's continued legitimacy need an understanding of the richness of its subjects. This is why law schools need to embrace diversity in all its forms.

Although there are legitimate criticisms about diversity in Canadian law schools, it is important to acknowledge and celebrate the diversity that does exist. Doing so reminds us of the value that different perspectives bring to legal education and scholarship, and inspires us to continue to cultivate a learning and working environment that embraces all kinds of people.

“The dynamism that I’ve been talking about and that you’ve been seeing from UNB Law in recent years isn’t slowing down. On the research front, thanks to the appointment of several new professors, UNB Law is developing a cluster in public international law that’s getting national attention.”

This is why I’m particularly proud that Sudaba Yameen joined the Faculty of Law this fall as Visiting Practitioner. UNB Law is just the third law school in Canada to partner with the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) to create opportunities for Afghan women judges to begin their transition to the legal profession in this country.

The fact that we are much smaller than the other two law schools, University of Toronto and UBC, speaks to our interest in seizing opportunities to enrich the learning environment by welcoming people with unique backgrounds and insights.

In the article on Sudaba on p.11, she expresses her gratitude to UNB Law for the opportunity to spend the year with us. In turn, I say that we are grateful to her for joining our community and for teaching us how the law works in a very different and complex society like Afghanistan. This is an incredibly valuable perspective on the law that most of us would have never encountered otherwise.

Another aspect of UNB Law’s dynamism is our national reach. We may be few in number and start in a place that’s sometimes overlooked, but we travel far and get noticed wherever we go.

The latest evidence of this is a recent event in Calgary that UNB Law hosted on trends in the Canadian energy sector. It attracted nearly a hundred alumni and business leaders, including a former American Ambassador to Canada, and featured an engaging and insightful fireside chat with Frank McKenna (LLB’74) and Kerry O’Reilly Wilks (LLB’01).

At the end of the event, Mr. McKenna joked that it was a little “cheeky” for two people from Atlantic Canada to opine on energy policy in the West. While this move would no doubt have been presumptuous for most people, Kerry and Frank are simply in a different league.

They can overcome regional and political barriers like very few others, and focus our attention on solving the most daunting of problems, like reconciling our

expanding demand for energy with the imperative of reducing carbon emissions. This was UNB Law at its finest: unassuming, but totally effective.

The dynamism that I’ve been talking about and that you’ve been seeing from UNB Law in recent years isn’t slowing down. On the research front, thanks to the appointment of several new professors, UNB Law is developing a cluster in public international law that’s getting national attention.

As you’ll read on p.17, professors Bruno Gélinas-Faucher, Anne Warner La Forest, K.C., David Matyas, and Maria Panezi are working together to uncover Atlantic Canada’s important contributions to the rules that maintain global peace and stability. Given the turmoil in the world right now, their work is both highly relevant for humanity and strategically important for UNB Law as we seek to raise our profile.

On May 9, 2025, in Fredericton, we will have an opportunity to celebrate UNB Law’s richness and dynamism together. That’s when we’ll be hosting the launch of the Where Leaders Are Made Campaign and a Gala Dinner. Mark your calendars because this will be a once-in-a-generation event for the UNB Law community to come together, reflect on the values that define us, and join the movement that’s taking UNB Law to new heights.

During this holiday season, I’m incredibly grateful for the growth and opportunity that my association with UNB Law continues to give me. Every day I get to meet and learn about members of our community who took unique paths to join us and who are making us proud in distinctive ways.

If you have some time over the holidays and feel like making my day, please share your UNB Law story with me (michael.marin@unb.ca). I look forward to hearing from you and wish you a happy and prosperous new year.



A Life in two acts

PHIL DWYER'S

JOURNEY FROM JAZZ TO LAW

Phil Dwyer's (JD'17) first day as a student at law school was actually his first day at any post-secondary institution...ever. His journey to UNB Law is nothing short of extraordinary. A renowned jazz musician and composer with multiple JUNO Awards, Dwyer has spent decades captivating audiences as a virtuoso saxophonist, pianist, and composer. But his story doesn't end there.

Later in life, Dwyer took a bold step in a new direction, trading the stage for the classroom. Now a successful lawyer operating his own practice, Dwyer's path is a masterclass in reinvention, proving that it's never too late to pursue a new passion—or blend two seemingly contrasting careers into one remarkable life.

Growing up in music

Born in Qualicum, BC, on Vancouver Island, Dwyer attributes the start of his musical journey to being raised in a music-friendly household by parents who exposed him to a wide variety of artists and genres at an early age.

"Most things are some combination of talent meeting opportunity. Music was very highly respected and kind of a cornerstone of my family life. My parents had very broad tastes, and I was exposed to everything from traditional classical music to slightly more contemporary classical music, a wide spectrum of jazz, and popular music.

I can sing all the words to Stompin' Tom's 'Bud the Spud,' and some Kris Kristofferson records."

The soundtrack to his childhood featured an eclectic mix of musical legends, including jazz greats like Duke Ellington and Oscar Peterson, the iconic Canadian classical pianist, Glenn Gould, and timeless composers such as Beethoven and Brahms.

"It served as an incredible foundation for my career in terms of just getting that sound in your head. When you're playing music, you're really trying ideally to express and create a sound that you have in your mind. And my head was full of the sound of great music."

Growing up in a time without YouTube or other modern online teaching tools, Dwyer was often left to his own devices. A primarily self-trained jazz musician in his early years, he used these masters as the yardstick with which to measure his own talents.

"I was rigorous in my self-training. I would compare myself to the best, John Coltrane or Michael Brecker, whoever it was I was studying at the time. I would record myself, and compare it to them and inevitably conclude, 'I got a lot of work to do.'"

Dwyer began studying classical piano at the age of seven—a dream his mother had cherished for herself but couldn't pursue due to financial constraints.

"It was something that she had always wanted to do as a child, but the family didn't have enough money. She wanted to make sure I at least had that opportunity, something for which I'll be forever grateful."

Discovering his sound

In sixth grade, Dwyer picked up the saxophone, sparking a growing passion for jazz that would soon define his musical journey.

"Physically it was quite different than piano. In a lot of ways, it's like a glorified recorder, the same basic

three and three finger system as most woodwind instruments. I had good manual dexterity already from playing the piano so playing the sax came naturally. I took to it pretty quickly, plus I was listening to a lot of saxophone players—the instrument just kind of drew me in, probably because of its vocal quality, and it looked cool!"

By eleventh grade, Dwyer had already earned a reputation as a musical prodigy, performing professionally while still in high school. Upon graduation, he was awarded a prestigious Canada Council for the Arts grant, which allowed him to pursue private studies in New York.

His full-time music career began in 1985, and from 1989 to 2004, Dwyer became a cornerstone of Toronto's vibrant jazz scene. A regular at the city's premier jazz clubs, concert halls, and recording studios, he led numerous ensembles and co-led acclaimed bands alongside bassist Dave Young, multi-instrumentalist and composer Don Thompson, and pianist/organist Doug Riley. Dwyer's musical pursuits took him across North America, Europe, South America, and Asia, including tours with Canadian rocker, Gino Vannelli, famed jazz trumpeter, Ingrid Jensen and with his own groups.

When not performing live, Dwyer was a 'first-call' studio musician in Toronto. In the mid-1990s, he began developing his craft as a composer and arranger, studying composition and orchestration under famed Pulitzer prize-winning composer, Michael Colgrass. Dwyer's work was commissioned and recorded by the Gryphon Trio, Amici, Roberto Occhipinti, CBC Orchestra, Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Hard Rubber Orchestra, the Art of Time Ensemble and Duke Trio.

A 2010 commission from Mark Fewer and McGill University led to the creation of a major work "Changing Seasons", a 40-minute concerto for jazz and string orchestras accompanying violin soloist Fewer.

The 2011 recording of that piece, featuring Fewer with the Phil Dwyer Orchestra, won a Juno Award for Best Contemporary Jazz Album. Among other Juno-winning recordings in Dwyer's discography are collaborations with Guido Basso, Don Thompson, Molly Johnson, Hugh Fraser, Joe Sealy, Terry Clarke, Diana Panton, and Dave Young.

When pressed about a "defining moment of his musical career," Dwyer couldn't pick just one, instead describing the unique feeling of being on stage with his fellow musicians.

'It's usually the last performance I did [laughs]. In September, I brought together some amazing friends from Toronto and the U.S. for a concert in Nanaimo. It reminded me why I got into music in the first place. There's nothing else that affects people the way music does. Onstage, there's chemistry and magic happening in the moment—something the audience will never see or hear again. It's an incredible feeling, and I've been fortunate to experience it for 40 years.'"

Sharing the gift of music

It's not entirely accurate to say that UNB Law was Dwyer's first experience in a university classroom. Between 1989 and 2001, he served as a sessional music instructor at York University, sharing his expertise with countless aspiring musicians. Teaching remained a passion during his touring years. While on the road, he would often get asked to teach workshops or be a guest lecturer at schools like the Royal Academy in London or various other conservatories in England, Denmark, and the United States.

Dwyer moved back to Vancouver Island in 2004 and, with his wife Theresa, opened the *Phil Dwyer Academy of Musical and Culinary Arts* the following year. This innovative program brought together some of Canada's top young musical minds to learn from faculty comprised of many of the leading names in contemporary jazz. The program grew exponentially



in the years that followed with the addition of workshops for high-school, university, and adult musicians and a full culinary program led by chef Trevor Hooper.

"We taught kids how to play music and cook. It was incredible. For my wife and I, that became a big part of our lives for many years."

At the same time, Dwyer became quite involved in local high school music programs, eventually creating a perpetual scholarship and bursary fund for high school students.

"While running the music camp, I got to meet a lot of the kids who were in these band programs. I would spend time with the ensembles during the school year, teaching and coaching."

Finding the path to law school

In the same way that Dwyer was raised in an environment where music was a key aspect of his upbringing, so was advocacy. He watched his parents advocate for their community. He was raised to acknowledge the fact that there were different levels of injustice and historical unfairness baked into society.

"Growing up in a small town on Vancouver Island, when I was a kid, I was well aware of the civil rights movement in the U.S., and I was made well aware of the historical injustices that had been perpetrated against Canada's

Indigenous people, and the issues in South Africa. These sorts of things were common topics of conversation in my house growing up. I was raised to acknowledge this and to try, if I could, to be a part of the solution."

After thirty-five years in the music industry—the highs, lows, and everything else in between—Dwyer sought out a new challenge...law school.

"I'd always had this interest in the law, I was a big reader, and I enjoyed writing. I had a sister who was a successful lawyer as well as a couple of other family members. So, there were people in my generation of the family that had done that, and I thought I would take a swing and see what happens."

Despite warnings that his lack of formal education would present an enormous challenge, Dwyer applied to several smaller universities across the country. Lucky for us, UNB Law was one of those schools. Following an interview with the admissions team, Dwyer was accepted, marking the beginning of his remarkable law school journey.

Law school had a bit of a standing start for Dwyer, who had never previously taken any university courses. Reflecting on this incredible moment in his life, he recounts: "Most of my classmates were formidable academically. I wasn't even that great of a high school student, so I was quite intimidated. I was working hard, trying to keep up. We did the first semester of exams,

got our marks back, and I was comfortably in the middle of the pack. I thought, 'Man, if I can keep this up for the next two and a half years, I'll be a happy camper. I knew I wasn't going to be a 'Mark Mancini (JD'17)' [laughs]."

For Dwyer, the hardest part of law school was the endurance. Thanks to his many years in the music industry, he was no stranger to late nights, but it was the early mornings after 200 pages of reading he remembers most. Despite the challenges, he looks back fondly on his time at UNB Law and the connections he made during his time in Fredericton.

"I was a mature student, but my classmates treated me like anybody else. It just happened that I was alive and remembered when the Constitution was patriated in 1982. Every once in a while, they'd roll their eyes and say, 'yeah, yeah, you were there, we know.'"

Since graduating in 2017, Dwyer has taken the next step in his evolution, opening his own law firm, Phil Dwyer Law, at home in Qualicum Beach. The general practice focuses on family law, wills and estates, IP, and civil litigation. One of his first cases in 2021 centred on the largest act of civil disobedience in Canadian history, the Fairy Creek old-growth logging protests, which saw over 1000 protesters arrested on site. How's that for a welcome to the world of law?

"I was one of the first lawyers involved in that case, and it took up the next two years of my life. It was a big environmental file, a topic that I was fascinated by during my time at law school."

During his studies, Dwyer also focused much of his attention on Aboriginal law and Indigenous legal orders and legal traditions. This has informed how he approaches many of his current files.

"I have a lot of clients from small First Nations all along the western and northern parts of Vancouver Island—places like Alert Bay and Ahousaht. It's very interesting work and quite a privilege as well."

Giving back to the legal community has been a priority for Dwyer since his call to the bar. In his relatively short but impactful legal career, Dwyer has actively contributed to the Law Society and CBA's mental health advocacy committees and task forces, striving to address the challenges many lawyers encounter.

Recognizing a lifetime of contributions

By now, it should come as no surprise that Dwyer has racked up a considerable number of awards and accolades—including being appointed a Member of the Order of Canada during his first few months of law

school. He was cited for "his contributions to jazz as a performer, composer, and producer, and for increasing access to music education in his community." In January 2015, he was recognized by the Royal Conservatory of Music as an Honorary Fellow.

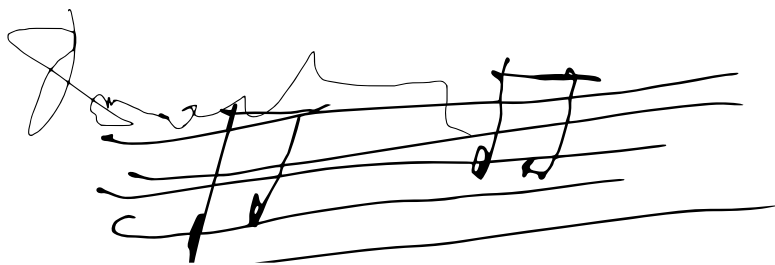
This November, Dwyer was honoured with the King Charles III Coronation Medal, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Canadian culture as a jazz performer, composer, educator; and as an advocate for social and environmental justice in our society. He got the call from Courtenay-Alberni Member of Parliament, Gord Johns.

"He's a fantastic parliamentarian whom I admire, so I was honored to be one of the people that he chose to receive this medal. It feels a bit like a lifetime achievement award [laughs]. I think it helps inspire other people to get out there and get active in their community."

Four others shared the honour with Dwyer including Eva Hilborn, in recognition of her advocacy for early childhood education over seventy years of volunteerism; Mischa Oak, in recognition of a career of leadership and advocacy for systematic change to support transgender and gender-diverse individuals; Carrie Reid, in recognition of her therapeutic support for the healing of residential school survivors; and Carl Savage, in recognition of his dedication as an educator to the success of his students through nurturing a love of science.

"Everyone left their mark on the community in their own way. It was an honour to receive this award alongside such an incredible group of people."

"When I do these types of interviews, I like to make a point of mentioning my gratitude towards UNB Law for taking a chance on someone who must have been considered a 'boutique candidate.' My time at UNB was incredibly rewarding, and it's great to see all the positive things that are happening in the law faculty."



A professional portrait of Frederick McElman, an older man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a patterned tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a dark, solid color.

Career & Community: UNB Law Honours **Frederick McElman**

In early November, UNB Law celebrated one of its finest. Frederick McElman, CM, K.C. (LLB'78), joined the ranks of a select group of law alumni, receiving the 2024 Ilsa Greenblatt Shore Distinguished Graduate Award at the fall Faculty of Law Academic Awards Night. It was a fitting tribute to his remarkable legal career and enduring impact on the community.

Addressing an audience of students, colleagues, and family, Mr. McElman shared a heartfelt message about seizing opportunities and valuing the privilege of receiving a university education.

“My wife and I are both of a generation where our parents could not go to university. My father wanted to be a lawyer, but that was not available to him. When I look at the next generation, all the cousins, nephews, and nieces, I see over twenty post-secondary graduates—one generation coming out of the depression to the next. That is a tremendous opportunity. We have to step back from time to time and think about what has been handed to us from other generations.”

McElman graduated from UNB with a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in 1972, followed by a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from UNB Law in 1978. He went on to complete a Master of Laws (LLM) at Harvard Law School the following year. Reflecting on his academic journey, McElman expressed gratitude for the professors who influenced his path, including Karl Dore (LLB’67), John Williamson (LLB’73), Richard Bird (LLB’67), Anne McLellan, and the late Fernand Landry (LLB’72).

“I had the great advantage of some exceptional professors. They allowed me to pursue the academic paths I wanted. When I did go to graduate school, Karl Dore—who wrote a reference for me—opened

that door. As you go through law school you have to acknowledge those who helped you and those who support you, and that goes back to your family as well.”

Since being called to the bar, McElman has built a distinguished career in business and regulatory law. Today, as a Partner at Stewart McKelvey’s Fredericton office, he serves a diverse clientele, including government bodies, professional associations, boards of directors, construction firms, and business purchasers and sellers.

What is especially remarkable about McElman’s expertise is that it is as deep as it is broad. His excellence in the field is consistently recognized, with regular rankings in *Lexpert* and *Best Lawyers* for his skill in Banking and Finance, Intellectual Property Law, Corporate Commercial Law, Directors’ and Officers’ Liability Litigation, and Computer & IT Law.

Impact on communities at home and abroad

Beyond his celebrated legal career, McElman has an impressive record of public and community service. He has had a major impact on international development focused on child welfare. For many years, he volunteered with *Plan International* and *Foster Parents Plan*. As the global chairperson of *Plan International*, one of the world’s major child





"We have to step back from time to time and think about what has been handed to us from other generations."

sponsorship organizations, he led the governance, overseeing initiatives in 42 countries and supporting over 1.3 million children. He was on the Board of *Plan International* for over a decade. Another example of his devotion to children, McElman served as Chairperson and Director of the *Foster Parents Plan of Canada*.

"As much as Fred is a fierce litigator, he is a fervent advocate for the world's poorest children," said Dean Marin. "His professional persona is an imposing one, a lawyer known for his remarkable skill and intellect. But you can see that beneath the suit and the barrister's robe, he is a loving man, who cares deeply for the most vulnerable in our society."

Building on his message about seizing opportunities, McElman shared how a chance conversation with renowned securities lawyer Glorianne Stromberg deepened his involvement with *Plan International*. While working together on a case, they discovered a shared connection to the organization—McElman as a sponsor of a child through *Foster Parents Plan* and Stromberg through her active role within the organization.

"She opened the door for me to get involved in *Plan* and working in the developing world with families and communities who were in need. As you go through law school and your career, the lesson is not only to be open to opportunities, but you have to accept them when they arise. For me, that has led to some of the most meaningful work I've been able to do."

In the New Brunswick legal community, McElman has been a longstanding contributor to professional education, having helped educate countless students, junior and senior lawyers through his time as a lecturer for UNB Law, a presenter for the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Society of New Brunswick, and active mentoring of students and young lawyers in his practice. He is a past president of the UNB Alumni Association and a former member of the Board of Governors, which he also served as Chair of the Properties and Audit Committees. McElman was appointed to the Order of Canada in 2002 and King's Counsel in 2006. He was honored with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012 and the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal in 2022.

Mr. McElman left the crowd of students with the following advice, "What law school imbued in me was a sense of duty, a sense of responsibility, and an obligation to the clients I serve. And, to meet the standards expected of the profession. You will have an opportunity to help other people, and that is an opportunity you should always take because at the end of the day, you are given these skills through your training and your effort and you need to find the opportunity to use them *well*, that's what you should seek, and that's what you should be open to."

*Epjila'si
Kulahsihkulpon
Bienvenue
Welcome*



Former Afghan judge

Sudaba Yameen

Joins UNB Law as a Visiting Practitioner

This fall, UNB Law proudly welcomed Sudaba Yameen to the Faculty as a Visiting Practitioner. Yameen has brought significant experience and insights to our community from her judicial career in one of the world's most complex legal and social landscapes, Afghanistan.

Yameen's career has been defined by a commitment to justice and human rights under extraordinarily challenging circumstances. As a former judge of the Elementary Court in Kapisa Province, Afghanistan, she devoted over four years to championing the rights of women, often in cases involving domestic violence.

Prior to being a judge, she served as a lawyer and legal advisor to Women for Afghan Women, an organization dedicated to helping Afghan women and girls exercise their rights to pursue their individual potential, to self-determination, and to representation in all areas of life—political, social, cultural, and economic.

Yameen holds a bachelor's degree in Sharia Law from Kabul University and received her judicial training from the Judicial Institute of Afghanistan. She partially completed a master's degree, which was interrupted by the Taliban's return to power.

“One of my goals is raising awareness about the situation of women in Afghanistan, the challenges they are currently facing under the Taliban regime.”

The journey from Afghanistan to Canada

In August 2021, as the Taliban regained control of Afghanistan, the safety and future of women judges like Yameen became dire. Describing the necessity of going into hiding to protect herself and her family, Yameen recalls, “After the collapse, when the Taliban took over, we were in danger because we were judges. We were hiding in our own country. Not just me, all female judges in Afghanistan.”

The international response provided some hope, as organizations like the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) worked tirelessly to evacuate vulnerable female judges. “They gave us hope, and they tried to evacuate us,” Yameen recounts, crediting the organization for her eventual escape to Greece. After a seven-month wait in Greece, the Canadian government announced it would accept female judges from Afghanistan, offering Yameen and 38 other Afghan women judges and their families a new beginning in Canada.

The journey from being a respected legal figure in Afghanistan to rebuilding her life and career in Canada has not been without its challenges. “We lost everything we had in our country,” she reflects. “Starting in a new country, it’s really hard, especially for us, because we studied Sharia Law in Afghanistan. Now here in Canada, we have common law, so it’s totally different.”

Despite the challenges, Yameen approaches her role at UNB with optimism, viewing it as an opportunity to grow and contribute to her field. “I consider this a big opportunity, especially for my career.”

Yameen’s time at UNB Law is made possible through the Faculty of Law’s Heritage Fund and a collaboration with the IAWJ, which is actively working with Canadian law schools to support Afghan judges who want to become lawyers. Since arriving, she has completed an English course at McKenzie College (Moncton), something she considers an important step in adapting to life and work here in Canada. Yameen has immersed herself in Canadian legal culture, attending lectures, and engaging in events within the Faculty and the greater legal community.

Her primary academic focus is on a legal research project titled, *The Impact of the Taliban Regime on*

Women’s Access to Justice: A Case Study of Divorce.

This research is deeply personal for Yameen, as it seeks to document the stark realities faced by Afghan women under the current Taliban rule. Women in Afghanistan are confronting increasingly harsh restrictions: they are barred from working, prohibited from leaving their homes without a male escort, and systematically denied access to justice.

“My research is on the impact of the Taliban regime on women’s access to justice,” she explains, “with an emphasis on how these restrictions hinder women’s ability to seek divorce, a fundamental issue in family law. Right now, in Afghanistan, women are facing a very difficult situation. It makes life very hard for them.”

Through her work, Yameen aims to shed light on these struggles, hoping to increase global awareness of the circumstances Afghan women endure. She elaborates, “One of my goals is raising awareness about the situation of women in Afghanistan, the challenges they are currently facing under the Taliban regime.” This research project not only contributes to the academic discourse at UNB, but also serves as a vital narrative of resilience and advocacy, spotlighting the dire human rights issues Afghan women face today.

Professor Sarah-jane Nussbaum has been providing research mentorship to Yameen at UNB Law and has noted Yameen’s excellent progress. “Sudaba is a tremendously thoughtful and dedicated legal researcher, and her project promises to offer meaningful and rich contributions to our understanding of women’s access to justice.”

Dean Michael Marin emphasizes that having Yameen among the faculty is a privilege. Noting the importance of her insights in enhancing the Faculty’s understanding of diverse legal traditions and the unique challenges of transitioning between legal systems.

“Sudaba’s presence here enriches our Faculty immensely, providing students and professors with a rare opportunity to understand the complexities inherent in her work as a judge in Afghanistan. Her story embodies resilience, courage, and an unwavering dedication to justice. Her participation in Faculty activities and her research project bring a unique and valuable perspective to the UNB Law community.”



Rachael Dyer / movita beaucoup dance photography

from barre to bar

A conversation with Hayley Bone

Hayley Bone, a second-year student from Dartmouth, NS, brings a unique perspective to the classroom, shaped by her career as a professional dancer. While the worlds of dance and law may seem miles apart, she has discovered some unexpected connections between the two. Bone recently sat down with Nexus to share her journey—from her early passion for ballet to her time on the professional stage, what ultimately drew her to UNB Law, and her aspirations for the future.

Can you begin by telling me a little bit about your background in dance?

Well, I grew up dancing. It was one of my biggest passions, and I always wanted to pursue a dance career. After I finished high school, I completed a dance teacher training program. It was a post-secondary diploma program in classical ballet and dance pedagogy at the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts. Throughout my childhood years, I was fortunate to train at a high level in Nova Scotia. After completing the

program, I started working as an independent dance artist in Halifax and I started teaching. That was an excellent experience. Dance felt like it was something that I needed to do, and that it was something I would always wonder about if I didn't.

What was it about the artform that really drew you in and how did your style evolve over time?

I started when I was three, so I don't think I had a big say in it at the time [laughs]. I just love how it feels, how movement feels. Dance has this great balance of creativity and expression, but also discipline. When I first started, I was doing all kinds of different styles and doing things that were maybe a little bit more commercial. I was going to competitions, and it was a little bit more about flashy choreography and performing, which was amazing. I love performing, it's such a rush and so fun.

Around the age of twelve, I started to really focus on ballet specifically. There was a teacher that I was working with who stripped things down. It wasn't about the rhinestones and costumes and production value, it was about the technique, the solid foundation, and the discipline of it. It was so challenging, and I honestly loved developing that sense of discipline. It was rewarding to do something so technically challenging and to improve. That experience really made me fall in love with ballet.

*You performed in seven consecutive seasons of *The Nutcracker* with Symphony Nova Scotia, including as a soloist. What was it like to be a part of such an iconic production?*

It was amazing. I feel fortunate to have had access to such high-quality performance opportunities. I think it's so important to be exposed to a professional-level production, where students get to work with and learn from professional dancers. There is so much value in getting to see everything that goes into a production of that magnitude beyond just the dancers on the stage—the rehearsal directors, production managers, stage managers, the props and costume designers.

*What stands out most from your time with *The Nutcracker*?*

Getting to perform soloist roles was incredible. That experience helped fuel my love of performing, and it definitely helped me grow a lot as an artist. It's a milestone in my training for sure. I think the best part was working with Symphony Nova Scotia. Every night on stage there was an orchestra pit with a full symphony playing live. When I was a younger member of the cast, I would only dance every other show. For the shows that I wasn't dancing in, I would sit in the front row of the theater and just watch the symphony. I could feel the music going right through me. Musicality is such a big part of ballet and dance; getting to work with live musicians of that caliber was incredible.

Can you describe the feeling of being on stage and performing for an audience?

I love performing, and I know that that's not the case for everyone. It's like an energy exchange. You're putting yourself out there and showing your craft. You get a lot of energy back from the audience and it just feels electrifying and empowering. The Rebecca Cohn Auditorium in Halifax, where *The Nutcracker* that I performed in takes place, is a big venue. Getting the chance to do a solo as a teenage girl and being able to hold the attention of hundreds of people was terrifying and challenging but I think it also really instilled a level of confidence in me. Now, in law school, I feel like I'm just performing in a different way. I'm taking my trial advocacy course with Professor Lockyer this term. I'm really interested in litigation because it feels like a branch of performance.

How has studying different forms of dance enriched your experience?

I was fortunate to be exposed to a few different methodologies. I think it's the same as with anything, being exposed to different ways of doing something only makes you stronger. The first ballet that I did was Russian ballet, known as Vaganova. That was my first love. Then I did a little bit of

British style, the Royal Academy of Dance. Later in my career, I trained under the Cecchetti method, which comes from Italy. I ended up choosing this style when I pursued my teaching qualifications. If Vaganova was my first love, then Cecchetti is the style I got married to [laughs]. Everything always informs everything else. It just gives me a richer understanding of the specifics of a style to know how it differs.

You've trained at some of Canada's most prestigious dance studios, including Ballet Jorgen, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and the Quinte Ballet School of Canada. How did those experiences shape you as a dancer?

I started going to these summer intensives when I was around twelve or thirteen. I was traveling alone and spending summers away from home for training. It was scary and challenging, but it helped me grow a lot as a person. It gave me a sort of breadth of exposure and experience in terms of training and getting to learn from some incredible teachers and other dancers. That was when I got my first taste of spending time in Toronto for any extended period and that informed me way down the line when I decided to apply for summer law jobs. It helped me to know that the city was somewhere I would like to be and where I could see myself living.

*Can you discuss your work writing, producing and hosting *The Ways We Move*?*

Yes, that actually sort of marks a transition from working as a dance artist and educator into academia and then law school. *The Ways We Move* is a docuseries produced by Nova Scotia's Skye Larke Productions and distributed by Eastlink. By nature of the small size of the Halifax dance community, a producer heard my name and reached out to see if I would be interested in developing a show about dance. We did three seasons, each with six episodes. I dance on the show and interview different dancers, movement artists, and educators across the province.



They teach me about their style, discipline, and career. It was a great experience. I got to wear so many different hats.

Has teaching dance been a big part of your life as well?

My teaching practice was developed right alongside my dance career. I received fantastic teacher training from the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, and I received an Associate teacher's certification from Cecchetti Canada. I taught dance in Halifax for many years and eventually took some time away from that when I was finishing my undergrad and writing my thesis. This year, I got back into teaching, ballet classes here in Fredericton. It's something that is really fulfilling and I find it to be not dissimilar from performing. It's the same energy exchange, you put yourself out there and what's really amazing is the energy that you get back from your students. I think it is most rewarding when I see that something works or sticks for a student. That's my favorite part.

During law school, teaching dance has been a great—I don't want to say escape—but I guess kind of. It's nice to have parts of yourself that aren't only focused on law. It's nice to have something that is different and totally

energizing. I'll put in a long day of schoolwork and then I'll go and teach ballet for two hours and I feel like I just got a full night's rest. I would love to be able to keep teaching and to keep interacting with dance as I move into my legal career.

Let's talk about your legal career. How did you end up on your journey here at UNB Law?

There are really challenging aspects of a career in the arts. I started to crave a bit more career stability, so I went to Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax. I really didn't know what I was looking for out of the experience; I just thought it would be good to have an undergraduate degree. I was nervous about going from the dance studio to the University classroom. Mount Saint Vincent was amazing; it was an excellent learning environment. I decided to major in English literature, and I did a minor in French. I loved my English classes so much that the department encouraged me to do the honours program, so I wrote an honours thesis on Shakespearean comedy and queer theory. Law school was not always the plan, but it was something that I think always made a lot of sense. I was one of those kids that people said should be a lawyer because I was argumentative and outspoken. After my undergrad, I wanted to continue being academically stimulated and challenged, but I also wanted to find some career stability and feel like my work was being valued. So, I turned my mind to law.

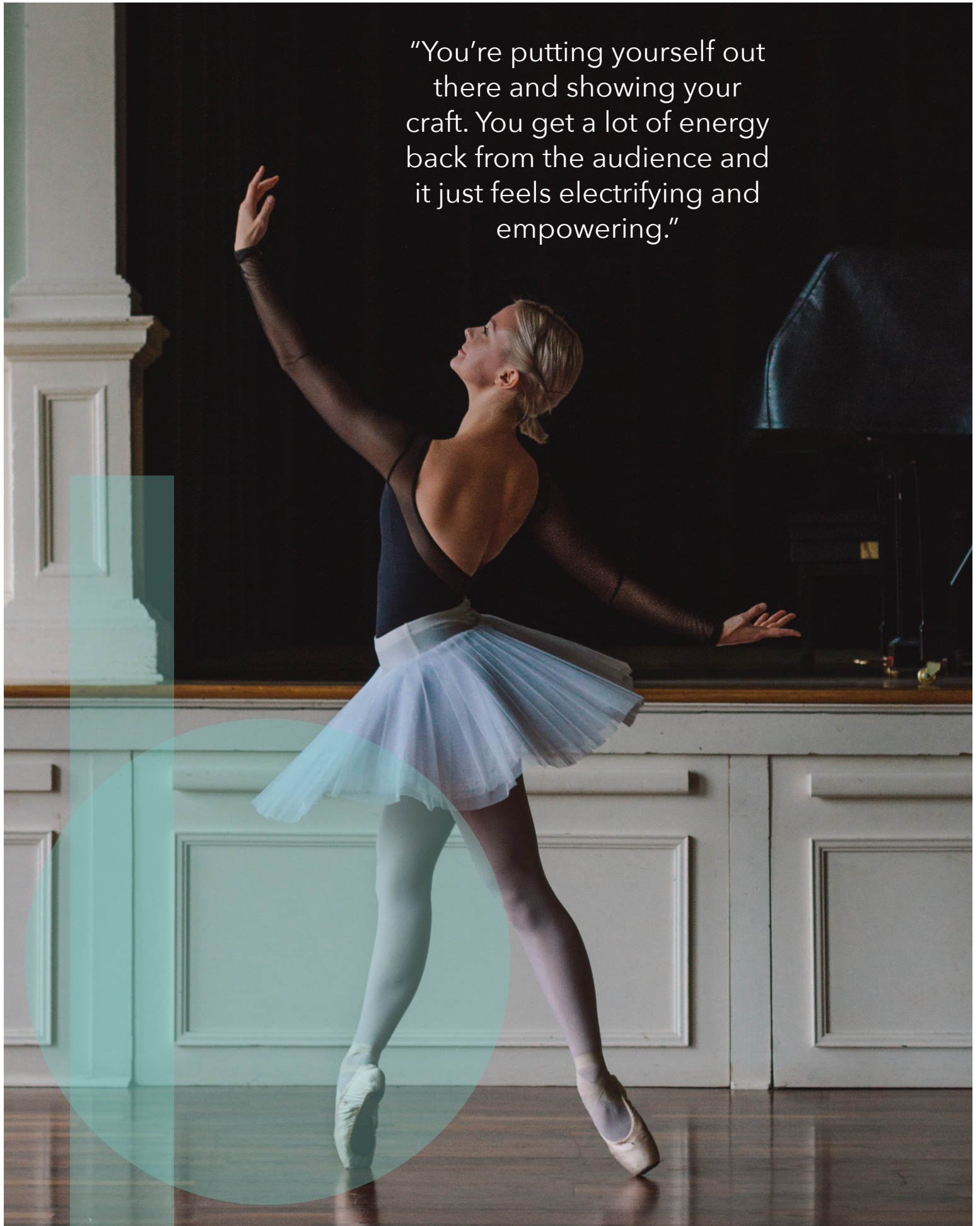
Have you enjoyed your experience at UNB Law so far?

Honestly, it has just entirely exceeded my expectations. I'm a people person and the people here just can't be beat. That sense of community and an administration and faculty that genuinely care about your individual success. I chose UNB Law for the same reasons I loved my undergrad experience at Mount Saint Vincent—the intimate learning environment and the sense of community. It has allowed me to really thrive academically.

So, what's next for Hayley Bone, dancer/lawyer?

Well, I'm going back to Toronto, where I first went for dance! I've accepted a summer position at Davies, which is very exciting. I feel so fortunate to have had so much support from the career services office, the faculty, and Dean Marin during the Toronto recruit. One of the reasons why I am so happy to go to Davies for the summer is the firm's emphasis on a generalist approach early in lawyers' careers. I love that because I the idea of confining myself to doing one thing is scary. I've always worn a lot of hats and had a lot of different things going on so the fact that they embrace and encourage that generalist approach and being skilled and competent in more than one thing really resonated with me. As far as dance goes, I think it will always be there in some capacity. It feels hard to extricate it from who I am.

"You're putting yourself out there and showing your craft. You get a lot of energy back from the audience and it just feels electrifying and empowering."





Introducing the UNB International Law Group

UNB Law has a longstanding tradition of incisive contributions to the field of international law. And, with the addition of new full-time faculty members bringing fresh expertise and perspectives, the law school is bolstering its commitment to this critical area of legal scholarship, notably through the UNB International Law Group (ILG).

The ILG is a specialized academic unit within the Faculty of Law comprised of scholars, students, and visiting experts. This group is committed to cutting-edge legal research, and pedagogical approaches embedded in the Atlantic Canadian context. The group's research explores critical issues in public international law—like human rights, international trade, climate change and disasters, humanitarian assistance, and international dispute settlement—while its teaching covers general and specialized areas of international law. With its growing expertise and comprehensive course offerings, the ILG is a hub for those interested in understanding and engaging with international legal research and practice. At home in Atlantic Canada, and mindful of how this region sits within an increasingly interconnected world, the ILG emphasizes the development of legal professionals who are as comfortable shaping international law and policy in Fredericton as they are in the Hague.

As the international landscape continues to evolve, ILG member

Prof. Maria Panezi highlights the significance of this shift in focus, emphasizing the broader goals behind UNB Law's renewed commitment: "This renewed focus underscores UNB Law's dedication to advancing innovative research and preparing students to engage with the complex challenges of an increasingly interconnected world."

Meet the ILG

The ILG is driven by a dedicated team of four full-time faculty members—Bruno Gélinas-Faucher, David Matyas, Maria Panezi, and Anne Warner La Forest, K.C.—who have not only shaped the curriculum but also made critical contributions to global legal discourse. Their passion and commitment to international law are central to the ILG's mission of fostering a vibrant academic community that bridges the gap between theory and practice.

Bruno Gélinas-Faucher is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Law. Bruno's teaching and research interests include State responsibility, international human rights, and dispute resolution. Active in public interest litigation, he has appeared as counsel at all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Prior to joining UNB, he worked as a Judicial Fellow to the President of the International Court of Justice and as a law clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada.

David Matyas is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Law. David's research

focuses on the laws of humanitarian assistance and disaster law. His research draws on mixed-method approaches to put doctrinal analysis in conversation with practitioner perspectives. His teaching interests include international humanitarian law, public international law, and the law of disasters and emergencies. Prior to joining UNB, David worked as a regional technical advisor for a major humanitarian organization on disaster risk and vulnerability. He also worked as a law clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada. He has consulted on humanitarian effectiveness and provided advice and research to government on issues related to humanitarian assistance and disasters. David is also an affiliate of The Gregg Centre for the Study of War and Society.

Maria Panezi is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law. Maria's research focuses on the interaction between national strategies on climate change and World Trade Organization (WTO) law. Her teaching interests include International Trade Law, Public International Law, Contracts and Globalization and the Law. She has recently been researching and writing on economic opportunities for Indigenous peoples as they appear in Canada's free trade agreements. In 2022, Prof. Panezi was included in the EU's list of candidates suitable for appointment as arbitrator and as trade and sustainable development expert in FTA panel proceedings and she is a member of the Canadian Free Trade

Agreement (CFTA) panel and appellate panel roster for New Brunswick.

Anne Warner La Forest, K.C. is a full Professor in the Faculty of Law. Anne's research covers many different areas including property, extradition law, international law, and labour and employment law. Anne teaches in the areas of property law, international law and international human rights law, comparative law, commercial law, conflict of laws, and feminist jurisprudence. Anne has extensive experience as an arbitrator and adjudicator; she has also acted as a consultant and expert witness on matters relating to human rights, employment, property, and extradition law.

This group is supported by a team of student researchers including Hayley Bone (2L), Marina Luro (3L), and Kathleen Thompson (3L).

"Working as a research assistant for Professor Matyas has been a wonderful experience," said Luro. "His subject expertise is complemented by an evident curiosity for delving into innovative and unexplored areas of international law which makes for research that is not only interesting but exciting. As a student looking to specialize in international law, access to mentorship, education, and scholarship of this calibre has been invaluable in shaping my future academic and career goals."

Teaching and Learning

Over recent years, the Faculty has strengthened its international law curriculum, adding a variety of specialized courses that address pressing global issues. These courses equip students with the knowledge and skills to navigate the complexities of global legal systems, exploring the legal frameworks that govern international law, trade, and armed conflicts, amongst others. Course offerings include International Humanitarian Law, International Human Rights Law, International Trade Law, Public International Law and Institutions, The Law of Disasters and Emergencies, and Maritime Law.

"Expanding the course offerings in international law is crucial for a law faculty to provide students with the tools and knowledge needed to thrive in a globalized legal environment," said Prof. G  linas-Faucher. "A diverse curriculum

in international law not only deepens students' understanding of cross-border issues but also equips them to engage with the evolving legal challenges that shape international relations, trade, human rights, and environmental law, as relevant at home as abroad."

Bringing the Conversation to UNB Law

One of the objectives of UNB Law's strategic plan is to establish the law school as an international centre for dialogue and debate, where influential and consequential discussions happen. The ILG is playing a crucial role in achieving this goal.

In the last few years, for example, UNB Law has hosted a number of global experts in international law, including Gabrielle Marceau, Senior Counsellor in the Research Division (ERSD) of the WTO Secretariat; Stephen De Boer, Deputy Minister and Foreign and Defence Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister; Risa Schwartz, member of the World Economic Forum's Indigenous Trade Steering Group; Bob Rae, Ambassador to the United Nations; and Simon Lester, Trade Policy Analyst with the Cato Institute's Herbert A. Stiefel Center for Trade Policy Studies. Since 2006, UNB Law has co-hosted the annual Atlantic Humanitarian Law Conference with the Canadian Red Cross and Dalhousie University.

The ILG plans to leverage its extensive network and strong connections to play an increasing role in bringing together academics, legal professionals, members of the judiciary, and government officials to foster meaningful dialogue on critical international law issues facing Atlantic Canada, and critical areas of international law where an Atlantic Canadian perspective can offer meaningful insights.

"From rising sea levels to the risk of trade wars, Atlantic Canada faces a future where international legal issues are becoming everyday regional concerns," shared Prof. Matyas. "Our commitment to international law at UNB is a commitment to building a cadre of homegrown talent capable of confronting these concerns."

In the new year, the ILG will launch a dedicated web presence featuring updates on upcoming events and outreach, details on research initiatives, and much more. Stay tuned for exciting developments!





CAITLIN GROGRAN

Recognized for Student Leadership

To say that third-year student Caitlin Grogan wears many hats would be a bit of an understatement. She's a talented law student (and mooted champion), a passionate advocate and activist, a natural leader, and of course, a loving mom to three cats and a puppy. Her list of volunteer activities and accomplishments reads like a novel. This year, Grogan's dedication to leadership and community service was celebrated with the 2024 UNB Alumni Association's Student Leadership Award.

Ms. Grogan is the first UNB Law student ever to receive the award. She got the good news in a phone call from Sarah Birch, a member of the Associated Alumni Council and 2004 UNB Law graduate.

"I was shocked. From my understanding, the award is listed as covering half of undergraduate tuition, 'brackets, \$3500.' They've never had a law student

win before and never considered that our tuition is substantially more than \$7,000 a year. They actually decided that they would cover half of my law school tuition for the year. I just sobbed on the phone."

For Grogan, the financial support provided by this award represents more than just assistance—it's a deeply meaningful recognition of her years of service to UNB and its student body.

"This is my tenth year at UNB. You can't really understate the financial burden of ten years of university [laughs]. I've always tried to give back throughout my post-secondary career, whether it's through volunteering for a club or event or advocating for students to administration," she shared. "This award is a meaningful acknowledgment of the value of that work and shows just how much those contributions are appreciated."

Amplifying students voices for over a decade

Ms. Grogan has been a committed student leader since her undergraduate days on the Saint John campus, where she served as Vice-President External on the Student Representative Council (SRC) and as a member of the Saint John Senate. During her master's studies, she served as President of the Graduate Student Association. Now, at UNB Law, she continues to advocate for an inclusive and equitable environment, serving on the LSS and as a 3L student representative on Faculty Council. She is perhaps most proud of her ongoing work as the UNB Law Faculty Counsellor on the UNB Student Union (UNBSU).

"I'm really happy with the work I've done advocating for law students. UNB Law can be a silo. It's one of our strengths but can also lead to issues. At times, we tend to be forgotten by the UNBSU. We're a very distinct group, with very different needs than an 18-year-old incoming undergrad. It's been rewarding to work on a more productive involvement in the union, but also ways to get more value, because we are very different than most undergrad students."

Elected in May, Grogan also currently sits on the UNB Board of Governors as a Student Representative. She is fascinated by the opportunity to see the inner workings of the University, and to again be a voice for students.

"At my first meeting in October, I was the only student in the room. It feels meaningful and kind of powerful to sit in that role and to speak on behalf of students. There tends to be a misconception that the board isn't interested in student perspectives. They actually desperately do want to hear from students, and really need to hear from them. I've seen firsthand the value of having strong student representation, and I've seen the difference that students actually can make in these roles."

An ambassador and committed volunteer within her faculty, Grogan has served as Associate Editor for the *UNB Law Journal*, as the Mental Health Ombudsperson through the Law Students Society, a Law Peer Supporter, Law Orientation peer mentor, President of the UNB Health Law Society, and co-founder of the Running from the Law club. These experiences have provided her with opportunities to support the well-being of fellow students.

"I view law school as an incredible opportunity. When I started, I told myself to get as much exposure and as much experience as possible and not to leave anything on the table. There's something so unique about university and the experiences you can gain as a student that you really can't get anywhere else. It's twofold. I often talk about what the leadership roles can achieve for other people, but it's also so valuable for you as an individual to grow and gain that experience."

Ms. Grogan's involvement in the Competitive Mooting Program has also been particularly rewarding, highlighted by winning the 2023 McKelvey Cup and earning multiple advocacy awards at the national competition. This achievement is all the more remarkable given her candid admission that she once dreaded public speaking and initially envisioned a career as a research lawyer rather than a litigator—both sentiments have since changed. Her journey from apprehension to confidence as a mooter is a testament to her resilience and willingness to embrace opportunity.

"It was definitely the most challenging thing I've done during my law school career, to go from being so scared and nervous to being so confident. I love constructive criticism. I'll never forget our first practice when Prof. Thomson gave me a hard time for not paying enough attention to my witness. I remember taking that really to heart. By the time we competed at

the national competition, I ended up winning *Best Examination-in-Chief*. The feedback I got was that I seemed so deeply invested in what my witness had to say that it made other people want to listen."

In the new year, Grogan will continue to push herself as a participant in the Gale Cup Moot, Canada's premier criminal constitutional appellate competition. She is also working as a teaching assistant for the first-year mooting program, where she hopes to inspire confidence in new law students by sharing her journey and experiences.

After graduation, Grogan will begin an articling position in Saint John, NB, where she looks forward to continuing her community involvement as a member of the Board at the SPCA. While she isn't exactly sure which path her career will follow, she is looking forward to the opportunity to explore the possibilities afforded by her law degree.

"One of the things that drew me to law was the versatility it offers. The skills that you gain from the degree are so translatable and you really don't feel trapped."

No matter where her career path leads, Grogan is sure that she will remain a champion for UNB Law.

"When I enter practice, I see myself remaining heavily involved in the UNB Law community—volunteering as a supervising lawyer for the PBSC program or with the mooting program. As a student, that was so valuable to me, the lawyers who volunteered their time for both of those programs. I think it's appreciated more than they ever know. I hope to be able to provide that same sort of mentorship and encouragement to students that was afforded to me."



NEW BRUNSWICK LAW FOUNDATION

makes \$3.25 million commitment to UNB Law

The future of legal education at the University of New Brunswick (UNB) is brighter after the New Brunswick Law Foundation made a substantial financial commitment of more than \$3.25 million.

Dr. Paul J. Mazerolle, UNB president and vice-chancellor, announced the funding at a ceremony at the Law Building in Fredericton on Sept. 6.

"The New Brunswick Law Foundation has been one of our most engaged partners, and I am honoured to announce a development in our partnership that will benefit students, the faculty of law and the people of New Brunswick for years to come," said Mazerolle.

The Law Foundation will provide the UNB Legal Clinic with \$2.5 million, the Law Foundation's largest single commitment to date. A further \$750,000 will enhance the existing Law Foundation law trust to support the law faculty's moot court program and other student experiential opportunities.

The Law Foundation is also creating a new scholarship fund for New Brunswick Indigenous students valued at \$30,000 annually.

"We've named our upcoming fundraising campaign for UNB Law 'Where Leaders Are Made,'" said Mazerolle.

"It's an apt slogan. For more than 135 years, UNB law faculty and alumni have played key roles in the development of New Brunswick, the Maritime provinces and Canada. But we want to do even more. That's why the centrepiece of our law campaign focuses on becoming Canada's most innovative experiential learning law school," he said.

"We want to enable students to apply what they learn in the classroom to real-life problems and acquire critical skills. The UNB Legal Clinic is the means by which we will do so, and the reason we are here today."

The Legal Clinic was launched in the fall of 2022 as a three-year pilot project with an important early contribution from the Law Foundation, and the latest funding will ensure its continuation.

Directed by an experienced lawyer, third-year students provide free legal representation in vital areas such as housing, social benefits, employment standards and human rights. Students gain

“For over 50 years, the New Brunswick Law Foundation has been one of UNB Law’s most important partners and a major sponsor of legal education and research throughout the province.”

valuable experiential learning while providing access to justice to those who might otherwise be unable to afford it.

“It has been remarkably successful, expanding to offer services in other regions of the province and in multiple languages in its first six months of operations,” said Mazerolle.

The renewable Indigenous scholarships align with commitments made by UNB, the Law Foundation, and the Law Society of New Brunswick to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and the goal of increasing the proportion of Indigenous legal representation in New Brunswick.

Since 1982, when it awarded \$25,000 in scholarships to UNB law students, the Law Foundation has funded an annual scholarships and bursaries program. This year, it will award \$161,000 to UNB law students in addition to the new Indigenous scholarships.

In her remarks, Law Foundation chair Heather Black (BBA’97, LLB’00) noted the Law Foundation’s long partnership with UNB. She said effective access to justice requires the Legal Clinic, which not only serves those in need but also teaches practical skills to aspiring lawyers, and that investment in the Legal Aid Clinic was a good return on investment for the Law Foundation in fulfilling its mandate.

The funding allocated for the mooting process is also important.

“The cost of mooting can be a barrier for folks who have the desire and ability but can’t bear the cost. The more financial support the mooters have, the bigger the arena in which they can compete and the sharper skills they can develop if they compete on a larger stage,” Black said in an interview before the announcement.

She was enthusiastic about the new Indigenous scholarship funding.

“The great thing about that is it’s something we can happily support, and it goes so well with everything else at UNB. You can have more Indigenous students be part of the UNB law school family, enrich each other with their experiences and enrich other students’ experiences,” she said.

“I have had a long relationship as chair and as a graduate of UNB law school, and I have been close to the law school all those years. The students have so much passion and enthusiasm. Taking their perspectives, building their skills and deepening their commitment to the community will make a difference. It will make them great members of our community and do a real service to our province,” said Black.

Jeannette Savoie, the clinic’s supervising lawyer, said students answered hundreds of enquiries and provided legal assistance to more than 100 clients in the two years since it opened.

“Working in the clinic under supervision enables students to experience for themselves what it is like to meet with prospective clients and strive to meet their needs. The more of this work the students engage in, the better they can appreciate the depth and breadth of legal needs in the community,” Savoie said.

“Thanks to the Law Foundation’s support, students are getting a street-level view of emerging public needs for legal services that will help them and the firms that employ them in future.”

The Law Foundation was created in 1975 to provide grants for law-related activities such as legal aid and legal education including teaching, research, libraries, bursaries and scholarships. Its money comes from interest collected on lawyers’ trust accounts.

“For over 50 years, the New Brunswick Law Foundation has been one of UNB Law’s most important partners and a major sponsor of legal education and research throughout the province,” said Prof. Michael Marin, K.C., Dean of the Faculty of Law, who was master of ceremonies for the announcement.

“With today’s announcement, the Law Foundation is deepening its commitment to our faculty, this time with long-term funding for the UNB Legal Clinic, experiential learning, and Indigenous scholarships. This investment will improve access to justice and legal education in New Brunswick. We thank the Law Foundation for this major investment and for its ongoing trust in UNB Law.”

Alumni UPDATES

Stay up to date on the latest accomplishments of our alumni—King's Counsel designations, judicial and government appointments, distinctions, awards, and even a recent grad turned professor!

'75

KENNETH MCCULLOGH, K.C. (LLB) was appointed to the New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board. In 2023, McCulloch retired after a lengthy career as a lawyer in private practice. He has experience in civil litigation and arbitration. He is a retired member of the Law Society of New Brunswick, a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and a Fellow of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers.



'84

HON. ALYSON TOWNSEND (LLB) was sworn in as a member of Susan Holt's Executive Council. MLA for Rothesay, Townsend will serve as the Government of New Brunswick Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, Minister responsible for the Research

and Productivity Council, and Minister responsible for the Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act.

'93

HON. CAMERON H. GUNN (LLB) was appointed a Judge of the Court of King's Bench of New Brunswick, Trial Division, in Woodstock. Justice Gunn was appointed to the Provincial Court of New Brunswick in 2019. Prior to his appointment to the Provincial Court, he had been the Executive Director of Public Prosecution Services for the New Brunswick Office of the Attorney General.

'95

HON. BRIAN MCLEAN (LLB) was appointed Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of New Brunswick for a seven-year term. Justice McLean was first appointed to the Provincial Court in 2014 and became Associate Chief Judge in 2022. He was admitted to the bar in 1996 and practised law for almost two decades in Carleton County prior to his appointment to the Provincial Court.

'00

HON. KAREN LEE LAMROCK (LLB) was appointed a Judge of the Provincial Court of New Brunswick. Justice Lamrock was admitted to the bar in 2001. Prior to this appointment, she served as Executive Director of Public Prosecution Services.

COLLEEN O'TOOLE (LLB) was named a 2024 EY Entrepreneur of the Year - Atlantic award winner. O'Toole is the CEO of Lighthouse Transportation Inc., a trucking and transportation company in Lakeside, NS.

'02

HON. TRINA D. SIMMS (LLB) was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador, General Division, in St. John's. Justice Simms has spent her legal career in public service as a Crown Attorney and Senior Crown Attorney with Public Prosecutions Newfoundland and Labrador, initially in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, and later in Corner Brook. Most recently, she has worked with the Public Prosecution Service of Canada in St. John's.

'05

HON. KARIN L.E. TAYLOR (LLB) was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories in Yellowknife. Justice Taylor served as a family lawyer at the Northwest Territories Legal Aid Commission and as litigation counsel for the Government of Northwest Territories. In 2020, she was appointed director of the Legal Division for the Government of Northwest Territories, where she focused on civil litigation and public sector law.

'10

JESSICA BUNGAY (LLB) was named a *Lexpert Rising Stars - Leading Lawyer 40 and Under*. Bungay is a Partner with Cox and Palmer's Fredericton office where she specializes in employment, labour, human rights, and administrative law. She is also the Chair of Cox & Palmer's Regional Employment & Labour Group.



'11

PATRICK MCNALLY (LLB) was named a *Lexpert Rising Stars - Leading Lawyer 40 and Under*. McNally is a Partner with Stikeman Elliott's Calgary office. His practice focuses on general corporate matters, mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and securities.



'17

MARK MANCINI (JD) has joined the faculty at Thompson Rivers University as an Assistant Professor of Law. Prof. Mancini's research interests include administrative law, the law of judicial review and legislative interpretation. His work has been published in academic journals across Canada and has been cited in courts across the country including the Federal Court of Appeal, British Columbia Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Canada.

King's Counsel Appointments

Congratulations to the six UNB Law Alumni, who recently received the King's Counsel designation in recognition of their high level of personal and professional integrity, and for their outstanding contributions to the legal profession.

NEW BRUNSWICK

- Jill M. Knee, K.C. (LLB'01)
- Duane M. McAfee, K.C. (LLB'87)
- Jade A. Spalding, K.C. (LLB'93)
- Kevin C. Toner, K.C. (LLB'85)

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

- Regan P. O'Dea, K.C. (LLB'00)
- Allison M. Whelan, K.C. (LLB'08)

**DO YOU HAVE AN
UPDATE YOU WOULD
LIKE SHARED IN NEXUS?**

**SUBMIT YOUR NEWS TO
NEXUS@UNB.CA**

Submissions may be edited for space.

KERRY O'REILLY WILKS & FRANK MCKENNA

HEADLINE UNB TALKS: TRENDS IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

In late October, UNB Law hosted *UNB Talks: Trends in the Energy Sector* at the Petroleum Club in Calgary, AB. This event brought together an influential group of University of New Brunswick and UNB Law alumni along with leaders from Calgary's legal, financial, and energy sectors to explore the evolving energy landscape in Canada and beyond. The Honourable Frank McKenna (LLB'74) and Kerry O'Reilly Wilks (LLB'01) delivered a powerful exchange on the legal and financing trends shaping the industry. Their perspectives on emerging challenges and innovations underscored the importance of forward-thinking approaches in one of the world's most critical sectors. Below are some key highlights from their conversation.

Dean Marin: *Do you see an opportunity for Canada to play a larger role in the global production of oil gas and hydrogen? What do you think it would take for Canada to realize that opportunity?*

O'Reilly Wilks: The world is looking for reliable sources of energy. Canada has a wealth of natural resources, but it also has significant human capital. I think that there are significant investments that need to be made to get us to where we need to be. I'll hit on three pillars. If we think about it from a technology and infrastructure perspective, to state the obvious, we need to develop LG terminals; we need to build and expand pipelines. We need significant financial investments in hydrogen so that the technology can evolve to become a reliable substitute for baseload generation and its economics can reflect the technology evolution. Significant buildout needs to occur.

The next pillar I'd highlight would be regulatory certainty and stability. One thing that's critical—that we have to start to think about when we think about the interactions between nations—is that those interactions need to be based on a geopolitical perspective, not a tactical perspective. If not, we're always going to be on our back foot and we're never going to succeed.

The last thing would be relationships. We need extremely strong diplomatic relationships and favorable trade agreements with importers of energy. Through smoothing those waters or bridging them, we will set ourselves up for success. But make no mistake, there's a lot to be done.

Dean Marin: *It seems like we don't have these discussions anymore as a country—the big constitutional discussions, the first ministers' meetings—where they try to tackle a big issue together, cooperatively. How do we get back to doing this?*

McKenna: I believe we can, and, in fact, I believe we must because this is not only robbing Canada of enormous economic wealth, it's tearing the country apart. We've got people in Quebec, particularly, who were adamantly opposed to an extraction industry without even knowing they've got two refineries there that are fueled by oil from Western Canada. We've got people in the West who, at times, don't realize that the Government of Canada—whether it's orphan well sites, pathways,



“The world is looking for reliable sources of energy. Canada has a wealth of natural resources, but it also has significant human capital.”

or Trans Mountain—have actually done some important, positive work in getting energy to market, even though they don’t take much credit for it.

We just need to get people in the same room talking and I think it’s largely a function of personalities. I think if you had different people at different levels, you’d have different conversations. The Government of Canada is definitely a problem, but at the provincial level as well—sometimes not just leaders, it’s followers, and we’ve got people who aren’t talking to each other, which is highly unhealthy.

Dean Marin: *Obviously, Canada’s committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions but at the same time, more and more energy is required to power the digital transformation that we’re seeing with AI, etc. Is there a way to reconcile those competing objectives and how do you see that reconciliation taking place?*

O’Reilly Wilks: The short answer is yes. If we take a step back, everything needs to be grounded in the three-legged stool: affordable, reliable, emissions. If one leg goes, it all collapses. I just finished an appointment with the Electricity Advisory Council through Minister Wilkinson. Our first recommendation was that the 2035 timeline...you can forget it. Look at 2050. Ground yourself on this. As a golden rule, one of the things I always try to do is boil it down to people, humans. We know that politicians largely care about getting elected and

the associated votes that need to correspond with that. What this conversation has really evolved into is a crisis that was largely unseen or ignored and, to a certain extent, still is today. If we look across some of the grid operators throughout all of North America, they’re predicting significant growth, and keep in mind they’re only modeling it after GDP. That’s their assumption—and a massive gap in generation. Let’s think about, for the Albertans in the room, the January event where everybody had to turn down their heat and turn all the electricity off, so we didn’t break the grid. Think about Texas. How many people died? If the wind’s not blowing, and the sun’s not shining, and the water is frozen, and it’s minus 40, and it’s illegal essentially to use natural gas, then guess what? Your voters die.

The reality check in terms of your initial question, that’s not even modeling in assumptions on AI and data centers. I can’t keep up with the calls of massive hyperscalers wanting every bit of steel I have in the ground to power their data centres. If I ask Alexa to find a song for me versus doing something on ChatGPT, that uses ten times the amount of electricity that Alexa does. And none of these grid operators down into the US and across our country are modeling in those needs. So, the grids will absolutely break.

The solution is to allow the players to use all the tools and have an orderly transition. Conversations where natural gas is no longer a dirty word, it’s an enabler, it’s an energy transition fuel. Because guess what, the other renewables aren’t baseload.



It will break. Until technology and the associated economics evolve to a point where you can use them, such as hydrogen, such as the long duration biz, you need to continue to use natural gas as a tool. You can put CCS on it, or you can do a graduated scale of emissions caps, until we can finally get to the place where we can do it all. If you don't do that, the data centers and the AI providers are just going to go somewhere else. If I can't provide that to the Metas and the Googles, guess what, they're going to set up a whole business unit where they're just going to self-supply. I lose out, the Canadians lose out, and some alternative jurisdiction reaps all the benefit.

Dean Marin: Frank, you're a big champion of digital transformation, you're the Benefactor of the McKenna Institute at UNB. Obviously, you see a lot of promise in this digital transformation. But how do we deal with the concerns that Kerry's raising? She's proposing a solution through using the entire portfolio of energy generation. What are your thoughts?

McKenna: I am a big fan of technology and innovation in all forms. I think it's what brought us from the Malthusian era and the Luddite era to where we are today. I just note for the benefit of people in the room, Alberta is probably the world's leader in clean tech, and we don't talk about it much. We've got a thousand clean tech companies in Alberta. Alberta really exports more clean tech to the world than almost any other commodity. I think that's very impressive and that's something Canada should be bragging about.

Your question, I think, exposes a really current and looming issue that we have to deal with. There's a new data center in the world being built every three days. The amount of electricity the world

requires is going to be doubled every three years. This doesn't get into artificial general intelligence, sentient intelligence, quantum computing, and so on, all of which suck up even more of that. The amount of data in the world itself gets doubled every two years, so it's just a tsunami that's coming at us and we have to deal with it. That sector of the economy requires clean energy. You won't get data centers, and so on, powered by anything other than clean energy. We just did a deal at Brookfield; we signed 10,000 megawatts of clean energy for Microsoft, and they're already negotiating for more. We just saw last week, both Google and Amazon do deals with nuclear providers as a possible source of clean energy. So, it's going to take everything in the portfolio from solar to wind to hydro to nuclear, which is going to have to be a big part of this mix going forward just for the clean energy.

But all of that's going to displace energy which is looking after heating people's homes and running factories and so on, and there will be no other alternative but for traditional energy to power those needs, which means oil and gas, etc... We just have to suck that up and understand it's going to happen, and if we don't provide it, they'll get it from Nigeria, they'll get it from Texas or someplace else. But, if we provide it, I'm hoping that through either carbon taxation at the industrial level and/or regulation, we will produce the cleanest natural gas and oil in the world. And if we do that, then I think that we've made quite a contribution.

To watch the full video of this insightful conversation, check out UNB Law's YouTube channel. We would to thank our sponsors—Drysdale Law, Stikeman Elliott LLP, and Torys LLP—for making this event possible.



UNB Law hosts leaders in fintech & digital transformation

On October 3-4, a coalition of policymakers, entrepreneurs, finance, legal and technology professionals, and academics gathered in Fredericton to discuss one of the most pressing topics shaping Canada's economy: the future of the financial services industry.

Co-sponsored by UNB Law, Cornell Law School, the McKenna Institute, and the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), the summit brought together these leaders to explore *The Digital Transformation of the Canadian Financial Services Industry: How Policy Should Adapt to the Changing Financial, Technological, and Regulatory Landscape*.

Over the two-day conference, panelists discussed key themes including: the public and private sector roles in building digital infrastructure; open banking and finance; real-time payments and payment governance; and digital identity and privacy challenges.

The presenters—many of whom travelled from across North America—included:

- Dan Awrey, Professor of Law, Cornell Law School; author of the recently published *Beyond Banks: Technology, Regulation, and the Future of Money*;
- Joni Brennan, President, Digital ID & Authentication Council of Canada (DIACC)
- Serge Dupont, Bennett Jones LLP, former Deputy Clerk of the Privy Council, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, and Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Canada
- Grahame Johnson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Financial Sector Policy Branch, Department of Finance Canada
- Michael King, Lansdowne Chair in Finance, Gustavson School of Business, University of Victoria
- Tim Lane, Former Deputy Governor, Bank of Canada;
- Tommaso Mancini-Griffoli, Division Chief of the Payments, Currencies, and Infrastructure Division, International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Patricia Meredith, Chair, Canada's Task Force for the Payments System Review (2010-2012)
- Jessica Oliver, Head of Government and Regulatory Relations, Wealthsimple
- Baltazar Rodriguez, A/Head, Toronto Innovation Centre, Bank for International Settlements (BIS);



“Embracing these transformative technologies is non-negotiable if we are to remain globally competitive.”

- Paul Samson, President, CIGI
- Teresa Scassa, Canada Research Chair in Information Law and Policy; Professor, Common Law Section, Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa;
- Barbara Stymiest, former senior executive at Royal Bank, TMX Group, and BMO Capital Markets.
- Samantha Tom, Head of Legal and Compliance, Borrowell
- Tolga Yalkin, Assistant Superintendent, Regulatory Response Sector, Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI)

Beyond the individual topics explored, an important conference goal was to bring these stakeholders together in person, where they could interact informally and share experiences from their differing perspectives. Collaboration to help build and expand the relationships and policy networks that are necessary to capitalize on the opportunities presented by digital transformation and to mitigate the inevitable threats that it poses to Canadian consumers, businesses, and governments.

The conference and its agenda are a continuation of previous work done by the law firm Bennett Jones and CIGI:

- David Dodge, Serge Dupont, Robert Fay, Mark Jewett, and John Murray. *Canada and the Digitalization of Money: Key Takeaways from a Virtual Workshop of International and Canadian Experts*. CIGIOnline.org, October 21, 2021.
- Keldon Bester, David Dodge, Serge Dupont, Robert Fay, Mark Jewett, and John Murray. *Deciding on a Digital Dollar: The Necessary Steps for Canada*. CIGIOnline.org, June 14, 2022.

- Keldon Bester, David Dodge, Serge Dupont, Robert Fay, Mark Jewett, John Murray, and Laurie Wright. *Digitalization of Payments and Currency*. CIGIOnline.org, June 15, 2023.

UNB Law alumni connection

The summit saw a notable presence of UNB Law alumni, who played key roles in the event. The Hon. Frank McKenna (LLB’73) opened the summit with a thoughtful welcome address. In his remarks, Mr. McKenna noted that, as we step into an era shaped by digital transformation, it’s clear that the regulatory landscape is lagging behind the rapid pace of change, and that the competition to stay ahead in this digital race, both globally and nationally, is fierce.

According to Mr. McKenna, these are not just futuristic concepts but integral parts of the financial services sector, and embracing these transformative technologies is non-negotiable if we are to remain globally competitive. Slowing down or even reversing digital adoption is not an option. This technology is here to drive progress, not to be held back.

He noted that the conference is tackling important, forward-looking issues, and helping to shape the policies and frameworks that guide our financial future. It’s not just about keeping up—it’s about setting the pace.

Mr. McKenna has long understood the power of technology to transform society, and this was part of his vision in creating the McKenna Institute at UNB, one of the sponsors of the Conference. As we all know, Frank went on to influential roles outside New Brunswick, as Canada’s ambassador to the U.S. and, since 2006, as deputy chairman of TD Bank.

Mark Jewett (LLB'69), a co-organizer of the Conference, was instrumental in the event's success, leveraging his extensive knowledge and experience in the financial sector. He also played a key role in organizing the three previous conferences mentioned above. Over the course of his public service career, he was the General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Bank of Canada, and Senior Assistant Deputy Minister at the Departments of Finance and Justice, among other roles. In the private sector, he practised with Hoyt, Mockler Allen & Dixon in Fredericton, with Bennett Jones in Ottawa and with Debevoise & Plimpton in New York. He was also a Special Advisor with the European Commission in Brussels, in the Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs. Mark is a member of the International Monetary Law Committee of the International Law Association (MOCOMILA.org), and a Senior Fellow at CIGI.

Key findings and outcomes

The rich discussions at this event noted several positive outcomes that this digital transformation can achieve, most importantly better and greater choice for consumers among financial products and services, which can be tailored to individual needs at lower costs. Participants noted, for example, that consumer-driven banking (open banking) will allow innovation in the types of products and services for consumers. However, achieving these benefits requires concerted policy actions in many areas. These include:

- Quick implementation of a governance structure for consumer-driven banking by its newly designated regulator, the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada. The agency will also need to expend efforts to educate consumers about digital financial services and their benefits to help consumers make informed decisions. Understanding the advantages and risks associated with digital finance is essential to empowering consumers to use these services effectively.
- Greater focus on the introduction of real-time payment (Real Time Rail) to fully unleash the benefits of data-rich payments systems. Payments Canada is many years behind in its implementation plans;
- A continued push for greater competition and enforcement;
- Updates to privacy legislation and data governance to ensure that consumers' personal information is handled appropriately,
- Implementation of digital ID systems and a focus on transparency and interoperability, in relation to technology and also with regulation, given the different jurisdictions involved in supervision and oversight.



- A fundamental rethink of the appropriate kind of regulatory requirements as the financial system transitions away from traditional hub-and-spoke financial networks to web-based networks.

Further delays in updating the governance framework will ultimately leave consumers at risk, with fewer choices and higher costs. Overall, the implementation of these comprehensive changes will create a more secure, inclusive, and efficient financial system that benefits consumers by providing better services, enhanced security, and greater convenience.

Acknowledging those who made this event possible

UNB Law extends its heartfelt thanks to the co-sponsors of the conference—Cornell Law School, the McKenna Institute, and the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI)—as well as the hardworking members of the organizing teams whose efforts were crucial to the success of this event. We would also like to acknowledge the dedicated student notetakers, UNB Law's Paige Chisholm and Julia Belanger, whose contributions will play a key role in the forthcoming conference report.



A conversation with Supreme Court Justice Sheilah Martin

Author: Julia Belanger (JD'25) and Hilary Creamer Robinson

In late October, Justice Sheilah L. Martin of the Supreme Court of Canada delivered a powerful Viscount Bennett Memorial Lecture at the University of New Brunswick (UNB).

Justice Martin—whose distinguished career has spanned the roles of professor, barrister, trial court judge and now, Supreme Court justice—has examined complex and high-profile wrongful conviction cases, including that of David Milgaard and Thomas Sophonow.

In the following Q&A, third-year UNB Law student and mother of four, Julia Belanger, asks Justice Martin to share insights on her motivations, career highlights and views on access to justice.

Belanger, originally from the Ottawa-Gatineau area, moved to New Brunswick to attend UNB's Faculty of Law and will begin clerking for the New Brunswick Court of Appeal following her graduation in the spring of 2025. Through UNB's Legal Innovation Lab and Pro Bono Students Canada she is addressing access to justice in New Brunswick and beyond.

Julia Belanger: Justice Martin, what motivated you to pursue a career in law?

JM: I had multiple motivations. The first time I got seriously interested in being a lawyer was after reading about the trial of Steven Truscott. I learned there was a possibility of system and human failure in our justice system. That was a shocking proposition to me as a teenager. I wanted to learn more and understand how a system meant to produce justice could produce the opposite.

I also wanted to make a decent living and have something that would sustain my intellectual curiosity.

Ultimately, I wanted to help people solve real-life problems that stood in the way of them being their best selves. I was motivated by trying to use law in a way that helped people have better lives.

JB: Has your perspective on access to justice changed since joining the Supreme Court?

JM: A person's understanding of access to justice and equal justice for all changes over time and with experience. I've been a professor, a barrister, a trial court judge and now I'm at the Supreme Court. One thing you learn is the complexity of the issues. But complexity cannot be a reason not to tackle real problems. It should spur action.

We need to ensure the system is responsive to the user, which means focusing on the public and consumers.

JB: What is your favourite memory from your legal career?

JM: That's a tough one, like picking a favourite child! I guess I could say those days where I knew I worked very hard on something, was prepared, and could speak with authority because of my diligent preparation. Those days where it mattered that I was involved—where I felt I made a contribution—are my favourite memories. It's not just about winning but about the pride of a hard job well done.

JB: As someone who also has children, one thing you spoke about at the law lecture that really resonated with me was when David Milgard brought pizza for your kids after his release. As a mother and someone who practiced law while raising children, what advice would you give to mothers entering the legal profession?

JM: First, I'd say, 'Great choice!' We've worked hard to make the legal profession more hospitable to women and mothers. From maternity policies to part-time work and income replacement, we've made strides. My advice is to relax and not be harsh on yourself. Understand that you are doing two full-time jobs. Define your own balance.



JB: I remember when my daughter climbed onto my lap during a virtual meeting and fell asleep. Everyone thought it was adorable, and it showed me how much the profession has evolved to accommodate family life. What suggestions would you give to men in the legal profession to support gender equality?

JM: Gender equality is about mutual respect and sharing life's responsibilities. Encourage and support each other. Create circumstances where everyone has an equal capacity to do well. Understand that people have multiple obligations, whether to their children, parents or other important aspects of their lives. Structurally support this balance.

JB: What do you see as the biggest access to justice issue in Canada and how can the legal profession improve it?

JM: The biggest issue is that we're renovating rather than innovating. We're adding to a system instead of rethinking it from the ground up.

We need to create systems based on the needs of the people using them. Lawyers have the critical abilities to diagnose problems and argue for and against different models. We need the courage to make changes, experiment and see if they improve things. We should be bolder and open to new practices.

JB: Chief Justice Marc Richard often talks about the need for an inquisitorial system in family law instead of an adversarial one. It's a great example of how we can look at something that's not working and try something different. Thank you so much for your time, Justice Martin. Is there anything else you'd like to add?

JM: Just to wish you well, Julia. You're very impressive with all you do at UNB—your pro bono work and raising four children. Keep using your energy for good.



Remembering Thomas Kuttner, K.C.

(1946 – 2024)

This fall, the UNB Law community said goodbye to Thomas Stephan Kuttner, who passed away in Windsor, Ontario, on October 2, 2024. A distinguished labour law expert, gifted musician, passionate traveler, and devoted advocate for the Jewish community, Prof. Kuttner is fondly remembered by colleagues and friends as a man of boundless talent and a heart of gold.

Prof. Kuttner grew up in Washington D.C. before coming to Canada as a young man to study at St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto. A four-time graduate of the U of T (BA, MA, LLB, LLM), Prof. Kuttner quickly established himself as an expert in labour and employment law. Teaching law was in his DNA, and he was proud to have been a third-generation law professor. During his 30-year tenure at UNB Law (1979 to 2010), he helped shape the minds of countless students through his lectures in labour law, administrative law, constitutional law, contracts, and Jewish law. A longstanding member of the Law Society of New Brunswick, Prof. Kuttner received his Q.C. in 2001. In 2010, he moved to the University of Windsor Faculty of Law, where he taught until 2020.

Remembering his former professor, colleague, and friend, retired UNB Law Professor David Bell (LLB'80) joked, "It's fair to say that Tom's classroom persona was not intense. For me as a student (late 1970s), his Labour Law class was where one might sit discreetly in the back and

read the Globe & Mail. To his credit, it was only years later that Tom mentioned that my habit had not been as unobserved as supposed."

Upon reading draft comments from David Bell about Prof. Kuttner's 'casual classroom persona,' fellow retired UNB Law Professor David Townsend shared a memory of his own regarding his colleague's "legendary lateness."

"Tom's students had tracked, and then produced a graph (which the students had framed under glass), which depicted both the frequency and duration of the lateness of Tom's arrival to start class over the students' three years at UNB Law. When his UNB colleges held their fond farewell event for Tom, he brought that framed graph as one of his prized mementos of his time as a teacher at UNB Law."

Prof. Kuttner's impact on his colleagues extended beyond the classroom, as highlighted by Bell, who recalls his mentorship and intellectual breadth: "As I began teaching on a contract basis, he became my mentor and friend—polished, sympathetic, and engaging. He had begun life as a historian—I think his first article was on early 20th-century Turkey—and he was rounded intellectually in a way that stood out among faculty colleagues. In the days when the Law School was deciding whether its mission should be academic as well as vocational, Tom spoke up as an instinctive promoter of a broadened vision."

"To his family, I am so grateful for the time I had with Tom and want you to know that he will continue to live in my heart. May his memory be a blessing to you."

Prof. Kuttner made significant contributions to Canadian labour and employment law. He wrote on topics including collective bargaining, expert tribunals, the industrial relations system, and workplace dispute resolution. His 1990 *UNB Law Journal* submission, *Courts, Labour Tribunals and the Charter*, was cited by the Supreme Court of Canada in *Cooper v. Canada (Human Rights Commission)*. In 1998, he acted as solicitor for the intervener, the Canadian Association of Statutory Human Rights Agencies (CASHRA), in the SCC's *Vriend v. Alberta*.

Prof. Rebecca Johnson (UVic), a former teaching colleague and friend of Prof. Kuttner credits his kind and welcoming nature with helping her grow both as an academic and as a person.

"Tom holds a place deep in my heart. He was an amazingly generous and kind person. I met him first as a colleague at UNB Law in 1995. He took me under his wing, and invited me, as a junior academic, to work with him on the CASHRA factum in the *Vriend* case. It was a gift—and transformative for me—in so many ways. I learned so much from him about thought, writing, activism and heart."

Prof. Townsend also commented upon Tom Kuttner's kind and generous nature. Prof. Townsend recounted a moment in the late 1990's, when David was collaborating with a group of Engineering professors from other universities, one member of the research unit stopped in Fredericton, on his way to a conference, to relate that he was devastated because he had just been denied tenure at his home university.

"Learning that my college and friend was carrying a copy of his CV and his university's Collective Agreement, I marched him down the hall to

speak confidentially with Tom. After reviewing the collective agreement and the visitor's record of scholarship, Tom asked to be left alone in his office for about 45 minutes. Tom reappeared with a fully drafted Notice of Appeal to be sent to the Tenure Review Committee and some very practical advice on how the appellant should first recast his record of scholarship. About one month later, it was learned that the Tenure Committee's decision had been overturned, and that tenure had been granted."

Prof. Kuttner was a former member of the Federal Public Service Staff Relations Board and the Government of Ontario Public Services Grievance Board. Locally, he was a well-known labour dispute arbitrator throughout the Atlantic provinces. He served many years as Vice-Chair of the New Brunswick Labour and Employment Board. In the latter role, he wrote many influential decisions, some of which continue to be cited today. For example, in a recent decision, the Board relied on his definition of the carpentry trade in an application for certification.

"Tom was a gifted mediator," shared David Clark (LLB'82), a former student of Prof. Kuttner. "He had an incredible ability to make every person feel heard, respected and comfortable with the process, yet he was able to deliver tough messages in a non-threatening manner. Tom was able to facilitate parties finding common ground to resolve often difficult issues and, equally as important, to reset their relationship, as Tom always undertook to improve the union-employer relationship. At a mediation in Newfoundland involving 23 complex grievances that had been referred to arbitration, with multiple parties at each other's throats, in two days, Tom facilitated a resolution of all of the grievances and a major positive

reset of the relationship. That evening, a group of people, who at the start of mediation wouldn't even speak to each other, were having dinner with Tom. Vintage Kuttner!"

Beyond the walls of the legal profession and academia, Prof. Kuttner led a fulfilling life marked by active community engagement and the pursuit of his many personal passions. As an advocate for the Jewish community, he engaged in issues related to justice, equality, and cultural preservation through his volunteer work with the Atlantic Jewish Council and the Canadian Jewish Congress. He was a life-long lover of classical music and played clarinet for over 20 years in the Fredericton Chamber Orchestra, where he also served as president. He enjoyed cooking and cuisine, was an avid reader, and loved intellectual discussion and travel including annual trips to Geneva and visits to many countries around the world.

"He was so much more than just a colleague," adds Professor Johnson. "When Steve and I had our first child, Tom was a surrogate grandparent. Indeed, he taught us the football hold for our little one! He also supported me in continuing to move in the world, encouraging me to attend my first post-child academic conference with a newborn. He spent much of his time at that conference carrying my little person around so I could attend sessions. His love of his own children spilled into his interactions with the children of others. To his family, I am so grateful for the time I had with Tom and want you to know that he will continue to live in my heart. May his memory be a blessing to you."

The entire UNB Law community shares its sincere condolences with his family, friends and colleagues.

In Memoriam



Hon. Paul J. Godin, K.C. (BCL'65)
1940 – 2024

A graduate of Université Saint-Joseph, [Paul] studied law at the University of New Brunswick (UNB). He was called to the N.B. Bar in 1965 and practiced law in Campbellton, Fredericton, and Moncton. He was instrumental in drafting the New Brunswick Rules of Court. He was named Queen's Counsel in 1982 before being appointed judge to the N.B. Court of Queen's Bench in 1983.

Retirement gave him the opportunity to take cruises, discover new places, and make new friends. A fan of current affairs, he was always interested in world events. Sociable and generous, he delighted in meeting people over a good meal, being surrounded by children, grandchildren, uncles, aunts, nephews and nieces, friends, classmates and colleagues, and most of all, his wife, Claudette. In his final moments, his remarkable positivity was a testament to his courage throughout his long illness. His colleagues and loved ones recognized him as much for his special sense of humour as for his integrity.



Jean L. Doucet (BCL'66)
1942 – 2024

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Jean L. Doucet, Esq. on October 19, 2024, at the age of 82. He was the husband of the late Claire Caron and son of Dr. Calixte Doucet and Yvonne Miville, both deceased.

He is survived by his two sons, Jean-Philippe and Louis-Christian, and his grandchildren, Rosalie, Frédéric, and Marie-Claire. He also leaves in mourning his sisters Nicole, Hélène, and Marthe, his brothers Paul, Fernand, Benoît, and François, as well as numerous in-laws, nieces and nephews, cousins, family and friends. He was predeceased by his spouse and his daughter Caroline.



Graham Frank Pinos, K.C. (LLB'70)
1944 – 2024

[Graham] passed away unexpectedly at home on Saturday, August 24, 2024, at the age of 80. Loving father of Dawn, Kristin, Alex (Mackenzie) and Cameron (Shannon). Proud grandfather of Holly (Nick), Kate and Spencer. Lovingly remembered by his long-time dancing partner and companion Gail.



M. Morley Rinzler (LLB'72)

Morley was born in Campbellton, New Brunswick, later moving to Halifax, Nova Scotia where he attended school. He went on to receive both his Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws degrees from the University of New Brunswick. Morley was admitted to the Bar in 1972. In 2022, he received a Certificate of Life Membership from the Law Society of New Brunswick for having been a member in good standing of the Society for fifty years.

Morley was previously a Member of the Law Society of New Brunswick, the Moncton Area Lawyers Association, and the Canadian Bar Association. Throughout his career, he served the New Brunswick legal community in multiple capacities, including such posts as past member of the Editorial Board of the Solicitor's Journal; appointment by

the Council of the Law Society of New Brunswick to the Provincial Libraries Committee; Past Vice-President of the Moncton Area Lawyers' Association, and Member of the Judicial Liaison Committee. Morley was also appointed an Adjudicator regarding matters involving Land Titles.

Morley enjoyed the practice of law and would never miss a day going into the office. He was forever grateful to have his legal assistant, Angela Jardine, who worked alongside him for 32 years until his retirement.



Donald J. LeBlanc (LLB'74)
1949 - 2024

En 1971, Donald a complété un baccalauréat en sciences commerciales de l'Université de Moncton et en 1974, un baccalauréat en droit de l'University of New Brunswick. Il a exercé la profession d'avocat de 1975 à 2000, principalement dans la Péninsule acadienne et le 13 avril 2000, il est nommé juge de la Cour provinciale du Nouveau-Brunswick. En avril 2015, il a choisi le statut de juge surnuméraire et a continué à exercer ses fonctions jusqu'à peu avant son décès.

Avant sa nomination à la magistrature, Donald a été impliqué dans le Club Richelieu de Caraquet et pendant de nombreuses années, il a été entraîneur des équipes de baseball et hockey de Caraquet. Il adorait les sports, surtout le football et le baseball et durant ses études universitaires, il a été membre de l'équipe de soccer.

Dès son très jeune âge, Donald a développé une passion pour la philatélie et a maintenu cet intérêt durant toute sa vie. Il a mis sur pieds le club de philatélie de la Péninsule acadienne et a rédigé de nombreux articles pour la revue Canadian Philatelist. En 1998, la Royal Philatelic Society of Canada lui accordait la médaille Geldert for Philatelic Authorship. Il a aussi publié des articles dans la revue George Six Study Group of the British North America Society (BNAPS). Depuis 2020, il a publié deux livres de références majeures sur des collections de timbres canadiens. Un troisième ouvrage a été complété et devrait être publié sous peu. Donald appuyait aussi les arts et la culture et était fin collectionneur d'œuvres d'art et d'antiquités.



Myra Éva Roussy (LLB'78)
1950 - 2024

À Montréal, le 12 octobre 2024, à l'âge de 74 ans est décédée Myra Éva Roussy Originaire de Campbellton, elle était la fille de feu Jean Raymond Roussy et de feue Thérèse Boudreau. Elle laisse dans le deuil son frère Michel (Raymond Furlotte) de Carleton-sur-Mer, ses sœurs Denise de Campbellton et Joanne (Trevor Newton) de Vancouver, ses neveux et sa nièce Olivier, Nicolas et Julie ainsi que d'autres parents et amis. Elle a été prédécédée par son frère Jean Edmond Roussy de Pointe-à-la-Garde.



Emily Marie Palmer, K.C. (LLB'81)
1949 - 2024

For 34 years, with fierce determination, Emily proudly served her clients and community as a lawyer in Sussex, NB, before retiring in 2016. She received her Bachelor of Arts from St. Thomas University; Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of New Brunswick and given recognition as Queen's Counsel in 2003 for her commitment to the legal profession. She was a member of the Sussex Baptist Church, a past mayor and deputy mayor of the Town of Sussex, as well as past chairman of District 18 School Board. A loyal monarchist all her life, she was past president and member of Sir Leonard Tilley Chapter, IODE, and Royal Chapter IODE.

Emily was devoted to her family and one of her greatest joys was the birth of her grandchildren, Kieran and Alex, in 2012. Emily loved her family and will be remembered for her warm smile and generous spirit.

In Memoriam



Suzanne Ball (LLB'82)
1942 - 2024

Suzanne had a varied career. She began teaching, after one year of teacher's college, but continued studying, for 14 years, to complete her Bachelor of Arts Degree. She was eventually recruited from Princess Elizabeth School to work in the Rates and Regulations department at NBTel, and remained employed there while she studied Law at UNB. She worked for Saint John City Hall; WorkSafe NB; and retired at 72 from a rewarding career at the NB Securities Commission.

Suzanne was well spoken, well written, had strong principles and a deep sense of justice. She always knew the fair and right thing to do. These skills and traits complimented her natural leadership abilities in leading committees to raise funds for a women's residence at UNBSJ, exploring converting the Admiral Beatty Hotel into a Senior's Complex, and running for the Liberal Party in the 1970s.

Suzanne's compassion always extended beyond friends and family. Sandy Point was the gathering place where many were hosted over the years: international students, friends on hard times, family from away, strangers who needed a roof. What a way to leave a mark on a person's life, to invite them in and show them that they have a safe place to stay in paradise. In 2016, she and Walter were awarded the YMCA Peace Award for their involvement in welcoming refugees and newcomers to Saint John.



James Michael Deane (LLB'85)
1955 - 2024

[Michael] was born and raised in London, Ontario, where he received his business degree from the Ivey Business School at Western. He then ventured east and received his law degree from the University of New Brunswick, where he met Lesley. Michael practiced law for over 37 years. He started his career in London before moving to Kitchener. He practiced for the last twenty-plus years with the firm Levesque and Deane. In both his personal and professional life, he was a very generous and caring person. He was always offering advice and support to family, friends, and clients. His unique sense of humor and charming personality was unforgettable. From an early age, Michael loved sports: especially baseball (Detroit Tigers) and hockey (Kitchener Rangers and Toronto Maple Leafs), which was further amplified when he became actively involved with coaching his son in his favourite sports. He took great pride and pleasure in his role with the Board of Directors of the Kitchener Rangers Hockey Club for over 15 years, serving as the President from 2020-2023, and more recently the Past President.



Nadine Elizabeth Gareau (LLB'88)
1960 - 2024

Originally from Ottawa, Nadine attended Elmwood School during her elementary and secondary years. She was proud to be one of the Elmwood "old girls" and cherished her lifelong friendships that she made there. After Elmwood, Nadine earned an undergraduate degree from St. Francis Xavier University and a law degree at the University of New Brunswick.

She was passionate about the well-being of children and dedicated her professional career to child protection, acting as legal counsel to the Children's Aid Society of Algoma for many years. She would occasionally come across children that she had

helped in that role which gave her a tremendous amount of pride. Nadine was also passionate about dogs, and often joked that she got along better with dogs than she did with humans. She will be missed by her Golden Retriever Justie who was her inseparable companion.

Although she was raised in Ottawa, Nadine's heart belonged to Nova Scotia, and particularly at Malignant Cove where she spent her summers growing up surrounded by her extended family. She developed many close relationships at the Cove, especially with the Chisholm siblings who became like family to her.



John Allan Shaw (LLB'88)

1952 - 2024

Allan attended UPEI, where he graduated with a B.A., and then went on to get a Masters in Adult Education from St. Francis Xavier University. He worked as a Rural Development Officer and Community Resource Worker at the Regional Services Centre, and then transitioned to working as a teacher and program development officer at the Holland College Leadership Institute.

In 1985, he returned to university with the support of his wife, Wendy, and he earned his law degree from the University of New Brunswick. He worked as a lawyer in Alberton, PEI, until 2007 when he retired due to illness. He was proud to serve the members of his community, and he delighted in sitting down and sharing stories with others.

Allan grew up as an animal lover. He showed cows with his 4-H club in O'Leary, and he particularly loved owning horses and dogs. A staunch supporter of rural PEI and agriculture, he served on many agricultural boards and committees to which he humbly devoted his time and energy. He was a long-time board member and past president of the Prince County Exhibition, past president and board member of the PEI Association of Exhibitions, a long-time 4-H leader, a past Sunday school teacher at Elmsdale United Church, a contributor to writing the O'Leary Hockeyville book, and a member of a large variety of other boards and committees.



Ronald Hogan (LLB'05)

1956 - 2024

Ronald was a man of many careers from musician to various blue-collar jobs before going back to university later in life to graduate as a lawyer and finally crown prosecutor. He ended his career overseeing project sales with Kent.

Ronald was a lifelong musician who entertained many with his wonderful voice and guitar playing with a presence that could fill a room. Also being a passionate sports fan, Ronald would never miss a Toronto Raptors game cheering them on with pride every step of the way.

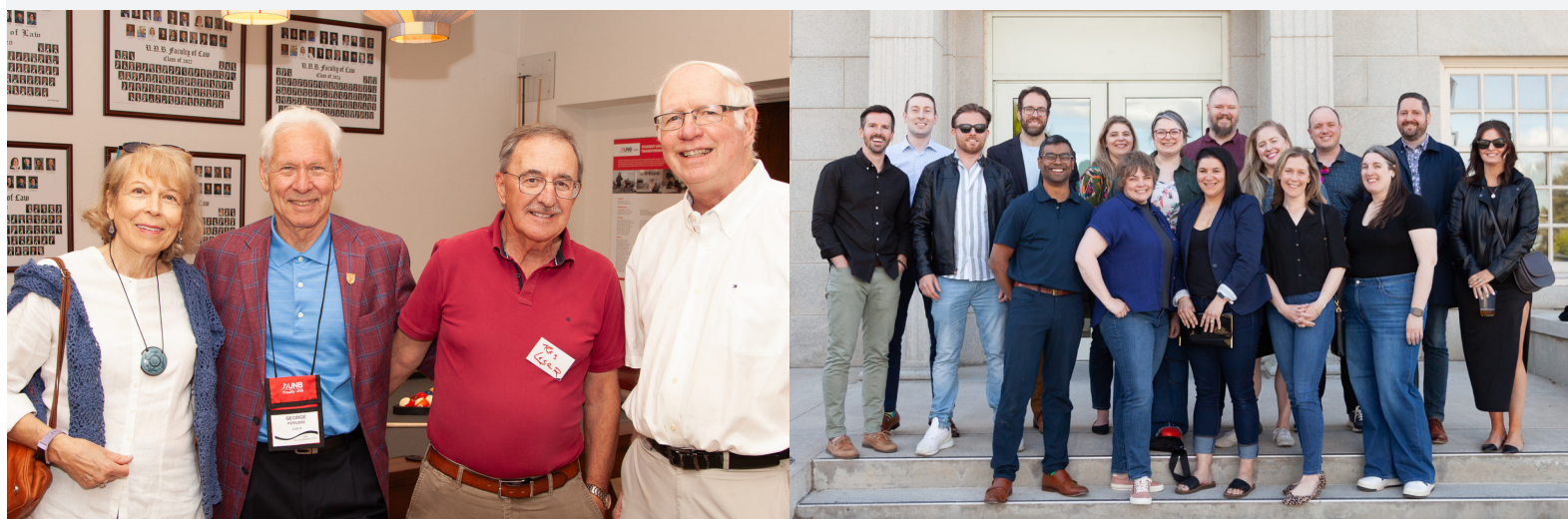
Above all, Ronald was most known for his kindness, thoughtfulness, and understanding. If anyone was ever in need, he was there to answer the call with a smile and a quip, helping in any way he could. Anyone who knew him knows he would drop everything on a moment's notice to assist friends, family, and even strangers with anything they needed.

GET INVOLVED

UNB LAW IS YOUR LAW SCHOOL

Do you have a story idea for Nexus? Would like to tour the building and see what's changed? Are you and your classmates hoping to host a reunion at the law school or an alumni event in your hometown? Interested in establishing a class scholarship or exploring other donation options? Hoping to volunteer with a student group or society? Or just looking to learn more about our vision for the future of UNB Law? We want to hear from you!

If you would like to get involved at UNB Law, please contact lawdean@unb.ca.





KEEP IN TOUCH

Follow UNB Law on Facebook and Twitter

 /unblaw  @unblaw

Follow the Law Library on Facebook and Twitter

 /UNBLawLibrary  @UNBLawlibrary

Remember to update your contact information with UNB Alumni by visiting:

UNB.CA/ALUMNI/UPDATES

Editor & Creative Director: Ed Bowes

For comments or story ideas, or to receive a print copy, email us at nexus@unb.ca

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue.