I AM A TRAILBLAZER

My legal training at Robson Hall has helped me with an eclectic legal career. I was one of the first lawyers assigned to the Canadian Justice Department War Crimes section and I was privileged to sit as a judge at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Now I face the very particular challenges that come with being the first Ombudsperson for the Security Council Al Qaida Sanctions Committee. In such posts, I suppose it is natural that you have to “blaze” some new trails when all that is in front of you is a very thick forest!

- KIMBERLY PROST, Ombudsperson to the UN Security Council’s Al Qaida Sanctions Committee, University Gold Medalist, LL.B. 1981
A Robson Hall legal education is a passport to ground breaking work anywhere in the world.

Robson Hall Faculty of Law is renowned for its dynamic and interdisciplinary approach to the study of law. For nearly 100 years, the faculty has graduated some of Canada’s most influential people and many remarkable lawyers who practice around the world.

Robson Hall offers a three year Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree program that starts with the fundamental courses that allow students to acquire a solid foundation in law. From the foundational courses, students can move into legal specialties of their choice including: Aboriginal law, business law, and human rights law.

Robson Hall also offers a one year Masters of Law (LL.M.) degree program that is an advanced, thesis-based, research-intensive program which attracts students from across Canada and around the world. Students seeking a graduate education in law have the flexibility to choose their own topics of research.

Robson Hall is a vibrant research community, contributing to the advancement of legal knowledge, and the development of public policy across Canada and around the globe.
Define Your Future

Robson Hall offers an exceptional education paired with supports and opportunities to build a successful legal career.

Robson Hall prepares professionals who emerge well versed in legal principles, concepts and theory, and know how to think critically.

There are numerous opportunities for students to put the skills and knowledge they learn in the classroom into practical action through involvement in a range of clinical programs. Students have the chance to work alongside accomplished professors whose works are published extensively in international journals. The faculty has also developed Canada’s first journal focusing on human rights.

As the only law school in Manitoba, Robson Hall enjoys a strong, exclusive relationship with practicing lawyers and judges in the province who teach and mentor students throughout their studies.

Robson Hall is known for its friendly, collegial environment, small class sizes, diverse student body, supportive faculty and staff, state-of-the-art “SMART” classrooms, and research facilities. We are truly a legal community like no other.
I left a comfortable career in search of a new adventure, a profession that would test me and continually force me outside of my comfort zone. Every day is a new experience that challenges me to see what I can achieve.

- DAN BYMA, Student, Pitblado Scholar, B.Comm, J.D. 2012
I AM A CREATOR

When you perpetually face stereotypes of who you are and who you can’t be - having access to opportunities and learning is critical in order to create the tools necessary to blaze new trails beyond the status quo. The Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba has empowered me and encouraged me to be a creator of my own destiny, and enabled me to work towards a place of belonging.

- TANYA KAPPO, Student, recipient of the Indigenous Bar Association Law Student Scholarship, J.D. 2012
Explore An Area of Focus

Aboriginal Law & Policy

Robson Hall is a welcoming place for Aboriginal law students, and a place where all students can enhance their awareness of the legal issues facing Aboriginal communities.

Robson Hall offers several courses with a specific focus on Aboriginal people and Canadian law. Many of our faculty members are actively involved in research in this area and are available for LL.M. supervision. This research includes engagement with Aboriginal communities and with other faculties on campus.

LL.M. and J.D. students may choose a concentration in Aboriginal Law and Policy. The program is enhanced with opportunities to work with faculty on research projects as paid summer research assistants, attend the Indigenous Bar Association Conference; engage in presentations featuring Aboriginal guest speakers, participate in the Kawaskimhon Moot, or join the Manitoba Aboriginal Law Students Association.

Our Aboriginal Admissions Category is designed to facilitate access to legal education and the legal profession for Aboriginal people. Consideration is given to the applicant’s involvement with and commitment to Aboriginal communities and organizations, and the applicant’s intention to use his or her legal training to advance Aboriginal concerns and interests. Academic support, financial aid, awards and bursaries are available specifically for Aboriginal students.
Explore An Area of Focus

Business Law

While other law schools focus their business education on publicly-traded corporations and multibillion dollar deals, Robson Hall focuses on the issues and needs faced by the majority of private businesses that drive the Canadian economy.

The Marcel A. Desautels Centre for Private Enterprise and the Law, the L. Kerry Vickar Business Law Clinic, and the Asper Chair in International Business and Trade Law provide opportunities for students to develop interdisciplinary expertise and practical skills. Students emerge prepared to work with clients and deal with their business issues.

LL.M. and J.D. students may choose a concentration in Business Law. In the Art of the Deal course emphasis is placed on transactional matters and questions of professional responsibility and ethics. The L. Kerry Vickar Business Law Clinic provides students with opportunities to work with non-profit organizations on issues related to incorporation and governance.

Students may participate in international commercial dispute resolution competitions, or work as interns with a focus in international business law, through the Asper Chair in International Business and Trade Law. The Business Law student group organizes regular guest speakers, a virtual stock exchange competition, and various social activities.
I AM AN EXPLORER

As a former exploration geologist I approach the practice of law with the same sense of adventure and discovery.

I am a rebel but not without a cause. I chose to bring community and global issues to the forefront at Robson Hall. I show others what can be done through hard work, perseverance and strength. I lead by example because I know actions speak louder than words.

- RANA BOKHARI, Student, President of the Manitoba Law Students Association, J.D. 2012
Human Rights

At Robson Hall a passionate team of faculty members are committed to human rights issues and the role of law in achieving social justice.

Many faculty members focus on human rights and have built significant research reputations in this area. Robson Hall is home to the University of Manitoba’s Centre for Human Rights Research Initiative (CHRR), and the first academic journal in Canada to focus on Human Rights, the Canadian Journal of Human Rights (CJHR).

The CHRR is bringing people and organizations together to enhance interdisciplinary and collaborative research capacities, create richer training opportunities for students, and facilitate the fusion of research driven knowledge, public policy and intellectual debate. The Centre has been involved in helping the Truth and Reconciliation Commission achieve its objectives and strong collaborations are developing with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, located in Winnipeg.

LL.M. and J.D. students may choose a concentration in Human Rights. Students may participate in the activities of the CHRR or volunteer as a junior editor at the CJHR. As well, students can work alongside faculty as paid summer research assistants, volunteer at a legal clinic, attend a distinguished visitor guest lecture, or participate in one of the many diverse student groups concerned with the relationship between equality and the law.
Make a Difference

At Robson Hall, we believe education has a transformative power for students, their families, and communities. We actively strive to find solutions to the challenges faced by Canadians.

Students who want to put their legal education into practice may become involved in the Legal Help Centre, the University Law Centre, or the L. Kerry Vickar Business Law Clinic. Student led groups promoting greater understanding of the current world in which we live include: Pro Bono Students Canada, the Feminist Legal Forum, the Manitoba Aboriginal Law Students Association (MALSA), Outlaws, the Business Law Group, and Canadian Lawyers Abroad.

Robson Hall students have volunteered in places like Bangladesh, Togo, and Malawi, gaining valuable insight into a variety of human rights and social justice issues by participating in international service learning experiences. Faculty and staff at Robson Hall are committed to serving the University and the broader community through a variety of efforts ranging from service on boards, fundraising for the United Way, and other volunteer community work.

Faculty and students can pursue research in the areas of human rights, social justice, and equality through: the Legal Research Institute, the Centre for Human Rights Research, the Social Justice and Human Rights Research Project, the Asper Chair of International Business and Trade Law, the Canadian Journal for Human Rights, and the Canadian Journal of Women and the Law.
I AM A VISIONARY

My Ojibway name is Mizana Geezhik “The one who speaks of pictures in the sky.” It is about speaking of visions. The Elders say that I see the way things could be and must strive to make it understood by all so they can strive to make it happen.

- THE HON. MR. JUSTICE MURRAY SINCLAIR, Manitoba Court of Queen’s Bench, & Chair of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada, LL.B. 1979, LL.D 2002
I became part of the first substantial group of women to enter the legal profession in Manitoba and the second woman ever appointed to the Manitoba Court of Appeal. I hope that I have helped smooth the path for the women that followed me.

- THE HON. MADAM JUSTICE FREDA STEEL, Manitoba Court of Appeal, LL.B. 1975
Develop a Solid Argument

At Robson Hall we have the highest success rate in the top national moot competitions of all the Western Canadian law schools. We also have our own Negotiation Competition. Interested students can succeed at a variety of national and international competitions.

Robson Hall is renowned for its strong advocacy education, which includes several required and optional courses in legal advocacy, as well as a number of mooting opportunities throughout the J.D. program.

J.D. students get their first taste of oral advocacy during the mooting exercise in Legal Methods in first year. Students also have the opportunity to “Judge Shadow” at the Law Courts in the first year Legal Systems course. Students observe and learn from a Provincial Court judge and a Court of Queen’s Bench justice. First year students also volunteer as clerks and witnesses in “Mock Trial” competitions. By volunteering, students are introduced to pre-trial and courtroom procedure, useful in the second year Advocacy course. In second and third year, students are offered further opportunities to develop their advocacy skills:

- The Solomon Greenberg Competition
- The Western Moot
- The Sopinka Cup
- The Laskin Moot
- The Wilson Moot
- The Corporate Securities Moot
- The Kawaskimhon Moot
- The RH Negotiation Competition
- The ABA Negotiation Competition
- The International Competition for Mediation Advocacy
Build Your Experience

Whether you want to develop your leadership skills, network, volunteer, or be active, your life will be enriched by the activities that take you beyond the classroom and expand your learning.

ACTIVE LIVING

- The Law Curling League
- The Winnipeg Law Hockey League (Robson Hall Jets)
- The Annual MLSA Golf Tournament
- Intramurals: basketball, dodge ball, floor hockey, soccer, ultimate frisbee, touch football, ice hockey, and volleyball.
- Campus Recreational Facilities: a six-lane pool and diving area, two weight training areas, gymnasiums, squash and racquetball courts, indoor track, and a dry sauna. Fitness and dance programs are also offered.

SOCIAL/NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

- Call to the Bar (pub night)
- The Carbolic Smoke Ball
- Coffeehouse Talent Show
- The Canada Law Games
- MBA Mentorship Program

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Exchange Programs
- Internship and Service Learning Opportunities

STUDENT GROUPS

- Billlingual Students Association
- Business Law Group
- Canadian Lawyers Abroad
- The Citator
- Christian Legal Fellowship
- Environmental Law Group
- Family Law Group
- Feminist Legal Forum
- Manitoba Aboriginal Law Students Association
- Manitoba Law Students Association
- Mediators Beyond Borders
- Outlaws
- Poverty Law Society
- Pro Bono Students Canada
Upon graduation during somewhat more revolutionary times, I thought it important to stand up for Canada, and hold people accountable where the circumstances demanded action. More recently, I am defending criminal laws at the international level in Europe and, at the same time, defending the average person against the prospect of being wrongfully convicted in Canada.

- BRUCE A. MACFARLANE, Q.C., LL.B. 1973
When I first arrived here, people were quick to point out Manitoba’s long and severe winters. Nearly three winters on, basking in the warm collegiality of the Robson Hall community, I have written a thesis, earned an LL.M., and now teach a law course I’m really passionate about.

- BRYCE JATTO, recipient of the Desautels Fellowship in Private Enterprise & the Law, LL.M. 2011
Achieve Your Goals

Robson Hall offers an exceptional education and recognizes excellence in academic achievement. We are committed to attracting the best students and helping students achieve their goals.

Robson Hall is dedicated to helping students reach their goals. Our collegial academic environment encourages students to excel. Smaller class sizes ensure students receive more personalized instruction. By offering admission categories for mature and Aboriginal students and the option of half-time studies, Robson Hall promotes diversity. Robson Hall has a comprehensive needs-based financial aid and bursary program of over $450,000 annually, and we strive to ensure that all students are supported according to their needs.

We are committed to attracting the best students by offering 10 annual Entrance Awards ranging from $2500 to $6000. Student performance and merit is recognized through academic awards in every course. Dean’s Honour List students entering second year or third year receive a $5000 scholarship and are named Pitblado Scholars, and all LL.M. students receive fellowships.

In helping students achieve their goals Robson Hall offers a wide range of in-house student services. The Academic Support Program ensures students who have difficulties with course material don’t fall behind. The Career Development office is dedicated to assisting students in their search for summer and articling positions. Our students secure top quality placements across Canada, as well as in Manitoba. At Robson Hall we get to know your name and we get to know you.
Discover our Community

Discover a culturally diverse, vibrant, and welcoming community. Enjoy four distinct seasons in a beautiful campus setting.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
Welcome to the University of Manitoba - western Canada’s first university. Founded more than 130 years ago, and located in the heart of the country, we are the region’s largest and only research intensive university. We are leaders in areas such as nanotechnology, functional foods and nutraceuticals, HIV/AIDS, and climate change. The University of Manitoba has produced more Rhodes Scholars than any other university in Western Canada. At the U of M, there are over 100 diverse student groups and recreation clubs, travel exchange programs, and community service projects at home and abroad. The Bison sports program is a source of great pride at the University of Manitoba. The Bison men’s football team, recent winners of the Vanier Cup, is only one example in a diverse athletic program that includes hockey, volleyball, basketball and soccer, with 14 national championships under its belt. The University of Manitoba offers you many ways to connect, develop leadership skills, and expand your awareness and understanding of our world.

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Home to over 750,000 people, Winnipeg is a culturally diverse city that offers a warm, welcoming spirit coupled with a cosmopolitan, international flair, reasonably priced housing on and off campus, and a thriving arts, sports, and cultural scene. Close proximity to Manitoba’s natural parks and beautiful lakes makes Winnipeg a great city to live in.
Our Supporters

It is the remarkable connection that the law school enjoys with members of the legal profession here in the city, around the province and across the country that allows us to be so strong.

Much of our teaching and the variety of clinical programs we offer are made possible by the support and involvement of practicing members of the bar and the judiciary who include teaching and mentorship of law students as an integral part of their busy work days.

Our alumni have been a great source of support for many of our initiatives, allowing us to develop the resources required by faculty and students. We continue to enhance our programs and course offerings and our learning and research environment continues to evolve and thrive. Student services such as our Career Development Office are expanding and we are proud to be able to offer one of the most generous bursary and award programs of any professional school.

It is our mission to offer an excellent legal education. We have a responsibility to provide the profession with stellar graduates, well versed in law and legal theory, and skilled in the art of legal practice. You help us nurture students who adhere to the highest standards of professional conduct, and inspire future legal minds.

Our supporters truly have enriched the legal education offered at Robson Hall. We look forward to a future of continued excellence.