



Faculty of Law
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Dear First Year Law Student,

With great pleasure, I welcome you to Robson Hall to pursue your Juris Doctor degree in the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba. On behalf of our academic faculty, library professionals and administrative staff we are delighted that you have chosen to pursue your legal studies with us and we offer you a very warm and heart-felt "Welcome".

At Robson Hall, we are proud to be one of the oldest Law Schools in Western Canada, having celebrated our centenary in 2014, and this year, our 50th year of the Law Faculty being housed on the beautiful Fort Garry Campus of the University of Manitoba. By joining us you are becoming part of the legacy of an institution that is well recognized for its dynamic and innovative approach to teaching, research and scholarship. We offer an exceptional educational experience, providing an opportunity to work with accomplished professors, whose works are widely published in leading journals, boasting national and international standing. Our strengths lie in the fields of human rights, Aboriginal law and policy, business law and professional practice, as well as international and comparative law. We are home to several well-known scholarly journals, including *The Canadian Journal of Human Rights* - Canada's only journal focusing on human rights, *The Manitoba Law Journal*, *The Asper Review of International Business and Trade Law* as well as the series on *Nuclear Non-Proliferation in International Law* published by Asser Press. This fall, we welcome our first Master of Human Rights students who hail from many different countries and academic disciplines.

Our students receive excellent training in the skills of critical and analytical thinking, advocacy and a diverse legal knowledge through experiential and classroom learning that open doors of opportunities for them to join our community of lawyers and leaders who work hard to serve the public interest and the administration of justice. New this year, are a number of Externships. These opportunities to get hands-on experiential learning will be available to you in your upper years. We pride ourselves on offering these opportunities in a range of courses and volunteer organizations which are both practice-based and research-informed, including Pro Bono Students of Canada, the L. Kerry Vickar Business Law Clinic, the Legal Aid Manitoba University Law Clinic, an expanded Court Clerkship program, the Legal Help Centre, our many moots, and various competitions. At Robson Hall, we recognize the transformative power of education for individuals, their families and communities.

It is an exciting time to be a student at Robson Hall as we focus our attention on the legal challenges facing society and the legal profession in a modern world, providing new and exciting opportunities for you to be at the heart of the future. We educate leaders who promote social justice and progress through economy, emphasizing that the legal profession serves the public good.

We are all looking forward to welcoming you personally to Robson Hall and answering any questions you might have regarding your studies with us. We regard you as being at the heart of Robson Hall and endeavour to support you in your academic and professional success. We ask you to be ambitious and to set your sights high and we look forward to assisting you to pursue your goals.

Dr. Jonathan L. Black-Branch
Dean, Faculty of Law