

Dear Robson Hall Class of 2025,

Bienvenue à la Faculté de droit de l'Université du Manitoba! Law school starts in eight weeks, and we are very much looking forward to meeting you all. For the 2022-2023 academic year, we are excited to be planning a welcome return to in-person classes, where you will have the opportunity to engage with your peers and professors about important and topical issues, including systemic racism, discrimination, human rights and reconciliation. Vos professeurs se préparent à vous offrir une expérience d'apprentissage enrichissante dans un environnement à la fois sécuritaire et stimulant.

Nous souhaitons vous donner des mises à jour au sujet de notre programme bilingue novateur. A few of you have already indicated an interest in participating in the bilingual program starting in September, and it is not too late if you haven't yet let us know of your interest. Many of you may not have used your French in an academic context for a few years, and so you may feel unsure about participating in the bilingual program. To support your participation, our partners at Université de Saint-Boniface have formulated a language assessment to provide you with a sense of your readiness for the program. The assessment also allows us to determine what supports you might need to be successful, including French tutors (at no cost), who will be available year-round to help with assignments or to answer any French language questions that you may have. Information about the assessment can be found on the Robson Hall website. We encourage you to make use of this opportunity for feedback and support that will allow you to build strong skills for your future as a bilingual lawyer. For the third year running, the Government of Canada is funding bursaries for Anglophone students studying in French in post-secondary studies. Nous avons jusqu'à dix bourses de \$3,000 pour les étudiants dans notre programme bilingue pour les aider à défrayer le coût de leurs études de droit. For additional information or to be considered for a bursary, please contact [Lexa Moorhouse](#).

En plus des évaluations langagières et des tuteurs, nous offrirons un « Bilingual Buddy Program » dans lequel vous serez jumelés avec un étudiant bilingue de deuxième ou troisième année qui aura déjà suivi un cours de droit en français dans le passé. Your "buddy" will be able to provide guidance to you throughout your studies and answer any questions you may have regarding bilingual courses, the French language moots and internships, and more. We encourage you to take advantage of this resource as it provides a valuable opportunity for you to get acquainted with your bilingual peers in the legal profession. Last but not least, we offer a course called "Passeport du droit en français 1". Scheduled once every two weeks after your Méthodes juridiques class, Passeport will bring together first- and upper-year students taking bilingual course offerings to attend seminars on themes relating to the bilingual practice of law in Western Canada and the access to justice needs of francophone communities. Vous développerez progressivement votre compréhension de la langue française et vos compétences en communication tout en créant des liens avec vos collègues bilingues qui vous seront très utiles lorsque vous commencerez la pratique du droit.

For the first time in its history, the Faculty of Law is offering students entering the first year of their JD program the opportunity to earn a Concentration in Access to Justice in French, a course of study approved by the University of Manitoba Senate in January of this year. Les étudiants qui complèteront au moins 26 des 92 crédits de leur programme JD dans des cours bilingues obtiendront la Concentration en accès à la justice en français en reconnaissance des efforts qu'ils auront déployés à acquérir les compétences nécessaires pour

desservir leurs clients dans les deux langues officielles.

To learn more about these exciting opportunities please consult the [bilingual course offerings webpage](#) and the University of Manitoba's [Academic Calendar](#). If you have further questions, please email [FrancaisJuridique@umanitoba.ca](mailto:FrancaisJuridique@umanitoba.ca). We would be happy to connect you with a buddy and answer your questions.

Finally, please get in touch to let us know of your interest by August 15th to help us plan a warm welcome to the bilingual program. This will also allow us to communicate with you in advance of the term to provide information about courses and Orientation activities focused on the students in our bilingual program.

Au plaisir,

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