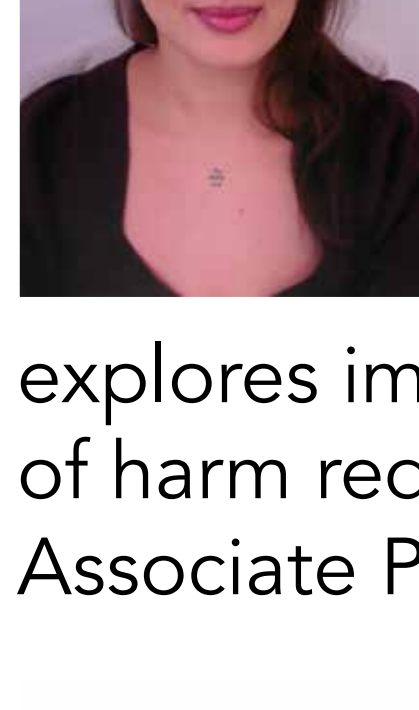


# ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA | 2024 AWARD WINNERS

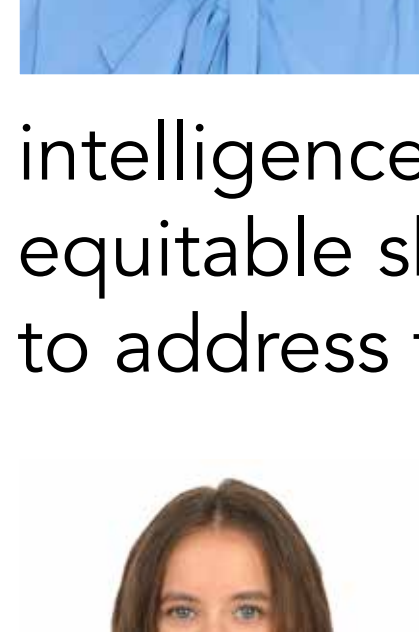
## Alice Wilson Awards

*To three women of outstanding academic qualifications in the Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences or Science who are entering a career in scholarship or research at the postdoctoral level.*



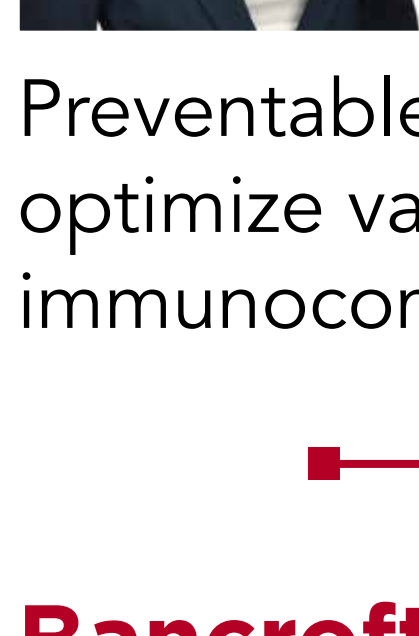
### DE SHALIT, Ann | School of Social Work, University of Windsor

Ann De Shalit's postdoctoral research considers the political and media rhetoric framing Canada's safe(r) supply programming, a harm reduction measure that responds to rising rates of overdose and death from the unregulated toxic drug supply. The project explores impacts of misinformed rhetoric on program delivery and safety of harm reduction users and workers. It is supervised by Dr. Adrian Guta, Associate Professor at University of Windsor's School of Social Work.



### REZK, Eman | Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Waterloo

Eman Rezk is an NSERC Postdoctoral Fellow at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Waterloo. Eman obtained her PhD in Computational Science and Engineering from McMaster University. Her research is centred on the interface of artificial intelligence and healthcare. Eman's work created a new research thrust on equitable skin cancer diagnosis, harnessing the power of artificial intelligence to address the lack of racial data diversity.

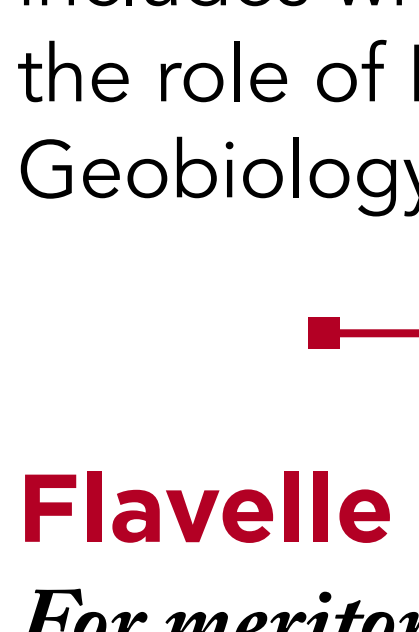


### SHAPIRO, Janna | Department of Immunology, University of Toronto

Janna Shapiro obtained her PhD from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in 2022. She was then appointed as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto in the Department of Immunology and the Center for Vaccine Preventable Diseases. Her research uses inter-disciplinary methods to optimize vaccine outcomes in special populations, with current work on immunocompromised children with leukemia and rheumatic diseases.

## Bancroft Award

*For instruction and research in the science of geology*

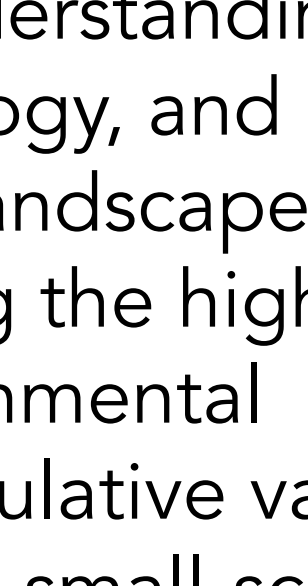


### KONHAUSER, Kurt | Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alberta

Kurt Konhauser stands as a prominent figure in the field of Geobiology. The central theme running through his research is the recognition that life shapes the environment to the same degree that environmental change drives the spatial and temporal distribution of life. Through his active promotion of the field, which includes writing the textbook "Introduction to Geomicrobiology", assuming the role of Editor-in-Chief of the journal "Geobiology", and founding of the Geobiology Society, it has matured into a prolific research frontier.

## Flavelle Medal

*For meritorious achievement in biological science*

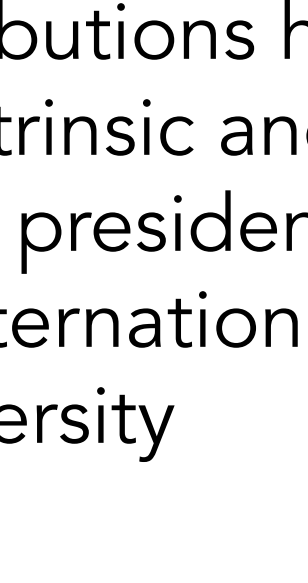


### FAHRIG, Lenore | Department of Biology, Carleton University

Lenore Fahrig has created paradigm shifts in our understanding of habitat connectivity and fragmentation, road ecology, and sustainable agriculture, helping define the fields of landscape ecology and road ecology. Her citation rate is among the highest in ecology, and her work is frequently used in environmental policy. Dr. Fahrig's recent work showing the disproportionate cumulative value of small habitat patches overturns decades of bias and empowers small-scale habitat protection efforts.

## Innis-Gérin Medal

*For a distinguished and sustained contribution to the literature of the social sciences*



### VALLERAND, Robert | Département de psychologie, Université du Québec à Montréal

Robert Vallerand is one of the most influential social psychologists, particularly with respect to motivational processes. His theoretical, methodological, and empirical contributions have strongly influenced several fields, such as those of intrinsic and extrinsic motivation and the concept of passion. He has served as president of several learned societies and has received several national and international awards. He has also trained numerous students who are now university professors across Canada and in Europe.

## J.B. Tyrrell Historical Medal

*For outstanding work in the history of Canada*



### HIGH, Steven | Department of History, Concordia University

Steven High's innovative approach to oral and public history, especially in relation to the study of the structural violence of deindustrialization, has earned him a global reputation for excellence in historical research. His award-winning research has put Canada at the centre of important global conversations about what a "just transition" might look like given past failures. He is a public-facing scholar, long committed to engaging wider publics.

## John L. Synge Award

*For outstanding research in any of the branches of the mathematical sciences*



### TSIMERMAN, Jacob | Department of Mathematics, University of Toronto

Jacob Tsimerman works in the field of arithmetic and complex geometry. He graduated from Princeton in 2011 under Peter Sarnak, and is currently the Ted Mossman chair at the University of Toronto. His major works include the resolution of the Andre-Oort and Griffiths conjectures.

## Kitty Newman Memorial Award

*For outstanding contributions from an emerging scholar in the field of philosophy*

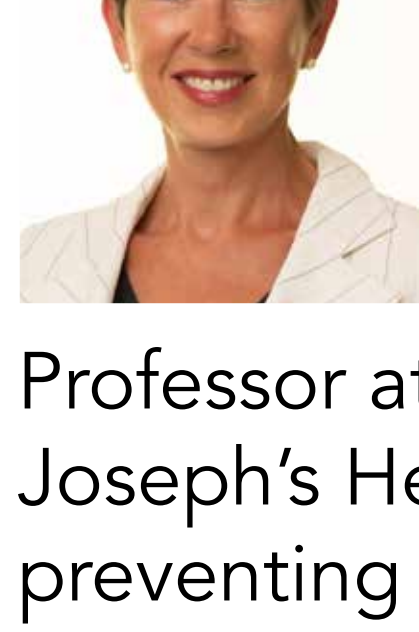


### SHARIFF, Azim | Department of Psychology, The University of British Columbia

Azim Shariff is a Professor and Canada 150 Research Chair in the Department of Psychology at the University of British Columbia. He is one of the world's leading young scholars in the areas of social psychology. He has gained international acclaim for his research, which delves into subjects such as the connection between religion and morality, and the way that people emotionally and intellectually react to emerging technologies.

## Lorne Pierce Medal

*For an achievement in critical or imaginative literature*



### PANOFSKY, Ruth | Department of English, Toronto Metropolitan University

Award-winning scholar and poet Ruth Panofsky is a leading authority on the history of Canadian publishing and authorship and Canadian Jewish literature. Her pioneering studies have uncovered the contributions of previously neglected writers and editors, publishers and agents, illuminating their role in shaping modern Canadian literary culture and exploring the intricate relationships between gender, culture, and tradition in their work and careers. Her scholarship has deepened our understanding of women's literary lives.

## McLaughlin Medal

*For important research of sustained excellence in medical science*



### COOK, Deborah | Department of Medicine, Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact, McMaster University

Deborah Cook is a world-renowned clinician-scientist in patient-centered critical care medicine. Her multicenter randomized clinical trials have informed guidelines, reducing the toll of death and disability of critical illness world-wide. As a Distinguished Professor at McMaster University and practising critical care consultant at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, Dr. Cook's science spans advanced technology, preventing complications, and research ethics. Her end-of-life research has enhanced humanism in the intensive care unit.

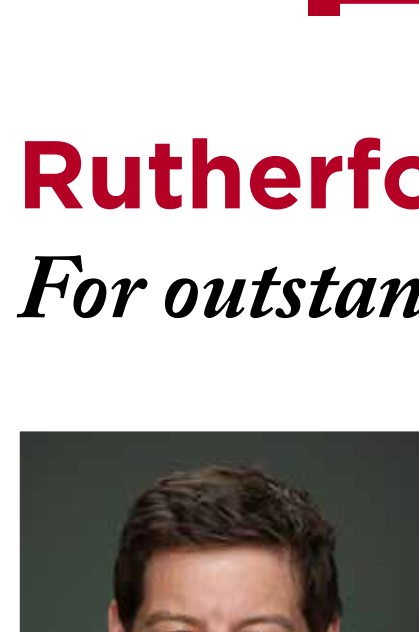
## Michael P. Païdoussis Medal

*For outstanding contributions to research, education and leadership in applied mechanics*



### HUANG, Yonggang | Departments of Mechanical Engineering and Civil and Environmental Engineering, Northwestern University

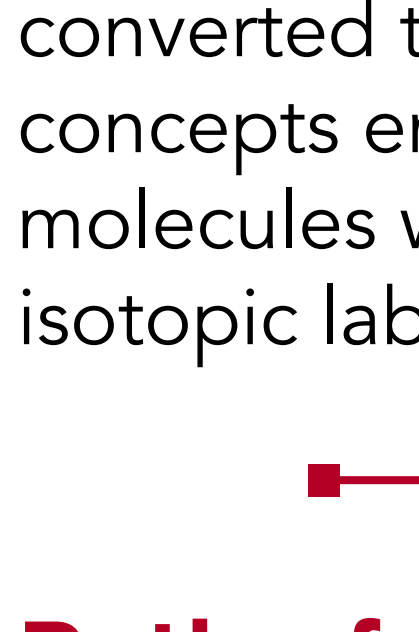
Yonggang Huang is a pioneer for two transformative technologies—stretchable electronics, and deterministic 3D assembly. His vision laid the scientific foundations in these areas leading to important applications in bio-integrated/bio-inspired electronics and medicine. The profound impact he has had on engineering science has led to his election as a member of the US National Academy of Engineering, National Academy of Sciences, and a foreign member of the Royal Society.



This award is made possible with the support of the Canadian National Committee for the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (CNC-IUTAM).

## Mirosław Romanowski Medal

*For scientific work relating to environmental problems*

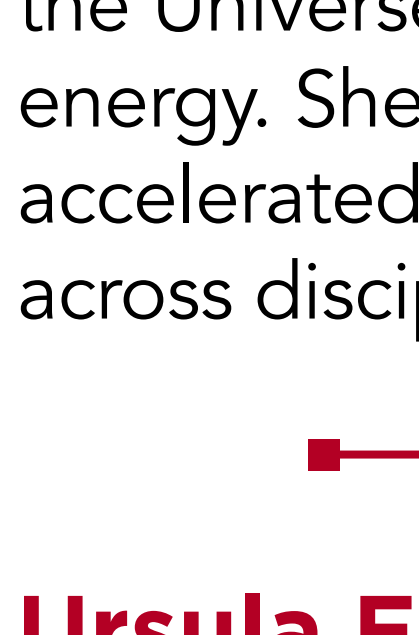


### MULLIGAN, Catherine | Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Concordia University

Catherine Mulligan is an internationally recognized expert in the decontamination of water, soils, and sediments, and a pioneer of green remediation technologies. She is the founding Director of the Concordia Institute of Water, Energy and Sustainable Systems. Her fundamental and applied contributions to research and her service to the engineering profession have been recognized with prestigious awards, including the Fellowship of the Royal Society of Canada.

## Rutherford Memorial Medal (Chemistry)

*For outstanding research in chemistry*

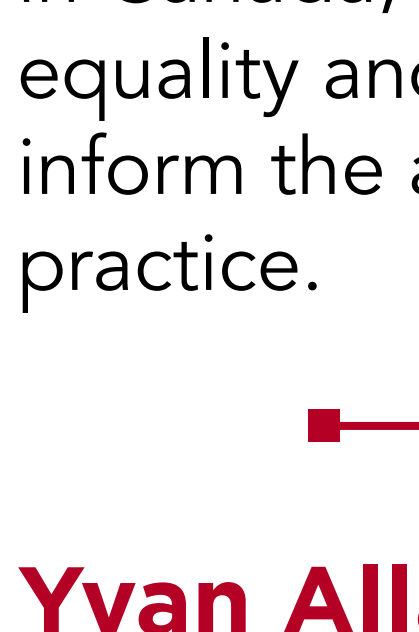


### LUNDGREN, Rylan | Department of Chemistry, University of Alberta

Rylan Lundgren is an internationally recognized expert in the fields of chemical synthesis and catalysis. Through detailed mechanistic investigations, his research provides fundamental insights into how abundant feedstock molecules can be converted to high-value products, by the loss and recapture of CO<sub>2</sub>. These concepts enable new chemical processes for the controlled preparation of molecules with precise three-dimensional structure and for the late-stage isotopic labeling of drugs and bioactive compounds.

## Rutherford Memorial Medal (Physics)

*For outstanding research in physics*



### HLOŽEK, Renée | David A. Dunlap Department of Astronomy & Astrophysics and the Dunlap Institute, University of Toronto

Renée Hložek is one of the world's leading young cosmologists. Her experimental and theoretical analyses of the cosmic microwave background and the distribution of matter and galaxies in the Universe on large scales illuminate the nature of dark matter and dark energy. She studies the cosmos from its first rapid expansion, to its eventual accelerated expanding-state end. She also applies her statistical/ methods across disciplines to answer questions in neuroscience and biology.

## Ursula Franklin Award in Gender Studies

*For contributions to furthering our understanding of issues concerning gender*



### MAHON, Rianne | Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Carleton University

Rianne Mahon's theoretically informed empirical research has broad international influence. She is Canada's top feminist scholar comparing the consequences of policy choices about childcare, care work and women's migration, assessing whether social policy in Canada, Europe, Asia or Latin America will retrench or advance gender equality and inequalities. Her analyses from the local to the international inform the academy while also sought after and influential in the world of practice.

## Yvan Allaire Medal

*For outstanding contributions in governance of public and private organizations*



### NAPOLEON, Valerie | Faculty of Law, University of Victoria

Val Napoleon is Professor and Law Foundation Chair of Indigenous Justice and Governance at the University of Victoria. She researches, publishes, and mobilizes knowledge about Indigenous legal traditions in relation to questions of feminism, citizenship, self-determination, lands, and governance. She leads Canada's Indigenous Law Research Unit, which works with communities and organizations across Canada, to restore Indigenous laws and legal processes. She co-founded the JD/JID (dual law degree program in Indigenous law and Canadian law), and she is leading a new major initiative to holistically rebuild Indigenous legal orders.



This award is made possible with the support of the Institut sur la gouvernance d'organisations privées et publiques (IGOPP).

## Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella Prize

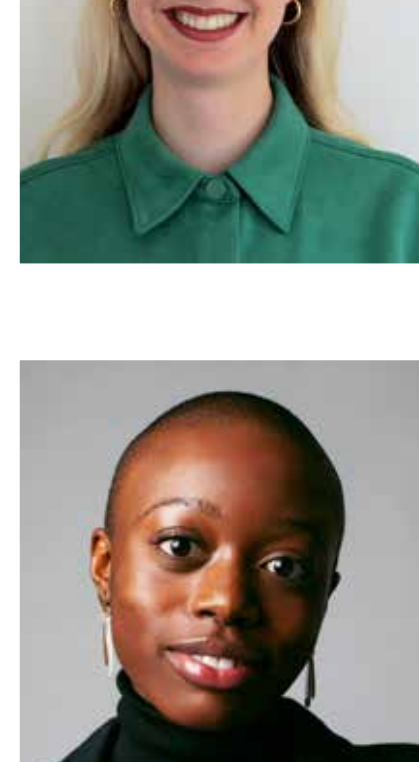
*The Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella Prize is presented annually to a graduating law student in each of the law schools in Canada who is most likely to positively influence equity and social justice in Canada or globally upon graduation.*



### **ABRAHA, Semhar | University of Calgary**

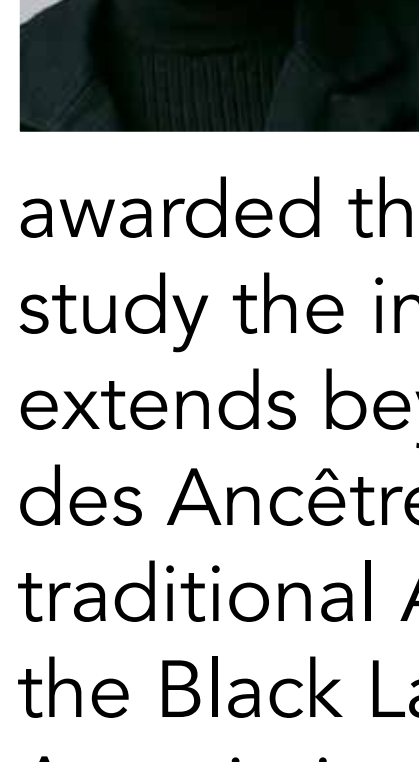
Semhar Abraha, a distinguished law student at the University of Calgary, has earned numerous awards and held various leadership roles. Abraha has made impactful contributions to addressing and resolving social and human rights issues faced by Black and minority individuals. She founded the Violet

King Engaged Scholar Award, expanded the African Studies program, and established sustainable OERs. Additionally, Abraha was instrumental in coordinating the inaugural Black celebration to honour the outstanding Black students and address the systemic issues.



### **ALBERT-ROCHETTE, Michelle | Université Laval**

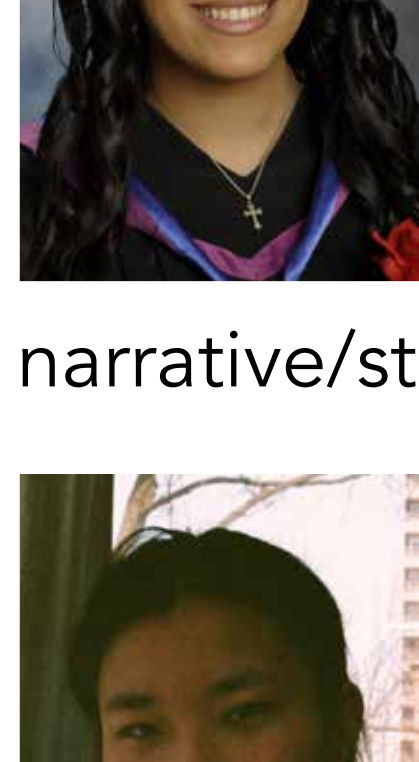
Michelle Albert-Rochette is completing a Master's degree in Law at Université Laval. Her main interest is the societal impact of digital technologies and AI. She has been involved in various projects that promote diversity and tackle discrimination. She will be completing her articling at the Quebec Court of Appeal.



### **AYINA, Raphaëlla | Université d'Ottawa (Droit civil)**

Raphaëlla Ayina, a law student at the University of Ottawa, has made a significant impact through her dedication to social justice and systemic change. As a research assistant in criminal law, she explored the presence of systemic racism within the criminal justice system. In recognition of her contributions, she was

awarded the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Fellowship to study the importance of diversity in the Canadian judiciary. Her involvement extends beyond academia; she represents the African NGO Ordre Suprême des Ancêtres at the United Nations, advocating for the rights and needs of traditional African communities. She has also been actively involved with the Black Law Students Association of Canada and the Black Law Students Association of her Law Faculty. Raphaëlla plans to continue advocating for and supporting marginalized communities during her graduate studies in order to bring about meaningful change at the national and international levels.



### **BESHAY, Mary | Lakehead University**

Mary Beshay is a graduate from Lakehead University's Bora Laskin Faculty of Law. While at Lakehead, Mary has collaborated with her student community, worked in the Newcomer Legal Clinic, and volunteered locally. Mary has a strong passion and focus on improving access to justice, empowering minorities, and

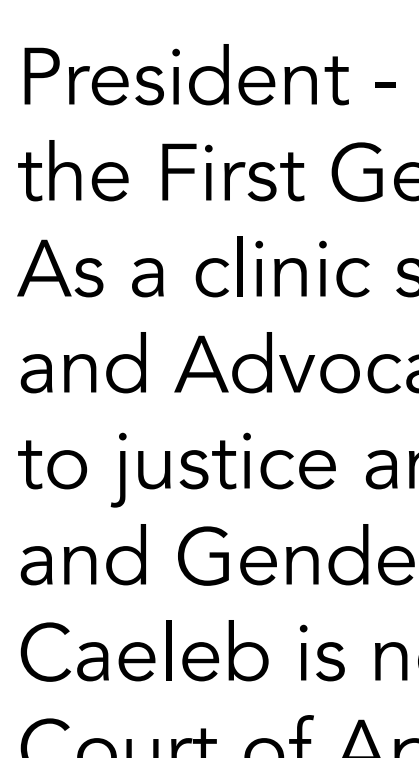
narrative/storytelling.



### **CAO, Yixin | Université du Québec à Montréal**

Yixin Cao lives on unceded Kanien'kehà:ka land. Her involvement at the cliniX (Social Justice Clinic at the Université du Québec à Montréal) and at the Mobile Legal Clinic has allowed her to critically reflect on the false equivalence between law and justice. They're interested in public legal education and community

empowerment.



### **CHRIST, Michael | University of Alberta**

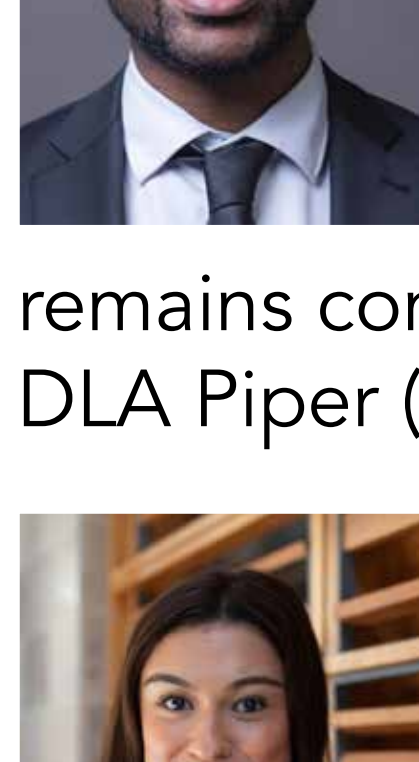
During his studies, Michael Christ was heavily involved with the FACL University of Alberta and Western Chapters. He was fortunate to have worked alongside brilliant individuals to promote equity and opportunity in law school communities through these organizations. He looks forward to continuing his legal career at McMillan LLP in Vancouver.



### **GOFF, Caeleb | University of Toronto**

Caeleb Goff came to law school with one specific goal in mind: to use her knowledge and skills to work toward a more just and equitable society. Drawing from her experience as a social worker and a first-generation student, Caeleb committed her time at UofT law to bettering her community, serving as the Vice

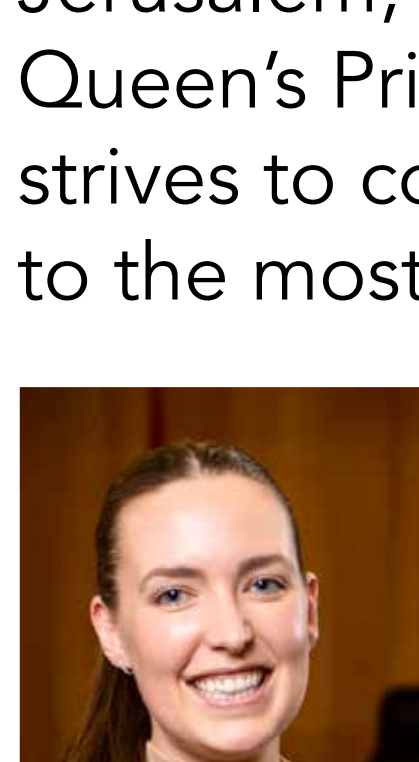
President - Student Life of the Student's Law Society, and as an executive of the First Generation Network and the Peer Mental Health Support Program. As a clinic student at both the David Asper Centre for Constitutional Rights and Advocates for Injured Workers, Caeleb worked to address issues of access to justice and socioeconomic inequality. Earning certificates in Sexual Diversity and Gender Studies as well as Aboriginal Legal Studies upon graduation, Caeleb is now clerking for Chief Justice Marc Richard at the New Brunswick Court of Appeal.



### **GRANOVSKY, Brooke | Western University**

Brooke Granovsky is a graduate of Western University's Faculty of Law. During law school, Brooke acted as a research assistant, peer mentor, public legal education speaker, student caseworker, and criminal law club president while fostering interest in progressive legal issues. She looks forward to articling with MAG-

Constitutional Law Branch.



### **HARRY, Desron | University of Ottawa (Common Law)**

Desron Harry graduated from the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law in 2024. During law school, he was a senior board member on the Ottawa Law Review and a writing leader with the Legal Writing Academy. He also proudly served as the National Chair 2023-2024 of the Black Law Students' Association of Canada and

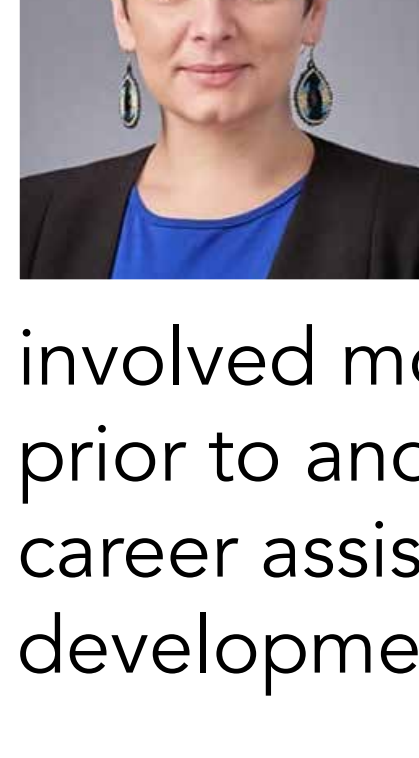
remains committed to supporting and uplift others. He is currently articling at DLA Piper (Canada) LLP in Toronto.



### **HASSANI, Nillab | Queen's University**

As the daughter of Afghan immigrants, Nillab Hassani came to law school with the desire to use her privilege to help marginalized communities. She completed the Public International Law certificate at Bader College. She was an International Law Legal Affairs Intern with UNRWA in East

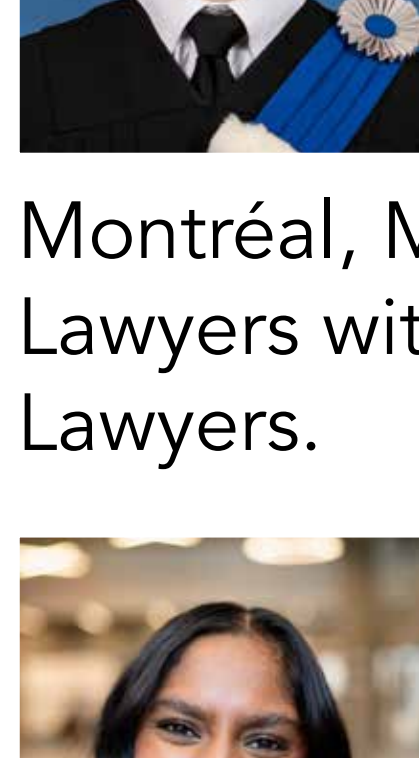
Jerusalem, Palestine. During her studies, she was a caseworker with the Queen's Prison Law Clinic and an editor for the PKI Global Justice Journal. She strives to continue her advocacy for the protection and application of the law to the most destitute domestically and globally.



### **KING, Abigayle | University of New Brunswick**

Abigayle King graduated from the University of New Brunswick's Faculty of Law in 2024. She served as Chair of the Student Disciplinary Committee in her final year, having been involved with the committee throughout her degree. Abigayle was heavily involved in the UNB Legal Clinic, which focused on enhancing

access to justice. Abigayle will be articling with Public Prosecution Services, where she is committed to furthering social justice and equality across New Brunswick.



### **MALEC, Brooklynn | University of Victoria**

Brooklynn Malec (she/her) is incredibly honoured to receive this award. During her time at the University of Victoria she volunteered and worked as a Program Coordinator with Pro Bono Students Canada. Working with PBSC allowed her to continue her work in LGBTQIA2S+ advocacy and to support a broader section

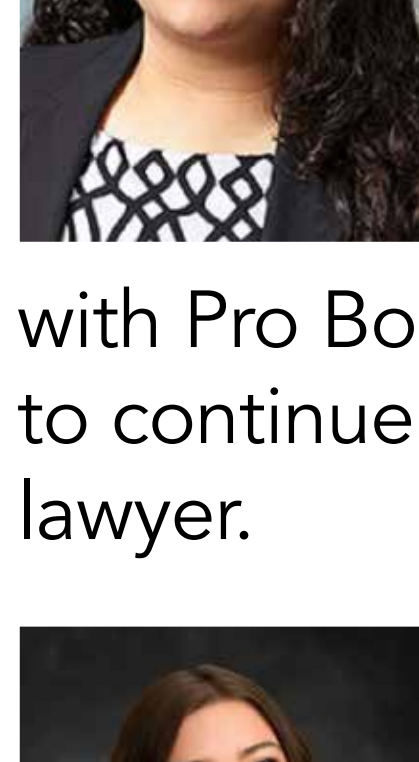
of her community.



### **MOCH, Melinda | University of Manitoba**

Melinda Moch is proudly Red River Métis, with community and family ties to Winnipeg and Manitoba's Interlake. She sits on the Indigenous Advisory Council of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada, and sat as President of the National Indigenous Law Students' Association for the 2022-2023 term. Melinda is an

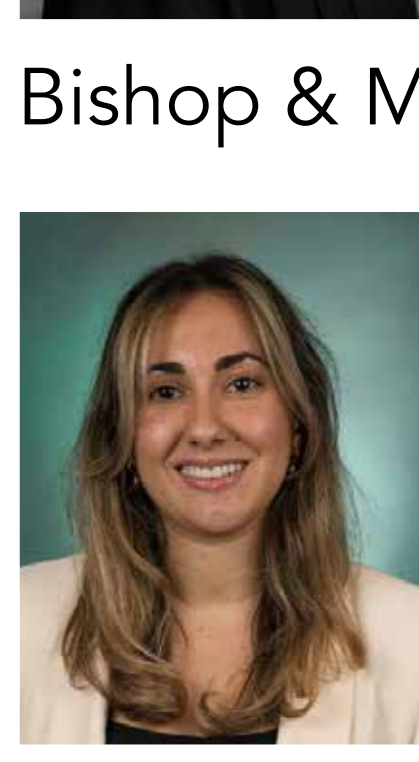
involved mother of five children, and has had a lengthy career as a Paralegal prior to and while attending Law School. She plans to spend her legal career assisting Indigenous communities in advancement through economic development projects.



### **MORIN, Mikaël | Université de Montréal**

Mikaël Morin, an assistant counsel trainee at the Quebec Court of Appeal, has been involved in youth organizations for several years. Whether as a member of the Quebec Youth Parliament or of Concertation Montréal, he is keen to encourage young people to get involved as citizens. During his time at the Université de

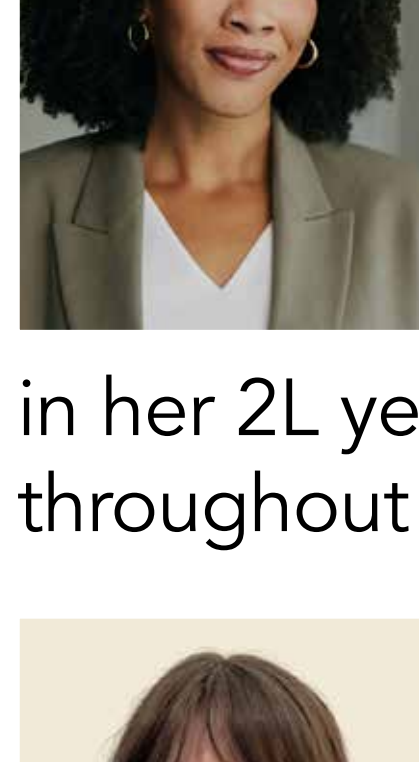
Montréal, Mikaël was involved in a number of student committees, including Lawyers without Borders Canada and the Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers.



### **NAVANATHAN, Sarika | University of Windsor**

Sarika Navanathan, valedictorian of her graduating class, held leadership positions with the Student Law Society and Pro Bono Students Canada and founded the Windsor Law Tamil Students' Association. She has received numerous awards for her international law, social justice, and leadership work within

and outside school. She is also a singer who is passionate about the arts and community-building.



### **PARTH, Gregory | Thompson Rivers University**

Greg Parth graduated from the Thompson Rivers University Faculty of Law in 2024. He volunteered for the TRU Community Legal Clinic, Pro Bono Students Canada, and Amici Curiae Friends of Court. He also worked as a research assistant for the law faculty. He is currently articling with Dentons Canada LLP.



### **PERSAD, Neesha | University of Saskatchewan**

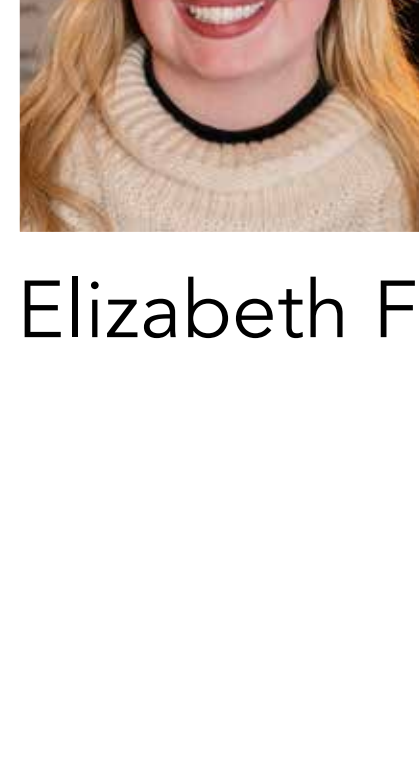
Neesha Persad is currently articling at BD&P in Calgary. Neesha has always been passionate about promoting access to justice and access to student opportunities through community involvement. Some of the ways she has done this are through advocating for students by sitting on the Law Students' Association, volunteering with Pro Bono Students Canada, and doing community research. She is excited to continue her active community involvement within her practice as a future lawyer.



### **ROSSIER, Zoé | Université de Moncton**

Zoé Rossier is a Franco-Albertan who is passionate about access to justice. During her first year of law school, she worked at the New Brunswick Refugee Clinic and the Pro Bono Coordinator. She believes that wherever you go, you can always find time to help others. She is currently an articling student at

Bishop & McKenzie in Edmonton, Alberta.



### **ROUGAIBI, Malika | Université de Sherbrooke**

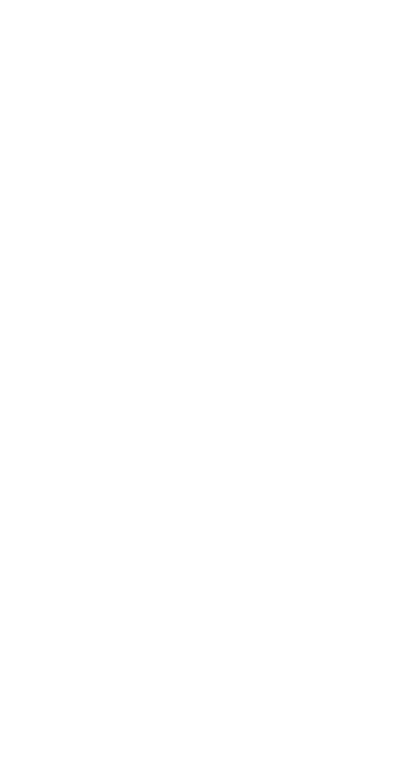
During her studies at the Université de Sherbrooke, Malika Rougaibi worked as a volunteer with PBSC, secretary of the Health Law Committee and an administrator. She is currently completing her Master's degree in Law and Life Sciences, for which she is studying the impact of "deep fakes" in the Canadian

legal environment.



### **WALWYN, Zoë | Toronto Metropolitan University**

Zoë Walwyn graduated from Lincoln Alexander School of Law in 2024. Zoë co-founded the school's Pardons Clinic which helps remove the barriers to access for those applying for criminal record suspensions. Throughout her time at law school, Zoë was actively involved in the Lincoln BLSA chapter and acted as their EDI Officer in her 2L year. She hopes to continue her advocacy for marginalized voices throughout her legal career.



### **WARDROP, Caitlin | The University of British Columbia**

Caitlin Wardrop (she/her) is passionate about the intersections between law and climate change, equality rights, and access to justice. During law school, she worked on research focused on climate change litigation and was involved with the Pacific Centre for Environmental Law and Litigation. She also worked as a family

law advocate, where she provided pro bono legal services to newcomers to Canada. She is a passionate advocate, having won the top overall oralist award at the Wilson Moot, which focused on s. 15 equality rights.



### **YARED, Soliyana | York University**

Throughout her time at Osgoode, Soliyana Yared has committed to being a social justice advocate. She advanced refugee policy reform at the Refugee Law Lab, supported women experiencing intimate partner violence through the Barbra Schliker Commemorative Clinic and co-authored a Black applicant stream proposal with Osgoode BLSA. She will soon article at an immigration law firm before clerking at the Federal Court.



### **YOUNG, Kyla | Dalhousie University**

Kyla Young graduated with a specialization in Health Law and Policy. She resuracted the Halifax branch of the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund championing reproductive rights and access to health care. She also sat on the Dalhousie Feminist Legal Association executive and volunteered with the Elizabeth Fry Society.