WE THINK, WRITE, SPEAK AND TWEET ABOUT ALL THINGS PUBLIC LAW.

We are pleased to present the 2020/21 annual report of the uOttawa Public Law Centre, Canada’s leading centre for public law research, debate and engagement. The Centre was officially approved by the University Board of Governors in summer 2019. Located within the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law, it is home to the largest number of public law academics in the country.

The Faculty of Law’s civil law and common law sections are known nationally and internationally for their expertise in public law, including in constitutional law, Indigenous legal traditions, administrative law, the law of democracy, immigration and refugee law, criminal law, human rights, comparative public law, critical public law and public law theory.

The Centre is bilingual, multijural and interdisciplinary. It brings together experts from inside the Faculty of Law and the University with domestic and international collaborators, visiting scholars, fellows and affiliated graduate students to create new opportunities for research and engagement across the spectrum of public law and public policy subjects.

The Centre supports and carries out innovative research which it shares with a range of audiences in Canada and globally. It leverages its convening power to bring together government representatives and civil society organizations for high-level discussions on public policy issues. And it organizes conferences, webinars, seminars and invited lectures that both intervene in current debates and begin new conversations.

It goes without saying that the past 18 months have been a very difficult time as we have collectively navigated the COVID-19 pandemic. While many of us have not been able to advance our research projects as much as we would have liked, we have all found ways to continue to contribute to public law scholarship and public debate. The Centre is so proud of all that our members have accomplished during this period. We hope that the projects described in these pages give you a sense of the vibrant research centre we are building.

We look forward to sharing news of our projects, events, and publications with you!

Warmly,

Vanessa MacDonnell
Co-Director, uOttawa Public Law Centre
## EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

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<td>Vanessa MacDonnell</td>
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<td>Stephen Bindman</td>
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<td>Yan Campagnolo</td>
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<td>Aimée Craft</td>
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<td>Paul Daly</td>
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<td>Jamie Liew</td>
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<td>Jena McGill</td>
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<td>Terry Skolnik</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wolfgang Alschner</td>
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<td>Natasha Bakht</td>
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<td>Sarah Berger Richardson</td>
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<td>Jennifer Bond</td>
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<td>Rosemary Cairns-Way</td>
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<td>Nathalie Chalifour</td>
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<td>Y.Y. Chen</td>
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<td>Lynda Collins</td>
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<td>Anne-Françoise Debruche</td>
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<td>Karen Eltis</td>
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<td>Daphne Gilbert</td>
<td>Full Professor and Vice Dean Governance</td>
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<td>Mistrale Goudreau</td>
<td>Full Professor</td>
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<td>Martha Jackman</td>
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<td>John Mark Keyes</td>
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<td>Kyle Kirkup</td>
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<td>François Larocque</td>
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<td>Anne Levesque</td>
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<td>Katherine Lippel</td>
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<td>Ravi Malhotra</td>
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<td>Carissima Mathen</td>
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<td>Graham Mayeda</td>
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<td>Heather McLeod-Kilmurray</td>
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<td>Errol Mendes</td>
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<td>France Morrissette</td>
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<td>Peter Oliver</td>
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<td>Mona Paré</td>
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<td>Benoit Pelletier</td>
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<td>Jennifer Quaid</td>
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<td>Sylvia Rich</td>
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<td>Amy Salyzyn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel Singer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie-Eve Sylvestre</td>
<td>Dean, Civil Law Section</td>
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<td>Sophie Thériault</td>
<td>Vice-Dean Academic and Full Professor</td>
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<td>Joao Velloso</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
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<td>David Wiseman</td>
<td>Associate Professor and Vice Dean English Program</td>
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**GRADUATE STUDENTS**

Yawo Alou
Monim Benaissa
Justine Bouquier
Ping Dang
Ainsley Daub
Erin Dobbelsteyn
Babajide Idowu
Isabelle Lefebvre
Martha Ann G. McDougall
Vicky Sabourin
Asaph Wenda
The Centre will also host Professor **Richard Albert**, an internationally recognized scholar of comparative constitutional law as a Visiting Scholar in 2021-2022. Prof. Albert is the William Stamps Farish Professor in Law, Professor of Government, and Director of Constitutional Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of *Constitutional Amendments: Making, Breaking, and Changing Constitutions*, a monograph published by Oxford University Press in August 2019.

**Visiting Fellows**

The Centre looks forward to hosting **Han-Ru Zhou**, a leading bilingual constitutional law scholar, as a Visiting Scholar in 2021-2022. Prof. Zhou is currently an Associate Professor at the Université de Montréal. He is the Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Review of Constitutional Studies* and the author of *Constitutional Law: Fundamental Principles* (Thémis 2021, translated from *Droit constitutionnel: principes fondamentaux*).

**Roxanne Guérard** has been a Fellow of the Public Law Centre since 2020. A member of the Quebec Bar since 1994, she has pursued her career as a jurist with the Department of Justice Canada for more than twenty years, mainly in the Legislative Services Branch. Her professional activities, enriched by specialized university training, have fostered her interest in legislative drafting, a legal discipline devoted to the creation of legislative standards. Her interest in the application of this discipline led her to write a doctoral thesis entitled “Analyse légistique des pratiques d’harmonisation des règlements municipaux au Québec”. This research, supported by grants from the Chaire de recherche sur la démocratie et les institutions parlementaires and the Chaire de rédaction juridique Louis-Philippe Pigeon, examines the concerted exercise of municipal regulatory powers in matters of peace, order and public safety. Dr. Guérard is working with Professor Marie-France Fortin on our interdisciplinary project with the Centre for Governance Studies and the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability on water and governance.

**Post-Doctoral Fellow**

This year, the Centre welcomed **Alexandre Lillo** as its first post-doctoral fellow, to work on a collaborative research project on Water Law and Governance Project. The project is a joint initiative of the Public Law Centre, the Centre on Governance, and the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability.

Dr. Lillo holds a Ph.D. in law (2020) completed under the joint supervision of the University of Ottawa and the University of Montpellier (France). His dissertation, entitled *The Shape of Water – Building a Legal Framework for Water Management in Canada* (French only), proposes twelve guiding principles to lay the foundation for a Canadian water strategy. His current research focuses on the legal mechanisms of water governance in Canada. He currently shares a Research Chair in Teaching Innovation at the University of Ottawa’s Civil Law Section and is a part-time professor with the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Arts.
The Centre and its members are leading several large ground-breaking research projects on subjects as diverse as water, equality and cabinet government.

**THE ALEX TREBEK FORUM FOR DIALOGUE WATER LAW AND GOVERNANCE PROJECT**

Fresh water, humankind’s most precious natural resource, is largely unregulated and depleting rapidly. The climate crisis will exacerbate these difficulties in the coming years. Addressing groundwater depletion is particularly urgent. Fifty percent of the world depends on groundwater for drinking water, but by 2030, the planet will face a 40 per cent shortfall in water supply unless management of this resource is drastically improved. Canadian experts have repeatedly called for a national strategy on water. As consultations are taking place on the creation of a Canada Water Agency, now is key moment to critically examine existing policies on the management, preservation and regulation of water in Canada.

Working with the Centre on Governance and the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability, and funded by the Smart Changes for a Better World initiative of the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue, the Water Law and Governance Project seeks to foster exchange between scholars, governmental actors, interest groups and the general public to identify and respond to key water-related public policy concerns. Led by Centre executive member Professor Marie-France Fortin, the project team will seek to develop multi-level policies and model regulations aimed at the sustainable management of freshwater resources.

**JUDGING EQUALITY JUDGMENTS: APPLYING LEGAL DATA ANALYTICS TO THE SUPREME COURT’S SECTION 15 AND EQUALITY CASE LAW**

The Supreme Court of Canada is a central institution in Canadian law and politics, and yet to date, there has been relatively little empirical research on its work. Led by Professor Carissima Mathen, Judging Equality Judgments: Applying Legal Data Analytics to the Supreme Court’s Section 15 and Equality Case Law is a project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) that uses state-of-the-art legal data analytics to investigate Supreme Court of Canada decisions, specifically probing how the Court has addressed equality claims. Joining Professor Mathen on this project are Professor Wolfgang Alschner, a pioneer in the application of data analytics to the empirical study of law and head of the Faculty’s Legal Technology Lab, Professor Vanessa MacDonnell, Co-Director of the uOttawa Public Law Centre, Centre executive member Professor Terry Skolnik and Visiting Fellow Stephen Bindman.

Guided by both the data and informed doctrinal analysis, the research team is developing new insights into the complex body of jurisprudence surrounding equality claims, allowing them to assess the relative impact of section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The findings generated by this research will contribute to the literature on judicial decision-making, bridge the gap between qualitative and quantitative research about the Supreme Court of Canada, develop a more nuanced, empirically informed understanding of Canadian equality rights, and shape litigation strategy.
THE SHADOW CABINET MANUAL PROJECT

In New Zealand and the United Kingdom, a cabinet manual sets out the government’s position on the conventions that apply to government formation, cabinet government and other aspects of the governance of those countries. Despite longstanding calls for such a document, Canada has not published such a manual at the federal level.

Led by Professor Vanessa MacDonnell, Co-Director of the Centre, and Professor Philippe Lagassé, Barton Chair at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University, the Shadow Cabinet Manual Project brings together a group of leading scholars to craft a template for a Canadian cabinet manual. The project will identify the essential elements of a Canadian cabinet manual and highlight areas in which there may be disagreement about the scope and content of particular conventions or practices. This resource will be of considerable value in continued discussions about the importance of a cabinet manual as well as in academic research into the unwritten constitution.

COMMENORATIVE NAMING DIRECTED RESEARCH COURSE

Municipal landmarks such as pools, arenas, community centres, stadiums, parks, streets and libraries, shape the landscape of everyday urban life. Indeed, the way we name public spaces says as much about the identity and memory of our cities as it does about the symbolic infrastructure of public spaces. For marginalized groups, their inclusion in the topography of Canada’s major cities has emerged as a form of transformative justice from which many re-naming campaigns have emerged. In October 2020, the name John A. Macdonald was removed from the building housing Queen’s University’s Faculty of Law. In June 2017, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the re-naming of the historic Langevin Block that houses his office. Both re-namings were the result of these historical figures’ associations with residential schools and Indigenous assimilation policies.

Over the past decades, commemorative naming has been studied almost exclusively by geographers, anthropologists, historians, linguists, urban planners and political scientists. This directed research course, led by Professor Vanessa MacDonnell and Stéphanie Plante, considered the role of law in the commemorating naming process. This course produced background papers comparing commemorative naming procedures and laws in Canada’s major cities and suggesting improvements to these policies. It also included an applied component, with students working actively on a commemorative naming initiative.
Despite the pandemic, the Centre hosted more than a dozen online panels, discussions, fireside chats and workshops open to public law experts and the general public alike.

25 September 2020
Panel discussion with the editors of *Vulnerable: The Law, Policy and Ethics of COVID-19*. The five editors of *Vulnerable* spoke about what motivated the project and the collection’s major research findings. [WATCH HERE](#)

19 October 2020
French-language panel featuring some of the contributors to *Vulnerable*, discussing the uneven and discriminatory impacts of the pandemic in Canada and globally. [WATCH HERE](#)

05 October 2020
Virtual Federal Court hearing held “at” the law school, hosted by Professor Jamie Liew. Following the hearing, students posed questions to the lawyers and judge.

22 October 2020
Bilingual panel held on the day the Supreme Court of Canada heard oral argument in the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act References*, a major constitutional challenge to the federal government’s carbon pricing legislation. This event was co-sponsored by the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability. [WATCH HERE](#)

18 December 2020
Conference marking the first anniversary of the Supreme Court of Canada’s decision in *Vavilov*, a major decision on the standard of review in administrative law. Professor Paul Daly, University Research Chair in Administrative Law and Governance, organized and moderated the event. [WATCH HERE](#)

19 November 2020
English talk co-sponsored by the Centre, the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue and the Ottawa Law Review, by internationally-renowned scholar Sherene Razack, Penny Kanner Chair and Professor at UCLA. The talk explored the sexual nature of the legal, social and political responses to Muslim women wearing the niqab. [WATCH HERE](#)

16 March 2021
Launch of web platform [PLANCTUS](https://planctus.ca) developed by Professor François Larocque, University Research Chair on Language Rights and Issues. *Planctus* is a mobile application intended to educate the public on language rights and to facilitate the drafting and transmission of language complaints to various authorities in Canada. [WATCH HERE](#)
17 March 2021
Bilingual fireside chat between the Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, and Professor Jamie Liew. This chat explored Minister Hussen’s path in law, how his education at the uOttawa Faculty of Law prepared him for his career, and how his experience coming to Canada as a refugee has shaped his approach to law and politics. [WATCH HERE]

25 March 2021
Panel discussion on official bilingualism and Canada’s Vice-Regal offices, co-sponsored by François Larocque, the University Research Chair on Language Rights and Issues. [WATCH HERE]

26 March 2021
Bilingual panel on the Supreme Court of Canada’s decision on the constitutionality of the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, co-sponsored by the Ecofiscal Commission, the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability, the Centre Québécois du droit de l’environnement, Ecojustice, and the Smart Prosperity Institute. The panel was made up of lawyers who argued the case and constitutional law scholars who explained the decision and its implications for Canada. This panel was held the day after the Court ruling, and over 700 students, professors, members of the public, and public sector employees attended the event. [WATCH HERE]

31 March 2021
Bilingual panel discussion on Bill C-15, legislation introduced to implement the federal government’s obligations under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP). Presented by the uOttawa Public Law Centre, the Indigenous Legal Traditions Committee, the Indigenous Law Student Government and the Ottawa Law Review. [WATCH HERE]

8 April 2021
Fireside chat with Dahlia Lithwick, senior editor and legal correspondent for Slate. The chat was moderated by Centre Co-Director Vanessa MacDonnell and covered Lithwick’s journey from Ottawa to Washington as well as her experiences as a legal correspondent at the U.S. Supreme Court. [WATCH HERE]

7-9 June 2021
A works-in-progress workshop with Queen’s University. Faculty members from the University of Ottawa and Queen’s presented papers during a three-day online workshop.

15 June 2021
A seminar organized and hosted by executive member Professor Jamie Liew that discussed five essays exploring the challenges stateless people have faced during the COVID-19 pandemic. The essays will be published by the Statelessness and Citizenship Review. [LISTEN HERE]

15 June 2021
Legal data analytics workshop: On June 15, the Centre partnered with Professor Wolfgang Alschner’s Legal Technology Lab to host an internal workshop for faculty and graduate students that provided a hands-on introduction to the automated and semi-automated analysis of court judgments.
Centre members published books on topics ranging from environmental law topics to the law and ethics of COVID-19 to cabinet secrecy.

**VULNERABLE: THE LAW, POLICY AND ETHICS OF COVID-19:** Co-Director Vanessa MacDonnell, Colleen Flood, Jane Philpott, Sophie Thériault, and Sridhar Venkatapuram published *VULNERABLE: THE LAW, POLICY AND ETHICS OF COVID-19* (University of Ottawa Press, 2020), an open-access, peer-reviewed, rapid-response book on the legal, ethical and policy issues raised by the COVID-19 pandemic. Fifteen members of the Centre contributed to the collection, which has been downloaded close to 10,000 times since its release in July 2020 and has received national and international attention. The edited volume was accompanied by three webinars, a series in *Policy Options* and several op-eds. It was recently reviewed in the *Canadian Journal of Law and Society*. Promotional video [here](#).

Chapters by Centre members:

- David Robitaille, “La COVID-19 au Canada: le fédéralisme coopératif à pied d’œuvre”
- Carissima Mathen, “Resisting the Siren’s Call: Emergency Powers, Federalism, and Public Policy”
- Vanessa MacDonnell, “Ensuring Executive and Legislative Accountability in a Pandemic”
- Paul Daly, “Governmental Power and COVID-19: The Limits of Judicial Review”
- Terry Skolnik, “The Punitive Impact of Physical Distancing Laws on Homeless People”
- Yves Le Bouthillier and Delphine Nakache, “The Right of Citizens Abroad to Return During a Pandemic”
- Anne Levesque and Sophie Thériault, “Systemic Discrimination in Government Services and Programs and Its Impact on First Nations Peoples During the COVID-19 Pandemic”
- Jamie Chai Yun Liew, “Preventing the Spread of Anti-Asian Racism: Including Critical Race Analysis in a Pandemic Plan”
- Tess Sheldon and Ravi Malhotra, “Not All in This Together: Disability Rights and COVID-19”
- Vanessa Gruben and Louise Bélanger-Hardy, “Risking It All: Providing Patient Care and Whistleblowing During a Pandemic”
- Sarah Berger Richardson, “Worked to the Bone: COVID-19, the Agrifood Labour Force, and the Need for More Compassionate Post-Pandemic Food Systems”

This book explores the experiences of a group of women in Canada who are small in numbers yet have garnered much legal, political, and social attention in recent years. Muslim women who cover their faces with a veil arouse visceral reactions in people who, despite exposure to diverse ways of living through multicultural urban environments, seem to have fixed notions of how women ought to live the good life. Politicians have denounced the niqab for a variety of reasons, calling on Muslim women to simply take it off. Where such persuasion has failed, legislative attempts have been made, some successfully, to prohibit women from covering their faces in certain contexts, including courtrooms, citizenship ceremonies, public spaces, and while working in the public service. This book analyzes niqab bans in Canada while also drawing on interviews with niqab-wearing women to reveal their complex identities and multiple motivations for dressing in this way. The book is available [here](#).


This book integrates the insights of environmental constitutionalism and ecological law in a concise, engaging and accessible manner.

This book sets out the necessary components of any constitution that could be considered “ecological” in nature. In particular, it argues that an ecological constitution is one that codifies the following key principles, at a minimum: the principle of sustainability; intergenerational equity and the public trust doctrine; environmental human rights; rights of nature; the precautionary principle and non-regression; and rights and obligations relating to a healthy climate. In the context of the global environmental crisis that characterises the current Anthropocene era, these principles are important tools for changing consciousness and driving pragmatic policy reforms around the world. Re-imagining constitutions along these lines could play a vital role in the collective project of building a sustainable future for humans, animals, ecosystems and the biosphere we all share. The book is available [here](#).


Cabinet secrecy refers to the set of political and legal rules that protect the confidentiality of the collective decision-making process at the highest level of the executive branch of government, that is, the Council of Ministers or the Cabinet. In the contemporary context where government transparency and accountability are fundamental values, the legitimacy of Cabinet secrecy is increasingly controversial.

In this first comprehensive book on the subject, executive member Yan Campagnolo defends Cabinet secrecy by demonstrating that it is an essential doctrine for the proper functioning of the responsible government system. Nevertheless, he criticizes the excessive nature of the legislative provisions protecting Cabinet secrecy at the federal level in Canada on the grounds that they violate the rule of law. Based on a comparative analysis of the rules applicable to the provincial level in Canada and in the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, Campagnolo proposes reforms that would achieve a better balance between government confidentiality and transparency. The book is available [here](#).

Prof. Yan Campagnolo was shortlisted for the 2020 Walter Owen Prize. [CLICK HERE](#).

This is the only text of its kind devoted exclusively to public law in Canada. Serving as a primer on the subject, this title will educate students about the importance of statutes and regulations both as forms of law and as political responses to pressing issues in Canadian society. This text demonstrates concepts, principles, and theory in a direct and accessible manner, contextualized with carefully selected case excerpts. Cases are presented with insightful author commentary, which offers a compelling, cohesive introduction to the subject of public law. The book is available [here](#).


This book traces Kingsley’s political journey, starting with his time as a soapbox speaker in San Francisco. As a leading member of the California left, he ran for the U.S. House of Representatives. After moving to British Columbia, he rose to prominence in the Socialist Party of Canada and edited its newspaper, the *Western Clarion*. Although never elected to political office, Kingsley shaped an entire generation of Canadian leftists. Ravi Malhotra and Benjamin Isitt illuminate a figure who wielded considerable influence in an era when it was uncommon for disabled men to lead. They examine Kingsley’s endeavours for justice against the Northern Pacific Railway, and how Kingsley’s life intersected with immigration law and free-speech rights.


Published as a children’s book in 2021, this book has been revered as an essential story for readers of all ages and nominated for the 2022 Rocky Mountain Book Award. The story is told from the banks of the river that have been Mishomis’s home his whole life, as he teaches his granddaughter to listen—to hear both the sounds and the silences, and so to learn her place in Creation. Most importantly, he teaches her about treaties—the bonds of reciprocity and renewal that endure for as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the rivers flow (illustrations by Luke Swinson). The book is available [here](#).


Eleven years since the release of the second edition, John Mark Keyes has produced an update of Canada’s definitive textbook on legislative instruments made by executive governmental authorities – *Executive Legislation*. This volume is the product of the author’s 35 years of experience of legislative drafting, teaching and writing in this vital, but often overlooked area of law. The book is available [here](#).

In *The Tenth Justice*, Carissima Mathen and Michael Plaxton set out the history of judicial appointments, the legal and political context that gave rise to the Reference re Supreme Court, and the impact that the decision has had on legal and constitutional debate in Canada. With detailed historical and legal analysis, including never-before-published interviews, *The Tenth Justice* explains how the Nadon Reference came to be a case at all, the issues at stake, and its legacy. The book is available [HERE](#).


This book explores how three of Japan’s preeminent philosophers of the twentieth century—Nishida Kitarō, Watsuji Tetsurō and Kuki Shūzō—defined culture and analyzed what it tells us about social relations. Graham Mayeda also explores little-known aspects of the work of each philosopher, including a philosophical analysis of Watsuji’s travel diary, *Pilgrimages to the Ancient Temples in Nara*, the place of intuition in Kuki’s ethics of otherness, and the role of culture in realizing Nishida’s concept of reality as the historical world. The book is available [HERE](#).

Dean Marie-Eve Sylvestre published *Red Zones: Criminal Law and the Territorial Governance of Marginalized People* (Cambridge University Press, 2020), with co-authors Nicholas Blomley and Céline Bellot.

In *Red Zones*, the authors examine the court-imposed territorial restrictions and other bail and sentencing conditions that are increasingly issued in the context of criminal proceedings. Drawing on extensive fieldwork with legal actors in the criminal justice system, as well as those who have been subjected to court surveillance, the authors demonstrate the devastating impact these restrictions have on the marginalized populations - the homeless, drug users, sex workers and protesters - who depend on public spaces. On a broader level, the authors show how red zones, unlike better publicized forms of spatial regulation such as legislation or policing strategies, create a form of legal territorialization that threatens to invert traditional expectations of justice and reshape our understanding of criminal law and punishment. The book is available [HERE](#).
Throughout the year, Centre members wrote well-received, peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and public reports.


- **Monim Benaissa** contributed to “Les écoles de pensée en droit” by the University of Sherbrooke Law Review. This collective work brings together the work of researchers from law faculties around the world, and focuses on the major theories of law that have emerged since the beginning of the 20th century. [CLICK HERE]


- **Stephanie Carsley**, “Regulating Reimbursements for Surrogate Mothers” (2021), 58:4 Alberta Law Review 811. [CLICK HERE]


- **Mylène Coderre** and **Delphine Nakache**, “From Working Tourists to Permanent Residents: Experiences of Migrant Workers with Youth Mobility Schemes in Canada” (2021), International Migration & Integration. [CLICK HERE]


Marie-France Fortin, "The King’s Two Bodies and the Crown A Corporation Sole: Historical Dualities in English Legal Thinking" (2021), History of European Ideas (forthcoming). CLICK HERE


Daphne Gilbert, "Faith and/in Medicine: Religious and Conscientious Objections to MAiD" (2020), 43:2 Dal LJ 657. CLICK HERE


Mistrale Goudreaue and Jabeur Fathally, "L'héritage de Gosselin pour les droits socio-économiques" 2020:1 Les cahiers de droit 427. CLICK HERE

Martha Jackman, "Un pas en avant, deux pas en arrière: l'héritage de Gosselin contre les droits socio-économiques" (2020), 61:1 Les cahiers de droit 427. CLICK HERE

Elizabeth F. Judge, and Michael Pal, “Voter Privacy and Big-Data Elections” (2021), 58:1 Osgoode Hall Law Journal 1. CLICK HERE

John Mark Keyes, “Parliamentary Scrutiny of the Quality of Legislation in Canada” (2021), 9:2 The Theory and Practice of Legislation. CLICK HERE


Jamie Chai Yun Liew, “The Invisible Women: Migrant Sex Workers and Law Reform in Canada” (2020), 14:1 Studies in Social Justice 90. CLICK HERE


Carissima Mathen and Michael Plaxton, "What's Right with Section 33.1" (April 2021), Canadian Criminal Law Review 255. CLICK HERE

Carissima Mathen, “An Inconvenient Constitution? The Troubles with Suspended Declarations of Invalidity” (2021), Supreme Court Law Review. CLICK HERE

Errol Mendes, “Restrictions on Mobility Rights of Canadians During the Pandemic; The Critical Need for Proper Scientific and Public Health Rationales” (2020), 41:1 National Journal of Constitutional Law 57. CLICK HERE

Jena McGill published a new report on intersectionality with Grace Ajele as part of LEAF’s Feminist Strategic Litigation Project. CLICK HERE


Mona Paré and Diane Bé, “La participation des enfants aux procédures de protection de la jeunesse à travers le prisme de la vulnérabilité” (2020), 61:1 Les Cahiers de droit. CLICK HERE


Samuel Singer, “Charity Law Reform in Canada: Moving from Patchwork to Substantive Reform” (2020), 57:3 Alberta Law Rev at 683. CLICK HERE
Sarah Berger Richardson wrote an opinion piece titled “COVID-19 exacerbates existing inequities in the agrifood labour force.” Policy Options (31 August 2020).

Nathalie Chalifour wrote an opinion piece, “What the Supreme Court ruling on national carbon pricing means for the fight against climate change.” The Conversation (29 March 2021).

Y Y. Chen wrote an opinion piece titled “Supreme Court decision on genetics law missed a critical opportunity to hold Parliament more accountable.” CBC (03 August 2020).

François Larocque and Stéphanie Chouinard co-authored an op-ed, “Bilingualism and diversity: The Supreme Court can—and should—have both.” The Conversation (2 June 2021).

Yves Le Bouthillier and Delphine Nakache wrote an opinion piece titled “Is it constitutional to screen Canadians trying to board flights home.” Policy Options (7 April 2020).

Anne Levesque wrote an opinion piece “Les injustices envers les enfants des Premières Nations se poursuivent encore aujourd’hui.” The Conversation (8 July 2021).

Alexandre Lillo, Eric Champagne, Lauren Touchant, Marie-France Fortin, and Thomas Burelli co-authored an opinion piece, “Canada has 20 percent of the world’s freshwater reserves—this is how to protect it.” The Conversation (29 April 2021).

Asaph Wenda, “Droit d’ingérence humanitaire, outil de protection de droit à la santé” (2021), Éditions Universitaires Européennes.


Jennifer A. Quaid wrote an opinion piece, “Supreme Court dismisses Company’s cruel and unusual punishment claim.” The Conversation (24 November 2020).

Vanessa MacDonnell, Sophie Thériault and Sridhar Venkatapuuram co-authored an opinion piece, “À quoi ressemblera notre avenir après la pandémie?” La Presse (24 July 2020).

Errol Mendes wrote an opinion piece, “How Quebec’s amendment could sever ties with Canada.” iPolitics (2 June 2021).

Debra Parkes and Carissima Mathen co-authored an opinion piece, “Canadian universities must act not to protect their communities.” Vancouver Sun (2 August 2021).

Benoît Pelletier wrote an opinion piece, “Le projet de loi 96 n’est pas un deuxième Meech.” Le Droit (11 June 2021).


Asaph Wenda, “Droit d’ingérence humanitaire, outil de protection de droit à la santé” (2021), Éditions Universitaires Européennes.

A key goal of the Centre is to develop partnerships with other public law centres, thinkers and writers from around the globe.

**PARTNERSHIP WITH GILBERT + TOBIN CENTRE OF PUBLIC LAW:**
The Centre has concluded a formal research collaboration agreement with the Gilbert + Tobin Public Law Centre at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. The Centre is also exploring additional links with other first-class Public Law Centres, including those located in the Global South and La Francophonie. [CLICK HERE]

**PARTNERSHIP ON NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO MARK THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PATRIATION OF THE CONSTITUTION:**
The Centre has partnered with the Centre for Constitutional Studies at the University of Alberta, University of Alberta, the University of Texas at Austin Program on Constitutional Studies, and the Centre d’analyse de politique – Constitution Fédéralisme at UQAM on a major national conference to be held in April 2022 to mark the 40th anniversary of the patriation of the Constitution. The conference will help forge new connections between the Centre and other public law research centres in Canada and the U.S. [CLICK HERE]

**PARTNERSHIP ON INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO MARK THE RETIREMENT OF JUSTICE ROSALIE ABELLA FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA:**
The Centre has partnered with the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice, the Human Rights Research and Education Centre and the Advocates’ Society to host an international conference in Ottawa in May 2022 to celebrate the retirement of esteemed jurist Rosalie Abella from the Supreme Court of Canada. This two-day conference will discuss different aspects of Justice Abella’s legacy, from her impact as one of the youngest women to ever be appointed to the bench in Canada to her path breaking Supreme Court equality jurisprudence. The conference will be attended by academics, students, lawyers, judges, the media and the broader public. [CLICK HERE]
Members received awards, research grants and appointments to a wide variety of important task forces and committees.

- **Natasha Bakht** was awarded the AECLSS Teaching Award by the Common Law Student Society for Most Consideration of Intersectionality. [CLICK HERE](#)

- **Stephen Bindman** was a panelist on the Criminal Law Panel on Wrongful Convictions presented by the Criminal Law Students’ Association of the University of Toronto. [CLICK HERE](#)

- Angela Cameron and **Natasha Bakht**, Shirley Greenberg Chair for Women and the Legal Profession, both made the Hill Times list of 100 Best Books in 2020. Professor Bakht’s book is *In Your Face: Law, Justice, and Niqab-Wearing Women in Canada*. Professor Cameron’s edited collection, *Creating Indigenous Property: Power, Rights, and Relationships*, was co-edited with Professors Sari Graber and Val Napoelon. [CLICK HERE](#)

- **Aimée Craft** received the 2020 Early Career Researcher of the Year Award, which is awarded annually to Faculty members who have made exceptional contributions to research at the University of Ottawa. [CLICK HERE](#)

- **Aimée Craft** has also been awarded a University Research Chair (URC) for her research program on *Nibi miinawaa aki inaakonigewin* – Indigenous governance in relation to land and water. The Chair will support her continued work on Indigenous water law, policy, and sustainability; the reclamation of Indigenous birthing practices as catalysts for wellness and the re-affirmation of territorial sovereignty; and the recognition of Indigenous understandings of treaties as part of the Canadian reconciliation imperative. [READ HERE](#)

- **Paul Daly** played an active role in the United Kingdom government’s judicial review reform project and was invited to participate in two private consultation seminars held by the Ministry of Justice; his analysis of the Independent Review of Administrative Law report was featured in The Guardian. [CLICK HERE](#)

- **Adam Dodek** was named one of the seven Commissioners of the new Canadian Commission on Democratic Expression. [CLICK HERE](#)

- **Karen Eltis** was selected for membership in la Société québécoise d’information juridique. [CLICK HERE](#)

- **John Mark Keyes** was awarded the John Tait Award of Excellence by the Canadian Bar Association recognizing Public Sector Lawyers in Canada. [CLICK HERE](#)

- **Kyle Kirkup** and Professor Lee Airton launched Gegi.ca, which provides students and their loved ones with tools to help advocate for their gender identity and gender expression human rights at school. [READ HERE](#)

- **François Larocque** was selected as one of four new Fellows of the Pierre Trudeau Foundation. [CLICK HERE](#)

- **François Larocque** also received the Ordre de la Pléiade for his contributions to French language in Ontario. [CLICK HERE](#)
- Anne Levesque was selected as a finalist for a Prix Saphir by La Fondation franco-ontarienne in the community engagement category. [CLICK HERE]

- Anne Levesque received a grant from uOttawa’s Seed Funding Opportunity to study how members of equality-seeking groups involved in public interest litigation interpret access to justice. [READ HERE]

- Jamie Liew was appointed the Director of the Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies effective July 1, 2021 for a two-year term. The Institute is located in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Jamie will be located there for the next two years. [CLICK HERE]

- Carissima Mathen was a panelist at the 24th Annual Osgoode Constitutional Cases Conference and discussed what Fraser v Canada tells us about Section 15. [CLICK HERE]

- Vanessa MacDonnell co-edited a special issue of the McGill Law Journal with Professor Se-shauna Wheatle on unwritten constitutional norms and principles. Centre founder Professor Peter Oliver and executive member Professor Michael Pal also contributed to the issue. [CLICK HERE]

- Heather McLeod-Kilmurray was selected to be a member of The Building Back Better: Post COVID-19 Task Force, a task force focused on creating a sustainable post-pandemic society established by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. [CLICK HERE]

- In 2020, Peter Oliver was awarded the Excellence in Research Award by the Faculty of Law, Common Law Section. [CLICK HERE]

- Mona Paré was selected as the new Vice-Dean, Graduate Studies, of the Faculty of Law as of July 1, 2021. [CLICK HERE]

- Samuel Singer co-edited a special issue of the Canadian Journal of Law and Society with Ido Katri, entitled On the Margins of Trans Legal Change. [CLICK HERE]

- Marie-Eve Sylvestre was the moderator of the question and answer period before a Special Committee of the House of Commons and the Senate for the Supreme Court Nominee, Justice Mahmoud Jamal. [CLICK HERE]

- The Civil Law Section’s Filmmaker-in-Residence Étienne Trépanier launched Jurivision, an innovative audiovisual platform for law. Jurivision rethinks and rehumanizes how we convey knowledge about the law, bringing it to life on the screen. [CLICK HERE]

- David Wiseman was selected as the new Vice-Dean of the English Common Law program as of July 1, 2021.