



Bringing  
**WORLDS**  
Together



Dalhousie's campaign for transformational change

# Making a difference starts here

## Our campaign for transformational change

A leading national law school with an international reputation, the Schulich School of Law inspires its diverse and vibrant community to make the world a better place. Our guiding principle, the Weldon Tradition of unselfish public service, nurtures a deep sense of social justice. It's part of what makes the experience here so special and attracts national and international talent and expertise.

Our vision is to be the law school of choice for students, scholars and leaders who want to use law, scholarship and advocacy to make a difference. We want to attract and engage individuals who are passionate about serving the public interest and resolving human and policy issues around the world.

The **Bringing Worlds Together** campaign will significantly expand our ability to respond to the needs of our community and society. It will inspire future-ready leaders by strengthening the exceptional student experience we offer. It will fuel research that drives social innovation locally, nationally and internationally. It will enable us to grow our outreach activities and clinics so that they have an even greater impact on our communities. We will chart our course forward guided by concepts of equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility. Doing so will improve our law school, lift our communities and shape the legal profession so that it is stronger and ready for whatever the future may hold.



### Inspiring Future-Ready Leaders

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# Enhancing our impact

## Inspiring Future-Ready Leaders

We want to be the school of choice for students who intend to use their legal education to make a difference. That means offering an exceptional legal education experience that also gives students the support they need to be successful. When students have this kind of experience and support, they graduate as skilled, innovative and community-minded global citizens who make meaningful contributions to society, regardless of what sector or area of law they practice. They graduate as future-ready leaders. Our profession and our society benefit when students have an exceptional experience at the Schulich School of Law.

### 1. Supporting students for success — \$7M

Financial support not only helps us attract the best and brightest, but also enables students to be their best. It allows them to channel their efforts into their legal education, rather than making ends meet. Financial support breaks down barriers, creates opportunities and inspires a new generation of outstanding legal professionals.

Through this campaign, we will establish new and enhance current scholarships, bursaries and awards to attract and retain excellent students. We will focus on multi-year entrance scholarships and financial aid. We will also focus on purposeful action to ensure that our new and enhanced student financial supports give more consideration to historically underrepresented groups.

### 2. Academic and career supports for students — \$3M

Our legal education and training must evolve and adapt in response to changing social, economic and cultural norms and expectations. It is essential that we do so to attract and graduate legal professionals who are prepared for today's and tomorrow's rapidly changing legal environment.

**Bringing Worlds Together** will enable us to create opportunities for students to develop the skills, knowledge and relationships needed to be successful legal professionals. These opportunities will include innovative curriculum, professional development and training, ways for students to engage with a breadth of legal practitioners across the country and access to mentorship programs.



**I WANT SOMEONE TO SEE THIS BURSARY, BE INSPIRED BY IT AND THINK, 'I'M GOING TO DO EVEN BETTER THAN NATHANIEL.'**

**—NATHANIEL MARSHALL**

### Where support meets inspiration

A graduate of the Indigenous Blacks & Mi'kmaq Initiative (IB&M), Nathaniel Marshall (JD'13) dreamed of becoming a lawyer so he could give back to his community. Now, he has a Toronto-based practice specializing in workplace issues including anti-Black racism. With the Keith & Gail Marshall IB&M Award, Marshall is helping current students realize their dreams.

"I wanted to give graduates a strong financial foundation to grow from as they transition into articling. But I also wanted to show African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaq students that studying law isn't an unattainable idea. I want someone to see this bursary, be inspired by it and think, 'I'm going to do even better than Nathaniel.'"

### 3. Equitable access to a legal education — \$8M

We are committed to continuing to be a leader in equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility. With support from this campaign, we will build on the success of our work in this area, such as our Indigenous Blacks & Mi'kmaq Initiative, intentional hiring of faculty and staff from equity-deserving groups and revamping our admissions processes to address systemic racism, prejudice and bias toward historically underserved populations. We will launch new equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility initiatives, such as professional development and training, student recruitment and targeted financial support, teaching and curriculum development and stakeholder partnerships.

### 4. Graduate programs — \$5M

The need is growing for highly specialized legal thinkers who can address the world's increasingly complex challenges. That is why we are developing a plan to expand our graduate legal education programs at the Schulich School of Law. Our plan includes multi-year graduate scholarships and bursaries that align with our commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility, while also considering regional focuses and areas of practice. It will have emphasis on creating activities and experiences that support professional success, such as mentorship opportunities, career services, social engagements and networking. The plan also includes the development of a post-doc program, including multi-year funding and fellowships. These advanced degree and training programs will bring some of the world's most talented legal scholars to the Schulich School of Law and to our community.

### 5. Leadership in experiential teaching and learning — \$7M

Experiential and clinical learning are hallmarks of our legal education at the Schulich School of Law. We create opportunities for students to have direct experience and focused reflection to increase knowledge, develop skills, clarify values and develop their capacity for the work that they will be called upon to do in their legal careers. Our *initio* Technology & Innovation Law Clinic, Dalhousie Legal Aid Service (Dal Legal Aid) and Pro Bono Dalhousie at Schulich Law offer students an outstanding clinical learning experience. The scholarly and advocacy work taking place in our Marine & Environmental Law, Health Justice and Law & Technology institutes gives students invaluable insight into how research can inform progressive policy development. Investments in facilities, equipment and programs will enable us to continue to develop innovative initiatives, like the historic Pro Bono Dalhousie at Schulich Law, that empower students through transformative learning experiences.



# Where scholarship meets social justice

When **Keesha Ryan** (JD'23) was awarded the Scotiabank Scholarship for Legal Studies in 2021, she was thrilled. For one, the Prince Edward Islander was the first-ever recipient of the scholarship. But even more dear to her heart was the fact that it supports students pursuing legal careers with the aim of becoming anti-racism advocates.

“My family is the true essence of “Black Islanders” and to this day continue to face racial discrimination,” says Ryan, who is biracial. “As one of the first members of my immediate family to graduate from university and pursue further studies, I plan to use my legal education to address the injustices marginalized communities continue to face.”

There was one more reason why Ryan was excited to receive this scholarship. It opened the door to internship opportunities with organizations seeking to eliminate racism and discrimination in the legal sector. That, combined with her Schulich courses, gave Ryan insights beyond her own lived experiences as to how the law has traditionally affected racially visible groups.

“Those are opportunities that I would not have had access to before and the experience was invaluable for me,” she says.

Ryan plans to use the knowledge she has gained through the scholarship and her studies to explore racial justice issues in Canadian law, policy and society. But as she prepares to take the next step in her journey, she is grateful for the support she has received so far and how it is helping her realize her dream of creating a more inclusive, diverse and progressive society.

“My ultimate goal with a law degree is to help marginalized communities access the legal sector,” she says. “The Scotiabank Scholarship has been invaluable for students like me in accessing the legal system to ask important questions and fight for changes.”

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ACCESS TO BEFORE...**

— KEESHA RYAN

## Engaging in High-Impact Research

Our researchers at the Schulich School of Law are committed to finding solutions to some of the most complex issues of our time. They take a collaborative approach, working with colleagues across the university, government and community partners to answer challenging questions. Their legal and public policy research seeks to improve social justice and sustainability across a broad range of topics. Our goal is to expand and accelerate our research, creating opportunities for our students and our community to thrive.

### 1. Excellence in research for justice and sustainability — \$10M

The Schulich School of Law has notable expertise in topics of key importance, such as criminal law, Indigenous law and governance, business law and artificial intelligence ethics policy and regulation. Our Health Justice, Marine & Environmental Law and Law & Technology institutes as well as the Restorative Lab have international reputations as research leaders that influence policy and practice across Canada and around the world. We will deepen our investment in these areas to engage more students in policy research, expand our complement of leading scholars and enhance our resources that enable high-impact research.



**THE WORK [NAIOMI AND HER TEAM] ARE DOING IS GROUNDBREAKING AND I BELIEVE THEY WILL CONTINUE TO LEAD THE WAY ON OUR JOURNEY OF RECONCILIATION.**

— HON. A. ANNE MCLELLAN PC OC AOE  
HONORARY CO-CHAIR, CAMPAIGN CABINET

#### Where inspiration meets impact

The Honourable A. Anne McLellan's (BA'71, LLB'74) illustrious parliamentary and legal academic career began at Dalhousie. "Dalhousie gave me more than an education and lifelong friends," says McLellan, an Order of Canada appointee. "It made the rest of my life possible. It gave me opportunities to do things and go places beyond my imagination."

McLellan has served as the university's seventh chancellor and is an honorary co-chair of the Dalhousie Advisory Committee. In 2017, she established the Chancellor's Chair in Aboriginal Law and Policy to contribute to teaching and research in the areas of Aboriginal and Indigenous law and policy, as well as to contribute to building positive relationships between Dalhousie and Aboriginal communities in the Maritimes and beyond. McLellan says, "I am delighted with the work being done by Naomi Metallic, the current chair holder, and her team. Naomi is an Indigenous researcher working to capture and share Indigenous ways of knowing related to law and governance. The work they are doing is groundbreaking and I believe they will continue to lead the way on our journey of reconciliation."

## Lifting Our Communities

Service is a cornerstone of the Schulich School of Law's culture. As a result, social justice has become a defining value of the school, fueling our commitment to lift the intellectual, cultural and economic vitality of our local and global communities. We aim to improve access to the law and build equity within the legal system. We have a particular responsibility to continue strengthening our relationships with our African Canadian and Indigenous communities. This is in addition to our shared obligation to address all human rights-based inequities. Investments through this campaign will expand both our capacity to serve our communities and our outreach activities.

### 1. Dalhousie Legal Aid Service — \$7M

The Dalhousie Legal Aid Service (Dal Legal Aid) provides crucial access to law to populations that have been historically marginalized and underserved. It lifts our communities by filling a critical gap in the system. We will enhance our ability to offer this vital service by investing in our people, our spaces and our facilities. These improvements will not only enable us to better meet the needs of our clients, but also create opportunities to strengthen and build new partnerships that will deepen our impact for those who are most vulnerable.

### 2. Equitable access to the law through community outreach & partnerships — \$5M

Through our partnerships with community organizations and our ongoing programming at the Schulich School of Law, we engage in a variety of outreach activities. They include everything from basic legal education to pro bono services to advocacy to community engagement. Our community placement program and internship program are just a few examples of how our efforts make a meaningful difference. The impact of our activities and partnerships inspires us to do more. Investing in them will enable us to expand our work and deepen our impact, creating a stronger and more just society.

### 3. *initio* Technology & Innovation Law Clinic — \$2M

Entrepreneurs face significant challenges in obtaining the early-stage legal information and advice they need to successfully launch new businesses. Barriers include cost, accessibility, transparency and knowledge. The *initio* Technology & Innovation Law Clinic helps remove those barriers through low-cost legal services with flexible payments. The **Bringing Worlds Together** campaign will support the clinic in its efforts to provide more legal expertise to this crucial sector of the Nova Scotia economy. In doing so, the clinic will not only help contribute to economic growth, but also provide students with hands-on experiential learning that prepares them to succeed in their careers.



**...WE NEED THIS WORK TO CONTINUE TODAY MORE THAN EVER.**

— KATIE BROUSSEAU

#### Where service meets community impact

Katie Brousseau is a community legal worker at Dalhousie Legal Aid Service. She is proud to be part of its efforts to address the barriers that clients and their families face in accessing legal advocacy, advice and education.

“We are all facing the impacts of intersecting crises, including food insecurity, health-care access and affordable housing. We are working with our clients to amplify their stories of living with poverty, racism and colonialism. We’re also identifying systemic barriers and advocating for policy and legislative reforms. We’ve been one of the only organizations in the province doing this work since 1970 and we need this work to continue today more than ever.”

# Help make lasting, positive change possible

Driving social innovation through research, improving access to the law among underserved populations, providing supports and experiential learning for all students — there are many ways that the Schulich School of Law is working toward a better world. That means that there are many ways that you can support us in achieving our goals.

Together, we can achieve lasting, positive change with wide-ranging benefits. We can make the law more equitable, diverse, inclusive and accessible in all its forms. We can transform not just the lives of our learners and scholars, but also the communities in which we work. With your gift to the **Bringing Worlds Together** campaign, that bold bright future is not just possible. It is within our reach.

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