

2024

Wednesday, February 7 – Carolyn Strange, Australian National University: ‘Divided Decisions: *R. v. Fitton* (1956) in Appeal.’

Wednesday, February 14 – Dan Rueck, University of Ottawa: ‘The King v. Bonhomme, Supreme Court of Canada, 1918: The role of the Department of Indian Affairs in Kahnawà:ke’s dispossession of St. Nicholas Island.’

Wednesday, March 6 - Kiera Mitchell, University of Saskatchewan: ‘The Better Half’: Farming Women’s Labour, Marital Property Division, and Rural Activism in *Murdoch v. Murdoch*.’

Wednesday, March 20 – William Wicken, York University: ‘Implementing the 1850 Indian Protection Bill at Grand River, 1850 to 1865.’

Wednesday, April 3 - Andrew Johnston, University of Victoria: ‘A Uniform Practice, in Uniform: Royal Navy Officers’ Views on the Reform of Naval Law in Mid-Nineteenth Century North America.’

2023

Wednesday, January 11 - Nicole O’Byrne, University of New Brunswick: “The Marshall Decisions, 25 Years Later” ****NOTE: This is a change from the previous schedule.

Wednesday, January 25 – Stepan Wood, University of British Columbia: “Indigenous litigants and the reception of English law in Canada.”

Wednesday February 8 – Sally Hadden, Western Michigan University: “Early Colonial American Courts, Appeals and ‘Primitive’ Judicial Review.”

Wednesday, February 22 - Tyler Wentzell, University of Toronto: “An Officer and a Litigant: Canadian Militia Commanders in Civil Actions Against Municipalities, 1867-1904”

Wednesday, March 8 – Brad Miller, University of British Columbia: "The Internationalization of the *Frederick Gerring*."

Wednesday, March 22 – Taylor Starr, York University: TBA

Wednesday, April 5 – Genevieve Painter, Concordia University: TBA

2022

Wednesday, January 12 - Rob Konduros, Hilborn and Konduros: ‘British Ideas of Federalism and the Life of A.V. Dicey as a Metaphor for Imperialism.’

Wednesday, January 26 - Jim Phillips, University of Toronto, and Philip Girard, Osgoode Hall Law School: 'The Law Relating to Women and the Family in Canada, 1867-1914.'

Wednesday, February 9 – Bill Wicken, York University: 'R. v. Hill and R v. Carpenter, Same Jury, Same Judge, Same Verdict, Different Sentence: Manslaughter and Race in Brant County, Ontario, May 1896.'

Wednesday, February 23: Richard Manning, Independent Scholar: '**Undercover Investigation, Prohibition, and "Disreputable" Detectives in 19th-Century Canada**'. Note: This is during the U of T law school reading week.

Wednesday, March 9 – Eghosa Ekhator, University of Derby, UK: 'Foreign Relations in Precolonial Africa: A Case Study of Portuguese-Benin Kingdom Diplomatic Interactions.'

Wednesday, March 23 – Opeyemi Rabiati Akande, Osgoode Hall Law School: 'Decolonization by Codification: The Making of the 1958 Penal Code in Late Colonial Nigeria.'

Wednesday, April 6 – Jacqueline Briggs, University of Ottawa: TBA

2021

Wednesday January 13: Michael Borsk, Queen's University: "Conveyance Between Kin: Settler States, Indigenous Nations, and the Politics of Property."

Wednesday January 27: Taylor Starr, York University: "Internal and External Advocacy for Legal Reform: Genesis of the *Ontario Family Law Act* [1986]."

Wednesday February 10: Stepan Wood, University of British Columbia: "'Certainly No Work of Scissors and Paste': Reconsidering the Reception of English Statute Law in British Columbia in Light of the RSBC 1897."

Wednesday February 24: Tyler Wentzell, University of Toronto: "The Evolution of Military Aid to the Civil Power Law in Inter-war Canada."

Wednesday March 10: Lyndsay Campbell, University of Calgary: "The Island and the Rock: Nineteenth-Century Struggles over Parliamentary Privilege."

Wednesday March 24: Erica Chamberlain and Rande Kostal, Western University: "The Reinvention of Canadian Private Law, 1945-1995: *Jordan House* as Case Study".

Wednesday September 15 – Jeff McNairn, Queen's University, 'Inviolable and Subservient to the Public Welfare: Private Property and Expropriation for Public Use in Upper Canada'

Wednesday September 29 – Mélanie Méthot, University of Alberta: ‘How “l’Affaire Delpit” Failed to Become a *Cause Célèbre*.’

Wednesday October 13 - Chris Monaghan, University of Worcester, UK: 'Impeachment Reimagined: Drawing upon history to empower the UK House of Commons'.

Wednesday October 27 – Lara Tessaro, University of Kent: ‘Constitutionally Cosmetic: Federalism and Lipstick Perform an Ontological Turn in Canadian Food and Drugs Law, 1945-47’.

Wednesday November 10 – Alex Martinborough, Queen’s University: ‘Writing Empire and Making Nations: Law, Constitutions and History-Writing in British Settler Colonies, 1860-1935.’

Wednesday November 24 - Daniel Murchison, York University: ‘Alice Payette's Piano and Fur Coat: Views of Métis Life from the Manitoba Surrogate Court, 1870 to 1930”.

Wednesday December 1 – Wayne Sumner, University of Toronto: ‘Cognitive Deficiency and the Insanity Defence: The Case of Mike Hack.’

2020

Wednesday September 16 – Virginia Torrie, University of Manitoba: ‘The Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act Reference Case 1937.’

Wednesday September 30 – Hamar Foster, University of Victoria: ‘Sharp as a Knife: Judge Begbie and Reconciliation’

Wednesday October 14 - Nick Rogers, York University: ‘The Bristol fratricide of 1741: How a set of vicious property disputes among the minor gentry turned fatal.’

Wednesday October 28 – Jim Phillips, University of Toronto: ‘From Betrayal of the Metis to Restrictive Covenants: Developments in Dominion Land Law, 1867-1914.’

Wednesday November 11 – Jean-Christophe Bédard-Rubin, University of Toronto, ‘Étienne Parent and the Demise of the Mixed Constitution’.

Wednesday November 25 – Lara Tessaro, University of Kent: ‘Constituting a form for substances: Cosmetics, federalism, and the turn to prohibition in Canadian food and drugs regulation, 1933-1950.’

2019

Wednesday September 11: Nancy Wright, University of Victoria: “The Laphroaig Leasehold: Popular Interpretations of Feudal Tenures.”

Wednesday September 25: Jim Phillips, University of Toronto: ‘The Canadian Court System, 1867-1914’

October 15: Donal Coffey, Max Planck Institute: ‘Newfoundland and Dominion Status.’ Held in Room 223, Flavelle House

Wednesday October 30: Philip Girard, Osgoode Hall Law School: ‘The Contrasting Fates of French-Canadian and Indigenous Constitutionalism: British North America, 1763-1867.’

Wednesday November 6: Eric Adams, University of Alberta: ‘Constitutional Wrongs: A Legal History of Japanese Canadians’

Wednesday November 13: Joseph Kary, Kary and Kwan: Sonderkommando in Canada: Montreal's first World War II War Crimes Trial, 1951-1956

Wednesday November 27: Patricia McMahon, Tory’s: ‘Radioactive: The Life and Lies of Boris Pregel’

Wednesday January 16: Nicholas Rogers, York University: 'Murder on the Middle Passage: The trial of Captain Kimber 1792.'

Wednesday January 30: Philip Girard, Osgoode Hall Law School: ‘American Influences, Canadian Realities: The Rise and Fall of the Harvard Law Model in Canadian Legal Education’.

Wednesday February 13: Jackson Tait, Osgoode Hall Law School: 'In Search of the *Lex Mercatoria*: Canadian Legal Interpretation of Atlantic Marine Insurance Contracts, 1860 - 1924'

Wednesday February 27: Eric Reiter, Concordia University: ‘*Robinson v. CPR* (1882-92): Law, Society and Wrongful Death in Quebec’

Wednesday March 13: Mark Walters, McGill Law School: ‘The Covenant Chain and Criminal Justice in Canada, 1760-1800.’

Wednesday March 27: Colin Grittner, University of British Columbia: ‘Elective Legislative Councils and the Privileges of Property across Mid-Nineteenth-Century British North America’

Wednesday April 3: Patricia McMahon, Tory’s: TBA

2018

Wednesday September 19: Carolyn Strange, Australian National University: 'Capital Punishment and Sex Crimes in Canada, 1867-1950'

Wednesday October 10: Virginia Torrie, University of Manitoba: 'Federalism and Farm Debt during the Great Depression'

Wednesday October 24: Jim Phillips and Tom Collins, University of Toronto: 'The Origin of Sections 91 and 92 of the BNA Act'

Wednesday November 7: Ian Radforth, University of Toronto: 'The Sad Story of the Minister's Daughter: A Botched Abortion in Victorian Toronto'

Wednesday November 21: Shelley Gavigan, Osgoode Hall Law School: "Settling In: Civil Justice on the Indigenous Plains, 1876-1886"

Wednesday December 5: Heidi Bohaker, University of Toronto: TBA

2017

Wednesday January 11 – Dennis Molinaro, Trent University: "The Official Secret."

Wednesday January 25 – Anna Jarvis, York University: "Colonial criminal justice and the Mi'kmaq: the case of Tom Williams, Prince Edward Island, 1839".

Wednesday February 8 – Bill Wylie, Independent Scholar: "The "Majestic Equality" of the Law: Diverging Views on the Reform of the Civil Law and Courts in Upper Canada, 1841-1857."

Wednesday, February 22 - David Chan Smith, Wilfrid Laurier University: "Social expectations, Self-interest, and the Public Good: Rethinking the Early Common Law Corporation."

Wednesday March 8 – Ashley Rubin, University to Toronto: "America's Proto-Prisons Revisited: The Innovation of Proto-Prisons and the Diffusion of the Walnut Street Model, 1785-1822."

Wednesday March 22 – Chandra Murdoch, University of Toronto: "Reactions to Enactment: Suggestions from Reserves to amend the *Indian Act*, 1869-1904."

Wednesday April 5 – Blaine Baker, McGill University: "Juristic Biographies, Homage Volumes, and Tracings of Gerald LeDain's Life in the Law"

Wednesday, April 12 – Sally Hadden, Western Michigan University: "The Last British Justice in Revolutionary America: Charleston's Board of Police, 1780-1782."

2016

Wednesday January 6 – Nick Rogers, York University, ‘Imperial Crisis, Mobilization and the Law: Unpacking Gillray's print ‘The Liberty of the Subject’, 1779.’

Wednesday January 20 - Michel Morin, University of Montreal: “The Recognition of Aboriginal Property and Territories in New France”

Wednesday February 3 – Sam MacLean, University of London: "The Westminster Model Navy: The Royal Navy and the Restoration."

Wednesday March 2 – Kevin Crosby, University of Newcastle-on-Tyne: “Female Jurors in the 2 English Assize Courts, 1920-1925”

Wednesday March 30 - Karen Macfarlane, York University, ‘Selling protections against arrest: Pushing and creating the limits of diplomatic immunity in the eighteenth century.’

Wednesday April 13 – Kelly DeLuca, Ryerson University, TBA.

Wednesday September 14 – Ryan Alford, Lakehead University: ‘Understanding Judicial Tolerance of Executive Branch Unilateralism: Changing Dynamics in the American Federal Judicial Appointments Process 1972-2010.’

Wednesday September 21 – Thomas Mohr, University College Dublin: The Canadian and Irish Constitutions

Wednesday October 12 – Paul Craven, York University: “Just Cause – Industrial Discipline at Arbitration in the 1940s.”

Wednesday October 26 – Bradley Miller, University of British Columbia: “Dangerous Doctrine: Jurisdiction in the Northeastern Boundary Dispute.”

Wednesday November 9 – Suzie Chiodo, Osgoode Hall Law School: "Class Roots: The Genesis of the Ontario *Class Proceedings Act*, 1966-1992"

Wednesday November 23 – Constance Backhouse, University of Ottawa: “Claire L’Heureux-Dubé: A Feminist Legal Biography”

Wednesday December 6 – Nelson Ouellet, University of Moncton: “The Origins of Workers Compensation in New Brunswick”

2015

January 14: Joe Kary, Kary and Kwan: "Judgments Of Peace: An Unorthodox Court For The Orthodox And Not-So-Orthodox Jews Of Montreal, 1923-1973

February 11: Jim Phillips, University of Toronto, "Restrictive Covenants: A Case Study in Nineteenth Century Ontario Legal Reception"

February 25: Douglas Hay, Osgoode Hall Law School, ‘Artisans and Crime’

March 4: Elsbeth Heaman, McGill University, "'Legal Fictions of Fairness: Corporate Tax Revolt in fin-de siècle Ontario" 3

March 18: Rande Kostal, Western University, "Constructing the Rule of Law in Occupied Japan, 1945-48"

April 1 - Myra Tawfik, University of Windsor, "The Impact of Canada's First Copyright Act (Lower Canada 1832) on Authors, Publishers and Schoolbook Production"

Wednesday September 23 – Brian Young, McGill University: 'Law, landed families, and intergenerational issues in nineteenth-century Quebec.'

Wednesday October 7 – Ian Kyer: 'The Canada Deposit Insurance Act of 1967: a Federal Response to a Constitutional Quandry.'

Wednesday October 21 – Paul Craven, York University: 'The 'Judges Clause': Judges as Labour Arbitrators, 1910-1970.'

Wednesday November 4 – David Fraser, University of Nottingham: '“Honorary Protestants”: The Jewish School Question in Montreal, 1867-1997.'

Wednesday November 18 – Jacqueline Briggs, University of Toronto: 'R. v. Jonathan: A Case in Context Study'

Wednesday December 2 – Jim Phillips, University of Toronto: 'A History of Law in Canada, 1815-1850.'

Wednesday December 16 – Rebecca Scott, University of Michigan: 'Unlawful Enslavement and the Claim of 'Freedom by Prescription': An Antebellum Afterlife for the *Siete Partidas* of Alfonso the Wise.'

2014

September 10 - Ian Kyer, "Equity and the Private Sector Service Provider: The Battle between the City of Toronto and the Toronto Railway Company in the Privy Council"

September 24 - Blaine Baker, University of Toronto, "Testamentary Archeology in Late-Victorian Ontario: William Martin's Little, Posthumous Legal System"

October 1 – Paul Craven, York University, "Imagining a low law history of labour arbitration in Ontario"

October 15 - Sam McLean, King's College, London: "Courts-Martial and the Creation of the Early-Modern Royal Navy" 4

October 29 - Joseph Dunlop, University of Toronto: "The Catholic Legislator in a Pluralistic Society: From Pierre Trudeau to Paul Martin.

November 12 - Philip Girard, Osgoode Hall Law School: "A History of Law in Canada, 1750-1815"

November 26 – Art Linton, ‘Magna Carta Canada’

December 3 – Dennis Molinaro, University of Toronto, "Liberal Communists and Communist Liberals: Section 98 and Civil Rights in Canada."

2013

January 16 - Patricia McMahon, Osler Hoskin: “The Courts and Conscription: The Case of George Edwin Gray, 1918.”

January 30 - Ariella Elema, University of Toronto: "How to Hold a Trial by Battle"

February 13 - Alain Beaulieu, Université de Québec à Montréal: “The Acquisition of Aboriginal Land in Canada: The Genealogy of an Ambivalent System, 1713-1867"

February 27 - Patrick Connor, York University: “Crime and Punishment in Upper Canada”.

March 6 - Joan Sangster, Trent University: "Just Horseplay? Defining Masculinity in Grievance Arbitration During the Fordist Accord."

March 13 - Barry Wright, Carleton University: “Macaulay's India Law Reforms and Labour in the Nineteenth Century British Empire"

March 27 - Brad Miller, Queen's University and UBC: "An Imperial Union: Defining & Re-Defining Marriage in the Nineteenth Century British Empire."

April 3 - David Schorr, University of Tel Aviv: "*Jerusalem-Jaffa District Governor v Murra* and Four Imperial Constitutionalisms"

September 11 - Ian Kyer, Fasken Martineau: “The Thirty Years War: The Legal Battles that Created the TTC 1891-1921"

September 25 - Jordan Birenbaum, University of Toronto: “Elmer A. Driedger (1913-1985): A Biographical and Intellectual Sketch of the Father of Canadian Statutory Interpretation”.

October 9 - Nick Rogers, York University: “Parricide in Mid-Eighteenth Century England: The 5 cases of Mary Blandy and Elizabeth Jefferies.”

October 23 - Jeremy Milloy, Simon Fraser University: “Windsor is 'A Very, Very Bad Place to Live if You Are Black': Workplace Violence, Race, and Radical Law in the Aftermath of Charlie Brooks's Murder”

November 6 - Ubaka Ogbogu, University of Alberta: "Doctors versus Councillors: A Legal History of Smallpox Vaccination in Ontario, 1882 - 1920"

November 20 - Mary Stokes, Osgoode Hall Law School: "Municipal Corporations in Court, 1850-1880."

Lori Chambers, Lakehead University: "International Adoption"

2012

January 11 - Paul Craven, York University: "Doing Substantial Justice: C.R. Hatheway's Crown Cases, 1847 - 1867"

January 25 - Marisha Caswell, Queen's University: "Married Women and the Criminal Law in Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century England"

February 1 - Douglas Hay, York University: "The Misdemeanour/Felony Distinction in the 18th and 19th centuries."

February 15 - Jed Shugerman, Harvard University: "The Origins of the US Department of Justice"

February 29 - Coel Kirkby, Cambridge University: "The Imperial Origins of the Canadian Constitution"

March 14 - Li Chen, University of Toronto: "Legal Knowledge and Justice in Late Imperial China, 1651-1911"

March 28 - Michael Kogan, University of Toronto: "Soviet Legal Professionals and the Administration of Justice, 1945-1953".

April 11 - Jeff McNairn, Queen's University: "A Just and Obvious Distinction: The Meaning of Imprisonment for Debt and the Criminal Law in Upper Canada's Age of Reform"

September 12 - Matthew Light, University of Toronto: "The Ambiguities of Influence: Russia, the Death Penalty, and Europe" 6

September 26 - Nhung Tran, University of Toronto, "Mortgaging Local Culture: the Commodification of Village Performance in Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Vietnam"

October 10 - Bettina Bradbury, York University: "Troubling Inheritances: An Illegitimate Maori daughter contests her father's will in the New Zealand Courts and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council."

October 24 - Doug Hay, York University: "Criminal Lawyers in Eighteenth Century England"

November 7 - Rob Steinfeld, University of Buffalo: "Outline for a History of the Origins of American Judicial Review"

November 14 - Doug Harris, University of British Columbia, and Jim Phillips, University of Toronto: "History of De facto Expropriation in Canada."

November 21 - Paul Craven, York University: "Called to Account: Magistrates and Public Accounts in 19th Century New Brunswick"

December 5 - Anthony Gaughan, Drake University: "Do the Ends Justify the Means? The Trial of the Watergate Burglars."

2011

January 12 - Philip Girard, Dalhousie University: "The Making of the Legal Profession in British North America: Reform vs. Revolution"

January 26 - Sophia Spurdakos, Law Society of Upper Canada: "The Lord Reading Law Club"

February 9 - Blaine Baker, McGill University: 'Storied Exhibitions of Anglo-American Legal Doctrine, 1829-1845'.

February 16 - Paul Craven, York University: "The Temperance Magistrates -- License and Prohibition in Charlotte County"

March 2 - Lori Chambers, Lakehead University: "Newborn Adoption: Birth Mothers, Genetic Fathers and Reproductive Autonomy"

March 16- Patricia McMahon, Yale University and Osler Hoskin: "The Debate Over the Fusion of Law and Equity in England, 1850 to 1854: The Influence of David Dudley Field and the New York Code". 7

March 30 - Bob Gordon, Yale University: "Critical Legal Histories Revisited."

April 13 - Ian Kyer, Independent Historian: "Two Marriages that Made a Partnership: The Early History of the Fasken Law Firm."

September 14 - Nick Rogers, York University: "Crime, Demobilization and Governmentality in Mid-eighteenth Century Britain".

September 28 - Philip Girard, Dalhousie University: " 'If Two Ride a Horse, One Must Ride in Front': Married Women, Nationality and the Law in Canada, 1880-1950"

October 12 - Tony Freyer, University of Alabama: "Embedding Free versus Slave Labor Regulation Networks in the Transatlantic British Empire and the United States, 1835-1860"

November 2 - Jim Phillips, University of Toronto: "Judicial Independence in British North America"

November 16 - Sascha Auerbach, University of Northern British Columbia: " 'I Want Her Bound Over': Poor Women's Agency in the London Police Courts of the Long Nineteenth Century"

November 30 - Daniel Rueck, University of Western Ontario: "Bounding the Reserve with Lines and Laws: The Enclosure of Kahnawá:ke Mohawk Territory, 1850-1900"

December 14 - Blaine Baker, McGill University, "Popularising the Rule of Law: Sheldon Amos and the International Scientific Series"