



July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear Incoming Law Students,

Congratulations on your offer to study law at the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Law starting September 2024. On behalf of our staff, professors and practicing professional instructors, I extend a warm welcome to you and look forward to seeing you in person at Robson Hall for Orientation Week.

Please check [Orientation Week – UM | Faculty of Law \(umanitoba.ca/law\)](https://umanitoba.ca/law) for important information on your first week of classes.

### **Balancing Classroom with Courtroom**

You will have opportunities to study all the essentials critical to a solid legal education, and you will obtain hands-on, practical experience through our comprehensive clinical learning program later in the JD program.

You will be introduced to the courtroom through the Legal Systems course and our unique Judge Shadowing program. There will be opportunities to volunteer for Pro Bono Students Canada, and starting the summer after you finish first year, you can volunteer for the University of Manitoba Community Law Centre (UMCLC).

### **Choose Your Path**

The Faculty of Law offers JD students the opportunity to choose one of four voluntary "Concentrations" that will be noted on your transcripts upon graduation. These include:

- [Access to Justice in French](#)
- [Criminal Law & Justice](#)
- [Law & Society](#)
- [Private Enterprise & the Law](#)

You do not need to choose a Concentration, but if you do, you may complete only one Concentration. There is one exception: if students choose Access to Justice in French, they may also choose a second Concentration.

### **Implementation of Call to Action 28**

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action 28 calls upon law schools to require all law students to take a course on Indigenous peoples and the law, including the history and legacy of residential schools. Robson Hall students all take Indigenous Legal Methodologies and Perspectives in their second year, and there are also other Indigenous law courses you can take.

## **Fund your Legal Education**

Our tuition remains among the most affordable of Canadian law schools. Performance and merit-based awards are distributed to students in every course, recognizing academic excellence. The top 10 students on the Dean's Honour List entering second and third year receive a substantial scholarship and are named Pitblado Scholars. We also have a generous bursary program for students who find themselves in financial need. For further information about Financial Aid and Awards, please visit <https://umanitoba.ca/law/student-experience/financial-aid-awards>

Please note that Manitoba Student Aid is now accepting applications for student loans. We highly recommend applying early. Students are only eligible for our JD Bursary program if they have been granted student loans. More information on the JD Bursary Program can be found at <https://umanitoba.ca/law/student-experience/financial-aid-awards>

## **Registration for First Year Law**

Instructions on how to register will be sent to your UM email address closer to your registration date. Please check your UM email regularly.

## **Student Life**

While you are a JD student, be sure to take part in the activities available to you! Many student groups operate as part of the [Manitoba Law Students Association](#) and the [Manitoba Indigenous Law Students Association](#). You will find groups focused on different areas of legal practice, groups advocating a cause, celebrating identity, and groups that encourage you to take a moment to breathe, socialize, play sports and otherwise enjoy your time at Robson Hall.

Until we see you in September, [please visit our website](#) and remember to check [Orientation Week – UM | Faculty of Law](#). Feel free to contact us regarding any questions you may have.

We look forward to welcoming you as part of the class of 2027 and again, congratulations!

Sincerely,



Dr. Richard Jochelson  
Dean of Law