

# **MLSA** | MANITOBA LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## **MANITOBA LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION MEMBER REPORTS OCTOBER 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 12:00 PM**

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### **Vice President Internal – Meghan Bjorklund**

#### **1. Consent Culture Workshop**

A second consent culture workshop was held on October 21, 2020. Thirteen people were in attendance. Fifteen others are expected to watch the recording, which has been sent via email.

#### **2. Student Groups Funding**

Each student group has received notice that their requested funding tier has been approved.

#### **3. Zoom Bookings**

So far there has only been one conflict with the use of the MLSA Zoom account. A reminder to schedule events at least two weeks in advance to avoid this.

# **MILSA – Binesi Boulanger, Daphne Comegan, Victoria Davies, Peyton Delaurier-Smith, Jenna Jeffrey, Alexandra Philippot**

## **1. IBA Conference**

Our students attended the IBA Conference (virtually) on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>. MILSA was able to fund 18 students to participate in the conference.

## **2. Blog**

Our first blog post was uploaded on September 30<sup>th</sup>. The blog can be found here: <https://robsonhallmilsa.weebly.com>

## **3. Beadwork Sale**

MILSA Members, Jenna Jeffrey and Binesi Boulanger, will be selling their beadwork over reading week, beginning on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **4. Fundraising**

### **a) Mi'kmaq Fishers in Nova Scotia**

MILSA will be doing a sweater clothing sale to support the Mi'kmaq fishers. 100% of the profits will be sent to Nova Scotia. This sale is anticipated to be starting very soon. Please watch the MILSA Facebook page and your email for updates.

### **b) 1492 Land Back Lane**

MILSA wrote a letter to support 1492 Land Back Lane defenders. MILSA also hosted a raffle for 1492 Land Back Lane.

### **c) Halloween Candy Donations**

MILSA teamed up with UMISA in organizing a candy donation drive for Mamawi Wi chi Itata Centre's Halloween event. Donations are accepted via e-transfer at [mcivork6@umanitoba.ca](mailto:mcivork6@umanitoba.ca)

### **d) So far this year, MILSA has donated over \$1,700 to various Indigenous initiatives, charities, and support funds.**

## **2L Representatives – Shawn Singh, Celyna Yu**

### **1. Exam Cram Progress Update**

Progress is being made on providing students with study relief during the week before exams begin on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. We will have more information to share at the November MLSA meeting.

### **2. Policy Change – Race and Culture Warning**

Students have expressed concerns about the approach to discussing race and culture as part of class material. In response, we've worked with AD Shariff to approve a Race and Culture Discussion Warning that will be communicated to faculty and instructors for use in their course content. Changes may be seen as early as next term.

### **3L Representatives – Jilian Stefanson, Alexa Smith**

#### **1. Exam Cram**

Unfortunately, an in-person Exam Cram will not be possible this year, but we are confident that we can arrange something for the students at a distance! We are in the planning stages trying to sort out funds for the event. We are thinking of doing a gift card to Starbucks or Tim Hortons for each of the students because then this would also reach the out of province people and no one would have to go pick anything up. This option however is significantly over budget. If we are unable to do the gift card option, we will look into other options (something the students would likely have to pick up). The gift card distribution or alternative option will likely take place in late November/ early December.

## **Manitoba Bar Association Representative – Michael Badejo**

### **1. Welcome Event Successful**

In mid-September, we hosted an event for the 1L's with representatives from the Law Society, MBA, MLSA and Robson Hall. As far as a web event can go, we tried to emulate what you'd get in the normal welcome ceremony and had prizes as well as greetings brought on behalf of the sponsors who could make it. Overall, the interactive event was great. Special thanks to Nick Noonan for bringing greetings as well.

### **2. Mentorship Program**

Mentorship matches have gone out and are in the wild – this year we had about 65 matches for students, some of whom are abroad. Given COVID, obviously much of the meetings will be primarily virtual but I'm excited to see what comes to fruition. Matching was done on the MentorCity platform with some tailoring by me. That segues into my next point: the upcoming Mentorship Mixer event. This will be online as well, held on November 18 at 330 PM for those with mentors in the 1L cohort (or others who just got their mentor this year). I've currently built out a framework that involves breakout rooms and interactivity again – those who want more details but are not in the mentorship cohort can contact me after the fact for more details.

### **3. CBA Law Students National Section**

Part of my role involves working at the national level on things of major importance to students. I'm on the Student Loans Committee, which encompasses many things beyond just loans, like loan forgiveness – we're actually pivoting to rebrand this committee to something of a Finance committee as the other members and I take on things like financial literacy, financial planning and guidelines for law students to better their monetary health. The articling experience as well as mental health and social outreach are under the purview of the national section, and as your provincial rep, I'm happy to bring concerns and/or questions with a Manitoban bent to the larger group. Colleague and peer Andrew Fenwick is a member at large, also representing Manitoba.

### **4. Exam Cram**

I'm currently working with the MBA to get back to our 3L representatives as to a plan for Exam Cram, and what that looks like in the current circumstances. Not much more to say here.

## **Spirit Committee – Sue Ahn, Melina Venuto, Anna Siemens, Reid Girard, Dominic Peña**

### **1. Yoga in the Park (completed)**

- Held event in the Forks, socially distanced
- Had great turnout (just under 50 students, students from each year) and was met with great feedback
- Raised \$105 on donation-basis for Klinic Community Health
- Also received donations from Moda Yoga and students won various gifts from the studio (free class passes, water bottles, etc.)
- Shout out to Melina and Anna for organizing with relatively short notice! ☺

### **2. Online Board Games Night**

- Will be holding an online board games night on November 21st; decided to hold the event a little later to accommodate articling timeline and other events
- The platform used will be Board Game Arena; will also be using Zoom alongside it to host breakout rooms and allow people to chat
- A sign-up sheet will be posted, at which point Reid (Coordinator) will split people up into groups with the aim to mix up different years in each group. This is to allow 1Ls to meet and get to know some upper years.
- The plan is to allow students to run their own game nights throughout the year and host more Game Nights in the future throughout COVID times.

### **3. Exam Break Yoga Day**

- No set plans yet; pending COVID regulations
- May have to opt for virtual zoom yoga session
- The aim is to allow students a mental health break during exam study season
- Will likely be held in early December

Will also be reconvening later in the year to determine events for Winter 2021. As of now, hard to tell what COVID regulations will be like so events will be pending this.

**Social Committee – Alexis Alevizos, Micaela Levi, David Barbour, Kelsey Thain, Alex Broggy, Alan Lempert**

**1. Carbo-lic**

- a. Still hopeful this can somehow happen, definitely won't be the same as past years, but maybe can do just a dinner depending on how everything is going in the new year. We've looked at the dinner menu and picked out some of the meals we like.

**2. Bingo Night**

- a. Happening on Nov 5 at 7 pm on Zoom
- b. Already have quite a few people registered, will be announcing what the prizes are on the 29<sup>th</sup> so that we can hopefully get more people to come (please come the prizes are good)
- c. If it goes well, looking into making it a recurring thing

**Clinical Experience Committee – Amber Harms, Keira Hasenack, Ryan Johnson, Keith Murkin**

The selection process for both the oralists and the researchers for the National Moot Program went smoothly.

The Negotiations Competition is to be held on October 29<sup>th</sup> and we are in need of 1Ls to volunteer to administer the Zoom session. Contact Jessica Tapatai if you're interested.

The Solomon Greenberg is now confirmed that it is going to be held virtually. Whether the credit hour opportunity will be provided for it is a topic that will be discussed at the next Academic Committee meeting.

We are teaming up with the RH Debate Society to present "**Mooting 101**" on **Wednesday October 28th from 12pm-1pm**. Any participants selected to moot or interested in mooting next year are encouraged to attend and hear the advice that two past successful mooters can provide on the process.



## **Sports Committee – Faheem Kamran, Elly MacRae, Bennett Ulrich**

### **1. Fantasy Football League**

We started a Fantasy Football league as a covid-friendly alternative to some of the regular events we would be putting on to start the year. A total of 18 people signed up and have been playing this year (9 1Ls and 9 2/3Ls). The league should run as long as the NFL season does.

We also got a player from the Winnipeg Blue Bombers to record a short video for the league to keep people engaged and entertained.

### **2. Fitness Challenge**

We are going to put on a fitness challenge for the month of November. Participants will earn weekly prizes (TBA) and can enter by joining the challenge on the Stridekick app, by tagging the MLSA Instagram or Facebook page in an exercise related post, or simply emailing in proof. Max 2 entries per week. Winners drawn randomly.

### **3. E-Sports Tournament**

After having a decent number of students respond to a poll earlier this term, we will be putting on a Call of Duty tournament in the winter term.

### **4. 3-on-3 Hockey Tournament**

We have been in preliminary talks with the Robson Hall Jets in hopes of a collaboration on a hockey event. We also reached out to UofM Med to gauge interest. The hope was to have something before November but due to the current covid situation, talks are at a standstill and we are hoping to circle back as soon as the situation allows.

This tournament would be casual and for all skill levels.

### **5. Sports Trivia Night/Jets Viewing Party**

If a hockey tournament is not possible, we will either be having a sports trivia night or a Jets viewing party over zoom in the winter term.

**Communications Committee – Maddy Laval, Larissa Campbell, Zara Kadhim,  
Steven Dressler**

**1. MLSA Website**

- a. MLSA Website Update:** The MLSA Website is back up! We are going to be monitoring the website over the next few days to make sure that no other issues arise. Several Trojan viruses were found on the website – these seem to have originated from corrupt zip files being uploaded to the site. Going forward, please send documents (outlines, PDFs etc.) individually, **not** in a zip file. The Website had to be restored back to October 12<sup>th</sup>; if any Committees/Student Groups sent information about events between October 12 – October 27, or if a Committee has an event scheduled for the month of November, could you please check the calendar and re-send the details to [lavalm@myumanitoba.ca](mailto:lavalm@myumanitoba.ca) so I can be sure that I have not missed anything – thank you!

**Academic Committee – Alexa Smith, Amy Scribner, Shawn Eisler, Shira Brand, Dane Kingdon, Jess Humphries**

**1. Academic Presentation**

We held a study tip presentation in September. Attendance was high and those who could not come reached out to us after to get the recording. For 1L reps specifically, please encourage students to reach out should they have any questions, concerns or need extra support.

**2. Outline Bank**

We are slowly re-building the outline bank. We will continue to post on the Facebook group asking people to submit. Remember, if you submit, you will be entered to win a gift card.

**3. Mental Health Group**

Teamed up with Mental Health Group to create a document of tips.

**No Report Submitted:**

- **President**
- **Vice President External**
- **Vice President Finance**
- **1L Representatives**
- **Gender and Sexual Minorities Representative**
- **Students' Living with Disabilities Representative**
- **Women's Representative**
- **Visible Minority Students' Representative**
- **Part Time Students' Representative**
- **Students Providing Care Representative**
- **UMSU Representative**
- **Professional Development Committee**
- **Accessibility Committee**
- **Community Outreach Committee**
- **Grad Committee**
- **Constitution and Policy Committee**
- **Chief Returning Officer**
- **Governance Coordinator**
- **Council Chair**