



UNIVERSITY OF
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
FACULTY OF LAW

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR BUSINESS LAW



The National Centre for Business Law has been established at UBC Faculty of Law. Our mission is to develop a world-class national centre for business law scholarship and teaching, and create a place where challenging ideas are engaged in an honest and open forum to advance the development of business law policy appropriate for a leading market economy.

The Centre will:

ADVANCE BUSINESS LAW SCHOLARSHIP

- Provide a robust, interdisciplinary and empirical research environment for research and scholarship in business law and finance policy, focused on both domestic and international comparative law

ENHANCE BUSINESS LAW EDUCATION

- Offer outstanding educational programs in business law for LL.B., graduate and professional students, enhancing the quality of students' learning experience by increasing engagement with contemporary business law issues

ENGAGE THE BUSINESS LAW COMMUNITY

- Become a focal meeting place to enhance the intellectual exchange among the business law community, including scholars, judges, financiers, business leaders, legal practitioners, in-house counsel, government policy-makers and community members

THE DEAN'S ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Honorable Frank Iacobucci,
QC, LL.D., *Counsel*, *Torys*, Toronto
(Chair of the Dean's Advisory
Committee)

Mr David Bain, *Managing Partner*,
Bull, Housser & Tupper, Vancouver

Mr Geoffrey Cowper, QC,
*Chair of the Litigation and Dispute
Resolution Department*,
Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP,
Vancouver

Mr Purdy Crawford, QC,
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP,
Toronto

Ms Anna K. Fung, QC,
*Senior Counsel & Chief Privacy
Officer*, Terasen Inc. (a subsidiary of
Kinder Morgan Inc.), Vancouver

Ms Audrey Ho, *Vice President*,
Legal Services & General Counsel,
TELUS Corporation, Vancouver

Mr Doug Hyndman, *Chair*,
British Columbia Securities
Commission, Vancouver

Mr William Kaplan, QC,
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP,
Vancouver

Madam Justice Risa Levine,
British Columbia Court of Appeal,
Vancouver

Dr David McLean, OBC, LL.D.,
Chair and CEO, The McLean Group
of Companies, Vancouver

Mr Stuart Morrow, *Partner*,
Davis & Company LLP, Vancouver

Mr Larry Prentice, *Senior
Vice President*, Ernst & Young,
Vancouver

Mr James Smeltzer, *Chief
Operating Officer and Calgary
Managing Partner*,
Bennett Jones LLP, Calgary

Ms Martine Turcotte,
Chief Legal Officer, Bell Canada
Enterprises, Inc., Montréal

Mr W. David Wilson, *Chair*,
Ontario Securities Commission,
Toronto



A message from Frank Iacobucci

Business law is in rapid transition. It is time for a national forum that allows a dynamic exchange of ideas and advancement of scholarship in developing areas of business law. The National Centre for Business Law will offer that opportunity, with a wide range of policy forums, conferences and events that will generate intellectual engagement and interdisciplinary research in business law.

Working with Dean Mary Anne Bobinski, I am pleased to be taking an active role in the new Centre, chairing its oversight committee. Comprised of senior members of business, legal practice, accountancy and the judiciary, we will provide strategic direction and advice to the Centre.

There has been considerable enthusiasm for this project at UBC Law and in the business law community, culminating in approval for the Centre's establishment by the UBC Senate effective September 2006.

I see this as a key opportunity to create a truly national dialogue on how business law needs to transform in the next few years to meet the challenges and demands of a global economy. I hope you will join us in affiliating with the Centre and contributing to its intellectual life.

THE HONOURABLE FRANK IACOBUCCI
QC, LL.D

Frank Iacobucci joined Torys as Counsel in 2004, after retiring as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. He is Chair of the Dean's Advisory Committee for the National Centre for Business Law.

Strong International Links and Business Scholarship

The National Centre for Business Law will benefit from the strong links to China, Japan, Korea and other nations of the Pan-Pacific region forged by UBC Law and the Institute for Asian Research at UBC. The Centre will be strategically positioned to advance international business law research, critical at a time of increasingly cross-border activity.

The Centre will provide a forum for exchange of ideas in respect of business law policy on a nation-wide basis.

The Centre has benefited from an aggressive search for the best and brightest minds in business law. We have scholarship strength in business torts, corporate law, securities regulation, sustainability, international business transactions, international commercial arbitration, corporate tax, natural resources law, commercial insolvency law, pension law, and international trade.

The National Centre for Business Law is now poised to provide a strong centre for intellectual engagement and interdisciplinary research in business law.

Current Projects

ENHANCING EDUCATION:

The enhancement of business law education for law students has begun. After an intensive consultation with the profession nationally, UBC Law has reformed its business law curriculum. Commencing September 2006, students will have the opportunity to take a Business Law Concentration as part of their LL.B. degree, with new courses to ensure that students have the best skills possible for the practice of business law.

The National Centre for Business Law is developing intensive courses for business leaders and legal practitioners on cutting-edge areas of business law developments.

ADVANCING RESEARCH:

The Centre has obtained funding and is collaborating with the Toronto Stock Exchange Group and Institute for Capital Market Studies in the TSX Capital Markets Initiative, a project that will advance scholarship and public policy debate on the future of the Canadian capital markets sector.

Scholars affiliated with the Centre are working with national research grants in intellectual property, comparative tax law, securities law reform, corporate governance, commercial insolvency law, natural resource law and international trade in the Pan-Pacific region.

The Centre is developing a program of interdisciplinary and empirical research, attracting scholars from business and law, both domestically and internationally.

The Centre will launch the *UBC National Review of Business Law*, an annual peer-reviewed scholarly journal on cutting-edge business law developments in fall 2006.



ENGAGING THE BUSINESS LAW COMMUNITY:

The National Centre for Business Law will host a policy roundtable with the Chairs of the Ontario Securities Commission and British Columbia Securities Commission, "The Future of Securities Regulation, the Potential for Convergence of Ideas", in Vancouver on September 28, 2006.

The Centre will host the *Pan-Pacific Business Law Conference* on "Legal Frameworks for Sustainable Development and Trade Relationships in the Asia Pacific" at UBC Law September 29-30, 2006.

The Centre will co-host the fourth *Annual Review of Insolvency Law Conference*, in Montréal on March 30, 2007.

The Centre has launched a tax newsletter, offering up to date news on developments in tax law.

The Centre will offer a new Business Law Speakers series to be held in Vancouver and Calgary in 2006-2007.

The National Centre for Business Law is actively seeking expressions of interest in affiliation from both Canadian and international business law scholars for its collaborative research projects.

UBC LAW FACULTY MEMBERS AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR BUSINESS LAW

Mary Anne Bobinski, *Dean and Professor*
B.A., J.D. (SUNY/Buffalo); LL.M. (Harv.)

Janis Sarra, *Associate Dean and Associate Professor; Director, National Centre for Business Law*
B.A. (Hons.), M.A. (Toronto); LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M., S.J.D. (Toronto)

Natasha Affolder, *Assistant Professor*
LL.B. (Alberta); BCL, D.Phil. (Law) (Oxon.)

Ljiljana Biukovic, *Assistant Professor*
LL.B. (University of Belgrade); LL.M. (Central European University, Budapest); LL.M., Ph.D. (Brit. Col.)

Joost Blom, *QC, Professor*
B.A., LL.B. (Brit. Col.); B.C.L. (Oxon.); LL.M. (Harv.)

Kim Brooks, *Assistant Professor*
B.A. (Toronto); LL.B. (Brit. Col.); LL.M. (Osgoode)

Ronald Davis, *Associate Professor*
LL.B., S.J.D. (Toronto)

Cristie Ford, *Assistant Professor*
B.A. (Alberta); LL.B. (Victoria); LL.M. (Columbia)

Bruce MacDougall, *Professor*
B.A. (Hons.) (Acad.); B.A. (Juris.) (Oxon.); LL.B. (Dal.); B.C.L., M.A. (Oxon.)

Shigenori Matsui, *Professor*
LL.B., LL.M. (Kyoto); J.S.D. (Stanford); LL.D. (Kyoto)

Robert K. Paterson, *Professor*
LL.B. (New Zealand); J.S.M. (Stanford)

Pitman Potter, *Professor of Law; Director, Institute of Asian Research*
B.A. (George Wash.); J.D., Ph.D. (Wash.)

Mira T. Sundara Rajan, *Assistant Professor*
B.A. (Hons.) (McGill/Paris); LL.B. (Osgoode); LL.M. (Brit. Col.); D.Phil. (Oxon.)

Ian Townsend-Gault, *Associate Professor of Law; Director, Southeast Asian Legal Studies*
LL.B. (Dund.)

Joseph Weiler, *Professor*
B.A. (Hons.) (Toronto); LL.B. (Osgoode); LL.M. (Calif., Berkeley)

Claire Young, *Professor and Associate Dean, Academic Affairs*
LL.B. (Lond.); LL.M. (Brit. Col.)

How can you get involved?

Become affiliated with the Centre at bronze, silver or gold affiliate levels. For more information contact Janis Sarra at sarra@law.ubc.ca.

Join in the events/programs, see <http://www.law.ubc.ca/ncbl/index.html> for details.

Request a copy of the National Centre for Business Law *Strategic Planning and Business Plan* or request to be on the mailing list for the tax newsletter or other publications of the Centre: businesslaw@law.ubc.ca.



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University of British Columbia
1822 East Mall
Vancouver BC V6T 1Z1
Canada

Tel: 604-827-3600
Fax: 604-822-8108
www.law.ubc.ca