

EDITORS' PREFACE

Forum: “Legal Issues in the Modern Economy”

The *University of New Brunswick Law Journal* Editorial Board is pleased to present the forum topic for Volume 71: Legal Issues in the Modern Economy. The forum is inspired by the numerous legal issues surrounding work, inequality, the gig economy, and other topics related to business law and democracy that have come to the fore in the decade following the financial crisis of 2007–08. The significance of these issues has recently been underscored by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has brought about the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

Volume 71 begins with two important events in the University of New Brunswick Faculty of Law calendar: the 25th Ivan C. Rand Memorial Lecture, and the 41st Viscount Bennett Memorial Lecture. In October 2019, Professor Bruce Ziff visited the University of New Brunswick Faculty of Law and delivered the Rand Lecture on the abject failures of the common law to protect the environment. Professor Ziff's lecture was originally scheduled for the previous year, in conjunction with Volume 70 the *University of New Brunswick Law Journal*. We are delighted nonetheless to include Professor Ziff's article in Volume 71 one year later.

In January 2020, Professor Allan C. Hutchinson visited the University of New Brunswick Faculty of Law and delivered the Viscount Bennett Lecture on the prospects and challenges of regulating cryptocurrencies. Professor Hutchinson is a distinguished research professor at Osgoode Hall Law School. His article “Breaking the Code: Cryptocurrency and Programming Proposal” is the anchoring submission of Volume 71.

In addition to the Viscount Bennett and Rand lectures, the Editorial Board is honoured to publish two articles from the judiciary. The first is an article on Canada's Federal Court system, authored by Mr. Justice Richard Boivin of the Federal Court of Appeal. The second is an article on judicial involvement in the community, coauthored by Mr. Justice Malcolm Rowe of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Volume 71 features articles from contributors across Canada and beyond that explore a variety of legal issues in the modern economy. These issues include organizing platform workers, gender gaps in employment law, programmed obsolescence, equity incentives in Canadian startups, “seller in possession” statutory regimes in Atlantic Canada, and legitimizing stock index futures contracts in Iran's capital market. Volume 71 also includes several articles on subjects beyond the scope of our forum topic. We are delighted to publish two Newfoundland legal history articles—one on class action lawsuits and the other on the abolition of adverse possession of Crown lands—as well as an article on legal ethics and judicial law clerks. The Editorial Board is also pleased to present a book review of former University of New Brunswick Faculty of Law professor Margaret McCallum's 7th edition of *An Introduction to Real Property Law*. Finally, Volume 71 concludes with a submission by third-year University of New Brunswick Faculty of Law student Ryan Chute (J.D., '20) on insurance law and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The *University of New Brunswick Law Journal* is the product of many people working together in the pursuit of developing legal discourse. We are extremely grateful to our supporters in this endeavour: the University of New Brunswick, its Faculty of Law, its professors and staff, the librarians of the Gérard V La Forest Law Library, our contributors, our peer reviewers, our subscribers, the Law Society of New Brunswick, and the New Brunswick Law Foundation. We also extend our sincerest thanks and gratitude to our Associate Editors and volunteers for their hard work, dedication, patience, and meticulous editing. Without the labour of Shannon Benjamin, Alexandra Dejong, Caitlin Gallant, Emily MacLeod, John Caldwell, and Delaney Stymiest-Losier, Volume 71 could not have come into being.

Lastly, we are grateful to you—our readers. We hope that you enjoy the contents of Volume 71 and learn something new from the pages that follow.

Mitchell McGowan & Alexander Rimmington
Editors-in-Chief, Volume 71