

## EDITORS' PREFACE

### **Forum: New Normal or No Normal? Adapting Legal Traditions in an Era of Unprecedented Challenges**

The *University of New Brunswick Law Journal* has a longstanding tradition of soliciting topical and engaging articles inspired by the themes of the annual Ivan C. Rand & Viscount Bennett Memorial Lectures. These renowned lectures are open to the public and typically attract capacity audiences of students, lawyers, and professors alike, who gather in the Mary Louise Lynch Room of the Law Building at the University of New Brunswick. However, as in-person classes were cancelled for the 2020-2021 academic year, these touchstone lectures that typically inform our journal's theme, were postponed indefinitely.

Without the limitation of a strict journal theme, this year's Editorial Board sought the highest quality of Canadian legal commentary that reflected the challenges and developments that occurred during a year that made us question if life would ever return to 'normal'. With that inspiration in mind, the forum topic of Volume 72 was born: "New Normal or No Normal? Adapting Legal Traditions in an Era of Unprecedented Challenges".

Articles are divided into four groups. First, articles exploring "The New Normal" of Canadian legal traditions include analysis of, *inter alia*, government accountability in pandemic responses; and the constitutionality of face mask laws. Second, articles positing there has been "No normal" include analysis of, *inter alia*, bankruptcy lessons for payday lending regulation; and the role of decision-maker expertise when reviewing for correctness. Third, commentary on regional legal themes include an analysis of the non-lawyer Attorney General; and an equality rights analysis of New Brunswick's Regulation 84-20 impacting access to abortion. Finally, the Editorial Board presents a submission by a student from the University of New Brunswick's Faculty of Law, Katie MacDermaid (JD class of 2022).

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. Without the dedication of Dominique Goguen, Graeme Hiebert, Julia O'Hanley, Delaney Stymiest-Losier, Chloe Jardine, and Lauren Ogden, Volume 72 would not have come to fruition.

Lastly, we are grateful to you—our readers. We hope that you enjoy the contents of Volume 72 and find the pages that follow to be intriguing, instructional, and inspiring.

John Caldwell & Emily MacLeod  
Editors-in-Chief, Volume 72