

***McCarthy Tétrault LLP Business Law Internship (with CIBC) - Linda Zhang***

My experience during the McCarthy Tétrault LLP Business Law Internship with CIBC was incredibly rewarding. The non-rotational structure allowed me to work alongside lawyers in every practice area within the Legal Department, from Wealth Management to Litigation. I was entrusted with a diverse range of tasks on fascinating topics, gaining firsthand insight into the various legal challenges faced by financial institutions.

This internship not only honed the legal research and writing skills I acquired in school but also enhanced my time management and communication abilities.

The knowledge I gained through my work and conversations with the experienced lawyers in the department has well prepared me for my future career. Overall, it was a true privilege to work at CIBC!



***Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP Student Internship in Mining Finance (with Dundee Precious Metals Inc.) - Vivienne Zhang***



This summer, I had the opportunity to intern with Dundee Precious Metals (DPM), a publicly traded mining company listed on the TSX with global operations. My internship provided extensive exposure to various areas of law, including policy and contract drafting, as well as corporate governance.

Given my interest in mining and securities law, working on key policies and agreements, and conducting in-depth research on legal matters related to these fields, was particularly rewarding. The experience was both educational and engaging, supported by a fantastic team and supervisor.

This role has significantly enhanced my legal skills and deepened my understanding of mining and securities law, providing a strong foundation for my future career. I am deeply grateful to DPM, Cassels Brock Blackwell, and WLIP for this invaluable experience.

## **Debwewin Summer Law Internship (with the National Indigenous Women's Housing Network (NIWHN)) - Amina Dirie**

This past summer, I had the opportunity to work at the National Indigenous Women's Housing Network (NIWHN) as a Debwewin Summer Law Intern. I had the pleasure of working alongside the NIWHN team in advocating for the right to safe and culturally appropriate housing for Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse peoples.

Throughout the summer, I strengthened my legal research skills and was given the opportunity use my research in crafting potential legal arguments to realize the right to housing for Indigenous women under the Charter. I worked with the team on legal research on a Charter claim against the federal government as well delivered public legal education workshops to community members on the current landscape on the right to housing in Canada.

I learned about international human rights law and other jurisdictions' recognition of social and economic rights and contrasted them with the law in Canada. This further helped me to gain knowledge on international law that I had not previously had. I also was given the opportunity to work with Indigenous women and Elders and learn from teachings on what the right to housing looks like from an Indigenous perspective.

My time at NIWHN was extremely rewarding and I would highly recommend anyone interested in Indigenous law, property law, housing issues, and/or social advocacy to apply!



## **Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) - Jonathan Horne**



During my internship, I received a variety of tasks and assignments in numerous areas of law. In addition to learning more about these practice areas, I developed many practical skills, such as contract drafting and legal research, that will benefit me in my future career. I also received consistent feedback from the lawyers at my placement which ensured that my skills were being developed in a positive way.

I believe that my experience was unique because I was able to build a foundation of legal knowledge while working for the Canadian Olympic Committee in a Summer Olympic year.

I am grateful that I was able to obtain all the benefits of a 1L job while being placed in the area of practice where I eventually want to build my career. I learned a lot about sports law and the legal field, which I will use throughout my future career.

## United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Canada (UNCHR) - Hala Kayed

This past summer I had the wonderful opportunity of working with UNHCR in Ottawa. I worked with the hard-working Protection Unit, and they have taught me invaluable skills that I will carry with throughout my entire legal journey.

I learned the intricacies of immigration, refugee and international law and Canada's role in maintaining its international obligations. I was exposed to many opportunities that strengthened my attention to detail, legal research and writing, and effective communication.

I am so grateful for this internship and getting to work alongside some of the brightest legal practitioners in the game. It was a morally rewarding 10 weeks that I would highly recommend to anyone interested in the field!



## Debwewin Summer Law Internship (with Pape Salter Teillet LLP) - Danielle Nicolardi



This summer I had the pleasure of working with Pape Salter Teillet LLP through the Debwewin Internship Program. I was exposed to a variety of different projects related to self-government agreements, treaty breach litigation, and economic development projects.

I had the opportunity to learn firsthand about the different kinds of legal issues Indigenous clients come to firms like PST with outside of the section 35 content that was covered in Constitutional law in 1L. I had many opportunities to employ my legal research and writing skills from school in a variety of written projects. I received tons of great feedback on how to improve my writing to be a more effective advocate for clients through written prose. PST provided me with many different opportunities for further learning outside of projects I was assigned as part of my internship. This included lunch and learns led by lawyers at the firm where we came together to discuss

our thoughts and insights into the topic at hand as well as a chance to attend a professional development training session.

I truly loved every minute at PST and I am so grateful for all of the people who were the most helpful colleagues during my time and for all of the knowledge I was exposed to over the summer.



## Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA) - Emily Seal

During my time at the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA), I assisted in various law reform projects, with a focus on PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) legislation. My work involved conducting in-depth research, collaborating with government agencies, and contributing to CELA's advocacy efforts.

I also gained valuable experience by assisting in high-profile cases, such as the Federal Court hearing on uranium mine waste in Elliot Lake and attending Ontario Land Tribunal hearings. These experiences deepened my understanding of environmental law and reinforced my commitment to legal advocacy for environmental protection.



## Debwewin Summer Law Internship - Stella Choe



I completed my Debwewin internship at Nookiiwin Tribal Council in Thunder Bay. Nookiiwin Tribal Council is a non-profit organization that provides advisory services to First Nations in Northern Ontario. My team and I delivered Public Legal Education presentations on topics such as Wills and Estates, Family Law, Criminal Law, and Indigenous peoples' access to legal education.

One of the highlights of the internship was a chance to engage with Indigenous community members through the presentations. I also gained hands-on experience in criminal law. I addressed criminal matters in the Ontario Court of Justice, studied criminal procedure, and observed specialty courts such as Indigenous Peoples' Court, Restorative Justice Court, and Drug Treatment Court.

The internship provided plenty of opportunities to refine my legal research and writing skills. I worked on improving data accessibility for Gladue Reporters, researched issues surrounding Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women,

Girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people, and drafted legal memoranda on Constitutional and Aboriginal Law. Debwewin internship provided me with a strong foundation in Indigenous legal issues and advocacy.

I will build upon this learning experience in my legal career as I strive to enhance cultural competency and improve access to justice for Indigenous peoples. It was a privilege to work with Nookiiwin Tribal Council, and I highly recommend this internship to future students.

## **Justice for Children and Youth (JFCY) - Eliza Glady**

This summer I interned at Justice for Children and Youth (JFCY). JFCY is a legal clinic that provides free legal services to young people under 18 and unstably housed people under 25 all across Ontario.

I have learned so much in my time at JFCY and am immensely grateful for this experience. Throughout the summer, I performed legal research and wrote legal memorandums; drafted advocacy letters to a variety of ministries and parties; appeared and spoke in set date court for numerous clients; observed court appearances at multiple levels of court including the Ontario Court of Appeal; facilitated client intake calls and shadowed lawyers in intake meetings with new clients; reviewed and summarized disclosure; communicated directly with clients, support workers, and other lawyers; helped draft factums, applications, and submissions to multiple levels of court; and learned so much about written and oral advocacy under the exceptional mentorship of the JFCY team.



I cannot speak highly enough of the JFCY team and my time at JFCY this summer. The legal education and experience was thorough and hands-on and the team of lawyers and staff was eager to mentor and support summer students. I am endlessly grateful for the truly enriching summer experience that I had at JFCY and am honoured to have participated in such important work in such a welcoming and open environment. I cannot have imagined a better 1L summer experience.

## **Canadian Red Cross (CRC) - Tristan Reaburn-Jones**



This Summer, I had the pleasure of working with the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) International Humanitarian Law team. With this team, I had the unique opportunity to not only perform direct legal work, but also work with their Humanitarian Education team.

With my legal work, I was able to develop my legal research and legal analysis skills to produce deliverables for my team. These developed skills are ones I hope to carry throughout my legal career. I also learned an incredible amount about International Humanitarian Law, even though I had little prior knowledge about the field.

With the humanitarian education team, I was able to perform fulfilling work that helps the education of students on international Humanitarian Law. The people on the International Humanitarian Law team always made me feel welcome and supported me throughout my experience. Since it was a small team, I was able to get 1 on 1 support with multiple different legal advisors.

It was such an amazing experience, and I recommend this future experience to students with any interest in International Law!

### **Ontario Bar Association (OBA) - Susan Kuang**

I had the amazing opportunity to intern at the Ontario Bar Association ("OBA") this summer. The OBA organizes professional development programs for legal professionals in many sections of law and are also advocates for the legal profession.

As an intern, I was tasked with various research projects on both the professional development side and the policy side at the OBA. This summer, a bulk of my research was focused on artificial intelligence and its use and impact on the legal profession as well as various substantive sections of law. As an OBA intern, I also had the pleasure of attending any of these professional development programs, which provided a wealth of knowledge and great opportunities to network with other lawyers.

The exposure I got to all the various aspects of law was very useful and helped provide me a better picture of where I would like to take my future legal career.

### **Thornton Grout Finnigan LLP World Bank Group Internship - Ethan Gilhula**

I worked in Insolvency and Debt Resolution at The World Bank in Washington, DC — a truly massive organization involved in every area of international development. I met experts in economics and law, important policymakers, and judges from across the globe.

My summer involved researching legal issues related to corporate restructuring particularly in Western Africa and the Middle East. I was particularly excited about the way economics and the law are used simultaneously to understand pressing issues for developing nations: not to mention that the team's mandate goes beyond research into actually advising and implementing regulatory reform.

It's a wildly impactful organization that has provided me a once-in-a-lifetime experience.





## Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice (WIGJ) - Alexandra Marshall

I am very grateful for the opportunity to intern at Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice (WIGJ). I am so fortunate to have lived and worked in The Hague, and to have been a part of the amazing team at WIGJ.

WIGJ advocates for gender justice and works primarily around sexual and gender-based crimes through the ICC. I engaged in this work through various research and advocacy projects, and immersing myself in events, workshops, and proceedings at the International Criminal Court (ICC). Highlights of my time include attending a hearing at the ICC, going to many interesting panels, and assisting at WIGJ's Conference on Reproductive Violence.



In reflecting on the experience, I would genuinely say it was the best possible place for me in my 1L summer. I had so many amazing opportunities that I would never have had anywhere else, and I received a crash course in international law. I treated the summer as an opportunity to learn as much as I could about the field, to see if I liked it, but also to develop transferable skills like legal research, writing and networking.