

The OsgoodePD News



January 2026



Osgoode's Construction Law LLM breaks new ground in Canadian legal education

OsgoodePD's **Professional LLM in Construction Law**, launched in fall 2024, marks a major milestone as its inaugural cohort prepares to graduate. **Program director Andrea Lee and student Mark Schleindl** share why this first-of-its-kind program is shaping the future of construction law education in Canada.

[Read more](#)



Osgoode's Certificate in Family Law Practice Skills fills mentorship gaps

Faculty advisors **Aubrey Sherman and Laura Shaw** share why **Osgoode's Certificate in Family Law Practice**

Skills plays a critical role in preparing lawyers for real-world family law practice. With a strong focus on advocacy, client management and hands-on learning through simulated clients, the program helps both new and experienced practitioners build confidence and practical skills they can apply immediately.

[Read more](#)



Osgoode's Certificate in Regulatory Compliance laid the foundation for MJ Empensando's Securities Law LLM

Mary Joyce Empensando, Chief Compliance Officer at Questrade and

long-time faculty and advisory board member for **Osgoode's Certificate in Regulatory Compliance**, reflects on building a career alongside the evolution of Canada's compliance industry. She also shares insights on leadership, continuous learning and

Spotlight



Osgoode's LLM in Financial Law was tailor-made for compliance professional Joanne Thornton

Joanne Thornton, Director of BMO Financial Group's Volcker Rule Compliance Office, entered OsgoodePD's **Professional LLM in Financial Law** without a legal background and found a program that was both accessible and transformative. She shares how the LLM strengthened her skills, expanded her perspective and enhanced her effectiveness as a compliance professional working closely with legal teams.

[Read more](#)

why Osgoode's certificate remains essential for compliance professionals today.

[Read more](#)

Evolution and History of Privacy Laws (36:28m)

In the opening session of **The Osgoode Certificate in Privacy and Cybersecurity Law**, preeminent privacy researcher and law professor **Teresa Scassa** expertly sets up the program with a walk-through of the evolution and history of privacy law in Canada. Focusing on key themes, this session provides a thorough understanding of the foundations of privacy law that the rest of the program builds from.

[Watch the full session here:](#)

Evolution and History of Privacy Laws

An excerpt from The Osgoode Certificate in *Privacy and Cybersecurity Law*

Presented by: Teresa Scassa



Osgoode Professor Poonam Puri on her pioneering business law career

As founder and director of OsgoodePD's **Professional LLM in Business Law**, Poonam Puri has built a career at the intersection of business, law and public interest. She is also co-founder and director of the **Osgoode Investor Protection Clinic**, a first-of-its-kind initiative providing pro bono legal support to investors. Poonam reflects on her work as a scholar, advisor and educator, and on how the Business Law LLM equips professionals to navigate today's complex legal and commercial landscape.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Application Window Open Professional LLM Programs Starting Winter 2027	February 1
Application Window Open Professional LLM in Securities Law Starting Winter 2027 (Accepts students only once every 2-3 years)	February 1
Application Deadline Single Course Enrollment for Course Starting Summer 2026	February 15
The Osgoode Certificate in Privacy and Cybersecurity Law	Starts February 5
2nd Critical Updates for Construction Law and Practice	February 19
Accident Benefits 2026: What's New? What's Important?	February 26

The Osgoode Certificate in Entertainment Law	Starts March 2
Effective Decision Writing for Administrative Adjudicators	March 2
The Osgoode Certificate in Health Law	Starts March 24
Drop-in Advising for Internationally Trained Lawyers and International Applicants	Weekly
View all upcoming Certificates, short courses and conferences	Learn more
View all LLM programs and application deadlines	Learn more
View all info sessions for all Professional LLM specializations	Learn more

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