

The OsgoodePD News



February 2025



Osgoode certificate helps businesses improve equity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace

After a brief period of virtual public consensus in favour of EDI initiatives,

Laura Williams, the program director for the **Osgoode Certificate in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the Workplace**, says that dissenting voices have become louder in recent years – especially south of the border, where some major corporations such as Walmart and Ford have backtracked on commitments to measure or improve diversity in their workforce and supply chains. *“The intended focus of the program is on dealing with EDI in the current climate of backlash that we’re experiencing,”* she says. *“There are a lot of countervailing winds, but organizations have to push through and past to get their EDI initiatives on a solid footing.”* [Read more](#)

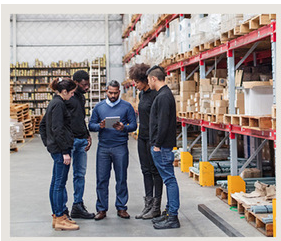


Alumni Profile

Trevor Noronha has built his expertise in derivatives through diverse roles, including private practice, in-house work at TD Securities, and his current position as senior legal counsel at the Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP).

He completed **Osgoode’s part-time Professional LLM in Financial Law** in 2012, which allowed him to continue working and tailor his studies to his professional interests.

[Read more](#)



OsgoodePD webinar tackles shifting U.S.-Canada trade relations

The world of U.S.-Canada trade relations has undergone a seismic shift over the course of **Jonathan O’Hara’s** legal

career. When he first joined McMillan LLP in 2012, O’Hara says there was something approaching a consensus in trade circles on both sides of the border: *“Everyone was very keen on trade liberalization and multilateral rules-based trade built around the World Trade Organization,”* says O’Hara, who is now the national co-chair of the international trade group at McMillan LLP in Toronto. On March 5, Canadian business and legal leaders will have a chance to get up to speed with developments at **OsgoodePD’s Canada-U.S. Trade: The Latest Update**, where O’Hara will be joined in a riveting panel discussion by trade experts

Matthew McConkey, a Washington D.C.-based lawyer from the firm Mayer Brown, and **Peter Burn**, a former member of the Canadian International Trade Tribunal and current counsel at McMillan LLP. The trio will explore the shifting landscape of U.S.-Canada trade law in the second Trump era. [Read more](#)



Alumni Profile

Alex Miller transitioned from criminal law to labour and employment law while working at the Toronto Police Service, where she gained practical experience and later pursued a part-time **LLM in Labour and Employment Law** at Osgoode. The program enhanced her career by deepening her understanding of the field and expanding her professional network, which proved invaluable in her work across various legal forums.

[Read more](#)

Equity, Diversity and Accommodation: Human Rights at Work (1hr 5m)

At the 2023 Certificate in Human Resources Law for HR Professionals, **Ozlem Yucel** (Partner, Turnpenney Milne LLP) delivered an insightful presentation on the application of the **Ontario Human Rights Code** in the workplace. She explored key issues such as what constitutes discrimination and harassment under the Code, and provided an in-depth analysis of relevant case law. This session is a must-attend for HR professionals looking to enhance their understanding of human rights in the workplace and learn how to create a more equitable and inclusive environment.

[Watch the full session here:](#)

Equity, Diversity and Accommodation: Human Rights at Work

An excerpt from The Osgoode Certificate in *Human Resources Law for HR Professionals*

Presented by: Ozlem Yucel



Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers - 18th Annual Conference and Gala (Sponsored by OsgoodePD)	March 1
Webinar: Canada – U.S. Trade: Post-Inauguration Update	March 5
Certificate in Human Resources Law for HR Professionals	Starts March 20
NCA Network - Mentor Roundtables (Sponsored by OsgoodePD)	March 20
18th Annual Intensive Course on Drafting and Reviewing Search Warrants 2025	March 25 & 26

The Osgoode Intensive Program in Wills and Estates 2025	Starts April 1
Osgoode/FCO Certificate - Advanced Issues in Ombuds Practice	Starts April 1
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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