



ISSUE 13 • DECEMBER 2025



THE TRU BUSINESS LAW SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the December issue of the TRU Business Law Society Newsletter!

As the days grow shorter and exam season approaches, the Business Law Society encourages you to take a moment to recognize how much you've already accomplished this semester. You've balanced classes, club commitments, and countless readings with resilience. As you enter finals, take care of yourselves, rely on the support around you, and remember that everyone at TRU Law is cheering you on.

This issue's **Alumni Spotlight** features Erik Holmstrom, who practices at McLennan Ross in Edmonton, Alberta.

On page 4, you'll find our event recap of the Alberta Alumni Networking Panel, and on pages 5 to 7, you can meet the people behind the BLS - our 2025-2025 Business Law Society Executive Team.

Make sure to follow us on instagram @trubuslawsociety.

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Alumni Spotlight



Erik Holmstrom

Erik Holmstrom is an associate in McLennan Ross's Bankruptcy & Insolvency and Commercial Litigation groups. A graduate of TRU Law (2019), Erik brings a strong academic and practical foundation to his practice.

During law school, Erik was an active member of TRU's Rugby Team and served as Editor-in-Chief of *Obiter*, Thompson Rivers University's student newspaper. In his third year, he published an article in the *Western Journal of Legal Studies* titled "Dancing in the Dark: An Analysis of the Live Entertainment Industry and the Deceptive Market Practices of Ticketmaster and Live Nation," examining Live Nation's business practices under Canada's Competition Act.

Erik gained early legal experience as a Clerk of the Court and summer student with the Government of Alberta's Labour and Employment Division. He joined McLennan Ross as an Articling Student in 2019, was called to the Alberta Bar in 2020, and the Northwest Territories Bar in 2022.

In 2025–2026, Erik was recognized by Best Lawyers® in Canada as a Lawyer to Watch in three categories:

- Insolvency and Financial Restructuring Law
- Corporate Commercial Litigation
- Insurance Law



Alumni Spotlight

Erik Holmstrom



What's the best piece of advice you've received from another lawyer?

Two pieces of advice have really stayed with me. First, outside the practice of law: enjoy law school. The legal profession is demanding, time-consuming, and rewarding, but law school is one of the last opportunities to truly enjoy your free time. Make lasting memories—spend time with friends, take that trip you've always wanted, or head up to Sun Peaks for a spontaneous ski day.

Second, in practice: don't be afraid to pick up the phone and call opposing counsel. It's easy to forget that behind every email is a person. Too often, lawyers get stuck in endless email exchanges instead of having a real conversation. I've settled countless files simply by calling counsel and talking things through—it's amazing how effective that can be.

Would you recommend law students enroll in any specific classes?

Not necessarily one specific class, but I recommend focusing on courses that cover broad areas of law—such as Trusts, Real Property, and Creditor Remedies—rather than paper-based courses. While paper courses can be interesting, having a strong foundational understanding of major areas of law makes research much easier. It gives you a starting point, rather than trying to learn an entire subject from scratch, and will save you long, sleepless nights.

What is your favourite memory from TRU?

Building a close-knit group of friends who I could study with and make lasting memories alongside—playing cards, sharing beers, and going on trips together. Some of my best friendships started at TRU, and I wouldn't trade that experience for anything.



Event Recap

Alberta Alumni Networking Panel

On November 20th, the Business Law Society hosted our annual Alberta Alumni Networking Panel and Reception. Thank you to our panellists: Bianca Mutis (Brownlee LLP), Conrad Parken (McCarthy Tétrault LLP), and this newsletter's Alumni Spotlight, Erik Holmstrom (McLennan Ross LLP). They shared valuable insights about their careers and offered thoughtful advice on navigating the legal profession as both students and practicing lawyers.

A special thank you to LexisNexis for generously sponsoring our event!



The People Behind the BLS

2025–2026 Executive Team

Sarah Warsh



Hi, I'm Sarah! I'm currently a 3L student and Co-President of the BLS. I've been actively involved with the BLS since 1L, having held roles including Event Coordinator and VP of Events. I'm excited to continue hosting events for our student body this year, and I hope to see you all at them!

Fun Fact: I used to be a synchronized swimmer!

Jay Joshi



Hi everyone! I'm Jay, a 3L student and Co-President of the BLS. I first joined as an Event Coordinator, and I'm excited to keep helping students build strong connections within the legal community. I also serve on the TRU Law Review executive team. With a research background, transitioning into law has been an exciting journey, and I'm passionate about creating opportunities for students to gain meaningful business law experience.

Fun Fact: You can usually find me reading (not law...), learning golf, or exploring new cuisines.

Neghin Moradian



Hey everyone, I'm Neghin! I'm a 3L and thrilled to be a part of BLS this year as an advisor. I'm excited to help create opportunities for students to network and form meaningful connections within the field of business law.

Fun fact: I'm a certified diver!

Krystin Nejmelddeen



Hey everyone! My name is Krystin, and I am a 3L, the VP of Marketing for the BLS. It is my second year on the executive team, and I am thrilled to continue to be part of the team. I am looking forward to providing value to students by helping to organize and promote networking events and opportunities for law students here at TRU.

Fun Fact: I used to be a competitive figure skater!

The People Behind the BLS

2025–2026 Executive Team

Sofia Borgford



Hi, I'm Sofia! I'm a 2L and currently serve as the VP Events for the BLS. I first joined the club as an Event Coordinator last year, and I'm excited to be continuing with the team in this new role. My favourite part of the BLS has been the connections I've made with other executives and fellow students.

Fun Fact: I have a twin sister, though I'm actually one of four BLS executives with a twin!

Keara Ganczar



Hi, I'm Keara! I'm currently a 2L and the VP of Internal Relations for the BLS. Last year, I served as Communications Coordinator, and I'm excited to continue building on that experience as we head into 2025/2026. My favourite parts of being involved with the BLS is creating this newsletter and how this club creates opportunities for both personal and professional growth.

Fun Fact: I have a twin sister, and I'm also one of four BLS executives who are twins!

Laine Kelly



Hi, I'm Laine! I'm a 2L and currently serve as the VP of Finance for the BLS. I joined the club last year as an Event Coordinator and am excited to take on this new role. What I've enjoyed most about the BLS is meeting fellow students and working with such a fun group of executives.

Fun Fact: I'm originally from New York!

Faizan Muhammad



Hi my name is Faizan, I am in 2L and was an Event Coordinator last year on the BLS. I am excited to continue on this year as the VP of External Relations. I am interested in Corporate Law, and am excited for the BLS events this year!

Fun Fact: I have a goal of travelling more than 50 countries and I have travelled 23 countries so far!

The People Behind the BLS

2025–2026 Executive Team

Saha Mousavi



My name is Saha, and I'm a 1L. I joined the BLS because I wanted to be part of a community that shares my interest in business law. Both of my parents started their own businesses, and seeing firsthand how important business law is has really sparked my interest in learning more about it. I can't wait for all of our events!

Fun Fact: I can play the trumpet, clarinet, and piano.

Aiden Perry



My name is Aiden and I am a 1L Event Coordinator. It's going to be a great year for the Business Law Society, and I can't wait to help bring some great events to TRU! I joined the BLS because of my background in the commerce program at Queen's University and my interest in Corporate Law. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our events!

Fun Fact: I am terrified of forklifts.

Matthew Cox



Hey everyone, my name is Matt and I'm a 1L student here at TRU! I became involved with the BLS as an event coordinator to get exposure to practitioners in the world of business law, and to (hopefully) make a couple of friends in the process. If you see me around campus, don't be shy to say hello!

Fun Fact: I've visited every Canadian province.

Morgan Cowley



Hello everyone, my name is Morgan and I am a 1L! I am excited to be a part of the Business Law Society this year as an Event Coordinator. I joined the BLS because I wanted to help organize networking opportunities for students within business law.

Fun fact: I have my forklift certification.