

# BLSAC Conference Program

“Partnering for Progress and Unprecedented Possibilities”



## Thursday February 18, 2010

Time	Activity	Speakers	Venue
12:00-10:00pm	<b>Registration</b>		Best Western Hotel
4:00-5:00pm	<b>The History of Blacks in Montreal</b> <i>Renown Canadian historian, Dr. Dorothy Williams, author of BLACKS IN MONTREAL 1628-1986: An Urban Demography, and The Road to Now, will give a lecture on the history of Blacks in Montreal</i>	<b>Dr. Dorothy Williams</b> ( <i>Historian, Author &amp; Poet, Black Studies Centre</i> )	McGill Faculty of Law
7:00-8:45pm	<b>Do Bullets See Color? Race, Justice and Police in Montreal</b> <i>Co-hosted by the Center for Research-Action on Race Relations (crarr.org), this panel will discuss systemic racism through the presentation of a case study. That presentation will be followed by a speech by the Hon. Dr. Pemba Braveboy, Senator of Grenada.</i>	<b>Vonnie Rochester</b> <i>(Lawyer and Honorary Consul of Jamaica in Montreal)</i>  <b>Fo Niemi</b> <i>(Executive Director, Center for Research-Action on Race Relations - CRARR)</i>  <b>René Saint-Léger</b> <i>(Legal counsel, CRARR)</i>  <b>Prof. Vrinda Narain</b> <i>(McGill University)</i>	McGill Faculty of Law
8:45-9:15 pm	<b>Youth Empowerment for Racial Justice</b>	<b>Hon. Dr. Pemba Braveboy</b> <i>(Senator of Grenada)</i>	McGill Faculty of Law

## Friday February 19, 2010

Time	Activity	Speakers	Venue
8:00-9:00am	<b>Registration</b>		Best Western Hotel
8:00-9:30am	<b>Breakfast Session</b> <i>Éloge Butera, a Sauvé scholar, will talk about his research and being a survivor of the Rwandan genocide.</i> <b>Flora Terah</b> , <i>A former Kenyan parliamentary candidate to discuss awareness of violence against women, and what women like her faced when they seek to challenge established political structures.</i>	<b>Éloge Butera</b> ( <i>LLB Law Student, McGill University</i> ) <i>Chosen by the Quebec Government as "young volunteer of the year" and was presented with the Claude-Masson Award in a ceremony on April 22, 2009 in Quebec City to mark his involvement in community life.</i> <b>Flora Terah</b> , <i>Kenyan Community Advocate, Kenyan Parliamentary Candidate - 2007 and</i>	Best Western Hotel

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		<i>Founder of "Terah Against Terror"</i>	
10:00-10:30am	<p><b>Opening Ceremonies:</b>  <i>Opening Address</i>  <i>Thank You to Sponsors</i></p>	<p><b>Anthony Morgan</b>  <i>(President, BLSAC, BCL-LLB Student, McGill University)</i></p> <p><b>Professor Daniel Jutras</b>  <i>(Dean, McGill University's Faculty of Law)</i></p> <p><b>Yeniva Massaquoi</b>  <i>(President, BLSAM, BCL-LLB Student, McGill University)</i></p>	McGill Faculty of Law
10:30-11:30am	<p><b>The Rise of Anti-Black Racism and Racial Profiling in Canada with a discussion on the events of Montreal-Nord</b>  <i>On August 9th, 2008, 18 year-old Fredy Villanueva was killed by a police officer during an intervention in a Montreal-Nord's park. Residents of Montreal-Nord, an ethnically diverse neighbourhood of Montreal saw, this act as one of racism, the event led to riots and protests in the streets of Montreal-Nord. The acts of the two police officers involved are now subject to an inquiry. This panel will discuss the events of Montreal-Nord from the perspective of the community, and from a legal perspective.</i></p>	<p><b>Mr. Will Prosper</b>  <i>(Activist, Montreal-Nord Republik)</i></p> <p><b>René Saint-Léger **</b>  <i>(Legal counsel, CRARR)</i></p>	McGill Faculty of Law
12:00-1:30pm	<p><b>Blakes Lunch - "Are national class actions constitutional?" - Special Guest Speakers - Peter W. Hogg, Scholar in Residence, Blake, Cassels &amp; Graydon and Professor Emeritus, Osgoode Hall Law School.</b>  An explanation of class actions, their importance in the law, and the Michel Lepine v. Canada Post Corporation case.  <i>Venue: McGill Law Faculty (Day, Chancellor, Hall, 3644 Peel Street) / Room: Moot Court (Presentation) &amp; Thomson House, 3650 McTavish Street (Lunch Served)</i></p>		

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1:30-2:30pm	<p><b>Professionals “Keeping it Real”</b>  <i>Panelists will discuss the importance to stay connected to the community and how their careers allow them to do so.</i></p>	<p><b>Tamara Thermitus</b>  <i>(Lawyer, Ministère de la Justice Canada)</i></p> <p><b>Ms Ashley Belmer</b>  <i>(Marketing and Development Director, Black Theatre Workshop) **</i></p> <p><b>Denise Dwyer</b>  <i>(Legal Director, Ontario's Ministry of Attorney General)</i></p> <p><b>May Chiu</b>  <i>(Community activist, lawyer, Ouellet Nadon et Associés)</i></p> <p><b>Phil Carpenter</b>  <i>(Photojournalist, Montreal Gazette)</i></p>	McGill Faculty of Law
2:30-3:15pm	<p><b>Denial of Citizenship</b>  <i>This year BLSA McGill has chosen to focus on the theme "Notions of Citizenship". Citizenship discourse necessarily involves individuals and the law and central to this idea is the question of what it means to belong. BLSA McGill hopes to transport the citizenship dialogue to the conference through a discussion by Mr. Julian Falconer on the cases of Ms. Muhammad and Mr. Arar.</i></p>	<p><b>Julian Falconer</b>  <i>(Partner, Falconer Charney LLP)</i></p>	McGill Faculty of Law
	<p><b>Refreshment Break</b></p>		McGill Faculty of Law (Atrium)
3:30-4:30pm	<p><b>Concurrent Sessions</b></p>		McGill Faculty of Law
	<p><b>(1) Being Black on Bay Street</b>  <i>Many law students are dreaming of one day be employed by one of Canada's top-tier corporate law firms such</i></p>	<p><b>(2) Dialogue on Justice Issues</b>  <i>Ontario Justice Education Network (OJEN) will present on experiential models of justice education initiatives that</i></p>	<p><b>Session One:</b></p> <p><b>Frank Walwyn</b>  <i>(Partner, WeirFoulds LLP)</i></p> <p><b>Gassim Bangoura</b>  <i>(Legal Counsel, Birks &amp; Mayors Inc.) **</i></p>

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	<p><i>as those located on Toronto's Bay Street. These law firms are synonymous of opportunities for personal achievement, high salaries, and constant challenges. However, just how do Black professionals fit into this work culture? Panelists will discuss the reality of Black legal practitioners in big law firms</i></p>	<p><i>create opportunities for dialogue between youth and members of the system. These programs promote an understanding of the system and the rights of individuals, particularly for youth from historically disenfranchised communities. This session will focus on how to facilitate positive interactions and dialogue that can shift institutional culture and promote youth participation in civic institutions.</i></p>	<p><b>Patricia Foucand</b> <i>(Partner, Miller Thomson LLP)</i></p> <p><b>Karine Joizil</b> <i>(Partner, Fasken Martineau LLP)</i></p> <p><b><u>Session Two:</u></b></p> <p><b>Mara Clarke</b> <i>(Manager of Strategic Initiatives, Ontario Justice Education Network)</i></p>	
<p>4:30-6:00pm</p>	<p><b>Break /</b>  <b>Law School Admissions Council Booth</b>  <b>Visitation in the McGill Law Atrium (For Prospective Law Students)</b></p> <p><b>Ministry of the Attorney General Booth</b></p>			

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6:00-7:30pm	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>		<p><b>Francis Nixon</b> <i>(LLM Student, University of Montreal)</i></p> <p><b>Ms. Katherine Gledhill</b> <i>(Attorney, Bergman &amp; Associates)</i></p> <p><u>Session Two:</u> <b>Professor Kim Brooks</b> <i>(Professor, McGill Faculty of Law)</i></p>	<p>(1) McGill Faculty of Law</p> <p>Room: Williams Lecture</p> <p>(2) McGill Faculty of Law</p>
9:00-11:30pm	<p><b>(1) Language Rights Forum</b> <i>In partnership with the Department of Justice Canada, this panel will provide an accessible and bilingual forum through which the public and BLSAC Conference attendees can become informed about the language rights of French and English linguistic minorities in Canada and Quebec. The panel will be especially concerned with situations when such groups are interacting with the Canadian justice system. The aim is to also spread awareness and stimulate interest in this area and related language rights issues in Canada.</i></p>	<p><b>(2) Brief Introduction to Law</b> <i>Aimed at high school, CÉGEP, and undergraduate students, this panel will give a broad introduction to law and the university law program curriculum.</i></p>	<p>Montreal Rap/Reggae Spoken Word Artist, <b>Kalmunity Vibe Collective</b> plus <b>Jonathan Emile</b></p>	<p>Best Western Hotel</p>
	<b>Entertainment Showcase:</b>			

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Saturday February 20, 2010

Time	Activity	Speakers	Action Required
8:00-9:00am	<b>Breakfast Lecture</b> <i>Lecture about Daniel Albahary's work as a co-producer of Why Copyright? Canadian Voices on Copyright Law and his thesis research.</i>	<b>Daniel Albahary, LLB/JD Candidate</b> <i>(University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law &amp; Michigan State University College of Law)</i>	Best Western Hotel
9:00 -10:00am	<b>Re-framing the discussion about Diversity</b> <i>A discussion on how a more explicit approach to diversity promises to make more progress than the notion of equity does now.</i>	<b>Professor Anthony Stewart</b> <i>(Dalhousie University)</i>  <b>Professor Adelle Blackett</b> <i>(McGill University) - Chair</i>	Best Western Hotel
10:00 - 10:15am	Fasken Martineau Refreshment Break		Best Western Hotel Room: Mont Royal Room I & II
10:15-11:15am	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>		Best Western Hotel
	<b>(1) Illuminating Perspectives on the Legal Aid Boycott in Ontario</b> <i>In June 2009, many defence lawyers took part in a legal aid boycott. They embargoed homicide, as well as gang and gun related cases in protest against the governments low funding of legal aid mandates. Panelists will reflect on the situation, and give insights on the necessity of such a boycott. A special emphasis will be put on people affected by the boycott as many Black and ethnic minorities facing trial may not be able to afford a defence counsel.</i>	<b>(2) Applying to Law School:</b> <i>Getting into law school starts with a great application and a good LSAT Scores. The Panel will teach you how to excel in your LSAT and provides you with the resources to make your application stand out.</i>  <b>Presentation by McGill's Law Students Admission Committee</b>	
		<b>Session One:</b> <b>Alexandre Bien-Aimé</b> - Moderator <i>(Articling Student, Ogilvy Renault LLP)</i>  <b>Selwyn Pieters</b> <i>(Barrister &amp; Solicitor)</i>  <b>Sean Robichaud</b> <i>(Robichaud's Criminal Defence Litigation)</i>  <b>Session Two:</b> <b>Kent D. Lollis</b> <i>(Executive Director for Diversity Initiatives, LSAC)</i>	

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11:15-12:30	<p><b>(1) Seeing beyond the Seven Sisters: Legal Practices Outside of the Firm</b>  <i>Bay Street Law firm or corporate law firm are not your only option to consider in building your career. These panels have chosen alternative law careers and are here to tell you how.</i></p>	<p><b>(2) Continuation of “Applying to Law School” Session</b>  <b>Presentation by Princeton Review</b></p>	<p><b><u>Session One:</u></b>  <b>Fred Headon</b>  <i>(Senior Counsel, Employment and Labour Law, Air Canada / Canadian Corporate Counsel Association Committee Member)</i></p> <p><b>Jacqueline Beckles-Gibson</b>  <i>(Lawyer, Department of Justice)</i></p> <p><b>Nefeterri Carnadin</b>  <i>(Counsel, Department of National Defence (DND) / Canadian Forces (CF) &amp; RCMP)</i></p> <p><b>Terrie-Lynne Devonish</b>  <i>(Senior Counsel, Aon Canada)</i></p> <p><b><u>Session Two:</u></b>  <b>Aaron Lindh</b>  <i>(LSAT Instructor, Princeton Review)</i></p>	Best Western Hotel
12:30-1:30pm	<p><b>Luncheon - Trans-Systemia: Mixed Legal Jurisdictions of the World</b>  <b>Special Guest Speaker: Justice Adrian Saunders from the Caribbean Court of Justice</b>  <i>This luncheon will discuss the intersection of the common law and civil law in various countries including Israel, South Africa. Special focus will be given to civil law-common law bijuralism in Canada and the Caribbean.</i></p>			
1:30-2:45pm	<p><b>3rd Annual Diversity Moot/ High School Debate Finals (Sponsored by Koskie Minsky LLP)</b>  <i>Teams from Canadian law schools will be appealing the decision rendered in R. v. N.S. at the Supreme Court of McGill.</i></p>	<p><b>Honourable Daniel Dortelus</b>  <i>(Quebec Court Judge)</i></p> <p><b>Honourable Guylène Beaugé</b>  <i>(Quebec Superior Court Judge)</i></p> <p><b>Harry Pierre-Étienne **</b>  <i>(Prosecutor, Direction des poursuites criminelles et pénales)</i></p>	Best Western Hotel	
2:45-3:00pm	<p><b>Fasken Martineau Refreshment Break</b></p>			Best Western Hotel Room: Mont Royal I & II

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3:00-4:00pm	<p><b>Notions of Property</b>  <i>A discussion on the way we view property and how it is used to oppress minority groups.</i></p>	<p><b>Dr Afua Cooper</b>  <i>(Scholar, author, and poet)</i></p>	Best Western Hotel			
4:00-5:00pm	<p><b>Concurrent Sessions</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td data-bbox="380 516 768 1247" style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>(1) Perspectives on International Business and Trade:</b>  <i>With always improving technology, which increases the pace of globalization, there are growing opportunities for law students to choose a career in international business and trade. Experts in international commerce will share their experiences and discuss prospective legal specializations and careers in the domain. A special emphasis will be put on how those fields can be used to help developing nations.</i></p> </td> <td data-bbox="774 516 1150 1247" style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>(2) BLSAC AGM and Election</b></p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p><b>(1) Perspectives on International Business and Trade:</b>  <i>With always improving technology, which increases the pace of globalization, there are growing opportunities for law students to choose a career in international business and trade. Experts in international commerce will share their experiences and discuss prospective legal specializations and careers in the domain. A special emphasis will be put on how those fields can be used to help developing nations.</i></p>	<p><b>(2) BLSAC AGM and Election</b></p>	<p><u>Session One:</u>  <b>Verki Tunteng</b>  <i>(Associate Lawyer, RD Law)</i></p> <p><b>Dr Aristide Nononsi</b>  <i>(Associate Director, Centre for Developing Area Studies)</i></p> <p><u>Session Two:</u>                      BLSAC Members</p>	Best Western Hotel
<p><b>(1) Perspectives on International Business and Trade:</b>  <i>With always improving technology, which increases the pace of globalization, there are growing opportunities for law students to choose a career in international business and trade. Experts in international commerce will share their experiences and discuss prospective legal specializations and careers in the domain. A special emphasis will be put on how those fields can be used to help developing nations.</i></p>	<p><b>(2) BLSAC AGM and Election</b></p>					
5:00-6:30pm	<p><b>Free Time</b></p>					
6:30pm-12:00am	<p><b>Gala</b></p>		<p><b>Keynote Speaker: Honourable Juanita Westmoreland-Traoré</b> <i>(Quebec Court Judge)</i></p>	Best Western Hotel		

**\*\* Additional speakers to be confirmed**