

Fueling innovation, industry and leadership

Western Law is giving students hands-on legal experience while helping businesses grow, protecting innovation and strengthening the regional economy. At its heart, the Program embodies what defines Western Law: entrepreneurship, service and relationships – all in the service of shaping leaders for a changing world.

Access to legal expertise is one of the biggest hurdles to launching a business or protecting innovative ideas. Western Law's student-run clinics are removing this barrier by offering pro bono support to entrepreneurs and innovators while giving students valuable real-world experience. This is where entrepreneurship meets service: our students gain the skills and confidence to lead, while clients receive trusted advice that helps their ventures succeed.

The Western Business Law Clinic (WBLC) provides small and emerging businesses in London and the Greater Toronto Area with the legal support they need to get started and grow. Whether it's incorporations, partnership or shareholder agreements, or business documents like investor, contractor and confidentiality agreements, the clinic helps entrepreneurs tackle the essentials with confidence. Every file is reviewed by mentor lawyers, ensuring clients receive trusted advice while students gain valuable experience managing real client work.

The Western Intellectual Property and Innovation Legal Clinic (WIPILC) meets the growing demand for affordable IP expertise from inventors, artists, entrepreneurs, start-ups and small businesses across Southwestern Ontario. The clinic provides guidance on patents, trademarks, and copyright. By working directly with clients, students learn to spot challenges, develop strategies, and deliver practical solutions that help innovators protect their ideas and bring them to scale.

Building on this success, Western Law is establishing the Western Business Law Program. The Program brings together our clinics, faculty research and community partnerships to expand opportunities for students, broaden access to legal support for small and growing businesses, and help fuel Canada's innovation ecosystem. Beyond the clinics, the Program will include:

- **Industry-focused faculty chairs and teaching scholars**, complementing our existing Mining Law Chair, and aligning legal expertise with Canada's most critical sectors.
- **Research that engages industry**, ensuring that our scholarship informs practice, regulation and innovation.
- **Modern curriculum innovation**, integrating AI literacy, digital tools, and technology-focused training so students graduate ready to navigate law, business and technology in an era of rapid change.
- **Leadership development**, equipping students not only to practice law but to graduate as leaders in business, law and technology.

With your support, we will attract top scholars and practitioners, expand opportunities for students, and strengthen our presence and impact across Canada's innovation economy. Together, we will prepare the next generation of legal leaders while driving growth, protecting innovation and delivering meaningful community impact.



Western

All in.

CREATING POSITIVE IMPACT

Western Law students spent their summers providing legal support for small businesses and entrepreneurs, gaining invaluable experience that sets them up for success in their future careers.

Lauren Shligold's clients included businesses operating in the wellness, beauty and technology industries. She drafted agreements, revised contracts and prepared legal memoranda that helped entrepreneurs manage risk, navigate regulations and expand their operations, while gaining practical experience with the wide range of legal issues new businesses face.

Shayanti Roy's clients ranged from an online marketplace and a mobile auto repair business to video production and AI start-ups. She drafted and revised agreements, researched cross-border and data protection issues and advised on intellectual property and trademark matters, helping entrepreneurs protect their businesses and plan for growth.

Maahim Suri worked with clients in the not-for-profit, technology and marketing sectors. He drafted and audited agreements, advised on incorporation, volunteer arrangements, securities compliance and licensing, and guided organizations through complex legal processes, helping them manage risk and build strong foundations while gaining valuable experience across diverse industries.

Are you all in? Get in touch.

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