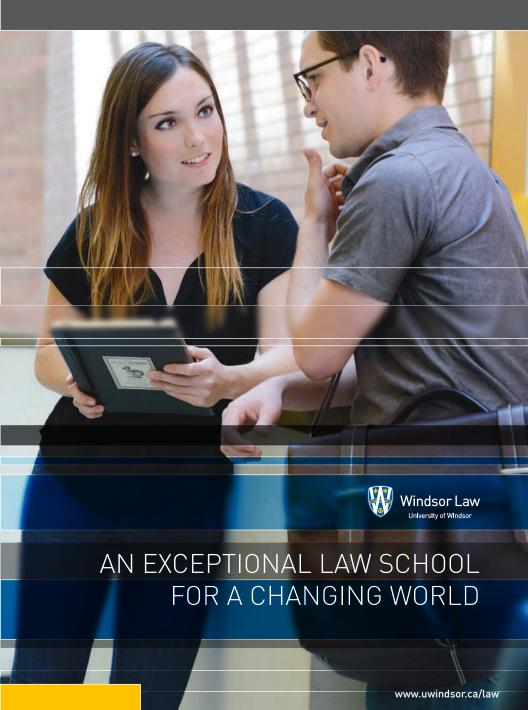
#### WINDSOR LAW



# MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

I am pleased to present Windsor Law's Strategic Plan and our Vision, An Exceptional Law School for a Changing World.

This Plan is the culmination of an 18-month process that involved our faculty, staff, students and graduates. It will serve as a blueprint for Windsor Law during the next several years. While it is an aspirational document, we are committed to achieving our five priority goals - ensuring an exceptional student experience, increasing the visibility of the excellent research of our faculty, strengthening our relationships with our alumni, using our resources effectively to achieve our goals, and sharing our many success stories more effectively with our communities.

We are committed to accountability. Our implementation plan identifies priorities and responsibilities for each of our five goals, and the indicators we will use to monitor and report on our progress.

I would like to thank the many people who contributed to this process and the development of this plan. It was hard work and there is more to come, but I am confident that the continued commitment of our faculty, staff, students and alumni will help us to realize our goals and to ensure that Windsor Law School is, indeed, an exceptional law school for a changing world.

Camille Cameron

Dean. Windsor Law

Camille Comeron





#### OUR VISION

Windsor Law offers a broad legal education and practical lawyering skills in an intimate environment that supports and nurtures lifelong relationships. Our programs are shaped by our focus on access to justice and transnational law, and are characterized by a learner-centred community that values intellectual curiosity, interdisciplinary research and global scholarship.

Our campus, situated next to North America's busiest international border crossing, faces one of Canada's most beautiful waterfronts that stretches along the Detroit River. Windsor is one of Canada's most diverse communities, a fact that likely contributes to our reputation as an open, warm and supportive environment for our students and faculty who come from across the city, the province and the world.

Our graduates are remarkable for the diversity of their lawyering. In prominent law firms, legal aid clinics, corporations, government, and human rights organisations, their intelligence, integrity and creative vision are helping to define tomorrow's legal landscape.

Our vision for the next five years focuses on enhancing our learning environment, improving the quality and quantity of research and scholarship, building and developing stronger relationships with our communities, and increasing the visibility and influence of our scholarship locally and globally.







# GOALS

**STUDENT EXPERIENCE:** Re-imagine our curriculum to ensure a continuously relevant learning environment for students that meets the shifting landscape and demands of lawyering. This includes critical thinking, writing, communications and clinical and experiential opportunities.

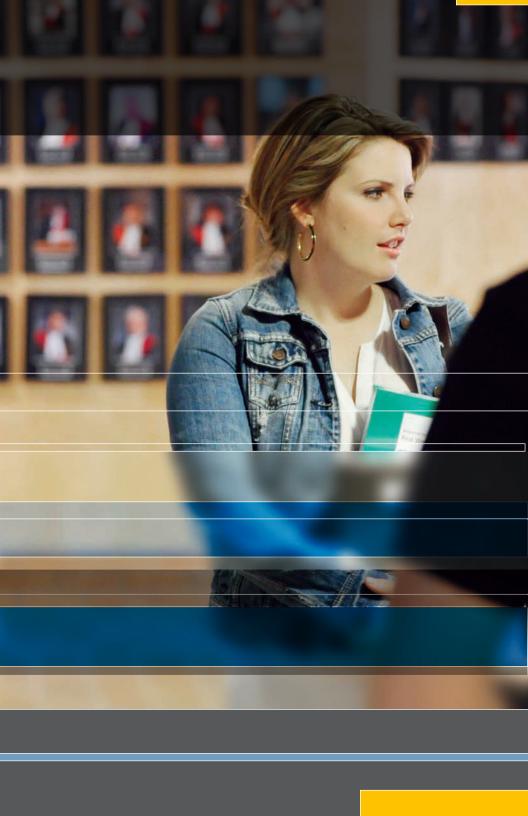
**RESEARCH:** Attract, foster and support outstanding scholars and scholarship to increase our visibility, influence and impact locally, nationally and globally.

**COMMUNICATION:** Communicate our ideas more effectively and share our stories to enhance our reputation, influence scholarly, policy and professional debate, and convey our unique identity.

**RELATIONSHIPS:** Build, maintain and enhance a collaborative intellectual community that supports influential scholarship, advances our graduates' career goals, and nurtures our relationships with alumni, legal professionals and the broader community.

**RESOURCES:** Ensure Windsor Law is prepared to meet the demands of the future through the effective and strategic use of our resources.





#### our PLAN

Our long-standing commitment to making access to legal education, the legal system and ultimately, access to justice, more attainable for all, is reflected in our admissions process. We will continue to seek a diverse student body through the thoughtful consideration of the whole person in the admission process and through financial aid to make law school affordable to our students.

We will continue to focus on providing vital clinical and extracurricular opportunities to enhance students' skills and to encourage a lifelong commitment to public service, ethical practice, pro bono representation and professional development.

We will continue to help students connect with employment opportunities and to prepare them for success in interviewing, summer jobs and permanent employment. We will continue to improve our strategies for outreach to potential employers. We will actively encourage, counsel and support students in applying for clerkships, articles, graduate studies and other legal opportunities.

We will construct a more relevant curriculum that rigorously connects theory and doctrine with experiential and clinical learning by:

- Engaging in a comprehensive curriculum review.
- Integrating our themes of access to justice and transnational law across our curriculum
- Ensuring that ethics and professionalism are reflected in our entire student experience.
- Enhancing our student/faculty ratio by hiring more faculty and by striving to attract, recruit and retain excellent teachers.
- Identifying space challenges that limit our teaching capabilities and developing strategies to address these deficits.

## RESEARCH

Our goal is to foster and recognize outstanding research and scholarship to increase our visibility, influence and impact locally, nationally and globally.

- We will encourage and assist faculty members to bring their scholarly work to a wider influential audience.
- We will encourage and support the publication of original and creative scholarship in prominent scholarly journals and other influential publications.
- We will develop and implement strategies that value, encourage and recognize faculty research through research fellowships, mentoring, integrating research into teaching, assisting with grant applications and building a robust research seminar program.
- We will host conferences to bring prominent scholars and policy makers to Windsor and support active participation of our faculty at local, national and international conferences.
- We will make cross-border and transnational research initiatives a priority consistent with the University of Windsor's 'Understanding Borders' theme.



#### COMMUNICATIONS

Our goal is to develop and adopt a comprehensive and aggressive communications and marketing plan to advertise our accomplishments, enhance our reputation and increase our visibility and influence.

- We will review our internal and external communications in consultation with students, faculty and alumni who will help us articulate our key messages and determine how we can most effectively communicate with our diverse stakeholders.
- We will refresh our website, our social media channels and our publications and use them more effectively to provide broad and accessible content about our faculty's research and the intellectual life of our law school.
- We will define and develop our distinct identity and will consistently reinforce that identity in all our communications.



## RELATIONSHIPS

Our goal is to take a lead in fostering and supporting a respectful and collaborative community that values, celebrates and promotes the contributions of our students, faculty, and alumni. But we must go even further. We must reach out beyond our doors to nurture relationships with the profession and the broader community to enhance understanding of who we are and what we do.



We are fortunate that Windsor Law alumni have always been very generous in helping the law school and our students succeed. We will continue to rely on them to guide, teach, and mentor our students, to contribute to the development of our programs, and for their financial support. Our goal is to actively engage our alumni in the life of the law school so that they will be strong advocates for us.

To engage our communities and inspire opportunities for our alumni, we will:

- Establish formal Alumni Chapters in areas where we have significant alumni presence.
- Increase opportunities for alumni to participate actively in programs that recruit, educate, mentor and employ our students.
- Communicate consistently with our alumni to increase their awareness of the activities, successes and needs of the law school.
- Establish a 'Community Lecture Series' to bring the community into the law school.

## RESOURCES

We are identifying our strategic priorities in the context of a growing demand on educational institutions to do 'more for less'. The needs to which our priorities give rise include more (and more modern) teaching spaces, enhanced support programs for faculty research, and better support for our alumni and community outreach initiatives. To realize these and our other goals, we require resources.

To meet these challenges, we will:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive fundraising strategy that includes program revenue generation and a major external campaign.
- Identify and resolve our space challenges and choose the most appropriate and feasible option a reconfiguration of our current building, an expansion of our current building, or a move to the University of Windsor's growing downtown campus.





University of Windsor

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# AN EXCEPTIONAL LAW SCHOOL FOR A CHANGING WORLD

