



THE CANADIAN
BAR ASSOCIATION
Newfoundland & Labrador Branch

**Canadian Bar Association – Newfoundland and Labrador Branch (CBA-NL)
Statement on the Proposal for a Faculty of Law, Memorial University
August 13, 2020**

Since 2012, CBA-NL has engaged in significant discussion regarding the possible establishment of a Faculty of Law at Memorial University. CBA-NL membership is comprised of lawyers at all stages of their careers, all with varying views on the establishment of a law school in Newfoundland and Labrador.

CBA-NL recognizes the many positive contributions a law school would bring to the Province. It would attract legal academics and law students who could provide significant expertise to the review of legislation and case law in the Province. It would serve as an important resource informing the debate, critique, and development of government initiatives, including law reform, and also has the potential to improve access to justice and enhance access to legal education for residents of the Province.

CBA-NL also recognizes the challenging financial position facing the Province and the University. We note that the Memorial University Senate motion endorsing the [Faculty of Law Proposal](#) contains an amendment *that the Faculty of Law be cost neutral, including infrastructure to the University*.^[1] We believe the success of the establishment of a Faculty of Law at Memorial University will ultimately hinge on the University's ability to deliver on this objective. As such, we encourage the University to take all the steps necessary to ensure the reliability of the fiscal analysis and market feasibility of this project.

CBA-NL and its membership look forward to future engagement with the Faculty of Law Committee and Memorial University as they move forward with this initiative.

Approved by CBA-NL Council, August 13, 2020 (St. John's)

^[1]<https://www.mun.ca/senate/meetings/2011-2020/2018-11-13-senate-minutes.pdf>, pages 52-55