Common Law Section Students Community Enhancement and Anti-Racism Action Fund

The purpose of the Common Law Section Students Community Enhancement and Anti-Racism Action Fund is to support community enhancement initiatives stewarded by students from Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities, and support all students engaged in the development and implementation of projects, partnerships or events that promote anti-racism initiatives at the Faculty of Law, Common Law Section. The Common Law Section recognizes that intersectional forms of systemic racism, including systemic anti-Black racism and systemic anti-Indigenous racism and colonialism, has had, and continues to have, adverse effect on Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities. The Common Law Section Students Community Enhancement and Anti-Racism Action is part of the Common Law Section’s efforts to deepen its commitment to racial justice and improving access to justice.

Through the community enhancement stream, funding will be available to students or groups from Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities at the Faculty of Law, Common Law Section for student-led community enhancement initiatives during the Summer 2021 and the 2021-2022 academic year.

Through the anti-racism action stream, funding will be available to students or groups from all communities within the Faculty of Law, Common Law Section for student-led anti-racism initiatives during the Summer 2021 Term and the 2021-22 academic year.

The Fund will generally support projects and initiatives in the range of $500-$1000 or less per activity. A total of $10,000 is available for each of the Summer 2021, Fall 2021 and Winter 2022 terms. Funds not spent in any term can be carried over for use in the subsequent term.

What projects and initiatives can be funded?

The Common Law Section Students Community Enhancement and Anti-Racism Action Fund is intended to support an array of activities. Eligible funded activities may take the form of:

- Costs affiliated with student-led programming and events, including collaborations with community groups or leaders for lectures, workshops, screenings, etc. (for example honoraria for guest speakers, access to Zoom and tech support, ASL and other accessibility, travel and accommodation)
- Materials for creative work and cultural production. This can include materials and costs associated with socially engaged campaigns, creation of anti-racist protocols and platforms, text-based projects, artworks, designs, podcasts, films and media, etc.
- Professional development and workshop fees affiliated with anti-racist work
- Costs affiliated with mutual aid, community organizing, education and advocacy work
- Costs associated with hosting student-led events
- Costs needed to offset equipment and technology costs

Who can apply?
Community Enhancement Stream

- Current Black, Indigenous, and racialized JD and graduate students.
- 2021 Common Law Black, Indigenous, and racialized alumni.
- Black, Indigenous, and racialized student groups in the Common Law Section.
- Students may apply as individuals, or in a group of two or more.
- Applications from groups working in collaboration are encouraged.

Anti-Racism Action Stream

- Current JD and graduate students.
- 2021 Common Law Black, Indigenous, and racialized alumni.
- Student groups in the Common Law Section, including clubs and other student-led organizations.
- Students may apply as individuals, or in a group of two or more.
- Applications from groups working in collaboration are encouraged.

Evaluation + Criteria

Priority will be given to applications from current Black, Indigenous, and racialized JD and graduate students, 2021 Common Law Black, Indigenous and racialized alumni, and Black, Indigenous and racialized student groups in the Common Law Section.

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of a majority of Black, Indigenous and racialized students, faculty, and staff. In their application materials, students will need to address:

- The nature of their project or activity and its feasibility
- Timeline for completion
- Budget and other sources of funding
- How the project will support anti-racist initiatives or community enhancement for Black, Indigenous, and racialized student groups in the Common Law Section
- How will their project impact the Common Law community and beyond

Application Deadlines

Applications are due by April 14, 2021 for initiatives to take place during the Spring/Summer 2021 Term. Applicants will be updated on the status of their applications by April 30, 2021.

Applications for initiatives to take place during the 2021-22 academic year are due by October 8, 2021. Applicants will be updated on the status of their applications by October 22, 2021.

For more information contact ARF@uOttawa.ca