



THE CANADIAN
BAR ASSOCIATION
Saskatchewan Branch

2026 INDIGENOUS-ABORIGINAL OP-ED CONTEST

"Big Red" Artist: Brody Burns is a young Cree artist from James Smith Cree Nation, Treaty 6 Territory.



Open to: U of S, College of Law Students
Deadline: April 30, 2026
Prize: \$1000

The Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch (CBA-SK) annual student op-ed contest related to Indigenous and/or Aboriginal law is now open. The objective of the op-ed contest is to further interest, scholarly research, and writing on Indigenous and/or Aboriginal law topics by students at the University of Saskatchewan's College of Law.

An op-ed represents a strong, informed, and focused opinion of the writer on an issue of relevance.

2026 TOPIC

CBA-SK invites University of Saskatchewan's College of Law students to submit an op-ed **based on a topic of their choice related to Indigenous and/or Aboriginal law.**

CRITERIA & ELIGIBILITY

The award is presented annually for the best op-ed submitted to CBA-SK by an individual who is a full-time or part-time student currently enrolled at the University of Saskatchewan, College of Law as of April 1, 2026. The subject of the op-ed must relate to Indigenous and/or Aboriginal law.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Must be no more than 1000 words in length
- Must address a theme of significance in Indigenous and/or Aboriginal law, public policy or public affairs related to Indigenous and/or Aboriginal law
- Must be researched and written by one author, and op-ed must be author's own original, unpublished work

OTHER GUIDELINES

- Please include an author biography with:
 - Full Name | Email | Pronouns
 - 1-2 lines with background (i.e. where you are from, where you live, etc.)

CBA Saskatchewan | www.cbask.org | info@cbask.org | 306-244-2898
The CBA Saskatchewan Office is located on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis.

- Citations in the McGill Guide format
- Op-eds submitted for a law school course, conference, or symposium are eligible, provided it has not been published
- A good op-ed should have a clearly defined point and point of view
- A good op-ed should focus analysis on defining point and point of view
- A good op-ed does not simply list facts
- The core premise should be obvious in the first sentence or paragraph
- A good op-ed contains the strong, unique voice of the writer

FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

- Must be formatted in 12-point Arial, double spaced
- Must be submitted in a Microsoft Word file format
- URL addresses must not be written out in full, but rather be hyperlinked within the text, if applicable

PLAGIARISM POLICY

Submissions must not infringe the intellectual property rights of others and must not plagiarize another's work. Plagiarism is deliberately presenting the ideas, expression of ideas, or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. The CBA-SK reserves the right to assess all submissions for content that potentially infringes on or plagiarizes the work of another and will disqualify any candidate that submits such content.

AWARD

The award consists of a monetary prize of \$1,000.00 and publication of the winner's op-ed on the CBA-SK website and in *BarNotes*.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Submitted op-eds will be evaluated by the Essay Committee led by the CBA-SK Outreach Director. The selection committee may decide not to offer an award in any one year.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

April 30, 2026 | 4:00PM

Entries received after the deadline will not be considered.

CONTACT

Please email your submission to:
 CBA Saskatchewan Branch
 Todd MacPherson, Executive Director
todd@cbasask.org

PAST WINNERS

- 2024 – Kristyn McDougall, [The Supreme Court of Canada's Ruling on the Constitutionality of Bill C-92: Not the Aboriginal Rights Victory we Had Hoped For](#)
- 2023 – Jordan Calladine, [Saskatchewan Must Implement its own UNDRIP Legislation if it is Serious about Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples](#)