



# *Pick Your Path*

*2024 Presentation*



Career path: Law

# Pick Your Path Program

The PYP program is a program that allows new experiences and advice for students, aiding them in their future goals and answering questions for them through mentorship, workshops and engagement with different areas of study.

I started off very confused and closed off, with many career options in my head like psychology, biology and law to name a few, but with the Pick Your Path program and my amazing mentor, I got the information I needed and was able to break out of my bubble. And, I had some insight into what law school life would be like through the McGill Law Student for a Day event, which helped me with my career choices. With great people who are willing to listen to your thoughts, questions and concerns, this program has really benefited me in a positive way.





# Why Law?



I was unsure of what I wanted my future to look like, and felt anxious and stressed at all the options out there, but I had said something while trying to defend a family member that made me realize that I wanted to continue with my goal of being a lawyer, and at least give it my best.

“I will always stand up for those in need and reach out a hand. I couldn't live with myself knowing that I could have helped someone but chose not to because of certain consequences.”



# More about me!

## Curiosity

- Learning new things
- New experiences
- Reading news

## Empathetic

- Put others first
- Aid others when possible
- Want to make a change

## Opinionated

- debates
- Stick to my opinions
- Try to be open-minded

Other interests include reading, music, art, problem solving/mystery games and collecting things like albums, photocards, little toys, stuffed animals, work books, books and more.






# Demand

Law services are in high demand, yet the main problem in recent years is finding candidates with the proper skill sets.

Intellectual property law, immigration law, corporate law, and family law are some of the most in-demand law specialties.

The law field is difficult but it really depends on factors like which law school you attend, your education and experience.



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# Inspirational Black Canadians in Law



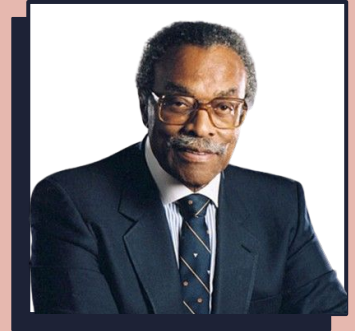
**Jean Augustine**

first African-Canadian woman to be elected to the House of Commons, the first African-Canadian woman to be appointed to the federal Cabinet, and the first Fairness Commissioner of the Government of Ontario.



**Michaëlle Jean**

First Black Canadian Governor General and Commander-in-chief of Canada. She also served as the special Envoy for Haiti for the UNESCO.

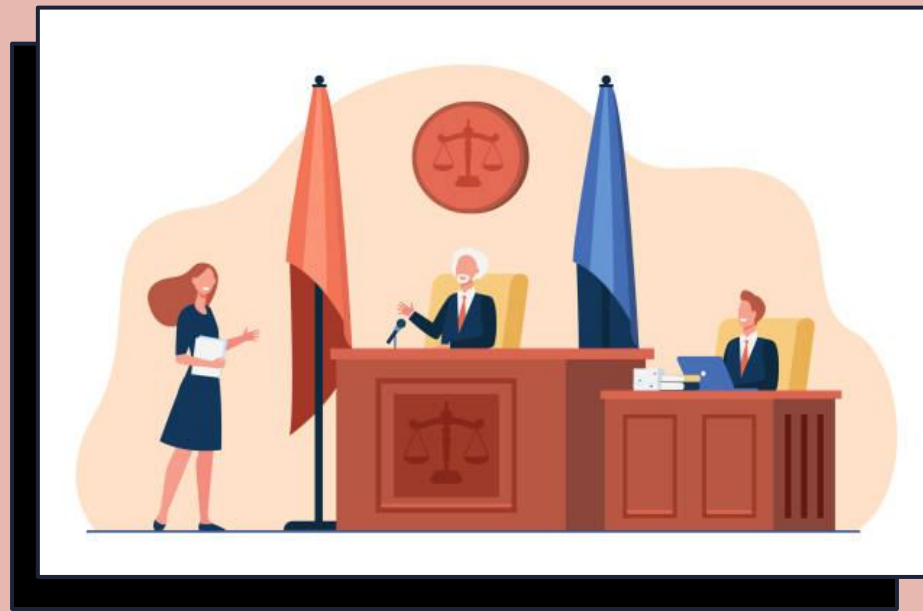


**Lincoln M. Alexandre**

First Black person to become a member of Parliament and first member of a visible minority to serve as the Queen's representative in Canada

# Core Tasks

lawyers advise clients of their legal rights and all matters related to law, represent clients on legal proceedings and transactions, researching and gathering evidence and analyse legal documents. They also aid them with depositions, contracts, litigation and other legal matters depending on their area of specialty.



# Working Conditions



Lawyers often work long stressful hours, high-pressure situations and strict deadlines, sometimes traveling to be in court and to meet with clients whether it be at homes or in prison, though it can vary depending on the place, law firm, and specialty. Most lawyers' work weeks exceed 40 hours, some even crossing 50 hours, which can cause exhaustion, along with many other mental and physical problems. Lawyers work in many different types of settings. A handful of lawyers have their own private practice while others work in teams in a law firm, and they take on many different leadership positions.





# Skills

## Required Skills

- Analytical and research skills
- Commercial awareness
- Attention to detail
- Communication skills
- Teamwork
- Time management
- Problem solving skills

## Could Improve

communication skills are something I struggle with, mostly with new people. It's something I'm trying to improve little by little, whether it be by exposing myself to larger groups of people, interacting more with others, or just putting myself more out there and overcoming my fear. But, I have improved a lot, from doing many presentations and more, and now I have more confidence.



# Salary For a Lawyer in Canada

Entry-level  
position

\$103,428


Average  
salary


\$148,957

Or \$76.39 per hour


Experienced  
workers

\$188,957







01

- Finish high school
  - Complete the pathways program at dawson to open up future doors (duration - 1 year)
  - Take the social change and solidarity course under the social sciences profile at dawson (duration - 2 years)
  - Take the LSAT after studying
  - Apply to the McGill Faculty of Law and earn my common law and civil law degrees upon graduation
  - Pass the bar exam (Quebec, Ontario, Alberta)
  - Find a job as a lawyer in the jurisdiction available to me
- 



02

- Finish high school
  - Complete the pathways program at dawson to open up future doors (duration - 1 year)
  - Take the social change and solidarity course under the social sciences profile at dawson (duration - 2 years)
  - Take the LSAT after studying
  - Earn my undergraduate degree in Psychology at Concordia University upon graduation
  - Apply to the McGill Faculty of Law and earn my common law and civil law degrees upon graduation
  - Pass the bar exam (Quebec, Ontario, Alberta)
  - Find a job as a lawyer in the jurisdiction available to me
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Throughout this program, I have found the strength to work on myself and improve on areas that need to be improved. My acceptance to Dawson, improvements on communication and preparation for future plans are just some of the things I have accomplished during the Pick Your Path Program. But, it doesn't just stop there. I plan to continue improving to accomplish my dreams, whether it be by gaining experience, through internships, developing skills or more.

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*Thank You!*

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