

CREATING A SEAT AT THE TABLE

REFLECTIONS FROM WOMEN IN LAW



NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2024

Dear Reader,

Creating a Seat at the Table: Reflections from Women in Law was released on October 7, 2023. We are writing to you with this update on how the book has been used and to invite you to reach out to us if you would like to engage further.

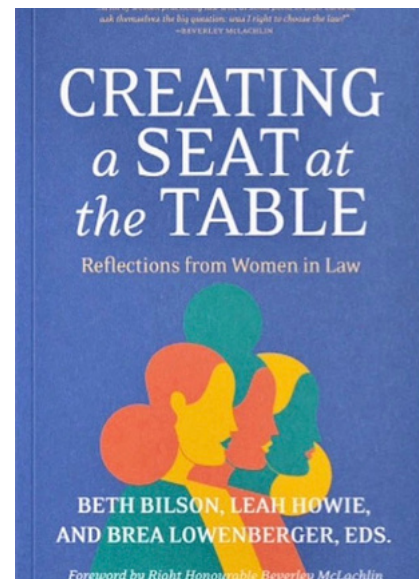
Working on this book has been inspiring and encouraging. We have learned so much from each of the contributors to the book. We are also grateful for the opportunities it has given us to have connected with all of you – contributors, readers, sponsors, attendees at events.

One consistent message we have heard is a desire among many for further opportunities for connection. What we have found particularly hopeful is the consistent feedback we have received from students and young lawyers who have found the book comforting and inspiring and have used it as a means of connecting with one another. It is so rewarding hearing that one of our primary objectives in co-editing this book – community building leading to meaningful connection – is being fulfilled.

We want to continue building on the impact of this book. We will have a survey launching this summer to capture impact and invite suggestions on the possibilities for continuing work on this project. We also invite you to reach out at any time at createjustice@usask.ca and stay apprised of next steps by [signing up for our mailing list](#) and [visiting the website](#).

We hope to hear from you!

Beth, Brea, Leah



The hope that transpires through these stories and reflections is not luminous and unburdened, it is gritty, honest, and unvarnished. A testament to those who have persisted against all odds, even more so it is a testament to all women who have charted new and needed legal paths, ultimately fashioning their own relationships with the law.

—Rachel Loewen Walker, Assistant Professor in Political Studies, University of Saskatchewan



In this book are the warm words of friends and mentors - as if we were sitting together over a cup of coffee, sharing the real stories of our own lives, affirming each other's experiences, releasing it all. I had to keep reading until the conversation was finished (at least for now). What an inspiring book.

—Michaela Keet, Professor, University of Saskatchewan College of Law

Read this book. It is an important view into the practice of law at every level, for every student, in every court, and in every place.

—Dr. Val Napoleon, Cree legal scholar, Professor, and Law Foundation Chair of Indigenous Justice and Governance

The stories of experienced women lawyers provide an enlightening perspective that can save others from the school of hard knocks.

—Betty-Ann Heggie, a member of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women Hall of Fame



CONNECTING AT BOOK LAUNCHES

We were delighted to see so many of you at the book launch events in Saskatoon, Regina, and the College of Law in the fall. These events were an opportunity to celebrate the amazing women who contributed to *Creating a Seat at the Table: Reflections from Women in Law*, and thank project sponsors who made the book possible.



“

A beautifully written reminder to take up space, ask for help, and honour yourself.”

—Hannah Jorgenson, JD 2024,
University of Saskatchewan
College of Law

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT

If you are interested in engaging further with *Creating a Seat at the Table*, please reach out to us! There are many possibilities, including working with or without us on:

- Holding a book club event (we have book club questions available, if interested)
- EDI or well-being sessions in relation to the book
- Creating your own in-house version of the book

Sign up for our mailing list to stay up to date on any future events and opportunities for engagement!

CREATING A SEAT AT THE TABLE - IN THE NEWS

Interview with Shauna Powers, “[Creating a Seat at the Table: Reflections from Women in Law](#)” (CBC Saskatchewan Weekend, October 15, 2023)

Hannah Jorgenson, “[Book Review: Creating a Seat at the Table](#)” (CBA SK BarNotes, September 28, 2023)

Beth Bilson, KC, “[Sisters in law are doing it for themselves](#)” (CBA National, August 24, 2023)

CREATING A SEAT AT THE TABLE - IN ACTION

We have been excited to hear about different ways *Creating a Seat at the Table* is being used and having impact! For example:

- Judicial training in Alberta
- EDI focused in-house learning opportunities
- Added to corporate resource library collections
- Being discussed amongst colleagues in private and public practice
- Well-being advising in the College of Law

Have you used or recommended the book in your personal or professional life? We would love to hear how at createjustice@usask.ca!

“

I recommend the read and the podcast to every young woman who pops in for a visit, especially if she feels isolated or alone. This series is powerful, and it gives me an anchor for showing young women who will be the world’s future lawyers that they have a community - and for that, we are grateful. This is an empowering book and an inspiring series for all women.

- Dr Judy Jaunzems-Fernuk, Well-Being Coordinator, College of Law

”