

**2020**

*Silas E. Halyk, Q.C.*

Visiting Scholar in Advocacy  
Lecture

**Monday, January 27, 2020 ■ 12pm (noon)**

MLT Aikins Lecture Theatre (Room 150)  
College of Law, University of Saskatchewan

**2020 VISITING SCHOLAR**

**Carrissima Mathen**

*uOttawa, Faculty of Law*

*Courts Without Cases:  
Canadian Advisory Opinions as Strategic Litigation*



Carissima Mathen, LSM is Professor of Law at the University of Ottawa. She is an expert in constitutional and criminal law. From 1994-2001, she was Counsel and, later, Director of Litigation for the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) undertaking equality rights litigation before the Supreme Court of Canada and other courts. She was involved in some of the most formative *Charter* cases of the Lamer court including *Vriend v Alberta*, *R v RDS*, *Winnipeg Child and Family Services v G, M v H*, *R v Darrach* and *R v Mills*.

In recent years, Professor Mathen has developed a keen interest in the reference function of Canadian courts. Her new book, *Courts without Cases: The Law and Politics of Advisory Opinions*, was released by Hart Publishing (UK) in April 2019. A second book, *The Tenth Justice*, co-authored with Dr. Michael Plaxton is forthcoming in 2020 as part of the UBC Press "Landmark Cases" series. Professor Mathen is a noted media commentator, appearing in all forms of print and other media both nationally and internationally. She is a 2018 recipient of the Law Society Medal, one of the highest honours bestowed by the Ontario bar.

This event is free and open to the public.

**CPD Credit: 1 Hour**



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