OMATSU SCHOLARSHIP

The Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers ("FACL") is pleased to accept applications for the Omatsu Scholarship. The Omatsu Scholarship was established to honour Justice Maryka Omatsu, the first East Asian woman appointed as a judge in Canada. Before her appointment to the bench, Justice Omatsu practised law in Toronto for 16 years. She worked for all levels of government and taught in China, Japan and Toronto. She was Chair of the Ontario Human Rights Appeals Tribunal and a LSUC referee. During the 1980s, Justice Omatsu was a member of the National Association of Japanese Canadians' negotiation team and helped win Redress for her community for the WWII violations. In 1992, her book, Bittersweet Passage: Redress and the Japanese Canadian Experience, won several prizes and was published in Japan. In February 1993, Justice Omatsu was appointed to the Ontario Court of Justice. She has presided in Toronto's criminal courts, co-chaired the National Judge's Association Equality and Diversity Committee, and co- edited a manual on Section 15 of the Charter. She retired from the bench in 2012. Justice Omatsu has received FACL Ontario's Lifetime Achievement Award, Queen Elizabeth's Golden Jubilee Medal and numerous other awards and honours. Justice Omatsu is one of FACL's founders.

Awards in the amount of $2,000 each will be awarded in 2026 to one or more law students based on the following considerations:

- Leadership & Community Involvement
- Law Student Vision
- Academics
- Financial Need
- Personal Statement

The successful applicant must also meet all of the following criteria:

- Self-identifies as of Asian descent (East Asian, Southeast Asian, or South Asian)
- Has demonstrated some past, current, and/or future involvement in promoting social justice
- Is a student enrolled at a law school in Canada
- Is a registered student member of FACL

Please complete the attached 2026 Application Form and submit by email, along with your CV, university and law school transcripts, to awardss@facl.ca no later than **January 25, 2026**.

OMATSU FACL SCHOLARSHIP 2026 APPLICATION FORM

Deadline: January 25, 2026

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

1. Full Name (please include your legal and any familiar name(s) you use):

_____

2. Law School: _____ Student Number: _____

3. How do you self-identify (i.e. Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Indian, Sri Lankan, etc.)?

_____

4. Permanent Address:

_____

_____

5. Telephone: Home _____ Mobile _____

6. E-mail: _____

7. Have you ever received an award from the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers?

   Yes _____ No _____

8. How did you hear about this scholarship?

_____

9. How did you hear about FACL?

_____

FACL Ontario
Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers

PLEASE ANSWER EACH OF THE QUESTIONS BELOW IN 200 WORDS OR LESS.

10. Please describe your community and extra-curricular involvement, highlighting any of your leadership roles, and any involvement in cultural/charitable organizations.

11. What is your goal/vision for your legal career and/or reason for entering law school?

12. Please describe your and/or your family's financial situation (this information will be kept confidential and not shared with any third parties and individuals/ organizations not connected with the administration of the scholarship).

    (a) What is your current student debt?

    (b) What will your estimated student debt be by the end of law school?

    (c) Have you received any scholarship/grant/bursary in the last 2 years from the date of this application? If yes, please list below the name(s) and the amount of each scholarship/grant/bursary.

13. Please provide the names and contact information, including telephone numbers and email addresses, of two references.

I declare that the information given in this application is true, and I give the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers ("FACL") the right to verify any and all information provided herein. I agree to accept the decision of the FACL as final, and I agree that all documents submitted shall become the property of the FACL, and shall not be returned. I consent to the publication of information that I provide to the FACL for promotional and informational purposes.

Signature of applicant:

_____

Date:

_____

Applications are to be submitted by email to awardss@facl.ca. Please include your CV and all university and law school transcripts with your application. All documents as one attachment is preferred.