

# CIRRICULUM VITAE

MARCH 2024

**SAM SKINNER**

SamanthaSkinner@Osgoode.Yorku.ca

## EDUCATION & LAWYER LICENCE

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### PhD – Doctor of Philosophy in Law

*In-Progress*

Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto ON

- Supervisor: Benjamin Berger
- Working title: “Tolerated Farmed Animal Abuse: Issues with Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, and the Legal Status of Animals”
- Research areas: criminal law, constitutional law, animal law

### Master of Laws

*Defended August 2021*

Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto ON

- Thesis “[Doomed to Fail: Ag-gag Laws and the Canadian Charter](#)”

### L1 License, Degree of Barrister-at-Law

*Called to the Bar May 2020*

[Law Society of Ontario](#)

### Juris Doctor

*Graduated June 2019*

Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto ON

- Litigation, Dispute Resolution, and Administration of Justice Program accreditation
- Criminal Intensive Program: externship at MAG Crown Law Office – Criminal (appeals)
- Innocence Project Clinic Caseworker
- Moots: International Criminal Court Moot, Winkler Class Action Moot, Torys Moot (first prize)

## ARTICLES (PEER REVIEWED)

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Sam Skinner, “Criminal Animal Cruelty Laws, Disparities in Prosecutions and Sentences” (In-Progress).

Sam Skinner, “[Queering Animal Law, a Haiku Series](#)” (2023) 20:1 *Journal of Critical Animal Studies* 173 – 174.

Sam Skinner & Katie Sykes, “[Fake Laws: How Ag-gag Undermines the Rule of Law](#)” (2022) 28:2 *Animal Law Review* 229 – 264.

Samantha Skinner, “[Animals, Activism, Ag-gag, Accountability](#)” (2021) 18:1 *Journal of Critical Animals Studies* 104.

Samantha Skinner, “[Animals & Section 7: How Early Charter Jurisprudence Supports Protections for Animals](#)” (2021) 9 *Global Journal of Animal Law*.

\* Previously presented at the *Canadian Animal Law Conference* (September 13<sup>th</sup> 2020)

Samantha Skinner, “[Federalism and Animal Law in Canada: A Case for Federal Animal Welfare Legislation](#)” (2020) 16 *Animal & Natural Resource Law Review* 105 – 135.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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Sam Skinner, "Queering Animal Law" (September 2023) *Canadian Animal Law Conference*.

Samantha Skinner, "Reconciling Abolitionism and Welfarism in the Animal Justice Movement" (May 2021) [Strategies of Critique XXXIV: Abolition Conference](#).

Samantha Skinner, "Patchwork Animal Protection: The Legislative Landscape in Canada" (February 2021) *Graduate Law Student Conference*.

Samantha Skinner & Katie (Catherine) Sykes, "Fake Laws: How Ag Gag Undermines the Rule of Law" (September 2020) *Canadian Animal Law Conference*, Scholars Track Panel.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Teaching Assistantships:

- **Law & History** (HIS268), Department of History, University of Toronto *Winter 2024*
- **Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms** (SOSC3360), Law & Society, York University *F/W 2023-2024*
- **Law & History** (HIS268), Department of History, University of Toronto *Fall 2022*
- **Intro to Law & Legal Reasoning** (TRN204), Trinity College, University of Toronto *Winter 2022*
- **Law & Society** (SOSC2350), Department of Social Science, York University *Summer 2021*
- **Theories of Criminology** (CRIM2650), Department of Social Science, York University *F/W 2020-2021*

### Teaching Assistant Certificate in Teaching (TACT)

*Certified June 2021*

Teaching Commons, York University

### Guest Lectures

- "Legal Personhood: Which People (or Things) Can Evoke Constitutional Rights?" presented to SOSC3360 *Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms*, York University Law & Society Program, December 2023.
- "Cruelty Cover-Up: The Rise of Canadian Ag-Gag Laws" presented to LAW253 *Animals and the Law*, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, November 2021.
- "Issues in Canadian Agriculture" presented to TRN303 *Ethics and Society*, Trinity College, March 2021.
- "Ag-gag and the Canadian *Charter*" presented to SOSC4365 *Animal Rights Debates*, York University, February 2021.

## MEDIA ARTICLES

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Sam Skinner, "[Activism Working to Hold Corporations Accountable for Abusing Animals](#)" (December 20<sup>th</sup> 2021) *The Lawyer's Daily*.

Sam Skinner, "[R v Chen: Ensuring Incarceration in Criminal Animal Cruelty Sentencing](#)" (December 6<sup>th</sup> 2021) *The Lawyers Daily*.

Samantha Skinner, "[Manitoba Becomes Fourth Province in Canada to Pass Ag-gag Laws](#)" (June 16<sup>th</sup> 2021) *Sentient Media*.

Samantha Skinner, "[Agriculture Gag Laws: Feds Move Forward as Lawsuit Filed in Ontario](#)" (March 17<sup>th</sup> 2021)  
*The Lawyers Daily.*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### **Animal Law Research Associate**

*October 2021 – October 2022*

University of Toronto Faculty of Law

- Content creator for the [Brooks Animals Law Digest – Canada Edition](#), a twice-monthly publication highlighting new developments in Canadian animal law, first published in November 2021
- Content curator for the [Animal Law Research Guide](#), launched with the Bora Laskin Law Library in March 2022

### **Conference Program Coordinator**

*March 2020 – September 2022*

Animal Justice Canada

- Coordinated panels for both the 2021 and 2022 [Canadian Animal Law Conferences](#)
- Independently organized the Student Conference portion of CALC
- Headed Animal Justice's Student Program across Canada during the academic school years

### **Legal Education Coordinator**

*Summer 2021*

Humane Canada (formerly Canadian Federation of Humane Societies)

- Responsible for modernizing the [National Centre for the Prosecution of Animal Cruelty](#) (NCPAC) case law database, making court documents of animal cruelty court decisions publicly accessible
- Managing a team of law student volunteers who summarized cases for the above database, editing and uploading summaries to the database through WordPress
- Drafted content for both NCPAC and the [Canadian Violence Link Coalition](#) monthly newsletters

### **Articling Student**, Preobrazenski & Associate, Toronto ON

*July 2019 – April 2020*

Principal: Christophe Preobrazenski

- Worked on over 110 cases over 10 months, charges including all levels of assaults (including sexual and domestic), guns and drugs, human trafficking, child pornography, and various administrative charges
- Drafted numerous *Charter* Applications for judicial consideration
- Critically reviewed disclosure for criminal defence cases
- Independently appeared before provincial court justices for case management appearances