

# Empirical Evidence in the Supreme Court of Canada

SEPTEMBER 6, 2024 FROM 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM | ROOM 1008 | OSGOODE  
HOSTED BY THE YORK CENTRE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND LAW

Courts' use of empirical evidence is haphazard. Judges grapple with the question of expert evidence in their determination of facts – there are often competing expert testimonies in cases involving technical questions of fact. The experts, in turn, may refer to empirical data. What is its place in the determination of legal rules? How does a judge decide? What is that decision based on?

“Social Science Evidence, Harm and Charter Rights”



**Emmett Macfarlane**  
University of Waterloo

“Data-Driven Decisions? Empirical Evidence in Charter Cases at the Supreme Court of Canada”



**Kate Puddister**  
University of Guelph

“Interjurisdictional Cleavages in Gladue Sentencing: Ipeelee, Causation, and Systemic Discrimination in the Courts of Appeal”



**Dylan Gold**  
Bytensky Shikhman Barristers

“Omission is Commission: Enacting Social Murder”



**Thaddeus Hwong**  
York University

“Understanding the Limits of Empirical Evidence”



**Cherie Metcalf**  
Queen's University

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