



## News

### FMC announces 2010 recipient of the Black Business and Professional Association Scholarship

November 30 2010

*Simone Samuels from Scarborough, ON, awarded FMC-sponsored national scholarship honour*

Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP (FMC), one of Canada's leading business and litigation law firms, is pleased to recognize Simone Samuels as the recipient of the 2010 FMC-sponsored Black Business and Professional Association (BBPA) national scholarship for black law students.

Ms. Samuels, who currently studies law at McGill University in Montréal, was awarded the \$5,000 annual renewable FMC-sponsored scholarship at the 2010 Scholarship Presentation on November 25, 2010 at the Toronto Police College in Etobicoke.

"We are happy to invest in and support the next generation of young professionals in a number of ways, including the BBPA national scholarship," says [Brian Leonard](#), Toronto co-chair of FMC's National Diversity and Inclusion Initiative. "Simone's hard work, dedication and enthusiasm are important to FMC's success, and we are delighted to honour her as this year's scholarship recipient."

Ms. Samuels was inspired to help people know and defend their rights after having witnessed a workplace incident involving a family member. "I decided to pursue a career in law in order to protect the rights of others," says Ms. Samuels. "I see tremendous value in using the knowledge of law as a powerful instrument to make a positive difference in the lives of others."

Ms. Samuels recently graduated from York University with a bilingual B.A. Hons. and holds certificates in Practical Ethics, Law and Social Thought, Bilingualism and Bilingual Excellence. She made the Dean's List every year of her undergraduate program, and has won numerous academic and community awards.

Often acting as a catalyst for change within her community, in 2009 Ms. Samuels started the Girls in Transition (G.I.T) initiative, a free mentorship program for young black girls fostering the development of their organizational, leadership and communication skills. She is also involved in the Pathfinders Organization and is a long-time volunteer in her church.

"Despite the strained financial situation of my household, I have been able to do well in school and contribute to the community by trying to help others," says Ms. Samuels. "I am thankful to FMC for this investment in my future, and the future of law within Canada."

#### About the BBPA Scholarships

The BBPA Scholarships are awarded to black students attending a college or

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university in Canada, in order to further academic excellence among black youth. The BBPA first established the scholarship fund in 1988 to honour the memory of Mr. Harry Jerome, who held six world track records during the 1960s and represented Canada in three Olympic Games. He earned both undergraduate and graduate degrees in science at the University of Oregon and later become a leader in sports administration in British Columbia. Mr. Jerome was admitted to the Order of Canada in 1971 and inducted into the Canadian Walk of Fame in 2001.

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