



Arctic Law Colloquium: Offshore Resources & International Governance

January 25, 2014

New Chancellor Day Hall
McGill Faculty of Law
Montreal, QC

9:30 a.m to 2:00 p.m.

*Hosted by the McGill International Journal of Sustainable Development Law & Policy [JSDLP]
and Environmental Law McGill [ELM]*

About the conference

ELM and the JS-DLP are organizing a colloquium on Arctic law on January 25th, 2014 at the McGill University Faculty of Law. This colloquium will build on the success of the JS-DLP Volume 9:2 Special Issue on Polar Law. The purpose of the colloquium is to build a dialogue about legal issues in the Arctic between lawyers, academics, government representatives and students.

Arctic law is a topic of critical and increasing importance. As climate change leads to the melting of the ice caps, resources in the North and shipping routes have become increasingly accessible, leading to a variety of legal questions. In particular, changes in the Arctic environment give rise to interesting legal questions about (a) offshore resource development; (b) international governance. These are the two themes of the colloquium.

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Questions about offshore resources include:

- Who has the right to offshore resources in the Arctic?
- Which legal regimes do and should regulate their extraction?
- What challenges does offshore resource development present in the Arctic environment?
- How does the law address these challenges (or fail to address them)?

Questions about international governance include:

- Which international institutions currently regulate activities in the Arctic?
- What is the status of observer states and indigenous groups within these institutions?
- What role do and should these institutions play on the international stage?
- Possibilities for reform?
- Should an Arctic Treaty be created?

Schedule

Date

Saturday, January 25, 2014

Location

McGill Faculty of Law

Agenda

9:30–10:00	Registration
10:00–10:10	Opening Remarks by the Editor-in-Chief of the JSDL
10:10–11:30	First Panel: Offshore Resources (3 speakers speak for 20 min each, 20 min of moderated discussion)
11:30–12:15	Lunch
12:15–13:30	Second Panel: International Governance (3 speakers speak for 20 min each, 15 min of moderated discussion)
13:30–14:00	Q&A + Closing Remarks