James Richmond Articling Student Ottawa **Beyond Our Walls** Professional Involvement Back Member, County of Carleton Law Association Community Involvement Volunteer, BLG Reads to Kids Program Youth volunteer at local church Education • JD, University of Ottawa, 2019 • BA (Hons.), University of Ottawa, 2015

James works on a variety of interesting files with a team of fantastic lawyers. He carries his own small claims files, communicates with clients, conducts legal research, drafts legal memorandums, drafts letters to clients, and assists in preparing superior court and appellate court pleadings.

As an articling student, James has appeared before deputy judges of the small claims court and judges of the provincial offences court. He has assisted as a junior on large litigation files as well as provided research and drafting for discrete legal issues. James considers one of the more rewarding experiences of his articles was carrying a pro bono small claims file from beginning to end, which developed his abilities and confidence in drafting pleadings, managing client expectations, learning court procedure and representing his clients before judges.

Before joining BLG, James volunteered as a law student at a small local law firm specializing in immigration and refugee law. He has also worked for the federal government, gaining experience in a departmental role as well as a political staffer for a Member of Parliament. He previously spent six years working as a direct support professional supporting individuals with exceptional needs.