

YAMEENA ANSARI

CANDIDATE FOR BENCHER — LAW SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

Calgary, Alberta | [linkedin.com/in/y-ansari](https://www.linkedin.com/in/y-ansari)

LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

Co-founder, Gaza Family Reunification Project | Canada | November 2023–Present

- Co-founded a nonprofit legal organization that helps Canadians reunite with displaced family members.

Board Member, Centre of Hope | Fort McMurray, Alberta | January–October 2021

- Contributed to a five-year strategic plan and reviewed organizational bylaws and policies.

Board Member, University of Toronto Health Board | Toronto, Ontario | September 2015–May 2016

- Contributed to governance of a university health organization.

ALBERTA LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Founder & Managing Lawyer, Ansari Immigration Law | Calgary, Alberta | March 2023–Present

- Built an award-winning immigration and refugee law firm and lead a team of six.
- Integrated AI and technology into the firm's workflows to improve client service without increasing costs.

Articling Student, Alberta Crown Prosecution Service | Fort McMurray, Alberta | July 2020–July 2021

- Completed articles in Alberta's criminal justice system and was called to the Alberta Bar in July 2021.

MEDIA COMMENTARY & APPEARANCES

- Television and video: CBC News Network, CBC Social and Canada1TV.
- Podcasts: The Muslim Pod (2026), Threaded Minds (2026), Women in Corporate (2024) and Justice in Pieces (2023).
- National and international media commentary or coverage: The BBC, Reuters, The Guardian, The Independent, The Globe and Mail, Al Jazeera, Maclean's, Daily Mail and CityNews/Canadian Press.

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LEGAL COMMUNITY

- **NCA Online Teacher:** Taught an immigration and refugee law course for Canadian lawyers (August–October 2024).
- **Lectures & presentations:** Lectured or presented for the Canadian Immigration Lawyers Association (CILA, 2026), TransCanWork (2025–2026), University of Alberta Pride Week (2026), University of Victoria Faculty of Law (2026), Canadian Bar Association Young Lawyers (2023–2024), End of the Rainbow Foundation (2025), Muslim Legal Support Centre (2024), and Canadian Muslim Lawyers Association (2024).
- **Conference leadership:** Chaired a Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers (CARL) conference in 2026.
- **Access to justice:** Organized pro bono legal clinics with the Fyrefly Institute at the University of Alberta during Pride Week (2025) and the End of the Rainbow Foundation in Calgary (2025); volunteered with Catholic Immigrant Society Legal Clinic (2024).
- **Moot judging:** Judged the University of Calgary Women's Society Moot (2026), Immigration Law Moot (2023), and Indigenous Law Student Moot (2022).
- **Mentorship:** Mentor with the International Human Rights Lab, Maseru, Lesotho (October 2024–Present).

RECOGNITION

- Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers in Canada — Changemakers, Canadian Lawyer (2026).
- Best Immigration Law Firm of the Year, Prestige Awards Canada (2026).
- Women Who Inspire Award, Canadian Council of Muslim Women (2021).

EDUCATION & CALLS

- Juris Doctor, University of Victoria Faculty of Law (2020).
- Called to the Bar: Alberta (2021), Ontario (2021), and Northwest Territories (2021).