

SHANNON GUNN EMERY

EDUCATION

University of Alberta, Bachelor of Law degree obtained in 2001.

University of Alberta (La Faculté St. Jean), 1991-1993 - Bachelière en Éducation avec distinction obtenue en 1993 (Bachelor of Education with Honours obtained in French).

St. Francis Xavier University, Bachelor of Arts, Dean's List, obtained in 1991.

AWARDS

"Prix Jean-Louis Lebel" from the French Jurists Association of Alberta – 2025.

Runner up for the "King Charles the III Coronation Medal", Lac Ste Anne/Parkland County – 2025.

"Peter Bruce Gunn Junior Barrister Award" – 2006.

"Al Schumiatcher Prize" and "Gordon Wright QC Memorial Award" – University of Alberta – 2001.

The Laskin Moot team, received the Judges Award – University of Alberta – 2000.

LANGUAGES

I am fluent in French and English. I can read, write and speak in Hindi but I am not fluent.

LEGAL WORK EXPERIENCE

I was admitted to the Alberta Bar in 2002, the Northwest Territories Bar in 2008, and the Yukon Bar in 2012. I am still a member of the NWT bar but resigned from the Yukon bar in 2024.

In 2017, I began studying Family Law and, in 2018, began practicing in Collaborative Family Law while maintaining my Criminal Law practice.

I have appeared as appellant and intervenor in the Supreme Court of Canada on five occasions in the past. For the last two appeals, my oral and written submissions were done entirely in French. I have over 20 reported cases in the Court of Appeal in Alberta and have appeared in courts across the country including British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Yukon, Quebec, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND TEACHING

Director of the Association of Collaborative Family Practitioners - 2021-2026 (Co-Chair 2022-2024).

Director of the Collaborative Divorce Alberta Association 2021-2026.

Member of the Criminal Trial Lawyers Association since 2001 (Director 2005-2007, Secretary 2007-2009, Vice President 2009-2013, President 2013-2015, Past President 2015-2017).

Member of the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Alberta – 2001 to present.

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts – 2017 to present.

International Academy of Collaborative Professionals – 2017 to present.

Presentations and Teaching:

1. For the International Association of Collaborative Professionals – Will be co-presenter with Camille Milner in Vancouver on Innovative Intake Processes in Collaborative Family Law - October 2026.
2. For the Collaborative Practice California – co-presenter with Camille Milner on the "Two for None" and "Splitting Syndrome" in Long Beach, California – 2026.

3. For the Rocky Mountain International Conference in Banff – bilingual presentation on Cultural Comparison of Collaborative Practice in 3 Provinces in Canada – 2025.
4. For the ACFP(E), Developing Your Collaborative Family Law Practice – 2022.
5. For AJEFA, Atelier sur le droit de la famille (Workshop on Family Law) – 2022.
6. Lecture on Virtual Trials – Ganonoque, Ontario – 2021.
7. Guest lecturer for Caroline Magnan (Professor at the University of Ottawa, now Justice of the Court of King's Bench) on "La Plaidoirie Orale" (French Oral Advocacy) – 2016, 2017, 2018.
8. For the RCMP (Beaumont) "Impaired Driving – From Investigation to Trial" – 2017.
9. For the Legal Education Society of Alberta:
 - a) Criminal Fundamentals (Calgary and Edmonton) – 2018.
 - b) Moderator for the Constitutional Law Symposium – 2013.
 - c) Impaired Driving Course in Calgary – 2012.
 - d) Right to Counsel Lecture – 2012.
 - e) New Breath-Testing Equipment 2012.
 - f) How to Run a Criminal Trial in French – 2011.
10. For the Criminal Trial Lawyers Association:
 - a) Evidence to the Contrary – 2011
 - b) Sentencing for s. 249.1 (flight from police) Offences – 2007.
11. Alberta Court Interpreters Course (ACIC) – 2011 to 2022.

NON-LEGAL WORK EXPERIENCE

École Citadelle – 1993 to 1994 - Teacher - Grades 7/8 in French and English for Grades 3 - 8.

COMMUNITY & CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Volunteering:

- Directrice de la Société des Manoirs - 2015 to present - Director. The Société manages two homes for the elderly (Manoir St. Thomas d'Aquin and Manoir St. Joachim) which cater to the aging francophone community in Edmonton.
- Alliance Francaise - Treasurer from 2018-2019.
- Youville Home (a care facility for the elderly in St. Albert) - 1985-1987.
- Co-President of the Edmonton Suzuki Piano School – 2008-2009.
- Special Olympics bowling – 1988.
- Started and maintained a French club at the University of Alberta – «Tout Droit» 1997-2001.

Member of the French Catholic Parish, Paroisse St. Thomas d'Aquin – 1991-2018.

I sang solo at the church regularly and assisted with community breakfasts.

Member of Parish Council for the Lac Ste Anne Catholic Parish - 2018 to present.

I am in charge of the music ministry and volunteer occasionally at community breakfasts held on the first Sunday of every month. I had the pleasure of singing solo for the Pope during his visit to our little church in 2022.

Alberta Hindi Parishad – Student at the school - 1999-2004.

PERSONAL INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

I cycle, paddleboard, and snowboard. I enjoy languages and am learning Hindi and Spanish.