



LEGAL STUDIES AND BUSINESS ETHICS
SPEAKER SERIES PRESENTS

“THE CURIOUS CASE OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE LAW”



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The explosion of social enterprises in the last few decades has spawned a new generation of ‘alternative’ corporate legal entities. Legislators around the world are crafting new laws to meet growing demands from social entrepreneurs seeking legal infrastructure to house their social businesses. The growing body of law that is developing alongside the international proliferation of social enterprises has had its share of successes and failures. The experiences from the American benefit corporation, British community interest company, and Canadian community contribution company, as well as the attempted cross-border implantation of the American benefit corporation in Canada, provide valuable lessons for future legislators. While one might assume social enterprise law can only help to advance social progress, this assumption is incomplete and, at times, incorrect. This talk will highlight some of the risks and early lessons learned in these nascent years, while providing a framework for the strategic implementation of social enterprise law when warranted within a jurisdiction’s corporate legal landscape.

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