

THE INSTRUCTOR SPOTLIGHT SERIES

Get to know the people behind the purpose

BY DEIDRE ALVES, M.ED.

Continuing the Instructor Spotlight Series, I am happy to present one of our IRWA CLIMB Certified Instructors from Canada. As a truly global organization, IRWA works with 17 countries, including Canada and the United States, striving everyday to improve people's quality of life through infrastructure development.

In this Spotlight, we will delve into the perspective of a CLIMB Certified instructor who teaches Real Estate Law and Expropriation Law Fundamentals in Canada. Guillaume Lavictoire received his LL.B. (Bachelor of Laws Degree) from the University of Ottawa, is fluent in both English and French, and he is on the Board of Directors of the Ontario Expropriation Association.

GUILLAUME LAVICTOIRE

1. What is the most rewarding part of instructing for the IRWA?

The opportunity to learn and to meet interesting and engaging members of the IRWA.



An instructor's learning experience manifests itself in a number of ways. To cite an old theory, you "learn by doing." Through the experience as an instructor, you relearn materials from a fresh perspective and discover what works best in preparing for and delivering a course. In time, you

are able to pinpoint the most efficient methodology for assisting students towards their learning objectives. That methodology can range widely and can include group discussion, a role-playing exercise and even an entertaining real-life example.

You also learn from your students. Although they may be new to the IRWA University, many course attendees are seasoned right of way professionals. They will typically complement the materials with their own unique points of view, stories and insights. Junior members also contribute to the learning experience, often providing a new perspective on long-established theories and models.

2. IRWA' s purpose is to improve the quality of life through infrastructure development. As an instructor, how do you contribute to the fulfillment of this purpose?

The majority of the material I teach deals with expropriation, which is the focus of my legal practice. The expropriation process can generally be described as the compulsory acquisition of privately-owned land to advance infrastructure projects for a benefit to the public. To expropriated landowners, this process may initially appear to be a daunting and extreme exercise of legislative power. From the perspective of expropriating authorities, it is viewed as necessary for the greater good of the community.

Quality of life is improved when, as a group, we learn that expropriation is about balancing the public good with the rights of owners. The majority of attendees will work on behalf of expropriating authorities in their careers. They come to understand that although governments and other bodies are indeed equipped with these powers, the expropriations regime in Canada is structured to ensure expropriated owners are treated fairly and ultimately made whole through the process. We also explore various approaches to communicating with owners effectively to ensure they understand the process as well as their rights to fair compensation.

When owners feel they have been treated fairly, an expedited resolution is often achieved. This is a benefit to all parties. It lets the expropriated owner move on with their life and usually lowers acquisition costs for the expropriating authority.

3. What is the most important thing you would like your future students to know upon entering your class?

Be prepared to contribute. The learning experience is improved for those who contribute and IRWA members have a wealth of experience to share. A good portion of the learning happens through group discussion and exercises. The more people are willing to share their perspectives and knowledge, the more the students will benefit. When this becomes a collective group exercise, the learning experience is enhanced exponentially.

A special thank you to Guillaume for sharing his unique insights in our Instructor Spotlight Series. For more information on our CLIMB Certified Instructor Team or to book one of our CLIMB Certified Instructors with your Chapter today, please visit <https://www.irwaonline.org/members/irwa-course-instructors> and click "Find an Instructor" or contact education@irwaonline.org.



Deidre Alves is IRWA's Chief Learning Officer.