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VALL REVIEW is the official newsletter of the Vancouver Association of Law Libraries, composed of law library community members interested in discussing issues and sharing ideas that affect it. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent VALL policy/position. Unsolicited submissions are welcome. VALL reserves the right to edit submissions.

### FROM THE VALL EXECUTIVE

Gwendoline Hoar, Lawson Lundell

The holiday season is upon us once more. The trees are lit up around the Courthouse buildings and all up and down Robson Street - not that we have much time to admire them or to shop. We're all too busy automating more and more of our library functions and moving into the world of the Intranet now that the Internet has become accessible by any child at the Public Library. It is unfortunate that so many lawyers (at least the ones I work with) talk a good line about the Internet, but prefer that the library staff do the information searches on it. It's a frustrating state of affairs and I remind them that they did not expect me to read the law to them in the "olden" days when print was all there was....

But enough grousing. The Christmas season marks the halfway point in the VALL year, and what a year we've had so far! Last June—if you remember—was when we all received (at last) our long awaited copies of first the loose-leaf, then the CD-ROM edition, and finally the bound versions of the R.S.B.C. 1996. I am still explaining to bemused lawyers and students that they must use the Supplement as well as the 1997 legislation to update the statutes in the new consolidation. How glorious it will be as time goes by and that volume finally fades out and vanishes (at least from the loose-leaf set)!

We have had an interesting series of lunch speakers this fall thanks to our imaginative program co-ordinators Judy Deavy and Diane Lemieux. In September, Bill Clennan, the "Memory Man," showed us that the art of memory is a skill that anyone can, with enough concentration, teach herself. He is, of course, a magnificent example of what practice in this overlooked area can achieve. Unfortunately I still rely on 3-x-5 cards or yellow stickies.

For our October meeting, Linda Morrison, the Head of Reference Services at the B.C. Courthouse Library, spoke of the services available from them. I know we're all looking forward to being able to access their catalogue on the Internet and it's going to happen very, very soon! The news that their useful Supreme Court of Canada Index is in the process of being automated and will also be available on their web site is very welcome.

Last month Connie Kellough spoke to us about effective use of our personal styles. I had thought that meant dressing for success, but it turned out to be an introduction to four basic psychological profiles and how each may optimally interact with the others. The November meeting is traditionally a time for remembering Peter Bark, who died seven years ago. The Bursary in Peter's name is again available to any VALL member to assist in attending a conference or for some other aspect of o professional development. The deadline for applications for the bursary is March 1, 1998.

Our December meeting is traditionally a largely social event with a lavish buffet supplied by the Hotel Georgia and, this year, with wine generously donated by CCH Canadian. The flowing wine will only enhance our enjoyment

# FROM THE VALL EXECUTIVE, continued...

of QL's Joe Schmidt as he relates the tale of his great threemonth cycling trip from Vancouver to Halifax last summer. On behalf of the VALL Executive, I would like to wish you all a very festive holiday season. I, for one, am looking forward with great enthusiasm to the programs we have lined up for next year!

### FROM THE EDITORS OF VALL

Elizabeth Kinersly & Anna Holeton

Seasonal distractions aside, we are already planning for the March 1998 issue of the VALL Review in which we hope to feature contributions from our membership on the subject of law office Intranets. Nothing lengthy is expected, just an opportunity to share common concerns, tips and tricks, and ideas for the future. In particular, we are interested in how you gave your library a "presence" on the firm's Intranet and how you are providing access to CD-ROMs. Please share your experiences with your colleagues!

Contributions to VALL REVIEW are encouraged and greatly appreciated. We especially wish to thank those people who contributed to this issue. Please submit *electronic* copy to either:

Anna Holeton at aholeton@campney.com OR Elizabeth Kinersly at gek@swinton.ca [or FAX copy to 688-0829 or 643-1200, respectively.].

Best wishes for the holiday season! We look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

## **BENE VALE, ASTRID**

I met Astrid Kenning in the summer of 1975 when we both worked at the City Archives. I was between my first and second year at the UBC Library School and Astrid had just graduated as a member of the class famous for its rebellious, take-no-prisoners stance against the fossils incumbent in the program at that time. The '60s weren't that far away....

We had a glorious summer together. I remember brownbagging our lunches so we could spend the noon hour tanning in our bikinis (those were the days) on the lawn over top of the underground archives building in Vanier Park. I went back to school and Astrid started free-lancing in the fledgling law-firm library community. By the time I had graduated, found a job and then been laid off from it, Astrid was well established in the Campney & Murphy library. "Get into law firms," she advised me, "they'll always need librarians." So I did, and she was right!

Over the years, Astrid's natural leadership qualities brought her to the forefront of the Vancouver law library community. She was delighted to appear as a guest lecturer at the Library School for the Special Libraries courses. And she was always so keen on advances in the brand new conjunction of libraries and computers. I remember her dragging me off to what may well have been the first demonstration of the Sydney Library Automation System sometime in the early '80s. She determined that this was the best automation system around for libraries, so it was really no surprise that when she finally was in a position to implement a system — Sydney was what she chose.

Of course, when VALL came into existence in the spring of 1988, Astrid was among the midwives. In the 1989/1990 year she was the president of our association. By that time, she had been spirited away from Campney & Murphy and had assumed the position of librarian for the Industrial Relations Council (now the Labour Relations Board), a position she holds to this day.

Astrid was the first librarian to be employed by the IRC, which had given itself a mandate to provide library research services and materials to the labour-relations community of the province. When Astrid started in her brand-new position, there were no library materials and no library premises. She had to plan the collection, order, pay for, and store the books, implement an automation system, catalogue everything, plan the space requirements in the new building, and plan the move. Then she could really go to work when the library opened for business in the spring of 1989 and the labour community began coming through the door!

And work she has, although I have to say that through the years one constant was Astrid's mantra "when I retire". We never really thought she would, it was always one of those events far in the misty future. We had heard those words so often in the past.

I ought to have guessed that things were getting serious when Astrid and her sea-loving husband, Carl, traded in their

# continued on p. 4

# VALL REVIEW

### BENE VALE, ASTRID, continued...

beloved sailboat for a bigger, longer model. Indeed, Astrid is retiring at last from the *Labour Relations Board* and the law library community. She and Carl are going sailing.

In an effort to see her once in a while, VALL is honouring her with permanent member status. We hope she'll turn up often and tell us all her adventures up and down the coast. We wish you all the best, Astrid. May the sun shine upon you both, and may the winds be always at your back!

Gwendoline Hoar, Lawson Lundell

# ONLINE WORLD CONFERENCE REPORT

#### Washington, D.C., September 15-17, 1997

As this was my first full conference and premier visit to Washington, D.C., I had few preconceptions as to the standard routine for a conference (e.g. registration, timetables, touring the Exhibit Hall), and the location of my hotel was a mystery. However, upon my arrival, I was relieved to discover that my hotel was situated directly across the street from the Washington Hilton and Towers where the conference was being held. The Online World organizers went out of their way to make their conference an easy and highly enjoyable experience.

The conference schedule was divided into six subjectoriented tracks: practical searching, resource management, trends and technology, corporate electronic publishing, content review and roundtable discussion. The hour-long sessions in each track ran concurrently so that one could mix and match whatever sessions they found to be of interest. I managed to attend sessions in four of the six tracts and I was generally quite pleased with my choices.

For me, the highlights were the talks given by John December on new Internet technologies and Kevin Kelly's (executive editor of Wired) keynote address on zillionics. December stated that the new key Internet tools are: ActiveX, Broadway, DHTML, Push, HTML4, Inferno, Java, JavaScript, VRML and XML. For a further explanation on these technologies, visit his web site, http://www.december.com/present/intup.html.

Kelly's presentation, entitled "Zillionics: self-assembling

knowledge in a world of ubiquitous publishing," touched on copyright and privacy issues and obstacles to technology. His most memorable line was that the "new killer app" will be information professionals.

I also attended sessions on: real search questions, overcoming the tensions between the IRC [Instructional Resource Centre] and MIS [Management Information Systems], building and managing Intranets and content reviews on business and competitive intelligence. The exhibit hall housed over 100 booths covering a wide variety of on-line services and technologies. *President Bill Clinton* even stopped by for a tour! For further details please visit the Online World web site at:

http://www.onlineinc.com/olworld.

Washington, D.C., is a most impressive city. Its marble monuments, memorial statues and museums are simply amazing when viewed in person. The Library of Congress and U.S. Capital were worth a trip in themselves.

This conference was extremely valuable from both a professional and personal point of view and my sincere thanks go to VALL for its help in making it possible.

reported by Wendy Eng, Ladner Downs, recipient of 1997 Peter Bark Memorial Fund Bursary

### LAW SOCIETY OMBUDSPERSON

#### **Hypothetical Case:**

You work with a lawyer who makes jokes that you find offensive. You are a new employee and uncertain whom you can trust within the firm. You do not respond to the jokes. You are afraid that this situation is going to become intolerable. You do not want to leave the firm. What should you do?

#### Answer:

Call Gail H. Forsythe for free and confidential assistance.

Ms. Forsythe is the Discrimination Ombudsperson for the Law Society of British Columbia. She is a lawyer and mediator who is independent of the Law Society. She assists staff, articled students and lawyers to address workplace difficulties. She has assisted more than 150 people to effectively deal with racial or sexual harassment; personal harassment; unwanted joking; and employer refusals to accommodate employees due to pregnancy or medical needs.

# LAW SOCIETY OMBUDSPERSON, continued...

A call to Ms. Forsythe can help you to identify how to address your needs by: (1) assisting you to identify what is important to you and others who may be affected by the behaviour; (2) providing suggestions to assist with communication and problem-solving skill development; and (3) acting as a neutral mediator to achieve a resolution that works for all concerned.

Ms. Forsythe's services are available as an alternative to the highly adversarial and often costly or time-consuming formal processes that are available to address human rights concerns.

If you would like to speak with a knowledgeable, objective and trustworthy person about a workplace difficulty that you, or someone you know, is experiencing, please call Ms. Forsythe at 687-2344. For your initial call to Ms. Forsythe, it is not necessary for you to provide your name, or the names of other individuals involved.

The Law Society encourages law firms to book Ms. Forsythe to deliver customized in-firm educational seminars. She is also available to assist legal employers with policy design and complaint resolution. If your firm has not scheduled its seminar, encourage your office administrator or managing partner to do so today.

Remember, if you work for a law firm and need assistance with a work-related problem, call Ms. Forsythe at 687-2344 for free and confidential assistance.

contributed by Gail H. Forsythe

## INTERNET CORNER

#### **Supreme Court of Canada Library**

Judith Rubin, Chief of Information and Reader Services for the Supreme Court of Canada Library, recently announced the SCC Library web site on the CALL-L listserv. This site includes the SCC Library's OPAC (Bestseller), plus reference and ILL forms. The URL is: http://portfolio.sup.bestseller.com:7601/

### **COURTHOUSE LIBRARY**

Appeal Rules Precedents and Rules of Practice Table of Cases

The Vancouver Courthouse Library has created a Consolidated Table of Cases for the Appeal Rules Precedents [A.R.P.] and Rules of Practice [R.P.] cases. These cases were cited by Kowarsky and Stephens in the old B.C. Practice: Court of Appeal and B.C. Practice.

This Table of Cases complements the tables already found at the beginning of the A.R.P. and R.P. volumes; in it we can search by plaintiff or defendant. The Vancouver library has also created a database with this information so if you only have part of a case name you can call us to check the database. We were unable to locate cases that were missing from our copies of the A.R.P. and R.P. These missing cases are listed in the table and in the database with a note indicating that they are missing.

Copies of the Consolidated Table of Cases may be purchased for \$20. Please call *Susan Whalen* at 660-2910 to place your order.

#### Small Claims Decisions

The Vancouver Courthouse Library has also begun a collection of decisions from the Small Claims Court mentioned in publications held in the Vancouver Courthouse Library. We have developed a case-name database for the Small Claims decisions as well, so we can search by plaintiff or defendant name. You may order copies of these decisions by calling 660-2438 or 1-800-665-2570, or by e-mailing bccls@bccls.bc.ca.

If you have any questions please call the reference staff at the Vancouver Courthouse Library at 66-2841 or 1-800-665-2570, or by e-mailing *bccls@bccls.bc.ca*.

## **VENDORS CORNER**

#### **Butterworths' News**

#### **CD-ROM Products**

British Columbia Civil Practice Library i.e. (British Columbia Practice and British Columbia Court Forms on CD-ROM) was released at the end of September. If both titles

# Continued on p. 6

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### **VENDORS CORNER, continued...**

are purchased, users can search both databases using the same search criteria. Canadian Forms & Precedents on CD-ROM was just released in November and has met very good feedback. Existing subscribers can receive the CD-ROM at a 60 per cent discount. Intellectual Property on CD-ROM (the Hughes services), due to be released in December, contains additional forms and precedents material that is not in the print version. All of these products include the Butterworths formfill feature which allows the user to fill in and print the forms. There will also be extensive hyper-text linking within products. Please contact me if you wish to see a demonstration of the CD-ROM titles prior to placing an order.

#### **Subscriptions**

A new subscription product to be published in December is *Tari's Federal Income Tax Litigation in Canada*. This loose-leaf is designed to provide a practical and thorough explanation of Canadian income tax litigation practice and procedure.

#### **Texts**

Butterworths has just published: Castel's Canadian Conflict of Laws, 4th ed. and Babe's Sale of a Business, 2nd ed. Due in December are: Estey's Legal Opinions in Commercial Transactions, 2nd ed., Linden's Canadian Tort Law, 6th ed. and Hall's Performing and Interpreting the Independent Medical Examination.

You can reach me at 689-4133 or e-mail at avaz@butterworths.ca. I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year '98.

contributed by Arthur Vaz, Sales Manager, Western Canada

#### **News from Canada Law Book**

Canada Law Book has just completed its busiest year ever for new publications, with a continuing emphasis on labour law. MacKillop's Damage Control: An Employer's Guide to Just Cause Termination was a top-selling textbook for 1997. Other labour titles include: Corry Collective Bargaining in Canada; Elliot & Saxe Employment Contracts Handbook, 2d ed.; Charney Judicial Review in Labour Law; Lichty Annotated Commercial General Liability; and Keith Canadian Health and Safety Law.

The coming year will see the launch of Labour Law Library and Canadian Patent Reporter on CD-ROM. The C.P.R. on CD-ROM will include all three series from 1942 to date. All CD-ROMS produced by Canada Law Book are updated quarterly with a replacement CD and daily on our web site at www.canadalawbook.ca. Access to the CD-ROMs on the web site is free to everyone until some time in 1998, when access will be limited to subscribers of the respective CD-ROM products.

All books and CD products are available in the Vancouver office for a 30-day trial period. Accounts may also be paid through the Vancouver office. For product or customerservice enquiries, do not hesitate to contact me or *Meg McCormick*. For demonstrations or in-house training of any of our CD-ROM products, please contact *Colin Johnson*. Any one of us can be reached by telephoning (604) 844-7855 or 1-800-342-0011 or by faxing (604) 844-7813. You can also e-mail me at www.roberts@canadalawbook.ca.

contributed by Peter Roberts, Vancouver Sales Representative

#### **News from CCH**

The long-awaited *Protos on the Net BBS* [Bulletin Board Service] was introduced at the Canadian Tax Foundation Conference, held recently in Vancouver. Via Protos on the Net, users can personally access all tax databases for \$295 per year.

Alternatively, the service will be available as "push technology" updating subscribers on a daily basis, according to their specified interest profile. This will allow customized tax information to be delivered to the desktop. Pricing details regarding push-technology service will be available in early 1998.

The new 1998 CCH catalogues will also be available at the end of January.

On behalf of CCH, may I take the opportunity to wish you all the best wishes and goodwill of the season, and thank you for your continued support of CCH Publications throughout 1997.

contributed by **David Pleasance**, Account Manager

### **VENDORS CORNER, continued...**

#### **News from Carswell**

#### New publications

Carswell has numerous titles coming out in November and December including many consolidated and annotated acts and regulations. To ensure prompt delivery, I recommend a standing order for one or more copies of the titles in which you are interested.

#### Sweet & Maxwell Collection

Until the end of December 1997, Carswell is offering a 15 per cent discount on the new editions of: McGregor on Damages; Gatley on Libel and Slander; and Benjamin on Sale of Goods. Following our successful International Luncheon, Neil McLaughlin made a special arrangement to offer copies of the English "White Book" without supplementation for \$600 until the end of this year. For other international titles our specialist is Debra Wilson, whom many of you have met. Debra can be contacted at (905) 727-9409 or at dwilson@carswell.com.

#### CD-ROM and electronic publications

- All provinces are now covered within Provincial Tax Partner. Subscribers to one module of Provincial Tax Partner or to Daily Documents and Month-at-a-Glance on TAXNET will be able to access other infobases on each of these products at no extra charge for a limited time.
- Immigration Partner is coming out in December.
- 1998 will see the publication of Labour Law Partner, Canadian Case Citations, International Tax Partner and three new Internet products.

Please call me if you have any questions about titles or the status of your account. You can reach me at 685-8171 or at 531-5124.

#### SEASONS' GREETINGS TO ALL!

contributed by Barb Esau, Key Account Representative

#### **CLE News**

#### Complimentary disks

As of November 1997, CLE has added an important feature to its Practice Manuals and Updates — a bonus disk. In the

interest of saving our customers time and keeping them current, the forms and precedents will be included on a disk, provided free with every update and new book. This master disk replaces previous disk products and will ensure that all files are up-to-date.

#### New Book Titles

In November 1997, CLE completed the second of two successful collaborations with the Provincial Court of British Columbia. Written by a team of leading practitioners and Provincial Court judges, the new *Provincial Court Small Claims Handbook* is a step-bystep guide to practice and procedure under the *Small Claims Act*. Containing over 450 pages, and fully tabbed and indexed, the *Handbook* includes a free disk containing a complete set of forms for Word for Windows users. An accompanying volume, *Small Claims Act and Rules*—Annotated, published earlier in the fall, and edited by *The Honourable Administrative Judge Ellen Burdett*, contains annotated text of the *Small Claims Act* and *Rules*, and digests of all important small claims decisions. Both books will be updated regularly.

In January 1998, CLE will publish the most comprehensive and authoritative guide to company law and practice in British Columbia, the two-volume *British Columbia Company Law Practice Manual*. Written by 15 leading practitioners, this 16-chapter practice manual maps out every step of every transaction from incorporation to dissolution. The manual also includes forms and precedents, checklists, Corporate Registry information, legislation, and Company Act forms, as well as case and statute tables, references, and index. A disk of the complete forms and precedents is included as a bonus.

#### Square One on CD-ROM is here!

CLE's electronic version of Square One has now been released. The development of our first CD-ROM project has been an exciting time for us and we feel that the final result will benefit the legal community as a whole as well as the general public. By providing summaries, cross-referenced and indexed, of every chapter and paper of CLE's practice manuals and course materials, Square One on CD-ROM covers over 850 publications— a total of 75,000 pages of current British Columbia legal material.

### **VENDORS CORNER, CLE, continued...**

#### New Faces

Bruce Davie recently joined CLE as Marketing Manager. Bruce's background is in publishing and database marketing with Southam. He looks forward to hearing from the library community.

contributed by Karen Imeson, Sales & Marketing Liaison

#### QUICKLAW

#### QL's Highlights from 1997:

- Enhanced coverage of Statutes & Bills for: British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Canada
- FIND command to retrieve a case by citation
- QC command to Note Up a case by citation
- Addition of jump markers within the text of cases allowing links to text of cases judicially considered
- Payne's Publications on Family Law (PPFL)
- Payne's Digests on Family Law (PDDF)
- Syrtash Family Law Netletter (SFLN)
- New Family Law Global (FAM)
- Alan Gold's Criminal Law Netletter (GOLD)
- QUICKLAW'S Labour Arbitration Collection grows
- British Columbia Collective Agreement Arbitration Awards (BCAR)

#### WHAT to watch for in 1998:

- Release of QUICKLINK PRO software for Windows 3.1, Windows 95 and Macintosh
- New Guide to QUICKLAW for Quicklink Pro
- British Columbia Regulations
- British Columbia Human Rights Decisions
- British Columbia Expropriation Board Decisions
- British Columbia Forest Practices Board Decisions contributed by Joe Schmidt, Manager B.C. & Yukon Region

#### **Western Legal Publications**

#### Research Currency Update

As new technology — in the form of CD-ROM products — sweeps through law libraries, it brings with it a whole new way of researching. But many are expressing concern about the currency of the research tools. What do you do to "fill in the gap" in information contained in one CD-ROM update and the next quarterly CD release?

One option — available from most law publishers — is to combine print and CD subscriptions through CD "top-up" pricing. Subscribing to both formats allows researchers to augment their CD-ROM searches with current print updates. For example, researchers using the *Dart: Western Civil Decisions* CD in January of 1998 to locate cases on a specific issue between 1979 and November 1997 (the CD-ROM's currency date) will need to check for December and January decisions. Researchers will appreciate print updates arriving before the next quarterly CD-ROM release in February of 1998. Searching the CD-ROM saves time and effort; while checking the print updates between quarterly CD-ROM releases ensures that research is complete.

While subscribing to both CD-ROM and full print subscriptions is ideal for many, some libraries are looking for different ways to maintain currency. Other libraries, focused on the potential cost and space savings offered by CD-ROM products, want to minimize the loss of research currency. To address this need, a second option is to combine subscriptions for CD-ROM products with abridged or consolidated versions of original print services.

In 1997, Western Legal Publications introduced Weekly Headnotes extracted from our British Columbia Decisions, Civil Cases digest series, followed by Bimonthly Headnotes extracted from the British Columbia Decisions, Criminal Cases digest series. The Headnotes services reproduce the subject indexing, headnote and unreported citation for all of the digests published in each weekly release. The Headnotes include helpful lists of key factors where appropriate, e.g., in personal injury, wrongful dismissal damages and sentencing cases.

The Headnotes are designed to be circulated as at-a-glance awareness services for practitioners and librarians. A few minutes of scanning enable practitioners to stay current in all different areas of the law. But the Headnotes also serve to supplement CD-ROM research and alert researchers to new cases in their areas of interest. Either way, the Headnotes "fill the gap" by providing a quick, simple and inexpensive currency solution.

contributed by Lisa Krusky, Acting Marketing Director

## **Peter Bark Memorial Fund Bursary**

Reminder: November began the start of VALL's annual Peter Bark Memorial fundraising drive.

The Peter Bark Memorial Fund was established in 1990 by VALL to commemorate Peter Bark and his contribution to VALL and law librarianship. The Bursary assists VALL members demonstrating financial need in attending meetings of the Canadiaan Association of Law Librarians, other law library associations, continuing education workshops or other professional development. The fund is sustained by donations from individuals, law book publishers and grants from VALL.

Guidlines for Applicants

Value: Up to \$500.

Number: At the discretion of the VALL Executive.

Eligibility: Applicants will have been members of VALL for one year. Applicants will demonstrate financial need. Preference will be given to applicants attending a professional conference for the first time

or who have conference responsibilities or who are active in VALL or in the law library community.

Conditions: Recipients may be expected to attend particular sessions at the as conference VALL representatives. Recipients will report back to the VALL membership with an oral report on conference activities and a written submission for the VALL Review.

Apply by letter and include reasons why you wish to attend the metting and your conference responsibilities. Attach a letter from you employer indicating extent of financial support from your firm/institution. Please send your application by March 1, 1998, to:

Vancouver Associaton of Law Libraries Re: Peter Bark Memorial Fund Bursary

P.O. Box 48663, Bentall Centre

Vancouver, B.C.

V7X 1A1

## **MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

Teresa Gleave has left Farris, Vaugh, Wills & Murphy to become Manager of Library Services at Russell & DuMoulin.

Members Looking for work:

Christine Edwards [doing business as Saturn Systems Inc.] provides Information Resource Services including temporary coverage, collection maintenance and technical services. For more information contact Christine at 535-0917 or fax 535-0923.

Stephanie Taggart, an experienced law firm Librarian, is presently working part-time for Edwards, Kenny & Bray, but would like to take on another firm or do relief work for people going on holiday. Please contact her or leave messages at 689-1811.

# VALL Meeting dates and tentative programs:

**December 18:** Joe Schmidt, Q

Joe Schmidt, QL, regarding his

trans-Canada cycling trip

January 15:

Internet Web Publishing

half-day workshop

(CCH, Carswell & Canada Law

Book)

February 19:

Treaty Negotiations in BC

March 19:

speaker not yet confirmed

April 16:

Gail H. Forsythe, Law Society

Ombudsperson

May 21:

speaker not yet confirmed

June 18:

speaker not yet confirmed