VALL REVIEW

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In this Issue:

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE OF VALL

Teresa Gleave

Welcome to the 2001-2002 season, our 13th year as a formal organization. We continue to enjoy good attendance at our luncheons and feedback from the June meeting supports continuation of the existing format for our meetings. The Hotel Georgia has been our home since the inception of VALL, and they wish to continue to accommodate us. The hotel has had a change in ownership in the last few years, with some changes in business plan and policies. We may find ourselves scheduled on dates other than our usual third Thursday.   Please watch the website and your luncheon notices for changes in date.

Gillian Crabtree and Wilma Macfarlane have been working hard to develop an educational and entertaining program for the year. Our speaker for October is Sherry Brown from the Queen's Printer who will speak to us about the new LegalEze product.   Joan Mulholland continues to manage VALL's finances which includes the considerable task of handling the lunch registrations. Anne Beresford and Susan Daly are editing the VALL Review and gratefully accept contributions and ideas.   Amber Lannon wears two hats as Secretary and Webmaster, reflecting the evolution of our organization.   Dorothy Cameron works with Amber on our website. Bronwen Jamison will be managing the membership database and producing the directory.

Special thanks to the previous year's executive. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated by the membership and made for a smooth transition for the new executive.

We look forward to a busy year, continuing to fulfill VALL's original intent of mutual support, education and networking.
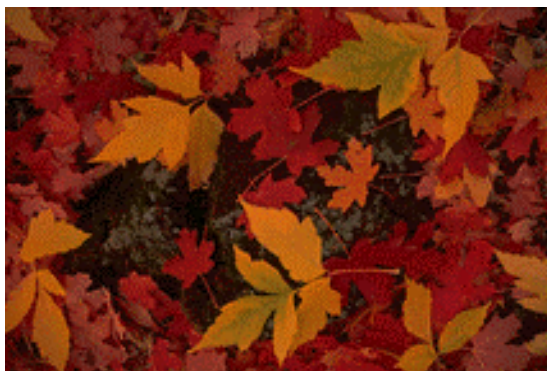
VALL REVIEW

FROM THE EDITORS

Susan Daly & Anne Beresford

A reminder to everyone that thanks to Lynda Roberts, all issues of the VALL Review since 1988 have been made available on the VALL website at http://www.vall.vancouver.bc.ca/vallrev.htm. As PDF files are easily searchable, this will be an invaluable resource in the years to come. Susan Daly (our new co-editor this year) and I will be hard pressed to find a similar legacy next spring.

The feature article in this issue is about researching B.C. statutes, in keeping with our speaker this month from the Queen's Printer who will be discussing QP Legaleze. The Vendors Corner advertises some related statute products. We have also included some follow up conference reports, one from Cynthia Bartholomew, the joint recipient of the Peter Bark bursary last spring, and one from Frances Wong giving her impressions of AALL in Minneapolis. A description of the "Legal Research on the Internet" course from the University of Toronto FIS follows, along with the usual Membership News, and Internet Corner. You will enjoy some of the responses & comments from the June Roundtable summarized by Pam Clancy.

We are looking for a theme for the next issue....and a few writers. Your ideas and suggestions are welcome .

Submissions for the next issue of the VALL Review should be sent, by e-mail preferably, to:
Susan Daly—sdaly@ahbl.bc.ca
or
Anne Beresford—aberesford@blgcanada.com
The deadline for submissions is
December 3, 2001.

FEATURE ARTICLE

Researching Statutes – Are we there yet?

Submitted by Anne Beresford

Our October speaker is a representative from the Queen's Printer who will compare the electronic statutes products, free and subscriber version, QL Legaleze, so it seems timely for the VALL Review to have a look at the array of access to B.C. statutes – how we are using them in law firms, what is the best approach to updating legislation, which format is our favourite, and how can we translate that into a training session for our students. In other words is there a best platform for researching legislation, and what are we advising our firm lawyers or library clients to use?

In the old days (sorry, I love that expression) we used to research legislation in a 3-4 step process; 1) find a statute in the RSBC current revised set; 2) check the Table of Statutes in the latest bound volume for the original citation and all the amendments; 3) use the latest B.C. Legislative Digest to find legislation (bills) passed since the currency date of the RSBC. 4) check for proclamations in the Table in the B.C. Legislative Digest, or in the B.C. Gazette Pt. II. And guess what folks - the print product works fine and may still be the best method, and in some cases is the only method for *some* research..

However a lot of money and effort has gone into building and producing the following array of products which many of us use to varying degrees; two CD ROM products, 1) Queen's Printer CD ROM; and 2) Canada Law Book B.C. Statutes Service CD (hereon cited as CLB CD) and four online versions; 3) QuickLaw B.C. Statutes database; 4) Lexis B.C. Statutes library/file 5) QPLegaleze from Queen's Printer and next 6) the Queen's Printer free version, which is linked from the 7) B.C. Legislative Assembly website.

In my training sessions with students I used to load a book truck with all of the examples of the various parts of legislation, and work methodically through them. Legislation is fascinating to me so I try to share that enthusiasm. Sometimes I am successful, sometimes not. The process is now much complicated by the variety of products they need to know about, so I have moved to a powerpoint presentation interspersed with examples from CD ROM, Internet and QuickLaw. This is too much information for an hour. So part of my purpose in writing this article is to focus on the most efficient way to find, update and trace legislative provisions for my users. I would like to find all the answers in one electronic product, but

VALL REVIEW

have not been successful so far. I therefore went to other firm librarians for comment.

I polled 17 firm librarians, and received 15 responses. My apologies to any I might have missed. This was intended to be a casual opinion poll rather than a comprehensive or scientific survey. The institutional libraries were not included.

In the course of a usual day we are faced with the following kinds of legislative requests and/or questions: 1) give me a current Company Act; 2) what legislation covers company law in B.C.? 3) what did the Company Act look like in July 1985? 4) what has happened to the Company Act since 1992? 5) what is the status of this bill?, and 6) how do we train lawyers, students and staff to find legislation?

I asked the librarians to select one or more best sources from these answers: 1)print version of the Statutes 2) QL or Lexis 3) QP CD ROM statutes 4) CLB CD 5) QP Legaleze[1] 6) QP free Statutes version[2] 7) Legislative Assembly website[3] 8) other – please state. Here are our cumulative/collaborative thoughts on the process: (The # of responses for a particular answer are shown in parentheses. Where the #'s add up to more than 17, some respondents included two or more sources.)

(1) Give me a current B.C. Company Act. Quicklaw win hands down. (10) We are advised of the currency date at the first screen in the RSBC database. The other products all require updating from 3-6 months including the print. The next favourite was CLB CD (5) followed by print looseleaf commercial versions (4) and then alternate uses of QP's CD ROM, Legaleze, and the Legislative website. (1 each) This causes one to pause and muse over the pros and cons of using QL for legislation and passing charges on vs. using print and CD ROM, which is no doubt the reasoning behind non-QL use in this instance.

(2) What legislation covers company law in B.C? Selecting appropriate terminology, a search in the

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[1] http://www2.qplegaleze.ca/logonnxt.asp

[2] http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/

[3] http://www.legis.gov.bc.ca/

CLB B.C. Statute Service CD ROM leads the pack (8) followed by print and QL. (6 each) Lawyers and librarians like the quarterly CD from CLB as they do not feel the pressure of the $'s mounting when searching, and though updating is necessary, it is only required for a few months. Many respondents cited the B.C. Corporations Law Guide from CCH, or a similar commercial looseleaf service in the "print" response. The Queen's Printer CD is also used (3) and one respondent cited QP Legaleze. Legaleze is still too new and untried for me and others to anticipate how and when it will be used. It has a different look from what we are used to, and requires extra training to become familiar with the new appearance (Nextpage NST3 software) and format. If the Queen's Printer wants this product to catch on, a massive marketing, training, and incentive program will be necessary. Their free version of course doesn't have as much search functionality but is certainly convenient for a simple search depending on the question. QP Legaleze is a product to watch as we become more accustomed to it and improvements are added.

(3) What did the Company Act look like in 1985? 15 librarians resound that only print materials can accurately answer this question! Many of the group have retained a collection of old Company Acts, which is likely the quickest way to respond to this question. QuickLaw has a new point in time search function beginning with the year 2000, and QPLegaleze will eventually have this function as well, which they plan to work back in time. CD ROM's could be useful for this kind of searching, so keep your QP copies of the annual CD's. Changes to legislation are not always on an annual schedule, so these are not a total answer and I confess I haven't tried to load an old QP CD to see if it really works, or if you need to be a techno-wizard. Canada Law Book does not offer archival copies of their CD.

(4) What has happened to the Company Act since 1992? Again, print fully satisfies this question. (15) Some librarians also combined print with the use of the CLB CD (3) and QL, QP CD & Legislative Website (1 each). One librarian suggested the CLB CD's format of its list of amendments is easier to use than the print Table

VALL REVIEW

of Legislative Changes. (new para) A partial answer maybe found in the QL databases, as there is a RSBC 1979 database amended to 1991 and to 1992 (starts in 1989 until 1994) which would be useful, and there is a Table of Concordance if needed. However QL does not have an unamended RSBC 1996 and there is no Table of Legislative Changes reminding me to check for unproclaimed sections. Searching the terms company / act returns Acts beyond the Company Act when searching the annual statutes, which complicates the results when you are needing a quick answer.

The CD's will not answer this question, as they do not include legislation prior to 1996 (unless you kept the old CD's but it's cumbersome at best.)

QP Legaleze does not have an unamended RSBC 1996 but I was delighted to see that it has a Table of Legislative History for each statute which lists changes from 1979 to 1996. It also has the Table of Legislative Changes which lists the amendments from 1996 to date , but unfortunately there is no link to the text of the amendments. The annual statutes are also not available there, but five bills session are included.

Using the Legislative website, including Provisions in Force pages one can probably eventually work towards a copy of the amending sections. A cumulative Provisions in Force table 1997 - 2001 would be helpful (in addition to the individual years' tables) to provide one stop shopping. I notice there is a cumulative Provisions in Force table for 1992 - 1996. Bills from previous sessions are retained on the website but the chapter numbers, though given in the Provisions in Force Tables are not available when linking to the bills, and require remembering the bill number. Adding chapter numbers in the "Bill Listing by Name" page, and perhaps having a third table by chapter number might enhance the value of this website, which is an extremely valuable resource.

(5) What is the status of a current bill? It is no surprise the B.C. Legislative website Provisions in Force Table is popular here. (14) It is current and accurate. The B.C. Legislative Digest (6) is also a useful and handy tool. As well a QL search satisfies this question. (2)

(6) So where are we as far as training sessions go? We are still stuck with a variety of products, each of which do some things well, but are superfluous for other research problems. 12 respondents train lawyers to use print, but accompany that instruction with the CLB CD and/or QL and the Legislative Assembly website (5 each). A few mentioned using Gail Nash's *Legislation Made Easy* (1992).

Working through this whole issue has brought me to the conclusion that historical statute research is still most efficiently and comfortably done using print materials. It is likely that the electronic products will eventually catch up, but indeed some of us may always want the clarity and surety of staring at the original statute, along with a stack of print amendments.

Finding current law is done well by most of the products, but only Quicklaw (and Lexis[4]) bring us up to the minute (or at least last week). The CLB CD requires from 3-5 months updating, and has a definite advantage over the QP CD (1 year updating). Lawyers (and some librarians) prefer the tangibility, functionality and non billable aspect of the CD's. Both of the QP internet products are useful depending on the problem. If QP Legaleze wishes to compete with the existing products, it will have to improve currency. It contains the Table of Legislative Changes, (which QL lacks) but it needs to be more current than May 14, 2001 (the date at time of writing). As the Table of Legislative Changes is (in my view) the single most important source for current legislative information, it should be front and centre in all services.

I found out about Canada Law Book's internet version of its B.C. Statutes Service after doing the survey, as it's just new this summer. I tested it out with some searches, and various approaches, and believe the product still needs some work. It is slightly more current (June 11th) than QP Legaleze, but using the expand function on the plus signs results in a poor view, as it moves into a broad landscape across the screen, and it is easy to forget where you are. I

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[4] Respondents did not cite Lexis as a source for researching B.C. statutes.

VALL REVIEW

prefer the QP Legaleze internet product for appearance and pricing, but have a look as this is a subjective response.

Generally what we are looking for is currency, accuracy, clarity in format, functionality, convenience, and comprehensiveness. We need to pull a statute, list of amendments, link to amendments, and then to in-force provisions. For the time being we will continue to do as we have been, taking the best from each product, according to our situations, and training our lawyers to do the same. Hopefully the best will continue to improve, and my training sessions with students can be completed in an hour.

2001 CALL Conference Report

submitted by Cynthia Bartholomew,
Legal Resource Centre

I asked Dorothy Cameron if I could have just a few minutes at the last VALL meeting to talk to you about my CALL Conference experience and to thank VALL for co-awarding me the Peter Bark Bursary this year. The Bursary was instrumental in securing the support of Legal Services Society for me to go to London, Ontario, in May. Out of province travel is not a common event in our organization. Unfortunately, an unforeseen event intervened and I was not able to be at the meeting. Instead, here is a brief report about some of my personal Conference highlights. I found something in every session that will enhance my approach to my work and will mention just a few.

(1) The Pre-Conference Workshop, Optimizing the Use of Media in the Search for Decisions of Courts and Tribunals, was co-presented by Sue Beugin, Calgary, and Barbara Hopkins, Vancouver. This session provided a comparison of coverage of Canadian case law and tribunal decisions in print and electronic and web formats. This was of particular interest as much of my day to day work involves case law research for criminal and family lawyers.

The second part of the session had us tackle specific research problems to come up with effective research strategies. I picked up a few valuable search tips and a couple of new QL

databases were brought to my attention. Eventually, these questions and answers will be on the CALL Conference web site, as will most of the speaker's notes.

(2) In the first plenary session, Researching Foreign and International Law, lawyer-librarian Lyonette Louis-Jacques, University of Chicago Law School, demonstrated content on a number of web sources including several with access to international conventions and treaties. As I'm frequently asked for parts of international instruments relating to both family and criminal law issues, those sites will be time-savers.

(3) The second plenary session, on Medical Law, had two presenters, medical librarian Toni Janik, Hotel Dieu Grace Hospital, Windsor, and lawyer Brian Butler, Lerner & Assoc., Toronto, who offered complimentary perspectives. They both explored the growth of medical knowledge and the legal information implications of this expansion. It was interesting to hear how they conceptualize and frame their approaches to medical law questions. They stressed the need to focus the query and to conduct economical research. They provided web addresses for sites that they use to access medical / legal information. As I brave medical law issues several times a year, usually in child protection cases or in a criminal defence context, this session was valuable for me.

(4) The last session I'll mention is the CANLII [Canadian Legal Information Institute] presentation. CANLII is the ambitious project of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada. They are developing a centralized web resource offering free access to all primary sources of Canadian law. As this site is intended for both the legal profession and the Canadian public, I was asked to report on the progress of CANLII to Legal Services Society. Janine Miller, Librarian at Law Society of Upper Canada, and Professor Daniel Poulin, LexUM, gave a progress report. The project's current delay and the roadblock to the timetable is attributable to their goal of providing "seamless searching" in both English and French. Not surprisingly, there are problems associated with the goal of providing high level searching in two languages, across all Canadian statutes, regulations and judgments.

I enjoyed all the CALL 2001 Conference sessions. The presenters were of a high caliber, clearly leaders in their fields. An incidental bonus was that many were also highly entertaining speakers. Naturally, not every session was related directly to the workings of our library. However, I valued and enjoyed learning about the broad trends in legal research and, was struck by the shared aims of librarians across so many different types of law libraries.

On a personal note, when I learned that the old downtown Central Branch of the London Public Library was being uprooted to a shopping mall, it seemed obligatory to make a visit before this happened. What a delight to discover that the library was occupying a marvellous Art Deco building, still retaining some vestiges of its former grandeur. I squeezed a couple of hours out of the Conference schedule to browse in the local history room. And, incidentally, nostalgia for the old was overridden by the positive anticipation of the local reference librarian for the larger, more modern facility.

I want you all to know how appreciative I am of being a co-recipient of the Peter Bark Bursary this year. Without it, and the support of Legal Services Society, I could not have attended this extraordinarily educational conference. Thank you very much.

Web sites:

From Lyonette Louis-Jacques:
http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/~llou
http://www.asil.org/resource/home.htm

From Toni Janik:
http://www.city.windsor.on.ca/wpl/power/about.html

From Brian Butler:
http://www.medicineNet.com
http://www.medmedia.com
http://www.nlm.nih.gov
http://www.webmd.com
http://www.cma.ca
http://www.rcpsc.medical.org

From Janine Miller / Daniel Poulin:
http://www.canlii.org
http://www.austlii.edu.au/

Legal Research on the Internet: Online Course

submitted by Frances A. Wong,
Borden Ladner Gervais, LLP

When I first started working at Borden Ladner Gervais in the summer of 2000, I was completely new to the field of law librarianship. Luckily my manager, Anne Beresford, pointed out the course "Legal Research on the Internet" to me and suggested that it would be a good introduction so I signed up. Like many of the other web-based courses offered by the Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Toronto, this was a 7 week long course with weekly assignments and web-board class discussions.

Is it for me? This introductory/intermediate course assumes you have basic Internet knowledge and is aimed at anyone interested in learning how to conduct legal research on the internet. The website also lists its target audience as lawyers, librarians, articled students, and legal researchers.

The way it works: Each Monday morning, an e-mail is sent out to the members of the class discussing the topic for the week. The course materials are on the website itself so the user must go there for the readings and assignments. Students then submit their assignments to the instructors for comments. We were asked to post our answers to the web-board to initiate discussion. We were encouraged to introduce ourselves and to discuss any questions or problems with the assignments that we had.

Reality: Ideally, the web-board as a communication tool would have worked except that there tended to be very little participation. After the initial introductions, it wasn't clear whether people were just too shy to post questions and answers on the board, or just e-mailing the instructors privately. I originally posted a few times but after seeing the lack of participation, I also stopped for fear of appearing too eager. Just as in a real classroom, there were a handful who offered help to others and posted inquiries and remarks to the board but the rest of my classmates laid low or didn't log onto the board frequently; the board tracks how many

VALL REVIEW

times a user logs on. However, the instructors were excellent, and they would e-mail me personally to comment on my assignments in addition to answering queries posted on the web-board.

Meeting your classmates live: There were two opportunities to have a live discussion with our fellow classmates and instructors. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend either. Two sessions were scheduled due to the time zone differences. One was during a very busy working afternoon (Pacific time) and the other fell on an early holiday morning (Easter Monday).

Coverage: I thought the course material was very well prepared and current. Each week, there was a lot of online reading. Unlike traditional texts, these readings contain links to other sites and as you can imagine, the amount of reading can increase exponentially quite rapidly! The course description warns of putting aside 5-8 hours per week to cover the material; I found that it varied depending on my familiarity with the material (more time spent on US and International material than Canadian) as well as the assignment questions. Here is a brief look at the material covered:

Week 1: Introduction to Legal Research on the Web

Week 2: Canadian Legal Resources (Legislation) on the Web

Week 3: Canadian Legal Resources (Case Law and Guides to Canadian legal research) on the Web

Week 4: British Legal Resources on the Web

Week 5: United States Legal Resources on the Web

Week 6: International Legal Resources on the Web

Week 7: Effective Search Strategies for Web Legal Research; Evaluating Online Resources

Completion: Many of the courses only offer a certificate of completion if you sign up to write the exam at the end of the course. For this course specifically, there was no certificate

option, just the pure satisfaction of knowing you did your assignments well. At the end of the course, the instructors provided us with customized web pages that contained the links (organized in a usable way) that we covered in the class. These pages could be loaded into our computers and used as a launching point for future reference.

A list and details of Continuing Education web-based courses offered by the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto are available at

http://ce.fis.utoronto.ca/courses/webbased.thm

American Association of Law Libraries 94th Annual Meeting and Conference July 14-19, 2001 Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Submitted by Frances A. Wong,
Borden Ladner Gervas LLP

Summary

The 94th AALL Annual Meeting and Conference's theme for 2001 was *New Realities, New Roles.* In the ever-changing world of technology and information, I found this theme very applicable, and the programs offered at this year's conference reflected that. While the sessions were informative and useful, there were other aspects of the conference that made attending it worthwhile. One of the main benefits of attending a conference such as this is the opportunity to network. I was matched up with a mentor (an experienced law librarian) who helped make the conference less over-whelming than it could have been (with close to 2000 attendees), and because she lives in the U.S., I now have someone that I can contact in the case of needing hard-to-find American material. Another benefit of this conference was the chance to build relationships. In my day-to-day work, I often deal with librarians in our other offices by e-mail or phone. This conference allowed me to finally put a face to the voice I have come to know so well (a librarian from our Toronto office). Finally, I thought the programs were very well presented and organized. The American conference was a great learning experience that

was comprised of many more sessions and vendors compared to the corresponding Canadian conference. As a result of the size differential, the material presented in the American conference tended to be more varied than at the Canadian conference.

The following is a brief summary of some of the sessions that were attended at this conference.

CONELL: Conference of Newer Law Librarians

This session was an opportunity for newer law librarians to get some advice for their first law librarianship conference and to meet other new law librarians. We were welcomed and a speaker dispensed tips for job success. There were many board members from AALL present and we all broke into smaller groups to introduce ourselves and to discuss how we perceived our profession to be 25 years down the road. We had the opportunity to sit at two different SIS (Special Interest Section) tables where a knowledgeable person representing that SIS answered questions. For example, there was someone who represented foreign and international law, and another who covered technical services. We then went to the "marketplace" where all the SIS groups were set up and handing out information about the specific section. I thought that CONELL was a great way to ease oneself into such a large conference and to learn more about the association in general.

Preserving Government Electronic Information: Whose Job is it?

This lively session was presented in a presidential debate style. There were four panelists representing the government, National Archives, an academic vendor, and an academic library. Each was given the same questions and had a few minutes to answer before each gave a response to the others' answers. The 3 questions asked were: 1) How does preservation of electronic government information fit into the mission of your institution? 2) How would your institution implement a preservation project? and 3) Does your institution have the necessary budgetary and manpower resources to preserve all electronic government information? The audience also had an opportunity to pose questions at the end. The main concept to bring away from the session is that it is impossible for

one organization to preserve everything, but through partnerships and collaboration, it is a much more attainable and realistic goal. For a detailed look at this session, please see the article, "Preserving Government Electronic Information: Whose Job Is It?" in AALL Spectrum 6(1):30 (September 2001) by the writer.

Our Realities, Our Roles, and Our Responses to Nicholson Baker's Double Fold: Libraries and the Assault on Paper

This was the "Hot Topic" of the conference and dealt with Bakers' book. Having read a portion of the book prior to attending the session, I had an idea of how passionately Baker believes in preservation…of everything (specifically, all issues and the various editions of each newspaper). While many readers (librarians especially) have been outraged at Baker's suggestions, he has drawn the public's attention to the debate of whether one should preserve everything (paper), or not (microform, digital). A speaker briefly presented the main points of Baker's book and then the floor was opened up to the audience to ask questions. It was a great topic that needed to be covered and called to attention the growing issue of paper v. other (electronic, microform, etc.) An example of the problem is how digital (websites etc.) items can now disappear even faster than print. Baker offers four suggestions in his book: 1) that libraries which receive public money should publish lists of discards on their websites so that the public knows how their money is being spent (and which library is spending responsibly) 2) that the Library of Congress should build or lease a building near Washington and place in it everything that they receive from publishers that they cannot or will not hold on site 3) several libraries around the country should start saving the newspapers of the country in its paper form and 4) the U.S. Newspaper Program and the Brittle Books Program should be cancelled or else continue to be funded only if all of the microfilming and digital scanning is nondestructive with all originals being saved afterward. Each institution must develop a policy that best suits itself since every institution will have unique circumstances, and while Baker focuses on the United States, his ideas should be

VALL REVIEW

considered or at least debated by librarians and ordinary citizens around the world.

The Law of Cyberspace

This very informative session was presented by Lawrence Lessig of Stanford Law School. His talk broke the Internet into 3 layers: content (material on the web etc.), code (rules that govern access to the physical layer), and physical (the computer) and he applied the exact same example to libraries (materials in books, rules, and the library space itself). He discussed the resources as being either free or controlled. Controlled refers to resources owned by someone so that person has the right to say whether you have access or not. The person has the right to exclude based on whatever reasoning he or she wishes. Free refers to everything else. It does not mean free in the literal sense, but that if there is a charge, the charge applies to all (e.g. admission to an event). Examples were given to illustrate the various combinations of content, code, and physical layers paired with being free or controlled.

The layers and their corresponding designation of free or controlled for the Internet is the same as for libraries. The content layer of the Internet is a mix of controlled and free; e.g. music is copyrighted (controlled) but much of the content on the web is free. The code of the Internet is free; e.g. the network itself has no power to discriminate over who has access to what. The physical layer of the Internet is controlled; e.g. access to a computer or a library in a law firm. As librarians, our job is not to filter on the basis of value, but to facilitate free access to the content. Lessig emphasized that we must be the architects of our own cyber-fate, or else we will find ourselves in a coded world that we didn't make.

When to Pay the Piper: The Copyright Clearance Center - Robin Hood of the 21st Century, or Robbing Peter to Pay Paul?

This session was presented panel style with 3 speakers representing the CCC, a firm that had joined the CCC, and someone who had not. The digital dilemma of technology v. economics was briefly covered. The US Supreme Court decision of *Tasini v. the New York Times* discussed

freelancers' rights that were infringed if they had published in print and had their material converted to electronic format. The medium in which one publishes is now as important as the content.

A new product is being developed by the CCC called Rightslink. If a user reads an article on the web and wants to include it in a paper, the user can click on a link to see how much it would cost to use the article in his/her paper. If he wants to purchase a license to use the article, he can do so by providing his credit card number over the Internet, and a license would be issued right then.

Of 15 firms that were surveyed, 12 did not join the CCC because of various reasons including: belief that the firm is compliant, fear that CCC's permission coverage left holes, and concern that by joining, their staff would get a false sense of security. Solutions were discussed and included the reviewing and strengthening of the firm's own policies, contacting vendors to see what is permitted, purchasing additional copies, limiting routing or just having originals, establishing a baseline and routinely checking it.

Attending the 94th Annual Meeting and Conference of the American Association of Law Libraries was a very rewarding experience both personally and professionally.

VALL ROUNDTABLE JUNE 2001
Questions and Responses

summarized by Pam Clancy,
Legal Resource Centre

What areas of technical interest would you like to see covered at next year's luncheons?

- how about various experiences with products that are on CD-ROM and in print and on the Internet? Which are preferred, which work better, can you live with only one version, etc?

- how do people manage CD-ROMs on their networks, i.e., cataloguing? derivative cataloguing? subscriptions? licenses? training users? etc.

- how about internet URLs – do people catalogue them and if so, how are they managed?

VALL REVIEW

- Ongoing interest in Intranets.
- Primary legal materials available electronically, whether through a commercial provider, provincial court provider or other provider(s) and the participation and cooperation of parties who have access to those in their jurisdiction.
- Electronic Preservation. I have read that CD-ROMs do not last forever and there are problems with material stored in other electronic formats as well.
- Intranet – new changes or issues update.
- Library catalogue in the electronic age – do we catalogue websites, provide links to CD-ROMS & internet, customizing for users rather than slavishly following cataloguing rules?
- E-laws.
- Web design/Intranet design, knowledge management/sharing, technology and library/firm. Electronic (unofficial) statutes. Mergers.
- Management issues.
- What other libraries are doing on their intranets.
- How to make the library's portion of the intranet interesting.

What areas of substantive law are of interest?

- Bibliographical or research presentations, i.e. as at CALL – medical, foreign, business.
- Copyright, Securities, etc.
- Company law and labour law.
- Corporate/commercial, securities, real estate.
- Securities, labour law, employment.
- Securities law 101. New "fast track" rules (amended rules, really!).
- Securities. BCSC could probably arrange a talk either by the Chair or Exec. Director of the Commission.
- **Please give suggestions for a workshop (either theme or format).**
- Bibliographical or research presentations, i.e. as at CALL – medical, foreign, business.
- What about website training?
- What libraries have done with their web pages, firm intranets.

- Labour & employment law.
- Web design => intranet design.

Are there issues that you think VALL should be addressing?

- Cooperation and participation of primary legal resources to make them readily available to anyone who requests or requires such information.
- Accessing the elusive court cases that invariably get quoted, but seem to be unavailable anywhere.
- Salary survey? VALL listserv.
- Official versions of statutes.

Please provide feedback on the current venue. Is there interest in a buffet instead of served lunches?

- No. I like served lunches. I find buffets take too long & food is even more industrial, as a rule.
- No.
- I like both options, especially buffet.
- Definitely.
- Yes, perhaps once in a while.
- I have no problem with a buffet. I would suggest going with vegetarian. I am not vegetarian but don't mind eating vegetarian. It might make it easier.
- Sometimes/occasionally. (3)
- Only if price doesn't go up.
- Either are fine.
- No. Sometimes. Can be just as time-consuming as served meal.
- Yes, faster (buffet).

Is there interest in having a light business lunch (sandwiches & dessert)?

- That would be fine – nice even!
- No. (3)
- Occasionally. (3)
- Yes! This could well be less expensive, e.g. Law Courts Inn $7.00
- Fine with me/ Yes/ OK (4)
- Yes. Maybe not finger food, however.

VALL REVIEW

Is there interest in having brown bag lunches?

- once in a while (3)
- every other month
- always
- not at all (8) includes "held where?" and "Forget it"

Should these be held at another site (and where)?

- I think the hassle of changing sites on a regular basis would be annoying. I like the regularity of the meetings being same time, same place.
- Occasionally.
- Law Courts Inn.
- I think one brown bag lunch at a different location would be fine. This could be when a video is shown. VALL could provide beverages only.
- No (4)
- No. Keep it simple, at same location & allow us to come & learn/listen instead of scrambling to pick up lunch before the meeting.
- No.
- Not unless we can get a better deal.

Is the length of time for the lunch a deterrent for attendance?

- No. (8)
- Sometimes (3)
- For sure it is, but if lunch was served at noon & no later, it might help.
- Yes! Very seldom start on time. Spend an hour before the speaker.
- Would appreciate starting on time.

Is the cost of lunch a deterrent to attendance?

- No. (10)
- Yes (3)

Other suggestions?

- Lunch at 12 noon. Don't wait for latecomers.

Comments on the range of topics offered this year? Suggestions for next year?

- I think the program planning people do a great job, considering how hard it is to come up with

ideas and then get the speakers to put them into action.
- Liked the CBA president.
- Look for a good balance of substantive and practical.
- I thought this year's program was excellent.
- Good assortment of topics.
- Good variety. VPL business librarian. Wills & estates planning.
- Good range of substantive topics. How about a legal updates lunch, e.g., follow up on adult guardianship, company law reform, etc.
- Excellent.
- Drew Jackson on electronic CLE.

Enjoyed this last session on "coaching".

- Liked topics/well chosen topics.

Comments on the newsletter?

- Like it.
- Looks pretty good to me!
- Very good.
- Good mix of articles and information.
- Very valuable.
- Excellent.
- CALL issue is a good idea.
- Well done & informative.
- Well written, interesting.

Comments on the website?

- Liked it last time I looked at it.
- Can the Meeting Notices be made more compatible for printing in Netscape as well as Explorer? We use Netscape and the notice prints out on 3 pages for some reason with blank spaces – I guess it was formatted in Explorer.
- Great that VALL lunch notes & registration form now on-line.
- Very good.
- It's great!
- Much improved.
- Pretty good! Really like the post-event summaries.
- Excellent.

VALL REVIEW

- Great work. A very good resource.

Liked having speakers' notes/ speakers' summaries useful. (2)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Christina Tribe began working in C&M Library September 4th, replacing Joanna Thompson who is one year maternity leave. Christina obtained her BA in Anthropology from UBC in 1996, specializing in Museum Studies. After graduation, Christina worked for the Richmond Museum as a curator's assistant and the Burnaby Village Museum as a costumed historical interpreter. She also worked for Capers as a floral assistant and buyer. While working full time, Christina completed her Library Technician Diploma at Langara College in May 2001, then spent the summer working in of Forintek Canada Corp's library.

Joanna Thompson and her husband Stefan Niemann are proud parents of a baby girl. Their daughter, Astrid Elisabeth Niemann, was born at 4:48 AM on September 19th and weighed 5 lb 6 oz. Both Joanna and Astrid are doing well.

News from the B.C. Courthouse Library Society

Gerald Kambeitz, Q.C., Chair of the Board of Directors of the B.C. Courthouse Library Society, is pleased to announce the appointment of **Sylvia Teasdale** as the Society's new Chief Librarian and Executive Officer. Ms. Teasdale's most recent position was Manager of Communications for the newly amalgamated Ottawa Public Library. Ms. Teasdale has extensive public library experience and expertise in serving a diverse library clientele. Ms. Teasdale will be taking up her position in mid September.

VENDORS CORNER
QuickLaw

submitted by Jeff Purkiss

BC Statutes on Quicklaw

Quicklaw is pleased to announce its new 'Topical Statutory Materials' collection. Users can now access statutory materials according to topic by linking to one of 12 areas of law listed on the 'Statutory Materials' screen. When users select a particular area of law, they receive a list of all the statutory materials that fall under their chosen topic. In the past, statutory materials were accessible only according to jurisdiction.

The 12 areas of law listed in the Topical Statutory Materials collection include: civil procedure, commercial, corporate, criminal, employment, family, insurance, labour, legal profession, municipal, taxation and tort law. These links contain relevant statutory material from the Canada Statutes and from the provincial Statutes collections of Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario.

Quicklaw users can also access a variety of related materials from the new Topical Statutory Materials collection. Documents such as the Federal Child Support Guidelines, the Federal and Provincial Budgets and the new Point-in-Time Statutes collection are all available under this new heading.

CCH

submitted by Irene Dual

Looking for Products on BC Statutes?

Visit www.cch.ca and use the Rapid Finder Index or Legislative Index. It's easy, just double click on the Rapid Finder or Legislative Index links found under the picture of the CCH booklet. Click on the **'B'** icon, in the alphabetized index of topics. Scroll down to British Columbia and click on a link (blue text that's underlined) to find out more about CCH's comprehensive product line for British Columbia.

VALL REVIEW

Coming soon! *Annotated BC Securities Legislation*, by Joanne Dolfato, Senior Securities Editor.

Great News! A bookstore that carries CCH's books for your convenience. More details to come…

CCH is pleased to start off the academic year with our new Law School Program. Starting November 1, students and faculty can self-register to gain complimentary access to CCH products to which the University of BC Law School Library currently subscribes.

For details contact:
Farida Karim
Marketing Manager, Legal
Tel (416) 228-6138
Fax(416) 228-6159
Email *fkarim@cch.ca*

Canada Law Book

submitted by Peter Roberts

B.C. Statute Service CD-ROM and Internet

Since Canada Law Book decided a few months' ago to offer the B.C. Statute Service on the Internet, it has become a popular item. The addition of the Regulations with this service has made it a far more efficient resource than it was before. The cost is $995 per year for both the CD ROM version and the Internet version. Extra licences with the Internet version are just $10 per lawyer per year. (Ed. Note: The licences are user or PC specific, i.e. not concurrent.) Updating is done weekly and free trial passwords are available by calling our either Peter, Sabrina or Jennifer at our Vancouver office at 604-844-7855. E-mail also works with proberts@canadalawbook.ca

The CD ROM version also costs just $995 per year with quarterly updates and weekly updating on the web included. Licences are priced at $50 per access node up to a maximum of 15 nodes and for 16 or more nodes the cost is $10 per node per year.

Happy Stan's Recycling

Some of you might be interested in this recycling service for books, to be found on the web at http://www.happystan.com/books.html. The best information about what he will take is on his web site. He advertises free pickup & delivery. Gillian Crabtree discovered Happy Stan, and says that he is less "happy" about binders [composed of plasticized cardboard & metal], but he does take them away. He is already being used by Lynda Mitchell, Mercedes Bourgaize and Anna Holeton, so If anyone is interested in coordinating pickups with him, contact one of these librarians.

INTERNET CORNER

submitted by Susan Daly

Mastering Web Searching: Internet course on search strategies and search engines from the University of Toronto Faculty of Information studies. More information on the website.

http://ce.fis.utoronto.ca/courses/mws.asp

Gone Googlin'. An excellent article in the TIG Newsletter written by Gwen Harris of the Faculty of Information Studies at U.of T. describes Google's searching features.

http://ce.fis.utoronto.ca/TIG/demo

Medical literature research. (From LLRX.com) Miccioli provides an update to her graphy on internet research of medical ure.

llrx.com/features/medical2001.htm

VALL REVIEW

LawZone. www.lawzone.co.uk.U.K website for the U.K. legal profession. The site contains daily case law bulletins, new items, lists of upcoming CLE and other courses, and it also provides links to U.K. company information, including company searches.

WiseNut. www.wisenut.com This site is trying to compete with Google to become the leading provider of service in the internet search market. The "WiseGuide" automatically generates categories related to the words in a query which may help refine your search.

Daypop. www.daypop.com This is a current events search engine which indexes news sites and web logs. It refreshes its index frequently. Results include a cache link with the cache date.

Search Engine Showdown. www.searchengineshowdown.com. One of the best features of this site is the chart comparing search features and capabilities of popular search engines.

From AALL Newsletter of Computing Services. Graphics Sites for making newsletters & presentations more appealing.

Animation Factory. www.animfactory.com or www.eclipsed.com

Webdeveloper.Com. www.webdeveloper.com/animations/

Animation Station. www.animation-station.com

Clipart.Com. www.clipart.com

QUEEN'S PRINTER

submitted by Sherry Brown

The Queen's Printer and Legislative Counsel in conjunction with the Law Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, are pleased to announce QP LegalEze, the web-based unofficial early consolidation of BC's Statutes and Regulations including historical tables, tables of legislative change, supplements, orders in council, regulation bulletins, provisions in force and third reading bills. Changes since the last official consolidation are highlighted in green text. Archived versions will soon be available.

This site is updated on a regular basis and offers monthly email notification to advise users of changes. Pricing is based on the number of concurrent users. For more information on this product, visit our web site at www.QPLegalEze.ca.

To receive your 14-day FREE trial and demonstration call 250 387-7550 in Victoria or toll free 1 866 236-5544 or email QPLegalEze@gems9.gov.bc.ca.

The Queen's Printer also sells Folio® CDROM versions of the Statutes of BC, Instalment No. 5, consolidated to May 14/01 ($150.00), Regulations of BC, Instalment No. 55, consolidated to July 13/01 ($150.00) and Rules of Court and Related Enactments ($50.00). All three products are available on one CD for $249.00. Order online at www.publications.gov.bc.ca or call Government Publication Services at 250 387-6409 in Victoria, toll free 1 800 663-6105 or call Crown Publications at 250 386-4636.

To purchase the official printed version of the Statutes and Regulations, please call Crown Publications at 250 386-4636 or visit their store at 521 Fort Street, Victoria, BC.