

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

In this Issue:

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF VALL	1
FROM THE EDITORS	1
IN MEMORY OF PETER BARK.....	2
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS	2
VALL WEBSITE	2
FEATURE ARTICLES.....	3
CALL.....	10
VENDORS CORNER	11
INTERNET CORNER	13

VALL EXECUTIVE:

President: Tammy Hargreaves
Paine Edmonds

Treasurer: Kathy Barry
Farris Vaughn Wills & Murphy

Secretary: Susy Caird
BC Courthouse Library Society

Membership Secretary:
Larisa Titova
Blake Cassels

Program Co-ordinators:
Gloria Clark & Joanne Jensen
Bull Housser & Tupper

Past President: Teresa Gleave
Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

VALL REVIEW Editors:
Susan Daly
Alexander Holburn Beaudin & Lang
& Shawna Ford
Lexis-Nexis Canada

Webmaster: Frances Wong
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Vancouver Association of Law Libraries
PO Box 48663, Bentall Centre
Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A1

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

FROM THE EXECUTIVE OF VALL

Tammy Hargreaves

Happy New Year one and all. It seems so long ago now as we are all back into the full swing of things. What an amazingly mild winter we have enjoyed this year. The December luncheon reunited us with some familiar faces as we welcomed our honorary members, Marjorie Keddy, Astrid Kenning, Kay Kerr, and Tom Shorthouse. (See the picture on page 2). At that luncheon we were inspired by the speaker from the YWCA, who helped us "check our present physical states", and gave a talk on general wellness.

We would like to take this opportunity to clear up any confusion with respect to which notices are to be posted on the VALL Website. Since VALL does not have a listserv, it was decided that only VALL notices should be posted on the website. Also, most non-VALL related material is posted on other listservs, so it is not necessary to duplicate notices on our site.

FROM THE EDITORS

Susan Daly & Shawna Ford

After an interesting presentation in January by Jason Eamer-Goult from the Law Society of British Columbia, on "Archives for Lawyers", we are following this with a feature article on "Developing Archives in a Private Law Firm". Another feature article in this issue is on "Top Ten Knowledge Management Resources" by Lynda Roberts from Bull Housser & Tupper.

Karen Imeson's (CLE) tribute to Peter Bark is reprinted in this issue. Members are reminded that it is time to think about applying for the Peter Bark bursary as the deadline for applications is **March 1, 2003**. Guidelines for the Bursary are on the VALL website.

Contributions to the VALL Review are always greatly appreciated and we especially want to thank those people who contributed to this issue. The deadline for submissions, preferably sent by e-mail to Susan Daly (sdaly@ahbl.ca) or Shawna Ford (sford@lexisnexis.ca) for the next issue is June 5, 2003.

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

IN MEMORY OF PETER BARK

Karen Imeson, CLE

Comments prepared for the VALL luncheon meeting, November 21, 2002

It is with great joy that today I join you in recognizing our dear friend, colleague, and mentor Peter Bark, in whose name VALL's Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary was established.

Peter, a lawyer and law librarian, and a proud founding member of VALL, died 12 years ago in November, at the age of 35. Peter was a true professional, to which many of my colleagues before me have attested. During his free lancing years, Peter knocked on many doors, including CLE's where, among other tasks, he had a hand in editing profiles for the paper version of our popular Square One index. I can say it was a delight working with this man.

However, I think that what meant most to me during my many years of associating with Peter was sharing in his zest and passion for life. Peter was indeed a free spirit who was true to himself and others. My ultimate personal bond with Peter happened many years ago over our credit cards in the thriving metropolis of St. John's Newfoundland, and I'd like to share our little story with you...

While dining out during a free evening at the CALL Conference in St. John's, a number of us each paid for our meal by credit card. After gathering our cards, we all moved on for a fun evening of dancing with the locals. Back to reality in Vancouver, I received my credit card statement a few days later, only to discover in horror a number of charges for purchases I had no recollection of—oh dear, did I have a much better time than I remembered!! After putting two and two together, I called Peter...and, yes, he confirmed my suspicion—we'd mistakenly picked up each other's credit card at dinner back in St. John's, and proceeded to have the time of our lives "spending" each other's credit with no notice of the name on the card!! What a bond!

In summary...I know my life's been all the richer having known Peter, the professional and the man. He truly was one in a million, and I'm thrilled his spirit lives on with the VALL Bursary. I'll now call on our president, Tammy Hargreaves who'll fill you in on the details for application for the Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary. Thank you.



Our honorary members at the Christmas lunch 2001. They all looked as good at the Christmas lunch 2002!

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

New Members

Ben Ferraro

Account Representative B.C. – Carswell

Email: ben.ferraro@carswell.com

Jennifer Shillington

Electronic Products Representative – Canada
Law Book

Email: jshillington@canadalawbook.ca

VALL WEBSITE

Frances Wong, Webmaster

The VALL website now includes a link from the main homepage to a calendar of events. This

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

events page lists all of the dates for VALL luncheon meetings for 2002/2003 as well as info for the main legal association (CALL, AALL, BIALL) conferences.

In addition to the searchable directory, the VALL website has a printable pdf version (published October 2002). A list of members arranged alphabetically by name or by company is updated at the end of each month and is also available by clicking on the links in the directory pages. Corrections to the directory should be submitted to Larisa Titova (larisa.titova@blakes.com).

FEATURE ARTICLES

Developing the Archives of a Private Law Firm

*Katherine Kalsbeek (Practicum Student,
Bull, Houser & Tupper)*

Whether it be located in a museum or a library, an archives may be defined as "the noncurrent records of an organization or institution preserved because of their continuing value" (Trimble, 1991). Interestingly, there is a well-developed body of literature concerning the importance of preserving legal materials in academic law libraries. However, participants in this discourse fail to examine the ways in which law librarians may participate in or even implement a preservation plan in private law firms. Many librarians would even question whether their effort to preserve legal materials should extend beyond the concrete, and now virtual, walls of the library. As a result of such factors, in professional publications there is little specific guidance available for librarians in private law firms who are hoping to develop and maintain the archives of their firm.

After examining the contributions of legal materials of large American legal firms such as Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft (the oldest law firm in New York City) to the archives of Sterling Memorial Library (Yale University), it is clear that there are some key materials that should be included in the archives of a private law firm. The New Zealand Association of Law Librarians has also produced a list of records

that should be included in a legal archive (<http://www.nzllg.org.nz/projects.cfm?folderid=174>). A non-official list of the legal materials that might be included in a private law firm archive is as follows:

Material Produced by Partners of the Firm

Conference papers; CLE papers; Newsletters; In house seminars; Speeches; Theses, dissertations, research papers; Conference papers; Speeches; Letters concerning the partners' political interests; Chapters/essays in collected writings; (E-)course materials; Popular press writing

Published writings of students and associates of the Firm (in any medium)

Includes popular material and ephemera; Journals, reviews; Monographs; Looseleaves

Law Librarians

Conference papers; Journal articles; Web publications; MLIS papers; Annual Reports

Firm Information

Minutes of meetings; Organizational records (i.e. financial statements); Committee records; Outgoing letters; Memoranda; Legal documents, correspondence, and related papers concerning high profile cases; Newspaper/magazine clippings, articles, and speeches by/about partners, associates and/or students in the firm; Firm's client list; Client files note that there may be issues with client/lawyer confidentiality; General firm administrative records and correspondence; Memorabilia (i.e. letter head, photographs from Christmas dinners and/or parties etc.)

It is important to keep in mind that this list is meant to serve as an aid for law librarians working in private law firms, rather than an official guideline to developing an archives. This list should be supplemented with the expert opinion of an archivist. As well, as Marsha Trimble notes in "Archives and manuscripts: New collecting areas for law librarians" (1991), "[i]t should be emphasized that every old folder of paper created in an institution is not by definition 'archival.' In cases where there is no

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

records management plan or where storage space is limited, hard decisions have to be made concerning the historical value of records."

Trimble's statement that "every old folder of paper created in an institution is not by definition 'archival'" highlights one of the issues that face private law firm librarians interested in preserving the firm's legal materials. Specifically, storage space is an expensive commodity for most librarians who work in a private law firm. Furthermore, archival materials tend to require specific lighting, heating and care. Books, for example, should be protected from direct sunlight. A librarian who works in a downtown firm may have a difficult time convincing his/her managing partners to cover the floor to ceiling windows that offer people million dollar views. Other issues that may arise when one is considering the development of an archive are those of time, money, and the movement away from print based communication to an electronic mail system. Email, for example, is often the way in which lawyers communicate with one another and with their clients; the preservation of digital records is currently a topic that has captured the attention of librarians, archivists, and other information professionals. If one decides that electronic correspondence should be considered and/or included in the archives, one must develop a plan that outlines the ways in which emails will be collected and conserved. Issues of client/lawyer confidentiality may also arise. Confidentiality agreements between a lawyer and his/her client must be considered and one should consult the stance of the Canadian Bar Association on the issue. Furthermore, there is a wide body of literature on the subject, of which the article, "Fire and Ice: Legal records, Confidentiality and Historical Research" (1991), by Dr. Alvin Esau, may serve as a starting point.



Resources:

Law Society Archives: 604-669-2533

Contacts:

1. Bernice Chong
bernicec@lsbc.org
2. Jason Eamer-Goult

Although the archivists of the Law Society Archives do not actively collect materials on specific Vancouver law firms, they will accept donated records of significance. They will not, however, accept client files. Additionally, the archivists are willing to assist the librarians of specific law firms—on a one-on-one basis—in their effort to collect and preserve materials for firm archives.

Books/Articles:

Esau, Alvin. (1991). "Fire and Ice: Legal records, Confidentiality and Historical Research."

Accessed 16 December, 2002, from
http://www.umanitoba.ca/Law/Courses/esau/lp/pr/lppr_records.htm

Jones, Arnita A & Cantelon, Philip L. (1993). *Corporate Archives and History: Making the Past Work*. Krieger Publishing Company.

Trimble, Marsha. (1991, Summer). "Archives and manuscripts: New collecting areas for law libraries." *Law Library Journal* 83, 429-450.

Turpening, Patricia K. (2002, Summer). "Survey of preservation efforts in law libraries." *Law Library Journal* 94, no. 3, 363-393.

Websites:

Archives Association of British Columbia. (2002). The Archivist's Toolkit Available from:

<http://aabc.bc.ca/aabc/toolkit.html>

- Provides extensive information on the steps to take—such as developing an acquisitions policy—in order to establish an archive in an organization.

Library of Congress. (2002, 21 November). "Caring for your collections." Available from:

<http://www.loc.gov/preserv/careothr.html>

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

and "Collections care and conservation" available from:

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/preserv/pubscare.html>

- "Caring for your collections" is a compilation of questions that may arise when one is maintaining a collection of archived materials. From questions concerning the care and handling of books, to preserving newspapers to preserving photocopying, the staff at the Library of Congress provides the answers to such questions and resources for further reading. As well, "Collections care and conservation" provides further, more detailed information on the following subjects: Paper, Books and Binding, Photographs, Scrapbooks, Magnetic Media, Recorded Sound, Film, and Matting and Framing.

Northeast Document Conservation Center. (1999). *Preservation of library & archival materials: a manual*. 3rd edition revised and expanded. 514 pages.

- Purpose of manual is to provide librarians and other non-conservators with basic information on the preservation of library and archival materials. Intended for persons with little or no formal training in the preservation of materials. Available free of charge
<http://www.nedcc.org/plam3/manual.pdf>.

Top Ten Knowledge Management Resources

*Linda Roberts
Manager of Library Services, BHT*

Pacific Legal Technology Conference Vancouver, B.C., October 18, 2002

In this presentation I will provide practical examples of some of the Knowledge Management resources used at Bull Housser & Tupper. We adopted Knowledge Management a couple of years ago, and, despite only a modest financial investment in the strategy, have developed several key resources. Before I present the resources I will describe, briefly, how we came to know and love KM @ BHT.

As a librarian I see, as my biggest challenge, the need to organize, index and co-ordinate everything! As an administrative manager in a law firm I see, as my biggest challenge, the need to justify an ever increasing salary, without ever having to meet a billing target! It seems obvious that to meet both challenges I should focus on no less than: organizing all the operations and documents in the firm; arranging for and organizing access to the necessary external resources; and turning all of this into specialized resources that assist the lawyers work more efficiently making them look good in the eyes of our clients while adding value to my position. This was our first KM strategy!

Two years later, Knowledge Management, while still not defined in a formal strategic document, is alive and well at Bull Housser and Tupper. Located in Vancouver, the firm has about 100 lawyers and 150 administrative and secretarial staff -- big enough to have a communication problem and big enough to want to solve it. The library staff have been instrumental in introducing and establishing KM in the firm but as resources are developed, key committed professionals with the right competences are recruited to join the cause. It has been our experience that while a good KM strategy is overarching -- based on a study of how information flows throughout the entire office and how the current systems manage the overall business operation -- it is implemented slowly, department by department. Bringing KM into the office is a long process of persuading, developing, changing and training.

Presently, a small group of people are responsible for KM in the firm -- with the librarian as the coordinator. KM developed quite naturally, not necessarily as a top down initiative. The library staff noted a growing frustration with administrative processes within the firm -- procedures were redundant, documentation was difficult to find and the quality was inconsistent. Problems that keep librarian's up at night! Further investigation revealed similar problems with the management of lawyer's "work product". The firm had introduced a document management system a

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

few years prior but relied too heavily on the technology to manage the information. It was obvious we needed someone rather than just something to manage our systems holistically.

In an attempt to solve a few of the problems, resources were developed by the library with help from the IS department. They were well received and several people from various positions came out of the woodwork to support a larger initiative. At first, KM was a convenient name for the task at hand but quite soon we took the management strategy more seriously. Eventually it became a top down strategy and a modest investment was made to adopt KM across the board.

We have identified goals for the next few years and are developing several resources to achieve these goals. Working with each of the Practice Areas, Committees, and Administrative Departments to develop these resources, the library staff are spreading the work around. More and more people are getting involved, responsibilities are being distributed throughout the firm and maintaining these resources is becoming part of everyday practice. Ideally, these responsibilities should not add to the work load as a good KM strategy will streamline processes and eliminate redundant work.

I am discussing the 10 top KM resources, today, but it should be acknowledged that these tools are only part of the picture. These resources all involve capturing and codifying documented information and are designed to capture the "explicit" information - information that, when organized well, helps work to flow more efficiently. Only some of the important "tacit" information that flows throughout the firm - that spontaneous, undocumented type of information, that is so important to innovation and growth, is being captured by these systems. This kind of information is best shared in other ways.

Some firms are implementing technologies that encourage members to share information through "chat" groups. "Weblogs" and "threaded discussions" are similar in this regard. It is believed that if this technology is accessible enough members will use it

spontaneously and frequently, sharing valuable information for everyone's benefit.

A large chunk of knowledge "sharing" still takes place through meetings. Our Professional Development Committee has done an excellent job establishing a full schedule of in-house seminars, presentations and workshops creating opportunities for members of the firm to share their experiences with other members of the firm. Many of the sessions are related to practice procedures and not just legal issues. 15 minute "Hit and Run" training sessions are held every Monday morning in our big boardroom. Attendance is strongly encouraged and "best practices" are demonstrated. In addition, even Practice Areas are formalizing their regular meetings - making schedules, adding agendas and taking minutes. These meetings are as important a KM tool as a database or electronic resource. Information transferred at these meetings can be captured by KM staff, codified and disseminated in several different ways.

A good KM strategy is never ending and neither is ours. We will soon formalize our Knowledge Management Strategic Plan and may "re-brand" the library. These steps will entrench KM in the firm and could lead to market opportunities as clients look to firms who have adopted these best practices. Our Plan includes a commitment to investing in administrative resources because they improve the quality of our work and streamline routine tasks -- we are able to provide a better service overall.

As we continue to add resources, the value of the strategy is realized and my contribution to the bottom line is recognized. It looks like I will meet my personal challenges, and, perhaps, because a strong administrative infrastructure will be in place, the powers that be will abandon the billable hour and everyone will golf more....but that is a topic for another discussion!



VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

The Top Ten Knowledge Management Resources

1. Directory of Referrals; Directory of Experts

Purpose and Use:

Offers central access to key contacts. Each entry should include useful comments from lawyers. Information should be current and content controlled. Each entry should link back to a responsible contact in the firm.

Indexing:

Index by name, practice area or specialty, profession, publications, past experience, location, dates and comments.

Cross Reference:

Fields in this database link to the "collective experience" field in the Skills and Competencies database and the "alumni" field" in the Firm Directory database.

Special Features:

Comments field must be interactive and editable from browser; lists vetted and reviewed by committee annually; links to external websites if available.

Maintenance:

Experts Directory by Litigation Legal Assistant and Referrals Directory by Marketing department.

2. Firm Archive

Purpose and Use:

Catalogues documents and details of firm events, media coverage and personal and business milestones. Use as an Administrative tool and an internal marketing tool. (Remember that members of the firm are also marketing targets -- feed them information on their firm!).

Indexing:

Date, department, media type, location, names/authors, event type/name, document title.

Cross Reference:

Fields in this database link to the "alumni" field in Firm Directory and the "collective experience" field in the Skills and Competencies database and the "News" page.

Special Features:

Includes photos. Physical items kept in cabinet.

Maintenance:

Marketing/Library

3. Firm Directory

Purpose and Use:

Central location for current information on members of the firm. Includes: directorship and membership information; education, and awards, etc. Used for internal administrative; to compile or update resumes and proposals; to create firm organizational charts and a variety of ready made lists as hyperlinks on the Intranet.

Indexing:

Standard directory type indexing: name, address, phone, etc.

Cross Reference:

Fields in this database link to the data in the Skills and Competencies database and the Firm Archive.

Special Features:

Include photos. Must be interactive and easy to edit through browser. Password protection can be imposed.

Maintenance:

The HR Department/Library

4. Skills and Competencies Database

Purpose and Use:

Tracks who is attending and presenting at various continuing education seminars, courses and conferences; publications; languages spoken, and other skills. Data can be used in associate reviews; publication information used for resumes and proposals. Information can be used to arrange for in-house training.

Indexing:

Data should be controlled vocabulary and will include name, title of course; details of course; publication info, experience; language spoken and written.

Cross Reference:

Fields in this database link to several other resources: the Firm Directory, the Archive database, along with the Client Services

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

webpages, the Legal Research database and the Marketing database.

Special Features:

Must allow for interactive comments editable through browser.

Maintenance:

The Professional Development Committee secretary, the Business Development Committee secretary and Marketing Department will collect data. The library is likely to maintain due to the complexity of the information and the need to present in several different forms.

5. Firm Policies and Procedures Database

Purpose and Use:

An administrative tool to provide central access to firm policies and procedures. Includes entry and exit protocols; standardizes training and orientation.

Indexing:

Indexed by title, operation, type, full text, date, authority, purpose, responsibility and authority.

Cross Reference:

Wherever a policy or procedure is referenced in an email or document it is linked back to the original in this database.

Special Features:

Generates schedules and printed manuals. Built in date alerts, reminders and authority checks and permissions.

Maintenance:

Senior administrative managers/Library – materials need to be authorized and monitored.

6. News Service

Purpose and Use:

Post daily business, industry, legal, client and firm news to Intranet Home Page. Used for internal marketing, client services, current awareness, and competitive intelligence.

Indexing:

Not indexed in database. Items archived for 6 weeks. Rely on commercial services to retrieve past news.

Cross Reference:

News page informs Client Services Resources, Archives database, Marketing database.

Special Features:

Set up “canned searches” behind links and allow users to run searches for specific news on the web seamlessly through the Intranet.

Maintenance:

Library

7. Client Services Resources

Purpose and Use:

Provides standardized packaged materials for clients through extranet – bring client closer to their transactions and or resources.

Indexing:

title, subject, client name, department, purpose, date, authority, contact.

Cross Reference:

Often components for resource come from news page. Pages can be catalogued as a publication in the Skills and Competencies database.

Special Features:

Extranet

Maintenance:

Marketing/Library/IS Department

8. Legal Research Resources

Purpose and Use:

Central location for access to external and internal resources used for legal research. Includes a library catalogue that includes both Internet/External materials and in-house print and electronic materials. Also includes training tools, guides and checklists.

Indexing:

Title, author subject, format, date.

Cross Reference:

Relates to “publication and presentation” fields in Skills and Competencies Database and to documents in the Precedent/Model Document and Legal Memoranda database.

Special Features:

Value added: Data should be evaluated and categorized and saved searches for specific materials made available through hyperlinks on “Practice Area” Portals. (Bar coding print material and allowing lawyers to search for accessibility of material online is a nice feature.)

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

Maintenance:

Library

9. Marketing Resources Database

Purpose and Use:

An administrative and marketing tool, it includes: current and detailed client list, in-house counsel lists, proposal writing tools, business development resources. Standardizes proposal writing and monitors work in progress.

Indexing:

Client name and particulars, industry, issues, contacts, comments.

Cross Reference:

Relates to Client Services Resources also "collective experience" field in Skills and Competencies Directory. Data should cross-reference with accounting records and E-mail Contact lists – complex technological solution required to cross reference with accounting data and e-mail program.

Special Features:

Use components of RFP precedents and model documents to automatically build new proposals.

Maintenance:

Marketing/IS

10. Precedent/Model Document System

Purpose and Use:

A central location for key standardized model documents – separate from but related to work product/document management system. On the corporate side it should include unusual provisions from unique business deals. On the litigation side it should include legal research memos, factums, and some chambers briefs. All lawyers know that relevant documents are forwarded to the Library for review and processing. Forms are included but are templates accessible through WORD.

Indexing:

Corporate documents [models and precedents] indexed by title, alternative title, summary. Browseable index by function or type of document. Litigation documents [legal memos, factums, chambers briefs, opinions] indexed by subject, abstract, title, author, date, full text.

Cross Reference:

Relates to Library Catalogue and links to the Firm Document Management System

Special Features:

Includes option to search "keyword" or browse index. Corporate documents are annotated with references to articles on drafting agreements and comments/instructions for use. Able to link to "Quick View" but also enables access to copy of document in DM system – ready to use. Provide area for lawyers to comment on documents and make these comments available.

Maintenance:

Library/Legal Assistants/IS

General characteristics to enhance usability:

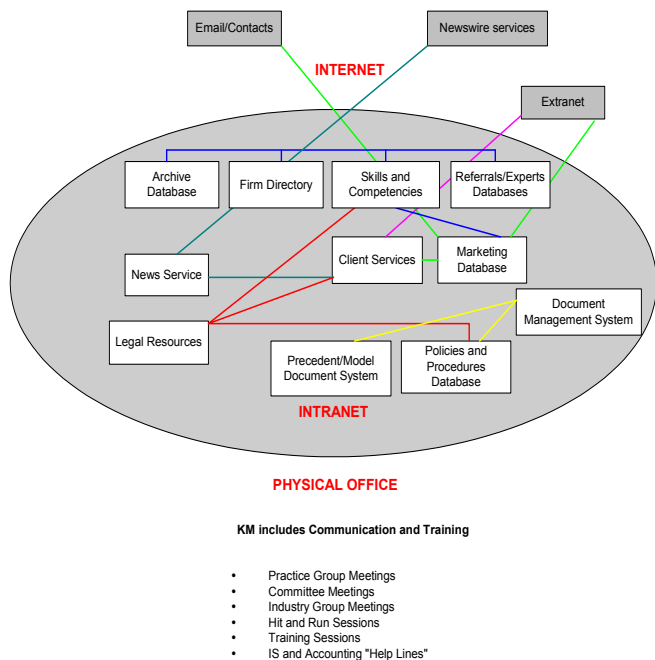
- Use Intranet browser as the common interface. Do not create a new interface for each resource. Databases can rest behind the intranet and be as complex as need be without being obvious
- Provide "quick links" to lists of materials recently added to database = Recent Additions or New! Done through the "canned or saved search" technique. This is an extremely effective and useful technique. You anticipate what people want most often from the database and create prepared result screens. These "searches" hide behind hyperlinks on your Intranet
- Offer option to search more than one database at once
- Offer option to search by keyword and also to browse index
- Ensure that information is editable through the browser. Incorporate "content management" tools into database and intranet design.
- Ensure that KM representatives are known to everyone and that they are everywhere and anywhere. It does not take many sets of ears and eyes to gather the relevant information but they must be proactive.
- The firm must sanction KM from the top down. "Brand" your library and your

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

librarian as the KM "go to people" if it will help entrench the philosophy and your credibility.



are working on or have completed, links to research resources and some practical tips for planning, conducting and sharing research.

Applicants must be members of CALL/ACBD and may apply individually or in partnership with another CALL/ACBD member. Previous applicants who were not awarded funding are welcome to reapply. To apply for the research grant please submit an application following the format of the application form provided on the website outlining the proposed project and providing a detailed budget. The deadline for applications is March 1, 2003. The final decision to award the grant will be made by the CALL/ACBD Executive based on the recommendation of the Committee.

Please forward your applications by email or fax to:

Linda Morrison, Head of Information Services
B.C. Courthouse Library Society
lmorrison@bccls.bc.ca
Tel. 1-800-665-2570 or 604-660-2825
Fax: 604-660-9418

For further details please contact a member of the Committee to Promote Research: Linda Morrison, Chair; Sue McKee, Jane Parkinson, Ann Rae, R. Iain Sinclair or Louise Tsang.

CALL

Call for Applications for the CALL/ACBD Research Grant

CALL/ACBD Committee to Promote Research

The Committee to Promote Research invites applications from CALL/ACBD members for the research grant for 2003.

CALL/ACBD makes available up to \$4,900 annually to assist members who wish to do research on a topic of interest to those working in law libraries. The proposed research must promote an understanding of legal information sources or law librarianship. For further details regarding the grant and the work of the committee, please consult the Committee's pages on the CALL/ACBD website <http://www.callacbd.ca/call.html>. The website also contains a list of possible research topics, a databank of projects that CALL/ACBD members



Conference Announcement: CALL/ACBD 2003

The Canadian Association of Law Libraries 41st Annual Conference will take place May 25-28, 2003 at the White Oaks Conference Resort and Spa located in the heart of the Niagara region, close to Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Falls and the Niagara wine country.

The theme for CALL/ACBD 2003 is New Wine in Old Bottles: Blending Tradition and Innovation; À vin nouveau, esprit nouveau; marier tradition et innovation. Connie Crosby and the members of her Program Committee are planning a

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

stimulating yet practical program that looks at aspects of the profession of law librarianship, the development of our skills and transformations in the nature of our roles. We hope to present as many as three sessions for each time slot so there should be something of interest for everyone throughout the conference schedule. Mary Saulig and her committee are planning our social gatherings, including a number of optional events and tours designed to encourage you to explore Niagara. Naturally there will be a Golf Tournament on Saturday afternoon--it's an annual CALL tradition!

This year we are especially pleased that ALLUNY, the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York, is designating the CALL Conference as its Spring Institute. This will be a wonderful opportunity for colleagues from both sides of the Falls to meet and exchange ideas.

It's not too early to register for the conference and book your hotel room. Forms and additional details about the conference are available on the website at <http://www.law-lib.utoronto.ca/call2003>.

VENDORS CORNER

LexisNexis Canada

Contributed by Shawna Ford

- Quicklaw™, Canada's leading online legal research service, containing 2,500 databases of statutory materials, caselaw, current awareness NetLetters™, legal commentary, and news. The British Columbia collection includes up-to-date federal and provincial statutes with a Point-in-Time search feature providing provisions in effect on a specified date, 71,000 unique full-text B.C. court decisions since 1879, 31,000 unique full-text tribunal decisions since 1966, and 188,000 summaries of B.C. court and tribunal decisions since 1874.
- Butterworths legal titles, including textbooks, journals, newsletters, looseleaf services, law reports, The Lawyers Weekly newspaper, and CD-ROMs. B.C. titles include

British Columbia Court Forms; British Columbia Planning Law and Practice; British Columbia Practice, 2nd ed.; British Columbia Family Law, Revised Edition; and the Annotated British Columbia Labour Relations Code.

- LexisNexis™, providing online legal and business information from the United States and around the world. Researchers can take advantage of caselaw and legislation, Matthew Bender® analytical legal information, expert commentary, over 600 law reviews and journals, and the Shepard's® citations service. LexisNexis contains over 13,000 news sources, plus company information, investment reports and analyses, and public records. LexisNexis Customized eSolutions™ enhance the competitiveness of law firms.

From: Andornot Consulting

Contributed by Kathy Bryce

Two new U.S. resources of potential interest to VALL members are now publicly available. Both sites are hosted in Vancouver by Andornot Consulting and feature the use of Inmagic DB/Text WebPublisher software for searching. Contact Andornot at info@andornot.com for more information.

American Bar Association Division for Bar Services Information Clearinghouse.

The Clearinghouse and Library contains more than 14,000 individual documents in a variety of formats. The Division for Bar Services Library collects, maintains and disseminates information on issues of administrative, managerial and substantive interest to the organized bar, its staff and volunteers. The Clearinghouse promotes the administration of justice and the work of U.S. bar associations by facilitating the exchange of information among bar leaders and by connecting appropriate resources and expertise among its constituents.

<http://abanet.andornot.com>

American Bar Association Center for Pro Bono Clearinghouse Library

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

The Center for Pro Bono maintains an extensive clearinghouse library of over 4,000 documents (articles, reports, studies and news clippings) pertaining to pro bono related matters with a focus on pro bono program management. In addition to the Center's Clearinghouse, there are two other searchable databases: the Child Custody Pro Bono Project and the Rural Pro Bono Project.

<http://cpb.andornot.com>

CLE News

Contributed by Karen Imeson

Online CLE Publications Coming Soon!

Building on projects like the Aboriginal Practice Points collection and the current awareness articles now available on the CLE website, we have been working on putting full CLE practice manuals online, which will allow the profession the option of purchasing online access to CLE manuals. CLE's first online manual will be available in March 2003, a pilot version of the popular BC Probate & Estate Administration Practice Manual. The online manual will be available in an easy-to-use web format, will feature links to full-text legislation and cases as well as downloadable forms and precedents, and will be fully searchable. The manual will be available free to everyone for a two-month period, so be sure to try it out! For further information, to provide feedback, or to volunteer to participate in one of our focus groups, please contact Drew Jackson (djackson@cle.bc.ca) or Mary Conibear (mconibear@cle.bc.ca).

Aboriginal Practice Points Articles on CLE Website

Aboriginal rights and legal issues affect the practice of almost every area of the law. CLE's website now features 20 full-length articles, accessible for free, to guide lawyers through the issues arising when they act for aboriginal clients or in matters involving aboriginal interests. The articles, written by a team of experienced practitioners, feature links to full-

text legislation and selected cases, and are fully searchable. Developed with the support of the Law Foundation of BC, the collection of papers is located in the 'Practice Desk' section of the CLE website. Take a look and watch for annual updates!

(<http://www.cle.bc.ca/CLE/Practice+Desk/Practice+Articles/Special+Pages/aboriginalpracticepoints.htm>)

What's New in Publications

Understanding Financial Information: A Family Lawyer's Guide

CLE's newest manual will be launched at our workshop on April 10! The book is designed to provide the family law practitioner with practical advice on how to obtain, understand and use financial information to determine income and the value of family assets. It will be a valuable reference for understanding financial statements and business valuations and will be updated regularly. Price: \$155.

Annual Review of Law & Practice—2003

Now in its 12th annual edition, Annual Review provides an easy, affordable and reliable way to keep its readers on top of the pivotal issues and trends in more than 30 areas of practice. The book contains over 30 chapters each averaging 10 to 15 pages, and is packed with readable and accessible commentary about the main legislative, case law and practice changes in BC. This year adds a new chapter on Company Law. Annual Review is an essential updating tool for the busy practitioner and sells for \$95. Watch for the publication in early April.

British Columbia Civil Trial Handbook

CLE's new 6" x 9" softbound book boasts a list of authors who are senior advocates who have conducted the best known cases in BC. This practical book will emphasize "being in trial" but will also include substantive trial preparatory information. Designed for lawyers taking their first few trials, the handbook will be launched on April 11 at the CLE course and updated regularly.

VALL REVIEW

Vol. 15, No. 2

February 2003

Family Law Sourcebook, 3rd Edition

In the September issue of the VALL Review, we incorrectly announced the publication of the Sourcebook's 2nd edition. It is in fact in its 3rd edition. For this edition, the authors reviewed the existing case analysis to ensure its relevance, and added discussion of recent significant case law. The new edition, current to November 1, 2002, also includes separate and heavily revised chapters on child support and spousal support (formerly one chapter on maintenance), plus an expanded chapter on agreements.

Watch for the Company Law Manual Update!

Pursuant to the upcoming new Act, this fall CLE will publish a complete re-write of our very popular British Columbia Company Law Practice Manual. Watch for details announcing the new edition.

INTERNET CORNER

by Shawna Ford

http://www.barbie.com/parents/products/products_canbe2.asp

Most of you have probably seen this site which asks parents and kids "just for fun what would the new Barbie be" (architect, policewomen or librarian). So, in my part to support the profession, I dutifully submitted my choice for architect, er, I mean librarian.

Librarian's came out at a whopping 3% of those polled so far. I know this profession is not at the top of everyone's career list, but I didn't think it would be that low! I agree that the number of accessories you could market would be limited: sensible shoes, a computer, a better computer.

This prompted me to source out sites for this issue of the Review that discuss the culture of librarianship (and to prove that we don't take ourselves too seriously):

Librarian Avengers:

<http://www.librarianavengers.com/>

The Shifted Librarian:

<http://www.theshiftedlibrarian.com/>

"Shifting libraries at the speed of byte!"

New Breed Librarian:

<http://www.newbreedlibrarian.org/>

"Bimonthly publication intended to foster a sense of community for those new to librarianship, whether in school or just out."

Libronaut:

<http://www.libronaut.com/library/>.

"A site for library resources, controversies and culture."

