

# VALL REVIEW

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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 EXECUTIVE OF VALL

Joan Bilsland

We continued to explore library applications in technology in our spring meetings. In March, *David Willis*, Western Representative for *Microsoft*, introduced new software, including packages for Intranets, which Microsoft has developed. He also spoke of Microsoft's aim to distribute software through its website, much of it free, and not all through over-the-counter purchase.

At our April meeting *Bill McGraw*, a systems consultant with *Sierra*, and *Cheri Turner*, Systems Administrator at *McCarthy Tetrault*, both spoke of partnering with Systems departments and consultants. We were especially pleased to welcome back Cheri, who had spoken about networking CD-ROMs at our 1996 VALL workshop. Many of the firms are outsourcing major projects so it was useful to learn how consultants work with administrators, systems managers and librarians. In fact, Bill and Cheri are working closely with *Susan Cryslar* on several projects at McCarthy's.

*Gail Nash* was a most timely speaker at the May meeting, because of the phantom R.S.B.C. 1996 situation. While the loose-leaf statutes finally arrived in early June, we are still awaiting the arrival of the bound and CD-ROM versions. Gail reviewed the changes in the R.S.B.C. 1996 including gender-neutral language and the Supplements (generally, compilations of amendments unproclaimed as of December 31, 1996). A copy of Gail Nash's notes was included in the minutes from the May meeting.

## FROM THE EDITORS

Maureen Fauman & Anna Holeton

This year's final *VALL Review* issue is being published a little later than scheduled in order to accommodate the submissions covering recent conferences. We are sure you will agree that the wait was worth it, since our colleagues have shared much that is noteworthy. Again, we would like to thank everyone who has contributed content and time toward producing this year's four *VALL Review* issues. The input of substantial information from all areas of law librarianship and legal publishing in Vancouver has produced a useful and timely resource for everyone. Thank you again. Have a great summer and best wishes to new members of the VALL Executive.

Contributions to *VALL REVIEW* are encouraged and greatly appreciated. Please submit **electronic** copy to *Anna Holeton* by email at [aholeton@campney.com](mailto:aholeton@campney.com) [preferred file format is *Word for Windows* or *ASCII* text] or FAX copy to 688-0829.

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## IN MEMORIAM

*Diana Priestly* passed away in Victoria on Thursday, March 27, 1997. Miss Priestly's health had been very fragile in recent months. As much as we have been saddened by her passing, it was not unexpected. The funeral was held at Christ Church Cathedral, in Victoria on Friday, April 4.

Most of you are familiar with Diana Priestly's many accomplishments as a law librarian. She was a founding member of the *Canadian Association of Law Libraries*, president from 1969 to 1971, and editor of the newsletter from 1970 to 1973. In 1987, CALL established the Diana M. Priestly Scholarship in her honour, and awarded her the status of Honoured Member. The Diana M. Priestly Law Library, which she founded at the University of Victoria in 1974, is named for her as well. Law Libraries in Canada: Essays to honour Diana M. Priestly, edited by *Joan Fraser*, was published by Carswell in 1988. She was also honoured as a Distinguished Alumnus that year by the University of Washington's Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Diana Priestly was born in Calgary, Alberta, in 1922, and served with the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service during World War II. After the war, she obtained B.A. and LL.B. degrees from the University of British Columbia, and was called to the bar in 1950. After a time in law practice in Nanaimo, she took the Master of Law Librarianship degree at the University of Washington, graduating in 1953.

From 1953 to 1963, Diana Priestly was the law librarian and a lecturer at the University of British Columbia. Her next appointment, from 1964 to 1967, was as law librarian and assistant professor at the University of Toronto. Then she became assistant law librarian and assistant professor at the Osgoode Hall Law School, York University. In 1970, she moved to the University of Western Ontario to become Director of Research and an associate professor. Next she joined the Legal

Research and Planning Section of the Department of Justice in Ottawa as a legal officer in 1972.

In 1974, Diana Priestly returned to British Columbia to create a law library for the new Faculty of Law at the University of Victoria. After 13 busy and successful years as law librarian and professor, she retired in 1987 with the status of professor emeritus.

– Contributed by *John Davis*, Law Librarian and Associate Professor of Law, Priestly Law Library, University of Victoria

## A Personal Tribute to Diana Priestly

*Diana Priestly's* death left me feeling that I had lost a mentor and a friend. I was fortunate to attend UVic Law School while Miss Priestly was Law Librarian. Her influence on the Library and Faculty was subtle yet pervasive. Only her staff knew Miss Priestly's precise standards were the secret to the library's success.

As a law student I learned, by osmosis, that a law library's organization should be imperceptible to its users. Only once did I get a glimpse that her superb library required much hidden effort — when Miss Priestly pointed out some of her reference tools, a set of legal bibliographies buried in the stacks. It was not until I attended library school that I began to appreciate the enormity of her accomplishments.

I did not have many occasions to talk with Miss Priestly while at UVic, but whenever I did she was charismatic and vivacious. She would click her heels together and straighten as we stood talking, a habit formed during her days in the service which lent her an elfin grace.

A few days after I learned of Miss Priestly's death, the feeling of emptiness caused by her passing intensified when we visited family in Victoria. While we were out walking with the children, an elderly English lady with a Scottish terrier came toward us. She was wearing a woolen jacket and tartan skirt, well-dressed against the April chill. Although we were strangers, she and

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## Tribute to Diana Priestly, *continued...*

I paused to talk while the others went ahead. She greeted me amiably, explaining proudly that the Scottie walking with her was not even her own dog — but her neighbours'. Compassion for his lack of regular exercise had prompted her to gain permission to walk him. The woman's demeanour and enthusiasm for her unruly companion seemed familiar; did I only imagine she clicked her heels together as we spoke?

Although Diana Priestly has left us, her spirit and lifelong contributions to the profession live on in the lives of all those she touched. - *Anna Holeton*

## CONFERENCES

### CALL '97 Conference Report — Part 1

*Anne Beresford*

We librarians truly are a spoiled bunch. The Algonquin Resort in St. Andrews by-the-Sea was a most delightful location for the CALL conference this year. This location, tucked away in the southwest corner of New Brunswick, provided the optimum opportunity for networking not usually found in an urban setting.

Some highlights: the *Local Law Library Associations* business meeting alerted us to the following: (i) the *Committee to Promote Research* is making available a grant of \$2,000 for a research project and is looking at ways to coordinate the mini research projects of librarians to make them more widely available, possibly using the CALL website; (ii) *QL* would like to collect the newsletters or bulletins of the various associations, and provide these as databases (*Alisa Possorsky* of *QL* is the contact person) and (iii) *Ana Rosa Blue* is taking over from *Yoko Beriault* as Regional Reporter for *Canadian Law Libraries* and as such coordinates the meeting of the local groups at the next conference.

The *Private Law Libraries* [PLL] SIG business meeting was addressed by *Lillian MacPerson*, as Chair of the Planning Committee of "*The Official Version*", a *National Summit to Solve the Problems of Authenticating, Preserving and Citing Legal Information in Digital Form*, to be held November 20 to 22, 1997, in Toronto. One hundred and fifty invitees from the judiciary, government, legal and library professions will meet as a working group to discuss and resolve these issues. This is a major initiative of CALL and as private law librarians form the largest group of CALL, 21 PLL members will be invited from across Canada. The 1998 Chairs for the PLL program are *Colleen Meyer* and *Judy Harvey*, and the 1999 Chair is *Angela Tietelman*.

In the *Copyright Update* session we heard a review of the current situation in Canada. Law firms are advised to wait for the outcome of the negotiations between the *Federation of Law Societies' National Committee on Copyright* and *Cancopy* regarding the licensing of law firms. Bill C-32<sup>1</sup> limits non-profit organizations to single copying for research or private study. Detailed information may be found at <http://qsilver.queensu.ca/law/copyright> but law firms should watch the FLSC website at <http://www.flsc.ca> for updates on discussions with *Cancopy* regarding the law firm license agreement. [See also *VALL Review*, Vol. 9(3) p. 4]

The presenters at the *Private Law Libraries* [PLL] program on *Law Firm Billing Practices* raised many interesting points for discussion. Session handouts summarized the results of a questionnaire on billing returned by 58 survey respondents supplemented by a useful bibliography. In one firm, where a billing target of 300 hours per year was suggested for library staff members, an increase in actual library billing resulted — where previously much time had been written off. The survey also hinted at a trend toward including *QL* searching in overhead. However, there is still no consistent treatment of *QL* bills. Firms' clients are

<sup>1</sup> *An Act to Amend the Copyright Act*, S.C. 1997, c. 24, received Royal Assent on April 25, 1997; most sections are yet to be proclaimed in force.

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## CALL '97 Conference Report — Part 1, continued...

beginning to dictate what fees will be charged as clients insist that economies be passed on to them.

At the exhibits I took some time to see *QuickLaw*'s *Quicklink* upgrade which will provide a cleaner print copy; learned how to print dual columns using a network printer and *Lexform* for *Lexis*; spoke with the *New Law Publishers* whose English cases are now on *QL* (NLOL); had a brief lesson on *DowJones* databases; and saw *Taxnet* now available on *Carswell*'s website.

As usual it was a full and busy four days with much exchanging of cards and email addresses and more sessions space doesn't permit me to describe. Despite the hectic schedule, I still found time for a stroll on Confederation Bridge during its opening day (May 30) and I took a walking tour of the historic town of St. Andrews. In addition to seeing many lovely historic homes and churches, I saw the oldest working courthouse in Canada and the prison. Named the Blockhouse because it was made from blocks, it was still in use in 1979. The last person hanged at the Blockhouse in 1942 was later found to be not guilty and is believed to haunt his former cell.

## CALL '97 Conference Report — Part 2

*Kelly Higgins*

Discussion at the *Electronic Information SIG Business Meeting* was focused on the inefficiencies of compiling and maintaining Internet bookmark lists. There was talk of cataloguing bookmarks and, of course, immediate protest. *Marian Rogers* offered to co-ordinate a group to discuss the idea of bookmark management. Anyone hearing of or discovering a useful Web site is encouraged to forward the URL to *Don Sanders* ([sanders@acs.ualgary.ca](mailto:sanders@acs.ualgary.ca)) or *Iris Morgan* ([morgan@acs.ualgary.ca](mailto:morgan@acs.ualgary.ca)) who will post them in the *Electronic Information Bulletin*. *Karen Foti* of Completely Legal in Ottawa was nominated

1997/98 Chair and welcomes any input or suggestions for next year's theme "*Putting People First*."

The main *Electronic Information* session "*Partnership Between Systems People and Librarians*" featured a frustration-laced account from *Dawn Urquhart* of *Aird & Berlis*, on trying to co-ordinate the needs of a private law library with the priorities of the firm's Systems department. Her frustration is fuelled by the differing priorities between libraries and Systems and feels that the "the treehouse ethic of sharing" where the notion of information being available — although not readily available for use — is positive and dominates Systems' thinking. This notion opposes the information-provider role of the library and prompts the question, "how useful is information that exists yet is entirely inaccessible?" Dawn stressed the departments' differing views of time and timeliness, and feels that time frames and division of responsibility should be clearly laid out and enforced in areas of partnership (e.g. networking CD-ROMs). She suggests a strategy of in-house newsletters outlining technological changes in the library, ensuring library participation on technical committees, acquiring the ability to provide support for the systems used in the library, and aggressive PR campaigns featuring the library as the progressive and innovative department that it is. Though her talk focused on the negative side of systems/library relationship, the message was clear that turf wars and clashing priorities must be put aside in order to maintain any semblance of a progressive, positive working relationship.

Offering a counter-opinion was *Ernest Rogers*, a systems manager from the U.N.B. Law Library. Rogers stressed the need to understand the strains suffered by IT people who are often expected to know every version of all hardware and software — library related or not. Systems and technological change is rapid and IT people feel as much stress as the rest of us when it comes to keeping up with progress. It is important to remember that different people have different specializations and priorities, and that boundaries are

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## CALL '97 Conference Report — Part 2, continued...

often crossed without intended malice. He acknowledged the existence of a turf war but suggested that defining territory too strictly can sabotage progress.

The *plenary sessions* were well attended events dealing with linguistic and minority issues in the Canadian legal system. In the first session, *Judge Michel Bastarache* (N.B.C.A.) and *Pierre Foucher* (University of Moncton) outlined issues of linguistic rights in Canadian and international courts. *Judge Bastarache* gave a detailed and insightful analysis of French-English linguistic rights and obligations within the judiciary on a province by province basis and at the federal level. Though proceedings and the publication of decisions are legislated provincially as to the rights of minorities, he concluded that decisions about the language in which a case is heard and the decision published are often made with political consideration rather than strict adherence to the rule of law since language is a politically sensitive area. At the federal level, there is a more formal effort to accommodate both official linguistic bodies in all areas. *Professor Foucher* then addressed the ever more complicated world of the international court system. He emphasized the necessity of accommodating linguistic diversity in a world of increasing cross-national legal disputes and agreements. Commenting on linguistic rights in Canada, he cited Belgium and Switzerland as examples of successful linguistic co-operation.

The *second plenary session* was a very personal account by *Judge Graydon Nicholas* (N.B.Q.B.) of his experiences as a native Canadian growing up within a culturally foreign social and judicial system. He especially noted the difficulties he experienced as a child due to the systematic destruction of his native tongue as the language of education and public social interaction; he feels this fuelled his adult activism and desire to resurrect his native culture. He traced his days as a student and as a lawyer progressing through

cultural clashes in his early and formal education and later as a member of the New Brunswick Bar. *Judge Graydon* sees his role on the Bench as one of honour in which he can bring his perspective and beliefs as a native person to bear on decisions made as a member of the current judicial system.

As a first-time attendee, I found the CALL conference to be an interesting and enriching experience. In our day-to-day work, we deal with so many of the practical issues of law librarianship, so it is refreshing to become more familiar with the theoretical ideas associated with our profession. The chance to network with law librarians in every milieu and to become acquainted with the activities of the Association was invaluable and has certainly sparked my interest in a number of issues.

## Report on the SLA '97 Conference

*Anna Holeton, Campney & Murphy*

The *Special Libraries Association* Conference, held June 7 to 13 in Seattle, was attended by approximately 7,000 information professionals. With so many in attendance, I learned the hard way the importance of registering immediately — the most popular CE session: "*Building the Corporate Intranet*" sold out quickly to 100 lucky registrants. Although scheduling conflicts prevented me from attending some sessions, audiotapes for many were available for purchase.

The most anticipated session — *Bill Gates' keynote speech* — reiterated that the librarian's role is increasingly important due to the growth in Internet use. "Having that expertise in the library will become absolutely critical" since "we don't want to turn everybody into a web surfer." *Gates* stressed that Microsoft's own library — with its staff of 43 — was "an absolutely critical resource"<sup>2</sup> which received the greatest number of unsolicited compliments of any Microsoft department. One of Microsoft's librarians demonstrated their library website — which I had seen the previous evening

<sup>2</sup> *Gates assures librarians of role in technology, The Seattle Times, June 9, 1997, p. B1*

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## Report on the SLA '97 Conference, continued...

during a site visit. The webpages' sophisticated graphic design and tidy organization evidenced the work of two full-time librarians collaborating with two graphic designers dedicated to its creation.

Gates' keynote address lacked the power of *Eugenie Prime's Practitioner's Perspective*. Ms. Prime, for 10 years corporate librarian at *Hewlett Packard*, based her inspirational speech on the quotation from Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, "*The Fault Dear Brutus is not in our stars but in ourselves that we are underlings.*" She exhorted us to embrace change as opportunity, transcend our conditioning and abandon our "whine-i-culture." Rather than bemoaning our lack of resources caused by "downsizing, dumbsizing and capsizing" we should look within to resolve these problems. Admonishing us to demand more resources to do our work, she reminded us: "Power, authority and respect cannot be externally recognized until they are assumed within. If *knowledge management, intellectual capital* and *corporate instinct* have become a company's major assets," she reasoned, "how can the library not be that company's core competence?" Her speech ended like a revival meeting, with us all affirming that "YES!" — "everything is possible, nothing is impossible."

A *Legal Division* meeting *A Snapshot of Present and Future Legal Publishing* was disappointing. The questions posed were generally bland and elicited little information. The representative of *Reid Elsevier* [corporate parent of *Lexis/Nexis* and *Butterworths Canada*] commented his company has "formed a strategic alliance with *Microsoft* to produce Internet products," but failed to elaborate. There was some discussion of CD-ROMs which hyperlinked searchers to the publisher's Internet sites for information updates. Concern was expressed that updating costs escalated as end-users often searched beyond the designated

files needed for updating the CD-ROM. Similar CD/Internet hybrids products will likely soon be available in Canada. Does this hybrid resource foreshadow the death of CD as a fixed-price alternative to on-line research?

Sunday's CE course on *CD-ROM and Other Databases Access via LANs, WANs, and NETs* proposed an expensive solution to CD-ROM networking problems. But, in other sessions speakers noted the declining price of memory chips made copying information from CDs to network server memory a cheaper alternative than buying CD towers. In addition, downloading to server memory significantly increases response time and avoids the need to upgrade CD-ROM hardware. Before downloading information, carefully examine each publisher's licensing agreement to ensure what you plan to do does not breach the agreement.

In some cases, "metering" software may also need to be installed to ensure the maximum number of licensed consecutive users is never exceeded for any product. One speaker stated that purchasing more than 6 consecutive user licenses for any CD product may be a waste of money as *Novell* LANs could actually reliably cope with only 6 consecutive users without crashing. Technical reps assert that problems attributed to CD-ROM products may well be due to inadequate *Novell* network licensing. *Caveat*: clarify your *Novell* licensing arrangement before deciding the number of consecutive users for CDs.

Despite their seeming prevalence, perhaps CD-ROMs are a short-term medium, whose market life span is only a few more years. Publishers continue to move toward the Internet as a means of information delivery. For example, the July 1997 issue of CCH's *Byteline* announced that by this fall CCH's *Folio Webserver* will be operational.

The CE course *Evaluating Electronic Sources of Information* pointed out that resources must be evaluated in light of users' needs and attitudes, current collection strengths, and the available resources and

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## Report on the SLA '97 Conference, continued...

technology. As with print, selection criteria include: its purpose; authority of the author and the publisher's reputation; objectivity and scope of the product; currency, frequency, and mode of updating; intended audience; format [ease of use, classification scheme, indices, table of contents]; search engine; purchase price and maintenance costs. In addition, licensing, training, and technological issues (response time, reliable access, speed of printing and downloading) must also be considered before CDs are purchased.

*The Electronic Law Library: Is it Really Here?* was disappointing because the speakers and content were the same as the CE course just described. Few law libraries have converted the bulk of their collection to electronic holdings. Only the chief librarian at *American International Group's* library reported a year spent successfully selling off 85 per cent of their print collections and replacing print with electronic resources. Elsewhere conversion to electronic formats has been problematic. One firm, with offices in Baltimore, New York and Washington, D.C., is still struggling with the effects of its introduction of CD-ROM resources. The firm's Baltimore head office partners initiated the change to CDs to save space and money and ordered that many print resources be sold prior to relocation of the firm's New York office. Once resettled, the New York attorneys found their ability to practice law to be severely hampered by the library's lack of books and demanded re-purchase of selected report series and other print resources. Their demands were heeded as clients also refused to pay for on-line search disbursements resulting from lack of print resources. Further, CD-ROMs chosen by the two satellite offices still get lower networking priority.

*Training Customers For End User Searching* considered vendor and in-house alternatives for training, as well as adult learning styles. Training must take into account three adult learning styles:

*auditory, visual and tactile* [hands-on]; only 30 per cent of adults learn via all three styles simultaneously. Retention is greatest through hands-on, exploration-based training — but it is the most difficult for an instructor to control. Libraries have always trained patrons, e.g. how to use catalogues, books' tables of contents and indices. Libraries must continue to teach information literacy and evaluation skills (*content*) while technology literacy skills (*access*) may be provided by systems departments.

The session on *Knowledge Management* was thought provoking. Some claim 80 per cent of the answers to an organization's information questions could be solved internally — if only the information could be located. Knowledge management attempts to systematically create, capture, exchange and use a corporation's intellectual capital, best thinking and best practices. Internet browser technology can be used to create an *intranet* to share corporate knowledge. But just as library catalogues were required for bibliographic control, information on an intranet must be controlled by *metadata* [*i.e.* data about data]. Metadata standardizes the recording of file details [*i.e.* location, filename, size], responsible individuals, content, and other attributes such as the expiration period, searchability and accessibility. Knowledge management is expensive; to be a worthwhile investment, corporate Intranets must be: managed and updated regularly; sustained and indexed by staff dedicated to this task; supported by cultural incentives to motivate contributors; and embraced by all levels of the organization — especially management.

The final CE course *Applications of the Intranet in the Corporate Law Library* was given by *General Electric's* former Corporate Law Department's Librarian. Now he works a 60-hour week as the department's Webmaster serving more than 500 lawyers in GE offices worldwide. After explaining that browser technology provides access to three "flavours" of webs (Internet, intranet and extranet) he provided an

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## Report on the SLA '97 Conference, continued...

excellent tour of his and other websites plus hints for constructing good webpages. He recommended studying others' pages for good design to emulate, and incorporating a search engine — such as *FindLaw* — on your webpage *after obtaining permission*.

As we all know the pace of change in special libraries is accelerating. Fittingly, the SLA '97 conference theme was *Information Professionals at the Crossroads: Change as Opportunity*. I had expected to find American law-firm librarians well ahead of us, having largely resolved many of the thornier issues, such as: partnering effectively with the systems department to collaborate in networking CD-ROMs; designing effective intranets; and maintaining traditional reference services and print collections despite limited staff and financial resources now stretched even further by the electronic information explosion. To my surprise I found that, except for the larger corporate law libraries, most American firm libraries are still wrestling with these same issues.

## News from the B.C. Courthouse Library

**Coming soon — an on-line public access catalogue**

*Sarah Munro*

In the fall of 1997, librarians and lawyers with Internet access will be able to visit the B.C. Courthouse Library Society's website and search its automated catalogue, currently only accessible in the Vancouver library. From home or office, users will be able to search for books in any one of the Society's 50 courthouse libraries. Like most automated library catalogues, it will be searchable by Author, Title and Subject. The catalogue will allow users to find out if a copy of a book is available to borrow from the Vancouver library. The catalogue will be "real time," that is a book that has been ordered for a library's collection will appear

on-line just as soon as the book has been ordered.

If you have any questions regarding Internet access to the Society's catalogue or you wish to access the services of the Vancouver Courthouse library, you may contact the library in the following ways:

Telephone: 604-660-2841; Fax: 660-2821 or e-mail: [bccls@bccls.bc.ca](mailto:bccls@bccls.bc.ca).

## **Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1996**

*Linda Morrison*

The B.C. Courthouse Library Society received a number of "advance" sets of the *Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1996*, shortly after they came into force April 21, 1997, and have been working with them since then. The statutes are now generally available and we thought that VALL members might be interested in some of the problems we have encountered so far.

The following are a few examples. We have written to legislative counsel outlining our concerns and encourage users to do the same.

### • **Double Proclamations**

Sections of the *B.C. Benefits (Income Assistance) Act* were brought into force as S.B.C. 1996, c. 6, on March 31, 1997, and then re-proclaimed as R.S.B.C. 1996 (Supp.), c. 27, on April 21, 1997. Legislative counsel has confirmed that the earlier date is the true in force date. We have suggested that they include an explanatory note in the historical tables for the affected acts.

Conversely, some sections of amending acts, consolidated in the *Supplement*, were brought into force only as the amending act, and not as the *Supplement*. The user must therefore check in force information under both the name in the *Supplement* and the name of the pre-R.S.B.C. 1996 legislation.

### • **Tables of Amendments Not in Force**

The section numbers in the table for the *Human Rights*



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## ***Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1996, continued...***

Code have been listed out of order. As a rule, users expect section numbers to be in numerical order. You may miss information if you do not look carefully at the entire list. We have recommended that they list the section numbers in numerical order with the next update. As well, there are other errors and inconsistencies in the tables of amendments not in force. For example, the table of amendments not in force is missing entirely for the *Court Order Enforcement Act*.

### • **Legislative History Tables**

The legislative history tables include some artificial citations. Using s. 59 of the *Residential Tenancy Act* as an example, the legislative history table reference is to 1984-15-45.1. This type of citation generally means S.B.C. 1984, c. 15, s. 45.1. However, if you go to that statute, you cannot find s. 45.1 because it did not exist at the time of enactment but was added later. According to the explanatory note following the legislative history tables, 1984-15-45.1 is the citation to the section as it stood immediately before the 1996 revision. We have recommended a return to the previous style for legislative histories, giving the originating citation or previous revision and subsequent amending legislation.

### • **Historical Tables and Disposal of Acts**

There are no historical tables of disposal of acts (as there were in the loose-leaf *Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1979*) nor is there a "Table of Local and Private Acts." The concordance mentioned above were merely designed to provide a link between the acts in force at the end of 1996 and the new revision. Some acts are omitted entirely; one example is the *Guaranteed Available Income for Need Act*. The *G.A.I.N. Act* was repealed and replaced by the *B.C. Benefits (Income Assistance) Act* in October of 1996. The concordance does not include any reference to the

*G.A.I.N. Act* because the repeal happened before the end of 1996. There is currently no annual statute volume for 1996, so there is no table of statutes for 1996 to show what happened to the act. Without a table showing the history and disposal of acts, the user is unable to trace the *G.A.I.N. Act* to its successor act.

### • **Supplementary Material**

The list of reciprocating states for the *Court Order Enforcement Act* and the *Family Relations Act*, and the *Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction* have all been omitted from R.S.B.C. 1996 although they were included in R.S.B.C. 1979. We have recommended that they be included in the first update.

We have prepared a *Checklist: Using the Loose-leaf Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1996*. If you would like a copy or if you have any questions regarding the new revision, please contact the reference staff at the Vancouver Courthouse Library by calling (604) 660-2841 or toll-free 1-800-665-2570, or send e-mail to [bccl@bccl.bc.ca](mailto:bccl@bccl.bc.ca).

## **VENDORS CORNER**

### **NEWS FROM CCH**

CCH is pleased to announce that it has been appointed exclusive distributor of *HCL Legal Products* in British Columbia and Alberta. These products, under the brand name *EasyLaw*, provide legal compliance software in the fields of Incorporation, Wills, Conveyancing and Liens. Using the Windows platform, these products will save time in the preparation of documents, and create the most professional output for the busy law practice.

These products in combination with CCH research and knowledge will provide the user with a powerful tool to complete tasks with a real time saving and productivity enhancement capability. Call *David Pleasance* at CCH for more information and a hands-on demonstration.

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## INTERNET CORNER

*Anna Holeton, Campney & Murphy*

Although you may have missed the actual SLA '97 conference, you can virtually attend some sessions in cyberspace.

The *Best of the Web*, a joint presentation of the *Legal, News and Business & Finance Divisions* featuring hyperlinks can be found at:

<http://www.llrx.com/extras/sla.htm>

Two excellent presentations given at the *Solo Librarians Division* are also available at:

Integrating Internet Resources with Other Media by *Terry Brainerd Chadwick*

<http://www.teleport.com/~tbchad/sla0697.html>

Integrating Internet Resources with Traditional Online Services, by *Jan Davis Tudor*

<http://www.tbchad.com/sololib/>

## INTERNET CORNER, *continued...*

"*Security Issues in Cyberspace*" warned about the danger of **cookies** — tiny files sent to your PC by a network server when you visit its website. The cookie stays on your PC — often for years. When you return to the cookie-giver's website, the cookie feeds information back to that website. Cookies are used to gather information about you and your browsing habits; sometimes this information is sold to market research firms. Set your browser's *Preferences* to warn you when a cookie is about to be sent so that you can reject it. As you surf, you will often be asked whether it is OK to accept a cookie; click on CANCEL to reject it. Rejecting a cookie may prevent you from gaining admission to some sites, since accepting their cookie may be the price of admission.

A new phenomenon is "*push technology*" a.k.a. webcasting. Push technology subscription services

[e.g. *PointCast*] work like screensavers but deliver customized information to your desktop without active Internet searching or the need to check for email. Push technology is passive (like radio and television broadcasting) but lets you select content from a menu of choices. Information matching those interests will be passively delivered to your desktop on a continuous basis. Some are critical of the paucity of information sources utilized, and the drain it imposes on system resources. For an excellent discussion, see: [http://www.cio.com/CIO/050197\\_push.html](http://www.cio.com/CIO/050197_push.html).

## Membership Matters

*Nancy Nesbitt* has taken "a break" from desktop publishing the *VALL REVIEW* — and other responsibilities at Western Legal Publications — to have her second baby girl, *Zoey Sierra Saimoto*, born June 3.

*Tracey Carmichael* had a baby boy: *Damian Nicholas*, born April 18, reportedly "as cute as a bug." *Lois Burkell* also had a June baby, *Preston*.

*Stephanie Taggart* is an experienced law firm librarian, currently working part-time for *Edwards, Kenny & Bray*, and 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.

The Hotel Georgia has notified VALL that due to increasing food costs, it will be raising its current association luncheon price by \$2 each.

Effective  
September 1, 1997,  
lunch meeting registration  
will be \$22.