

# VALL Review

Vancouver Association of Law Libraries

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## The President's Desk

2009 is finally here and we can look back on our wonderful VALL celebration in December with the satisfaction of knowing that it was an event very well planned and executed, resulting in an all time record attendance. For my part, it remains to offer heartfelt thanks on behalf of all the VALL membership to the vendors, firms and individuals who gave their generous support to our glittering 20th Anniversary Lunch.

Time now to regroup, revisit and dare I say, reboot. The current economic woes have left many of us looking very closely at the real cost of everything we do in our libraries. This is not entirely a bad thing and in fact, a very valuable exercise. Take the example of our electronic services. For many VALL members the past few years of work have been spent in fast forward mode. We have been inundated with a myriad of new legal research topics, fuelled by a business climate that seemed to have no brakes. This meant librarians had to come to grips with a plethora of new and innovative electronic tools, which enabled us to provide the required content much faster and in much greater depth than before. During this time, our vendors have more than kept pace with the expectations of our legal practitioners. Perhaps now is the time for us all to maximize the use of the services to which we subscribe. We could focus more on internal training for lawyers and staff, so that when the brakes do come off and the cycle ends, we have encouraged our patrons to learn a few new features each week. Marketing the library and improving the bottom line at the same time. This could also be mutually beneficial from the vendor's point of view, as the additional feedback would assist them in the evolution of new products. From my glass half full perspective, I encourage you all to use this time of uncertainty to your advantage.

In the beginning of my year as President of VALL, I encouraged everyone to make use of the phrase "you win cases in the library and not in the courtroom." Also in that paragraph from Mr Justice Marshall Rothstein's speech, he encourages "hard work and preparation." Now is the time for VALL members to prepare for the next wave now forming beyond the horizon.

Take a deep breath and reboot.



**Wilma MacFarlane**  
**VALL President**  
**2008-2009**

# VALL Review

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## From the Editors

**Beth Galbraith, Clark Wilson LLP  
and Susannah Tredwell, Lawson Lundell LLP**

In this issue we remember the celebration of the VALL 20th Anniversary lunch, a delightful event that saw old and new members come together for a VALL event larger than any ever before. We've included some pictures of some of our Honoured Members, as well as some of our current members. The anniversary lunch was an amazing opportunity for all members to see how the association has grown and changed to keep up with the needs of our members.

Change is also one of the themes in this issue. Emma Wood, a former VALL member and VALL Review editor, has written us a "Letter from Winnipeg" where she describes her new job and compares law libraries in Winnipeg and Vancouver. It's a great article and gives us a chance to be pleased and grateful for the wonderful resources we have to do our jobs better everyday.

At a time when some of us may be forced to handle budget cuts, this issue gives us some great ideas on how to continue proving our worth, our expertise and willingness to go the extra mile. Gabriella Barsoum gives us an in depth article about her experience at the Internet Librarian Conference, complete with a number of tricks that she picked up. We also have tips from our vendors which will give us some handy new tricks that we can whip out of our pockets to WOW people with.

It is these same qualities of determination and willingness to learn that has kept VALL going for 20 years, and ensure it continues for another 20!

Our next issue of the VALL Review will be published in June. As always if you have an idea for an article or a submission, please contact either Beth at [ecg@cwilson.com](mailto:ecg@cwilson.com) or Susannah at [stredwell@lawsonlundell.com](mailto:stredwell@lawsonlundell.com).

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.

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## Law Letter from Winnipeg

Emma Wood, Tapper Cuddy

I moved to Winnipeg in July of 2008. On my last day at Alexander Holburn (which is actually a firm full of ex-Peggars), I was offered three key pieces of information about Winnipeg:

1. Winnipeggers are notoriously cheap
2. Pothole season starts in February
3. Manitobans are the friendliest people in the country

Well, I can report that in my experience thus far, these are all true.

As I look out the window of my office, snow covers the tops of the buildings and puffs of steam rise. Mercifully, downtown Winnipeg is mostly connected by above-street walkways that allow you to navigate many blocks without ever going outside. My firm, Tapper Cuddy, is in what some of my newfound library friends lovingly refer to as the “low-rent district”, several blocks away from Portage and Main, where Winnipeg’s biggest law firms have their offices. I have a great view of Pizza Hut from my window. Who needs spectacular views of the river, anyway?

But seriously, my fellow law firm library staffers have been unbelievably welcoming and hospitable. Thanks to Brenda Wong, who after leaving Vancouver in 2003 spent a few years here in the ‘Peg, I connected with her friend and co-blogger<sup>1</sup>, Karen Sawatzky, who runs the library at Pitblado. She helped me in my job hunting process and offered advice about the various firms. At last year’s SLA conference, just before I moved here, I was finally able to meet her in person. It was comforting to know that as well as having good friends and family in my new city, I’d also have at least one library friend when I got to Winnipeg. Since then, thanks to the recent Christmas lunch season, I’ve met the librarians from every firm (not hugely impressive when you consider that only seven of them have staffed libraries) and several people from the U of M law school library and the DOJ.

Although the city is home to about 700,000, and makes up more than half the province’s population, Winnipeg is small where law libraries are concerned. As far as I know, only seven firms employ people to run their libraries, and of those, only two have professional librarians. The rest of us are techs and assistants. Our resources for legal information are the Great Library<sup>2</sup> (more about that in a bit), the Legislative Library<sup>3</sup>, the University of



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1. Library Technician Dialog: <http://brendawoa.wordpress.com/>
  2. Great Library OPAC: <http://opac.libraryworld.com/cgi-bin/opac.pl?command=signin&libraryname=GREAT%20LIBRARY>  
Great Library Information: [http://www.lawsociety.mb.ca/library\\_info.htm](http://www.lawsociety.mb.ca/library_info.htm)
  3. Legislative Library: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/leg-lib/>

Manitoba Law Library<sup>4</sup>, and the Winnipeg Public Library<sup>5</sup>, which has a decently sized selection of law books (and is conveniently located right across the street from my office).

While there is no formal “Winnipeg Law Libraries” group, there’s a handful of us who get together for lunch and gossip. (Some things never change: I did the same thing with my fellow techs in Vancouver!) We do hope to eventually establish a formal group, and while it would be small, we think it would be worthwhile. In such a small market, it’s even more important to stick together, share resources, and help each other out.

One project that we have banded together to work on is a legal research boot camp for articling students, similar to ELLA’s Headstart Program<sup>6</sup>. Together with the chairs of the Manitoba Bar Association’s Legal Research section (you may recognize one of the co-chairs, Melanie Bueckert, who blogs occasionally at SLAW), the program chair at the Law Society, and the librarians from the Great Library, we’re in the planning stages of a one-day session to be held this June. We’re excited, proud, and nervous all at the same time... will anyone come? Will they like it? Wish us luck!

Anyway, on the “library stuff”. The biggest adjustments I’ve made have been as a result of the relatively small legal market in this province. Coming to Manitoba, I knew the market was smaller than BC’s, but I wasn’t really aware by how much. Let’s review some numbers:

Practising lawyers in Ontario: ~39,000  
 Practising lawyers in British Columbia: ~10,000  
 Practising lawyers in Manitoba: ~2,000

There you have it: Manitoba has basically a fifth of BC’s market, and twentieth of Ontario’s. When you know that, it’s suddenly clear why there are virtually no Manitoba-specific texts and databases. As far as I can tell, there’s only one piece of commercially published Manitoba legislation, and that’s Busby’s Annotated Queen’s Bench Rules. The province simply looks to its fellow prairie provinces and to Ontario for precedents and similar court rules.

The articling process is different in Manitoba, too. Instead of nine months of articles and 10 weeks of PLTC, students here do 52 weeks of articles, and concurrently participate in the PLTC equivalent, CPLED (Canadian Centre for Professional Legal Education).<sup>7</sup> CPLED is the bar admissions consortium for Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. It’s delivered through a mix of online and in-class coursework that students do throughout their articling year, from September to March. The in-class coursework is generally held in several week-long sessions where the students go to classes instead of to the firm or agency where they are doing their articles.

On a related note, unlike BC, Manitoba has no independent CLE provider. While the Law Society<sup>8</sup> here is an active provider of continuing professional development programming, it runs on a much smaller scale (no online course materials for me...that’s something I really miss about BC). In fact virtually all of CLEBC’s offerings are without rival here: no Case Digest Connection, no online course materials, no practice manuals. If Manitoba had a bigger legal market, I’d be the first to look into development some of these services, because I know they would be well-used.

Manitoba’s a little province that’s both behind and ahead of the times, but almost always charming and quaint. For instance: the Great Library, which is the equivalent of the BC Courthouse Library, doesn’t have an automated circulation system. You don’t need a card to borrow – you just tell them which firm you’re from and you’re good to go. They do have an online catalogue, but it’s got pretty minimal information about each item,

4. U of M E.K. Williams Law Library: <http://umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/law/>

5. Winnipeg Public Library: <http://wpl.winnipeg.ca/library/>

6. ELLA’s Headstart Program: <http://www.edmontonlawlibraries.ca/HeadStart.htm>

7. CPLED: <http://www.cpled.ca/>

8. Law Society of Manitoba: <http://www.lawsociety.mb.ca/>

and not all holdings are on it, so they recommend that you call the library if you're looking for something so they can double check their paper records. But in spite of (or perhaps because of) that, the staff are extremely knowledgeable, and have always been most helpful and accommodating. I've simply had to adjust to the fact that sometimes I need to pick up the phone!

Contrast that with the fact that Manitoba's online statutes and regulations<sup>9</sup> are generally up to date within two days, completely free of cost, and available to the public. Their registry filings system<sup>10</sup>, while limited in its search functions, is also freely available and its Winnipeg Queen's Bench records go back to 1984. (Regulations and notices, however, are only published in the hard copy Gazettes, not online, which is another thing I miss about BC.)

My impression of the legal community here is that it's extremely collegial. My firm has a spongee<sup>11</sup> team—spongee is a weird and wonderful Winnipeg-only sport: sponge hockey. Reading "The Bar Stool Pigeon" in *Lawyers Weekly*, or "People on the Move" in *Lexpert*, you'd be hard-pressed to prove that Manitoba has any lawyers at all. But *Headnotes and Footnotes*, the law society's monthly newsletter, runs "What's Happening", which is usually a two-page spread of comings and goings, lawyer names in the news, event write-ups, and anecdotes about members of the local bar (which includes, of course, curling victories).



My five years in Vancouver spoiled me somewhat: working in a larger firm meant a bigger budget, but there was also just generally more available for BC law tools and commentary. Plus, Vancouver has significantly fewer potholes! All in all, working in a law library in Manitoba has its ups and downs. I can happily report that perhaps because of Winnipeg's innate frugality, no one ever fusses when I tell them "we can't afford it."

And while there is still a sense of urgency to requests some days, I get the impression that things in this prairie town are more laid back than other major cities. Winnipeg law firms are veritable ghost towns in the summer, when the courts have their unofficial summer recess. People stream from the city to their cottages and enjoy the sun and the water. After all, as Mr. Holburn told me on my last day at Alexander Holburn, "The best thing about Winnipeg is that there are no blizzards in the summer, and no mosquitoes in the winter." And the people? Friendliest I've ever met.

*Emma Wood works at Tapper Cuddy LLP and Stem Legal Web Enterprises. For more about her adventures in Friendly Manitoba, visit [www.winnipegomyheart.com](http://www.winnipegomyheart.com).*

9. Manitoba Statutes and Regulations: [http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/index\\_ccsm.php](http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/index_ccsm.php)

10. Manitoba Courts Registry Filings: <http://www.jus.gov.mb.ca>

11. Spongee: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spongee>

## VALL Celebrates Twenty Years

Yoko Beriault and Anne Ikeda

Imagine walking in on 90 VALL members, past and present, meeting and greeting, having too much fun to think of starting lunch. This was the scene that greeted Neil Campbell who had just arrived from Victoria to attend the Vancouver Association of Law Libraries 20th anniversary celebration. He seemed a little perplexed at first but, as I guided him to one of the few remaining seats, he visibly relaxed and a wide smile appeared on his face as he spotted, first, retired UBC law librarian Tom Shorthouse and then fellow former CALL president Diana Inselberg who had also travelled some distance from her home in Enderby. Soon he was joining in the happy reunions as faces were remembered and connections renewed. It was a veritable who's who of VALL alumni who acknowledged the value of the association by joining current members to mark this anniversary.

The VALL volunteers and Four Seasons Hotel staff had gone all out to make the Seasons Room look festive with roses and candles on each table. A bill of fare was at each place setting along with the soon to be coveted VALL 20th anniversary leather bookmark. When the crowd was finally persuaded to take their seats the attentive wait staff took excellent care of all our culinary needs.

Our guest speaker was Ian Hanomansing of CBC news. After a glowing and well researched (of course) introduction from Elena Barreiro he spoke about his early media days in Nova Scotia and his later career with the CBC. There was plenty of time for questions from the floor. We were then treated to three festive songs from talented tenor Alex Crabtree and the entertainment was brought to a rousing finale by Tom Shorthouse at the grand piano. Who but Tom could have written witty, catchy ditties that sing the praises of the Canadian Abridgment and the joys of looseleaf filing?

At suitable breaks in the programme, Laura Eno and Anne Beresford took care of the drawing of the names of the winners of the door prizes which had been received from many VALL supporters. The generous donation of gifts and sponsorships enabled the anniversary to be celebrated in style proving again the value of this organization to its members and to their employers and suppliers.

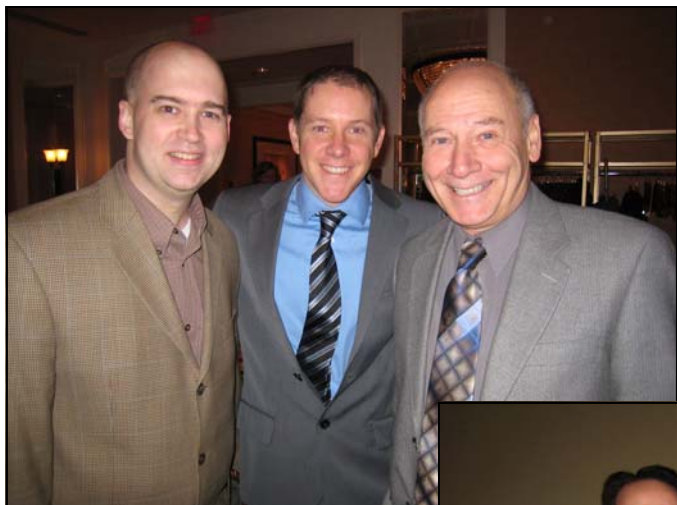
Thank you to all the organizers who put so much time and energy into this memorable event. Do we really have to wait twenty years to do it again?



Tom Shorthouse singing the "VALL Song"



Ian Hanomansing



Top: Steve Matthews (Stem Legal), Mike Pasta (Quickscribe) and Victor Pasta (Quickscribe)

Right: Allan Akizuki (Carswell), Wilma MacFarlane (Farris LLP) and Ian Braid (Carswell)



Top: Gabriella Barsoum (Fasken Martineau) and Teresa Gleave (Fasken Martineau) with the sign acknowledging all our generous sponsors

Right: Three of our Honoured Members: Tom Shorthouse, Marjorie Keddy and Catherine Kerr



## 1988 Trivia

Lynda Mitchell

As part of the VALL Anniversary Lunch, Lynda Mitchell compiled a list of facts about 1988.

1988 was a leap year. In the 20th century, the year 1988 has the most Roman numeral digits at 11: MCMLXXXVIII. In the Chinese zodiac, it was the year of the rabbit until February 16 and the dragon for the remainder of the year.

### 1988 Events

#### January

- The Soviet Union begins its program of economic restructuring (perestroika) with legislation initiated by Premier Mikhail Gorbachev.
- The Dow Jones Industrial Average falls 140.58 points, or 6.85%, to close at 1,911.31 in a mini-crash.
- Canada's abortion laws are repealed by the Supreme Court.

#### February

- The US House of Representatives rejects President Ronald Reagan's request for \$36.25 million to support the Nicaraguan Contras.
- The XV Olympic Winter Games open in Calgary.

#### March

- In the Iran-Contra Affair, Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North and Vice Admiral John Poindexter are indicted on charges of conspiracy to defraud the United States.
- Jacques Parizeau becomes leader of the Parti Québécois.

#### May

- After more than eight years of fighting, the Soviet Red Army begins withdrawing from Afghanistan.
- A report by US Surgeon General C. Everett Koop states that the addictive properties of nicotine are similar to those of heroin and cocaine.
- The new National Gallery of Canada building opens in Ottawa.

#### June

- Wembley Stadium hosts a concert featuring stars from the fields of music, comedy and film, in celebration of the 70th birthday of imprisoned ANC leader, Nelson Mandela.
- *Morrison v. Olson*: the United States Supreme Court upholds the law allowing special prosecutors to investigate suspected crimes by executive branch officials.

#### July

- The *War Measures Act* is replaced by the *Emergencies Act*.
- The Piper Alpha drilling platform in the North Sea is destroyed by explosions and fires, killing 165 oil workers.

#### August

- Wayne Gretzky is traded by the Edmonton Oilers to the Los Angeles Kings.
- The Iran-Iraq War ends, with an estimated one million lives lost.

#### September

- Prime Minister Mulroney officially apologizes for the WWII internment

### MOST POPULAR TELEVISION SHOWS

1. *The Cosby Show*
2. *A Different World*
3. *Cheers*
4. *The Golden Girls*
5. *Growing Pains*
6. *Who's the Boss*
7. *Night Court*
8. *60 Minutes*
9. *Murder, She Wrote*
10. *Alf*

### POPULAR MOVIES

1. *Beetlejuice*
2. *Big*
3. *Bull Durham*
4. *Cocktail*
5. *Colors*
6. *Coming to America*
7. *Crocodile Dundee II*
8. *Die Hard*
9. *A Fish Called Wanda*
10. *Good Morning, Vietnam*



of Japanese Canadians.

- Sprinter Ben Johnson is stripped of his Olympic gold medal and world record when he tests positive for steroids.
- The 1988 Summer Olympics open in Seoul, South Korea.
- NASA resumes space shuttle flights, grounded after the Challenger disaster, with Space Shuttle Discovery.

#### October

- Chilean president, Augusto Pinochet, is defeated in a national plebiscite which sought to renew his mandate.
- The United Kingdom bans broadcast interviews with IRA members. The BBC gets around this stricture through the use of professional actors.
- US President Ronald Reagan decides to tear down the new US embassy in Moscow because of Soviet listening devices in the building structure.

#### POPULAR MUSIC

1. *So Emotional* — Whitney Houston
2. *Got My Mind Set on You* — George Harrison
3. *The Way You Make Me Feel* — Michael Jackson
4. *Need You Tonight* — INXS
5. *Could've Been* — Tiffany
6. *Season Change* — Exposé
7. *Father Figure* — George Michael
8. *Never Gonna Give You Up* — Rick Astley
9. *Man in the Mirror* — Michael Jackson
10. *Get Outta My Dreams, Get Into My Car* — Billy Ocean

#### November

- Brian Mulroney and the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada win a second majority government.
- The United States presidential election sees George H.W. Bush elected over Michael Dukakis.
- In the first open election in more than a decade, voters in Pakistan choose populist candidate, Benazir Bhutto to be Prime Minister, the first woman to head the government of an Islam-dominated state.

#### December

- The Supreme Court rules that the Quebec Charter of the French Language is unconstitutional. The Québec government reinstates the language laws using the notwithstanding clause.
- David Lam becomes Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia.
- Figure skater, Kurt Browning, completes the first-ever quadruple toe loop in competition
- Pan Am Flight 103 is blown up over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270 people.

#### ACADEMY AWARDS

Picture: **Rain Man** (*The Accidental Tourist*; *Dangerous Liaisons*; *Mississippi Burning*; *Working Girl*)

Actor: **Dustin Hoffman** in *Rain Man* (Gene Hackman in *Mississippi Burning*; Tom Hanks in *Big*; Edward James Olmos in *Stand and Deliver*; Max von Sydow in *Pelle the Conqueror*)

Actress: **Jodie Foster** in *The Accused* (Glenn Close in *Dangerous Liaisons*; Melanie Griffith in *Working Girl*; Meryl Streep in *A Cry in the Dark*; Sigourney Weaver in *Gorillas in the Mist*)

Supporting Actor: **Kevin Kline** in *A Fish Called Wanda* (Alec Guinness in *Little Dorritt*; Martin Landau in *Tucker: the Man and His Dream*; River Phoenix in *Running on Empty*; Dean Stockwell in *Married to the Mob*)

Supporting Actress: **Geena Davis** in *The Accidental Tourist* (Joan Cusack in *Working Girl*; Frances McDormand in *Mississippi Burning*; Michelle Pfeiffer in *Dangerous Liaisons*; Sigourney Weaver in *Working Girl*)

Director: **Barry Levinson** for *Rain Man* (Charles Crichton for *A Fish Called Wanda*; Mike Nichols for *Working Girl*; Alan Parker for *Mississippi Burning*; Martin Scorsese for *The Last Temptation of Christ*)

## Web 2.0 Nuggets: or 15 cool things I learned at Internet Librarian 2008

Gabriella Barsoum, Fasken Martineau Dumoulin



Those of you who have attended an Internet Librarian conference know what a great event this is. I was fortunate enough to attend Internet Librarian 2008 [<http://www.infotoday.com/il2008/overview.asp>] in October with the assistance of a Peter Bark Memorial Bursary. Thank you VALL!

The IL2008 program consists of two days of preconference workshops plus three days of general conference sessions. The Saturday workshop was on “Integrating RSS into your website”, a topic I’m very interested in, so I just had to attend. There was an all day “Web Manager’s Academy” workshop on Sunday and I selected a full slate of sessions for Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday morning.

Each day at Internet Librarian began with a keynote address. On Monday, we heard from Howard Rheingold, the author of “Smart Mobs”, on the effect that social media and web 2.0 technologies are having on collective action or the “emergent collective response” to events, (e.g. disasters, political activities and the like.) Participatory media (access to the internet via computers and mobile phones, along with wikis, blogs, RSS, tagging, social bookmarking, music/photo/video-sharing, mashups, video blogs, etc.) is changing the way we participate in the production of culture, power, community and wealth. This is leading to new ways of learning and teaching. Mr. Rheingold has used participatory media and the concepts of “co-creation of culture”, along with the “technology of cooperation” to create a Social Media Classroom with free and open source software.<sup>1</sup>

On the second day, Danny Sullivan examined the “Google Killer” contenders. He doesn’t see anyone usurping Google in the near future. Instead, he believes that a series of “Google killerettes” will take on the giant — think of twitter, Expedia, craigslist, eventful and yelp on the consumer side, and specialized companies like 10K Wizard SEC Power Search on the serious research side. They challenge Google because they excel in specific niche areas in which they have a high level of expertise. He pointed out that the companies most likely to stick around are the ones who start with a great idea, develop a good product and then allow the revenue side to naturally grow out of their solid product. He looked to the future of Search 4.0 – personalized and social search in which searches are ordered to user preferences based on the searcher’s location and search history.

On the last day, danah boyd talked about social media. Young people are using social media as the new meeting place or the new “mall.” With no physical meeting place there is the perception among peer groups that “If you’re not on MySpace you don’t exist.” danah examined the positive aspects as well as the possibly unexpected, potentially negative aspects of publishing one’s life on the web in an attention driven economy; what you post is permanent, replicable, scalable (that is, it may have a narrower or wider audience than you intend), and searchable (so that the information may be found by parents, future bosses, law enforcement, etc.) In this environment, context is flexible. She also discussed the implications of the general population tagging and organizing information and creating knowledge. In this arena, our job becomes educating users on how to do this well and how to sort out the issues of authenticity and authority.

What I took away from these speakers was: librarians need to face and embrace all of these new ways of interacting and knowledge creation and distribution. Google is not going away any time soon. Wikipedia is here and it’s growing quickly. Ironically, librarians are the most resistant to this resource even though they are best placed with their knowledge and expertise to have to most positively influence its development. The new collaborative media are transforming culture and business. They are tools that librarians need to understand to maintain our relevance as they affect the world in which we operate. We should be involved in directing their future.

One of the nice things about the Internet Librarian conference is that it’s not connected with any library association,

1. [SocialMediaClassroom.com](http://SocialMediaClassroom.com)

so there are no business meetings. It's strictly about learning and networking. I didn't know anybody at the conference and being somewhat shy, this might have been a problem, but not at all — it's a very friendly conference. There were no formal banquets or lunches, but continental breakfasts were available before the keynotes so folks could mingle. The exhibit hall was not too large and occasionally the vendors provided the coffee breaks and of course, "swag" and prize draws. For evening socials, "Dine-Arounds" were planned with pre-conference signup sheets online where one could choose a restaurant and a conference related topic to make it easy to mix with other attendees. If you hadn't signed up, you could just mill around the message board and find a group to join. Monterey has some very good restaurants within walking distance of the conference centre. On Sunday I joined the group at Ambrosia (Indian Bistro) with the proposed discussion topic of "Searching and Search Engines". On Monday I went to Stokes Adobe Restaurant (American) ostensibly planning to discuss New Roles for Info Pros & Internet Librarians. Not once did we discuss the assigned topics. This was just a time for fun, laughing, talking about our hometowns, our weather, our families, our libraries and perhaps some of our most interesting work experiences. The reference librarians had some of the funniest stories to tell.

## 15 cool tools & tips

With infectious enthusiasm, the IL2008 presenters shared many inspiring ideas and tips along with a great many cool websites and useful tools. Some focused on search while others emphasized getting the web to do the work of keeping us up to date. Some of the session topics were more suited to public libraries and college and university libraries that have web pages out on the open web. I found that the one of the most frequently asked questions was: "Does this work behind a firewall?" — a constraint faced by many of us in legal and corporate libraries. In some cases the answer was "no", but there were many cool tools presented that could be used in private law libraries. I can't share them all with you, so I'm paring it down to a few tools that seemed really "cool". Some of the tips may seem common sense, but it never hurts to be reminded of them. I've included some tips related to web design, a particular interest of mine. I've limited the list to tools that are free, so we can jump right in and get started.

1. **Feedity – Create RSS for any webpage.** (<http://feedity.com/>) One of the recurring themes for Web 2.0 is that information collection should be as automatic as possible. We should not have to visit hundreds of websites every day to stay current on our research topics, our clients or our competitors. So we set up an aggregator and load it with RSS feeds. Feedity is a tool that facilitates monitoring a webpage that does not have an RSS feed attached to it. Use it to turn your competitor's "news release" page into a feed that can be read along with all the other feeds in your aggregator. Another option is: **Page2Rss – Helps you monitor web sites that do not publish feeds.** (<http://www.page2rss.com>) It checks for updates and delivers them to your aggregator. It works on any public page with a static URL. Michael Sauers said this one works better than Feedity but doesn't allow refining of the results.<sup>2</sup>
2. **FeedMySearch – Turn your Google searches into RSS feeds.** (<http://feedmysearch.com/>) Stay up to date on new results for ongoing research. This is as simple as typing in your search terms, selecting a search type from the drop down menu (i.e. web search, news search, blog search, etc.) and clicking feed my search. Then just hit subscribe and choose your aggregator.
3. **Feed to JavaScript – Republish a feed to your website without knowing XML.** (<http://feed2js.org/>) This can be downloaded and installed on your local server so it's behind your firewall. For example, you can use this to post the Table of Contents of the current issue of your favorite journal into a page on your website. All you do is find your RSS source, fill out the form to control the display format and style it if you wish.
4. **Google Translated Search – Search the non-English language web.** ([http://www.google.com/translate\\_s](http://www.google.com/translate_s)) You can enter your English search terms and search for pages written in another language of your

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2. Michael Sauers, Technology Innovation Librarian, Nebraska Library Commission. *Workshop: Integrating RSS into your web site.*

choice: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hindi, Vietnamese, etc. Results will be displayed in both English and the originally chosen language.

5. **Google News Archive – Get a news timeline for your search topic.** (<http://www.news.google.com/archivesearch>) You could search for a person, such as Stephen Harper, or a company, like “Apple MacIntosh” and find a timeline of newsworthy events as well as a graph showing the frequency of entries by date, thereby identifying clusters of activity on that search subject and perhaps finding a way to focus your search.
6. **Yahoo Tools:**
  - Yahoo’s SearchAssist – Displays similar and related concepts and narrower phrases.** (<http://www.search.yahoo.com>) As you start entering a search phrase such as “subprime ” a drop down list of suggestions will appear including “subprime mortgage” “subprime lenders” “subprime loans” “subprime mortgage crisis” and “what is subprime.”
  - Yahoo Brackets** allows you to enter two search terms that must appear in your search results in the specified order but not necessarily side by side as a phrase. E.g. [subprime crisis] can retrieve “subprime mortgage crisis” and “subprime lending crisis” and “subprime mortgage industry is in crisis now.”
  - Yahoo Glue – Displays your search results in groups by type** (<http://in.search.yahoo.com>) With this application, available on Google India, a search for “United Nations” will display boxes for Wikipedia results, HowStuffWorks.com results, Image results, Yahoo Answers results, and Google Blog search results. A search for “Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development” results in similar boxes plus a box for YouTube results. The left hand side always shows the traditional linear search results list.
7. **Searchme – disambiguates your search words** (<http://www.searchme.com>) If you start to type in a word that can have many meanings or uses, before you hit return, a series of icons will appear beside the search box with suggestions regarding the meaning or use of the word. For “sun” you’ll get icons for astronomy, weather, work & career, etc., to help you focus your search.
8. **Serph.com – pulls together information from various web 2.0 search tools.** (<http://serph.com>) The search results list will identify where it found results, i.e. from “Google Blog Search”, from “Bloglines”, from “Flickr”, from YouTube, from “Technorati RSS”, etc. Again, this can help you focus your search.
9. **Watch that Page – allows you to stay aware of any changes made to a webpage.** (<http://www.watchthatpage.com>) Steven Cohen’s approach is to keep finding new information related to his clients’ research questions until they tell him to stop. In order to do this in a manageable way, he makes the information come to him. He will use this tool to monitor a press release page for a company, watch for personnel changes on a contacts page, or keep tabs on page relevant to a certain piece of legislation, to be alerted when something changes on that page. “With WatchThatPage you can make your own newsletter customized with the information important to you, from the sources of your choice. Find out about competitors, partners, online news and magazines, reports, or events. Any page on the Internet can be watched. There is nothing to download to use WatchThatPage.”<sup>3</sup>
10. **TinyURL – creates a manageable URL from a really long URL** (<http://www.tinyurl.com>) When you want to e-mail a URL to someone and you don’t want it to break in the e-mail when it wraps over several lines, create a tiny URL first.
11. **Tools for sharing bits of web pages:**
  - CiteBite – allows you to create a link to a highlighted portion of text from any<sup>4</sup> page** (<http://www.citebite.com/>) Cut the portion of text and paste it into cite bite along with the URL of the source page.

3. Steven Cohen, *Law Library Management Inc. Tips for Keeping Up*.

4. Warning: this didn’t work with Wikipedia pages when I tried it; it returned an “unexpected and ‘unpleasant’ response” to cite bite. Whoa! But try this one that I created: <http://pages.citebite.com/u1r2B3u0w0kqi>

You will be provided with a new link that will take you to the page with the cited text highlighted in yellow.

**Awesomehighlighter** – similar to cite bite (<http://www.awesomehighlighter.com>)

12. **LegalPubs.ca** — Those of you regularly reading the Vancouver Law Librarian Blog or Connie Crosby's blog will no doubt be aware of this useful feed. [LegalPubs.ca](http://www.legalpubs.ca) lists the latest products offered by Canadian legal publishers. Connie pointed this one out as an example of how librarians can make RSS work for the end user. Her point was that our job is not just give our lawyers NewsGator and expect them to use it because it's really not that simple. Rather our job is to create useful resources for them with these tools. Bottom line: we need to do the work.
13. **Website tune-ups** — There are four important points to focus on when tuning up your website: credibility, navigation, design and performance.
 

**Credibility** — Engender trust by using a built-in JavaScript copyright statement on your site; it automatically updates your © date. Use photographs (posed, not casual) to enhance your contacts page and provide a virtual connection to a real person.

**Navigation** — Avoid the banner area of the page and avoid “click here” links. The banner area is a “blindness zone” where commercial ads usually appear so users have learned to automatically bypass that area. Look up heatmaps on the web to find images showing where the blindness zones are on a typical web page. When including links in your web page content, it is always best to embed them in the text.

**Design** — Create a good logo for your site; it should be bright text, simple in style and sans serif. You can use Web 2.0 Sytlr to help you create one. Use meaningful icons; you can find a good selection at Crystal Clear ([http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Crystal\\_clear](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Crystal_clear)) or Smashing Magazine (<http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2008/03/06/35-really-incredible-free-icon-sets/>).

**Performance** — Use HTML Tidy to spring clean your HTML. Do the same for your CSS with Clean CSS. Always include the trailing slash at the end of your URLs as this makes it easier for servers to locate information. Combine a series of small images into an Image Map; combining multiple smaller images into a single image speeds up downloads due to fewer http requests.<sup>5</sup>
14. **ClickHeat clicks heatmap – a visual heatmap of clicks on a webpage showing hot & cold click zones.** (<http://www.labsmedia.com/clickheat/index.html>) Cliff Landis shared some tips on how to get users to drive the direction of your library site.
  1. Avoid the committee approach to implementing new tools and avoid the naysayers who always point out the negatives of every idea.
  2. Take small steps and implement them quickly. Avoid over planning. Give your idea a try, be willing to fail and then evaluate.
  3. Constantly assess your relationship with your users to measure progress. Get feedback via: brief surveys; focus groups or user observation (use Camtasia or Adobe Captivate to record user clicks) if possible moderated by an impartial third party; ClickHeat; and conversations with your users (get their stories).<sup>6</sup>
15. **Invisible Auctions – Search for misspelled auction items and eBay typos** (<http://www.invisible-auctions.com/>) This is more for personal use – it allows you to find and bid on items that no one else can find because of misspellings. Of course, now you'll be competing with everyone else who was at Steven's session at IL2008 and with everyone who reads this article. Don't tell anyone else.<sup>7</sup>

Thanks again to the VALL executive for helping me experience this great conference.

5. Jeff Wisniewski, University of Pittsburgh. *Fast & Easy Site Tune-ups*.

6. Cliff Landis, Valdosta State University. *Crafting the User-Centered Library*.

7. Steven Cohen, Law Library Management Inc. *Tips for Keeping Up*.

# VALL Review

## What's New at Courthouse Libraries BC: What is the Courthouse Library doing with its catalogue?

Mandy Ostick, Courthouse Libraries BC

In November 2008 we did a soft launch of our new catalogue tool: AquaBrowser Library [<http://abl.courthouselibrary.ca/>]. Sylvia Nurse, Charles Boname and other Courthouse Libraries BC staff members have put a tremendous amount of work into this project and we have more ahead; we consider it a work in progress. As AquaBrowser is a search and discovery platform rather than an ILS, we can continue to offer our traditional catalogue interface as well as the new AquaBrowser interface. However, if you haven't tried our new catalogue yet, here are some of the features it offers that make it worth a look. We're also testing some exciting new features that we hope to be able to offer to our users soon... once we get them working!

The screenshot displays the AquaBrowser Library search interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Traditional Catalogue', 'Contact Us', 'FAQ', and 'Help'. Below these are buttons for 'New Catalogue', 'Renew Books', 'Library Website', 'Ask Questions', 'Order Photocopies', and 'Links'. The search bar contains the text 'the reports' and a 'Search' button. To the left of the search bar is a word cloud with terms like 'sue', 'series', 'commission', 'britain', 'ireland', 'nova', 'australia', 'scotia', 'digest', 'the reports', 'committee', 'quebec', 'annotation', 'great', 'alberta', 'equity', 'index', 'citation', 'reporter', 'paper', and 'message'. Below the word cloud is a legend with categories: Association (blue), Translation (green), Discovery trail (brown), Spelling variation (orange), and Thesaurus term (cyan). The main search results area shows 'Results 1 - 10 of 2,530 for the reports, sorted by: relevance'. The first result is 'The Reports: decisions of the House of Lords ... [etc.] / edited by John News'. The second result is 'The Law reports, Weekly law reports, and Restrictive practices reports. Consolidated index'. The third result is 'The Law reports. Queen's Bench Division'. On the right side, there are filters for 'Select Location' (All locations), 'Refine' (Author: Great Britain (465), British Columbia (244), Canada (231), 1,740 more...), 'Subject' (Law reports, digests, etc. -- Great Britain (420), Law reports, digests, etc. -- Canada (153), Law reports, digests, etc. -- United States (77), Law reports, digests, etc. -- Great Britain (64), Law reports, digests, etc. -- Ontario (54), 3,117 more...), and 'Publication date' (This year (14), In the last 3 years (84), In the last 10 years (351), 1,076 more...).

The new catalogue offers:

**Simplicity.** The new catalogue is more forgiving of variations in spelling and pluralization than our traditional catalogue. While VALL members are generally power users who are prepared to deal with exacting syntax requirements and formulate clever search strategies, we felt that a search tool that helps the simplest of searches to succeed would be a welcome improvement for all our users.

**Relevancy-ranked results (and other options for viewing your results).** We weren't sure how AquaBrowser, a tool mostly used by public and academic libraries, would handle a legal collection. We were one of the first law libraries in the world to implement Aquabrowser so there weren't many pioneers to learn from. As it turns out, AquaBrowser's relevancy ranking of results are actually very helpful when you're trying to find a call number for an old and obscure case reporter. If you search for the challengingly-named *The Reports* (the one cited R.), *The Reports* is actually your first result using AquaBrowser. This is not the case using our traditional catalogue!

**Opportunities to discover related items with the word cloud.** A visual word cloud is generated with every search. The word cloud can be a great way to explore and discover new items in our catalogue. Feedback so far indicates that many people find the word cloud a joy to use but some find it an irritant. I suspect that people who don't like the word cloud are better at spelling McLachlin than I am. It's true that not everything in the word cloud is pure gold but it only takes one good association to link you to a promising item

that your first search did not turn up. For example, a search for *discovery* produces a word cloud of potentially helpful terms like *interrogatories*, *evidence*, and *document*. The words in the word clouds are automatically generated based on computer analysis, which explains why related terms are sometimes odd. The italicized keywords in CanLII's search results lists are generated in the same automated way and, like AquaBrowser's word clouds, are often helpful but occasionally bizarre. If you don't love the word cloud, click the white arrow to hide it from view. However, you will miss out on some fine catalogue entertainment: enjoying the hypnotic effect of clicking on a word in the word cloud and watching the "tentacles" rearrange themselves. Choose a new word, then another, then another. Remember how clicking hyperlinks on web pages used to be so hard to resist? The word cloud brings that feeling back!

**Ability to refine your search results with a click of the mouse.** Use the refine facets on the right of the search window to quickly narrow your search results by publication date, format, and so on.

**Context-sensitive hints and help from us as you search.** For example, if you search the catalogue for "CLE", you will find some but not necessarily all of our Continuing Legal Education materials. You will also see this message from us: "Searching for CLE? Try Continuing Legal Education." We will continue to monitor our search logs and add further hints and links to help our users' searches succeed.

Upcoming:

**A name.** We don't want to keep calling this new tool by the name of the platform, AquaBrowser Library! We're currently using it as a catalogue search interface but it has the potential to be a powerful one stop search for the library – so "new catalogue" really isn't the whole picture.

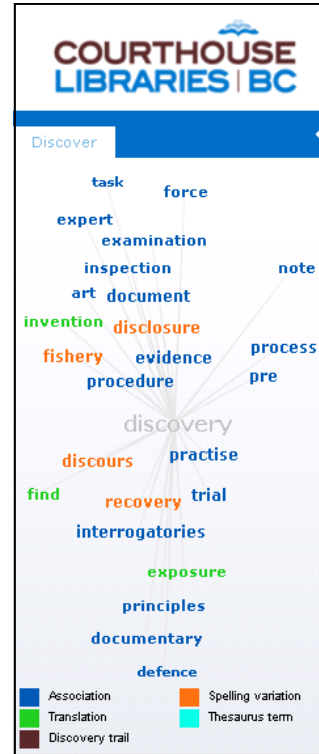
**Incorporating search results from our website.** We're testing AquaBrowser's webcrawler feature, which allows you to search our catalogue and website together in one place. You can refine your results to view only results from the catalogue or the website.

**RSS feeds of new material.** We're currently testing a feature that allows you to save any search as an RSS feed. This means you can set up personalized alerts so you are notified when we add new material that's relevant to you.

**Mobile version.** AquaBrowser also offers a simple search interface you can use on your cell phone. We love the idea of being able to search the catalogue on your phone when you're in the stacks and can't find something – you don't want to go back to the computers to search again.

**Access to more material.** This enhancement is not specific to AquaBrowser, but we are preparing to add LLMC Digital records to our catalogue. LLMC Digital is a database available at all BC courthouse libraries that has tons of valuable historical content (old statutes, reported cases, treatises and more - federal, BC and many other jurisdictions around the world) but has a search interface which is highly discouraging to all but the most determined of researchers. Making these records available through the catalogue should help connect researchers to this material. If this project goes well we can investigate adding more catalogue records for other online materials.

VALL members, please try our new catalogue and let us know what you think – and thank you for the feedback you've given us already.



# VALL Review

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## A Day in the Life of a Library Technician

**Christina Tribe, Harper Grey**

9:10 Jump off the bus and check my watch. I'm running late, but not late enough to skip the morning Starbucks. Stand in line behind two of my articling students and get a jump on the news and needs for the day.

9:15 Waltz past reception and notice associate browsing medico-legal section of library. Ask if he's looking for Picard again. Check cards quickly to see who has any of the four copies. Promise to deliver book after I've doffed my coat. Chat a moment more and answer questions about my pregnancy. Funnily enough, since he has a health law practice the questions are "who is your doctor and where are you delivering?" and not the usual "how do you feel and when are you due?" Add his suggested baby names to the list.

9:20 Hang coat, say good morning to rest of students and corner-mate, prop fresh home-made cookies on corner of desk, sign in on computer, fill up water glass, compliment the ever-stylish ladies in the corner on their impeccable taste in shoes and dresses. Don't mention the cookies, they're all on diets — besides, the students will have decimated the stash before I return.

9:30 Tidy up returns book shelf, make more room for returned books, check card slots to see how much action the library got last night. Sign out cards. Find Picard, deliver to grateful associate. Finish shelving books, tidy bays. Pull a couple really old editions of classic books we don't have room for anymore and leave in Liisa's office. Pull an ancient crumbling edition of a DLR with a broken spine and add to the stack of books to send to Rasmussen Bindery.

9:45 Go through e-mail and phone messages. Print out case and article requests; print CISTI faxes. Quickly peek at my iGoogle, where all my feeds, Gmail, LLRX, Twitter updates and top news stories are located. Print out an article link that looks good.

10:00 Sort .PDF Netletters written in-house to their proper folders & post on our Intranet. Save recent .PDF'd decisions for later to catalogue in our decisions database.

10:10 Smile at the "I have a question for you!" student, who is always enthusiastic in his questions for me! It's a simple password that he can't remember. Luckily, I can remember it off the top of my head and shout it out for him from across the hall. I like living on student row.

10:15 Chat with Liisa who is on her way to fill up her coffee, about all things we're doing today. Open snail mail while catching up, recycle all but one page of the publishers' blurbs, toss the one page in Liisa's inbox. I offer to take a couple tasks off her To Do List and add to mine. Tell her about the reference question I've left for her, about the unknown existence of obscure US medical research policy from 30+ yrs ago and its influence on obscure unrelated Canadian standards. I only do reference questions about things known to exist, like the whereabouts of Elvis.

10:30 Open DBText, and add all new entries into serials database, add the invoices too.

11:00 Deliver CISTI orders printed out this morning to associate whose office is beside the break room. Have a coffee break, chat with partner at espresso machine who wants to know if a certain piece of legislation has been called into force. Answer all baby questions. Add name suggestions to list. He also asks if I have cookies today. He is not disappointed.

11:18 Overhear senior partner refer to legal assistant as "his girl." "His girl" and I tease him mercilessly.

11:20 Get started on case and article requests. Open up CISTI & Pubmed for the article requests, order a dozen fairly quickly and easily. Find a couple for free! Am stuck on one obscure article and go through the list of my favourite ILL sources. Turns out the University of Washington has obscure article. Order online. Switch back and forth between my passwords database, Pubmed and the UW library catalogue so I can fill in all the blanks. Order one article online directly from publisher, but have to register for account. Record info in our publisher's database; forward billing information to accounting with correct file number, mark the time on my billing sheet.

12:00 Colour code the case requests so that I can find things more easily. QL and Best Case in pink; BCLRs in green; SCRs in yellow; anything in our cases database blue. Luckily most of the cites are in pink and blue. One of the



cites has to come from the courthouse, so speed dial Carmen at BCCLS and request the case. Double-check spelling on one incorrect cite by Googling it, edit on list of authorities. Dig up the couple remaining cases and photocopy. Mark time on my billing sheet. Deliver stack of cases on the way to lunch. Associate is thrilled with the turn around time. Chat for a moment or two, answer all baby questions. Add name suggestions to list. She also asks if I have cookies today.

12:50 Find out if section is called into force using the BC Legislative Digest & Quickscribe for the Espresso Partner, and deliver documentation on my way out for lunch.

1:00 - 2:00 Lunch

2:00 Participate in corner gossip-a-thon while checking afternoon emails, Gmails, feeds, and Twitter. Add a couple del.icio.us bookmarks, notice the Food Librarian blog has a nice link to cookies, print recipe. Sort returned snail mail; notice that whole journals keep getting hung up in a certain lawyer's office. Move his name to bottom of list & make note to copy table of contents of the popular journals for him instead of directly routing. Quickly flip through *Business in Vancouver* and *Lawyers Weekly* for any mention of our legal work or our advertisements. Flag article for copying to Marketing, and for later .PDF'ing to catalogue.

2:30 Make copy of journal article for associate, deliver downstairs, and also take along an armload of books to shelve in the Solicitors' section of the library. Ask associate if they need anything else, while removing cards from books they've neglected to sign out. Make mental note to check their office first next time books are missing. Take back all books they're hoarding but not currently using. Answer all baby questions, add name suggestions to list. Confirm there are a couple cookies left.

2:45 New student asks how to use QL to look up injuries for damages report. Remind him to start with the Quantum pathfinder, and to use the paid electronic databases last. Show him where to begin with Goldsmith's Digests. Leave him oooh-ing and aaaah-ing.

2:55 Answer local distress call regarding a missing issue of a newsletter.

3:00 Need non-taxing task to keep fingers busy and head from nodding off, so begin cataloguing a couple of

second edition books.

3:05 Senior partner rounds corner to ask me how good I am at searching "inane knowledge," briefly consider answering in Klingon before deciding he means "arcane knowledge." Send him to talk to Liisa.

3:20 Show student how to find cases citing legislation eCarswell The special training was a couple weeks ago, and he's forgotten. Then show how to narrow search results. Seconds later hear the results list cycling through my printer. Wonder again why I'm not yet deaf. Wait till his print jobs are done and commandeer the printer for my card and pocket labels. Process the books & shelve on New Books Shelf. Remind myself to add to New Books list on Intranet library page.

3:30 Students go on coffee run and ask if I'd like anything. Gladly ask them to bring me a beverage.

3:35 Paralegal calls to check the correct way to cite a loose-leaf. Look it up while we're on the phone and let her know. She asks for my macaroon recipe, and I let her know the Weight Watchers point value for two of them. She's still interested. Put the library's citation cheat sheet into inter-office mail for the paralegal to have a handy reference. Add printed copy of recipe to envelope.

3:45 Upload Harper Grey's Quicklaw Netletters & SCC alerts to the Intranet library page. Add links and notes.

3:50 Student has question about judge bios; point her in the right direction.

4:00 Associate calls to answer a couple of my questions about the Ecuadorian Mining Law Moratorium research he asked me to do. I am once again en el buen camino. He drops a hint that it's his fiancée's birthday coming up. I ask him if he'd like to order some chocolate covered macaroons. Claro que si!

4.15 Associate swings by looking for an afternoon snack and asks me to order a couple more books for her Special Prosecutor file. I compare prices on Chapters, Amazon.com, Amazon.ca and Abebooks. Find a used copy for cheap from an American bookseller via Abebooks, order and use Abebooks coupon. Let accounting know of the Visa charges, and mark the time on my billing sheet.

4:30 Make a trek to VPL to sign out same book I

(Continued on page 22)

# VALL Review

## Vendor Tips and Tricks

### Noting up British cases on Quicklaw

Angeline Han, LexisNexis Canada

(Note: you will need to subscribe to UK content to access the source 'CaseSearch'):

If you have the case open on your screen (for example, 'Prince of Wales v Associated Newspapers'), click on the Citator Icon (above the case name) to note up the case.

If you do not have the case open on your screen, you can note up the case right away using the source 'CaseSearch' – this source is the UK equivalent of our QuickCITE source.

How to add the source 'CaseSearch' into your International search form:

1. Click on the 'International' search tab.
2. Under the 'Sources' box, click on the link 'Find more sources...'
3. In the 'Find a source' box (top right hand side), type in 'casesearch'. One result should appear.
4. Mark the checkbox next to the source. Mark the 'Save as a favourite' box to keep this source as a favourite (\*) for future use. Click on the red 'OK-Continue' button. You will be re-directed to the 'International' search form.

Treatment	Case Name	Citations	Court	Date	Signal
Diets of Lord Atkin Applied	Hill v Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Services Board (A-G of Canada intervening)	2007 SCC 41, [2008] 3 LRC 447	Can SC	04/10/2007	🔵
Diets of Lord Atkin Applied	Syl Apps Secure Treatment Centre v BD (A-G of British Columbia, intervening)	2007 SCC 38, [2008] 3 LRC 45	Can SC	27/07/2007	🔵
Considered	State of New South Wales v Fahy	[2007] HCA 20, [2007] 5 LRC 1	Aus HC (Full Ct)	22/05/2007	🔵
Considered	Pearson Education Ltd v Charter Partnership Ltd	[2007] EWCA Civ 130, [2007] 21 BCL 232, [2007] BCL 224, [2007] All ER (D) 262 (Feb)	CA	21/02/2007	🔵
Diets of Lord Macmillan Considered	Magill v Magill (A-G intervening)	[2006] HCA 51, [2007] 1 LRC 652	Aus HC	09/11/2006	🔵
Applied	Baxall Securities Ltd v Sheard Walsh Partnership (a firm)	[2001] Lloyd's Rep PN 85, 74 ConLR 116, [2000] All ER (D) 1622	Tech & Constr Ct	30/10/2000	🔴
Considered	McLoughlin v O'Brian	[1981] 1 QB 599, [1981] 1 All ER 609, [1981] 2 WLR 1014, [1982] RTR 209, 125 Sol Jo 169	CA	16/12/1980	🟢
Applied	Ross v Caunters	[1980] Ch 297, [1979] 3 All ER	Ch D	05/06/1980	🟡

Once you have added the source 'CaseSearch', here is how you note up a case:

1. Make sure you are in the 'International' search form and the source is selected to 'CaseSearch'
2. Type in your case name into the 'Case name' box (for example, 'donoghue and stevenson').
3. Click 'Search'. The note up record should automatically appear with the 'donoghue and stevenson' example.

## How to Find Sections of Statutes in BC that Have Come into Effect This Year on Quicklaw

Angeline Han, LexisNexis Canada

1. Click on the 'Legislation' search tab.
2. In the Search Terms box, enter 'eff +3 2009' to search for eff within three words or less from 2009. The trick for these types of searches is to look for the language that is recurring in the legislation documents.
3. Leave the Source as 'All Canadian Statutes and Regulations'.
4. Change the jurisdiction to 'British Columbia'.
5. Click search.

## Quickscribe

Mike Pasta, Quickscribe

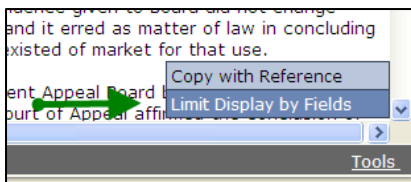
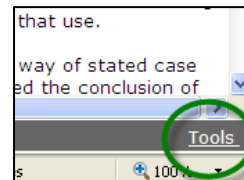
When using Quickscribe, you can have copies of several different Acts/Regulations on your screen at the same time. Simply right click on the name of an act (or regulation) shown in the left navigation menu and then select **Open in a new Window**. By doing this you can look at multiple pieces of legislation without having to close the document you are in.

## How to Limit Fields in Search Results in Westlaw eCarswell

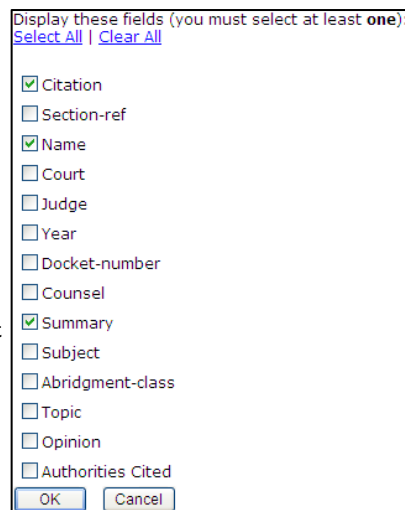
Allan Akizuki, Carswell

Here's how to View, Download, Email or Print only Headnotes (or any other document fields) from a single document or a list of search results.

- Find or Search for your case or cases.
- In the lower-right corner of the screen click the **Tools** link.
- Select **Limit Display by Fields** from the menu that should now appear.



- Select the Fields you wish to view and click **OK**.
- You will return to the document(s) and only see the fields you selected. The view will be maintained if you Print, Download or Email the document(s)
- To return to the normal view click the Tools link again and select **Cancel Field Limits** from the menu that appears.



# VALL Review

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## Membership Matters

VALL is delighted to welcome the following new members:

**Caroline Derksen** (c.v.derksen@gmail.com)

Caroline is currently an MLIS student at the School of Library and Archival Studies, UBC, graduating in July 2009. She works at the reference desk at the UBC Curtis Law Library as a part-time graduate assistant where she has the great privilege of asking for legal reference advice from the senior librarians (Elim Wong, Sandra Wilkins, and Mary Mitchell). She also works part-time as a technical writer for the Eco-status and Trends Report (an undertaking of Environment Canada). Her favourite class this term is LIBR 557: Advanced Search and Retrieval Methods, with Luanne Freund. Caroline's undergraduate degree was at York University where she majored in "Law and Society" and "Women's Studies". She likes reading Supreme Court of Canada decisions. Caroline spent 4 months teaching preschool in Boksburg, South Africa as well as over a year employed as a tutor for autistic children.

**Kristin Hodgins** (kristin.hodgins@gmail.com)

**Carolyn Petrie**, BC Securities Commission (cpetrie@bcsc.bc.ca)

Carolyn is a new Information Specialist at the BC Securities Commission, liaising with Legal Counsel staff, and providing research, training, current awareness, and other KM services. This is her first time conducting legal research, as her previous experience has been primarily with art galleries and museums; she's looking forward to learning more through VALL! In her spare time, she enjoys knitting, cooking, reading, and planning vacations to places off the beaten track.

**Sarah Preston** (sarah.preston@courts.gov.bc.ca)

**Brian Sloan** (bsloan@interchange.ubc.ca)

Brian is a soon-to-be graduate of the Joint Master of Library and Information Studies / Master of Archival Studies program at the University of British Columbia. His professional interests include law, business, and health librarianship. When not studying, Brian enjoys traveling and making music. He is currently working as a Research Assistant for CAREX Canada.

**Beibei Zhang**, BC Securities Commission (bzhang@bcsc.bc.ca)

Beibei Zhang is a new Information Specialist at BC Securities Commission. She graduated from SLAIS at UBC in 2004 and was an Outreach Librarian at the Vancouver Public Library, Multicultural Services Division before she joined BCSC. She looks forward to working with VALL members in the new phase of her career.

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## Tales from the Library

**Lisa Coco, Bull, Houser & Tupper LLP**

Every once in a while we come across a little cartoon that seems to say it all about libraries. We post them to a bulletin board above the photocopier near the library to amuse the poor folks who are mindlessly copying cases or the like. Our favourite to date isn't a cartoon, however. No, it was a yellow sticky attached to a booklet that arrived in our mailbox the other day. We are pretty sure you can all relate to the message. We consider ourselves fortunate to be regarded as the people who simply know everything!

No idea what this  
is.....  
send to library.

## Member Announcements

**Gwendoline Hoar** will be retiring on March 31, 2009 after 32 years as Head Librarian at Lawson Lundell LLP. **Susannah Tredwell** will be taking over Gwendoline's position.

**Frances Main** is now the President-Elect of the Western Canada Chapter of the Special Libraries Association.

**Steve Matthews** had an article "[It's Not the Tool, It's You!](#)" published in the December 2008 issue of the *Texas Bar Journal*.

**Carolyn Petrie** and **Beibei Zhang** recently joined the BC Securities Commission as Information Specialists. Carolyn has a joint MLIS/MAS degree from UBC and she came to the BCSC from the City of New Westminster. At the BCSC, she works primarily with litigators and policy lawyers, conducting research, providing training, and developing their legal collection. She also works with the BCSC executive, monitoring the landscape for emerging regulatory issues in securities law and blogging about what she has found. Carolyn leads the

departmental information management initiatives; recently she conducted a usability study of the BCSC's document management system. Beibei's work at the BCSC has a business-focus and she works primarily with the BCSC's investigators, compliance officers, securities analysts, and communication/education team. She conducts research, provides training, develops the collection, and will be responsible for the Background Research Toolkit. She serves on the BCSC's emerging retail investments team and maintains a Wiki where they share their knowledge. At the moment she is leading the implementation of Newsgator, an RSS aggregator that will eventually replace the BCSC's journal routing service.

**Sarah Preston** is the new Library Technician at the Judges' Library.

*If you have recently switched employers, received a promotion, or if any of your contact information has changed, please drop a line to VALL Review Editors & Membership Secretary. We also welcome short biographies of new members.*

## Tips and Tricks

Susannah Tredwell

- In these current economic times, you may find the AALL document "Commonly Asked Questions and Answers about the Value and Work of Law Librarians" (<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/pllis/Toolkit/ToolkitQA.pdf>) useful. It gives you key points in answering such questions as "Why does our firm need a law librarian?" and "How can a law librarian save the firm money?"
- You can do point-in-time searching for federal acts and regulations on the Department of Justice Canada's website at <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/searchadvanced>. Point in time content begins on January 1st, 2003 for acts and March 22nd, 2006 for regulations. For point-in-time, the *Income Tax Act* and *Regulations* go back to August 31, 2004.
- The **English Reports** from 1457 to 1873 are now available online for free at <http://www.commonlii.org/int/cases/EngR/>. They are not presented in their original format but they are searchable.
- LEXUM has unveiled **ACCQ**, an annotated version of the Quebec Civil Code (<http://ccq.lexum.umontreal.ca/ccq/home.do?lang=en>). The relevant decisions issued from the Supreme Court of Canada, Appeal Court of Québec, Superior Court of Québec and Court of Québec are automatically linked to each section with the data provided by Reflex, CanLII's citator. The neutral reference, the style of cause, the judgment date and the URL of the decisions are also attached to each section.

# VALL Review

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ordered from Abebooks, as associate wants it ASAP to read herself. The copy I ordered online will be sent to the expert when it arrives. Take a detour through the VPL gift shop and buy a couple cute birthday cards.

5:05 Mosey back in and chat with afternoon receptionist. She lets me know she's out of loose-leaf books to file. I happily grab a stack of updates, find the books and leave in the stacks behind reception. Bring her the last cookie.

5:15 Write two sentences for overdue article in *VALL Review*.

5:20 Edit a couple records in our Unreported Cases Database. During down times our Summation Clerk puts decisions into PDFs for us; I double-check the record, correct mistakes and fill in the blanks. The stack diminishes by about an inch.

5:30 Email my husband to see when he'll be done work and can pick me up. Arrange to meet on the corner in half an hour.

5:35 Follow up with student who has good news about seminar proceedings I found for him. The "unavailable" publication was from a conference hosted by opposing counsel's experts, on a topic that discredited both expert and witness. Do a happy dance.

5:40 Reshuffle pile of things to do in order of importance for tomorrow. Check my feeds, Gmail and Twitter.

5:55 Remind students not to stay too late and that it's happy hour in the lawyer's lounge.

5:56 Drop off borrowed fiction novel in associate's office on my way out, thank her for lending it to me. Answer how I'm feeling, when I'm due, if I know whether the baby is a boy or a girl; if I have names picked out. Add names to the list. She thanks me for the cookies she ate today, and gives me a heads up on a fun task for tomorrow - social media searches for an insurance file!

6:00 Ride down elevator with partner, discuss extension of First Friday Cookie Day. Answer how I'm feeling, when I'm due, if I know boy/girl; if I have names picked out. Add names to the list.

6:05 Climb into car and let husband know our kid will probably end up being called Cookie.

*Harper Grey is looking for a maternity leave placement beginning on or about May 25th. If you are interested in applying for the one year contract, please send your CV to librarian Liisa Tella at [ltella@harpergrey.com](mailto:ltella@harpergrey.com) or give us a call at 604-687-0411.*

## VALL Review Newsletter Article Content Submission Guidelines

Please take a look at the guidelines below and contact the *VALL Review* Editors if you have any further questions. You do not have to be a VALL member to write for us. Anyone is welcome to contribute to the *VALL Review* as long as you meet the guidelines below. Thanks for your support and interest!

### Purpose of *VALL Review*

- To provide short news and articles on library information and knowledge management developments of interest to VALL members with a priority focus on legal information and related issues concerning the legal sector.
- To highlight resources of interest to VALL which would be useful to the legal community and for professional library staff development.

**Authors** are advised to submit their draft articles that meet the minimal criteria:

- 1) In Microsoft Word, plain text or RTF.
- 2) Maximum of up to 800 words for full articles.
- 3) Single spaced with paragraphs.
- 4) Functional URLs and corresponding footnote bibliographic information for further reading.
- 5) Identification of author, their official position title and parent organization.

**Publishers and vendors** should only highlight for submission any new product developments that the vendor has not yet publicly released or that the vendor would like feedback from its customers. (Note: If a vendor has already released public marketing information to all customers on its corporate web site, *VALL Review* editors will exercise rights to determine if there is sufficient space to include the submitted information, in light of other *VALL* content publishing priorities.)