Fall 2015

VALL Review

Vancouver Association of Law Libraries

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The President's Desk

We are about to land in 2016, the year when the annual CALL conference comes to Vancouver. Here's to another round of spectacular spring weather to welcome our cross-Canada colleagues to more Suncouver than Raincouver.

The *Back to the Future* theme for this issue of VALL Review honours the adaptability and forward-thinking of law libraries. As noted throughout this issue, law library teams and solos are known for taking positive approaches to inevitable change. Our roles, information



Debbie Millward VALL President 2015-2016

formats and research tools have evolved even faster in 2015 than was anticipated in 2001. From where I sit, it looks like we are embracing the good advances and helping to shape those that still need tweaking, all while easing our users into the next iterations of information resources and knowledge management. The print-to-digital transition is moving more slowly than some had expected, and reluctance to use electronic versions is proving to be not so much generational as simple personal preference. As Sarah Richmond notes, it is to our users' advantage to have both formats available, until the e-book and electronic-loose-leaf licensing models are adjusted to make more sense. (Don't get me started on print loose-leafs.)

Looking ahead, I believe that mentoring our successors in law libraries will be one key to continuing this good momentum. Behaving as entrepreneurs and influencers within our legal organizations is another key.

I am thankful for the VALL Executive team, and for the legacy of Peter Bark; both are important pillars of continuing professional support for VALL members. Watch for our upcoming programs and see the Peter Bark Memorial Fund application details, on the VALL website.

All the best, Debbie

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The Past President's Desk

The 2014-15 VALL season just flew by! I enjoyed my year as President and I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the members of the hardworking VALL Executive. It has been a pleasure working with such an excellent team. Specials thanks to the outgoing members – Sarah Sutherland, Bronwyn Guiton, Kate Sloan and Kathryn Rose. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.



Larisa Titova VALL Past President 2015-2016

I am excited to work with the 2015-16 Executive as Past President. Debbie Millward of Lawson Lundell LLP is this year's President, Sarah Richmond of Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP joins the Executive as Vice President. Angela Ho of Victory Square Law Office LLP continues to manage VALL's finances and Joni Sherman of Department of Justice returns as Webmaster. We have two new Membership Secretaries - Shannon McLeod and Heather Hadley, both from Courthouse Libraries BC. The Programs Committee's Brenda Alm of Whitelaw Twining and Emily Klomps-Spanjers from McMillan LLP are joined by Laura Eno, also from McMlillan LLP. Taryn Gunter of Harper Grey and Alexandria Everitt of Harris & Company LLP are the VALL Review Editors and happily accepting your contributions and ideas.

We all look forward to a busy year with great educational seminars and networking events. This VALL season will be very special for VALL with the CALL annual conference being held in Vancouver in May 2016.

VALL Review

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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PO Box 48663, Bentall Centre Vancouver, BC V7X 1A1

From the Editors

Taryn Gunter, Harper Grey and Alexandria Everitt, Harris & Company LLP

Back in December 2001, the VALL Review published an issue focusing on <u>The Future</u> of Legal Information. Prompted by specific questions, a few librarians submitted their predictions and opinions on this topic, and concluded *What could possibly be out there that we haven't thought of yet?* Earlier this year, outgoing co-editor Kathryn Rose came back to this topic, noting that it seemed particularly relevant in the year that Marty McFly made it "back to the future" in the movies of the same name. Clearly it was a topic that resonated with librarians and law librarians in particular, as <u>other</u> <u>publications</u> also addressed the topic of looking to the future of law librarianship by looking to the past. We thought it would be fun and interesting to re-examine these questions, and again look to the future, and sent out a general call for members to submit their ideas.

In looking at the articles from 2001, what is most striking is how prescient so many of them were as to possible changes in accessibility to information. Also remarkable is how positive and embracing they are of the future. Libraries in general have generally welcomed change and innovation, even those libraries located in the otherwise rather conservative legal world. In the submissions for this issue that hopefulness and optimism remains. Law libraries may change how they offer content, or how they manage it, but they will always look to what serves the needs of their users first.

In legal libraries, we are constantly looking to the past and eying the future. Even as

the year draws to a close, we naturally look to the months that have gone, and the projects or goals that were or weren't met, and we also look to the new year, to budgets, to upcoming projects, to possible changes. To all of you planning for 2016, while looking back to 2015, whether it be for work or personal reasons, all the best of the holiday season and for the new year.

Many thanks to those writers who contributed their thoughts on The Future of Legal Information – this issue would not have been possible without you! As editors of the VALL Review, we hope to provide articles of value and interest to the membership, and to that end we are always eager to receive your contributions. If you've any feedback, or ideas for future content, or wish to contribute an article, please contact <u>vallreview@gmail.com</u>. We would love to hear from you.

Member Announcements

VALL is very pleased to welcome the following new members:

Kristin Hodgins (Kristin.Hodgins@gov.bc.ca) is the Director of Library and Research Services for the British Columbia Ministry of Justice and Attorney General. Kristin will be working out of Vancouver after being based in Victoria for the past four years. She has a BA in Law from Carleton University, an MLIS from UBC, and has a particular affinity for legislative research, cats, craft beer and lifting heavy things.

Roman Lanzarotta (<u>rlanzarotta@courthouselibrary.ca</u>) is the Client Services Librarian for Courthouse Libraries BC's New Westminster branch. He graduated with a MLIS from McGill in 2013. He has worked in libraries since 2010 and found his way into legal librarianship shortly after graduation. He looks forward to meeting other VALL members.

Marc Legacy (marc.legacy@lexisnexis.ca) is the new member of the Vancouver Training Team for LexisNexis, having joined earlier this summer on a one year fixed contract: "I am also a doctoral candidate at Simon Fraser University and have been using Quicklaw for just a little over 18 years, first as a student, then as a researcher and finally as a sessional and continuing sessional instructor. I love legal research my current research interests are in criminal and constitutional law. My doctoral dissertation examines community based pedagogies for halting violence against women, marital violence in particular."

Julie Nadalini (<u>inadalini@farris.com</u>) is the new library technician at Farris, Vaughan, Wills & Murphy LLP. She graduated from Langara's Library & Information Technology program in Spring of 2015. Julie's background is in music as she studied at the University of Victoria and achieved her Bachelors of Music in Vocal Performance in 2013. She looks forward to sharing her diverse background and can-do personality with the members of VALL.

Heidi Schiller (<u>Heidi.schiller@vpl.ca</u>), the new Manager of InfoAction at VPL. You can read more about her on page 10.

Madeline Smith (<u>masmith@stikeman.com</u>) is the new library technician at Stikeman Elliott LLP. She is a recent graduate of Langara's Library and Information Technology program and also has a BFA in visual art from SFU.

BACK TO THE FUTURE OF LEGAL INFORMATION

The Law Library in 2025

Bronwyn Guiton, Lawson Lundell LLP

I think there will continue to be tremendous opportunity for law librarians with entrepreneurial and inquisitive attitudes. I suspect that as a result there will also be an increasing flexibility in the roles of other library staff. Today, library technicians are primarily responsible for administrative work and answering directional questions. They also answer some reference questions depending on the library. In contrast, librarians are responsible for managing the library and being research specialists. In the future, I think we'll see these roles increasingly shift to a point where they are more aligned with each individual's strengths and interests, rather than the traditional definitions.

To a certain extent, this shift in roles that I'm predicting has already occurred on a smaller scale. As a result of the 2008 economic downturn, law libraries budgets were reduced and some positions were eliminated altogether. Libraries looked to provide

increased value at a lower cost and that meant getting creative about determining who did what in the library. Library managers helped file loose-leaf updates when needed and library technicians stepped up to help with research projects more often.

Today, the echoes of *do more with less* are fading and law librarians are now turning to the task of breaking down silos within their organizations and identifying areas where they can contribute to interdisciplinary research. This again is an opportunity for a shift in the roles of library staff. As librarians are increasingly drawn into strategic interdisciplinary work outside the library, library technicians who have the inclination and the aptitude to broaden their responsibilities within the library will be given the latitude to do so. I can easily see the right library technician taking primary responsibility for all collection development and collection budgeting within their library.

The Future of Legal Information

Sarah Richmond, Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP

In 2001, Susan Daly, then librarian at Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang, wrote about her library's transition from print to electronic resources. In short, Susan wrote: "The simple answer to the question, "to what extent has our firm already replaced paper resources with electronic resources?" is we haven't yet, but that day is coming very soon." It is now almost 2016, and that day has come for some, but not all, of our firm's resources.

As Susan predicted, she did end up cancelling print law. When I began at the firm in 2013, in an effort to reduce the collection size in preparation for a reduction of library space, I recycled our law reports, including BCLRs and DLRs. Parting with the print reporters was not difficult for my firm to do, because most members seemed to have embraced electronic case law long before my arrival. Another natural transition from print to electronic format, was with our newsletter subscriptions, the majority of which are now sent by PDF. Our lawyers prefer the immediacy of the electronic mailing of newsletters, rather than the routing of print versions, which inevitably takes longer to pass from person to person. We archive our newsletters electronically in our document management system; doing so allows the newsletter content to be searchable.

Our textbook and looseleaf resources exist in print-only and in print + electronic format. I suspect the transition of secondary source material from print to electronic format, will be a long transition. There are many reasons for keeping print versions of

textbooks and looseleafs, even though some of these are now available in electronic format. First, I like the idea of having ownership over print materials. It is worrisome that if we were to move to electronic-only looseleafs, we would lose all the content if we ever decide the cancel a title. Second, some electronic resources only permit a one-user licence, which is simply incompatible with the mission of a library. Third, there remains a reluctance on the part of library users to do their secondary source research in electronic format. Simply put, people like reading paper textbooks. But still, I see some advantages to having electronic formats. In our library some of our textbooks and looseleaf are available in both print and electronic formats. For now, it seems the price is the same whether one subscribes to print only, or to print + digital. Until that changes, my library will keep both formats; when it comes time to make the choice, I feel that users will lean towards keeping the print for the reasons stated above.

We have helped our library users understand how to access our electronic resources, in three main ways. First, using the firm's Library Intranet (SharePoint), I created Practice Group research guides. For each practice area, we've listed the top print and electronic resources available at the firm; where a resource is available electronically, we provide a weblink and login instructions. Second, we've added these weblinks to the Library catalogue records. Third, we've put stickers on the print versions, indicating that this material is also available electronically.

Even though younger lawyers generally embrace electronic resources quite well, I don't see that affecting the continued purchase of print textbooks and looseleafs. I'm reluctant to believe that the library will become paperless in the next fifteen years, because I don't see that as a desire, a goal, or a need just yet. Time will tell!

How Do You Expect Knowledge Management Within Your Firm to Change and Develop Over the Next 10 Years?

Carolyn Petrie, Bull Housser LLP

In 2001, my predecessor here at Bull Housser, Lynda Roberts, predicted that KM systems of some sort would inevitably develop in every organization, while also cautioning that we can't underestimate the "problems involved in making the necessary changes to the firm culture" for KM to really work. Those predictions are

again relevant today; if the professional literature is anything to go by, firms, and law librarians, are still very interested in KM and see the value of developing and maintaining knowledge tools. Firm culture, however, with its emphasis on billable hours, making partner, and developing client relationships, can push KM initiatives down on the list of priorities. These competing priorities are likely to continue.

Lynda also predicted that KM champions would likely be librarians, and for many firms this is the case today. Many of us have KM responsibilities, even if knowledge management isn't specifically listed in our job descriptions. We may save research results for future reference or reuse; we may be responsible for resources to our firm intranets; we may manage taxonomies for internal systems; or we may manage precedent systems. As law librarians, there are many ways we can contribute to KM initiatives. We are expert information managers, and know how to organize and classify information for efficient access. We work with lawyers and staff across departments, positioning us to break down internal information silos. We evaluate the quality of information, and have developed trusted relationships with our colleagues.

But we are not the only ones working on KM. We are seeing greater numbers of KM and research lawyers, who may work on their own or in liaison with the library or other administrative groups, and more roles incorporating KM with technology. Any of us working on KM projects is likely doing so in close collaboration with colleagues in IT, individual lawyers or practice groups. No matter who has the ultimate responsibility, though, we still need dedicated people to assume responsibility for managing systems, prioritizing this work, and encouraging contributions and involvement.

The design of KM systems that are easy to contribute to is still key; the easier we make it for lawyers and staff to contribute their materials, the higher the rate of participation. Technology improvements are vital to these efforts; as more systems become compatible and connected with each other, it's become easier to incorporate KM into existing business practices and tools. I can only imagine that this interconnectivity will increase over time, helping us combine our document, information, and knowledge management tools more efficiently.

Looking into the future, I predict (hope!) that the expected retirement of many senior lawyers and staff will place additional value and urgency on succession planning, and encourage the proactive transfer of knowledge to both younger colleagues and systems. This will be key to prevent business interruption, and ensure clients are wellIn our own firm, KM remains an important aspect of our library's work. We continue to maintain many of the tools that Lynda developed during her time at Bull Housser, while developing new solutions that take advantage of technological improvements. We are frequently called upon to lend our expertise to identify KM opportunities in new initiatives, and to strategize how to capture our colleagues' knowledge. Thankfully, KM interest groups are active in our professional associations, and numerous professional development opportunities exist to increase our skills in information analysis, project and change management, and system deployment.

CALL Conference 2015 – Peter Barke Recipient Report

Bronwyn Guiton, Lawson Lundell LLP

This past May I attended the CALL conference in Moncton. I had been awarded VALL's Peter Bark bursary to put towards my attendance at the CALL conference in Moncton, New Brunswick. It was my first time at the CALL conference and indeed my first time East of Quebec City in Canada!

My CALL experience started during the pre-conference workshop, called "Measuring for what matters: Demonstrating value and operational excellence." This workshop was taught by Rebecca Jones, the former Director of the Professional Learning Centre at the Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. In 2014, at the SLA conference in Vancouver, I was impressed with what an excellent networking opportunity the preconference workshop was, compared to the rest of the conference. I think the large size of the SLA conference necessitated that smaller group for effective networking. That said, I soon realized that the smaller size of the CALL conference meant that the pre-conference workshop didn't offer any noticeable advantage over the rest of the conference for networking.

My main commitment at the CALL conference was moderating a panel called "Analysis and Evaluation: New Approaches for Law Library Services." This presentation discussed the different approaches to the strategic evaluation of library services, projects, and spaces. The presentation included a panel of three speakers: Deborah Copeman (Barristers Society of New Brunswick Library), Kim Nayyer (University of Victoria), and Josette McEachern (Field Law). I assembled a Storify for this presentation after the fact (thank you to Sarah Sutherland for helping me live-

tweet my own session!) and I am happy to share it with you here: https://storify.com/BronwynMaye/analysis-evaluation-seminar-call-2015.

While at the conference I also chaired the business meeting of the CALL Private Law Libraries SIG. The underwhelming attendance at this meeting, in addition to the general lack of attendance by private law librarians at the conference, stimulated a productive conversation about what CALL could be doing better to reach out to this segment of their membership. As chair, I was charged with proactively increasing the interest of PLL SIG members in attending the 2016 CALL Conference in Vancouver. With the program for the 2016 conference being announced in early January 2016 -- I look forward to doing just that!

News from InfoAction

Heidi Schiller, Manager

As of September 2015, Heidi Schiller is the new Manager of InfoAction, Vancouver Public Library's fee-based research division. The position was formerly held by Alyssa Green, who is now the Manager of Information Services at VPL. Heidi is an experienced researcher and information professional with a passion for customer service excellence. Prior to getting her Masters of Library & Information Studies from the University of British Columbia, Heidi worked as a Business Reporter in Washington State. She is also a member of the Vancouver Association of Law Libraries and the British Columbia Library Association. Prior to coming to VPL, Heidi worked as a Readers' Services and Customer Engagement Librarian at the North Vancouver City Library.

InfoAction provides expert research to legal and business clients, and specializes in Due Diligence background searches, which can help confirm information and uncover facts that individuals or companies are trying to hide. For more information, email Heidi at <u>heidi.schiller@vpl.ca</u>, or visit <u>www.infoaction.ca</u>

News from UBC Law Library

Sandra Wilkins, Law Librarian

There have been a few staffing changes in recent months. Veronika Kollbrand joined the Law Library as a Reference Librarian in July 2015, after completing the joint JD/MLIS program at Dalhousie. Corinne Shortridge had worked at UBC as an electronic resources specialist previously; we are pleased that she decided to return in a public services capacity. Lyndsay Forsythe is now responsible for interlibrary loans, graphics work, and much more. George Tsiakos completed a 3-year term as Instruction Librarian; this positon is now permanent.



The UBC Law Library Team from left to right: John Welfley, Elim Wong, Sandra Wilkins, George Tsiakos, Veronika Kollbrand, Purnima Chandra, Patrick Balena, Corinne Shortridge, Lyndsay Forsythe

Programming Review

Emily Klomps-Spanjers, McMillan LLP

On April 21st Harper Grey LLP hosted a Brown Bag Session on the topic of hosting practicum students. Bronwyn Guiton began the discussion by speaking about her article "Practical Approaches for Enhancing the Student Practicum in Law Libraries" which was featured in Volume 39 (3) of last year's CALL/ACBD Canadian Law Library Review. There was a good turnout of at least 10 VALL members in attendance for this discussion, and some useful tips were shared.

The last seminar of the 2014-2015 season was held on June 24th at McMillan LLP. The session featured two speakers presenting on the topic of Mentor/Mentee Relationships in Law Libraries. Current VALL President Debbie Millward of Lawson Lundell was joined by Shannon Cheng, a current MLIS student at UBC. Debbie and Shannon discussed some of the challenges and benefits that can arise from a mentoring relationship.

On October 7th Lexum generously hosted a well-attended Lunch & Learn at Blakes. Lexum's Director of Business Development Pierre-Paul Lemyre discussed the new product Lexbox, which is a Chrome extension that assists users to organize and monitor online legal research.

Between presenting business cases to management, delivering research to clients, negotiating with vendors, training law students, or collaborating with our peers, library professionals are constantly communicating. Guest speaker Dorothea Hendriks led the November 24th seminar titled "The Art of Speaking for Success." Dorothea led a lively and fun seminar aimed at teaching participants to become more effective communicators. This event was held at the Sutton Place Hotel, beautifully decked out for the holidays. This was our first seminar at the Sutton Place Hotel. If you have any feedback on the venue after the event, please contact the Programming Committee.

The Programming Committee is very appreciative of the high response rate we received for the 2014-2015 Membership Survey sent out in July. 62 VALL Members responded and a lot of valuable feedback was provided. The Programming Committee relies heavily on the survey results to plan future seminar, brown bags and social events. That being said, as we begin to plan programming for 2016, we continue to

appreciate any feedback and ideas you may have. If you have anything to share with the Programming Committee, please contact Brenda Alm, Laura Eno or Emily Klomps-Spanjers.







Lexbox Demonstration

Bronwyn Guiton, Lawson Lundell LLP

The issue that Lexbox is trying to provide a solution to is that legal research pro's often have a variety of bookmarks, rss feeds, and reminders complete with embedded URL's spread across several platforms. Imagine visiting one bookmark via your browser and then switching to your RSS feed reader and back again – not very efficient if you're doing it all day. Lexbox attempts to bring that all together.

It is important to note that Lexbox takes two forms that work hand in hand: a <u>Chrome</u> <u>extension</u> and a <u>website</u>. They really must be used hand in hand and therefore if your firm doesn't support Chrome, this may not be the solution for you.

For example, say you send out a weekly update on what's new in … environmental law in Canada. You can create a folder in Lexbox called "Environmental Update" and then save various legislation (i.e. BC's *Environmental Assessment Act*) and/or save a saved search (i.e. a case law note up for BC's *Contaminated Sites Regulation*) via the Chrome extension when visiting a <u>supported website</u>. With each thing you save to this Lexbox folder, you set your notification preferences for how you want to hear about a new hit or a change to something you've saved. You can create a traditional bookmark to a page on a unsupported site too – but there are no active features to go along with it.

I was intrigued to hear that while traditional CanLII RSS feeds expire after 1 year, Lexbox works on the API level so your feeds will never expire. A small but welcome change from my perspective!

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Time to Start Thinking About Your Professional Development for 2016 Peter Bark Bursary Applications

The Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary was established by VALL to commemorate Peter Bark and his contribution to VALL and law librarianship. The Bursary assists VALL members demonstrating financial need in attending meetings of the Canadian Association of Law Librarians or other law library associations, continuing education workshops or other professional development.

For details on eligibility and conditions, please visit: <u>http://www.vall.vancouver.bc.ca/bursary</u>

Apply by letter and include reasons why you wish to attend the meeting and your conference responsibilities, if any. Attach a letter from your employer indicating extent of financial support from your firm/institution.

Please send applications to: Vancouver Association of Law Libraries RE: Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary P.O. Box 48663, Bentall Centre Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A1

Upcoming Conferences

Save the date for these upcoming 2016 annual conferences!

AALL

The <u>109th AALL annual meeting and conference</u> will be held July 16-19 in Chicago, the Windy City.

BCLMA

The <u>2016 conference</u> will also be here in the Pacific Northwest. March 2-3, 2016 in Richmond BC

CALL

Next year's <u>conference</u> will be held right here in Rain City, from May 15 to 18th. VALL is happy to be involved with the conference, and invite all members to try and attend.

SLA

The <u>2016 Annual Conference</u> will be held June 12-14 in the City of Brotherly Love, Philadelphia.

If you are going to any of these conferences, please consider writing a review for the summer issue of the VALL Review! Contact Alexandria and Taryn at <u>vallreview@gmail.com</u>.

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.)

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INCOME				
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	Bank Interest	\$6.93		
	Seminar Fees	\$5,564.23		
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EXPENSES				
	Post Office Box	\$180.60		
	Seminar	\$5,866.63		
	Venues/Catering	ψ0,000.00		
	Speaker Gifts	\$257.90		
	Sutton Place Hotel –	\$1,300.00		
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	Seminar Refund	\$16.00		
	PBMF Bursary	\$1,500.00		
	Lifetime member gift	\$40.31		
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Balance as of	July 31, 2015			\$10,097.95*
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Peter Bark Memorial Fund	Term Deposit	Matures April 22, 2018	\$10,500.00	
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VANCOUVER ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES AUGUST 1, 2014 – JULY 31, 2015

*calculated is \$10,095.99 and is out by \$1.96