

# VALL Review

Vancouver Association of Law Libraries

Volume 25, No. 1

## In this issue:

The President's Desk	1
From the Editors	3
Member Announcements	4
News from the Courthouse Library	5
Peter Bark Bursary 2012 Recipient's Report	6
Feature Article : Making the Business Case for Changing Library Systems	7
Implementing a new ILS Members' Experience	9
Vendor's Corner	11
VALL 2011/12 Annual Membership Survey Results	15
VALL October Seminar Reviews	17
Treasurer's Report	19

## The President's Desk

On behalf of the executive for 2012-2013, welcome to the VALL season. VALL's mandate is to be a forum for information exchange and continuing education. The executive this year will be striving to engage the membership in order to support that mandate.

We began the season with a successful experiment – an informal coffee morning at the Waves Coffee House near the Courthouse. Twenty-one people dropped in on their way to work and by all accounts had a pleasant social start to the day. The executive was so encouraged by the experience that we're planning to branch out! Please plan to come by for a drink after work sometime in November – date and location to be determined later. If you miss that event, we think we'll have another coffee morning in January... Our aim for these get-togethers is to give members different ways of connecting with each other, beyond the traditional lunch seminars.



**Sarah Munro**  
VALL President  
2012-2013

Never fear, however, that we will be neglecting those lunch seminars! Thanks to the imagination and efforts of the programmers on the executive, and to the suggestions by the membership, we can expect another good year, continuing education-wise.

Our first seminar was a meaty overview of the new Family Law Act which, for the most part, comes into force March 18, 2013. The materials from John-Paul Boyd's presentation, posted on the VALL website, are well worth a visit, even for those of us working in firms that don't practice family law. The topic affects us all in some way or other as citizens of B.C.

In November we turn our thoughts to Peter Bark, one of the founding members of VALL, who is much missed by all who knew him. You may already know that the Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary was created to honour

# VALL Review

## VALL Executive

### President

Sarah Munro  
*Singleton Urquhart LLP*

### Past President

Katherine Melville  
*Farris LLP*

### Vice President

Sarah Sutherland  
*McMillan LLP*

### Membership Secretary

Tracy McLean  
*Courthouse Libraries BC*

### Treasurer

Helen Mok  
*British Columbia Securities  
Commission*

### Programs Committee

Christina Tribe  
*Harper Greyl LLP*

Lorna McAdam

*Thorsteinssons LLP*

Joni Sherman

*Justice Canada*

### VALL Review Editors

Carolyn Petrie  
*Bull Housser & Tupper LLP*

Gabriella Barsoum

*Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP*

him. If so, don't let familiarity breed contempt; please consider applying for the bursary. If you're a newer member, I urge you to take advantage of one of the benefits of being a VALL member by applying. And, if you have been a member for less than a year, I suggest you plan ahead for next year!

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.

ISSN 1712-065X

**Vancouver Association of Law Libraries**

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

---

## From the Editors

**Gabriella Barsoum**, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP and  
**Carolyn Petrie**, Bull Housser & Tupper LLP

VALL is off to another exciting year with seminars and new activities planned in response to the feedback submitted in our year-end survey. We've included a summary of the report in this issue. We are pleased to see from the survey that the VALL Review is still listed among the top five benefits of membership. We hope to continue to provide articles of value to the membership to maintain that standing. We always welcome your suggestions for topics you'd like to read about.

In this Fall issue we have several purposes in mind. The first is to keep you up to date on our members' comings and goings and to introduce our newest members. We hope that long-time members will make an effort to introduce themselves to these new members of the VALL community at seminars and at our new meet-and-greet sessions.

Secondly, for this issue we've chosen "Changing Library Systems" as our main topic. Sarah Sutherland explores the reasons for switching library systems and how best to make a business case to the firm's management (aka keepers of the cash). In her article, she outlines many of the facets of the project that can contribute to an effective cost benefit analysis that will assist you in making a sound business case that gets your proposal the green light. Joanna Spurling and Debbie Benson have also shared their recent experiences in implementing a new ILS.

Thirdly we have an extensive Vendor's Corner in this issue. Having forgone a vendor's forum in the past season's program, we have given our vendors an opportunity in this issue to share some of the latest and greatest developments their companies have been working on.

With this issue we also encourage you to consider your 2013 continuing education plans and we invite applications for the Peter Bark Bursary. Susannah Tredwell reports on her use of the bursary to attend a very useful SFU course on Editors and Editing.

We hope you enjoy the first issue of the 2012/2013 VALL year and we welcome members' suggestions and especially your contributions to future issues.

---

## Member Announcements

VALL is pleased to welcome several new members this year:

**Debbie Millward**, formerly the manager of the Pacific Newspaper Group Library, is an adjunct professor at UBC's SLAIS, and a trustee on the Vancouver Library Board, chairing its Services, Finance & HR Committee, as well as serving as Treasurer on the InterLINK board. Debbie is exploring opportunities in the law library sector, where her investigative research and library administration skills could be used and enhanced.

**Stephanie Karnosh** has recently been hired by McMillan LLP in a full-time contract position as a reference librarian. Stephanie has a diverse background, having held reference service positions at the Washington State Library, New Westminster Public Library, and BC Electronic Library Network. She graduated with her MLIS from the SLAIS program at UBC in 2005, moved to the U.S. for five years, and was happy to find herself back in Vancouver in 2010. Stephanie is looking forward to increasing her legal research skills at McMillan.

**Emily Klomps** is pleased to be joining the library at Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP as a maternity leave replacement. She is a recent MLIS graduate from the University of Alberta and previously worked as a library assistant at Alberta Law Libraries. Emily is originally from the Vancouver area and is happy to be back after studying in Edmonton for the past 6 years.

**Veronika Kollbrand** is a JD/MLIS candidate (2015) at Dalhousie University. Originally from BC, she has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Northern British Columbia. Veronika is currently a Reference Intern at the Sir James Dunn Law Library, Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University and will be returning to her part-time position in the library's Circulation Department for the upcoming academic year.

**Carmen de Olazaval** has been working at Courthouse Libraries BC for the last 31 years. Back in 1981, many of you may have known her as Maria, although now she goes by Carmen. Some of you may also know her as the person to contact for a Registry Case, an Oral Decision or an Unreported Decision. Carmen is also the person to whom you can send any donations of unreported judgments to be added to the Courthouse Libraries' Unreported Decisions Database. Carmen speaks Spanish, loves dancing, enjoys the outdoors and attends Zumba classes at Fitness World/Steve Nash twice a week.

**Sarah Richmond** is a MLIS candidate at The University of Western Ontario (UWO). She completed law school at the University of Windsor in 2011, and was Called to the Ontario Bar in June 2012. Sarah did her articling at Mann & Partners, LLP law firm in Ottawa, where she worked in Corporate law, Family law, Real Estate, Wills and Estates and Civil Litigation. Before becoming a lawyer, Sarah did her undergraduate studies in English Language and Literature at

UWO from 2004-2008. Sarah will be applying to be Called to the BC Bar as she is moving to Vancouver in late August 2013 following completion of the MLIS program.

Additional new members this year are: **Megan Graf**, Training and Support Specialist at LexisNexis Canada; student member **Grant Hurley**; **Max King**, recently re-located from Toronto; **Stephen Karr**, currently volunteering as Past Chair and Website Manager of BCLA's Library Technicians & Assistants Section; and **Alix Golgini**, Marketing Manager at CLEBC.

Other Membership News:

**Carolyn Petrie** is now Manager, Library Services at Bull Housser & Tupper.

**Marnie Bailey** is on leave from Fasken Martineau until September 2012. Marnie and her husband, Shaun, welcomed their lovely baby girl, Isabella Katherine Jane Bailey weighing 7 pounds 9 ounces on September 12, 2012.

**Agathe Holowatinc** has moved to Bermuda to become the Information Services Manager at MJM Ltd. (replacing **Susan Crysler** who is now working in Toronto). Replacing Agathe at Lawson Lundell is **Bronwyn Guiton**, a recent graduate from UBC SLAIS. Bronwyn has a Bachelor of Social Sciences in Political Science from the University of Ottawa. She has previously worked as a Reference and Instruction Librarian at Okanagan College and as a Senate Page.

---

## New at the Courthouse Library

**Drew Jackson**, Director, Client Services  
Courthouse Libraries BC

### New & Improved Public Computers

This fall, we're rolling out new and improved public computers in our Vancouver library and our branches across the province. The new computers feature larger monitors, improved support for saving to flash memory sticks, the MS Office suite of applications, and a simple launch page to enable clients to find our databases faster. For the first time, clients can view video and listen to audio, enabling them to view our video tutorials from within our libraries, supplementing the support we provide in person (we do encourage clients to bring their own earbuds).

### Asked & Answered

We continue to add to our Asked and Answered collection on the Courthouse Libraries website. Our team of librarians offers answers to questions that are either tricky, common, or both. Confused about just what was going on with the Revised Insurance Act? Need to research the new drunk driving laws? Been asked who gets to keep the ring in a broken

engagement (a surprisingly common legal question)? Over 350 questions like these can be found in the Asked and Answered collection at [www.courthouselibrary.ca](http://www.courthouselibrary.ca).

---

## **Peter Bark Bursary 2012 Recipient's Report - Editors and Editing**

**Susannah Tredwell** | Library Manager  
Lawson Lundell LLP

I was fortunate enough to be one of the three recipients of this year's Peter Bark Bursary. I used the bursary to take the Editors and Editing: An Introduction (EDIT 110) course at Simon Fraser University, one of a number of courses that the university offers as part of its Certificate in Editing.

### **Why I chose to take it**

I have been involved with writing and editing articles throughout my professional career. SFU also offers a course in Business Writing, but I wanted to take the editing course first, as I am one of the editors for On Firmer Ground. (Side note: if you would be interested in submitting an article for this blog, please let me know. On Firmer Ground is a blog that looks at the value of private law librarians, and is a joint venture between the Canadian Association of Law Libraries and a number of other professional associations. Articles do not have to be very long. We have already had several contributors from the VALL community, including Joanne Lecky and Steve Matthews.)

### **What the course consists of**

The course provides an overview of various aspects of editing, including commissioning a book or article, giving feedback, copyediting, proofreading, and grammar. It focuses on the skill set required for editing non-fiction, rather than fiction. Assignments are meant to be practical, so they consist of real life editing exercises.

### **What I learned from it**

For a start, I have developed a pathological fear of using hyphens incorrectly. Editing, especially copyediting and proofreading, requires an immense amount of attention to detail. It turns out that it is possible to stare at a one page article for three hours and still miss a typo.

I would like to thank VALL for giving me the opportunity to take this course. I will use what I learned both in my job and in my professional activities.

***Time to Start Thinking About Your Professional Development for 2013  
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: <http://www.vall.vancouver.bc.ca/bursary>

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 by **March 1, 2013** to:  
Vancouver Association of Law Libraries  
RE: Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary  
P.O. Box 48663, Bentall Centre  
Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A1

---

## **Making the business case for changing library systems**

**Sarah Sutherland**, Manager, Library Services  
McMillan LLP

Library systems are not the most glamorous software packages for institutions to spend money on, and it can be difficult to make the case for the staff time and budget to migrate systems, even if an existing system is out of date and no longer meeting the needs of staff and users. This is true both of making the case to staff and management within the library and to the larger organization the library serves; however, libraries only exist in organizations where they are believed to be important enough to spend the money to create and maintain them, and I believe that if a compelling business case is made the necessary resources will probably be allocated.

I have heard of a library that had to migrate library systems because the vendor of its existing system said that if it didn't stop using the legacy system before a particular date, the vendor would send someone to manually disconnect it, leaving them with no catalogue. Assuming none of the readers of this article are currently in that particular situation, the two main business reasons for migrating library systems is to better leverage staff time through work

flow efficiencies and to better leverage collection resources through improved functionality which will provide better access to available information.

Generally, library systems, like most software solutions, are selected on some combination of the following axes: cost, ease of use, and functionality. It is generally not possible to get a solution that is at the same time inexpensive, easy to use, and highly functional, though many systems have two of those attributes and all of them are relative. The combination of factors and how to weight them is a local decision, but as you look at different solutions please keep in mind the following considerations for why a system with a higher ticket price may be worth additional up front expense:

### **Staff time**

Ticket price is often treated as the most important consideration in selecting a system, and while it is important, especially if the catalogue is not considered to be a high priority for the library, be sure to think about all aspects of the system when making your considerations. Some of the cost aspects to be evaluated should include the following: the price of the system itself, the library and IT staff time involved in migration, the ongoing library and IT staff time involved in maintaining and updating the system, and finally the cost of upgrading and migrating away the system with an estimate on when this is likely to need to occur.

Because so much of the expense in a library system is in staff time, short of a time and motion study, it is difficult to quantify return on investment for a library system. However, it is important to recognize how much of an expense additional steps in a library system can add up to, especially in a larger library where cataloging, serials, and acquisitions can take up a substantial portion of employees' time.

When presenting an argument for savings in staff time it may go without saying that it is important to be prepared with ways to realize those savings in an advantageous way, whether through redeployment to other staff or reduction in staff allocation.

### **Collection accessibility**

Along with cost and staff efficiencies, functionality should be one of the most important considerations highlighted in your formal business case. Functionality can be measured in many ways, but its main metric and compelling argument is for increased access to the collection.

How functionality and collection access are judged will depend on how the library and larger organization view the library and what demands are made on the library from stakeholders. At its most basic a library system is a tool for inventory control, and for a small, simple library a very simple system may be perfectly adequate, but as a library gets larger and serves a more sophisticated set of users more functionality is desirable.



Functionality can be inward looking toward library staff and outward looking toward users. Generally the inward functionality is the first to be pursued and the outward functionality comes after. This is because some of the easiest gains for library systems come from better control of the collection. This is especially true in law libraries because legal serials and looseleafs are such high cost items that increased work to track them is highly cost efficient. Improving outward facing service is more difficult and requires the desire or willingness on the part of the users to explore what the library system can offer.

Before committing to implementing a system with increased functionality, it is important to consider that increased functionality rests on a platform of data, which will run from patron and bibliographic records to accurate budget information and dates open calendars. Inputting that increased level of data is not an inconsequential expense and should be considered in any calculations of the cost of a new system.

### **Conclusion**

The institutions that house libraries are familiar with the concept of spending money to better leverage investment, and this includes access to purchased resources and staff time as well as other assets. A new library system is generally not a large expense when placed beside the other costs in maintaining a library and provided there is a compelling business case for an upgrade it will often be approved. The important thing is to be able to quantify and discuss the tangible benefits and increased leverage of resources.

---

## **Implementing a new ILS System**

Two of your VALL colleagues have recently implemented new library systems. Read on to hear about their experiences.

### **A Richmond Law Firm Library**

**Joanna Spurling**, Librarian  
Koffman Kalef LLP

I recently implemented a new ILS system at a law firm library in Richmond.

In 2010, I was hired to manage a law firm library in Richmond that for many years had used a Word document to list titles in the library's collection. Since the list was kept in a dusty old binder, it seemed likely that very few lawyers or staff had ever looked at it. The document was out of date and cumbersome to search, and loose-leaf updates were not tracked at all. As the library's only staff member, I found it difficult to know the extent of the collection, where titles might be located within the firm, or when updates had arrived. I was pretty sure that newer lawyers and staff shared my experience. With the library partner's support, I investigated a few alternatives to make the collection more accessible to firm members and to facilitate the

tracking of updates. We wanted a system that was 1) inexpensive 2) web-based 3) MARC-based and 4) manageable by one part-time library staff member.

I considered Evergreen (implemented by the Law Society of British Columbia and Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs Resource Centre). As open source software, the price for Evergreen was right, but I realized that I needed more IT expertise and hours at the firm than I had to get it up and running. Several other web-based options I looked at were beyond our budget or were more suitable for larger collections. I also work at the Vancouver Art Gallery Library where we've used a relatively inexpensive, integrated system from LibraryWorld since the 1980s. While we use a desktop version at the Gallery, I load the catalogue on to our website monthly, so I was familiar with the appearance and some of the functions of the web-based service. In late spring 2012, I proposed to my law firm that we give LibraryWorld a try and they quickly agreed to my recommendation.

During July and August, I input records for all our standing orders and loose-leaf titles, and since then I've been adding records to the system weekly. In September, we decided it might be helpful for our lawyers and staff to access the system before all our titles had been added and before a full launch. The system's OPAC report reveals some interesting statistics. The catalogue was searched 66 times in September by firm members, and so far October shows a similar number of hits. The online catalogue has made my job of keeping track of publications much, much easier, and I'm hoping the numbers show that having an online system will prove to be as useful for the lawyers and other staff at the firm.

### **Clark Wilson, LLP**

**Debbie Benson**, Library Manager  
Clark Wilson

In January 2011, Clark Wilson LLP purchased a library management system from EOS International based in Carlsbad, California. The modules we purchased were acquisitions, cataloguing, circulation, serials, reference tracking and knowledge builder. Over the next 6 months, I entered all of our catalogue and serial records and we went live with the OPAC in July 2011. By September, our collection had been barcoded and the circulation module was launched. And, you can tell who has a book signed out by looking at the record in the OPAC! This has been a great improvement over the dozen separate manual and inhouse databases we had been using for these functions.

Our OPAC is called CWERI - which stands for the Clark Wilson Electronic Research and Information Centre. The knowledge builder module enables you to create multiple database and we currently have the Library Catalogue, Articles, Experts, Published Precedents, Judges, Memberships and Wrongful Dismissal databases. These can be searched all at once, individually or in combination.

There is also the ability to assign subject categories which can be searched to find everything we have in a specific subject category. Documents such as articles, forms, experts reports, cv's, tables of contents, cases, etc. can be linked to individual records and can be searched full text. Links can also be made to the internet. The Reference Tracker allows users to make requests to the library through CWERI. The answers are recorded and can be searched for later reference.

If you are thinking of purchasing a library management system, I would highly recommend the EOS software.

---

## Vendors' Corner

This year, the executive decided not to hold a Vendor's Forum so we have included vendor updates in this issue of the VALL Review. We received updates from CCH Canadian, CLEBC, LexisNexis, and Quickscribe.

### CCH Canadian News

**Allison Lau**, Marketing Manager,  
Legal & Business Markets CCH Canadian Ltd.

#### Usage reports now available in automatic legislative update tool

Current awareness is a struggle that most legal service professionals in highly regulated practice areas grapple with on a daily basis. Managing multiple, disparate information sources about legislation and regulations can be counterintuitive to staying compliant and productive.

The *Canadian Legislative PULSE* allows you to keep afloat of the bills and regulations that matter to you in one consolidated platform. Oft-requested Usage Reports have recently been added, so you can track the login times for your firm. You can request a customized, pre-populated email-alert trial by going to <http://connect.cch.ca/PULSE>

#### RBsource revolutionizes primary source research

Many users of the Red Book and Red Box may be aware that there is a new consolidated online interface called RBsource. For anyone requiring U.S. securities law research, this workflow tool is an ideal and affordable solution. Request your trial today at <https://rbsource.wolterskluwerlb.com/rbsource/>

#### IP Law Daily now available

Wolters Kluwer Law & Business U.S. has launched IP Law Daily, an automated daily Intellectual Property news tool that delivers U.S. IP law to your email inbox. To receive a free

trial, please visit <http://wolterskluwertlbinfo.com/iplawdaily>

The tool features:

- Daily summaries of new cases, statutes and rulemaking
- Customization by practice area and jurisdiction
- Expert analysis
- A searchable archive of IP Law Daily Alerts and Wrap Ups on IntelliConnect

## **CLEBC launches its online Precedent Collection**

**Carrie West**, Marketing Communications Writer,  
Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia

This month, CLEBC is proud to introduce its online Precedent Collection. It contains forms and precedents from all of CLEBC's manuals – thousands of precedents posted to date, with new precedents added regularly.

We created this virtual service by popular request. B.C.'s legal community asked for immediate access to our acclaimed library of forms and precedents. We listened. Now, for the first time, they are collected in one place and available from any desktop, laptop or mobile device. Our Precedent Collection is unique: it's the most comprehensive and authoritative collection in the province with valuable content specific to British Columbia.

"We wanted to create the gold standard in online precedent collections. We combined quick-and-easy navigation with our highly-authoritative documents," says Susan Munro, Director of Publications for CLEBC. "In every practice area, CLEBC precedents are developed by leading B.C. lawyers and reviewed regularly by CLEBC's distinguished editorial boards." CLEBC's Precedent Collection includes multiple search functions, detailed source identifications, and forms easily downloaded in Word and WordPerfect.

- It's convenient. It manages CLEBC forms and precedents for you – you no longer need to download forms from the disk in your practice manual.
- It's inclusive. It allows you to search in other practice areas. With this service, you have access to all CLEBC's forms and precedents, not just the ones included in your regular practice manuals.
- It's fast. It loads content quickly and features easy navigation. It is a real time-saver for your practice.
- It's available now. CLEBC's Precedent Collection is available on annual subscription based on firm size.

## LexisNexis Canada News – Online

**Jeffrey, Purkiss,**  
LexisNexis Canada Inc.

**LexisNexis Canada** is preparing to launch a first-of-its-kind in Canada workflow tool that provides direct access from Microsoft Word and Outlook® to research content from Quicklaw®, Lexis® Web, Bing®, Google™, and the user's computer – revolutionizing the way content is surfaced and delivered.

**Quicklaw® for Microsoft® Office (QLMO)** is a workflow tool that integrates sources of valuable legal content directly within the trusted Microsoft Office desktop applications legal professionals use every day. Instead of toggling between your research applications and Microsoft Office, Quicklaw for Microsoft Office provides direct links to research relevant to your work product so that you can:

- Save time and work with increased efficiency.
- Increase your confidence in the outcome of your work.
- Gain cost efficiencies by achieving maximum value from your research investment.

Input from hundreds of customers and legal professionals shaped the development of Quicklaw® for Microsoft® Office, which was designed to address their need to work more efficiently and productively, and to better serve their clients. Legal professionals can now find, analyze and act upon legal content while working within Microsoft Office Outlook and Microsoft Word – all with the click of a button – eliminating time and energy-intensive searches across disparate sources and applications.

Quicklaw® for Microsoft Office will launch in November 2012. To access and use these capabilities, users will require a current Quicklaw® subscription. To learn more, visit [www.lexisnexis.ca/quicklaw-office](http://www.lexisnexis.ca/quicklaw-office).

The **Natural Resources Module** on LexisNexis Quicklaw is the only online legal research product in Canada specifically tailored for the needs of those specializing in the oil and gas, mining and utilities fields. Exclusive commentary written by leading authorities on natural resources law in Canada including: 8 new exclusive natural resources titles, integrated into the QL service with hyperlinks to the associated case law, 50 Forms and Precedents used as the industry standards in Canadian oil and gas law practice, many provided and endorsed by CAPL, 6 Halsbury's Laws of Canada titles including Oil and Gas, Mines and Minerals and the new Public Utilities volume.

## LexisNexis Canada News – Print

**Arthur Vaz,** Manager, National Print Sales  
LexisNexis Canada Inc.

In 2007, LexisNexis Canada began the Halsbury's Laws of Canada journey. Now, six years later, the set is nearing completion with the publication of nine more volumes. The complete

set will consist of 77 volumes covering well over 100 subject areas. The volumes are kept updated by reissue volume to address major changes to the law. I have received tremendous feedback from librarians and lawyers on the ease of use and on the collection of leading authors that make this an authoritative and useful reference source. Firms who do not subscribe to the print or online versions can contact me for more information on content and pricing ( [Arthur.vaz@lexisnexis.ca](mailto:Arthur.vaz@lexisnexis.ca) or 604-353-0402 ).

In the last quarter of 2012, LexisNexis will be publishing **several long awaited new editions**. Of particular interest will be *The Conduct of an Appeal, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.* (Sopinka / Gelowitz), *Canadian Contract Law, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.* (Swan), *The Law of Charitable and Not-for-Profit Organizations, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed.* (Bourgeois) and *Legal Writing and Research Manual, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed.* (Whitehead / Matthewman). Two new titles publishing in November will be *Corporate Crime and Civil Liability* (Kaiser) and *Insider Trader in Canada: A Practical Guide to the Law* (Keith).

I look forward to meeting with all of the librarians in the coming months to review the 2012 titles, the LexisNexis Fall Sale and the upcoming Import Sale.

### **What's New At Quickscribe?**

**Mike Pasta**, President  
Quickscribe Services Ltd.

Quickscribe has introduced a number of new enhancements to its online legislation services this year including a new "Proposed Changes" alert notice visible on the table of contents of any Act that has pending changes. This notice includes a direct link to the specific section of a Bill that affects the Act. Further refinements to this feature are in the works and clients will be pleased to know that a similar alert is also planned for pending changes to regulations in the near future.

A significant upgrade to the Amendment Tracker tool will now display results for sections that were amended multiple times.

Quickscribe is also a few months away from unveiling a new way to track OIC's. This service will likely be integrated into the new BC Legislative Digest, a fully customizable tool for tracking Bills and other legislative activity for laws of your choosing.

Finally a new and improved Status Checker tool is planned for early 2013 and will provide a more definitive answer as to whether or not sections of a Bill are in force.

---

## **VALL 2011/2012 Annual Membership Survey Results**

**Carolyn Petrie**, Manager, Library Services  
Bull Housser & Tupper

In June, VALL conducted its first online annual membership survey, asking members to provide their opinions on seminar topics, membership benefits, and future directions. We received a record number of responses, providing valuable feedback on the 2011/2012 season, and great suggestions for the coming year.

### **Seminar Feedback**

We received generally positive feedback on the 2011/2012 seminars, with particular standouts being the October seminar on Defamation, and Chief Justice Bauman's February seminar about the new Rules of Court.

The membership was divided in its ratings of our seminar venue, with many comments praising the Shangri-La, and others asking the Executive to consider a new venue. Our Programs Committee is using this feedback to consider our options for the 2012/2013 seminars.

Members who did not attend seminars cited the following reasons: cost of the seminar/budget constraints; travel time to the Shangri-La; staff workload; and the availability of similar information from other avenues.

Members were open to the idea of inviting non-VALL members to our seminars, provided they pay a higher registration fee. This issue will be considered by the Executive going forward, and will be communicated with the membership.

### **Seminar Topics**

We received a number of great suggestions for future seminar topics, including: undertaking digitization projects; research skills and training updates; catalogue migration to RDA; eBook use and policies within firms; social media tools and updates; competitive intelligence; and current awareness strategies. We also heard requests for seminars on a number of managerial skills, such as library budgeting and accounting, strategic planning, and the business of law librarianship.

### **Joint BCLMA/VALL Workshop on Project Management**

16 respondents attended the Joint BCLMA/VALL Workshop on Project Management, and both the topic and speaker were highly rated. The survey confirmed the Executive's feeling that the venue was not suitable for future workshops.

Common reasons that VALL members did not attend the workshop included lack of funding; access to in-house training or previous training on the topic; or lack of interest in the topic. While the survey did not show a clear preference for when the workshop should be scheduled, more respondents chose the morning rather than the afternoon.

Suggestions for future workshop topics were not law-specific, and focused more on management skills: leadership, change management, succession planning, facilitation and negotiation, marketing, budgeting, knowledge management, and copyright. The Programs Committee will share these suggestions with the BCLMA when planning the 2013 workshop.

### **Membership Benefits**

Members cited the following as the most important member benefits:

- General networking opportunities
- Membership directory
- Seminars
- VALL website and job postings
- VALL Review

### **Future Directions**

Survey respondents were divided on whether VALL should undertake more social media activities. Those interested in social media suggested more posts on the VALL website, and more Twitter and LinkedIn activity.

The membership was also divided on whether to develop a more formal relationship with Courthouse Libraries BC, with 23% saying yes, 8% saying no, and 29% indifferent to the idea. Those interested in developing a relationship preferred a regular CHLBC column in the VALL Review as the best way to do so. We also received comments encouraging VALL and the CHLBC to work together more closely to discuss the impact of CHLBC policies on VALL members.

Our members put forth a number of suggestions regarding new areas for VALL to consider:

- Mentorship programs
- Tours
- Small group brown-bag lunches on break out topics
- Partnerships with other organizations
- More formal liaison with other library associations
- Pub nights or other socials



Members also asked that VALL help them keep on top of emerging technologies, serve as a communal voice for issues and concerns facing the membership, provide an environment for learning with and from colleagues, and welcome newer members in the law library community.

Members also put forth a call for VALL to “change things up” and try new approaches to deliver networking, professional development, and communication between members. The Executive will be working to include these suggestions in VALL’s strategic plan and future events. If you have ideas or suggestions, or want to participate in developing recommendations, please contact our VALL President, Sarah Munro, by e-mail at [smunro@singleton.com](mailto:smunro@singleton.com).

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the survey, and who shared their ideas and suggestions!

---

## October VALL Seminar Reviews

### The New Family Law Rules with John-Paul Boyd

**Debbie Benson**, Library Manager  
Clark Wilson LLP

The October VALL session presented by John-Paul Boyd was very informative and well presented. John-Paul highlighted the changes that the new *Family Law Act* will bring to BC when it comes into force March 18, 2012. The major changes include the following:

- The act makes the best interests of the child the only consideration when decisions affecting the child are made and expands the best interests of the child test
- The act puts new emphasis on dispute resolution out of court through agreements, mediation, parenting co-ordination and arbitration
- The act increases the ability of the court to deal with family violence
- The act creates a new type of order - the protection order - to replace restraining orders
- The act helps ensure children have time with their parents by creating a range of remedies and tools for non-compliance, include participation in family dispute resolution or counselling, reimbursing expenses such as travel, child care, lost wages by the parent unable to have time with the child and payment of a fine by the parent denying the time

- The act reforms property division so that certain property, such as pre-relationship property and inheritances generally will not be divided up. Family property now includes all property owned by one or both spouses at the date of separation unless the asset is excluded, in which case only the increase in the value of the asset during the relationship is divisible. Whether an asset is used for a family purpose will not be relevant in deciding if it is family property. Property division applies to married spouses and to unmarried spouses who have lived in a marriage-like relationship for at least two years. Spouse is generally entitled to half the family property and is also equally liable for family debt. The court may divide family property unequally if equal division would be significantly unfair but no definition of this has been given
- The act establishes a framework for determining a child's legal parents, including where assisted reproduction is used

### The New Family Law Rules with John-Paul Boyd

Joanna Spurling, Librarian  
Koffman Kalif

John-Paul Boyd's summary of upcoming changes to family law in B.C. at the VALL seminar early in October was excellent. Like Rick Mercer (minus the rant), he gave us much to think about, delivered at a super pace. His website, [BC Family Law Resource](#) and [Blog](#) are other great resources for keeping informed about the *Family Law Act*.

### 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.)

**VANCOUVER ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES  
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES  
AUGUST 1, 2011 – JULY 31, 2012**

<b>Balance as of</b>	<b>July 31, 2011</b>			<b>\$10,471.77</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
	Membership Fees	3,625.00		
	Bank Interest	4.76		
	March Workshop	2,716.00		
	Seminar Fees	9775.00		
			16,120.76	
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
	March Workshop	2,608.91		
	PBMF Recipients	1500.00		
	Post Office Box	192.64		
	Seminar Venues	13,448.94		
	Speakers Gifts	424.43		
	Miscellaneous	5.00	18,179.92	
<b>NET INCOME</b>				<b>(2059.16)</b>
<b>Chequing Account</b>				
<b>Balance as of</b>	<b>July 31, 2012</b>			<b>\$8,412.61</b>
	Shares		106.10	
<b>Peter Bark Memorial Fund</b>	Term Deposit	Matures April 22, 2015	\$10,500.00	
	T-Bill Savings Account		2006.04	
	Shares		132.08	

**Wendy Holmes, VALL Treasurer**  
2011-2012