

# VALL Review

Vancouver Association of Law Libraries

Volume 30, No.1

## The President's Desk

### In this issue:

The President's Desk	1
From the Editors	3
Combine, Merge and Integrate— a Law Firm Merger and Change Management, Communication Management, and Project Management	4
Column: Courts on Research	6
Column: Wordplay	7
Member Announcements	8
News from Quickscribe	9
News from UBC Law Library	10
News from LexisNexis	10
News from InfoAction	11
News from CLEBC	11
2017 Survey Results	12
Fall Programing Review	15
Upcoming VALL Events	16
Upcoming Conferences	16
Statement of Income and Expenses	18

This is my second time as President, and this issue's theme of change got me thinking about how much has changed since my previous term in 2001-2002. A look at the VALL Review for October 2001 (thanks to our online archives on our website) reminded me of how much has changed, and how much has stayed the same. The Queen's Printer [BC] announced the launch of QP LegalEze; Canada Law Book announced their BC Statute Service was moving from CD-ROM to the internet; CCH Canadian reminded us of their Rapid Finder Index for finding legislation; Quicklaw announced a topical statutes database. Anne Beresford wrote a lengthy article on "Researching Statutes – Are we there yet?" proving some things never change, just evolve into new challenges. And it reminds me that we continue to be the change agents in our organizations as we launch (and re-launch) products and continually look at new ways to deliver our services to meet the needs of our clients.



**Teresa Gleave**  
**VALL President**  
**2017-2018**

Organizationally, in 2001 VALL had a permanent venue for lunch meetings at the Hotel Georgia, which simplified the job of the Programs team at the time. However, losing that venue gave us the opportunity for a mix of venues and events such as coffee mornings, pub nights, brown bag lunches and traditional lunch meetings. We had a relatively new website in 2001, and we will be launching our latest version in 2018 to serve our members, thanks to the hard work of the website team. The results of the June 2001 Roundtable meeting were published in the issue, as the 2017 Survey results are published in this issue, and show VALL members continue to provide feedback, support and ideas. The VALL Review has been continuously published since 1988 which is a huge accomplishment and tribute to the creativity and innovation of the editors and contributors throughout the years. VALL members should be proud of the high level participation and support our organization enjoys. Many of the members mentioned in 2001 have retired or left the law library world, but a surprising number are still here, and still participating, which speaks to the strength of VALL as an important local network, and truthfully, a great group friends and colleagues.

I ended my column in 2001 by thanking the previous executive, and I do so again, and thank all VALL volunteers, past and present. Looking to the future, we will strive to fulfill VALL's mandate to be a forum for information exchange and continuing education, or as I think of it, networking and learning from each other.

# VALL Review

## VALL Executive

**President**

Teresa Gleave  
*Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP*

**Past President**

Sarah Richmond  
*Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP*

**Vice President**

Susannah Tredwell  
*DLA Piper LLP*

**Membership Secretary**

Lesley Dobin  
*Courthouse Libraries BC*

**Treasurer**

Angela Ho  
*Victory Square*

**Programs Committee**

Julie Wettstein  
*Farris LLP*

Danielle Brosseau

*Harper Grey LLP*

**VALL Review Editors**

Stef Alexandru  
*Lawson Lundell LLP*

Emily Nickerson

*Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP*

**Webmaster**

Joni Sherman  
*Department of Justice*

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

**Stef Alexandru**, Lawson Lundell  
**Emily Nickerson**, Norton Rose Fulbright

The theme for this issue is change—and we have a lot of it! Starting off with the rapid change to unusually cold weather here in Vancouver—brrr! Fall is a time of transition for many of us, both personally and professionally. This season is all about getting back into the groove and routine after the fun and spontaneity of the summer. In the firms we feel a big push to get work done all through the fall, and we know things ramp up big time for our academic colleagues with the influx of new students. And the change in provincial government is surely keeping our public sector members busy as well.

Our feature article tackles a big change, it is a before and after perspective on the merger of Bull Housser and Norton Rose Fulbright co-written by Carolyn Petrie and Mandy Ostick. With this issue, we also bring you two new columns, a case summary by Sarah Richmond on court opinions on legal research, and an etymology column by Michael Lyons, this time on the word library—both topics near and dear to VALL community.

Also in this issue!

The Programs Committee has been busy planning our 2017–2018 year thanks to the 2017 Survey Results. A summary of the survey is found on page 12. The survey always provides us with helpful feedback from the VALL community and guides us in planning the programming year. VALL has already hosted a lunchtime seminar to kick off fall programming; you can read about it, and upcoming events on pages 15 and 16. A special thanks to Julie and Danielle for these write-ups and their hard work planning.

As usual we provide exciting updates from our vendors, and announcements of changes in our community. Read on for updates from UBC Law Library, Quickscribe, CLEBC, LexisNexis, and InfoAction.

Many thanks to Alexandria Everitt for her work as *VALL Review* editor—we wish her all the best on her maternity leave. Please welcome Emily Nickerson as co-editor for the upcoming year.

As always, we love to hear from you—whether general feedback, ideas for future content, or a wish to contribute an article. Please contact us at [vallreview@gmail.com](mailto:vallreview@gmail.com).

Stef and Emily

---

## Combine, Merge and Integrate—a Law Firm Merger and Change Management, Communication Management, and Project Management

**Mandy Ostick**, Librarian | Harris & Company  
**Carolyn Petrie**, Library Services Manager | Norton Rose Fulbright

Bull, Housser & Tupper and Norton Rose Fulbright merged effective January 1, 2017. Mandy Ostick was covering Carolyn Petrie's maternity leave at the time. Here are their perspectives on the integration.

### ***Mandy Ostick***

Vancouver's Bull Housser and global firm Norton Rose Fulbright announced their combination in September 2016, and merged effective January 1, 2017. Bull Housser was a firm with a long history and a strong workplace culture. The firms didn't want to risk news of the planned merger becoming public before they were ready to announce it, so the announcement of the combination came as a surprise for staff. As I had recently joined Bull Housser on a maternity leave contract, I didn't feel a strong sense of loss at the combination news, but it was visible all around me. Firm leaders acknowledged staff's sense of loss, as well as communicating their excitement about the combination, sharing plans and promoting the advantages of the merger for Bull Housser. As always when dealing with change in the workplace, communication was key. Staff had concerns about layoffs and firm leaders addressed those concerns. Other questions were more difficult to answer, as there were many unknowns concerning the timelines and details of the many changes that staff knew would take place concerning teams, policies, practices, and tools. The communication continued in many shapes and forms to prepare staff for the changes coming.

As combination became integration in the New Year, a few things changed right away. Branding changed overnight when the merger became official. Hours of behind the scenes work went into changing the appearance of everything big and small, virtual and physical, to reflect Norton Rose Fulbright branding on day 1. The Bull Housser website disappeared, email addresses changed. Many staff were hard at work over the holiday period, making all the necessary changes so that people returning from holiday on January 2<sup>nd</sup> were greeted with new signs, new email addresses, new everything in Norton Rose red.

Other changes trickled in as we learned more about what it would mean to become part of Norton Rose Fulbright, and started to see how the firm's culture would evolve as we expanded our focus from BC to a global outlook. We dropped projects that were clearly no longer priorities, such as my project to work with IT on employing richer metadata to increase usability of Bull Housser's document management system. Some people left, some people joined us, and we started working with teams across the globe, receiving invitations to online meetings at some very odd hours of the day. The library team began the tedious process of updating our contact info for all products and evaluating whether online product licenses needed to be renegotiated, one by one by one.

The Bull Housser library became part of a national Norton Rose Fulbright Canada team, with access to an extended international team an email or phone call away (we also had to start considering time zones when contacting our colleagues!). Access to additional expertise was an immediate, obvious benefit for the firm. Online research products we had previously declined to license for budget reasons were suddenly more affordable due to larger user pool discounts, or were extended to our office as part of a national program. We started learning about how our firm could make use of

Norton Rose Fulbright's KM program and rich internal online resources. The merger was a good news story for the library, in terms of more resources and expanded access to expertise, although of course our ability to make decisions regarding how we use our own budget to meet the needs of our own office has diminished.

Due to their own merger experiences, Norton Rose Fulbright Canada's library team was very familiar with what changes fast and what changes slowly after a law firm merger. This was very useful perspective for me as the Vancouver library manager, to help manage expectations. As months passed, people in our office became impatient that Vancouver did not yet have access to certain global resources, that we were not fully integrated into Norton Rose Fulbright's various technical platforms, and that processes that should be fast and easy continued to be difficult as we did our best to bridge the gaps between multiple systems. After some quick wins early in the integration process, daunting challenges remained before Vancouver could truly integrate with Norton Rose Fulbright's enterprise systems—document and client management systems, finance, intranet, and everything else. Technology project managers had their work cut out for them. As I finished my maternity leave contract six months after the merger, I hoped the firm would be able to maintain momentum on the complex technical project work required to truly integrate the law firm that was Bull Housser into Norton Rose Fulbright.

### ***Carolyn Petrie***

I returned from leave to a hybrid "new/old" job; while much of the day-to-day work remained the same as ever, I had new colleagues, new resources, and a whole lot of new acronyms to wrap my mind around. Luckily, Mandy had kept me up-to-date on the biggest changes as they were happening, and both my library colleagues and my new manager, Judy Harvie, have been exceptionally patient answering all my questions about the Norton Rose Fulbright world.

My first impression upon returning to work was wow—we have a lot of great new resources. These have been particularly helpful for business and competitive intelligence research, giving us better access to in-depth company information that is easier to repurpose and share with our lawyers. We have also gained some excellent new knowledge management tools, including national precedents, a whole new series of research memos, and skills/expertise information.

It was also exciting to have a new national team of library colleagues—suddenly we have immediate help pulling Alberta court documents or researching complex Ontario legislation, questions that were usually difficult for us to answer quickly. Of course, this means that we are also handling requests from lawyers in the other offices, including our US and UK counterparts, often filling the end-of-the-day rush requests from Ontario and Quebec. This has been a useful way to learn more about the areas of practice and topics of interest outside Vancouver, and glimpse into the research methods our colleagues use. We've picked up tips and best practices from our national library colleagues, too, including new ideas on how to present research results and new ways we can use our resources to answer research questions.

Ten months in, there is still a lot of work to do. We continue to analyze our collection to identify subscriptions we can amalgamate with national accounts, and candidates for cancellation due to duplication. We have less autonomy over our budget, being automatically committed to national subscriptions, requiring us to look for cost-savings elsewhere. We have gained so many new resources that we are playing catch-up with training. We will soon be merging our local budget with the national system, and we have to align our user statistics with the other offices' categories. We also need to increase the Vancouver office's use of our national and global knowledge management products, and steer users to the huge number of internal resources now available on the global intranet, Athena. More personally, one of the challenges we feel deeply is simply the difficulty of trying to get to know our new colleagues without much face-to-face interaction. We spend

a lot of time on conference calls and WebEx to share information, but hope that with time, we can meet more colleagues in person to form closer working relationships.

One of the biggest projects still outstanding is to migrate the old Bull Housser intranet to Athena. This brings multiple challenges: the basic challenge of culling and migrating the content itself; trying to find appropriate content areas for the information we use the most; and also managing people's sense of loss—after years of using our old and rather disorganized FrontPage intranet, people are sad to see it, and their familiarity with where information lives, go. Finally, the integration process still calls for a significant amount of change management as it relates to what we can or cannot do. We now need to manage requests for new services or products with a national perspective, consult with the other offices, and think about how to integrate these requests into ongoing priorities and services. This may mean that we can't provide what a lawyer wants immediately, but hopefully it means our final product is richer and easier to repurpose for use in the other offices.

As we get closer to the one-year anniversary of the integration, I suspect things will carry on as they have been for the past year—adopting new Norton Rose Fulbright services and approaches as the timing makes sense, and managing expectations locally regarding how long it will be until it all feels “done”. We know from our colleagues in Calgary, who went through their own integration 5 years ago, it's a slow process, and there will be tasks to complete for a long while yet. Check back in with us in another couple years!

---

## Column: Courts on Research

Sarah Richmond, Library Manager/Research Lawyer | Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang

Courts across Canada occasionally comment on legal research. This column aims to highlight recent decisions that shed light on topics such as the costs of legal research, the tools for legal research, and the necessity and importance of legal research in the context of the case.

[\*Toth v. City of Niagara Falls, 2017 ONSC 5670\*](#) (September 28, 2017)

The underlying personal injury action in this case concerns a plaintiff who allegedly fell due to an uneven sidewalk, and sustained injuries as a result. The defendant municipality agreed to pay the plaintiff \$450,000, plus costs, to satisfy the claim.

In this costs decision, Whitten J. looked to the specifics of the plaintiff's Bill of Costs. The plaintiff claimed for a total of fees of \$335,807.75, plus a \$40,000 counsel fee, plus disbursements. The defendant contested this large amount.

With regard to legal research, “51.5 hours are claimed for legal research without any specification” (para 77). The Court comments that: “Services such as Goldsmiths and readily available case law, can quickly establish a broad range for general damages. There is also multiple readily available case law with respect to actions against municipalities, and their duty with respect to sidewalk repairs. This court actually referred counsel to previous decisions of this jurist in this regard. Why cases tried by the defence counsel would be relevant to legal issues involved is questionable, any more so than ‘all the cases within the City of Hamilton’” (para 77).

Upon a review of the entire fees and disbursements claimed by the plaintiff, the Court concludes that \$80,000 plus GST for legal fees and \$92,289.43 for disbursements is appropriate.

The take-away regarding legal research costs is to ensure that the costs are proportional to the complexity of the case, and that the scope of the research remains focused on the central issue(s).

---

## Column: Wordplay

Michael Lyons, Library Assistant | Norton Rose Fulbright

An etymology column on words of interest to the VALL community.

### Library

The theme of this issue is change and, just like libraries, language is in a constant state of flux. Words broaden or tighten their definitions, take on new ones or lose old ones, and live and die just like we do. The word *library* itself is no exception. This word began its life in Latin as *liber*. This word for book originally derives from the name for the inner bark of a tree which was used as an early writing surface. Later, it transformed into *librarium* (a book-case) and *libraria* (place for books, or a book shop). This sense continued in French, which found its way into English during the late Middle Ages and displaced the native English words, *bōchord* (literally, “book hoard”) and *bōchus* (“book house”). The *Oxford English Dictionary* identifies the earliest recorded use of this word in Geoffrey Chaucer’s translation of Boethius’s philosophical tract, *The Consolation of Philosophy*, in 1374, thirty years after the Black Death: “The walles of thi lybrarye aparayed and wrowht with yuory and with glas.”

It is interesting to note that many of the words for book-related things derive (mostly) from the plant matter on which records were made: *liber* is the inner bark of a tree; *book* is related to *beech*, again because its bark was used as a writing surface; *paper* and *biblio* come from words for the papyrus reed; the word, *codex*, which describes a bunch of pages between two covers (as opposed to a scroll) comes from the Latin word for tree trunk because the covers were originally planks of wood. The fine parchment used in early manuscripts is called vellum and comes from the Latin for calfskin, which is related to French, *le veau*, or veal.

English is anomalous in using the Latin-derived *library* to mean the lending institution. Most other languages draw on the Greek root, *biblio*, for library (e.g., *la bibliothèque* in French) and reserve the Latin root for bookstores and booksellers. And taken generally as a “collection,” *library* has also broadened its meaning to include catalogues of other types, such as music libraries, data libraries, film libraries, or even a library of routines (such as in computer science).

Some related words:

*Libraryize* – to put in a library

*Libricide* – the killing of a book

*Libraryless* – a very sad word indeed!

*Librarianess* – female librarian

*Librarious* – pertaining to books

*Library* – obsolete word for a scribe

*Biblioklept* – one who steals books (we all know these in our own libraries!)

*Bibliopoesie* – the making of books

*Bibliophagist* – devourer of books (in a metaphoric sense mostly, for someone who reads a lot)

*Bibliotaph* – one who buries books (by keeping them under lock and key)

*Biblioburro* – A travelling library started in Colombia by Luis Soriano, who distributes his books on the backs of his two donkeys, Alfa and Beto, to libraryless communities.



## Sources

“library, n.1.” *OED Online*, Oxford University Press, June 2017, [www.oed.com/view/Entry/107923](http://www.oed.com/view/Entry/107923). Accessed 24 October 2017.

“library” *Etymonline: Online etymology dictionary*, Douglas Harper 2001-2017, <http://www.etymonline.com/word/library>. Accessed 24 October 2017.

Image: “Biblioburro,” Diana Arias, 16 October 2006, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Biblioburro.jpg>. Accessed 24 October 2017.

---

## Member Announcements

**Tanya Stoparczyk** is a library technician at the Vancouver Courthouse Library. She took over the role from Deborah Macleod who retired in May. Previously, Tanya worked at the Courthouse Library as a Circulation Clerk. Tanya graduated from the Library & Information Technology program at Langara College in 2016 and is very grateful to be working at the Courthouse Library, surrounded by highly creative, friendly and fun co-workers! In her spare time, she likes to write (mostly sci-fi) and also watch way too much TV—I like to call it researching material for potential stories, she says! Tanya’s future goals include attending the San Diego Comic-Con and to travel more (preferably time travel).

**Natalie Rocheleau** is a new Client Services Librarian with Courthouse Libraries BC in Vancouver. She graduated from the dual program at SLAIS in 2014 and also has an Arts MA in History from the University of Guelph. Prior to this position she worked as a Reference Librarian at Simon Fraser University and New Westminster Public Library. She loves working



with the public and is looking forward to learning more about law librarianship through VALL.

***Time to Start Thinking About Your Professional Development for 2018 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, 2018** to:  
Vancouver Association of Law Libraries  
RE: Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary  
P.O. Box 48663, Bentall Centre Vancouver,  
B.C. V7X 1A1

---

## News from Quickscribe

**Mike Pasta**, CEO | Quickscribe

### **New Hansard Feature on Quickscribe Online 2.0**

In September, Quickscribe launched the much anticipated Hansard component to the Quickscribe Online 2.0 platform.

The concept behind this new feature is to provide legal professionals with insight on the government intent behind the legislation and lessen the ambiguity for how a law is to be applied.

Relevant Hansard references are conveniently accessible directly from the section level, making it easy for you to determine statutory intent. Each Hansard reference also includes links to the original debate on the official Hansard website and users are encouraged to follow these links for additional research.

While not all laws on Quickscribe have Hansard included at this time, you can expect to see dozens more added over the course of the next few months. The priority has been to focus on those laws that have undergone significant changes over the last few years and those that are most frequently accessed.

Quickscribe owner Mike Pasta would like to thank the VALL members who offered their input on this project. More to come...

---

## News from UBC Law Library

George Tsiakos, Acting Head | University of British Columbia Law Library

### Staffing

The search for UBC's new University Librarian has ended. In September, Susan E. Parker was appointed as UL to a five-year term. Parker made the move from the University of California, Los Angeles where she held the role of Deputy University Librarian since 2005. Parker's arrival could not be timelier as the Library's 2015–2017 Strategic Plan is coming to an end. Parker feels very honoured in being chosen the new UL and she is very excited about developing new strategic priorities that will help shape the UBC Library's next century. Interim University Librarian Melody Burton has returned to her previous role of Deputy University Librarian.

Since September, 2017, Sandra Wilkins, Head of the Law Library, has been serving as Interim Associate University Librarian and Acting Director, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. Sandra's dual interim roles have been extended until June, 2018. In the meantime, George Tsiakos will continue in his role as Acting Head of the Law Library until June, 2018. Rhona McElwain joined the Law Library in August and is now responsible for course reserve items, in addition to her regular circulation duties.

### Legal Research & Writing

George continues to coordinate the LRW program for the Allard School of Law. This year, the law school welcomed 200 new first-year law students, a slight increase from previous years. George is teaching two sections and Veronika Kollbrand, is teaching one section. George is also teaching Advanced Legal Research courses to upper year and graduate law students.

### Collections

The Law Library continues to expand its online collection of monographs, a format that is increasingly favoured by faculty and students. Major ebook packages include Elgar, University Press Scholarship Online, Routledge, Taylor & Francis and, most recently, Hart Publishing (Bloomsbury).

---

## News from LexisNexis

Christine Rocheleau, Segment Marketing Manager, Mid and Large Law | LexisNexis

LexisNexis is pleased to announce recently launched Lexis Advance® Quicklaw® enhancements, including:

- Cost Recovery Options
- Integrated International Content
- Advanced Search Forms (multiple box search)
- Explore Content (browsing)
- Point-in-Time Legislation
- e-Billboard

For Integrated International Content, just click on the flags to get access to the international content from the US, the UK (partial content), Australia, and New Zealand, with more to come in the future. Click [here](#) for more details.

To learn more about any of other new features, please contact your LexisNexis Sales Representative, call customer service at 1-899-387-0899 or email [service@lexisnexis.ca](mailto:service@lexisnexis.ca).

---

## News from InfoAction

Patti Wotherspoon, Acting Manager | VPL InfoAction

Heidi Schiller, InfoAction's Manager, has recently been promoted to Head of the Champlain/Collingwood Branches. Patti Wotherspoon is Acting Manager in the interim. InfoAction is currently recruiting and hopes to have a new Manager in place by November.

---

## News from CLEBC

### Hot Off the Press! Plus TC&D: The Assessment of Costs and Disbursements in Motor Vehicle Injury Litigation

CLEBC is proud to announce our new title *Plus TC&D: The Assessment of Costs and Disbursements in Motor Vehicle Injury Litigation* by Christopher J. Hope of Lindsay LLP and Kathryn Sainty, QC of Sainty Law.

*Plus TC&D* is a useful reference book for any civil litigation collection, and an essential addition for legal libraries and firms with lawyers involved in personal injury litigation arising from car accidents.

*Plus TC&D* is a civil litigator's must-have tool for preparing bills of costs under the tariff in Appendix B of the Supreme Court Civil Rules. It is the answer to all costs questions, from the number of units to claim under the ranges in the tariff, to which disbursements will be allowed by the assessor.

With *Plus TC&D*, your litigators will be able to:

- draft bills of costs more quickly and confidently
- advise clients of the risks of incurring certain disbursements
- easily access the case law needed to persuade the other party or assessor of the appropriateness of costs claims

We are pleased to offer *Plus TC&D* in two formats—online (\$79/year) or print (\$99). Subscribers to the online version will benefit from updates throughout the year, full-text search capability, and links to the full text of case law and legislation. The print version of *Plus TC&D* will be updated with a new edition every few years.

Complete your library's civil litigation collection with *Plus TC&D*. For more information or to purchase, please call CLEBC customer service at 604-893-2121 or visit [www.cle.bc.ca/PlusTCD](http://www.cle.bc.ca/PlusTCD).

---

## 2017 Survey Results

The Vancouver Association of Law Libraries is pleased to present the Annual Member Survey Report for 2016–2017. This survey collected data from VALL members concerning event attendance interest for upcoming events in the VALL 2017–2018 year. Data was captured between August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 using the online survey service Survey Monkey. The annual survey encourages all active members of VALL to provide information and constructive feedback on future programming events.

This year a total of 37 VALL members participated in the annual survey, out of a possible total of 110 members. Most members responded within three days of the survey going live. This year the Programs Committee decided to reformat the majority of questions into a ranking system of most to least interest.

In 2016–2017, the most attended educational event was “The New Societies Act” held at the Law Courts Inn, while the least attended was “DBTextworks,” held at Norton Rose Fulbright. The most attended social event was the Coffee Morning held at McCarthy Tétrault, while the least attended was the Summer Social held at the Kingston Pub. Provided below is a list of all 2016–2017 VALL events with percentage of attendance based on survey responses.

- September – After Summer Social – 24%
- October – The New Societies Act – 46%
- December – Access to Justice – 43%
- January – Coffee Morning @ Whitelaw Twining – 22%
- February – DBTextworks – 27%
- March – American Court Structures – 43%
- June – Canada’s First Online Tribunal – 41%
- June – Coffee Morning @ McCarthy Tétrault – 41%
- July – Summer Social @ Kingston Pub – 11%

30% of members reported being unable to attend any of VALL’s educational sessions and 57% of members were unable to attend any VALL social events. Members unable to attend provided the following as top factors limiting their attendance:

- Scheduling and/or timing conflict
- New VALL member
- Retired or retiring member
- Attended a similar session
- On maternity leave
- Topic was of no interest
- Conflicts with personal life commitments

The following section captures the level of interest of programs suggested for the 2017–2018 VALL year. The sections are divided into types of programs: Substantive Law, Educational sessions, and Brown Bag lunches. Substantive Law seminars are the most popular events with three annual seminars in the fall, winter, and summer seasons. Events that span substantive information with a relaxed environment are moved into the Educational session category. Brown Bag

lunches are smaller, informal events, usually held at one of the larger firms which have accommodating board rooms. Members are usually invited to bring their own lunch though sometimes hosting firms provide lunch and refreshments. Of those members who responded, the list is arranged from most interested to least interested events. Suggestions and comments for each section are collected below each list.

### **Social and Educational Programs**

1. Lunchtime Seminars
2. Law Library Tours
3. Related Interest Tours
4. Brown Bag Lunch Discussions
5. Post-Work Socials
6. Coffee Mornings

#### **Suggestions and Comments**

- Best & most useful are regular lunch time seminars held at a regular location if possible. Best seminar topics are those relating to current practice areas such as the Civil Resolution Tribunal and US Law, were both excellent but space was very limited. Updates with representative speakers from the Courthouse Library, (new CEO), Queen's Printer, (Amar), Quickscribe, (Mike Pasta) CLE, (new CEO), VPL Infoaction, UBC Law School, BC Law Foundation, the Administrative Tribunals, Commissions, Boards, Judges & Chief Justices, the Court Registry, CBA, BCLMA, CALL Members, VALL Member panels on topics such as firm merges, library design, shifting collections, downsizing and moving to new premises etc. and Q&A publisher panels.
- Like a lot of retired members, I would be interested in attending an annual Christmas/or New Year lunch/social. This was always a well-attended event in the annual VALL calendar.
- Intro to new products or techniques. Emerging issues.

### **Substantive Law Sessions**

1. Anti-Spam Legislation: CASL and the Right to Sue
2. Environmental Law Update
3. Year in Review: Top Cases of 2016
4. Medical Assistance in Dying: Ethics meet Empathy
5. Amendments to the Trademark Act
6. Changes to Securities Legislation

#### **Suggestions and Comments**

- Very interested in Substantive Law VALL sessions!
- Personally, I find substantive law topics aren't very relevant to my work.
- Not interested. You had your chance Kelowna Law Library and turned me away, now I am Retiring, So c'est la vie!

### **Educational Lunchtime Seminars**

1. Orientation Tips for Students, Assistants, and Lawyers: Panel Discussion
2. SharePoint: The New and Improved Intranet
3. City of Vancouver/West Vancouver By-Law Research (and Tour?)

4. Restoring Competitiveness to Canadian Legal Publishing with Colin Lachance
5. Compass Platform – Repeat from 2017 CALL Conference
6. Wine, Beer, and/or Weed – West Coast Vices or National Debate

#### Suggestions and Comments

- Components of and delivery methods for training articling students.
- Eat Lunch

#### **Brown Bag Lunch Sessions**

1. The New Government Websites: A How-to
2. The Best Technologies for Law Librarians
3. Conflict Resolution with a Smile
4. Social media: Its Practical Role in Law Libraries
5. Renovation Retrospective: New Work Spaces and The Library
6. A Law Library Focus on the MBA Program with Sarah Sutherland

#### Suggestions and Comments

- Please note the topics listed would be interesting but cannot attend brown bag lunches because lunch time away from the office doesn't qualify without a registration form to submit for approval as a lunch & learn seminar to record the time for professional development.
- Interested in all - the survey would only let me be very interested in one, but am very interested in all.
- Very interested in Conflict Resolution with a Smile, The Best Technologies for Law Librarians, but form will only allow me to select one "very interested".
  - *A formatting issue was spotted early in the Survey, allocating only one level per-response. Although resolved, the VALL Programs Committee would like to apologize to those who experienced this issue.*
- Have a Free Lunch

The VALL membership has many kind words as well as constructive feedback for the Executive. We reminded members that though answers are anonymous, we are a close-knit community and answers and criticisms are received by colleagues and friends. The Programs Committee would like to note that constructive feedback is welcome at any time of the year (not just during the annual survey).

- I really like the suggestions for lunch time seminars!
- I missed coming to events last year and I can't wait to attend again!
- I really enjoy the coffee mornings and the library tours (even though they are early in the morning) and would love to see more of them next year.
- Thank you for providing a great platform with a variety of opportunities for our members to participate. I look forward to the new season!
- I appreciate the variety and number of VALL programs offered in the past year. The venues have been well-suited to the events, as well.
- Love brown bag sessions, coffee mornings, after work socials - all great opportunities to meet library colleagues, share ideas, learn from others' experiences. Don't find lectures at lunch that valuable from a networking perspective and it would be unusual to hit on a topic that I think is really worth the price for lunch. Please keep up the great work VALL!

- Thanks for all your hard work to ensure programming remains relevant and interesting. I like the combination of firm hosted events and more formal events. The most useful event from the past year for me was the US case law research with Sarah Richmond, perhaps more of that - or a part 2?
- The programming committee always arranges interesting, informative seminars & brown-bag topics. They do a great job that is much appreciated.
- Keep up the good work!! VALL is a wonderful organization. I have been fortunate to have worked continuously in law publishing since my first day of work on December 12, 1966. It is now coming up to 51 continuous years and I have seen a lot of change in the size of both law publishing companies and law firms as a whole. When I first started there were only 4 full-time law librarians in Vancouver at UBC at Vancouver Courthouse, the Judges Library and at Russell & Dumoulin. The average cost of a Law Report subscription was \$10 per volume. I am still working as a representative for Thomson Reuters selling their product to the Police market across Canada. I really miss my calls downtown with all the librarians, but this contract position I hold keeps me busy and in touch with so many Police customers that I have built up over the years. My Police connection started 42 years' ago when I visited the RCMP Academy in Regina and I encouraged all new cadets taking their training to purchase a Martin's Criminal Code. This has now grown each year into a respectable annual market of over 1/2 million dollars per year. I really enjoy the challenge each year.
- I would attend more sessions if I had less scheduling conflicts.
- I am an Okanagan member. VALL does little to help us up here. And the Kelowna Law Court Library is a 'closed' shop. I am retiring this year so good bye to the Law Libraries.
- When a member signs up for a membership they should be told that it is on a specific schedule. I didn't realize my membership would have to be renewed after only having it for a few months.

The VALL Executive would like to thank all the members who participated in the 2016–2017 VALL Member Survey. As always the information gathered is invaluable to planning events for the upcoming year!

---

## Fall Programming Review

### Lunchtime Seminar—"Reputation Matters: Tips and Tricks for Dealing with Online Defamation and Privacy Actions" with guest speaker Daniel Reid of Harper Grey LLP



On a beautifully bright and warm Fall afternoon, VALL kicked off the 2017/2018 season on Friday, October 27th at The Law Courts Inn. Members were thrilled to have Daniel Reid back to provide an update on the topic of defamation and his practice where he left off from 2011. While enjoying a delicious lunch buffet, Daniel provided an overview of the law of defamation and privacy, and the impact this evolving area has on law and legal research. Diving into what Daniel affectionately refers to as "weird internet nonsense", he related how various online tools assist him in his practice. "Lawyers are getting creative, and trying new things" such as searching for digital addresses and starting dialogues with tech companies for consultation. VALL members went away with a variety of useful tools to assist in uncovering online information for research purposes, as well as a sober view of how we represent ourselves on the internet.

---

## Upcoming VALL Events

### Coffee Morning at Dentons Canada LLP

VALL members will meet and mingle over morning coffee, tea, and pastries on Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.

**When:** Wednesday, November 22nd, 2017 from 7:30am – 9:00am

**Where:** Dentons Canada LLP, 250 Howe Street on the 20<sup>th</sup> Floor

Send your RSVP to Julie Wettstein, [jwettstein@farris.com](mailto:jwettstein@farris.com), before November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

### Annual December Session

Mark your calendars! This year our Annual December Session will take place Monday December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Terminal City Club. Our guest speaker this year is Rebecca Slaven, author of the blog "[How to be a Librarian in Kazakhstan](#)", who will be speaking to us on her library adventures overseas.

**When:** Monday, December 18, 2017 from 11:45am – 1:30pm

**Where:** Terminal City Club, 837 West Hastings Street

### *More Details to Come Following the Formal Announcement*

Don't forget to check out the [VALL website](#) for future events.

---

## Upcoming Conferences

Save the date for these upcoming 2018 annual conferences!

### CALL

Next year's [conference](#) will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, May 27–30.

### SLA

The [2018 Annual Conference](#) will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, June 9–13.

### AALL

The [111<sup>th</sup> AALL annual meeting and conference](#) will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, July 14–17.

If you are going to any of these conferences, please consider writing a review for the summer issue of the *VALL Review*!

Contact Stef and Emily at [vallreview@gmail.com](mailto:vallreview@gmail.com).



## **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  
JULY 19, 2016 – AUGUST 21, 2017**

<b>Chequing Account Balance July 19, 2016</b>				<b>\$14,272.72</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
	Membership fees	\$4,224.19		
	Bank interest	\$7.72		
	Seminar fees	\$4,969.75		
	CALL sponsorship	\$500.00		
	Other	\$2.00		
			\$9,703.66	
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
	Post Office box	\$195.30		
	Seminar venues/catering	\$4,866.60		
	Speaker gifts	\$102.24		
	Lifetime member	\$60.33		
	Website	\$159.56		
	PBMF Bursary	\$1,500.00		
	Transfer to PBMF	\$1,000.00		
			\$7884.03	
<b>NET INCOME</b>				<b>\$1,819.63</b>
<b>Chequing Account Balance July 18, 2016</b>				<b>\$16,092.35</b>
Member. shares				\$126.62
<b>Peter Bark Memorial Fund</b>				
	Term Deposit	Matures April 22, 2018	\$10,500.00	
	Term Deposit	Matures September 9, 2019	\$1,000	
	T-Bill Savings Account		\$1,518.22	
				<b>\$13,108.22</b>
Member. shares				\$157.62