

VALL Review

The President's Desk

And just like that, we have nearly made it to the end of 2021.

I am honoured to be serving as President of our Association for the 2021-22 term, and am excited by the opportunities for evolution and change that have happened upon this term's Executive. Our membership has changed, and how our members interact with the



Rebecca Tomlinson
VALL President
2021 - 2022

Association has changed. Offering webinars has made it easier for members outside downtown Vancouver to attend events, but we also miss having in person events. Some members are back in the office full time, while others have adapted to hybrid work environments. And the list goes on. As an Executive Committee, we hope that we are continuing to serve our members well through these changes.

I want to express my gratitude to the VALL community, and particularly the Executives I have worked with over the last year and half. I was, admittedly, nervous to step into the Vice President role last year knowing that it would be 3 years at the helm of the Association and so soon into my career as a law librarian. I am still nervous. Perhaps stepping into the role as VP in 2020 was a blessing - nothing was as it should be anyway. Now, from an exhausting 2021 looking into a fresh 2022, I am encouraged by my colleagues and excited to be a part of the evolution of our Association.

If there is anything you would like to see from the Association, or if you would just like to connect, I encourage you to reach out.

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VALL Review

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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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Vancouver Association of Law Libraries

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From the Editors

Jen Brubacher, Librarian | DLA Piper (Canada) LLP
Katherine Melville, Director of Library Services | Farris LLP

Welcome to Autumn! This issue is full of tasty vendor updates, including UBC and the Queen's Printer, who we hadn't heard from for a while. We also have our annual statement of income and expenses appended.

As the days gets shorter, wetter, and generally more closed in, we look to books to keep things brighter. This issue we asked around for favourite books and rainy day recommendations. We got marvellous replies from VALL members and vendors alike. We hope you enjoy our feature article below, and check the vendor columns for even more recommendations. Here are ours:



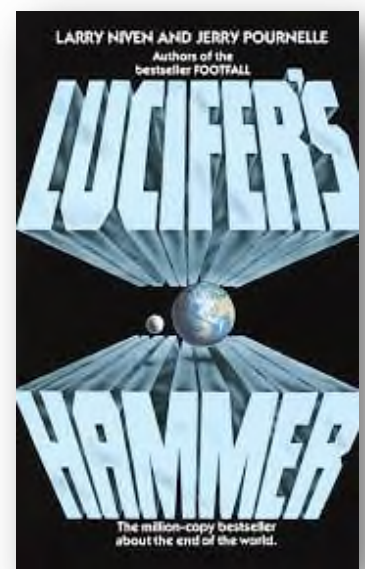
Jen Brubacher, Librarian | DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

Leviathan Wakes is the first of a series by James S.A. Corey (pen name of Daniel Abraham and Ty Franck), and the series is so good I've read all 8 books in the last year. This is believable science fiction based in a future not far from our own. There are ancient aliens we struggle to understand, new technology that inspires new conflicts, all structured around the crew of the "Rocinante", a bunch of space cowboys trying to do good for the universe. Highly recommended for anyone who is more interested in character driven stories than space battles. The 9th and final book is out November 30th and I am beyond excited.

If you prefer your books in television form, this series has been adapted into *The Expanse*. It's also very good, but (big surprise) the books are better!

Katherine Melville, Director of Library Services | Farris LLP

Lucifer's Hammer by Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle, published in 1977 and nominated for the Hugo Award in 1978, tells the story of survivors in post-apocalyptic world lacking resources, electricity, and knowledge. My parents' TV room growing up was lined with overstuffed paperback bookshelves, and I covertly worked my way through most of their collection when I was likely far too young to be reading Stephen King, Frank Herbert, or this particular title. Recent events in our beautiful province have surfaced ideas about disaster preparedness, survival, and hoarding; *Lucifer's Hammer* deals with all of these intimately, but it is one particular analogue of non-fiction that will resonate with our knowledge custodian colleagues. If the electricity fails us, how-to texts on gardening, fixing things, and even basic medicine may well be more valuable than other, single use paper goods as items to stash away.



Feature article: Rainy Day Reading Recommendations

Various VALL Members

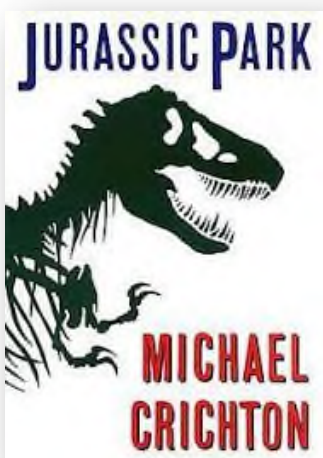
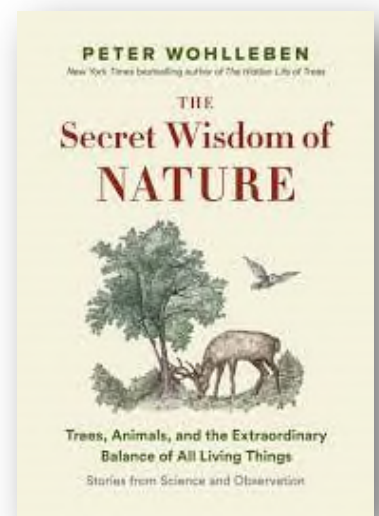
Marnie Bailey, Manager of Knowledge Services | Fasken

This is not a book review, but a way to get recommendations: [Shelf Awareness](#) sends two emails a week (Tuesdays and Fridays) with new releases, author interviews, and “new to paperback” information on the “[25 best books of the week](#)”. I read it on my lunch break with my VPL account open on my other monitor, and I place holds as I read the reviews. I have found children’s books I never would have known about, read some biographies I likely wouldn’t have without reading the review, and the best part is I always have some books on their way to me through VPL! The bad part is sometimes I get all of them at once ...

Alexandria M.S. Everitt, Research Librarian | Harris & Company LLP

I’m currently reading the *Secret Wisdom of Nature* by Peter Wohlleben. I don’t often read non-fiction but this book has so far captured my attention. I’ve only just started chapter three and am looking forward to learning about the secret wisdom of nature and how interconnected the ecosystems of plants and animals truly are.

My favourite read in recent memory and the book I have recommended countless times since first reading is *Greenwood* by Michael Christie. A truly fascinating read no write up of mine will do it justice, check out this [synopsis](#) from the author’s website. If you’re looking a holiday read this year, pick up *Greenwood* and be prepared to settling in with a cup of tea for a few days.

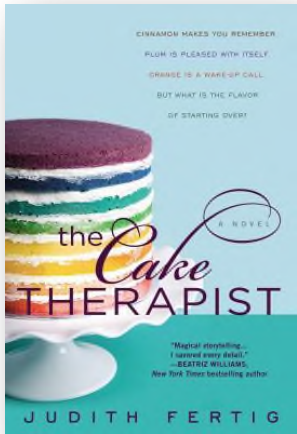


Beth Galbraith, Library Administrator | Clark Wilson LLP

One of my favourite books is *Jurassic Park* by Michael Crichton. I read this book every year (and the sequel *The Lost World*) and it doesn’t get old. The story is fast-moving and there is adventure, action and dinosaurs!

Bronwyn Guiton, Director, Library and Research Services | BC Ministry of Attorney General

I’ve really been enjoying [Culture Study](#), a free Substack newsletter from American writer and media studies PhD Anne Helen Petersen. It’s a great mix of serious culture pieces and more lighthearted fair, such as the Peloton star system and the Baylor influencer twins. My thinking about workplace culture and the complicated changes we’re continuing to experience throughout this pandemic have been largely shaped by Petersen’s writing about the workplace. Petersen also runs a Facebook group called [Celebrity Gossip, Academic Style](#) where she shares her own writing together with other links and ideas. This is another way to consumer her writing if Facebook is more your speed.

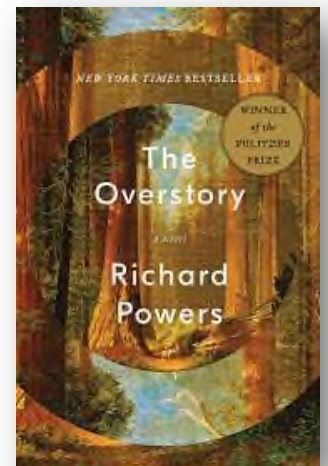


Allyssa McFadyen, Collection Management Supervisor, Law Library | UBC Law Library

The Cake Therapist by Judith Fertig - This sweet book is one of my favourites because it combines my love for baking with a small town filled with secrets. Charming characters, historical flashbacks, and tasty treats make this the perfect book to enjoy with a cup of coffee and your favourite dessert!

Carolyn Petrie, Library Services Manager | Norton Rose Fulbright Canada

The Overstory by Richard Powers - I'm late to [The Overstory](#), but finally picked it up from my to-read pile this fall, and found it hard to put down. The book follows several individual characters whose stories eventually weave together, with the larger themes revolving around biodiversity, the science of trees, and our human relationship with the natural world. The descriptions of Californian redwood forests also made me feel, just a little, less bound by COVID travel restrictions!



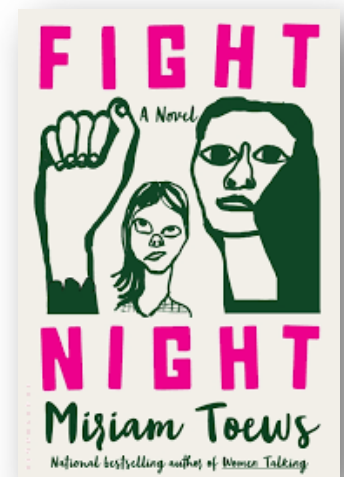
Natalie Rocheleau, Librarian, Information Services | Courthouse Libraries BC

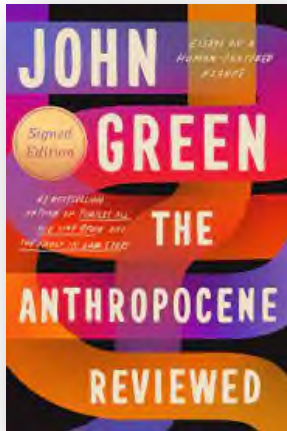
Some people might be familiar with *Locke & Key* from Netflix, but the six-issue comic series it is based on by Joe Hill is my perfect blend of horror-fantasy and meaningful characterization. I'd also like to add Donna Tartt's compulsively readable *The Secret History*, a Dionysian inverted mystery that explores privilege and morality among an elite group of Classics students and their enigmatic professor.



Joni Sherman, Library Technician, National Research Services | Justice Canada

I thoroughly enjoyed (and recommend) the quick and highly entertaining book, *Fight Night* by Miriam Toews. This is a tragicomic family story of three generations of women: Swiv-the nine year(wise beyond her age) narrator, her thespian mother and her ferocious and irrepressible grandmother. All of these characters perfectly reveal that it is okay to make mistakes, to be imperfect... just keep on fighting on your own terms. This book is a lovely distraction/escape during these intense times.





Rebecca Tomlinson, Manager of Library Services & Marketing | Koffman Kalef LLP

Over the last year, two books have really stuck with me and I could not pick just one. Both are non-fiction.

John Green's *The Anthropocene Reviewed* is a timely collection of observations and anecdotes adapted from Green's podcast of the same name. I often share Green's perspective on life. Green writes, "One of the strange things about adulthood is that you are your current self, but you are also all the selves that you used to be, the ones you grew out of but can't ever quite get rid of." (p. 188) I forget this all the time, that life is iterative. I think back to all the previous versions of myself and remember feeling sure of myself then, but the person who was sure of herself then

is so different from the person who is thinking back. We take pieces of the good parts forward to the next version, and try to make sense of, or repurpose the no-so-good parts.

In a similar vein, Rebecca Solnit's *The Faraway Nearby* is a deeply personal reflection on the loss of her mother, first to their difficult relationship, then to Alzheimer's, and finally, to time. Each chapter reads like a vignette--a small window into moments of the chaos and calm of loss and uncertainty. She writes "Some stories are best let go, but the process of writing down and giving stories away fixes a story in its particulars...and the tale no longer belongs to the writer but to the readers. And what is left out is left forever." (p. 239)



Jennifer Townsend, Library Technician | DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

Now We Shall Be Entirely Free by Andrew Miller (2018) - A historical, cat-and-mouse thriller full of adventure and beautiful poetic language. I thoroughly enjoyed this story of a British soldier fleeing to solitude in the Hebrides from the Peninsular War in Spain, who, unbeknownst to him, is being hunted down. The author's sharp observations of small, ordinary details are a delight to read.

Column: From the Webmaster's screen

Kurtis Kolthammer, Knowledge Services Technician | Fasken

Hello everyone,

It has been a few months now since I started my time as the Web Editor. While I would love to paint a picture of epic adventures and time lapses of me learning and excelling at the tasks I need doing, the truth of the matter is far less glamorous and cinematic, though still quite fulfilling. WordPress remains a mystery easily solved on the outside, and now I am just trying to learn the quirks and limitations to see how far I can push the boundaries.

My time has been spent incorporating quality of life improvements, such as the Login button on the menu, as well as, adding my own personality to new and already established pages – something that is going to be in the process of happening for many months. One of the more exciting projects was working on the [Past Session Videos](#) page. The current library is available to all members and it will be continuously updated as new content becomes available. As for the future, my current goal includes planning a little makeover to hopefully add new photos and such to the various site pages. On that note, if you have any photos of past VALL events that you would like to share and do not mind being posted, please send them to me at kkolthammer@fasken.com. Furthermore, if you have any ideas of things you would like to see on the website, please also send me a message.

I hope everyone is staying safe and happy. I will continue working on the site and shaking with anticipation at the upcoming Final Fantasy XIV expansion coming in December!

Be well all.

Member Announcements

We have eight new members since our Summer issue of the Review.

Nancy Li joined the Knowledge Management and Library team at Blake, Cassels & Graydon as Research & Knowledge Services Counsel in July 2021. She previously practiced civil litigation in Vancouver. Nancy obtained her combined JD and MLIS degree from Dalhousie University, and completed her MLIS practicum at Stewart McKelvey under the mentorship of Cyndi Murphy before returning to the west coast. Nancy enjoys working as part of a collaborative national team that provides legal research and resource assistance to lawyers and students across offices. Nancy looks forward to connecting with the VALL community, and learning from her fellow Vancouver law library colleagues. As an art history and curatorial studies enthusiast, Nancy can be found in her spare time attending the latest exhibits at galleries and museums, as well as perusing the shelves of art history libraries.

We'd also like to welcome:

- Christine Babec at The Justice Institute
- Katherine Bunch at Guild Yale LLP
- Teodor Dobre at Miller Thomson
- Theresa Gebrail at Teck Resources
- Cynthia Ram at Harper Grey LLP
- Langara student Darla Tzonev
- and recent graduate Alexis Wilkinson.

The VALL Membership Directory is available [at our website](#).

News from Courthouse Libraries BC

Tracy McLean, Manager, Information Services | Courthouse Libraries BC

We are open! Our staff are in the Vancouver library Monday to Friday, 9-4:30. You can make an appointment with us in advance, or just come to the courthouse and tell the sheriffs and staff at the Registry kiosk in the lobby that you'd like to come up to the library. They'll let us know you're coming, and we'll open the doors.

We also continue to provide librarian services in response to email & phone inquiries at librarian@courthouselibrary.ca, 1.800.665.2570 toll-free. We aim to respond to all enquiries within two business days. There is no priority service during this time.

As of October 4, 2021 we resumed charging for self-serve copying & printing (\$0.25/page), as well as staff assisted printing / copying / scanning / faxing in all of our full time locations (\$1.00/page). We accept cash, debit and credit, and will provide you with a receipt. At this point, we're not able to charge items to accounts for our clients.

We're waiving charges for document delivery at the moment, but we will be reintroducing fees for this service soon. Don't forget to check out [our website!](#) We have our free [Canada Proclamations page](#) which lists Orders In Council proclaiming federal acts brought into force since January 2009. You can easily keep up by subscribing to our RSS feed or email service, so you don't need to worry about missing anything. We also have a [BC Proclamations page](#) as well.

News from UBC Law Library

George Tsiakos, Head, Law Library | UBC Law Library

COVID-19 and Re-Opening

From mid-March 2020 through the end of August, 2021, the Law Library remained closed to patrons. However, staff remained unwavering in their desire and capacity to assist the Library's users in meeting their legal information needs. We continued to support Allard Faculty and students with their teaching and learning needs through online reference and research services. In the fall 2020, we saw the gradual return of some staff to the Library which helped facilitate the on-campus pick-up service. This service enabled UBC faculty, students, and staff to access materials in our collection that are not available in electronic format. In the spring of 2021, we resumed ILL services for materials that can be sent via electronic means.

On September 7, 2021, we were very excited to open our doors again to patrons at full capacity. It is so wonderful to see faculty, students, staff, and community members back in our Library space and to provide information services in person once again. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Library patrons for their patience and understanding during the Library's closure.

Staffing

The Library experienced stable staffing this year. In January, 2021, we welcomed James Bachmann as our new Instruction Librarian. In this capacity, James is responsible for coordinating the Law Library's instruction program, which includes introductory and advanced legal research and writing courses offered at the Peter A. Allard School of Law.

In addition, James provides reference and research services to faculty and students, members of the legal profession, and members of the public. Instruction and Learning James Bachmann and Veronika Kollbrand continue to teach the First Year Legal Research and Writing course at Allard Law. The overall goal of this course is to develop practical research skills, with a focus on researching the law in British Columbia and Canada. In addition, George Tsiakos continues to teach Advance Legal Research courses to upper year and graduate law students. As was the case last year, the teaching and learning experience has been a little different with some classes being delivered fully online and others being delivered either in person or in a hybrid format.

In addition to the Law Library's formal course instruction, librarians continue to provide training sessions for new Research Assistants who are conducting research for Allard Faculty members on various legal topics. Furthermore, the Library continues to provide designated support for several competitive moot teams throughout the academic year.

Collections

The Law Library's overall budget was stable this past year. The Library continues to expand its online collection of monographs and serials. Major e-book packages continue to include Elgar, University Press Scholarship Online, Routledge, Taylor & Francis, Hart Publishing (Bloomsbury), and Oxford University Press. A major change to our online resources was the addition of campus-wide access to LawSource (WestlawNext Canada) and Securities Mosaic (LexisNexis).

New Law School Dean

On November 8, 2021, the Peter A. Allard School of Law welcomed its new Dean of law, Professor Ngai Pindell. Dean Pindell is an accomplished academic and joins Allard Law from the William S. Boyd School of Law of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The Law Library looks forward to working with Dean Pindell during his five year term. To learn more about Dean Pindell, [click here](#).

News from InfoAction

Ronit Landon, Manager, InfoAction | Vancouver Public Library

We are pleased to welcome our new Manager of InfoAction, Ronit Landon (formerly Barenboim)! Ronit comes to us from Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, where she was the Vancouver Research Librarian for the past 3 years. She brings a wealth of legal and due diligence research expertise, having previously also worked for the British Columbia Securities Commission. InfoAction's physical office is now open, with librarians available for in-person services Tuesday-Thursday, but we continue to mainly provide research services remotely. For legislative updates, as well interesting cases and legal, business and research articles, check us out on Twitter ([@InfoActionVPL](#)) and LinkedIn ([InfoAction at VPL](#)). Additionally, VPL's Special Collections are now open Monday to Thursday 11:30am–3:30pm and Friday 1:30pm–5:30pm.

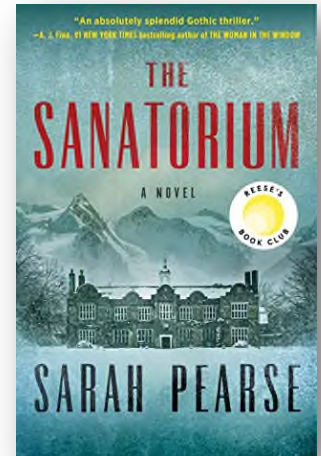
And here are some book recommendations from the InfoAction staff:

[Sanitorium](#) is a creepy novel that does a good job of setting a very claustrophobic atmosphere – some parts made my skin crawl!



[Ayesha at Last](#) is a very enjoyable version of Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice* set in a Muslim family in modern day Toronto. It brings a good viewpoint to a young Muslim woman with strong opinions and how she fits in a strict culture.

[The World of Yesterday](#) is not a new book, but one that resonates in our current climate of global turmoil and uncertainty. This autobiography, set against the backdrop of the literary and intellectual world of early 20th Century Europe, is a fascinating and at times painful love letter to the loss of art and culture and the disappearance of a society.



News from the Queen's Printer

Amar Sihota, Manager, Business Development | Queen's Printer

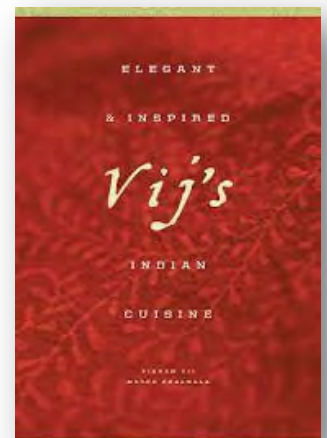
BC Laws Highlight

Queen' Printer has recently added the following content to the [Historical Annual Statutes](#) content collection on [BC Laws](#).

- 1958 SBC
- 1959 SBC
- 1996 SBC

In regards to suggested reading, like many others I've been trying new recipes these past months and have enjoyed the Jillian Harris's *Fraiche food*, *Full Hearts* cookbook. I highly recommend trying the Mushroom Wellington as it's been a huge hit with the meat lovers in our family.

Another great recipe I've recently found in *Vij's Elegant & Inspired* cookbook is the Marinated Lamb popsicles with fenugreek cream curry. The suggestion to serve this with the turmeric potatoes (also included in the cookbook) is definitely one to follow.



News from CLEBC

Adam Simpkins, Marketing Manager | CLEBC

Announcing new features to CLEBC online books

You asked, we listened... and acted! CLEBC is proud to announce some new features to our online books that will improve your searching and accessibility.

Looking for guidance in a CLEBC online practice manual?

Find just what you need faster and more easily with “Search within Book.” You can now run searches and view results in the specific practice manual that you’re using.

New Expanded View

Using the full screen view by selecting expand, as well as hiding the menu on the left, offers an improved reading experience when you are in a section of a book.

Downloading forms and precedents in our practice manuals is also now easier and faster

Simply select the “Download all Forms & Precedents” link and save them to your computer with a single click!

We hope that you find these new features helpful. And, as always, we encourage your feedback. For any questions or comments, please email us at custserv@cle.bc.ca.

CLEBC is proud to announce the 35th update of Canadian Criminal Jury Instructions (CRIMJI)

In 1984, the Honourable Mr. Justice Bouck of the British Columbia Supreme Court approached CLEBC about publishing standard jury instructions in the criminal and civil areas. We agreed to undertake the project, persuaded that such volumes would benefit the Bench and Bar and enhance the administration of justice in Canada. The first edition of Canadian Criminal Jury Instructions (CRIMJI) was published in the fall of 1987 and has been updated annually.

CRIMJI contains more than 150 standard instructions covering trial procedure, rules of evidence, offences, and defences. The instructions present the law in an organized, orderly way, in language that is easy to understand. While standard instructions are, of necessity, somewhat generic in nature, a fair degree of customization is made possible by the user notes and the presentation of alternatives and blanks to fill in with case-specific information. In addition, CRIMJI instructions can be modified electronically by downloading the instructions which are available on CD-ROM, as well as the online version of CRIMJI.

Many people have contributed to CRIMJI over the years, but there are a few that stand out and to whom CLEBC would like to express special thanks. The founding authors—the late Mr. Justice John Bouck and Professor Gerry Ferguson—brought an incredible amount of time, energy, and commitment to this project, and deserve much credit for the significant contribution they have made to the administration of justice in Canada.

The 35th CRIMJI update will be available in December 2021.

News from LexisNexis

Eric Wai, Director, Client Relationships | LexisNexis Canada

Rainy Day Reading Recommendations from our Product Adoption and Learning Team

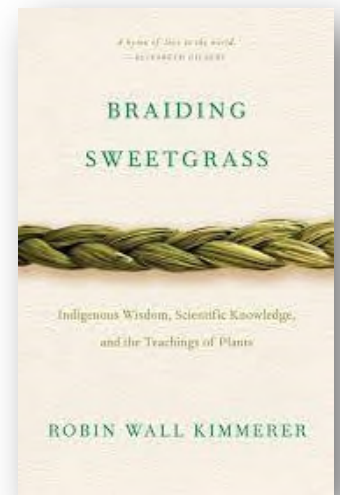
Camilia Lalani is our Product Adoption Consultant in Vancouver. Prior to joining LexisNexis in August 2019, Camilia worked in education and outreach with various United Nations agencies. She has a joint Master of International Affairs and Public Policy and, in her spare time, enjoys reading, running, and taking dance classes. Camilia's rainy day reading recommendations are:

Braiding Sweetgrass, by Robin Wall Kimmerer (non-fiction): Kimmerer is an environmental biologist and in the book blends science and indigenous knowledge to teach us about the interconnected relationship between humans and nature. It's a best seller and also very well written.



Jerusalem, by Yotam Ottolenghi (cookbook): A lot of great fall and winter recipes inspired by the Middle East. Stuffed eggplant with lamb and pine-nuts is a commitment but delicious.

Our Product Adoption and Learning Team continues to offer a broad range of virtual, online and in-person training options, providing customers with training whenever, wherever, and however you may need it. Camilia can be reached at Camilia.Lalani@lexisnexis.ca.



In addition, the Product Adoption and Learning Team has created a collection of new online resources: short training videos; step-by-step tip sheets; quick reference guides and in-depth comprehensive user guides. We invite you take a few moments and explore our redesigned [Documentation and Training Resource Page](#).

LexisNexis Digital Library

The LexisNexis Digital Library is a great solution for efficiently circulating eBooks in legal libraries. We are excited to deliver a streamlined web interface together with a new smartphone app that supports offline reading. Watch [this 2 minute video](#) and learn about Digital Library, the next generation in law libraries.

To learn more, please contact your LexisNexis Canada representative or visit www.lexisnexis.ca.

News from Thomson Reuters

Lavern Walters, Marketing Manager, Legal Solutions | Thomson Reuters

Introducing [Westlaw Edge Canada](#), the most advanced legal research platform for the Canadian market. Westlaw Edge brings together a legacy of quality and accurate legal research with first-of-its kind features that expedite research tasks that were once incredibly complex and time-consuming. With Westlaw Edge Canada, you can find accurate answers faster without sacrificing quality. [Register for a free trial here.](#)

- Know with confidence you are citing good law
- Get quick answers to common legal questions
- Easily locate relevant material across content sets
- Instantly find decisions that meaningfully interpret legislation
- Seamlessly flag important paragraphs for decision makers

And introducing the [Topical texts and Annotations Collection](#) on Westlaw. Now you can access authoritative texts and annotations from leading experts with Westlaw's powerful search capabilities, integrated content, research management tools and exclusive editorial enhancements, all in one place. Below are some of the Text and Annotations collections available on Westlaw Edge Canada and Westlaw.

- Constitutional and Government
- Corporate Commercial
- Environmental and Energy
- Estates
- Family
- Litigation – Specialty Practice and General
- Municipal and Construction
- Privacy
- Professions
- Real Property

Audrey Wineberg-Borg, Editorial Manager | Thomson Reuters



Lavern asked me to share with you the books we have been reading and discussing at our Women@TR Canada book club. The books are chosen to bring different perspectives and voices to the members – and cover a variety of topics. As the book discussions are relatively new – we have only read and discussed three books and we have our next book discussion in January. Here are the three we have finished so far:

Becoming by Michelle Obama – through the former first lady's memoir we explored the idea of recreating. We discussed three themes: becoming me - empowering yourself, change and support, and making sacrifices; becoming us – making a difference, and

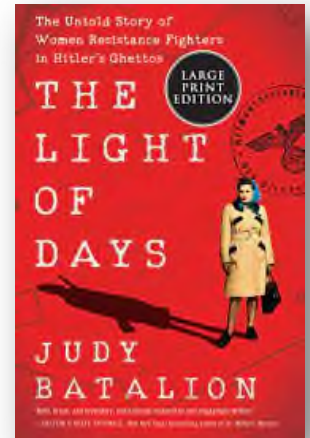


allyship; and becoming more – never giving up on the idea that there's more growing to be done.

Hench by Natalie Zina Walschots – as a group we talked about the book that on the surface was a fun and fanciful fictional novel. After a closer look, it was clear that the story contained within it a lot of insights. We looked into how the novel touched on the areas of office dynamics, inclusivity and diversity, and representative characters.

The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos, by Judy Batalion. We explored the themes of untold stories, the nature of resistance, the

notion of ordinary women dealing with inhumane circumstances, and the unique circumstance of the women who resisted.




At our January meeting, we will be talking about *Stories of Metis Women: Tales My Kookum Told Me*, edited by Baily Oster & Marilyn Lizee.

News from Quickscribe

Mike Pasta, CEO | Quickscribe Services Ltd.

New Supplemental Notes Feature

Quickscribe recently introduced a new [Supplemental Notes feature](#) that will provide helpful background information on the "how" and "why" a section came to be. Sections that include these notes will be identified by a clickable, blue information icon adjacent to the section: 

Supplemental Notes may include:

- Government news releases, explaining the rationale for why a section was added/changed
- Links to relevant consultation papers, reports and policy initiatives that resulted in new legislation
- References to ministry documents, guidelines, manuals and policies that refer to a section
- Convenient links to associated fines/penalties mentioned in a section
- Summaries and links to relevant legal blogs that focus on a particular section of law
- Court rulings that were a catalyst for legislative changes
- Convenient concordance links showing where previously revised/renumbered sections live today.

By adding this supplemental layer of information at the section level, we hope to provide you with a better understanding of the intent and ultimately, how the law should be applied.

Quickscribe has brought on several individuals to assist with this initiative. To start, Supplemental Notes will be contributed by:

- **Mandy Ostick**

Mandy is a researcher and analyst based in Vancouver, British Columbia. She is an experienced researcher (legal, competitive intelligence, business development) and law library manager. She has worked in law firm, government, university law library, and courthouse library environments, as well as research consulting.

- **Kristen Balcom**

Kristen is Research and Writing Lawyer at [Balcom Legal](#). Kristen provides contract research and writing services to other lawyers on an as-needed basis.

- **Brad Harris (RPF)**

Brad has worked in the B.C. forestry sector for almost 40 years. He is a Registered Professional Forester and worked for the provincial government for many years. He now works as a private forestry consultant in Victoria. Brad will initially focus his efforts on publishing notes to the Forest Act and Forest and Range Practices Act and associated regulations.

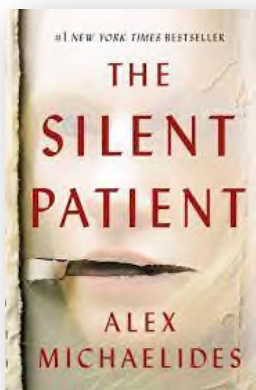
- **Quickscribe Administration**

Quickscribe staff will begin actively publishing notes throughout the site shortly.

Clients can expect to see more notes added in the coming weeks/months ahead.

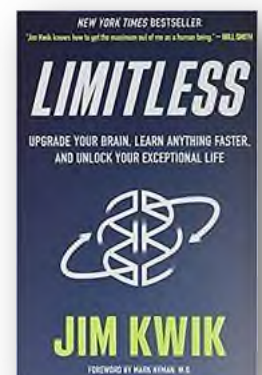
Quickscribe would love to receive feedback from VALL members who may have suggestions for how these notes should be applied.

And here are two book recommendations for consideration:



The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides. For anyone who is into psychological thrillers, this is a good one. It draws you in from the very first page and keeps you in suspense to the very end.

Limitless: Upgrade Your Brain, Learn Anything Faster, and Unlock Your Exceptional Life, by Jim Kwik. I don't consume a lot of "self-improvement" books; however, this book offers so many practical (and cool) tips and tricks on how we can become more efficient at learning new tasks. In fact, I've shared a few of these tips with my 15 year-old daughter who is now using them when studying for exams.



Programming Review

Natalie Rocheleau, Librarian, Information Services | Courthouse Libraries BC

September

In September, the Programs Committee hosted a session with Courthouse Libraries BC managers Tracy and Liz, who provided a virtual legislative research refresher via Zoom. The session was very well-attended with 41 attendees, including 10 non-members and 3 students. The presentation summarized some key processes and resources (both print and online) for BC and Federal legislative research, including Acts and Regulations. They discussed how to track legislative history to see changes over time, point-in-time research, legislative intent, and key tips regarding revisions and other print materials.

An unlisted recording of the session has been posted on the [VALL YouTube channel](#) for anyone who may want to revisit the trove of resources and information Tracy and Liz provided. As they reminded us, the key takeaway and all-important reminder is to always feel free to contact CLBC directly with any legislative research questions you may have!

November

We hope you joined us for our Virtual Social Coffee Hour, “Speed Dating” edition, on November 3rd! Whether you’re a new or long-time member, these sessions are designed to help you connect with your VALL colleagues. You’re sorted into small groups and provided with some light-hearted discussion questions to get the conversation rolling.

This month we also had our first “President’s Corner” casual coffee break hosted by the VALL Presidents on November 19th, with a great turnout.

These will both be regular social events, so keep an eye out for their next occurrence.

Upcoming Sessions

Please join VALL for our December Session, “Transgender and Speech Rights” with guest speaker Adrienne Smith, a transgender human rights activist and social justice lawyer based in Vancouver. This session will delve into the rights of transgender people, including recent advances in the law, and where those rights intersect with freedom of expression and hate speech. This session will be hosted via Zoom on Wednesday, December 1st, 2021 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. Register via the invitation email.

VALL Statement of Income and Expenses, July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Ronit Landon, Manager, InfoAction | Vancouver Public Library

Operating Account Balance as of July 1, 2020				\$15,803.35
INCOME				
	Membership fees	\$1,456.00		
	<i>Note: Membership fees were lower than usual because, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, existing members received a free renewal for 2020-21, and the membership fee for member renewals was 50% of the regular cost for 2021-22 year.</i>			
	Bank interest	\$1.14		
	Seminar Registrations	\$0.00		
			\$1,457.14	
EXPENSES				
	Post Office box	\$208.95		
	Administrative (i.e. stamps, cheques, Zoom act. etc.)	\$315.67		
	Seminars (speakers, gifts, venue, etc.)	\$1,488.53		
	PBMF Bursary – 2019 funds carried to/used in 2020-21	\$628		
	PBMF Bursary – 2019 funds to be carried to 2021-22	\$1,122		
	PBMF Bursary 2020-21	\$750		
	Steve Matthews Gift (website paid in 2019 through to 2021)	\$100		
			\$4,613.15	
NET INCOME				-\$3,156.01
Chequing Account Balance as of June 30, 2021				\$13,274.34
Member shares			\$144.13	
Operating total including member shares				\$13,418.47
Peter Bark Memorial Fund				
	Savings		\$1,314.17	
	Term Deposit A (Escalating Term Deposit 3Y)	Matures: Sept. 9, 2022	\$1,000	
	Term Deposit (Non-Redeemable Annual Term 19 Month)	Matures: Sept. 4, 2021	\$11,730.63	
				\$14,044.80
Member. shares			\$179.42	
PBMF Total including member shares				\$14,224.22

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.)