

# VALL Review

Vancouver Association of Law Libraries

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**From the President's Desk – Alex Everitt, Harris & Co.**



With bated breath we hope the rainy season is behind us – unlikely, but one can be hopeful! As I write this the cherry blossoms are blooming, the daffodils have bloomed and the tulips are on their way. Spring is in the air. I hope everyone had a great winter season, it was fantastic to see so many members at our December Holiday Luncheon. At the event we honoured VALL's newest Lifetime Member Gillian Crabtree, socialized over lunch and

gifted door prizes generously provided by LexisNexis.

This spring VALL hosted a Substantive Session titled *Usability in Indexing*, presented by Cheryl Landes and generously sponsored by the CLEBC. In May, the Canadian Association of Law Library Conference is being hosted in Hamilton, and in June VALL will be hosting an in-person Spring Social – stay tuned for details. These events are not only fantastic opportunities to network with and learn from your peers, but also great opportunities to liaise and network with your vendor representatives. I'm sure many can attest that in addition to navigating lawyer demands, navigating and maintaining vendor relationships is a close second of “tricky things about being a law librarian”. VALL Editors, Beth and Rachel have created an informative issue full of stories, tips and tricks to help Information Professionals navigate vendor relationships. As markets change our relationships change and we hope you find this issue useful!

I want to close with a quick plug for the VALL Executive. VALL's success hinges on members taking turns in these executive positions, generously providing time to make this organization work. If you are interested in learning more about positions that will be available for the Fall 2023 please reach out. As some members decide to step aside, we invite new individuals to join! Please contact Rebecca Tomlinson, Past President, at [rjt@kkbl.com](mailto:rjt@kkbl.com) if you are interested in being a part of the Executive.

I wish you all a happy and healthy spring season and look forward to connecting with you all online, at the CALL conference, and at our June event.



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## From the Editors

**Beth Galbraith, Library Administrator | Clark Wilson LLP**

**Rachel Wertheim, Research Specialist & Librarian | Dentons Canada LLP**

Relationships are important in just about any profession. When a graduate degree is required for a career, the skills to develop and maintain these relationships are not always part of the curriculum. Instead, we are told that they come with time and experience. Relationships in librarianship take many forms and can be difficult to navigate. Depending on your role and the nature of your job, your relationships may involve vendors, law firms, academic institutions, professional groups, and, of course, your “clients,” whether they be students, lawyers, staff or the public. All these relationships are essential, but the rules of engagement can vary significantly among these audiences.

As someone still relatively new to the profession, I recognize that it takes time to hone one's skills. However, if you're a solo librarian tasked with negotiating contracts right out of library school you may feel ill prepared. You may not know when to push back or how to ensure that the deal you're getting is, in fact, a good one. In instances like these, we feel particularly fortunate to be part of a community of librarians, who are willing to share their knowledge and expertise. Thus, this issue of the VALL Review is centered on relationships and the sharing of experiences that will hopefully help others as we all strive to approach new situations and interactions with confidence and skill.

We hope you enjoy this issue and encourage you to reach out to us with photos for our new “Unique Items in My Library” section which will feature some items in member libraries that are a fun and interesting. They can be decorative items or part of your collection.

# VALL Review

## VALL Executive

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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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## **Feature article: Vendor-Client Relationships in the Law Library Field – How to create, navigate, develop and care for your vendor relationships**

The theme for this issue is the relationship between vendors and clients.. We asked VALL members from different types of organizations to provide some tips and insight into how they create and maintain relationships with their vendor representatives. For new members, we hope these contributions offer valuable information that can assist you as you seek to establish and develop your own new relationships. For those who are more experienced, we hope that you will also find these contributions to be both helpful and interesting!

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### **The Vendor Relationship as Partnership**

By Susannah Tredwell, DLA Piper

To *really* misquote Keats, a good vendor relationship is a joy forever. Ideally, it's a partnership: your vendor rep knows your organization's needs and requirements (and pain points!) and works with you to find a solution that makes everyone happy. There are those reps that know your library's needs so well that they can reach out and tell you "you need this" and they are right.

When purchasing a new product, it's always helpful to ask your rep what they can be flexible about; for example, the price of the product may be fixed, but your rep may be able to throw in additional resources or keep year-over-year increases down. If one or more aspects of a contract won't work for you, don't be afraid to say so.

Reps can also be very helpful in providing information to help make the case for a new product or additional resources to your organization's management. This might be by providing usage statistics for existing products or a generic business case that you can customize. You can also ask your rep for resources to promote their products internally such as blurbs, educational materials, or organization-specific training.

Of course, there are situations where the relationship can be contentious. If you are in the situation where you have a rep who does not meet your needs, you are perfectly within your rights to ask your vendor if there is someone else you can work with.

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## **Face-to-Face Time Helps to Build Trust and Transparency**

**By Katherine Melville, Farris LLP**

The best vendor client relationships are sustained when each recognizes and respects the ways in which the other can be an advocate within their respective organizations. Your vendor representative can be invaluable in bringing forward and giving weight to your concerns, needs, and stakeholder feedback to their organization, and in turn, you can be the advocate at your organizations for new resources, training, and for your lawyer's time and effort in providing resource feedback.

In my experience, the time spent developing strong relationships with your vendors is time well invested, and has stood me in good stead over the years. My personal negotiating style tends to be quite no-nonsense; I am upfront and direct about the terms I am willing to settle on, and which are immovable, and this works best when I can communicate that openly, discuss what barriers I see internally to closing a negotiation, and receive the same transparent style of communication in return. In other words, when we understand each other, there is also trust.

As for how to actually go about developing these relationships, I do think our years of Covid have made this process harder for many of us. The changes at our own organizations and vendors aside, it is really the in-person time that develops trust and respect between colleagues in a "sales" dynamic. And I do not mean simply a (sometimes awkward) vendor lunch or dinner, but rather, the chat you have at the event while you're waiting to board the bus to the venue, or the celebrations after formal dinner, because everyone ran to find a TV to watch the Canadian team play for gold. My own personal favourite was at the Moncton CALL conference, when there was a power outage at the closing party (already a fantastic kitchen party event). Everyone elected to stay with the limited light we had, and the shared power outage festive mood led to some of the most fun conversations with vendors I still work with to this day.

Personally, I am most looking forward to this year's CALL conference (as I was with the return of in-person VALL events) for the catch-ups with old friends, and getting to know some of our new vendor colleagues as well.

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## **Creating and Maintaining Vendor Relationships**

**By Suzanne McBeath, Metro Vancouver**

Vendor relationships are important. The better the relationship, the more success you'll have when trying to get assistance with product or platform issues, purchasing new products and negotiating better pricing. The first step in creating a vendor relationship is to introduce yourself. Depending on the vendor, there may be multiple individuals you'll need to know for different products types (e.g. print, online) or for different services

(e.g. training, sales). An email to introduce yourself is a good starting point, followed by a meeting by phone, Zoom/Teams or in person. At the meeting, you can learn more about the vendor's products, identify any pain points your organization is experiencing and get to know your local representative(s).

Like all relationships, a vendor relationship requires give and take. If you expect your representative(s) to reply to you in a timely fashion, you should do the same and ensure also that their invoices are paid on time. It's also important to remember that your representative is generally acting as the messenger when conveying news you may not wish to hear – price increases, sunseting of favourite products or platforms, service outages, etc. They'll be much more inclined to help you if you maintain a polite and professional tone and thank them for their assistance. It's quite possible that you'll work with the same representative for years, so start out the way you mean to continue and maintain that positive relationship.

Our organization is considered a government library. I think that we likely work with different vendors than other VALL members, as we support many non-lawyers. We have vendors for standards, for business research databases, for news aggregators, etc. We're in a bit of a no man's land in terms of consortia, in that we don't meet the criteria to join most of them. This means that we have to negotiate pricing on our own for most vendors, working with a limited budget which is set by Metro Vancouver's Board of Directors annually.

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## **Goal-Oriented Relationship Building**

**By Carolyn Petrie, Norton Rose Fulbright**

Vendor relations were one of the scariest parts of my job when I moved into a management role; it seemed like I was expected to "outsmart" the vendor and drive a super hard bargain to be successful, and I had little experience negotiating on behalf of a large organization.

I quickly learned that the best relationships came about when I got to know vendors on a more personal level. They better understood my library's goals and priorities (and budget limitations), and I felt more comfortable asking questions about subscription models and options. I quickly started approaching vendor relationships with as much transparency as I could, and asking a lot of questions. And while there are times when I have to push back on price or contract terms, I also like to let my vendors know what's working well.

Today, I'm fortunate to work with a dedicated Procurement team, who are SMEs on contract clauses, market data, and pricing trends, and who are a tremendous resource. If you have a Procurement team in your organization, I encourage you to ask them for help, whether on specific contracts, or on negotiations practices more generally.

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## The Vendor Relationship and Government Libraries

By Bronwyn Guiton, BC Attorney General Library

I've been asked to offer the government perspective on creating and developing vendor relationships. I often think it must be difficult for vendors to form an understanding on what one particular government client requires from them, versus another. For example, my Thomson Reuters vendor may have half a dozen clients within the BC Ministry of Attorney General alone whose legal name is "His Majesty the King in right of the Province of British Columbia, as represented by the Attorney General," and yet each of those clients has a different contact person with unique timelines, procurement requirements, executive preferences, and account numbers and configurations. Some of those clients contacts are librarians, others are lawyers, judges, and business executives. Vendors occasionally point out how much more strict my requirements are compared to their other government clients; to which I remind them that each of their government clients have unique sensitivities to different aspects of the negotiation and resulting contract.

Keeping in mind how challenging it can be for a vendor rep to work with multiple government clients simultaneously, I err on the side of regularly providing more background information about my own office's needs throughout the negotiation process than would otherwise be normal. I do this to try to keep my own account's needs clear and top of mind for the vendor; which I hope in turn creates a more efficient and productive negotiation. While this approach does not always lead to a satisfactory outcome, it is, I think, the best approach for a government client to take, especially in our sector where fruitful long-term relationships are often more critical than short-term gains.

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### Column: From the Web Editor's Screen

Kurtis Kolthammer, Fasken

There is a misconception by some people, often portrayed in media, that being a librarian is a solitary job. The image of an individual, sitting behind a desk all alone is prevalent. A solo person helping their patrons with wisdom only years of book reading can provide. This, of course, is not true – the solo aspect anyway, the wisdom of library workers is a stereotype I think is quite justified. Every law library is comprised of a team of people that help one another, and, through VALL, all our libraries can be connected.

VALL connections come in many forms. We have Lawbster which has become an amazing tool where we can share information, whether that be helping find that elusive resource or discussions on products and experiences. VALL socials and events connect us with new knowledge and a way to meet and form new relationships with one another. The VALL website is the hub, a place to inform and find information about other ways to connect, like those listed above.

On a personal level, my growth in my role as a technician has been greatly influenced by my professional

relationships at Fasken. As is true for most, when I first started, I did not have a background in law. Everything was new and confusing, and it is not an understatement to say my manager answered 1001 questions that first year. Despite my constant pestering, those questions were always answered with patience and understanding. I was given structure to learn the importance of certain procedures and was also given the freedom and tools to add my own individuality to the role. Encouraged to learn new skillsets, I jumped into new applications and explored what I could do with them. I get to collaborate with my team and share ideas that are genuinely considered. As a result of all of this, I have gained confidence, knowledge, and a drive to keep learning. Let this be an impromptu thank you to those people as this has changed my life.

I hope everyone has found, and continue to find, relationships that are meaningful to them in the law, and your own personal, communities.

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## **Member Announcements**

### **New Member – Sarah McMillan, Woodward & Company**

I am the new Director of Knowledge Management at Woodward and Company in Victoria, BC, a boutique firm which specializes in Indigenous Law on behalf of First Nation governments and organizations. It is a new position for the firm, and for me. I have a background as a litigation paralegal and spent around 25 years in that role prior to taking on knowledge management position. I started my career in Calgary before moving home to Victoria in 2015. One of the primary focuses of this position is with respect to updating, cataloguing and assessing our hard copy and electronic library and research tools (with input from a fabulous consultant). I have two teenagers, a husband who is an excellent cook, and a large yellow lab called Lou! We all love the mountains, the trees, but most of all the ocean.

### **New Student Member – JC Landry, Langara College**

I'm currently a student in Langara's library tech program, finishing my second semester in my first year. I haven't worked in libraries before but will be working at Teck Resources' library (where I am currently doing my first practicum) over the summer as a library assistant. I've got three cats and enjoy playing board games.

I decided to join VALL as I'm interested in working in law libraries, and have been doing my best to connect with others in the field. Those I've met and spoken with already have been very welcoming and encouraging, and the environments in which law libraries operate appeal to me quite a bit. I knew going into the program my interest was more in the area of special libraries and those I've had the pleasure of visiting have further confirmed that. I'm looking forward to attending an event and meeting more people in the field!

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## **New Lifetime Member – Gillian Crabtree**

**By Katherine Melville, Farris LLP**



On December 6, 2022, the VALL Executive was thrilled to present Gillian Crabtree with Lifetime Membership, in acknowledgement and gratitude for her many contributions to our association during her career.

Gillian began her career in law libraries in 1973 with the Federal Department of Justice, setting up their first library in Vancouver, and retired in 2020, after a 46 year career, which included time with the BC Courthouse Library Society, as a freelance consultant with several law firms, LSBC, a CLE PLTC Instructor and for 21 years with Edwards, Kenny & Bray until her retirement.

A founding member of VALL, Gillian was also instrumental in forging the relationship between VALL and what is now BCLMA, helping to create the now Knowledge Management subsection. She volunteered for essentially every VALL executive position over the years, including two terms as Vice President, President & Past President, Treasurer, and the Programs Committee. Gillian is also the original editor of the BC Legislative Digest, now published by Quickscribe, and I can personally attest to her kindness in always being available to fellow VALL members when particularly tricky legislative questions required a consult.

Gillian was, and is, a wonderful mentor to me as I was starting out in my career with Farris, always available for a quick phone chat, or an off-campus lunch, offering gentle guidance and a listening ear when needed. I know I am just one of the many VALL members who think of Gillian as a good friend and mentor, and who miss her dearly in our VALL community.

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## Unique Items in My Library

Most of us love a touch of personalization, whether it be in the form of knick-knacks, visual aids, or other fun items. These things make our libraries unique and they make us smile. Please enjoy these fun elements from our members' libraries!



“Owls of Law,” Law Library @ Clark Wilson



“Bookmark Array,” Law Library @ Clark Wilson

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## News from Courthouse Libraries BC

Leslie Dobin, Acting Manager, Information Resources | Courthouse Libraries BC

### New Staff:

Allyssa McFadyen recently joined the Courthouse Library team as our new full-time Library Technician.

Allyssa says, “After 3 years as the Collection Management Supervisor at UBC Law Library, I have joined the team at Courthouse Libraries BC as a Library Technician. I started with the Courthouse in October 2022 and I instantly felt like part of the team thanks to the kind and welcoming staff! One of the most exciting parts of my role here at the Courthouse has been working closely with our Library Technician located in Victoria. (Fun fact, we spent 15.2 hours collaborating in the month of February, and that's just counting the Teams meetings!) It's been a fun challenge as we learn to work together and stay organized. I've been working with the print collection, enhancing our catalogue records and doing some shifts on the front desk helping our clients with their legal research needs. I enjoy collaborating with my colleagues across the province, and am learning something new everyday!”

We're delighted to have Allyssa as the newest member of our Vancouver team and we'd like to stress that while we don't require staff to calculate their collaboration hours, we're also never going to stand in the way of someone who enjoys doing it!

### Making Copies at the Courthouse Library

In October 2021 Courthouse Libraries BC reintroduced fees for on-site users printing from our public computers, and photocopiers, and now we've adopted the honour system!

When you visit any full-time courthouse library location, you can print first and pay later – no more charging to account or guessing the amount of card you need to buy and getting stuck with a large selection of .25 cent copy cards.

If you're swimming in old CLBC copy cards, don't worry, staff at the front desk are ready to exchange them as payment for your print jobs. So, before you make your next visit, search through your desk drawers, pockets, or wallet and bring in any of the copy cards you can find - we'll apply the credit you bought to make the copies that you need.



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### **News from UBC Law Library**

George Tsiakos, Head, Law Library | UBC Law Library

#### University Librarian

In December, 2022 the Board of Governors approved the extension of Dr. Susan Parker's appointment as University Librarian for a second five-year term. Dr. Parker's new term will run until August 2027. Highlights from Dr. Parker's first term include the development of a new strategic framework to help prioritize goals, continued services during the height of the pandemic, and enriching special collections.

#### Staffing

The Law Library experienced stable staffing this year. However, we did say good-bye to an exceptional and valued colleague, Allyssa McFadyen who left to take on a new role at Courthouse Libraries BC. Allyssa served just over three years as the Law Library's Collection Management Supervisor. During the COVID-19 lockdown and the period that the Library was closed to the public, Allyssa played an integral role in keeping the Library's collections services running smoothly. Recently, sessional Library Assistant, Roberta Christoffersen, was the

successful applicant for the Law Library's new ongoing Public Service Library Assistant position. We are grateful that Roberta will now be with the Law Library team year round.

### Instruction and Learning

Instruction Librarian, James Bachmann, and Reference Librarian, 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. The teaching format for these legal research and writing courses is a blended format that incorporates in-person and online learning experiences.

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 again this past year. In addition, the Library received additional funding thanks to the UBC President's Academic Excellence Initiative. These additional funds were used to support purchasing permanent access to select content of the NAACP Papers. This rich resource is a digitized collection of primary source materials documenting the major campaigns of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) from 1909 to 1972. This collection is made available through the ProQuest History Vault.

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 LabourSource to our existing WestlawNext Canada campus-wide subscription.

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## **News from InfoAction**

Ronit Landon, Manager of InfoAction | Vancouver Public Library

In January, we launched a new website as well as a new Alerts research service!

Check out the website at [www.InfoAction.ca](http://www.InfoAction.ca) Some exciting highlights of the new site include a quick fee estimator for city directories and due diligence searches, as well as access to a full-list of cities for which we can provide directory searches.

The new Alerts service allows clients to receive regular media and/or case law updates on a specific individual, company, or topic at the frequency of their choice (i.e. as they come in, weekly, biweekly, monthly, quarterly or annually). We are offering a reduced rate of \$30/update while we pilot this new service!



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## News from Quickscribe

Mike Pasta, CEO | Quickscribe

Over the last year, Quickscribe has focused most of its efforts on expanding both the scope and depth of the Supplemental Notes and Hansard snippets throughout the site. In fact, as of the end of 2022 we have added over 10,000 select Hansard references and thousands of new Supplemental Notes. The goal of this ongoing initiative is to provide convenient access to historical context about each section of law, and ultimately to make it easier for legal professionals to understand the intent of a law and how it should be applied.

We have also recently recruited new contributors, including Michael Moll from CivicLegal, who will be publishing annotations to local government finance legislation. Joel Morris from Harper Grey is now contributing annotations in the area of health law, and Ryan Bortolin with Stewart McDannold Stuart will focus on annotating local government law.

Other projects in the wings include a revamped Quickscribe public website which will go live later this spring. Finally, given the “vendor relations” theme of this VALL Review, I’d like to take this opportunity to share how grateful I am to have such wonderful relationships with all my law firm and law library clients.

I’m often asked by my friends and colleagues why I insist on fielding phone calls that come into the office, and why I typically respond directly to customer email support inquiries, rather than redirect these to my staff. In truth, it’s the part of my job I enjoy the most. Fostering these direct relationships gives a better understanding your needs, which helps me prioritize development to find solutions to address them.

So, thank you to those who have offered their support and guidance over the last 25 years – I look forward to continuing my relationship with you for many years to come.



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## News from Continuing Legal Education Society of BC

Adam Simpkins, Marketing Manager | CLEBC

### New CLEBC Guidebook Helps Lawyers Navigate Estate Disputes in British Columbia

Lawyers in British Columbia who are looking for a comprehensive resource to help them navigate the most common procedural and substantive issues in estate litigation can now turn to *Estate Disputes in British Columbia: A Litigator's Guide*.

The guidebook offers succinct discussions of substantive law, providing guidance on disputes related to the validity of wills, wills variation claims, actions against fiduciaries, and disputes over *inter vivos* trusts and transfers. In addition, the book includes helpful practice discussions and tips for navigating court procedures, managing clients, developing litigation strategy, and preparing for evidentiary issues.

Readers will benefit from the guidebook's step-by-step guidance on procedure, as well as sample forms and precedents, which will help them efficiently prepare their case. *Estate Disputes in British Columbia: A Litigator's Guide* is an essential resource for lawyers practicing estate litigation in British Columbia.

CLEBC plans to release the book in mid-April 2023. To receive an alert on the day of publication, please register at: [www.cle.bc.ca/signup](http://www.cle.bc.ca/signup)



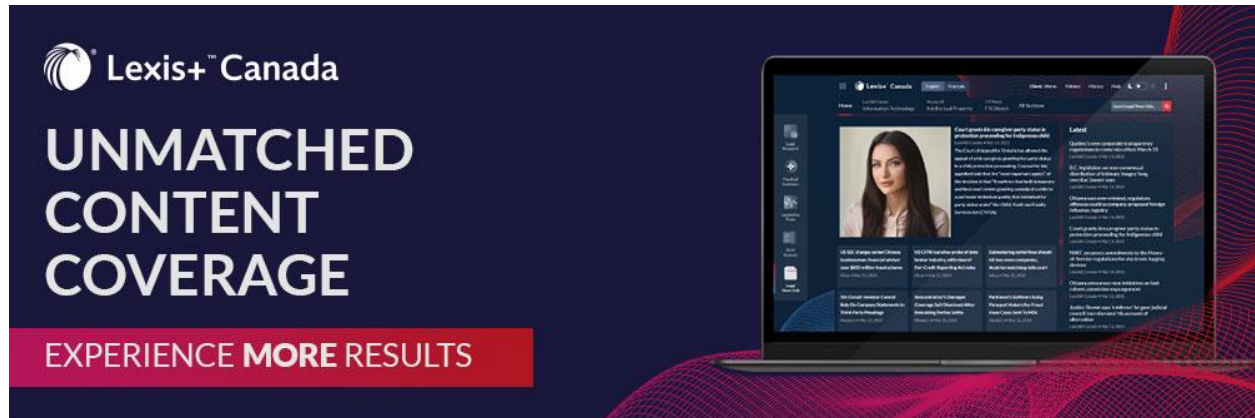
## News from LexisNexis Canada

LexisNexis Canada remains committed to our customers, to innovation and to the rule of law. Here are some recent events, resources, and new products we have developed to support Canadian lawyers, law libraries, and legal organizations.

### Celebrate 50 years of digital legal research and innovation with LexisNexis!

Since the incorporation of Quicklaw® in 1973, LexisNexis has been at the forefront of revolutionizing how legal research is conducted. Now, with half a century of advancements under our belt, we're proud to offer Lexis+ Canada, the most advanced legal tech platform in the Canadian legal industry. With advanced features, and comprehensive content, Lexis+™ Canada is the ultimate solution for legal professionals looking to stay ahead of the curve.

Join us at the 2023 CALL/ACBD Conference (May 28 -31, Hamilton ON) and celebrate this milestone. You will have a chance to meet us during the Opening Reception, join our lunch demo presentation or visit our booth and discover how LexisNexis can help you achieve greater success in your legal practice.



### Experience Legal News Hub!

The Lexis+ Canada platform has recently been enhanced with the addition of Legal News Hub, a powerful current awareness tool that keeps legal professionals up to date with the latest legal news and developments in real-time.

Legal News Hub provides insights from Law360™ Canada (formerly The Lawyer's Daily), Law360® U.S. and UK, MLex®, Mealey's® and FTCWatch into one comprehensive source.

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## Programming Review

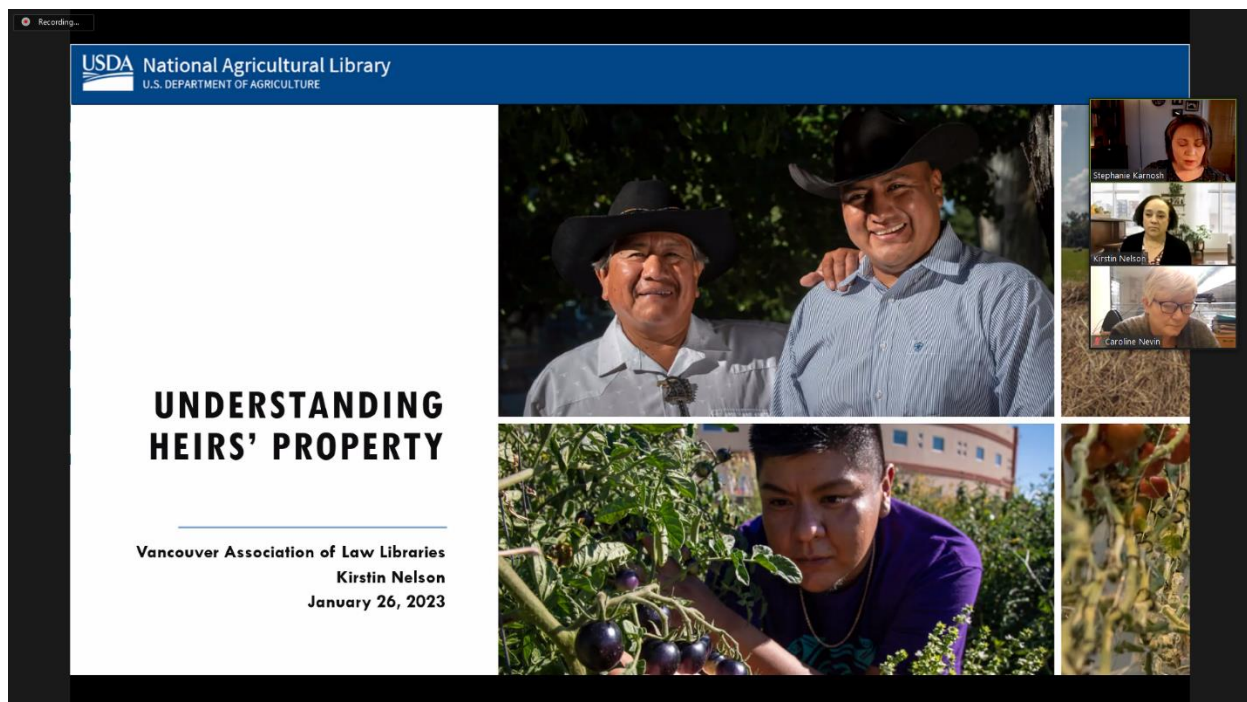
Tori Shechuk, Faskens  
Stephanie Karnosh, Cassels

### Holiday social, December 6, 2022

VALL's reinstated annual holiday networking event was a resounding success! It was lovely to see many of our members in person at our holiday social, which took place on December 6, 2022 at the Sutton Place Hotel. Due to unforeseen circumstances, this event ended up being purely social – a chance for everyone to get together, chat, compare notes, and celebrate the holidays! A special thank-you goes out to LexisNexis who sponsored the event and helped us give away our door prizes.

### Heirs property, January 26, 2023, Zoom

VALL Substantive Session on Heirs' Property with Kirstin Nelson was a fascinating look at a complex topic. As the USDA's National Agriculture Library law librarian, Kirstin illustrated for us how heirs' property evolved into law, and the implications it holds for landowners today, particularly for African Americans in the southern U.S. Kirstin also explained how the USDA is working to counteract historical racism inherent within the system. Her talk was an eye-opening window into U.S. property law.



The image is a screenshot of a Zoom meeting recording. At the top left, it says "Recording...". The main content is a presentation slide with a blue header that reads "USDA National Agricultural Library U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE". The slide title is "UNDERSTANDING HEIRS' PROPERTY" in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, it says "Vancouver Association of Law Libraries", "Kirstin Nelson", and "January 26, 2023". The slide features three images: two men in cowboy hats, a woman in a purple shirt working in a field, and a close-up of a plant. To the right of the slide is a grid of video thumbnails for participants: Stephanie Karnosh, Kirstin Nelson, and Caroline Nevin.



## **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.)