



# Librarian's Report

Kirsten Clement

I struggled somewhat with what to write about in this article. Back in March, when I took virtual pen to virtual paper, I could think of many tidbits of information that seemed useful and relevant to pass along, but none of them sufficient to warrant an entire article to themselves. Because of this, I have decided to treat this article as a grab bag of what's new and noteworthy, both in the physical space of the library, and in terms of electronic resources and websites. Think of it as an Easter basket full of legal research-related goodies!

## Spring cleaning in the stacks

Within the physical space of the library, we have been undertaking a significant collection weed – a bit of spring cleaning, if you like! The benefits of periodic weeding of a library collection go well beyond simply making more room for new materials – in addition to that, increased shelf space helps to preserve the condition of remaining books, makes it easier to find what you are looking for (due to less visual clutter), and can help library staff identify areas of the collection that need to be expanded or updated for currency. The main areas of the weed this time around are a number of LSUC CPD materials older than 2000 (many of these are available online

through the “Access CLE” database at [Infolocate.ca](http://Infolocate.ca) anyway) and Annual Annotated Acts older than 2000 with the exception of Criminal Codes. All of the weeding being undertaken is well within the guidelines set out by the Law Society and LibraryCo for courthouse library collections.

Of course, the additional shelf space also presents a great opportunity for adding new materials to the collection, and I always appreciate and highly value recommendations from HLA members! In fact, about a month ago, I ordered a few books in a Criminal Justice series by Emond Publications that were recommended to me by Geoff Read, and before they even arrived in the mail, I was getting requests to borrow them! As practitio-

ners, nobody knows better than you which resources would be useful to have in our collection, and I welcome and encourage suggestions in person, by phone or email, or using the form on the library page of the HLA website!

## Quicklaw goes international at the HLA

Like any of you lucky folks who got away for a vacation these past few months, one of our major electronic resources at the HLA is a little more worldly these days! Quicklaw has long been a great source of Canadian case law, legislation and commentary, and now, you can use it to access international content as well! As of the beginning of 2017, we now have access to a considerable amount of international case law. On any HLA computer (sorry, still no remote access) and at no cost to you, you can now access and download decisions from case collections including:

- All England Law Reports
- Northern Ireland Law Reports
- Scottish Civil Law Reports
- European Court of Human Rights Cases
- Australian Law Reports
- New Zealand Law Reports

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To find the international content, click on the 'Find Sources in English' link under 'International/News & Companies' on the main page of Lexis Advance Quicklaw. Then click 'Browse Sources' to see a full list of publication types, or limit by country using the drop down menu.

If you missed our latest Quicklaw training session in March, we will be offering another this fall. These sessions are free and a great opportunity to get better acquainted with the new platform Lexis Advance Quicklaw and to learn about some of the new content available and you also get a free lunch and some substantive CPD credit – doesn't get much better than that!

### Supreme Court of Canada's New Weblink Archive

Have you ever found a case that referenced an online resource that, when you tried to follow the link, led to a 'web page not found' dead end? This type of "link rot" occurs when something on the web changes or moves its URL or is deleted altogether. As the internet organically grows and changes over time, ever more rapidly, so grows the graveyard of dead links.

It is easy to understand the important implications of this link rot when footnotes and links are referring to or being used to inform the basis of legal precedent! The Supreme Court of Canada recently unveiled a project they have been working on to rectify this problem by archiving links, capturing content as closely as possible to what was originally cited. Their depository of Internet Sources Cited in SCC Judgments (1998 – 2016), con-

tains permanent links to documents referred to in SCC decisions. Anyone can access this resource from any computer with the internet by going here: <http://www.scc-csc.ca/cso-dce/list-liste-eng.aspx> This is a great first step to combatting the problem of link rot in the legal sphere, and one hopes other courts will follow suit with similar initiatives.

### Provincial Statues now available through HeinOnline

In more good news in the realm of legislative information, historical provincial statutes can now be found on HeinOnline ([www.heinonline.org](http://www.heinonline.org)) in addition to the historical Federal statutes already available there. While there is a bit of variation between the provinces, the coverage is quite extensive for most, and Ontario in particular seems to have everything back to Confederation! As always

with HeinOnline, the document scans are of excellent quality. Any active member of the Law Society can contact the LSUC for a free password that will allow that individual to access this collection of historical legislative information – along with all the other material on HeinOnline – from the comfort of their home, office, or anywhere with an internet connection. Of course, you are always welcome to come to the HLA library and use our account too!

So there you have it: a little round up of some new and interesting goings-on in the library and the digital realm. May and April showers bring plenty of May flowers, and in the meantime, I hope this small shower of tidbits of legal information blossoms into something you find useful in your practice this spring and summer! ■

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