



THE CANADIAN  
BAR ASSOCIATION  
British Columbia Branch

# Annual Report

## 2012/2013

## Our Volunteers are Engaged: They are Relentless Advocates for the Rule of Law

In 2012-13, the BC Branch demonstrated a depth and range of initiatives and accomplishments of which we can all be proud. There are three strengths driving us forward, without which we could not have realized these goals.

Our staff, lead by the amazing Caroline Nevin, works in an atmosphere of trust and excellence where support and services to members is the only priority. Caroline leads a team of people who makes sure our members have the space to do what we want to do, she provides sage advice to help us refine what we want to do, and then she lets us fly forward.

That's a good thing because the next strength is our members. Our volunteers are engaged: they care about law reform, they care about the rights of those without legal advice and representation, and they are relentless advocates for the rule of law, access to justice and legal services, improvements to the administration of justice. We believe in inclusivity. We engage our members regardless of where they practice in the province, whether they are newly called lawyers or the most seasoned professionals, whether they are in-house, big firm, government, small firm private practice, judges or academics. We are so lucky to have that bench strength of intelligence, energy and commitment.



Kerry L. Simmons  
President 2012/2013  
B.C. Branch  
Canadian Bar Association

And those things combine to bring me to third strength: we are a branch of action. The REAL program concluded its 5th successful summer and the young lawyers in northern BC created a Young Lawyers North section, a significant indicator of the progress we have made in bringing lawyers to smaller communities. Responding to calls for assistance to increase the diversity in judicial appointments, we hosted "Building Diversity on the Bench", an information session about the appointment process and the essential need for diversity, and we also assisted the Judicial Council of BC to expand

its reporting of the diversity of applicants to the Provincial Court. Ideas for "SoloNet", a solicitor's network, were developed and will be launched in 2014. The Task Force on Lawyer Wellness gave us ideas for incorporating lawyer wellness into our Branch activities. We continued to broaden support for increased legal aid funding with municipalities and Chambers of Commerce. These are but a few examples of the work of our members in 2012-13.

It is unusual for a CBA branch to be involved as intervenors in litigation as most work in that regard is done via CBA National; however, in *Vilardell v. Dunham*, the Branch became involved at the invitation of Mr. Justice McEwan in 2009. In 2013, the Court of Appeal considered an appeal of Justice McEwan's decision finding that daily court hearing fees were unconstitutional. The BC

Branch, represented by Sharon Matthews, QC and Dr. Melina Buckley, supported that finding in submission to the Court of Appeal. That court's decision is now under appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada.

## An Agenda For Justice

The main focus of our advocacy in 2012-13 was the Agenda for Justice, which shone a spotlight on justice and law reform during the 2013 provincial election campaign. It allowed our Branch to pull together years of advocacy, both in law reform and public policy, in one place. The Agenda was a tool we used to highlight what was needed in the justice system and it provided talking points as our members engaged with political candidates and public servants. After the election, we continued to use the Agenda as the guide for our advocacy and the measure against which we will evaluate the new government's progress on justice and law reform issues.

Despite this leadership and accomplishment, in some areas little progress was made. I remain disappointed that the components of our justice system in BC continue to be underfunded in the name of efficiency. Working smarter is always a good idea, but when legal aid isn't available to parents living in poverty who need child support, we need something more than efficiency. We need funding. We also don't need to institute processes that specifically bar people from having legal representation or which seek to avoid procedural fairness in the name of efficiency and cost savings. We need to work together with public servants, politicians, judges and lawyers and I know that our Branch will continue to lead that discussion to address these issues.

At the CBABC National level, the BC Branch continued its active participation on national sections and committees. BC members and staff worked diligently on the Membership Fee Implementation and we contributed to the two

major national initiatives: Equal Justice and Futures. Dr. Buckley chaired the Equal Justice Initiative culminating in the release of the Reaching Equal Justice Report in August, a most significant accomplishment. At the Annual General Meeting, the Branch promoted a resolution calling for increased diversity in the federal judicial appointments process, and on the Board of Directors, I contributed to a Working Group on Rural Lawyers and continued to advocate for increased engagement and consultation with CBA leaders.

2012-13 was a full and exciting year. On a personal note, I am grateful to have been entrusted with the stewardship of this great organization. It was an honour to serve the legal profession in this way.



Photo collage (Top) Kerry L. Simmons with incoming National President Fred Headon at the June 15, 2013 Provincial Council (Bottom L-R) Chief Justice Crabtree, Kerry L. Simmons addresses the audience at the Building Diversity on the Bench Event held on May 1, 2013.

# Section Chairs 2012/2013

*This year 357 Section meetings and events were held. These various Section meetings were attended by 4,500 enrolled members. The first figure indicates the number of members enrolled during 2012/2013, while the second figure indicates the number of meetings held through the Section year.*

ABORIGINAL LAW-VANCOUVER	(227/7) Kate Blomfield Katey Grist	FREEDOM OF INFORMATION & PRIVACY LAW (193/4) Monica Muller Sara Ann Levine
ABORIGINAL LAW-VAN ISLAND	(68/4) Leigh Anne Baker Timothy Thielmann	GEN-PRAC, SOLO & SML FRM-LM (78/2) Marla Gilsig; Kenneth Learn GEN-PRAC, SOLO & SML FRM-PR (18/3) Linda Locke, QC Dallis E. Winsor
ABORIGINAL LAWYERS FORUM	(50/5) Christina Cook Kelly Harvey Russ	HEALTH LAW (124/3) Stacey Grubb
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW	(304/4) K. Michael Stephens	HUMAN RIGHTS LAW (280/4) Catherine Sullivan Christopher McHardy
AIR LAW	(37/1) Kenneth Burnett	IMMIGRATION LAW (223/30) Marina Sedai
ADR - NANAIMO	(22/2) William Larose	INSOLVENCY LAW (139/8) Bonita Lewis-Hand
ADR - OKANAGAN	(29/2) Lisa Holmes Wyatt; David Rush	INSURANCE LAW (345/4) Wei Kiat Sun
ADR - VANCOUVER	(160/7) Neil Hain	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & TECH LAW (228/3) Vincent Yip
ADR - VICTORIA	(52/0) David Merner; Michael Lomax	INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE (32/4) Elizabeth Campbell Robin Bajer
ANIMAL LAW	(43/3) Rebeka Breder	INTERNATIONAL LAW (123/4) Jeff Horswill Jennifer Button
APPELLATE ADVOCACY	(96/3) Gregory Pun	LABOUR LAW (319/7) Robyn Task Rosalie Cress
BANKING LAW	(221/8) Dorothy Wong	LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT (81/1) Melody Yiu
BUSINESS LAW	(625/2) Grant Foster	LEGAL RESEARCH (86/6) Laurel Courtenay
CHARITIES & NOT-FOR-PROFIT LAW (118/5) Kate Bake-Paterson Michael Blatchford		MARITIME LAW (62/7) Roger Watts
CIVIL LITIGATION-OKANAGAN (76/4) Gillian (Jill) Moir Dougans		MUNICIPAL LAW (185/5) Lindsay Parcells; Bryan Jung
CIVIL LITIGATION-VANCOUVER (713/3) John Bilawich		NATURAL RESOURCES LAW (131/2) Joe Page; Kelly Samuels
CIVIL LITIGATION-VAN ISLAND (90/2) Michael Lawless		PENSIONS & BENEFITS LAW (56/3) Lisa Chamzuk
CLASS ACTION LAW (93/4) Jill Yates		PRODUCTS LIABILITY LAW (63/3) R. Nigel Beckmann
COMMERCIAL & REAL ESTATE-OKANAGAN (106/4) Joanna Wrzesniewski		PUBLIC SECTOR LAWYERS (49/3) Rolf Warburton; Cory R. Bargaen
COMMERCIAL & REAL ESTATE-VAN ISLAND (157/8) Ramin Erfanifar		REAL PROPERTY-VANCOUVER (474/5) Jordanna Cytrynbaum Sharon MacMillan
CONSTITUTIONAL/CIVIL LIBERTIES (114/1) Art Grant Veronica Jackson		SECURITIES LAW (370/8) Daniel G. McElroy
CONSTRUCTION LAW (224/5) Sat Harwood		SENIOR LAWYERS (34/3) Gerald Lecovin, QC
CORPORATE COUNSEL (247/3) Wendy King		SOGIC (63/4) Preston Parsons; Danielle R, Harvus
CRIMINAL JUSTICE-KAMLOOPS (33/6) Graham Kay		SOCIAL JUSTICE (79/5) Rajwant Mangat; Kasari Govender
CRIMINAL JUSTICE-NANAIMO (29/6) Christopher Churchill		SOLICITORS' GENERAL PRACTICE – CENTRAL VANCOUVER ISLAND (30/3) Sucha Singh Ollek
CRIMINAL JUSTICE-OKANAGAN (29/1) Clarke Burnett		TAXATION LAW (200/6) Ted M. Sutcliffe
CRIMINAL JUSTICE-PRINCE GEORGE (22/1) Brian Gilson, Q.C.		WILLS & TRUSTS-OKANAGAN (107/10) Alison Oxtoby Kimberly Wallis
CRIMINAL JUSTICE-PRINCE RUPERT (23/1) Dwight M.D. Stewart		WILLS & TRUSTS-VANCOUVER (470/8) Emma McArthur
CRIMINAL JUSTICE-VANCOUVER (213/8) Kasandra Cronin		WILLS & TRUSTS-VICTORIA (162/8) David Mulroney
CRIMINAL JUSTICE-VICTORIA (66/9) Paul Pearson Kimberly Henders Miller		WOMEN LAWYERS FORUM (553/8) Nicole Byres
ELDER LAW (145/3) Joan Braun		WOMEN LAWYERS FORUM-KAMLOOPS (38/2) Kerri Priddle Linda Thomas
EMPLOYMENT LAW (400/7) James Kondopulos		WOMEN LAWYERS FORUM-VAN ISLAND (67/3) Krystle Gill
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (252/2) Alyssa Bradley; Robert Lesperance		YOUNG LAWYERS-KAMLOOPS (52/5) Kelsey O'Bray
FAMILY LAW-FRASER VALLEY (70/2) Cristen Gleeson; John Lee, QC		YOUNG LAWYERS-LOWER MAINLAND (314/10) Melanie Magnusson
FAMILY LAW-KAMLOOPS (75/5) David Dundee		YOUNG LAWYERS-OKANAGAN (45/8) Jaime Boyle
FAMILY LAW-NANAIMO (73/5) Erin Brook		YOUNG LAWYERS-VICTORIA (93/10) Shannon Mather
FAMILY LAW-OKANAGAN (92/7) Karyn Kraemer; Brian Anslow		
FAMILY LAW-VANCOUVER (286/7) Geeta Bains; Annie Kaderly		
FAMILY LAW-VICTORIA (139/5) Jennifer Barrett		
FAMILY LAW-WESTMINSTER (115/9) David Halkett G.C. (Scottie) Scott		

## Sections

Each year every active Section submits an annual report detailing their activities. Brief summaries of a selection of these reports can be found below. For full versions of all CBABC Sections annual reports please visit [www.cba.org/bc](http://www.cba.org/bc).

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE – KAMLOOPS

The Criminal Justice – Kamloops Section had an active year promoting mutual discussions of issues and developments related to criminal law (and provincial offences), procedure and practice ethics, evidence, and the Charter in Kamloops this past year. The Section hosted six meetings, holding very informative sessions on legislative changes, policy, and practical considerations for members of the bar.

The Section started the year off with a much anticipated, and well-attended, presentation on October 22, 2012, where guest speaker The Honourable Judge Stella D. Frame, Provincial Court BC – Kamloops, discussed changes to the Provincial Court, speaking about the First Nations Court and domestic violence trials.

In the spirit of partnership, the Section held a joint Section meeting with the Family Law – Kamloops Section on June 19, 2013 to end the year. The discussion revolved around Protection Orders under the *Family Law Act* and enforcement under the *Criminal Code*. The dialogue among the attendees was centered on the attempt of the FLA to bring consistency across provinces and focused on children's best interests, promoting out of court resolutions, and tools to address family violence.

### GENERAL PRACTICE, SOLO & SMALL FIRM – PRINCE RUPERT WILLS & TRUSTS – VICTORIA

The General Practice, Solo & Small Firm – Prince Rupert Section addressed the needs of general practitioners by organizing specialized programs and by providing a forum for the exchange of information and opinion this past year.

Highlighting the year, the Section held a joint meeting in collaboration with CBABC Professional Development on April 13, 2013, where guest speakers The Honourable Judge Christine

Birnie, Provincial Court of BC, Declan Brennan, Smithers Crown Counsel, Joseph McCarthy, Smithers Defence Counsel, Dallis Winsor, Terrace Defence Counsel, Joseph McCarthy, Smithers Defence Counsel, and Barry Zacharias, Bencher, Terrace Crown Counsel, led a full day conference speaking on mandatory minimum sentences, managing criminal files, and practice standards.

On May 30, 2013, the Section welcomed Lynn Leonardes, J.P. and JCM, Martin Griffith-Zahner, Prince Rupert County CBABC Representative, and Dwight Stewart, Prince Rupert Administrative Crown Counsel. This full panel of speakers came well equipped to discuss the new Provincial Court criminal case management rules and had provided top ten tips to making the life of Judicial Case Managers easier.

### SOLICITORS' GENERAL PRACTICE – CENTRAL VANCOUVER ISLAND

The newly formed Solicitors' General Practice – Central Vancouver Island Section was formed to provide a forum for discussion to identify, monitor and analyze issues of significance to solicitors' practice in the Central Vancouver Island Region and to promote opportunities for networking, mentorship and practice support amongst solicitors in the Central Vancouver Island Region.

The Section had great turn outs during its three meetings this past year, covering relevant topics that generated healthy conversation among its members. On November 6, 2012, the Section welcomed guest speaker Anna Jones, QC to discuss the transition from the H.S.T. system back to the G.S.T./P.S.T. model of years past. Following this meeting, the Section invited Chelsea D. Wilson on February 15, 2013 to review the *Wills Variation Act* and six factors to be considered when determining the strength of a testator's moral duty to independent children as set out in *McBride v. Voth*. The Section completed

its year on May 2, 2013 when guest speaker Peter Ramsay outlined the background work done by the BC Law Institute with respect to the *Wills, Estates and Succession Act*.

### FAMILY LAW – VANCOUVER

The Family Law – Vancouver Section worked assiduously to bring relevant topics, engaging speakers, and practical experience to their meetings this past year. With the introduction of the *Family Law Act* in March of 2013, and a resurgence of interest in CBABC meetings amongst younger members of the bar, the Section witnessed high participation numbers throughout the seven meetings they held this year, welcoming 18 guest speakers. The Section provided an excellent service to its members by covering the new *Family Law Act* very comprehensively.

On February 7, 2013, the Section held a joint meeting with the Pensions & Benefits Law Section, where guest speakers Thomas G. Anderson, QC, Anderson Pension Law Consulting and Colin



#### EVENT: INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION MEETING

Using innovative communications technologies, the CBABC has come a long way in the last 10 years from how it traditionally provided CPD eligible meetings. Using AdobeConnect, CBABC Section meetings and Professional Development seminars have seen a surge in increased member participation and engagement. With the advent of high-speed broadband and wireless networks, the CBABC has bridged the gap between the Lower Mainland and remote urban cities sprawled across BC and the Yukon.

During an International Law Section meeting on May 23, 2013, guest speaker Emmanuel Melissaris, Senior Lecturer at the London School of Economics, eliminated all geographic boundaries by speaking to both the International Law and Intellectual Property & Technology Law Sections live from London via webinar. Without sacrificing the face-to-face experience enjoyed through conventional meetings, Mr. Melissaris spoke to an enthusiastic group of lawyers viewing remotely from Vancouver and Victoria. Mr. Melissaris discussed how a theory of legal pluralism can aid in understanding the possibilities of regulating the Internet.

Photo: Emmanuel Melissaris, Live Webinar from London, U.K.

Galinski, Dentons Canada LLP, discussed Pension Division and the *Family Law Act*. On March 7, 2013, the Section held a joint meeting with the Taxation Law Section, where guest speakers Amy Chapman-Fluker, Aaron Gordon Daykin Nordlinger LLP, and David Thompson, Thorsteinssons LLP, discussed New Tax Issues under the *Family Law Act*. In partnership with the BC Parenting Coordinators Roster Society, the Section covered Children and the *Family Law Act* during an April 4, 2013 meeting. Highlighting the year, the Section hosted a meeting on May 9, 2013 where it discussed the new *Family Law Act* two months out, welcoming guest speakers Master Douglas Baker, Master Grant Taylor, Master Heather MacNaughton, and Master Leslie Muir of the Supreme Court of BC.

### WILLS & TRUSTS – VICTORIA

With the introduction of the new *Wills, Estates and Succession Act*, the new *Family Law Act*, and the new

*Limitation Act*, the Section was busy year round hosting meetings preparing Section members for these acts.

During the September 18, 2012 meeting, the Section discussed various wills and estates issues, including costs for estate planning documents, estates and administration, planning for the new *Family Law Act* and *WESA*, and issues arising from the changes to the Power of Attorney legislation. In addition, R.C. (Tino) Di Bella discussed how the Uniform Law Commission Canada for BC made a unanimous resolution to adopt the uniform *Trustee Act*, which means that BC will have a new *Trustee Act* at some point in the near future.

During the April 23, 2013 meeting, Chelsea Lott gave an in-depth overview of the *Limitation Act*, comparatively discussing the changes Section members can expect to see. John Campbell gave an insightful presentation by providing practice tips and suggestions in regards to the new Act. Through this practitioner's open forum, a hypothetical



#### EVENT: BC WLF - WALK OF HOPE

The CBABC Women Lawyers Forum (BC WLF) celebrated the conclusion of its 10th anniversary year in September, 2013. The BC WLF Executive used the occasion of this 10th anniversary to look for new opportunities to leverage the BC WLF's communication networks and events to promote awareness of, and to fundraise for causes that are consistent with the BC WLF's broader purposes and which are of interest or help to our members; and for 2013 - 2014, they chose to support Ovarian Cancer Canada (OCC). They were inspired by their colleague and friend, Linda Wong, who is currently living with an ovarian cancer diagnosis. By raising awareness of ovarian cancer, they hope to support other women lawyers who may be touched with this cancer in some way and raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of gynecological cancer. One of OCC's major fundraising events is the annual Walk of Hope which took place on Sunday, September 8th at various locations throughout Canada. Linda Wong provided a challenge and opportunity—in recognition of the 10th anniversary, she generously agreed to match, up to \$10,000, all of the money raised by September 18, 2013. The BC WLF, with the support of the CBA BC Branch, raised over \$38,000.

limitation problem was put forth and members discussed whether or not causes of action will be extinguished before they come into existence by the ultimate 15 year limitation running from the date of error or omission under the new *Limitation Act*.

During the May 28, 2013 meeting, R.C. (Tino) Di Bella thoroughly discussed changes that the *Wills, Estates and Succession Act* will bring to the areas of wills and estates law when it comes into force effective March 31, 2014. Tino highlighted changes to the definition of spouse in *WESA*, the *Adoption Act*, and spoke in detail about how *WESA* repeals parts of the *Survivorship and Presumption of Death Act*.

#### WLF – BC

During the Fourth Annual Women Lawyers Forum Awards Luncheon on February 20, 2013, Jan Lindsay, QC was presented the WLF Award of Excellence. In 2013 she will become the fifth female president in the 125 year history of the Law Society. Danine Griffin was presented the Debra Van Ginkel, QC Mentoring Award.

## President's Medal



CBABC President Kerry L. Simmons presents Eric Gottardi with the President's Medal.

*Awarded by the CBABC president, this medal recognizes one or more of the following: legal academic proficiency; outstanding works of legal scholarship; significant contribution to the profession; or noteworthy contribution to Canadian public life.*

This year, the CBABC President's Medal was awarded to Eric Gottardi of Peck & Company in Vancouver.

"This year's recipient of the President's Medal gave selflessly of his time and talent to represent the CBA in many areas of criminal justice reform in BC and in Canada. Mr Gottardi was willing to challenge assumptions and to make sure that the front-line experiences of trial counsel and their clients were considered in the discussions and review of the criminal justice system in BC" said CBABC President Kerry L. Simmons.

## Equality and Diversity Award

*The Award celebrates the accomplishments of a CBABC member who has succeeded in advancing equality in the legal profession or generally in British Columbia. The Award recognizes significant contributions to improving the status of women, people with disabilities, people of colour, Aboriginal people or peoples, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or two-spirited people or people who are members of historically marginalized communities.*

Benjamin D. Levine practices primarily criminal and family law and has made a significant contribution to the lives of many people in Prince George and the North who are members of historically marginalized communities. Mr Levine is a deeply committed advocate, with unwavering belief in the importance of access to justice, especially for those individuals from diverse backgrounds or who are marginalized by class, race, or status. Mr Levine lives his beliefs by acting for people on a legal aid and a pro bono basis.



CBABC Equality and Diversity Award winner Benjamin D. Levine of Prince George, BC.

## Student Awards

The Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch annually awards Student Awards to the law student who best exemplifies CBABC ideals at the University of British Columbia, the University of Victoria, and Thompson Rivers University. Award criteria includes participation in activities that support the members of the profession and law students; promotion of justice and law reform; promotion of equality, and demonstration of public or community service.

The 2013 Student Award winners were UBC law student Branwen Francis and Heather Burley; UVIC law student Margaret House and Marion Jane Henderson.

## Georges A. Goyer, QC Memorial Award



CBABC President, Kerry L. Simmons, presents the CBABC Goyer Award to Joyce DeWitt-Van Oosten, QC.

The CBABC Goyer Award was created to recognize exceptional contributions and/or achievements by any resident of BC to the legal profession in BC; or to jurisprudence in BC or Canada; or to the law or development of the law in BC; or a significant law-related benefit to the residents of BC.

The Goyer Award was created in 1992 to recognize exceptional contributions to the legal profession, to jurisprudence, or to the law in British Columbia. The award was established in memory of Georges A. Goyer, QC, a respected member of the BC Branch who passed away after a courageous battle with cancer.

CBABC President Kerry L. Simmons commented, "We are extremely pleased to present our most prestigious award to such a deserving individual. Joyce DeWitt-Van Oosten, QC demonstrates all the exceptional qualities which this Memorial Award signifies and celebrates."

## Harry Rankin, QC Pro Bono Award

In recognition of the immense contribution of Harry Rankin, QC in supporting access to justice for the poor, the CBABC resolved to establish an annual reward to recognize outstanding contributions by a member of CBABC in the area of pro bono work.

The 2012 Harry Rankin QC Pro Bono Award recipient was presented to lawyer Bruce F. Fraser, QC of Vancouver. Bruce Fraser's name is synonymous with pro bono, as he has contributed to the provision of pro bono and legal aid services in BC for almost half a century. In the last 10 years in particular, he played a key role in bringing together two of our province's major pro bono organizations: Western Canada Society to Access Justice and Pro Bono Law of British Columbia. Bruce has made extraordinary contributions, both seen and unseen, to building a positive pro bono culture amongst BC's legal profession.



CBABC President, Kerry L. Simmons, presents the CBABC Harry Rankin, QC Pro Bono Award to Bruce F. Fraser, QC.

# REAL

2013 marked the fifth year for the Rural Education and Access to Lawyers (REAL) initiative as the CBABC partnered with the Law Society of British Columbia to support both law firms and law students throughout the province. Promotion within BC resulted in 15 student placements this past summer. Aimed at addressing the current and projected shortage of lawyers practicing in small communities and rural areas of BC, REAL continues to attract year-round attention nationally from media, law schools, students and firms alike. Alternative funding streams are being explored to ensure that the Rural Education and Access to Lawyers initiative continues for years to come, with a renewed focus on targeting those communities in BC with the highest need for legal support. Numerous presentations and reports were generated this past year resulting in successful bids for funding the program into 2014 as both the Law Society of BC and the Law Foundation of BC have teamed with CBABC for another year.



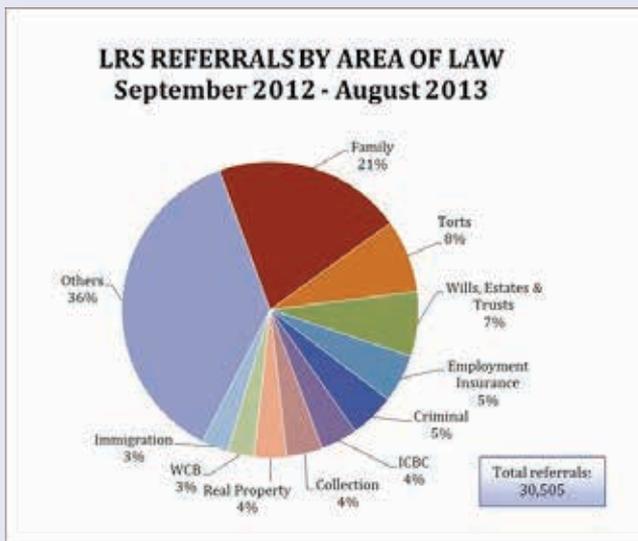
Marketing Materials: A 10 page brochure was produced that captured testimonials of REAL student experiences. In addition, there were two guide-books produced - one for lawyers and one for students.

## The Lawyer Referral Service and Dial-A-Law

The Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) was established in 1955 in British Columbia to assist those in the community seeking legal representation. This unique service assists the people of province in locating lawyers for specific types of legal matters. The LRS operates by matching potential clients to a member of the Lawyer Referral Service panel for free. LRS will refer the client to a participating lawyer with whom they may consult for up to 30 minutes. The lawyer may provide the consultation for free or charge a minimum \$25. After the brief consultation the client and the lawyer decide whether or not the lawyer will be retained to provide additional services at the lawyer's regular rates.

Each year, thousands of clients are referred to lawyers through the LRS. Members and non members of the Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch may join the Lawyer Referral Service panel for free and have access to the referrals. Many of the lawyers registered on LRS volunteer to update the Dial-A-Law (DAL) scripts that are available to the public for free by telephone and online (audio format available). DAL is a library of practical information on specific topics of law. Scripts are available in English, Punjabi and Chinese.

To join LRS call at 604.687.3221 or 1.800.663.1919. To view DAL scripts go online at [www.dialalaw.org](http://www.dialalaw.org) or call 604.687.4680 or 1.800.565.5297 (BC access only). These public service programs are operated by the Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch and funded by the Law Foundation of BC.



## Law Week in British Columbia

Law Week is an annual public legal education program that provides an opportunity for young people and adults to become familiarized with the Canadian legal system. Law Week 2013 showcased the legal community through in-person live events throughout British Columbia, such as mock trials, interactive displays and courthouse tours, and online with a vibrant social media presence.

Law Week's 2013 theme, *Access to Justice: The Role of Public Opinion*, enticed big crowds. This year, six locations across British Columbia participated in celebrating the 31st Anniversary of the Charter of Rights.

### Law Day Vancouver

The Vancouver Law Week Open House was held April 16, 2013 at UBC Robson Square, Vancouver. Law Day events included a Student Forum with the Three Chiefs hosted by the CBC's Ian Hanomansing, judicial games, interactive display booths, an online discussion asking the public to answer the question "what access to justice means to me," and more!

Over 300 people from across the Lower Mainland participated in Law Day 2013. Volunteer lawyers assisted approximately 300 people during the province-wide annual "Dial-A-Lawyer" event, held on Saturday, April 13, in various areas of law. BC residents were invited to call and speak with a lawyer for up to 15 minutes at no cost.

The ninth annual Law Week "Catch Me If You Can" Fun Run was held in Creekside Park. Proceeds from the run supported Access Pro Bono.



Law Week's 2013 theme, *Access to Justice: The Role of Public Opinion*. Six locations across BC participated in celebrating the 31st Anniversary of the Charter of Rights.

### Barry Sullivan Law Cup

*One of the cornerstone events held in British Columbia during Law Week is the annual Barry Sullivan Law Cup public speaking contest. The competition is sponsored by the Canadian Bar Association British Columbia Branch and is open to students enrolled in grades 11-12 in British Columbia. The Law Cup is named in memory of Barry Sullivan in recognition of his contributions to both the legal and educational professions. The Law Cup is presented to the provincial winner of the competition.*

The 2013 competition was held in the vintage courtrooms at the Vancouver Art Gallery. Thirty-four students presented five minute speeches that pertained to the 2013 theme "Access to Justice: The Role of Public Opinion." The winner was Tony Wang from Johnston Heights Secondary School, taking home a trophy along with a \$1,500 cash prize.



## CBABC 2012/2013 Executive Committee

(L-R) Front: Carmen Rogers, QC (Officer), Kerry L. Simmons (President), Dean Crawford (Vice-President), Clint Sadlemyer, QC (Officer), (L-R) Back: Jennifer Chow (Equality & Diversity Representative), Kenneth Armstrong (Officer), Sharon Matthews, QC (Past President), Alex Shorten (Secretary-Treasurer), Executive Member not in photo: Jasroop Grewal (Young Lawyers Representative).

# Committee Chairs 2012/2013

ADVISORY TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF BC  
AUDIT

AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE  
AWARDS & RECOGNITION  
BARTALK / EDITORIAL BOARD  
BUSINESS OF LAW  
COURT SERVICES  
EQUALITY & DIVERSITY  
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS  
LAW WEEK – VANCOUVER

LAW WEEK - REGIONAL  
LEGAL AID  
LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM  
MEMBERSHIP  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
REAL ADVISORY  
RESOLUTIONS & BYLAWS  
SECTIONS STANDING  
SOLICITORS' PRACTICE ISSUES

Charlotte Salomon  
Dean Crawford  
Barbara Flewelling  
Susan Van der Flier  
Michael Welsh  
Dierk Ullrich  
Lynal Doerksen  
Aleem Bharmal  
Dean Crawford  
Serene Chow  
Meghan Maddigan  
Jasroop Grewal  
Claire Mary Tollefson  
Eleanor Gregory  
Judith Janzen  
Dean Crawford  
Deanna Ludowicz  
Kerry L. Simmons  
Jan Fishman  
Kenneth Armstrong  
Donna Kydd

## 2012/2013 Provincial Council

### CARIBOO

Susan Grattan  
Clint Sadlemyer, QC  
Constance Sauter

### KOOTENAY

Donald Kawano, QC  
Deanna Ludowicz

### NANAIMO

Mark Burger  
Grant Currie  
Scott Sheets

### PRINCE RUPERT

Martin Griffith-Zahner  
Sean Rowell

### VANCOUVER

Kenneth Armstrong  
Jennifer Chow  
Dean Crawford  
Samantha Davey  
Timothy Delaney  
Diana Dorey  
Jasroop Grewal  
Lisa Hamilton  
Judith Janzen  
Ken Kramer  
Spencer May  
Sharon Matthews, QC  
Perry Mazzone  
Margaret Meregh  
Marina Morgan  
Lisa Ridgedale  
Alex Shorten  
Mark Slay  
Dierk Ullrich  
William Veenstra  
Tony Wilson  
Louisa Winn

### VICTORIA

Sarah Klinger  
Chris A. Massey  
Kay Melbye  
Carmen Rogers, QC  
Charlotte Salomon  
Kerry L. Simmons

### WESTMINSTER

Renée Aldana  
Edmund Caissie  
Janet Clark  
Rebecca Darnell  
Perminder Tung  
Vanessa Van Sickle

### YALE

James Cotter  
David Dundee  
Robert Levin  
Michael Welsh