



LibraryCo e-Newsletter

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Changes in Thunder Bay, Algoma and Kenora

We are delighted to welcome two new people to the county and district law libraries.

Helen Heerema has joined the Thunder Bay Law Association as the new library technician. She succeeds Catherine Walsh who retired at the end of June. Helen comes to Thunder Bay from Confederation College, where she was responsible for the library automation system, collection development, e-resources management, technical services and the library web site, among other duties. Helen is a graduate of Niagara College's library technician program and has a bachelor's degree in English and Religious Studies from Lakehead University. She has been very active in the Ontario Association of Library Technicians (OALT) and served for many years on the executive of the Thunder Bay chapter.

Amanda Ward joined the Algoma Law Association on September 4. Amanda has a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Western Ontario and a bachelor's degree in Earth and Environmental Sciences from McMaster University. She is originally from Sault Ste. Marie and until recently worked as a research assistant at Algoma University.

Brenda Carbone, Library Technician at the Algoma Law Association, has retired. We wish Brenda well as she embarks on this new phase in her life.

Maria Berezowski has returned to the Kenora Law Association from Thunder Bay.

COLAL 2012

This year's conference theme is "Future Ready". Registration for COLAL will open at the end of September. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the conference and we hope you will enjoy the excellent sessions that we have planned.

Please remember that hotel registration closes on September 24, 2012. After this date you will not be able to receive the discounted rate. If you have not already booked your room at the Metropolitan please do so as soon as possible in order to take advantage of the preferential rate.

SPOTLIGHT ON . . . New Law Librarians' Institute

Last month we introduced our new "SPOTLIGHT ON . . ." column to provide in-depth coverage of a topic that we feel will be of interest to our readers. Our first few columns are being devoted to the continuing education programs which LibraryCo supports. This month we are focusing on the New Law Librarians' Institute. The Institute was held from May 27 to June 1, 2012 at the University of Western Ontario. It is a unique opportunity for librarians and library technicians to learn about the law and legal research.

The Institute, which is sponsored by the Canadian Association of Law Libraries (CALL/ACBD), is an intensive, week-long program aimed at developing skills in the key competencies of law librarianship. It was created for recent graduates of library education programs, persons interested in pursuing careers in law librarianship, and mid-career librarians from other fields who are interested in moving to law libraries.

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Registration is limited to 25 people. This was the second year that the Institute has been offered. The program features expert instruction from leading law librarians and law professors, small class size, a mix of lectures and practical sessions, hands on sessions, and valuable take-home materials.

Last year, which was the inaugural year for the Institute, LibraryCo offered two bursaries for qualified staff in the county and district law libraries to attend the Institute. Since the attendees found the program very stimulating the Board decided to support it again this year. Mary Jane Kearns-Padgett of the Hamilton Law Association and Grace Mick of the County of Renfrew Law Association were the recipients of this year's bursaries.

The Institute opened with a keynote speech by John Eaton, Law Librarian and Associate Professor at the University of Manitoba Faculty of Law and a past president of CALL/ACBD. Professor Eaton, who is a lively and engaging speaker, discussed the courts and legislature in Ontario. The substantive law lectures, which were delivered by faculty members at Western's law school, followed the first year program and covered constitutional law, property, torts, contracts and criminal law. There was also a lecture about Quebec civil law. The hands-on sessions supplemented the lectures and used electronic and print resources to teach case law, legislative and secondary source research. These sessions featured instructors who were senior law librarians from the Ontario law school libraries and the Great Library at the Law Society of Upper Canada. The small class size and mix of lectures and hands-on sessions made for a stimulating and congenial learning environment.

Mary Jane and Grace commented:

"Along with providing attendees with invaluable resources, the Institute reinforced the very important point that in order to do good legal research you have to start in the right place, know the right questions to ask, be aware of key terms related to areas of each of the specific areas of law and be able to create algorithms that use operators and key terms effectively."

"The instruction in both law and librarianship and substantive law topics as well as the resources available from this program will assist me tremendously in the future. I am looking forward to using the knowledge I have received from this program in my position as library assistant."

The New Law Librarians' Institute provides an excellent introduction to law librarianship for new law librarians and library technicians. Reviews by attendees have been uniformly positive.

LibraryCo is pleased to be able to sponsor Mary Jane and Grace's attendance this year. They will be presenting reports about their conference experiences at COLAL next month. We understand that the Institute will not be held in 2013 but will likely resume in 2014, probably in western Canada.

Finance Notes – A Column by Gary Cheong



Capital and Special Needs Grants

1. Why do we have to write a business case when our reasons for purchasing the capital item are obvious?

There are many reasons why a case must be prepared, including:

1. LibraryCo has funding constraints and only the most important needs are funded. A case is necessary to state that need.
2. Makes for better decision making if the format of the request is standard.
3. Allows the library to consider alternatives that might not have been considered otherwise.

2. I need to use technical terms while writing. Will my case be understood?

Try to write in an easily understood style (this is good advice for any writing). If you must use technical terms, don't worry. We can and have in the past consulted with Martha Foote, David Whelan and Marilyn Elkin.

3. How long should my case be?

As long as it takes. Really, I am not being facetious. Some basic requests might take one or two pages, while a more complex request might take three or four pages and have an attached appendix. Most cases should be no more than two pages (not including supporting quotes/appendix).

4. I have heard that, when requesting money, you will be more successful if you evoke an emotional response in the reader. Do you have any suggestions?

No, but if you insist, Finance will listen to an Adele song while reading your case.

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Law Society of Upper Canada CPD

Just a Reminder...

Starting with the September 2012 programs going forward, all additional hardcopy materials for video replays are now \$35.00 + HST.

These new September Video Replay programs are coming soon:

[Commercial Mortgage Transactions 2012](#)
[Ethical Red Flags in Workers' Compensation Law](#)
[Practice Gems: Probate Essentials 2012](#)
[Practice Gems: The Administration of Estates 2012](#)
[The Annotated Shareholder Agreement 2012](#)
[Employment Law Practice Essentials 2012](#)

For a listing of upcoming programs, descriptions and accreditation, please visit our [website](#).

Roving Law Librarian - A Report from Marilyn Elkin

In late July, I visited the Hamilton Law Association library and met Mary Jane Kearns-Padgett, Reference Librarian. After a tour of the library, we discussed several topics of interest such as HLA's one-day orientation for articling students, their CPD programmes and their policy for library access by members of the public including paralegals.

After returning from vacation, I visited the Lanark Law Association library in Perth. Iris Nixon and I discussed submitting shelflist modifications electronically, discarding older reporters, computer upgrades and other operational issues. From there, I travelled to Kingston to visit the Frontenac Law Association library. I met with both Jackie Hassefras and her new library assistant, Susan Tizard. Jackie is busy organizing the 6th annual Kingston and the 1000 Islands Legal Conference later this month. We also discussed the heavy schedule of video replays Jackie screens, and other member initiatives.

My next visit was to the Manitoulin Law Association library where I met with Lois Williamson, library assistant, and with Terrence Land. Lois and I discarded older reporters and reorganized the CLE binders. I reviewed the collection against the Core List and am preparing a follow up report on suggested purchases. We also discussed ways to increase lawyer awareness of the library collection.

At the end of September, I will be travelling to Parry Sound to work with Patricia Harris to relocate the library collection to another floor in the renovated courthouse and to integrate the CLE portion of the collection into the main collection, now that the shelving height has increased.

If you have a project in mind that you would like assistance with or have any questions, please contact me at melkin@lsuc.on.ca.

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