Welcome to another End of Year

Note that library hours will be changing as of Thursday May 1.

Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30
Closed over lunch (12:00-1:00)

New Books

Collections Corner

Old becomes new again as we bring back some CCH US titles but in a new online format. Take a look at what’s coming on the InteliConnect platform.

Law Library Corner

With new library study space opening up on the main floor, most of our regional and topical law reports, which are available online, have been moved to storage. However, there always remains the question of how to properly cite to online resources.

Renovation Update

Find out what is happening on the Main Floor and in the Compact Shelving. Also check out the latest library display ENVIRONMENTAL LAW.
Law Library Corner: Law Report Citations

Back in January, Stephen Pitel and I had a lively discussion on the finer points of citing court decisions in legal writing. At issue was when one might choose to reference a page number in a case report and when instead one might cite to a paragraph number. This all came about as the printed Canadian law report volumes were being transferred to off-site storage in advance of creating more study space for our students.

There was a concern that if researchers, particularly law students, lacked ready access to the hard copy law reports, e.g. New Brunswick Reports, Ontario Appeal Cases, Motor Vehicle Reports, etc., then writers would be unable to provide proper pinpoint case citations in essays, memos and briefs. While recent cases, regardless of publication format, online or hard copy, do now include paragraph numbers supplied by the courts, what about older decisions?

As I looked into this question of paragraph numbering, I found that, at least in the case of two major publishers of law reports sent to storage, the publishers do seem to have taken into account that paragraph numbering is required for pinpoint references to the electronic versions.

As Stephen pointed out, traditionally, researchers working with older law reports, those published in the 20th century and before, have relied on page numbers for pinpoint referencing. Moreover, in recent times there’s been a switch to the use of paragraph numbers. Some publishers, notably Maritime Law Book, were early to adopt the practice of paragraph numbering. For example, from the very first volume of the Ontario Appeal Cases (1973) MLB has included paragraph numbers in its hard copy reports. Carswell, on the other hand, didn't start including paragraph numbers in hard copy law reports until 1990-1991.

Looking at the electronic versions in Maritime Law Book Online and WestlawNext, there has been editorial work done to the caselaw files. When students consult MLB cases online, they will be able to get their pinpoint (paragraph) references digitally. Even though Carswell’s print reporters did not contain paragraph numbering in earlier editions, the editors of WestlawNext have gone back and retroactively numbered the paragraphs in the older cases.

Another point raised is whether the online version of a case holds the same authority as citing to the print reported version. For the most part, when print titles were put into storage, we checked the online version to see if it was indeed an electronic version of the print publication - not simply an electronic version of the decision. We checked that the online version included the same headnotes and other editorial content. Since the paragraph numbering is associated with the actual judgment part of the document, the cite to the online should be the same as the print. The only difficulty would be if for some reason a student were asked to cite to the editorial content, which would not have a paragraph marker.

In the case of some Canada Law Book online versions of their law reports, the online database does include a .pdf of the print reporter. This is the best of both worlds and mimics the work of West editors to include not only “star pagination” but .pdf versions of their reporters.

John Sadler is the Director of the Law Library as well as being a New Brunswick Maritimer. He is slowly coming to terms with the loss of the print volumes of the Maritime Law Book law reports in the library but will continue to teach its classification system to law students and future law librarians studying at FIMS.

Maritime Law Book is located in Fredericton, New Brunswick and is owned by New Brunswick residents. It was founded in 1969 and has 60 employees. MLB publishes 14 law reporters that cover every jurisdiction in Canada, except Quebec. Judicial decisions included come from court offices throughout Canada and from the United Kingdom Supreme Court. Editors read and classify each case and create headnotes and indexes for all reporters.

In 2007, Maritime Law Book was the recipient of the Canadian Association of Law Libraries’ legal publishing award. The Hugh Lawford Award for Excellence in Legal Publishing acknowledges the work that is done by publishers to provide the legal profession with high quality materials for use in understanding and researching the law.
Collections Corner: New Online Law Reports

The following are new online versions of some favourite print series from CCH available on the IntelliConnect platform.

Trade Regulation Reporter
Wolters Kluwer

Since 1914, the CCH Trade Regulation Reporter has been the "publication of record" in the antitrust and trade regulation fields. It is the only single source of the policies, rules, and guidelines of the U.S. Department of Justice. It provides U.S. antitrust cases, texts, and pending U.S. consent decrees. Perhaps its most important feature is the full-text reporting of court decisions in both government and private antitrust litigation.

STATUS: IN PROCESS

Federal Securities Law Reporter
Wolters Kluwer

Federal Securities Law Reporter is a comprehensive resource covering the federal laws and rules that regulate the issuance and trading of securities, corporate disclosure, insider reporting, broker-dealer requirements and duties, self-regulatory organizations, investment companies, investment advisers, and accountants and attorneys practicing before the Securities and Exchange Commission.

It includes explanations that discuss, summarize and coordinate law, rule interpretations and court decisions.

Standard Federal Tax Reporter
Wolters Kluwer

The Standard Federal Tax Reporter contains a comprehensive collection of up-to-date federal income tax information, such as full text of all proposed, temporary and final federal income tax law regulations, as well as full text of federal administrative rulings and documents. Organized by Internal Revenue Code section.

STATUS: IN PROCESS

Products Liability Reporter
Wolters Kluwer

CCH’s Products Liability Reporter delivers a complete overview of the products liability landscape. It includes full-text accounts of key state and federal liability decisions, expert analysis, and evidentiary and damage assessment charts.

STATUS: IN PROCESS

Update to UK Law Reports!

Note that the Law Reports, published by the Incorporated Council of Law Reporting, are no longer available on the Justis platform. The Law Library now has access to ICLR Online, while also maintaining our subscription to Justis and JustCite.

If you still wish to have that one-stop shopping feeling for carrying out UK research and have been happy with the Justis site, keep in mind that you can still use JustCite as a general search engine. Cases published in, for example, the Law Reports, will still appear in your search results with a list of the various services where the decision can be found - including the ICLR.

The Law Library has also picked up a subscription to Lloyd’s Online for the Lloyd’s Law Reports.
Spotlight: Law Library Displays

An ode to a very long and cold Winter: **Environmental Law**

*By Roberta McClelland*

Law Library Renovation Updates

Library staff are working on clearing out the materials from the lower stacks’ compact shelving. Since a large number of items still need to be reviewed and either processed for storage or relocated within the library, a temporary home has been created in the bound periodicals section of the lower stacks for the federal and legislative collection as well as a number of Australian titles. Bound periodicals titled “S” to “Y” will be moved off campus to provide for this “swing” space (although current unbound issues can be found right where the “S” titles used to start). Many of these periodical titles are available through HeinOnline but all can be requested back from storage. Just ask the library staff.

We are fortunate to have Roberta McClelland remaining with us for the month to continue on with processing compact shelving materials slated for storage. A number of casual assistants have also been hired to assist with boxing and shifting the legislative and Australian collection.

On the main floor, the areas shelving the Canadian Law Reports have been cleared. In early May the shelving will be removed and new furniture (large group tables, study carrels, computer tables) will be installed. In June, the casual assistants will help with rearranging the law reports, digests etc. which were not sent to storage.

Next on the agenda will be to review the legislative materials and incorporate some into the main floor collection. The entire bound periodical collection will also be reviewed with the hope that the current “S” to “Y” space can remain available for a foreign law collection (American, UK, Australian) to come out of hiding and find a new home.