

Collections Corner: Maritime Law Book Compass



<https://compass.law/>

In the Fall/Winter 2016 issue of the Law Library Newsletter, we reported that Maritime Law Book would be re-emerging on a new platform under new ownership. "Compass" is now open for business!!

Content

As of November 2016, the compass collection contains over 350,000 cases from all Canadian jurisdictions except Quebec; court coverage includes all provincial, superior, territorial and appellate courts with the exception of the B.C. Provincial Court and the Ontario Court of Justice (current and historical collections of both will be added in 2017); and over 1,000 leading House of Lords, Supreme Court, and Privy Council cases from the United Kingdom.

Searching

Options for maneuvering around the database include case searching (with fields: jurisdictions, court levels, topics, date range), and browsing by topic.

The screenshot shows the search interface with the following elements:

- Search bar with a magnifying glass icon and a "Search" button.
- Filters:
 - Jurisdictions (dropdown menu)
 - Court levels (dropdown menu)
 - Topics (dropdown menu with a list of subjects):
 - Actions
 - Administrative Law
 - Admiralty
 - Aeronautics
 - Agency
 - Aliens
 - Animals
 - Arbitration
 - Armed Forces
 - Injunctions
 - Insurance
 - Interest
 - International Law
 - Joint Ventures
 - Labour Law
 - Land Regulation
 - Landlord and Tenant
 - Libel and Slander
 - Date range (dropdown menu)

Maritime Law Book Online

The "About us" document on the Compass site outlines the vision behind the new Maritime Law Book - that today's researchers "prioritize comprehensiveness over searching a curated collection built on an editor's determination of cases deemed authoritative...".

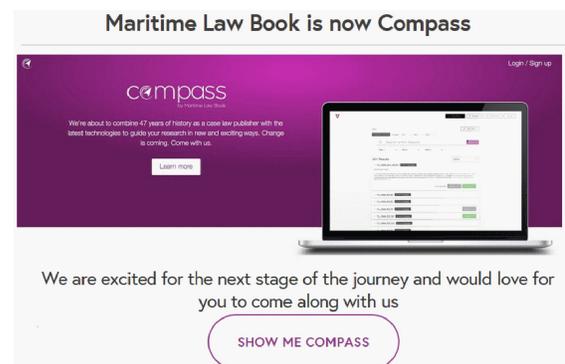
The well-known Maritime Law Book case law reporters have been discontinued in both print and digital format.

National Reporter System

The original Maritime Law Book National Reporter collection is included in Compass, complete with the original MLB headnotes and print citations. Cases entered after November 2016, will not include the traditional MLB editorial content and will be cited by neutral citations (and parallel citations where available).

The equally well-known MLB Key Number System, which applied Topic and sub-topic numbers to each case, has been replaced, going forward, with a "legal information processing engine" using natural language technology.

However, the browse feature within Compass does allow users to drill down through the MLB key numbers to find similar cases classified together.



Compass is still a work in progress. Future content will include decisions of Canadian tribunals as well as Canadian statutes and regulations. The new owners of Maritime Law Book look to provide researchers with "legal analytics, extensive metadata tagging and the creation of points of network and content interconnection, [and are] committed to working with and supporting players and innovators across public sector, public interest, and legal publishing and technology domains to integrate current and historical case law into the tools and services they create."

Law Library Corner

Course Reserves



COURSE READINGS

Course Readings Login

OWL Course Readings Tool Login

https://www.lib.uwo.ca/borrowing/submit_course_reserves.html

With the Winter Term full speed ahead now, we want to encourage faculty instructors and law admin staff to contact library staff for course reserve requests. Let us know if you need books ordered for your course, materials pulled from the stacks for 2HR Reserve, or if you need materials scanned or downloaded for your **Ares** course reading site.

Duncan Archibald is our course reserves coordinator in the Law Library. Twice per year Duncan sends out an email reminder for Faculty to review 2HR course reserve lists so materials no longer needed can be returned to the regular stacks and new items can be ordered or pulled from the stacks. Duncan also responds to administrative staff requests to search for cases, articles, or even chapters from books needed for the **Ares** course reading sites.

Duncan Archibald

If you need a book to be ordered for your course, Duncan will also send these requests to Elizabeth Bruton, who handles collection selection and purchasing.

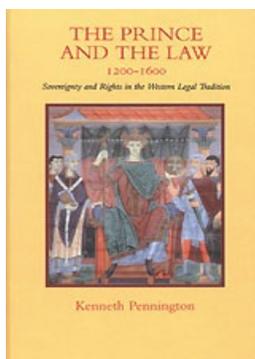
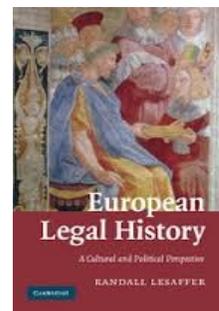
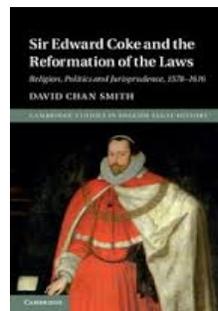
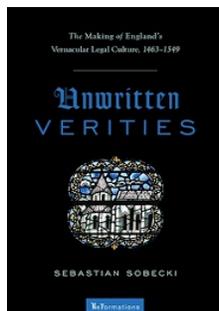
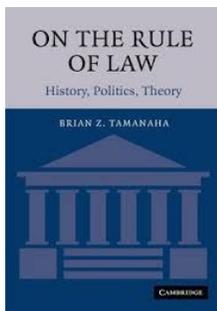


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History of Law

Library Display by Edith Richardson



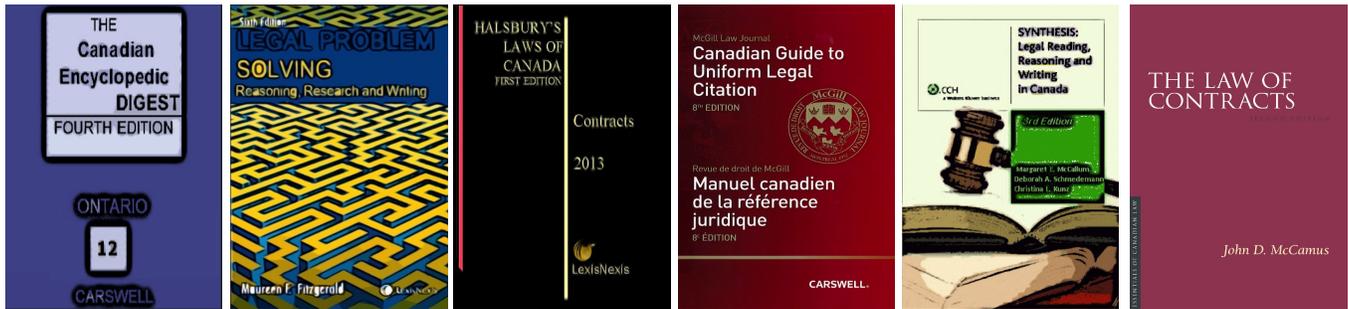
CHAPTER 3 The Power of the Prince in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries

... for us, we will resign
During the life of this old majesty,
To him our absolute power (to Edgar and Kent):
you, to your rights;
With boot and such addition as your honors
Have more than merited.
—Shakespeare, *King Lear*, Act 5, Scene 3

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CONTRACT LAW Essentials

LAW SCHOOL LEGAL RESEARCH



HOME FACULTY ORGANIZE COLLECT RESEARCH WRITING

FILAC

Facts - Issues - Law - Analysis & Application - Communication
 What is FILAC? It is:

Facts

Take a look at your fact situation and pull out keywords. Question what is important and what is superfluous.
You need: Your fact situation

Issues

Turn keywords into legal issues of substance. What is your situation really about? Breach of Promise? Restitution?
You need: Toss the keywords into your favourite search engine, database, the catalogue. See what legal terms come out.

Law

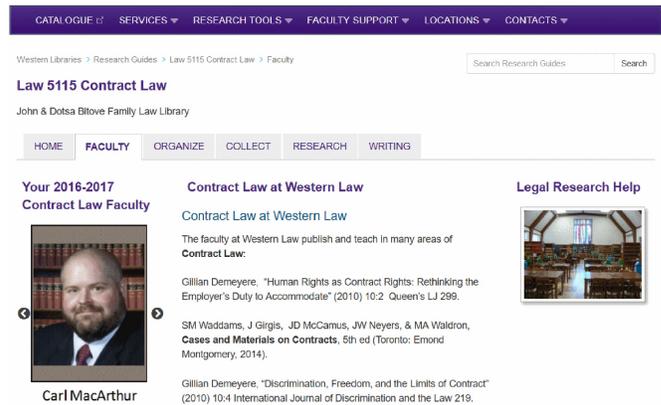
Focus on the legal issue here. Look into secondary sources to understand your legal topic and start collecting references to case law and statute law. Understand legal citation so you keep track of proper details in your references.
You need: Start searching the library catalogue, journal indexes, for secondary sources, which will lead you to your primary law. Study the McGill Guide so you will know what you need to put into footnote citations. Use databases to expand your searching and to collect documents.

Analysis & Application

Start reading! Apply the primary law to your fact situation. This is where you "think like a lawyer".
You need: Cases and legislation (maybe even some secondary authority) to apply back to the facts.

Communicate Your Conclusions

Write up your memo paper! Take time to articulate your points. Be a proofreader (or have someone else read it through). Take care with details like citations too.
You need: Refer to some books on how to write legal memos. These go beyond just how to organize your work. Find someone who is a good proofreader. It does not have to be a law student.



Revised research guides, including the full version of this *Contract Law Essentials* guide, can be found at:
http://guides.lib.uwo.ca/sb.php?subject_id=50359