Welcome ...

Winter Term is in full swing and although officially still the winter season, it’s not too difficult to see Spring around the corner.

Law Library Corner

The Law Library staff continue to promote our assistance to faculty and admin staff in creating both physical 2HR course reserves collections and digital course readings sites. Here we outline our services and contacts.

Collections Corner

Read here about the current status of the renewed Maritime Law Book - now called Compass! What is MLB publishing? What does the new website look like?

Research Guides Spotlight

We are highlighting here another research guide designed for first-year law students. These guides are designed as a starting point for students as they attack the memo paper.

CONTRACTS

New Books

Click here to see earlier issues of the Law Library Newsletter
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.

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.
Course Reserves

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.

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.

Library Display by Edith Richardson

History of Law

---

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

...for us, we will resign
To him our absolute power [as Edgar and Kent]:
you, to your rights;
With boot and such addition as your honors
Have more than earned.
—Shakespeare, King Lear, Act 5, Scene 3
Research Guides Spotlight: LRWA Contracts

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