Welcome ...

to Spring??? We’ll just say it’s still Winter - since we are moving into the Winter Term now but let’s hope for a smooth transition into Spring.

Collections Corner

In response to the impact of a weak Canadian dollar on acquisitions costs, included here is a summary of information on serials cancellations in the Law Library, strategies to meet our target and communications with Faculty.

Reference Corner

Spotlight on Canadian Legislative PULSE - one of the early converts from CCH to the LexisNexis platform. For those who really need to be in the know about bills from across the country.

Guides Spotlight

As the library slowly starts to reunite all provincial legislative materials onto the main floor, we spotlight the ONTARIO LEGISLATION research guide.

New Books

Click here to see earlier issues of the Law Library Newsletter
Collections Corner: Serials Review Update

John Sadler, Director of the Law Library, and Elizabeth Bruton, Collections Librarian, recently met with Faculty to discuss the Law Library’s cost reduction target in light of the need for Western Libraries to reduce its collections expenditures during 2015 / 2016 and 2016 / 2017. We wanted to outline here what we proposed.

Monographs

An historical strength of our library has been the monograph collection. Law as a discipline has not moved very quickly into the online e-book world so most of our purchases are still print. Monographs also represent an important resource for our students and researchers.

We are hoping to maintain our current monograph budget for the coming fiscal year.

Binding

We also wish to maintain a binding budget for ongoing projects which will require tidying up of items.

Serials

Our major cancellations will come from serials: law reports, journals, looseleaf services, legislative materials. However, since we have already cancelled the majority of our law reports, and law journals and legislative materials are not particularly expensive, our first target will be looseleaf services.

Looseleafs

For the most part, our looseleaf collection has been used to supplement law courses. However, looseleafs are also used by non-law library patrons who like the “all in one” format.

Most looseleaf titles which are on 2HR Reserve have usage statistics. However, many are also only viewed at the desk or borrowed “just for a moment” to photocopy a page or two. Feedback from our staff at the circulation desk will help us to determine usage.

As the library reviews all looseleaf materials, we hope to share information with and receive feedback from our faculty members. We will make lists of titles available on the shared network drive and will include information such as current price (with looseleafs that is often a 12-month cost for individual releases), usage information and location. If the title is on 2HR Reserve then the course information will also be included. Regular emails will be sent out when the list is updated.

Reasons for cancellation:

- Little or no use (based on circulation data and feedback from staff).
- High cost in conjunction with little use. In particular a high increase in cost.
- Missing releases - can no longer file updates.
- Little use and no longer required for course.
- Periodicals: title is in HeinOnline with no embargo period.

1. Rolling embargoes are placed by some publishers on certain journals on HeinOnline. Such embargoes generally apply to the latest one to five volumes and are intended to protect print sales of the journal.
Reference Corner: Canadian Legislative Pulse

The Canadian Legislative Pulse (The Pulse) is a cross-jurisdictional bill tracking service that is updated every business day. The status of bills and regulations can be tracked from inception to ratification.

Although it is not as common now for legal researchers to have to wait long for the current status of a bill to be made public, legislative research at the bill level does continue to cause us some anxiety; in particular, with regards to *in force* status and how other legislation is being affected. It is unclear how many researchers regularly track bills through the legislative process. Tellingly, the Chambers television is not normally tuned to CPAC. But when we need progress of bills information, to where do we turn?

The predecessor to the Pulse was CCH’s “Provincial Legislative Record”. These little booklets came out every month and included a province-by-province summary of the current legislature, session, sittings and bill status. The bills were all arranged numerically with the dates of each reading and effective dates listed. Proclamations were noted at the end of each provincial section. Not only did the Record provide a relatively quick way to find out *in force* information but with the date of second reading, it was also easier to find debates. The Pulse service started with the 2nd session of the 37th Parliament (2001), continuing the print Record, which began its coverage in 1987.

The Legislative Pulse is certainly reproducing what many websites such as elaws and Legisinfo now do, but it also allows for searching across Canadian jurisdictions for similar legislation as well as searching for bills affecting a particular Act or Regulation.

“...” was featured in an earlier newsletter about databases on the move to new platforms. Although this product has a LexisNexis URL, it is not yet actually living on the new Lexis Advance platform. It is still accessible by username and password (available via Western Libraries) and happily for users, works on all browsers, not just IE.

The **PULSE**

- tracks federal and provincial bills
- provides links to the full text of federal and provincial bills
- lists affected legislation
- can be sorted by bill number, bill title, chapter number
- creates alerts to clearly track amended Bills & Regulations
- identifies enabling Acts for a particular Regulation
- links to the various Federal and Provincial Gazettes

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Weekly eDigest Service for Western Law

The Canadian Abridgment eDigests current awareness service is designed to help legal researchers keep abreast of the latest developments in case law for a particular topic. Every week new case digests, spanning some 29 Subject Titles from Aboriginal Law to Young Offenders, prepared for inclusion in the Canadian Abridgment, are published on the eDigest website.

Faculty now receive an email from the Law Library highlighting a new case each week and providing links to the Subject Titles.

To read the most recent cases from a particular topic, simply click on the Subject Title of interest from the list in the email sent out to you. This will take you to the website containing the Abridgment eDigest and the recent case summaries. To access the full case, you’ll need to click on the case citation at the end of each case summary and log into WestlawNext Canada. Past editions of eDigests for each general subject area are also available.

If you have any questions regarding this service, please do not hesitate to Contact Us
Research Guides Spotlight

Ontario Legislation

STARTS AS...

Bills: Ontario Legislative Assembly
J108 .K5B55
Check catalogue for Law Library holdings (1935-1999 incomplete)
Weldon Library has: 18th Leg. 3rd Session (1932-current)

Available online through the website of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:
http://www.ontla.on.ca/lao/en/bills/

Citation Example:

BILLS ARE DEBATED...

Debates of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario
J108 .K2
Law has: 1957-1996
Weldon has: 1947-current

Available online through the website of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:
http://www.ontla.on.ca/lao/en/bills/

AND THEN WE HAVE LAWS...

Statutes of Ontario = Lois de l'Ontario
KEO63 .O57
The Statutes of Ontario are the laws enacted by the provincial Legislature for that year. Statutes are arranged in each annual set by the chapter number received after Royal Assent.

Citation Example:
Ticket Speculation Amendment Act, 2010, SO 2010, c 27.

Annual Statutes are available online through Ontario e-Laws:
http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/

RESEARCH HELP AIDS

Canadian Legislative Pulse (LexisNexis)
formerly from CCH

Covers all jurisdictions
Weekly Bill summary
Search Regulations by number or enabling Act
Access to Federal and Provincial Gazettes
Includes Royal Assent and In Force status

Canadian Current Law: Legislation
KE173 .CS842h
CCL: Legislation provides monthly summaries of recent legislative activity in the Parliament of Canada and the Legislatures of the Provinces and Territories of Canada. Includes: Progress of Bills; Statutes Amended and Amendments to Regulations.

ADOPT A BOOK

Constitutional History
ask at the Services Desk for our withdrawn books needing a new home!