

NEWS LINKS

*University of Victoria
Access to Justice Centre
for Excellence*



October 2018

Issue 2



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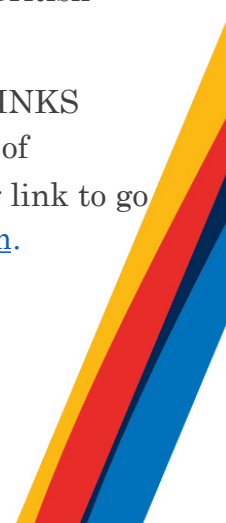
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Welcome to Issue 2 of NEWSLINKS

The University of Victoria Access to Justice Centre for Excellence (UVic ACE) welcomes you to the second issue of its newsletter.

NEWSLINKS is a periodical publication whose goal it is to identify information from the media, the courts, government and the academy that will be of interest to those pursuing enhanced access to justice in British Columbia.

You can subscribe to future issues of NEWSLINKS through the “Subscribe” button at the bottom of the UVic ACE website. Click on the following link to go to the website and subscribe www.uvicace.com.





*The focus of
ACE is on
applied research
that seeks
practical
resolutions to
improve access
to justice*

Coming Events

- ***The Annual National Conference of the ADR Institute of Canada***, Montreal. Nov 21 – 23, 2018. “ADR to the Rescue of Justice” offers more than 40 sessions on a range of arbitration and mediation topics. [ADRIC 2018 National Conference](#)
- ***Mediate BC Society, Conflict Resolution Week 2018***. November 3-10. Check out the [Conflict Resolution Week 2018 Events Page](#) to find an event in your area or participate in a [Virtual Expo](#) from your own home.

A2J and Legal Education

- ***Bill could cut opportunities for law students*** (Anita Balakrishnan, Law Times, October 1, 2018). Bill C-75 overhauling the Criminal Code could disrupt lawyer training programs, hamper access to justice initiatives and extend court delays by eliminating a regime of using paralegals and students for certain criminal hearings. <https://www.lawtimesnews.com/author/anita-balakrishnan/bill-could-cut-opportunities-for-law-students-16299/>
- ***Some law schools are developing tools to improve A2J***. (Sheldon Gordon, University Affairs, September 17, 2018) “While judges and lawyers wring their hands over the problem, some Canadian law schools are undertaking initiatives to improve access to justice.” <https://www.universityaffairs.ca/news/news-article/some-law-schools-are-developing-tools-to-improve-access-to-justice/>



Did you know?

UVic ACE was established in 2015 in response to the Canadian Bar Association's *Equal Justice* report of 2013. The report emphasized the lack of access to justice research and the poor state of metrics and data collection within Canadian civil justice systems. Observing that "you can't manage what you can't measure" the report drew an explicit link between the system's lack of metrics and measurement capacity, and the relative ineffectiveness of efforts over the last twenty years to enhance access to civil justice.

A2J and Legal Practice

- ***The BC Law Society seeking feedback on alternative legal service providers.*** (Ian Burns, *The Lawyer's Daily*, Monday, September 10, 2018) The Law Society of BC is seeking input from the profession on a proposal to establish a new class of legal service professional who would hold a limited scope license to practise in the area of family law. The consultation paper containing the proposed scope of practice can be found [here](#). [BC Law Society seeking feedback on alternate legal service providers](#)
- ***Can licensed legal paraprofessionals narrow the A2J gap?*** (Patrick McGlone, *American Bar Association Journal*, September 2, 2018) This ABA article describes how the idea of creating a new class of legal paraprofessionals in response to unmet legal need has been implemented in some American states and is under consideration in others. [Can licensed legal paraprofessionals narrow the access-to-justice gap?](#)
- ***BC Law Society AGM, Mandatory Pro Bono?*** (Law Society of BC, October 30, 2018)
Resolutions will be put before the membership proposing that the Benchers amend the Rules to include a professional obligation on all practising lawyers to perform a minimum level of pro bono legal services. [BC Law Society AGM, Mandatory Pro Bono?](#)
- ***Make lawyers work for free to solve A2J issues, Victoria lawyer says.*** (CBC, October 4 2018)
"Criminal defence lawyer Kevin McCullough has a motion before the Law Society of B.C. that would compel all lawyers to take on a certain number of less-complex cases, pro bono, in the areas of criminal, family and immigration law." [Make lawyers work for free to solve access-to-justice issues, Victoria lawyer says](#)

A2J and Legal Practice

- ***Judges, lawyers urged to give more to solve justice crisis.*** (Ian Mulgrew, Vancouver Sun, October 4, 2018)
“Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice Richard Wagner wants judges and lawyers to give back and do more to help solve the access to justice crisis plaguing the courts.” [Judges, lawyers urged to give more to solve justice crisis.](#)
- ***BC Legal Aid Services Review*** (govTogetherBC, October 4, 2018). A province-wide legal aid review, recently announced by Attorney General David Eby, will take place from October 4 to November 23, 2018. Jamie Maclaren, QC (ED of Access Pro Bono BC) is leading the review, and has invited written submissions by email to review@maclarenlaw.ca by 4pm, November 23, 2018. [BC Legal Aid Services Review](#)
- ***Legal community questions need for another BC legal aid review*** (Jeremy Hainsworth, New Westminster Record, October 5, 2018) “This has been studied to death,” said Richard Fowler of the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers. <https://www.newwestrecord.ca/legal-community-questions-need-for-another-b-c-legal-aid-review-1.23454151>
- ***Ontario Court of Appeal decisions answer ‘big legal questions’ on SLAPP suits.*** (Aidan Macnab, Canadian Lawyer, August 30, 2018)
“Ontario’s new anti-SLAPP legislation was recently tested in the Ontario Court of Appeal with six rulings released in August 2018, four of which were deemed strategic lawsuits against public participation.” [Ontario Court of Appeal decision answers ‘big legal questions’ on SLAPP suits](#)

A2J Research and Reports

- ***“Children's Participation in Justice Processes: Survey of Justices on Alberta's Court of Queen's Bench”*** (August 2018, Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family) http://www.crilf.ca/Documents/ABQB_Justices%20Survey_Child_Participation_-_August_2018.pdf
- ***“Victoria Integrated Court: The Housing Problem”*** (Samira Hiscock and Emanuela Bocancea, University of Victoria, Faculty of Law) <http://www.uvicace.com/resources/>
- ***Gladue Reports: Graphic Novel.*** (September 4, 2018) The BC Legal Services Society is working with the Healthy Aboriginal Network to create a story about Gladue reports in the form of a graphic novel and video. [*Gladue Reports – Graphic Novel – Focus Groups*](#)

A2J and Organizations

- ***Adlington takes reins of the CBA*** (John Chunn, The Lawyer's Daily, September 5, 2018) In response to a membership survey, the CBA national board has identified two advocacy priorities for the coming year: access to justice and solicitor-client privilege. <https://www.thelawyersdaily.ca/articles/7118/improving-access-to-justice-for-litigants-and-their-lawyers-tops-federal-court-chief-justice-paul-crampton-s>
- ***Improving access to justice for litigants and their lawyers tops Federal Court Chief Justice Paul Crampton's agenda.*** (Cristin Schmitz, The Lawyer's Daily, September 20, 2018) <https://www.thelawyersdaily.ca/articles/7118/improving-access-to-justice-for-litigants-and-their-lawyers-tops-federal-court-chief-justice-paul-crampton-s-agenda>

A2J Articles and Blogs

- *Face the strange* (BC Chief Justice and A2JBC Chair Robert Bauman, October 17, 2018) “We will need to explore ideas that may seem threatening or even, to some, antithetical to justice.”

<https://accesstojusticebc.ca/2018/10/face-the-strange/>

- *Rise Women’s Legal Centre Story* (A2JBC Innovation Stories) “Rise uses unbundling of legal services to help more women with family law disputes.”

<https://accesstojusticebc.ca/engage/tell-us-your-a2j-innovation-story/rise-womens-legal-centre-story/>



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