

In Session:

CALL/ACBD's Newsletter

March 2020

From the Executive Board

From the President's Desk

CALL/ACBD Twitter Chat in Review

Our first 2020 Twitter Chat was a success. I consider it a success because my fingers were sore after fiendishly typing as fast as I could for a little better than an hour.

Though you can see the discussion [online](#), here were the questions that we asked:

Q1 At #CALLACBD, we have a committee devoted to Diversity, Inclusion and Decolonization. Thinking broadly, who should be a member of #CALLACBD?

Q2 If you could have a great conversation with someone about #Legal #Information who would you engage with? Tag them if they are on Twitter.

Q3 What would you talk about? Feel welcome to add topic hashtags.

Q4 What are the characteristics of a "law librarian" and are they different from a "legal information specialist"?

Q5 Here are the current objectives of #CALLACBD. Should they be altered?

To promote law librarianship, to develop and increase the usefulness of Canadian law libraries, and to foster a spirit of co-operation among them.

To provide a forum for meetings of persons engaged or interested in law library work and to encourage professional self-development.

To co-operate with other organizations which tend to promote the objects of the Association or the interests of its members.

Q6 Does having "law libraries" in our association name exclude "legal information specialists" who are not working in libraries from our group?

Q7 Have you renewed your #CALLACBD membership? Why or why not?

Q8 Are you planning to come to the #CALLACBD2020 Conference in Hamilton? [Register here](#)

There was some good **context** gleaned for some serious questions. Here are a few examples that are not attributed to the poster as the content is more relevant than the individual voice:

A5 I wonder if our objects are inclusive enough to maintain a reason for joining and participating when traditional [#law](#) [#libraries](#) are morphing and changing. I am hoping for lots of discussion on question 5 today

A5 Definitely need to update the objectives. Currently too focused on physical space. Would be interested to know - does the word library exclude some?

A5 OUF yes, those objects need a serious update! It doesn't nearly reflect how diverse our association is!

A5 [name redacted] noted project managers, and [name redacted] noted we're not all [#legalinformation](#) specialists. The name might keep designers, PMs, writers, innovators out of [@CALLACBD](#), and it might also keep current members' expertise out of important projects

AND:

A6 Of course, being inclusive is important. Just saying the change would involve significant marketing and outreach efforts.

A6 Yes, it does. We should be focusing on purpose and relationships to define who we are, not job titles. Libraries as a place (in the corporate world) are dying. It is about skilled information professionals, and the people with whom they collaborate in the industry

I think a name adjustment is called for. We're no longer only custodians of books. ICT has made a noticeable difference to the way we do our jobs in a legal environment. "Legal information professional" is probably more accurate.

Should [@callacbd](#) become the Canadian Association of Legal Information Specialists? If you aren't a CALLACBD member today, would you join? [#AskTheHardQuestions](#) Thanks for the idea [name redacted].

One Twitter chat cannot be considered broad consultation about issues that are important to all of us. Your thoughts are ALWAYS encouraged and welcome. Join a future webinar consultation (TBA), watch for the next Twitter Chat opportunity, email smireau@gmail.com or office@callacbd.ca or attend the Members Open Forum at the [2020 Conference](#) in Hamilton. Call any board member. I am always happy to hear from a CALL/ACBD pal at 780-991-7682.

A fantastic idea that came through this chat was to open the Members Open Forum for virtual attendance. That suggestion will be vigorously explored.

Have your say. Shape our future.

Shaunna Mireau
CALL/ACBD President

Building A2J Connections

Expanding on our theme of who we are and what is important to legal information specialist, a few days ago I had a great meeting with an old friend, Patricia Hebert. She is part of the Action Committee on Access to Civil and Family Matters that was established by Chief Justice Beverly McLachlin in 2007. Info about this group can be found [here](#). The reason Trish reached out is that the group has established Pop Up Communities of Practice. Topics this year include **"Librarians as critical justice service providers"** among others. We are welcome to join this community.

This is an opportunity to pull up a chair to the table! I would like to ensure that there will be at least one law librarian from each jurisdiction on this call. **Please [let me know](#) when you register for these so that CALL/ACBD can assist in ensuring broad regional participation.** There is no cost except your time.

The advertisement for the A2J Communities of Practice can be found [here](#).

Next CALL/ACBD Executive Board Meeting

Our next Board meeting will take place on March 26, 2020. Members are invited to attend. Please contact [National Office](#) for details. An agenda will be posted on the website in advance. Agendas and minutes are all available on the website in the members section under "[Member Resources](#)."

Announcements

Eunice Beeson Memorial Travel Fund

To commemorate her far-reaching contributions to our Association, CALL/ACBD awards the Eunice Beeson Memorial Travel Fund to assist CALL/ACBD members who wish to attend the Annual Meeting but, for financial reasons, are unable to do so. Bursaries are provided to cover travel expenses and/or accommodation.

If you would like to attend the 2020 Hamilton conference, and require financial assistance, please submit your application to [Sooin Kim](#) by **April 17, 2020**. For further information and to apply, please click [here](#).

Events

CALL/ACBD

HAMILTON 2020

May 24 - 27 mai



Revival | Rebirth | Re-invention
Renouveau | Renaissance | Réinvention

CALL/ACBD 2020 Conference

The Conference Planning Committee is very excited to welcome everyone to Hamilton this May for the [CALL/ACBD 2020 Conference!](#) The conference will be held at the Hamilton Convention Centre and Sheraton Hotel from May 24th-27th. The theme for the conference is Revival - Rebirth - Re-Invention. [Click here](#) to access the 2020 Conference program.

[Registration](#) for the conference is now open! Be sure to register by **April 10** to take advantage of the early bird pricing.

Hope to see you there!

Toronto Association of Law Libraries (TALL) eXchange 2020

Save the Date! [TALL eXchange 2020: Vision for the Future](#) will be held on Thursday October 22, 2020 at the MaRS Discovery Centre in Toronto. Check out our [conference website](#) for information on registration, how to participate, and more.

Committee & SIG News

Scholarship and Awards Committee

Applications are open for the [Denis Marshall Memorial Award for Excellence in Law Librarianship](#). The Marshall Award is bestowed on a current member of CALL/ACBD who has provided outstanding service to the Association AND/OR enhanced the profession of law librarianship in the recent past. Nominations for this award are to be

accompanied by two signed letters of support as well as three additional names supporting the nomination, so do not put it off for too long! Applications are requested by **April 1, 2020**.

Applications are also open for the [Michael Silverstein Prize](#), the [Gisèle Laprise Prize](#), and the [Education Reserve Fund](#). Each of these is open to a member of CALL/ACBD, each has an application deadline of **April 1, 2020**, and each offers an opportunity to consider yourself as well as a colleague.

CALL/ACBD is fortunate to have these awards and has been able to distribute them to many deserving recipients. Please do not hesitate to submit an application.

Private Law Libraries (PLL) SIG

PLL-SIG Slack meet-ups are back! Please join us at #mmmarch **Wednesday, March 11th at 10am PT/2pmAT** and BYOB! This month, we want to talk about some of the most circulated/most helpful/most obscure book(s) in your collection. Share a link, take a photo, or provide the citation to your featured title, and tell us about it.

It is also time to start thinking about the conference. How can PLL-SIG better serve you? Is there something specific you would like to cover in the business meeting (ie. a Slack demo)? Are you interested in serving as Co-Chair? We would also like to know if members would like to complete a new operational survey, the results of which would be presented at the business meeting. Please reach out to [Rebecca](#) or [Michael](#) if you have any feedback.

Membership Development Committee

To coincide with member renewals, the [mentorship program application is now OPEN](#). The application deadline is **March 20 for the 2020-2021 mentorship in-take. The program begins in **April 2020**.**

Mentorship offers many benefits: the sharing of knowledge and experience, a chance to work through real life issues/challenges, and developing friendships & broadening one's network just to name a few. Whether you're a student looking for information about being a law librarian, an existing professional looking for some advice and coaching, or a seasoned professional looking to give back to the profession, the mentorship program is a great opportunity for members to connect, share, learn, and grow.

Returning mentors do not need to submit a new application. If you're interested in being a mentor for the first time, please apply on the [CALL website](#).

Committee to Promote Research

The Committee to Promote Research and CALL/ACBD invite members to apply for the CALL/ACBD Research Grant. The application deadline is **March 15, 2020**.

The CALL/ACBD Research Grant was established in 1996 to provide members with financial assistance to carry out research in areas of interest to members and to the association. Please refer to our [Committee](#) site for a copy of the application form, tips for applying for the grant, and to view our collection of past research projects.

The Committee is excited to receive proposals and we encourage members to apply or to contact us to discuss a project you are interested in. Members who previously applied but were not awarded funding are welcome to reapply.

Co-Chairs, CALL/ACBD Committee to Promote Research: [Elizabeth Bruton](#) & [Michelle LaPorte](#).

Professional Development Committee

About Us

The Professional Development Committee (PDC) is responsible for ascertaining the continuing professional development needs of CALL/ACBD members across Canada. The PDC assists with oversight of continuing education programs and surveys the membership to identify knowledge and skills necessary for professional excellence.

Current Needs

1. The PDC is always looking for new talent. Expressions of interest may be sent to [Emily Benton](#), PDC Chair
2. All Committees and SIGs are invited to send along any ideas for future programming by filling in [our survey](#).
3. All court house librarians are encouraged to remind your local practitioners of upcoming CALL webinars and other programming; such programming can be used to fulfill lawyer CPD requirements in some jurisdictions;
4. Do you have an idea for CALL programming that you would like to see offered? If so, please fill in this very [short survey](#).

Upcoming Events

Please stay tuned for upcoming webinar announcements.

Other Offerings

Advanced Legal Research videos

CALL members are invited to contact the [National Office](#) to obtain access to the Advanced Legal Research video series (personal use only) for a nominal fee.