

In Session:

CALL/ACBD's Newsletter

December 2019

From the Executive Board

From the President's Desk

Season's Greetings from snowy Edmonton. Winter is upon us. I don't know about other CALL/ACBD members, but I always feel a bit like hibernating at this time of year. Some years there are simply too many priorities to let hibernation take over.

The CALL Board met in person in November. Meeting by telephone monthly works very well for providing direction and keeping up to date with the normal activities of the association. Our in person meeting this year was extremely productive, as it offered us an opportunity to challenge ourselves with the question: What is the strategic direction of CALL/ACBD?

- Who are we; who do we want to be?
- Do the objects of our Association (read more [here](#)) match who we are today?
- What is the best path forward for our association?

Perhaps it is optimism offered by the coming New Year that is also a new decade. These big questions are going to be the focus of the board for the next short and medium term. We will be consulting with members about these questions in the coming months. Stay tuned in to help chart CALL/ACBDs future direction.

As always, your input is very welcome. Please feel free to contact me at smireau@gmail.com

Have a wonderful holiday season,

Shaunna

Next CALL/ACBD Executive Board Meeting

Our next Board meeting will take place on **December 12, 2019, from 2:00 - 3:30 PM EST**. Members are invited to attend. Please contact the [National Office](#) for details. An agenda will be posted on the website in advance. Previous agendas and minutes are all available on the website in the members section under "[Member Resources](#)."

Announcements

CALL/ACBD Membership Renewals - January 1, 2020

CALL/ACBD annual memberships are due for renewal on **January 1, 2020**. The Canadian Association of Law Libraries is committed to promoting the networking, professional development and career growth of all law library professionals in Canada, no matter where they work. Your annual membership renewal is an essential part of our continued success!

Why Renew?

Because we are a vibrant community – by renewing, you maintain your access to our network of hundreds of colleagues across Canada.

Because you can make a difference – by renewing, you can help shape the future of our profession through volunteer opportunities on committees and in special interest groups (SIGS)

To renew or update your membership, log in to your profile [here](#) and follow the suggested actions on the profile screen. If you've forgotten your password, you can reset it [here](#). Contact the [National Office](#) if you have any questions about your CALL/ACBD membership.

Hugh Lawford Award for Excellence in Legal Publishing

Each year, CALL/ACBD honours a publisher (whether for-profit or not-for-profit, corporate or non-corporate) who has demonstrated excellence by publishing a work, series or electronic product that makes a significant contribution to legal research and scholarship. If you've been wowed by a product, let us know! Nominations can be submitted to [Ann Marie Melvie](#), Past President and Chair of the Hugh Lawford Award Committee, before **February 15, 2020**. For more information, please [click here](#).

Seeking Expressions of Interest

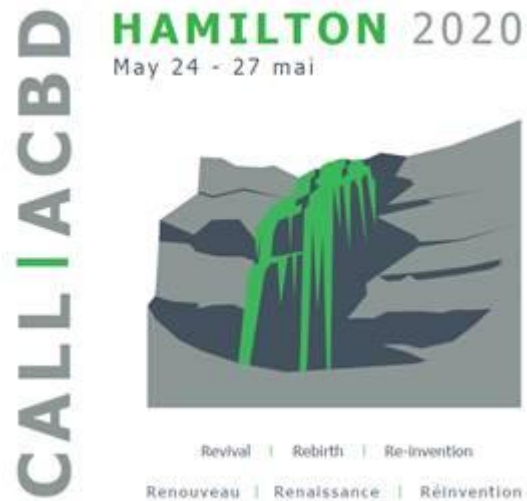
The CFLA-FCAB Indigenous Matters Committee is currently in the process of membership renewal in the committee.

CALL/ACBD has the opportunity to nominate members to the committee. Terms will begin at the end of January 2020. You will find the Terms of Reference for the committee [here](#).

Please email smireau@gmail.com to put your name forward to be one of our nominees for this busy working group. Current committee members reported on their activities at the AGM and the 2018 and 2019 AGM, minutes are available on the website in the members section under "[Annual General Meeting](#)."

Thanks to those CALL members who are currently serving the broader library community and to those interested in doing so in future.

Events



CALL/ACBD 2020 Conference

The Conference Planning Committee is very excited to welcome everyone to Hamilton next 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.

Hope to see you there!

Committee & SIG News

Vendor Liaison Committee

On Tuesday, November 19th members of the CALL VLC and TALL PLC met with executives from Thomson Reuters Canada to discuss the problems with invoicing, MyAccount, shipping, pricing, etc.

We had the opportunity to outline that we've felt disregarded, disrespected, and generally passed over these past few months and that their communication with us has been sub-par. Not only has it been void of detailed information about the problems and when the problems will be fixed, it's also not featured any apology or acknowledgment of the time and effort we have put in trying to make order of the mess that has been imposed on us. Thanks to the information you provided in the survey, we were then able to outline the problems we've encountered.

The executives in attendance apologized and explained what had gone wrong. They ensured that fixes are coming in the next few weeks for most of the outstanding issues. They also pledged to improve their communication with their customers and asked the VLC and PLC to help make sure that upcoming messages are sent to the appropriate people and sent far and wide.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will keep you updated with any new information we hear.

Comité de liaison avec les éditeurs

Les membres du comité de liaison avec les éditeurs (CLÉ) de l'ACBD et du comité PLC de la Toronto Association of Law Libraries (TALL) ont rencontré, le 19 novembre dernier, des dirigeants de Thomson Reuters Canada afin de discuter de divers problèmes concernant la facturation, MyAccount, l'expédition, les prix et d'autres points.

Cette rencontre nous a permis de préciser que nous n'avions pas l'impression d'être considérés ni respectés, et que nous avons été souvent ignorés au cours des derniers mois. Nous les avons également informés que leurs communications avec nous étaient décevantes. En plus de ne recevoir aucune explication sur les problèmes et quand ils seront réglés, nous n'avons reçu aucune excuse ni reconnaissance pour le temps et les efforts que nous avons consacrés à essayer de mettre de l'ordre dans le gâchis qui nous a été imposé. Grâce aux renseignements que vous nous avez fournis dans le sondage, nous avons été en mesure de décrire les problèmes éprouvés.

Les dirigeants présents se sont excusés et ont expliqué ce qui n'avait pas fonctionné. Ils nous ont garanti que des correctifs seront apportés au cours des prochaines semaines pour la plupart des problèmes en suspens. Ils se sont également engagés à améliorer leurs communications auprès de leur clientèle et ont demandé aux membres de nos deux comités de s'assurer que les prochaines communications sont envoyées aux bonnes personnes et à grande échelle.

Nous continuerons de surveiller la situation et nous vous tiendrons au courant de toute nouvelle information reçue.

Website Editorial Board

Do you want to improve the CALL/ACBD website? Every few years, the Website Editorial Board evaluates the CALL website for content and functionality.

This usually involves looking at:

- Content: What do we have, where should it appear?
- Navigation: Since the site was launched a few years ago, there are many new sections and features – is it still easy to get around and are sections appropriately named?

- **Functionality:** How easy is it to renew membership, register for webinars etc.?

If you are interested in improving the website, please contact [Michel-Adrien Sheppard](#). The idea is to start with an analysis of the site's content and make recommendations to the CALL board.

Committee to Promote Research

The Committee to Promote Research invites 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: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JN7WX7Q>
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: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JN7WX7Q>

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.

New! Discounted Access to Lesley Ellen Harris' Copyright Courses

We are delighted to announce that Lesley Ellen Harris has generously offered to give discounted rates on some of her copyright course offerings!

The offerings are listed [here](#). The discount code is **2019CALL**.

Courthouse and Law Society Libraries SIG

Thank you to all members who attended the May 2019 meeting at CALL – the discussion was lively and provided what we hope to be, a resurgence in our efforts to educate, communicate and inspire from within!

As a reminder, "this group is composed of persons working in Courthouse, Law Society, Barristers' Society, and Law Association libraries. It meets at the Annual Meeting to discuss mutual concerns such as continuing education, statistics, insurance, collection standards, service in small centres, staff qualifications, recruitment, library design, etc."

Over the next couple of months, we will reach out to members of this SIG for information to assist us as we draw attention to both our shared and unique systems from across Canada. As much as we are unique in location we are the same in purpose – to serve our clients well. We aspire to examine and improve communications, identify and reinforce the vitality of our systems including the delivery and wide spectrum of services we provide.

"Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities."

- R. David Lankes

Please watch for a few new initiatives and invitations to participate within our SIG, early in the new year.

Co-Chairs, CALL/ACBD Courthouse and Law Society Libraries SIG: [Tanya Davis](#) and [Melissa Firth](#)

Scholarships and Awards Committee

Who Might You Nominate?

CALL/ACBD has a number of scholarships and awards which are typically awarded on an annual basis. [Click here](#) for the listing and give some thought to who would be a worthy recipient. In addition to potentially nominating someone else, do not hesitate to apply for the [Education Reserve Fund Grant](#) if you are pursuing, or planning, your own professional education.

Notice of the [Diana M. Priestly Memorial Scholarship](#) will be sent to Canadian law and library schools in early December, but if you know of an eligible candidate now, do let them know. There is a bit of a process for some of these awards and it merits getting an early start.