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Linette Lubke & Sarah Pringle
Program Coordinators
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Chapter Executive Positions

Community Building Coordinator
Research Assistant
Volunteer Team Leads

Access to Justice

Project 18-01: Access to Justice Newsletter

Project Type: Legal Research and Analysis, Public Legal Education

Organization: Access to Justice Centre for Excellence (ACE)

The UVic Access to Justice Centre for Excellence was created to bridge the divide between academia and access to justice issues, understanding that “you can’t manage what you can’t measure.” In its efforts to support justice reform in this area, the Centre facilitates academic and applied research on procedural issues involving access to justice and the delivery of legal services, while also enhancing student learning and experience in this area.

Area of Law: Access to Justice, Human Rights

Project Details: The student will research and analyze access to justice activities and developments in BC (primarily) and Canada in order to create an online “Access to Justice Bulletin.” The aim is to increase awareness of the importance of access to justice in the legal profession and promote engagement and involvement in access to justice work. The bulletin will include news stories, legal analysis on relevant access to justice issues, profiles of organizations engaged in access to justice, comparisons of initiatives across jurisdictions (nationally and internationally), and analysis of how different sectors are engaging in access to justice. The student will begin by developing a design and format for the bulletin, and also articulate some parameters around content. Then, the student will be responsible for making publications every 4 – 6 weeks (two publications each semester), of approximately two pages in length. Students should submit drafts of publications 1 week prior to their release, to allow for editing and review. This will allow for an approximately 3-week draft period and 1-week review period before publication.

Required: 1-2 students with excellent writing skills and creativity. Experience with computer design software is an asset.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Head of ACE, Professor Jerry McHale, will be closely supervising students and helping establish form and content. Professor McHale will also be reviewing all bulletins prior to publication.

Criminal Law

Project 18-02: PCEPA Research Project

Project Type: Legal Research, Interdisciplinary Research

Organization: Peers Victoria Resources Society

Peers Society provides an array of outreach and drop-in harm reduction and support services for past and current sex workers, as well as education, employment training, and housing assistance. The organization is also involved in violence prevention and response, advocacy, and public education around issues facing sex workers.

Area of Law: Criminal Law, Interdisciplinary

Project Details: Students will write a memo on the application of the *Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act* in different jurisdictions across Canada. Peers Victoria is particularly interested in whether the legislation disproportionately impacts vulnerable people. Students will research media, statistics, and legal sources to gain insight into how this legislation operates on the ground.

Required: 2 students. Familiarity with Peers is an asset and participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: The lawyer supervisor, Brad Weldon, will help students draft a workplan, guide student research, answer any student questions, and approve all written student work before final submission. Brad Weldon is a member of Peers Society's Board of Directors and has worked with PBSC in partnership with Peers Society on past projects.

Project 18-03: Sexual Assault, Consent, and the Law

Project Type: Public Legal Education

Organization: Victoria Sexual Assault Centre and SWOVA

The Victoria Sexual Assault Centre (VSAC) is a feminist organization committed to ending sexualized violence through healing, education, and prevention. VSAC is dedicated to supporting women and trans survivors of sexual assault and childhood sexual abuse through advocacy, counselling, and empowerment. They provide counselling, a sexual assault response team, and other services for survivors. SWOVA is a non-profit society that works to prevent violence in all forms through a variety of programming. It pursues its mandate by promoting respectful and healthy relationships, supporting and enhancing evidence-based prevention education in schools, building and fostering youth leadership, and contributing to research in violence prevention education and skill development.

Area of Law: Criminal Law

Project Details: Students will create a plain language resource and presentation that reviews the law surrounding consent and sexual assault. It will analyze what behaviours fall under the purview of the law on this topic, legal definitions, complainants' legal rights, legal implications facing the accused, information surrounding under-reporting (along with resources for those who wish to report), as well as explain a criminal proceeding for sexual assault with a view to the complainant's role therein. The presentation will be delivered to Team Victoria (military, police, VSAC staff) in second semester.

Required: 3 Students. At least one will be an upper-year student. Experience working with survivors of sexual assault is an asset and participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Roxanne Helme, at Green & Helme, will help students draft a workplan for each semester, offer assistance, answer questions throughout the year, and approve all written work before submission to the organization. Students will be required to give presentations to the lawyer supervisor before presenting to the public, and if possible, the lawyer supervisor will attend the presentation.

Project 18-04: Youth Interactions with Police

Project Type: Public Legal Education

Organization: [Victoria Youth Empowerment Society \(VYES\)](#)

The Victoria Youth Empowerment Society strives to provide a continuum of care that empowers positive choices in the lives of multiple-barrier youth by providing accessible, innovative and proactive programs. These programs are delivered free of cost to the youth and families of Greater Victoria. They work in partnership with families and the community to foster a safe and supportive environment for at-risk youth.

Area of Law: Criminal Law

Project Details: VYES works closely with at-risk youth who may come into contact with police and be unaware of their rights during these interactions. The students will research this topic and address a number of specific questions that have arisen in the course of work with VYES' clients. These questions include the laws around search and seizure, arrest and detention, police questioning and rights to counsel, as well as conflicts with police over drug possession and sleeping outdoors in public spaces. The student will create a plain language pamphlet for VYES staff to distribute and will collaborate with the student(s) from VYES' other project to create a presentation for VYES staff and clients. Students will deliver this presentation in second semester.

Required: 1-2 students. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: To Be Determined.

Employment Law

Project 18-05: Employment Relations Between Symphonies & Musicians

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: [Island Musicians Association](#)

The Island Musicians Association is a branch of the Canadian Federation of Musicians. They seek to improve working conditions of musicians by providing them with a collective voice, offering services to persons working in the local music industry, and monitoring government activities and law.

Area of Law: Employment Law, Tax Law, Contract Law

Project Details: Students will write a legal memo exploring the legal status and implications of symphony musicians with respect to whether they are employees, independent contractors, or dependent contractors. Students will investigate how these different types of business relationships are defined by relevant provincial and federal legislation, and how this legislation applies differently in each scenario. Specifically, students must identify the differing responsibilities of employees and employers in these relationships, as this impacts how the Island Musicians Association negotiates with symphonies. This also has implications on CPP, EI, vacation pay, insurance, and taxation, which the students should assess and outline.

Required: 1-2 students.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: To Be Determined. A lawyer from our national law firm partner, McCarthy Tétrault, will hopefully be able to take on this project.

Project 18-06: Youth in the Workplace

Project Type: Public Legal Education

Organization: [Victoria Youth Empowerment Society](#)

The Victoria Youth Empowerment Society (VYES) strives to provide a continuum of care that empowers positive choices in the lives of multiple-barrier youth by providing accessible, innovative and proactive programs. These programs are delivered free of cost to the youth and families of Greater Victoria. They aim to meet the needs of youth by working in partnership with families and the community to deliver a safe and supportive environment for at-risk youth.

Area of Law: Employment Law

Project Details: Many youths are starting their first jobs and are unfamiliar with Employment Law. They need to know their rights and responsibilities as employees, and those of their employers. Students will create a plain language pamphlet that addresses the following issues: laws around breaks, length of shifts, probation periods, warnings, giving and receiving notice, working and being paid for statutory holidays, the difference between being fired and laid off

(and rights in both scenarios), receiving payments in cash or “under the table,” and making complaints to the Labour Board. The student will also collaborate with the student from VYES’ other project to create a presentation for VYES staff and clients. This presentation will occur in second semester.

Required: 1-2 students. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Nicole Hamilton, at Waddell Raponi, will help students draft a workplan for each semester, offer assistance, answer questions throughout the year, and approve all written work before submission to the organization. Students will be required to give a copy of the presentation to the lawyer supervisor before presenting to the public, and if possible, the lawyer supervisor will attend the presentation.

Project 18-07: Advocates for MS

Project Type: Client Assistance

Organization: *Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada, BC & Yukon Division*

The MS Society of Canada provides support and services, including legal advocacy, for individuals living with or affected by Multiple Sclerosis or an MS Allied Disease. Their Volunteer Legal Advocacy Program (VLAP), partially funded by the Law Foundation of BC, assists individuals affected by Multiple Sclerosis with legal and/or advocacy issues. The program serves the entire province of BC and the Yukon.

Area of Law: Employment Law

Project Details: The student will assist clients with applications and appeals for Short and Long-Term Disability, Canada Pension Plan – Disability Benefit, Persons with Disabilities Benefits, and the Disability Tax Credit. The aim is to help the client make a strong application by illustrating how their situation matches the eligibility criteria for the benefit set out in the legislation, thereby increasing their chances of being approved. This work will involve interviewing clients living with MS and assisting the client with articulating their symptoms and functional limitations clearly and in detail, documenting the information in the client’s voice. Depending on the application, the focus may be on how the client’s MS leaves them unable to work or requiring assisting with activities of daily living. Additional work includes communicating with the client over email or phone to schedule appointments, as well as formatting the interview into an application form.

Required: 1 student. The student will need to be empathetic and comfortable discussing sensitive topics with clients, particularly in relation to their experiences with MS symptoms, which are often physical and cognitive. The student will need to be available to participate in training funded by the MS Society, on Saturday, October 13 in Vancouver. Preference will be given to a student interested in a multi-year commitment.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Students will have multiple points of supervision on this project. The VLAP Coordinator, Nyssa Lessingham, and retired lawyer, Marilyn Craig, will be initially reviewing all documents prepared by volunteers. These documents will be subject to a monthly review by the VLAP Coordinator's own supervising lawyers. Students will also be directly supervised by lawyer Daniel Glasner, who will be available to answer questions, review documents, and provide guidance.

Environmental Law

Project 18-08: Legal Research Volunteer

Project Type: Internship

Organization: West Coast Environmental Law

West Coast Environmental Law is a law firm that has worked with communities, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and all levels of government, including First Nations governments, to develop proactive legal solutions to protect and sustain the environment. They offer free legal advice and support to groups and individuals who are facing environmental problems, working with a diverse range of partners to develop strategies to protect land, air, water, and the climate.

Area of Law: Environmental Law

Project Details: The student will provide assistance related to West Coast Environmental Law program areas. This will include analysis in support of climate change compensation claims, and other legal research related to environmental protection and summary advice requests from members of the public facing an environmental problem. Assignments may include case summaries, noting up cases, legal analysis of fact-based issues, drafting access to information requests and reviewing results, legislative research, and drafting legal memoranda.

Required: 1 student.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Andrew Gage and Erica Stahl, staff lawyers at WCEL, will share the supervision of the student. They will provide orientation to WCEL, and directly supervise the assignments that they provide.

Family Law

Project 18-09: LiveHelp Project

Project Type: Clinical Project; Client Assistance

Organization: Legal Services Society of British Columbia

The Legal Services Society (LSS) is a non-profit organization created by the LSS Act in 1979 to provide legal information, advice, and representation services to people with low incomes.

Area of Law: Family Law

Project Details: LiveHelp is an instant messaging service that the LSS has added to their Family Law Website (FLWS) so clients can ask questions and receive legal information. Students involved in this project will provide remote online support to staff at LiveHelp and research support to update, revise, and continue to expand the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) information database.

Required: 4-5 students with 1 Volunteer Team Lead. Students are expected to be available for a regular time period each week agreed upon by the LSS and the students. Students must attend the project briefing and application training necessary to work on LiveHelp (this can be done remotely). Students must have access to a computer and internet connection for the times they would be working on the project.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Student volunteers will be supervised by Manjeet Chana, a lawyer for the Legal Services Society, who will provide on-the-task training, regular check-ins, and guidance on legal concepts, legislation, regulations, and best practices in family law matters as required.

Project 18-10: Working with the Ministry of Children and Family Development

Project Type: Public Legal Education

Organization: Bridges for Women Society

Bridges for Women Society provides employment training programs for self-identified women and members of the LGBTQ community with a history of trauma and abuse. They strive to support their clients in their efforts to reclaim their lives and build economic stability. Bridges draws on its extensive knowledge of the impacts of abuse on employability, to provide education, training, and consulting to community agencies, employers, and the government.

Area of Law: Family Law, Legislation

Project Details: The students will research the rights of women when engaging with the Ministry of Children and Family Development. The students will create a resource for Bridges to use with their clients. The resource will outline their clients' rights, as well as the avenues and advocacy tools available to them within the Ministry. The resource will pay particular attention

to child custody, changing social workers, housing etc., and outline step-by-step plans for women navigating the Ministry in these different scenarios.

Required: 1-2 students. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Students will be supervised directly by Aesha Faux, a lawyer and family law mediator, who will be available to help the students draft a workplan, guide research, and review student work.

Project 18-11: Breakwater Law Internship

Project Type: Internship

Organization: Breakwater Law

Area of Law: Family Law

Project Details: Breakwater Law has a strong commitment to pro bono lawyering and works on a number of pro bono files every year. The selected volunteer will be interning at Breakwater Law and exclusively helping on these files throughout the year. Most files will be in family law, but Breakwater Law is a general practice, so the intern will receive exposure to a wide array of practice areas. The majority of the work will be practical, both substantive and procedural, including client management, assisting with client interviews, finding referrals or programs for family clients (such as finding parenting programs), comparing assessors for 211 reports, finding cost information for programs, etc. There will likely be some research work, however this will generally be ancillary to practical, real-world problems that the student will be asked to help solve, with lots of mentorship. The student may also accompany the lawyer supervisor to court and may be asked to review various court rules and fill out basic court paperwork, with the active guidance and assistance of the supervising lawyer.

Required: 1 student, with awareness of the access to justice issues facing low-income individuals and a high degree of empathy. The student must be able to commit to a weekly 4-5 hour shift, most likely on Fridays but flexible. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Co-founder of Breakwater Law, Jo McFetridge, will be working one-on-one with the student volunteer at the firm during weekly scheduled shifts. The student will be assisting on the pro bono files that Jo McFetridge has taken charge of.

Project 18-12: Family Law Surrounding Intimate Partner Violence

Project Type: Public Legal Education

Organization: Victoria Women's Transition House Society

Victoria Women's Transition House Society strives to prevent and eliminate abuse through education, advocacy, and partnerships. It provides shelter, support, counselling, and education

to women of all ages, with or without children, so that they can live safe from the effects of abuse in intimate relationships. It also has a 24-hour Crisis Line for women seeking information or help in abusive situations.

Area of Law: Family Law

Project Details: The student(s) will research and write an information pamphlet on Family Law issues relevant to women fleeing intimate partner violence. Examples on pertinent issues include: custody and access, ex-parte, visitation, financial issues due to separation, ownership of property/joint property, etc. The pamphlet will be distributed to the clients of the Victoria Women's Transition House.

Required: 1-2 students. Coursework in Family Law is an asset and participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Samantha Rapoport, of BHM Law, will help students draft a workplan for each semester, offer assistance, answer questions throughout the year, and approve all written work before submission to the organization.

Health Law

Project 18-13: Health Care Policy in Provincial and Federal Prisons

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: [West Coast Prison Justice Society](#)

The West Coast Prison Justice Society is a team of legal advocates who strive to ensure that people in federal and provincial prisons across British Columbia are treated with dignity and that their rights are respected. They operate Prisoners' Legal Services, the only full legal aid clinic for prisoners in Canada, assisting with issues that affect prisoners' liberty rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, as well as their human rights and healthcare issues.

Area of Law: Health Law

Project Details: The student volunteer will research the issue of "dual loyalties" for health care providers working in prisons, including ethical rules on confidentiality and reporting when life or bodily harm is at risk. The student should review existing policies from other jurisdictions and draft a policy proposal to guide health care providers in federal and provincial prisons on this issue.

Required: 1 student. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Jen Metcalfe, from the West Coast Prison Justice Society, will help students draft a workplan for each semester, offer assistance, answer questions throughout the year, and approve all written work.

Housing and Tenancy Law

Project 18-14: Rent Control in Tenancy Law

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: [Together Against Poverty Society \(TAPS\)](#)

TAPS is a not-for-profit organization in Victoria providing free legal advocacy for people with income assistance, disability benefits, employment standards, and tenancy issues.

Area of Law: Property Law, Municipal Law, Poverty Law

Project Details: The student will produce a comprehensive memo on national and international systems of rent control. The research will then be integrated into the communications TAPS has with a provincial task force that is currently looking at ways to increase affordability of the rental housing market through changes to the Residential Tenancy Act.

Required: 1 student. Administrative Law and the ability to communicate and work with low-income and marginalized people in a sensitive and professional manner. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: The student will be supervised directly by lawyer, Lisa Cowan, who will be available to them in-person on a weekly basis. Lisa will answer student questions, and oversee and review student work.

Human Rights Law

Project 18-15: Civil Liberties Rights Watch Blog

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: [Canadian Civil Liberties Association \(CCLA\)](#)

The Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA) is a national organization with a mandate to promote respect for, and observance of, fundamental human rights and civil liberties, and to defend, extend, and foster recognition of those rights and liberties.

Area of Law: Human Rights Law

Project Details: There are three distinct aspects of the Rights Watch project:

- 1) Students' primary responsibility will be to monitor an assigned area (e.g. courts in Ontario; legislature in Quebec; US Supreme Court, etc.) in order to identify and analyze legislative and/or court developments related to civil liberties. Based on their research and analysis, the students will produce blog posts for the Rights Watch webpage.
- 2) CCLA will organize four civil liberties "intensives" over the course of the academic year — webinar sessions where the students can will learn about civil liberties issues and advocacy strategies from leading practitioners on different topics. Each session is

approximately one hour in length. Students are required to attend at least three of the four sessions over the course of the year. Efforts will be made to accommodate students' schedules.

- 3) In order to promote widespread understanding of and engagement with civil liberties issues in Canada, students will post to social media (i.e., twitter, Instagram, Facebook) about the monitoring, research and analysis they are doing. The original blog posts produced by the students will be promoted through social media and the students may engage with commenters. Students are requested to post to social media once or twice per week to contribute to dynamic and interactive engagement on right issues.

Required: 1 student who has a strong interest in civil liberties, current events, politics, and enjoys writing. The student should also be comfortable posting to social media once or twice a week.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: The project is operated by the PBSC National Office in partnership with the chapters and the CCLA. Cara Zwibel, Director of CCLA's Fundamental Freedoms Program, is the Lawyer Supervisor for the project.

Project 18-16: Transgender ID Clinic

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: Pro Bono Students Canada -UVic

Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) is a national organization with chapters in 22 law schools in Canada. PBSC's mandate is to provide early, practical legal experiences for law students, increase access to justice in our local communities, and expose students to the value of *pro bono* service, in the hopes they will make *pro bono* an everyday part of their legal practices.

Area of Law: Human Rights Law, Administrative Law

Project Details: PBSC-UVic would like to establish a Trans ID Clinic in Fall 2019 to provide legal assistance with identification applications for name changes, gender marker changes, and other related issues. Students from TRU and UVic will collaborate on establishing a framework for BC clinics, modelled after the clinic in Toronto organized by PBSC National. Primarily, students from both law schools will be working together to create a BC-wide Clinic Manual, although the UVic student will also be expected to research Victoria-specific requirements for the clinic and work on community outreach. For example, the student will establish connections with Victoria-based organizations working with the LGBTQ+ community. This will involve going to meetings, requesting feedback, and investigating possible groups/locations for the clinic.

Required: 1 student. LGBTQ2S-identified applicants will be prioritized in the selection process, as will applicants interested in working in the clinic as a PBSC volunteer in 2019-2020.

Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Gillian Calder, Associate Dean of Law, will supervise this project. Together with the PBSC Program Coordinators, she will assist the students in creating a work plan, guide research, offer feedback, and review all written materials produced by the students.

Project 18-17: Yukon Human Rights Commission Research Support

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: Yukon Human Rights Commission

The Yukon Human Rights Commission promotes equality and diversity through research, education, and enforcement of the Yukon Human Rights Act.

Area of Law: Human Rights Law

Project Details: Students will work in support of active systemic human rights litigation, complaint settlement and investigations, and public legal education. Each student will be assigned a series of discrete research projects (with a 4-6 week turnaround) on a variety of areas relevant to the work of the Commission. Students can work in pairs where appropriate. Emphasis will be on substantive knowledge, case searches, and draft memoranda. The student will have to commit to a pre-set schedule of meetings that has been established in advance.

Required: 2 Students. Preference will be given to upper years or first years coming to law school with graduate training and/or substantive knowledge in areas relevant to the Commission, such as: human rights law, diversity and inclusion, Indigenous issues and the law, northern issues, prison law, and human rights issues related to corrections and separate confinement. Lived experience relevant to the work of the Commission will also be an asset.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: The Director of the Commission will be acting as the Lawyer Supervisor for this project.

Project 18-18: Legal Issues Impacting Indigenous Peoples Living with Disabilities

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society

Area of Law: Human Rights Law, Indigenous Law, Health Law

Project Details: BCANDS has a number of research projects that students could take on, giving them the opportunity to pick a topic tailored to their interests. Proposed areas of research include: a summary document that examines the compliance of Canada as it relates to the various United Nations' conventions affecting Indigenous persons living with disabilities; a policy review of the proposed Bill C-81 "Accessible Canada Act" and how it will impact Indigenous communities; a review of the inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women through a lens that investigates the impact disabilities may have had on these women's lives; or a report canvassing provincial governments across Canada to determine what is being offered

for Indigenous peoples with intellectual developmental disabilities. This should focus on what support and funding is available for First Nations peoples living on reserve.

Required: 1-3 students. Preference will be given to Indigenous applicants (self-identified).

Alternatively, applicants with substantial experience with Indigenous communities is an asset. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Robert McDonell, partner at Farris, will be supervising the students, offering assistance, answering questions throughout the year, and approving all written work before submission to the organization.

Indigenous Law

Project 18-19: Indigenous Law Public Outreach Web Initiative

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: Indigenous Legal Research Unit (ILRU)

The Indigenous Legal Research Unit is a research unit at the University of Victoria's Faculty of Law committed to the recovery and renaissance of Indigenous Law. They partner with and support work by Indigenous peoples and communities to ascertain and articulate their own legal principles and processes, in order to effectively respond to today's complex challenges.

Area of Law: Indigenous Law

Project Details: This is an outreach project for prospective community partners of ILRU as well as the general public. Students will create a series of innovative and engaging plain language resources for the ILRU website. These resources will be aimed at enhancing public legal education of Indigenous Law and communicating the work that ILRU engages in and how it is carried out. Students will be enhancing and expanding upon existing materials, as well as developing new ones. These materials may take the form of Prezi presentations, Doodle casts, brochures etc., and students are encouraged to be creative when developing new ways to convey information.

Required: 2 students who have familiarity with Indigenous Law and the work of ILRU.

Preference will be given to students who took the Indigenous Law Research Intensive, and/or who have experience with Indigenous law research methodology. Preference will also be given to Indigenous applicants (self-identified) and/or applicants with substantial experience with Indigenous communities. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Students will be supervised by Jessica Asch, a lawyer and the Research Director at ILRU.

Project 18-20: Mapping the Post-Colonial Development of Indigenous Law

Project Type: Public Legal Education

Organization: **RAVEN (Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs)**

Governments and wealthy corporations expend seemingly endless resources to hire large teams of lawyers and experts to defend their interests in settler courts. Many Indigenous groups face severe economic disadvantages when they challenge “big oil,” mining or other industrial interests. RAVEN Trust aims to redress this disadvantage by raising legal defence funds to assist Indigenous groups in their struggle to protect their rights, land, and ultimately their way of life. The organization is also committed to assisting Indigenous groups by developing and delivering education to advance knowledge and understanding of available legal rights and remedies.

Area of Law: Indigenous Law, Constitutional Law

Project Details: RAVEN Trust is in the process of developing educational materials about Indigenous Law that will be shared through their website for public use. Building on a previous legal primer on Aboriginal Rights (*Recognizing Rights: Aboriginal Justice in Canada*), that PBSC students contributed to, the volunteers will research and develop plain language materials that will provide data for the creation of an interactive timeline of key cases and legal decisions pertaining to Indigenous Law. Students will be in charge of establishing and categorizing key cases, writing summaries, and building a timeline showing their progression and interconnectedness. The data will create the wire-frame from which the interactive map will be designed.

Required: 2-3 students. Knowledge of Indigenous Law and computer design skills are an asset. Preference will be given to Indigenous applicants (self-identified) and/or applicants with substantial experience with Indigenous communities. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Christopher Devlin from DGW Law, a Victoria-based law firm focused on Indigenous Law, will be overseeing student work and reviewing submissions to the organization.

Poverty Law

Project 18-21: The ID Project: ID Access for the Homeless and Marginally Housed

Project Type: Clinical Project, Client Assistance

Organization: [Constituency Office of Carole James and the Downtown Service Providers Committee](#)

This project is a collaboration between PBSC, the Constituency Office of Carole James, and members of the Downtown Service Providers Committee (Our Place Society, Together Against Poverty Society, Greater Victoria Public Library, and the Victoria Cool Aid Society).

Area of Law: Poverty Law, Access to Justice

Project Details: Possessing photo identification is a necessity of modern day life. However, getting and keeping identification documents is a major challenge for many who are homeless or marginally housed. Although losing identification documents is only an inconvenience for some, for others this loss can mean denial of access to vital services, such as community services and programs. This barrier can create a domino effect that makes it increasingly difficult to address the conditions that lead to homelessness.

The ID Project is designed to address this challenge. Twice monthly, a lawyer, along with 2 students from PBSC will host a three-hour ID Clinic, alternating between Our Place Society and the GVPL – Central Branch. PBSC students will speak to clients, informing them of the program, and will help fill out applicable forms under the supervision of the lawyer. Following the clinic, students will return to TAPS and be responsible for finishing paperwork, submitting applications, and file management. Files should be ready for mail-out when handed over to TAPS. The post-clinic administrative work is typically a 2-hour commitment.

In addition to working at the clinic, students will spend time (2-3 hours) during the alternating weeks at TAPS on tasks related to running and building the clinic, including: application submission, file management, developing training materials, researching fee waiver options, and exploring grants and expansion options for the project. One student will be in charge of this on a weekly basis, and report directly to TAPS rather than attending clinics.

Required: 3 students. Experience in a clinic setting and with client intake/interviewing is an asset, as is experience working with marginalized communities. Students placed on the project must attend all regular shifts on Fridays; from 10am -3 pm on clinic weeks, and 10am – 1 pm on administrative weeks. Preference will be given to students interested in a multi-year commitment and participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Eric Pedersen, a lawyer with Velletta & Company, will be supervising the ID Clinics at the GVPL, while Lisa Cowan will be supervising those held at Our Place.

Project 18-22: Non-Traditional Living and the Criminalization of Homelessness

Project Type: Public Legal Education

Organization: Ready to Rent BC

Ready to Rent BC was founded by a group of citizens and service-related agencies in the Victoria region that came together to find solutions for unstably housed and homeless families. Through education, they aim to increase housing stability, assist people to find and/or maintain housing, and reduce conflict, damages, and evictions.

Area of Law: Poverty Law, Criminal Law, Municipal Law, Housing and Tenancy Law

Project Details: Students will create two public legal education resources for Ready to Rent BC. The resources, in the form of pamphlets, will investigate the rights of individuals who have been pushed out of normative housing and living situations due to socio-economic factors. The pamphlets will be distributed to clients and placed at various locations in Victoria. The first pamphlet will investigate squatters' rights, paying particular attention to the rights of individuals who are living in tents, vans, trailers, or campers in cities. It will consider relevant bylaws and the rights of neighbourhoods to ask for the removal of these vehicles. The second pamphlet will address the criminalization of homelessness. It will investigate by-laws that affect people who live on the street. In particular, it will discuss the legal rights of homeless people and the way in which by-laws infringe those rights.

Required: 2-3 students. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Emily Baillie, a lawyer at Cox Taylor, has supervised projects for Ready to Rent and PBSC in previous years. Emily will assist the students in creating a work plan, guide research, offer feedback, and review all written materials produced by the students.

Project 18-23: Homelessness Prevention Legislation

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: Ready to Rent BC

Ready to Rent BC was founded by a group of citizens and service-related agencies in the Victoria region that came together to find solutions for unstably housed and homeless families. Through education, they aim to increase housing stability, assist people to find and/or maintain housing, and reduce conflict, damages, and evictions.

Area of Law: Poverty Law, Housing and Tenancy Law, Constitutional Law

Project Details: Duty to prevent legislation, recently enacted in Wales, puts a duty on the government to prevent homelessness. Students will review 'duty to prevent' legislation with regard to housing in different jurisdictions. They will produce a memo that describes where 'duty to prevent' legislation is currently used and how, and propose a way that it could be integrated effectively in Canada. This will involve a consideration of Canada's constitutional

structure: would this duty most effectively rest on municipal, provincial, or federal governmental bodies?

Required: 2 students. Participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Emily Baillie, a lawyer at Cox Taylor, has supervised projects for Ready to Rent and PBSC in previous years. Emily will assist the students in creating a work plan, guide research, offer feedback, and review all written materials produced by the students.

Privacy Law

Project 18-24: Privacy and Information Sharing in Restorative Justice

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: Restorative Justice Victoria

Restorative Justice Victoria is a non-profit, community-based organization, seeking to address the harms caused by crime and violence. Their services can be used as a diversion from, or in conjunction with, the settler justice system.

Area of Law: Privacy Law

Project Details: Clients expect confidentiality, but in the restorative justice process, there are instances where that information may be shared. Students will investigate the circumstances under which Restorative Justice Victoria is able to (or required to) share this information, and the responsibility they have to make clients aware of these circumstances. The students will prepare a comprehensive report outlining how information-sharing practices and privacy laws affect their organization. The memo will address: legal responsibilities surrounding record-keeping; whether documents, such as emails, notes, files, victim-offender agreements, can be subpoenaed by a court; methods available to protect confidential information from being used in court; and legal responsibilities and best practices surrounding client awareness of the risks associated with disclosing confidential information. Students should consider relevant provincial and federal legislation, as well as any case law where records or staff from a restorative justice institute have been compelled by a court.

Required: 1 upper-year student (3rd year) with Evidence to act as a Team Lead for the project; and 2 students (any year).

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Chris Considine, from Considine & Company, will assist the students in creating a work plan, guide research, offer feedback, and review all written materials produced by the students.

Property Law

Project 18-25: Interpretation and Implications of Charges on Title of Covenant Lands

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: [Habitat Acquisition Trust \(HAT\)](#)

The Habitat Acquisition Trust is a local land trust that serves to protect and conserve natural habitats on south Vancouver Island and the southern Gulf Islands. They seek to increase the amount of protected areas by acquiring land titles and helping landowners establish permanent legal restrictions through conservation covenants.

Area of Law: Property Law, Environmental Law

Project Details: When registering a conservation covenant, there are often numerous other pre-existing charges on the title such as easements, utility rights-of-way, other covenants, or priority agreements, that may have an impact on the integrity of HAT's conservation covenants on the property. The student will prepare a legal memo researching how existing charges on titles may impact conservation covenants. The memo should be a plain language resource that HAT can use when assessing some of their existing conservation covenants.

Required: 1 student with Property Law.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Bruce Hallsor, Q.C., is a managing partner of Crease Harman and will be closely supervising student work. He will be helping the students create a workplan, providing research support, offering feedback, and reviewing all student work before it is submitted to the organization.

Project 18-26: Representation Agreements and Related Systems for People with Disabilities

Project Type: Public Legal Education

Organization: [Victoria Disability Resource Centre](#)

The Victoria Disability Resource Centre (VDRC) is a cross-disability, grassroots, not-for-profit organization run by and for persons with disabilities. They work closely with people who have a disability and with other community organizations to find and remove barriers that prevent full participation in life.

Area of Law: Property Law

Project Details: Student(s) will research Representation Agreements, Enduring Powers of Attorney, and Advance Health Care Directives (and related 'living wills'), with an interest in the differences between these arrangements, the types of authority they can confer, how they come into effect, and how they affect an individual. Students will also look into how trust

arrangements can affect individuals receiving Disability Assistance and who have Registered Disability Savings Plans. In particular, students will investigate whether trusts pose a possible solution for individuals who are rendered ineligible to receive Disability Assistance once they report their income. The student research will be integrated into plain language information sheets/booklets. Additionally, the student(s) will give a presentation to VDRC staff and a public information seminar on the above topics.

Required: 1-2 students. Wills and Estates and Property Law are an asset. Students with disabilities are encouraged to apply and participation in the PBSC Anti-Oppression Training is required.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Carla Bekkering, from Swadden & Company, will supervise the project and student work, as well as attend both presentations. Carla will provide research support, offer feedback, and review all student work before it is presented.

Tort Law

Project 18-27: Cassels Brock Pro Bono File Assistance

Project Type: Legal Research

Organization: Cassels Brock

Area of Law: Civil Law

Project Details: The PBSC volunteer will work directly with associate lawyer Matthew Nied from Cassels Brock and assist with a major pro bono file. This will be a Court of Appeal file, most likely with a focus on civil litigation. The student will develop practical legal and analytical skills while gaining valuable experience in legal research and drafting. The student will have the opportunity to conduct research for the file, draft the factum, and attend the hearing with Counsel in Vancouver.

Required: 1 student. Preference will be given to an upper-year with an interest in civil litigation.

Lawyer Supervisor Plan: Matthew Nied, from Cassels Brock, will be working one-on-one with the student volunteer and establishing the work that needs to be done on the file, providing guidance and feedback, and reviewing all student work.

Chapter Executive Positions

Community Building Coordinator

The community building officer is responsible for organizing at least two community building events. In addition, this coordinator is responsible for reaching out to and providing support mechanisms for our volunteers, and fostering a sense of PBSC community. In 2017-2018, this

volunteer helped organize a holiday party, volunteer appreciation event, and the annual PBSC Community Building Event.

Research Assistants

The Research Assistants offer research support to PBSC project volunteers on an as-needed basis throughout the year. Research Assistants will be expected to check-in on all projects and volunteers on a monthly basis. During this check-in they should offer support, identify areas of difficulty that have arisen, and point students to resources. In some cases, this may involve conducting research for projects that have developed in scope. The Research Assistant will provide the Program Coordinators with a summary report of each monthly check-in and identify any areas that they believe require Program Coordinator intervention.

Volunteer Team Leads

Volunteer Team Leads are selected to coordinate our larger placements (three or more students) and allow for more effective scheduling and delegation. They also enhance communication by serving as the primary liaison between the student volunteer group and the organizational contact, the lawyer supervisor, and the program coordinators. Team Leads take a key role in preparing the work plan for the year, ensuring other volunteers are on track and troubleshooting any issues that arise throughout the year.