



# BRITISH COLUMBIA LAW INSTITUTE

1822 East Mall, University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, British Columbia V6T 1Z1  
Voice: (604) 822 0142 Fax: (604) 822 0144 E-mail: [bcli@bcli.org](mailto:bcli@bcli.org)  
Website: [www.bcli.org](http://www.bcli.org)

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **B.C. LAW INSTITUTE WELCOMES PASSAGE OF *WILLS, ESTATES AND SUCCESSION ACT***

The B.C. Law Institute (BCLI) welcomed the passage today of the *Wills, Estates and Succession Act* by the B.C. Legislative Assembly. The omnibus reform Act is largely based on BCLI's 2006 report *Wills, Estates and Succession: A Modern Legal Framework*.

Bill 4 will consolidate and modernize the *Wills Act*, the *Estate Administration Act*, the *Probate Recognition Act*, and several other provincial Acts dealing with the passage of property on death.

"We are very pleased to see the passage of this new legislation. It is abundantly clear that most of our recommendations were accepted by the government" said Ron Skolrood, Chair of the Board of Directors of BCLI.

The report resulted from the BCLI Succession Law Reform Project, a three-year study supported by the Ministry of Attorney General. "Some of British Columbia's top wills and estate practitioners made valuable contributions to the project," said Jim Emmerton, BCLI executive director. "Twenty-nine volunteer project members attended over 100 committee meetings dedicated to modernizing this important area of law."

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Contact: Jim Emmerton or Greg Blue  
British Columbia Law Institute  
(604) 822-0142