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COMMERCIAL TENANCY ACT REFORM PROJECT

Media Release

BCLI Recommends a New Commercial Tenancy Act

for immediate release

Vancouver, 25 November 2009—In a report published today, the British Columbia Law Institute calls for the enactment of a new *Commercial Tenancy Act*. The new act would replace British Columbia's existing *Commercial Tenancy Act*, an outdated statute that has only been sparingly amended since its appearance in the nineteenth century.

"The current *Commercial Tenancy Act* does not serve the needs of the commercial leasing sector," said Ron Skolrood, chair of the BCLI's board of directors. "We encourage the provincial government to implement these much-needed reforms."

The report contains a draft of the new *Commercial Tenancy Act*. Its reforms focus on areas of pressing concern, such as implied provisions in leases, the landlord's consent to an assignment or sublease, the bankruptcy of a tenant, and the application of contractual rules to leases. The report is the culmination of a two-year project carried out by an all-volunteer committee and extensive public consultation.

The full text of the report and a backgrounder are available on the BCLI website (www.bcli.org/bclrg/projects/commercial-tenancy-act-reform-project). The *Commercial Tenancy Act* Reform Project has been made possible by grants from the Notary Foundation of British Columbia and the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia.

The British Columbia Law Institute strives to be a leader in law reform by carrying out the best in scholarly law reform research and writing and the best in outreach relating to law reform.

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