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## WORKPLACE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROJECT

### Media Release

### BCLI Publishes Report on the Workplace Dispute Resolution Project

*for immediate release*

**Vancouver, 1 November 2010**—The British Columbia Law Institute (BCLI) has published its Report on workplace dispute resolution mechanisms in British Columbia.

In May 2010 the Ministry of Labour asked the BCLI to conduct a short, focused, comparative legal research project on workplace dispute resolution. The BCLI report involved an international review of existing legal frameworks for resolving workplace conflicts arising out of unionized and non-unionized working environments and including discrimination in the workplace.

As part of this research the BCLI conducted a concentrated, though broadly-based consultation, involving stakeholders identified in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry for the Attorney General and the BCLI.

The purpose of the comparative research and the stakeholder consultation was to evaluate a new model for workplace dispute resolution put forward by the Ministry of Labour, highlight the strengths and weaknesses of various alternative approaches explored in other countries, and identify current concerns with existing processes for resolving workplace conflict in BC.

“The project benefited greatly from stakeholders from all sectors who participated and provided thoughtful, comprehensive comments, even though the short time frame of the reference to the BCLI permitted limited preparation,” says BCLI Executive Director Jim Emmerton. “Labour, employment and human rights are complex and dynamic intersecting areas of law. This comparative research and consultation feedback will assist the government in identifying next steps for BC.”

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The findings of the BCLI and the full Report of the Workplace Dispute Resolution Project are available online at <http://www.bcli.org/bclrg/projects/workplace-dispute-resolution-project>.

The BCLI is an independent charitable not-for-profit law reform agency that carries out scholarly research, writing and analysis for the purposes of promoting law reform. The BCLI collaborates with government and other key stakeholders to further law reform, and produces materials for public legal information. The vision of the BCLI is one with just and efficient laws and a legal system that serves the continually changing needs of society.

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