



# BRITISH COLUMBIA LAW INSTITUTE

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## Media Release

### BCLI Issues Consultation Paper on the Builders Lien Act

*for immediate release*

**Vancouver, 27 September 2019** — The British Columbia Law Institute (BCLI) released a consultation paper on reform of the *Builders Lien Act* today. BCLI is seeking reaction from stakeholders to detailed proposals for changes to the Act. BCLI wishes to hear from all sectors of the construction industry, property owners, building material suppliers, developers, financial institutions, bond providers, engineers and architects, labour organizations, the construction law Bar and all other stakeholders.

BCLI launched the Builders Lien Act Reform Project in response to an invitation from the Ministry of Attorney General to undertake a comprehensive review of the *Builders Lien Act*.

“The current version of the *Builders Lien Act* has been in force now for more than 20 years. After that length of time, an overhaul of an important statute like this is timely and appropriate,” said David McKenzie, Chair of the BCLI Builders Lien Act Reform Project Committee.

The *Builders Lien Act* is a major cornerstone of construction law. It gives contractors, material suppliers, and workers several forms of security for payment for work done or materials supplied to a building site, most notably a lien on the owner’s land. The Act also lets building owners limit their exposure to claims by unpaid subcontractors and workers by maintaining a mandatory 10 per cent holdback.

The *Consultation Paper on the Builders Lien Act* contains 80 tentative recommendations for changes to the Act that were developed by BCLI’s Builders Lien Act Reform Project Committee. BCLI is asking stakeholders to comment on the specific proposals, but also inviting them to raise additional concerns with the Act and its application.

BCLI is requesting responses to the consultation paper on or before 15 January 2020. The feedback will be taken into account in arriving at final recommendations to be published in a later report. Responses can be provided by e-mail, regular mail, fax or online.

The consultation paper may be downloaded at <https://www.bcli.org/project/builders-lien-reform-project>.

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