

**BRITISH COLUMBIA LAW INSTITUTE &  
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR ELDER LAW**



**annual report 2010**



# REPORT OF THE CHAIR

**A**fter a year of significant challenges, the British Columbia Law Institute (BCLI) has achieved successes and renewal in 2010, which hold great promise for the future.

In 2010, Ron Skolrood completed three years as Chair of BCLI having led us to growth and successes. On behalf of the Board, I express our appreciation for Ron's many contributions including improving our positive relationships with government and other key stakeholders and supporting innovations such as the GREATdebate.

BCLI and the Canadian Centre for Elder Law (CCEL) continue to expand their activities in their core areas of legal research, law reform and education. Key government and non-government relationships in British Columbia and in other jurisdictions are strengthened. For the first time, CCEL held the Canadian / International Conference on Elder Law outside Vancouver, co-hosted in Toronto with the Advocacy Centre for the Elderly and the Law Commission of Ontario. The very successful third annual GREATdebate again confirmed the merits of meeting with members of the BC Bar and Judiciary in a relaxed, fun-filled occasion. The fourth annual GREATdebate will be held October 26, 2011.

In 2010, we amended the bylaws to add a new

board position filled by an appointment of the Society of Notaries of British Columbia. Richard Evans, a notary who was involved with BCLI in the succession law reform project, has joined the BCLI Board. Lisa Peters, Partner of Lawson Lundell LLP and Stanley Rule, who practices in Kelowna BC, have also become new board members.

In January 2011, Laura Watts, National Director of CCEL, left BCLI to take up a new position as the CEO of SEDI in Toronto. Laura was very influential in building a national and international reputation for CCEL. We wish Laura every success in her new role with SEDI.

Krista James has been appointed as the National Director, CCEL and Staff Lawyer. Krista has been with us since 2007 and has a strong reputation for excellence in law reform activities. We have also hired Emma J. Butt as Staff Lawyer to work both in elder law and general law reform. Emma completed the public interest articling program with BCLI and Boughton Law Corporation before joining Boughton Law Corporation as an associate. Emma's experience is an excellent example of the great success of the Law Foundation of BC's ongoing public interest articling program, designed to support new lawyers with an interest in the public interest practice of law.

As the new Chair, I am looking forward to

continuing to support our ongoing successful projects and new opportunities. In November 2010, BCLI collaborated with CLE BC to co-host, for the first time, the CLE program introducing the new *Wills, Estates & Succession Act* (WESA) which is based substantially on the BCLI report *Wills, Estates and Succession: A Modern Legal Framework*. The CLE program was a big success. CLE BC and BCLI will collaborate to develop and deliver other programs that significantly benefit the profession.

We are continuing work on important legal research and law reform initiatives in assisted living, real property, contracts, financial literacy for older adults and issues relating to the new WESA. In addition, we are developing new projects to update and improve the law relating to mental capacity, financial literacy for older adults and human rights issues.

We rely heavily on others and gratefully acknowledge the exceptional contributions made by the many volunteers including Board members, Judicial Liaisons and scores of justices, lawyers and non-lawyers who provide subject-matter expertise and their time on our law reform advisory committees, project committees and in other activities. Sincere thanks to all.

Our staff team of five lawyers, an articling student, office manager and legal research assistants bring great experience, dedication

and energy to our activities. Thanks to all of the staff for continued exceptional work.

BCLI is supported by several key financial stakeholders. During 2010 and continuing this year, The Law Foundation of BC and Ministry of Attorney General, BC are providing substantial operating support and have provided essential funding for project and outreach initiatives. The Notary Foundation of BC, the

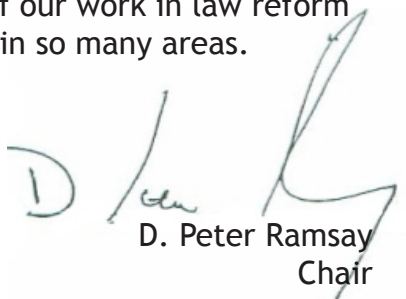
Real Estate Foundation of BC, Public Health Agency of Canada, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, Ministry of Labour BC, Boughton Law Corporation, and Lawson Lundell LLP have also provided project funding. Organizations such as UBC Law, UVic Law, Stetson Law, and many law

firms and individuals have contributed either directly or through support of activities such as the successful Canadian Conference on Elder Law, the GREATdebate or participation in BCLI committees.

BCLI thanks all of you for your generous and continuing support of our work in law reform and public outreach in so many areas.

**“BCLI’s collaboration with CLE BC on their *Wills, Estates & Succession Act* program underscores two BCLI achievements this year: a new collaborative relationship and government implementation of BCLI work.”**

*Peter Ramsay, Q.C.*



D. Peter Ramsay  
Chair

# REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**B**CLI's independent law reform work continues to make significant contributions in British Columbia and beyond. Independent, reputable law reform work is important and needed for three principal reasons:

1. We work to improve laws to benefit everyone on a continuing basis;
2. We provide unique assistance to government in developing new policies and laws; and
3. We carry out law reform work very efficiently and cost-effectively.

## 1. We work to improve laws to benefit everyone on a continuing basis

Citizens often assume that governments continuously direct their energies and focus to improving the laws. While this may be true in a broad general sense in democratic countries, government law reform processes often become stalled for a number of reasons:

- Fiscal constraints cause delays and deferrals of government law reform work;
- Of necessity, governments must manage a multitude of issues making it impractical to focus on all law reform needs all the time. Some law reform needs arise too quickly for governments to respond;

other law reform needs develop subtly and can escape government notice and attention; and

- Governments can be distracted from law reform work by leadership changes, changes in government, election periods and fiscal crises.

The BC law reform process in the wills, estates and succession area is an excellent example of continuing attention to needed law reforms provided by independent law reform work. The need for law reform in the wills, estates and succession area evolved over time as social and practice needs gradually supported a major revision. From 2003 to 2006 BCLI carried out a large project culminating in the 2006 BCLI report *Wills, Estates and Succession: A Modern Legal Framework*. That project involved over 100 meetings of volunteer committees of experts to develop the comprehensive Report on which the new Act is based. As the British Columbia government is currently implementing the significant changes, BCLI has continued to provide consistent law reform work in WESA by preparing a report on new Probate Rules needed to support the new Act.

BCLI is unfettered by the complex distractions impacting government and can provide the consistent dedication required in a complex

area such as wills, estates and succession reform. We maintain continuous focus on the social, demographic and other changes that suggest need for reforms - the continuous focus hoped for and expected by the public.

### 2. We provide unique assistance to government in developing new policies and laws

For many reasons, such as perceived political bias or economic constraints, it can be difficult for government to carry out the detailed research, analysis or consultation needed to inform the development of new policies and laws. An independent law reform agency such as BCLI can carry out the professional, non-partisan research, analysis and consultation needed to provide government with the best objective recommendations for improving the law.

BCLI's law reform work on wills, estates and succession law again provides a good illustration. BCLI addressed this large area of law by forming a project committee with five sub-committees to complete the project. With this approach 29 experts in succession law dedicated several years to bring the best-available review and analysis to the reform work. This invaluable work provided the assurance to government that the new recommended policies and laws:

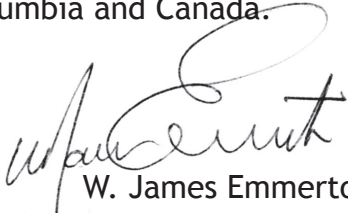
- were generated by the best expertise available;
- have broad public input and support; and
- were non-partisan and non-political.

### 3. We work very efficiently and cost-effectively

The legal research, analysis, writing and consultation involved in law reform work are expensive for governments to undertake. Because law reform work is often protracted and viewed as non-urgent, and since resources are scarce, governments may choose to direct funding to other areas perceived to be more urgent.

An independent law reform agency, such as BCLI, provides an exceptionally efficient means to carry out law reform work. The BCLI Board of Directors and our many law reform project committee members are volunteers. We estimate that the value of volunteers to BCLI approximates \$1.5 million annually, well in excess of our total annual budget. In addition, BCLI's salary and premises costs are very low by any comparison. Our few, experienced and dedicated law reform professionals provide the best in professionalism, dedication and efficiency.

We never take our role for granted. We most appreciate the support we receive from government, funders and volunteers. With this formula our independent, professional, non-partisan law reform work continues to be an important contributor to improving the justice system of British Columbia and Canada.



W. James Emmerton  
Executive Director

# REPORT OF THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

**W**hat is elder law? In some ways the best way to understand the practice is in terms of what it is not.

First, there is no single distinct statute that impacts on older adults; rather, consideration of how the law affects older people and how laws can be changed to become more responsive implicates criminal law, health legislation, adult guardianship and mental capacity law, pensions, tax policy, wills and estates, and many other areas of law. It is impossible to be a leader in elder law without collaborating and consulting with practitioners from diverse areas of law, within Canada and beyond. It is our relationships that make us stronger.

Second, law reform to improve the lives of older adults requires consideration not only of how the law impacts the older person, but also broader investigation into how the law impacts the adult within her or his community. This research requires attention to the relationships that are important to older adults and the impacts on people who support older adults to live fulfilling lives. Our 2010 study paper on volunteer family caregivers illustrates the far-reaching scope of elder law.

Third, elder law demands considering aging from a life course perspective. The circumstances of older adults reveal the cumulative impact of legislation and policy throughout our lives, along a continuum from birth to advanced age and, inevitably, death. Elder law involves considering how the law affects a person before he or she is aged. Pensions policy and the high rate of poverty amongst older women demonstrate this phenomenon, and our recent concentration on financial literacy reflects this life course approach.

**“Collaboration is essential to CCEL practice: our relationships make us stronger.”**

*Krista James*

Fourth, elder law is not a purely “legal” focal point. A thorough investigation of an area of law in terms of the experience of older adults is an interdisciplinary exercise. Our volunteer project committees and consultants have included participants from medicine, banking, gerontology, social work and mediation. For example, the current Assisted Living Project Committee contains a mix of experts on housing, health care and older adults, and only two committee members are lawyers with a traditional client-based practice. Collectively, this committee provides rich insights into assisted living and community care that would be inaccessible to us through traditional legal

research sources alone.

Increasingly the CCEL is creating tools for a sophisticated but non-legal audience, requiring us to work more and more with diverse disciplines. The Counterpoint Project, which involved reviewing elder abuse and neglect jurisprudence to create a series of educational tools for health care and social service practitioners, offered us the opportunity to hear from leaders in nursing, social work and medicine, providing us with new perspectives on law and policy. French and English versions of the Counterpoint Project tools will be available online later this year.

This brings me to an exciting new area of collaboration. The CCEL is working with French speaking stakeholders, making our services increasingly accessible and relevant to Francophone communities. The CCEL is a national organization and so this transition is imperative. CCEL staff are bilingual. We always appreciate your suggestions for directions to explore in research, writing, education and law reform as they relate to older adults, and we welcome your comments in English and French.

Practice happens outside the context of specific projects. CCEL staff are members of multiple cross-disciplinary committees and organizations that explore issues that affect older adults, such as the BC Adult Abuse and Neglect Prevention Collaborative, the Inter-

national Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, and the National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly. These memberships help us to maintain an awareness of legal issues that impact older adults.

Finally, on a more personal note, outgoing National Director Laura Watts has been a key collaborator in, and shaper of, my own elder law practice over the last few years, and I will miss her creative energy. Laura was an inspiring leader. Today I look forward to a new productive partnership with the recently

hired CCEL staff lawyer, Emma J. Butt, and I am thrilled about this opportunity to guide the CCEL onto new and exciting projects. Change can be challenging. Fortunately, this institution is built around the strengths of so many visionary collaborators. This capacity will see the CCEL move along its own life course and evolve into a new era. In 2011, we look forward to continuing allegiances, increasing collaboration and dialogue across discipline, and we thank you all for your contributions to our practice in 2010.

**“CCEL is a national bilingual organization. This year we began publishing some of our materials on elder abuse in French.”**

*Krista James*



Krista James  
National Director  
Canadian Centre for Elder Law

# CURRENT MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS OF BCLI

Name	Appointed By	Since	Most Recent	Term Expiry
Prof. Joost Blom, Q.C.	At large	12/05/2007	12/05/2007	12/04/2012
Dean Mary Anne Bobinski	University of British Columbia, Faculty of Law	04/01/2010	04/01/2010	03/31/2012
Arthur Close, Q.C.	At large	01/06/1997	01/06/1997	01/05/2012
R. C. (“Tino”) Di Bella	Canadian Bar Association, B.C. Branch	04/01/2008	04/01/2011	03/31/2014
Christine Elliott	Canadian Bar Association, B.C. Branch	09/01/2010	09/01/2010	08/31/2013
Richard Evans	Society of Notaries Public, B.C.	08/01/2010	08/01/2010	07/31/2013
Prof. Robert Howell	University of Victoria, Faculty of Law	09/01/2008	09/01/2008	08/31/2013
Fiona Hunter	The Law Society of British Columbia	05/01/2009	05/01/2009	04/30/2012
Lisa Peters	At large	10/04/2010	10/04/2010	10/03/2013
Geoff Plant, Q.C.	Attorney General of British Columbia	02/07/2008	02/07/2011	02/07/2014
Peter Ramsay, Q.C.	The Law Society of British Columbia	06/06/2002	04/01/2010	03/31/2013
Andrea Rolls	At large	04/01/2010	04/01/2010	03/31/2013
Stanley Rule	At large	10/04/2010	10/04/2010	10/03/2013
Gregory Steele, Q.C.	At large	01/06/1997	01/06/2007	01/05/2012
Vacancy	<i>Attorney General of British Columbia</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A

The reference to “At large” in the above table indicates the 6 members/directors who are appointed by the 9 ‘institution-appointed’ members. Traditionally, one “At large” member/director has been a non-lawyer, currently Andrea Rolls.



## BOARD COMMITTEES AND STAFF

**Executive Committee** - meets as required and has the full power of the Board of Directors, except for the approval of commitments over \$ 75,000 or matters delegated to another Committee of the Board.

Members include Peter Ramsay, Q.C., Prof. Joost Blom, Q.C., R.C. (Tino) Di Bella, Geoff Plant, Q.C., Gregory Steele, Q.C., and Jim Emmerton (ex officio).

**Audit, Finance & Risk Committee** - meets at least four times per year and assists the Board of Directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibility relating to financial, accounting and risk matters.

Members include Greg Steele, Q.C. (Chair), R.C. (Tino) Di Bella, Richard Evans, Fiona Hunter, Lisa Peters, and Stanley Rule.

**Program Committee** - meets at least twice per year and assists the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibilities relating to the development and approval of law reform

projects and public education and outreach projects.

Members include Prof. Joost Blom, Q.C. (Chair), Dean Mary Anne Bobinski, Arthur Close, Q.C., Christine Elliott, and Prof. Robert Howell.

**Nominating Committee** - meets at least once per year and assists the Board of Directors relating to the appointment of members, officers and committee members.

Members include Prof. Joost Blom, Q.C., Arthur Close, Q.C., Fiona Hunter, D. Peter Ramsay, Q.C. and Andrea Rolls.

BCLI has three Judicial Liaisons:

- Honourable Madam Justice Mary Newbury, Court of Appeal of B.C.
- Honourable Madam Justice Lynn Smith, Supreme Court of B.C.
- Honourable Judge Gurmail Gill, Provincial Court of B.C.

Below is a summary of the current staff.

<b>Executive Director</b> Jim Emmerton	<b>National Director, CCEL / Staff Lawyer</b> Krista James
<b>Senior Staff Lawyer</b> Greg Blue, Q.C.	<b>Staff Lawyer &amp; Secretary</b> Kevin Zakreski
<b>Staff Lawyer</b> Emma J. Butt	<b>Office Manager</b> Elizabeth Pinsent
<b>Public Interest Articling Student</b> Heather Lynne Campbell to May 2011 Kisa Macdonald to May 2012	<b>Research Students / Lawyers</b> Alex Blondin Kristine Chew Andrew McIntosh

# PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES REPORTS

## BCLI

### POTENTIAL TESTAMENTARY UNDUE INFLUENCE: RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR WILLS PRACTITIONERS

**Project Manager:** Greg Blue, Q.C.

**Project Committee:** Peter Ramsay, Q.C. (Chair), Penny Bain, Amanda Brown, Kathleen Cunningham, Dr. Martha Donnelly, Sandra Enticknap, R. H. (“Rick”) Evans, Margrett George, Stanley Rule, Laurie Salvador

This project is aimed at developing recommended practices for legal practitioners that will counteract potential testamentary undue influence and insulate wills against challenges on that ground.

The project is funded by the Notary Foundation of B.C. and is expected to be completed in Fall 2011.

### BOUGHTON / BCLI GREATDEBATE

**Project Manager:** Jim Emmerton

The 4th annual GREATdebate, jointly hosted by BCLI and Boughton Law Corporation, is planned for October 26, 2011.

In 2010, the Debate was sponsored by Plati-

num sponsor R. Johnson Legal Recruiting, Gold sponsor Manning Elliott, and Silver sponsors HSBC and HUB International.

The Debate remains an exceptional opportunity for members of the bar and the judiciary to enjoy unique, informal, social and educational interaction.

### REAL PROPERTY REFORM PROJECT - PHASE 2

**Project Manager:** Greg Blue, Q.C.

**Project Committee:** A. J. (“Bertie”) McClean, Q.C. (Chair), Ian Cassie, Christine Elliott, Prof. Robert G. Howell, Ken Jacques, Ross Langford, Susan Mercer, Peter Mueller, Calvin Ross, Prof. Tony Sheppard, Paul Scambler, Q.C., Lisa Vogt

This project examines the following areas of real property law:

1. the effect of section 29 of the Land Title Act and notice of an unregistered interest;
2. section 35 of the Property Law Act and judicial extinguishment of incorporeal interests;
3. severance of joint tenancy and other issues of co-ownership, including the four unities rule, and the Partition of Property

Act;

4. restrictive covenants; and,
5. the doctrine of implied grant.

The project is funded by Notary Foundation of BC, The Law Foundation of BC, and Real Estate Foundation of BC.

Final reports will be made sequentially, the first having been published in early 2011.

### ULCC UNIFORM TRUSTEE ACT

**Project Manager:** Greg Blue, Q.C.

**Working Group:** The Working Group includes Donovan W. M. Waters, Q.C., Arthur L. Close, Q.C., Greg Blue, Q.C.

This project is a Uniform Law Conference of Canada (ULCC) initiative intended to draft a uniform Trustee Act. It follows in the wake of the 2004 BCLI report *A Modern Trustee Act for British Columbia*.

The project's intended completion date is summer 2011. The project continues to be directed by the Ministry of Attorney General.

### UNFAIR CONTRACTS RELIEF

**Project Manager:** Kevin Zakreski

**Project Committee:** Prof. Joost Blom, Q.C. (Chair), Margaret Easton, Russell Getz, Do-Ellen Hansen, Allan Parker, Q.C., Lisa Peters, Peter Rubin, Tony Wilson

This project is examining how the law of contracts treats issues relating to unfairness,

as made manifest in the concepts of unconscionability, duress, undue influence, good faith and misrepresentation, considering the leading options for reform of this body of law and proposing legislative change.

The project is funded by The Law Foundation of BC. Its final report will be published in fall 2011.

## CCEL

### ASSISTED LIVING, B.C. PROJECT

**Project Manager:** Jim Emmerton

**Project Committee:** Jim Emmerton (Chair), Joan Braun, Sandra Golightly, Fiona Hunter, Carly Hyman, Al Jina, Mike Krabbendam, Martha Lewis, Marg McNeil, Jane Purdie, Q.C., Marlene Williams

This project is carrying out legal research and law reform with a goal to creating a report on assisted living in BC, which will address issues in housing and tenancy, consumer and residential rights, employment and labour, dispute resolution and health and safety.

The project is funded by the Notary Foundation and The Law Foundation of BC. The expected completion date is Fall 2012.

### CANADIAN / INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ELDER LAW

**Project Manager:** Krista James

The 5th Canadian / International Conference on Elder Law is a conference on issues affect-



ing older adults.

In 2010, the conference was co-hosted by CCEL, the Law Commission of Ontario (LCO) and the Advocacy Centre for the Elderly (ACE) and was held in Toronto.

The Conference's major sponsors were Kobo Books, Whaley Estate Litigation, Genssante and Borden Ladner Gervais.

Additional support was provided by the Community Legal Clinics of Ontario, Stetson University College of Law, Eldercare Home Health Inc., Rapid Response by Revera Inc., the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee, the Canadian Association on Gerontology and the author Irene Borins Ash.

## COUNTERPOINT PROJECT

**Project Manager:** Krista James

Based on existing jurisprudence on elder abuse and neglect, this project involves a discussion paper, educational materials and other resources designed to enhance the capacity of health care and social service professionals to prevent and respond promptly and appropriately to incidents of elder abuse and neglect.

The project is funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC).

The expected completion date is June 2011.

## ELDER AND GUARDIANSHIP MEDIATION PROJECT

**Project Managers:** Krista James & Emma Butt

This project involves comparative legal research and consultation with stakeholders. The project will culminate in a study paper on elder and guardianship mediation in BC that identifies social, legal, ethical and practical issues that arise out of conducting mediation in this area, makes recommendations for legislation, and sets out some best practices for practitioners.

The project is funded by The Law Foundation of BC. Its expected completion date is December 2011.

## NEW HORIZONS - AVOIDING ELDER ABUSE

**Project Manager:** Krista James

This project involved producing a national legal resource on elder abuse and neglect that is of relevance to professionals and volunteers working with older adults across the country. The final tool includes:

- A list of guiding principles for responding to abuse and neglect;
- Definitions of the various types of elder abuse;
- Examples or fact patterns to ground understanding;
- A section on elder abuse and the law with separate chapters on criminal law, ageism and human rights law, mental capacity and consent, professional responsibility and solicitor-client privilege, and mandatory reporting;

- Snapshots of the law in each of the 13 Canadian jurisdictions that identified key legislation, legal definitions of elder abuse and neglect, principles espoused in the law, obligations to respond, protections for workers who report abuse, and the law with respect to disclosure of confidential information without patient or client consent;
- A summary comparative table; and
- A list of resources in each jurisdiction.

The tool is currently available on the BCLI website in English and French. BCLI received supplementary funding to create a separate, more distilled tool for raising awareness amongst non-profit organizations and their volunteers. This second tool, which includes a PowerPoint presentation for each Canadian jurisdiction (English and French versions) will be available online in June 2011.

The project is funded by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC). Its expected completion date is Spring 2011.

## FINANCIAL LITERACY

**Project Manager:** Krista James

This project is a collaboration with the BC Centre for Elder Advocacy and Support.

**Financial Literacy 101 - Protect Yourself!** - is a self-contained train-the-trainer binder that allows agencies to train their own volunteers to deliver educational workshops, following a peer education model. The binder includes the material for two workshops, as well as

resources for teaching volunteers. Workshop 1 is focused on powers of attorney and joint accounts. Workshop 2 discusses frauds and scams.

**Financial Literacy 102 - A knowledge based approach to preventing financial abuse of older adults: a guide for professionals** is a resource manual that provides an introduction to financial abuse of older adults, and a general overview of topics connected to financial literacy and financial planning for older adults. Directed at organizations that work with older adult consumers, the manual covers mental capacity and substitute decision-making, and includes a list of resource agencies and tips for best practices.

The CCEL and BC CEAS also co-produced a series of educational videos on powers of attorney, elder abuse and frauds and scams.

The project was funded by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC). The project is complete.

## PRE-PREVALENCE STUDY REGARDING ELDER ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN CANADA

**Project Manager:** Krista James

CCEL is supporting the National Initiative for Care of the Elderly's (NICE Network) pre-prevalence project on elder abuse and neglect in Canada. The project includes a number of sub-projects, such as:

1. clearly defining elder abuse and neglect;
2. developing instruments for measuring elder abuse and neglect;

3. validating of measurement instruments;
4. identifying ethical considerations; and
5. developing consensus, pathway for knowledge transfer.

The project is funded by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) and is expected to be completed in 2012.

## ELDER ABUSE AND SOCIAL ISOLATION WORKSHOP: BUILDING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

**Project Manager:** Krista James

This project, commissioned by BC CEAS, is intended to create workshops on elder abuse and social isolation.

The project tackles questions about the nature of elder abuse and neglect and the potential connection between elder abuse and social isolation. The project identifies strategies to reduce isolation and build connections and looks at the group development of both strategies to reduce isolation and portraits reflecting challenges to maintaining connections unique to specific communities.

The project is funded by BC CEAS. Its expected completion date is Spring 2011.

## JUDGING WOMEN: AGING, MENTAL HEALTH AND CULTURE

**Project Manager:** Krista James

This project involved a co-presentation with Dr. Lynn MacDonald at the conference of the



Articling student Emma Butt smiles as Kevin Zakreski, her principal, finalizes her call to the Bar. Ms. Butt joined the BCLI in a permanent capacity in March 2011.

National Judicial Institute (NJI), held in partnership with the Canadian Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges and the UBC Faculty of Law.

As part of the second day of this conference, which was focused on older women and the law, the CCEL introduced members of the judiciary to a number of existing elder abuse tools and invited the participants to consider the ideal content and format of a tool intended to raise awareness about elder abuse and neglect amongst judges.

The project is sponsored by the National Judicial Institute.



*Pictured, from left to right: (back) Elizabeth Pinsent, Kevin Zakreski, Greg Blue, Q.C. (front) Alex Blondin, Emma Butt, Krista James, Jim Emmerton, Kisa Macdonald, Andrew McIntosh*

## **WE'RE MOVING!**

For many years BCLI has worked from its modest offices in Law Faculty Annex 1 on the UBC campus. The UBC Faculty of Law has generously supported BCLI's tenancy in Annex 1. The new UBC Faculty of Law building is planned to open in the fall 2011 and will include offices for BCLI.

We are excited to move into the new building and look forward to continuing to build on our positive relationships with members of the Faculty of Law, law students and others who will be using the new facility.

# STRATEGIC PLANNING AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

We completed an update of the strategic plan in the first quarter of 2011 and will continue our mission 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.

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Staff lawyers attend and provide lectures to the Continuing Legal Education program to keep up to date in targeted areas of law. Other professional development needs include media training and further French-language training for CCEL staff.



*Pictured:* Andrew McIntosh, Heather Campbell, Kisa Macdonald, Emma Butt





*Pictured: The new UBC Law School under construction.*

## APPRECIATION

The British Columbia Law Institute and Canadian Centre for Elder Law acknowledges and thanks the many supporters, partners and collaborators who make our efforts so successful.

The volunteer Board and project committee members  
The Law Foundation of BC  
The Ministry of Attorney General of BC  
Notary Foundation of BC  
Real Estate Foundation of BC  
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)  
Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)  
Department of Justice Canada  
Ministry of Labour of BC  
CLE BC  
Boughton Law Corporation  
Lawson Lundell LLP  
UBC Faculty of Law  
UVic Faculty of Law

Stetson Law School  
Ministry of Finance of BC  
BC Centre for Elder Advocacy and Support (BC CEAS)  
Advocacy Center for the Elderly (ACE)  
Alberta Law Reform Institute (ALRI)  
Law Commission of Ontario (LCO)  
Law Foundation of Ontario  
Social Enterprise and Innovations Development (SEDI)  
NICE Network  
BC Adult Abuse and Neglect Collaborative  
Public Guardian & Trustee of BC  
Law Society of BC  
Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch (CBABC)



# BRITISH COLUMBIA LAW INSTITUTE & CANADIAN CENTRE FOR ELDER LAW



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