

Please find enclosed the National Report from Canada , for the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the International Client Counseling Competition Committee, to be held at Bangalore , India , April 3 – 6.

National Report from Canada

Canadian law schools for many years have participated in the American Bar Association (ABA) Client Counseling Competition, with the team to advance to the International determined by the highest ranking Canadian team in ABA competition. Seven Canadian law schools entered teams this year: Osgoode Hall Law School ; University of Western Ontario ; University of Ottawa ; University of Toronto ; University of Alberta ; University of British Columbia ; and University of Victoria . Osgoode Hall Law School and the University of Victoria each won a Regional ABA event, and advanced to the ABA National competition in White Plains , New York in March, 2008, where the University of Victoria emerged slightly ahead in placing.

The University of Victoria team of Sonia Kainth and Sarah Sharp will represent Canada this year at the International, accompanied by coach Brigeeta Richdale. Their participation has been facilitated by generous financial support from the law firm of Heenan Blaikie.

I stepped down as National Representative this year, and conveyed to participating coaches in Canada that I am hopeful that someone with the ability to travel annually to the events will come forward to take over the role. In the meantime, I continue to be enthusiastically involved as a coach, and am willing to continue to function as liaison between the International Committee and participating Canadian law schools.

The question of whether Canada will be able to put together a bid to host the International has arisen from time to time during my tenure. I have communicated with members of the ICCC committee to confirm that Canada is not in a position to bid for 2009, and that the field is clear for other Countries interested in hosting next year. I am pleased to advise that there is interest in possibly hosting the event at the University of Victoria , located in Victoria , British Columbia , Canada , at an appropriate date in the future. If the ICCC committee at its meeting this year will determine and advise the next open dates when the rotation could bring the event back to North America , we can begin the necessary further discussions, and seek the necessary support and approvals, that we hope will lead to a successful bid to host.

I wish all those attending the International this year in Bangalore an excellent educational and cultural experience, and thank the host committee and ICCC committee for their considerable efforts in hosting and organizing this wonderful event.

Steve Perks
Co-coach, University of Victoria team
Acting National Representative , Canada