

Canada's National Report to the ICCC 2009 - 2010

2009 - 2010 Client Counselling Competition

At the Regional American Bar Association Client Counselling Competitions, Canadian teams participated in both Region 6, in Lansing, Michigan, and Region 12, in Missoula, Montana.

In Region 6, the University of Toronto placed second overall. In Region 12, the University of British Columbia placed first overall, and earned the title of Canadian National Champions.

The University of British Columbia team of Fleur Heck and Victor Barta will represent Canada this year at the International Louis M. Brown Client Counselling Competition in Hong Kong, accompanied by coach Doug Cochran.

Brigeeta Richdale, the Canadian National Representative and Chair of the Canadian Client Counselling Committee, will be attending the Annual General Meeting and the International Client Counselling Competition in Hong Kong from April 7 - 10, 2010.

Canada's Ability to Host

Despite Canada's hopes to host the International Competition in 2012, no Canadian law school has volunteered to act as the host school. This is due to several factors which include the demolition of the University of British Columbia law school building. The University of British Columbia Law School is scheduled to be completed by 2013.

Going forward, Canada would like to discuss the possibility of hosting the ICCC.

Proposed Canadian Client Counselling Competition

As previously discussed with members of the International Client Counselling Committee, the Canadian Client Counselling Committee is interested in establishing a Canadian Client Counselling Competition for either the 2010 - 2011, or 2011 - 2012 academic years.

The Eastern Canadian Representative, Maria Barrett-Morris, the Western Canadian Representative, Lynn Parish, and the chair of the Canadian Client Counselling Committee, Brigeeta Richdale, are leading initiative to implement a Canadian Competition.

This endeavor has several logistical issues which must be considered which include the current ties to the American Bar Association's Client Counselling Competition. The Canadian Client Counselling Committee is very grateful to the American Bar Association for their support and inclusion of the Canadian universities over the past several years.

For the 2010 - 2011 academic year, the University of Alberta is set to host the American Bar Association Region 12 competition, and the University of Western Ontario is set to host the American Bar Association Region 6 competition. Therefore, by separating from the American Bar Association's Client Counselling Competition, this would require the American Bar Association to reschedule their host schools for the 2010 - 2011 academic year.

The Canadian Client Counselling Committee is sensitive to the potential logistical concerns this may cause the American Bar Association, and we are very interested in working together to minimize any impact on the American Bar Association.

It is our feeling as a Committee, however, that given the jurisdictional conflicts that often arise in the fact patterns distributed in the Regional and National competition between Canada and the United States, as well as the recent rule change preventing a Canadian university that wins their Regional competition from competition at the National competition, the creation of a Canadian competition is a logical step for Canadian universities.

This is something we are looking forward to discussing with the International Client Counselling Committee and the American Bar Association going forward.

Project Proposal of *The Global Evolution of Client Counselling*

(See Proposal Handout)

We look forward to discussing these issues further with you in Hong Kong.

Sincerely,

The Canadian Client Counselling Committee

Brigeeta Richdale, Canadian National Representative
Maria Barrett-Morris, Eastern Canadian Representative
Lynn Parish, Western Canadian Representative