



*The struggle for a more just law is, above all, a struggle for  
recognition and respect.*

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LAW COMMISSION OF CANADA  
COMMISSION DU DROIT DU CANADA

*1998-99 annual report*





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*Seeking.....2*

*What is justice and why should anyone care about it?*

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1998-99

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Law Commission of Canada.  
Annual report.



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*The mission of the  
Law Commission of Canada is to engage  
Canadians in the renewal of the law to ensure  
that it is relevant, responsive, effective, equally  
accessible to all, and just.*



Roderick A. Macdonald  
President  
Montreal, Quebec

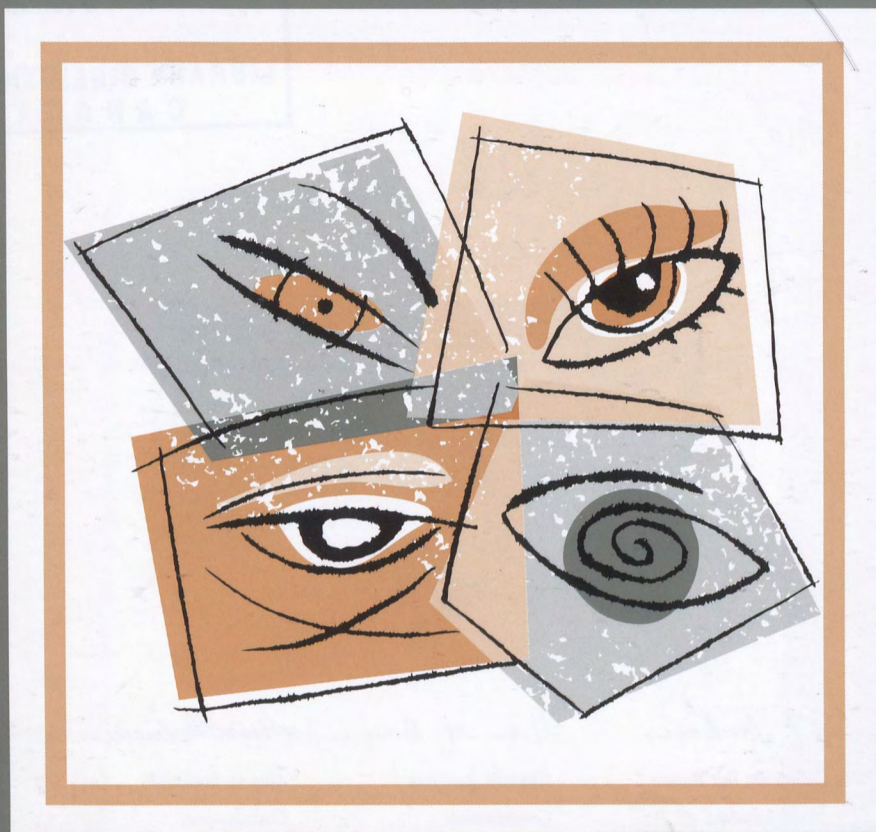
Nathalie Des Rosiers  
Vice-president  
London, Ontario

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Commissioner  
Orillia, Ontario

Alan G. Buchanan  
Commissioner  
Belfast, Prince Edward Island

Stephen Owen, Q.C.  
Commissioner  
Victoria, British Columbia





## *Seeking*

*Injecting a greater concern for justice into public discussions of law reform is a key part of our mission.*



What is justice and why should anyone care about it? Justice is the compass by which a society orients the policies it frames as law. It is the aspiration and achievement of society as a whole. Injecting a greater concern for justice into public discussions of law reform is a key part of our mission.

Today, many people worry that the law is not adequately protecting the values that matter to them. Frequently, those who are most in need of law's help find that it offers little solace. Parliament and legislatures sometimes appear distant and unresponsive. Court processes can be costly, delayed and formalistic. Legal services are beyond the means of many.

We are committed to addressing these concerns. We have sought to encourage the interest and involvement of citizens in law reform by giving voice to their passion for justice. That passion will help us maintain a focus on achieving a legal system that meets the needs and expectations of all Canadians.

Through our research this past year, we have deepened our understanding of how the quest for justice can be translated into new approaches to, and new concepts of, law. Of course,

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finding these new approaches and new concepts is only the beginning. The struggle for a more just law is, above all, a struggle for recognition and respect.

Because we believe that renewal of the law is the affair of everyone, we have tried to keep attuned to how Canadians live justice in their daily activities. Today, people are more willing to question the fairness of basic assumptions the law has long taken for granted. Deep social and economic changes put to the test the way the law frames many interpersonal relationships — in the family, in the workplace, in the community. We need a better understanding of the forces behind these changes and the types of legal responses by which they may be addressed.

It is not only law's substance that is a preoccupation. Its processes are often inadequate to deal with the challenges of an increasingly diverse society. Even when people agree with the general goals the law seeks to advance, they can often feel estranged from the means by

which these goals are put into operation. Rules grounded in traditional concepts may cause injustice because they are now perceived as being either too broad or too narrow. We have tried to cast our research projects as a search for underlying policies that should inform the law. Our objectives are to centre discussions of law reform on substantive issues and to offer proposals that respond directly to policy concerns.

Law provides a link between official institutions and procedures for maintaining an open and democratic society and the values reflected in everyday experience. It offers people the channels through which to insist official practices respect these values, as well as models to give them expression in their own lives. Legislatures, courts and the legal professions can serve an important role in efforts to renew the law, but their perspectives

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must always be tempered with the understandings of all citizens. Neither longstanding legal precepts, nor the latest popular law reform crusades should have a stranglehold upon the way we imagine the possibilities for a more just law.

Law's sometimes "moralizing" attitude to widely accepted behaviour and its over-punitive reaction to wrongdoers disappoint many Canadians. Using the criminal law to promote goals that no longer command broad support in the community undermines respect for law. People believe that many social problems can be better dealt with as, for example, public health issues. They want the law to handle conflict in a framework of restorative rather than repressive justice. Our task is to arrive at a richer understanding of when and why we should choose

social justice and the manner in which Parliament makes law. Legislatures typically attempt to regulate daily life in precise detail. They appear to have forgotten how to draft laws that set out a general framework of rules which people may choose the most appropriate manner to organize their relationships with others. Our aim is to discover what types of rules, institutions and procedures would best recognize the capacity of all citizens to act justly towards each other, and would best enable them to do so.

We have learned much this year about how important the idea of justice is to many Canadians. We sense that our ambition to pursue it by seeking new approaches and new concepts of law has struck a responsive chord. We believe that meaningful law reform begins and ends with a commitment to achieving a just law.

criminal law, public health, economic efficiency or social healing approaches to addressing the challenges of modern society.

This year, we have heard Canadians repeatedly say they want a responsive law that is neither bureaucratic nor legalistic. Many perceive that there is a gap between their conception of

Seeking



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1998

**August 7-8**  
*Commission Meeting, Charlottetown.*

**October 2-3**  
*Commission Meeting, London.*

**October 17**  
*Roundtable on Restorative Justice, Toronto.*

**November 6**  
*Commission Meeting, Ottawa.*

**November 7**  
*Advisory Council Meeting, Ottawa.*

**December 19**  
*Commission Meeting, Ottawa.*

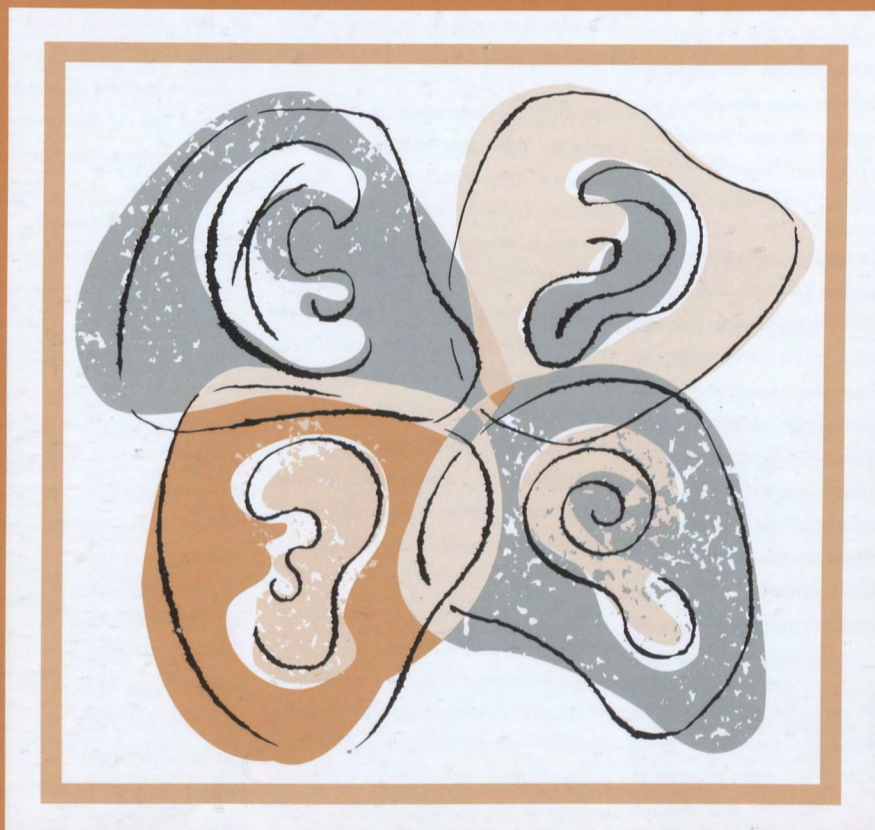
1999

**February 5-6**  
*Commission Meeting, Montreal.*

**March 18-19**  
*Commission Meeting, Ottawa.*

**March 20**  
*Advisory Council Meeting, Ottawa.*





*Sharing  
Responsibility for a just law rests upon us all.*



Responsibility for a just law rests upon us all. Justice is neither the preserve of Parliament and the courts, nor the property of the legal professions. Least of all does its pursuit belong only to official law reform agencies. Early in our mandate, we came to recognize the number of different places where renewal of the law was occurring every day.

There can be no law reform in isolation from society. The achievement of a just legal system depends on the active participation of citizens. Peoples' ideas and experiences are the raw material for remaking law. Their perspectives are its catalyst. Finding better ways to learn from Canadians about their preoccupations, absorb their reactions to our proposals, and respond to their concerns has been an important part of this year.

Members of our Advisory Council have played a most valuable role in this endeavour. They have suggested

Early in our mandate, we came to recognize the number of different places where renewal of the law was occurring every day.

Our experience with the Ministerial Reference concerning the abuse of children in institutions has given us

much insight into how to increase public involvement in the shaping of our projects and recommendations.

Through study panels, roundtables, targeted consultations, and the use of modern technologies for online discussion groups, we have sought to broaden our capacity to receive feedback on our work.

Building partnerships with other agencies and organizations that are engaged in rethinking the law is another road we have taken to expand the reach of our consultations. Their contacts offer even wider networks for promoting creative law reform. Some of these are organizations with official mandates or commitments to improving the law. Others bring a scholarly and policy perspective to law reform. Still others are motivated by personal interest in a particular aspect of our work. We see them all as our partners in engaging as many people as possible in critical debate about refashioning law.

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# *Law Reform Agencies, Legal Professions and the Judiciary*

Official institutions play a central role in law reform. Coherent policy development depends on cooperation and coordination among both provincial and federal justice ministries and their organizations. We have joined forces with the Uniform Law Conference of Canada, to explore how federal commercial law can be more successfully harmonized with provincial law. Through the Federation of Law Reform Agencies of Canada, we have also benefited from the experience and expertise of provincial law reform agencies. We are co-publishing, with the Alberta Law Reform Institute, a collection of

conference papers on new approaches to law reform, methods of sharing studies and data, and ways of engaging in cooperative legal research. In addition, a joint project with the British Columbia Law Institute on legal responses to novel forms of family relationships is now being planned.

We see the legal professions and associations of lawyers and notaries as other key allies in law reform.

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Presentations to annual meetings and conferences have given us insight into the concerns of the professions and allowed us to explain how our work can be enriched by their involvement. We have co-sponsored two conferences with the Canadian Bar Association, one of which was designed to follow up on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. That conference was also supported by the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Indigenous Bar Association. Partnering with professional associations gives us a laboratory to test our recommendations against the practical hurdles for establishing an efficient, accessible and just system for delivering legal services.

Officials who are called upon to interpret and apply law as judges and

*Collaborative projects with faculties of law, criminology and public administration help us keep up-to-date with the best research on law and justice.*

administrators have a keen sense of where law and justice diverge. Our participation in judicial education seminars and conferences involving members of tribunals permits us to share our research with those who must make sense of Canadian law within a rapidly changing social context. Their views are both a stimulus to action and an invaluable proving ground for

our proposals. Marrying the experience and expertise of informal partners to our research reduces the chances of making recommendations that are likely to prove unworkable.

*The Scholarly Community, Policy Agencies and Public Interest Groups*

The university sector is a constituency that is deeply committed to the ambitions and processes of law reform. Collaborative projects with faculties of law, criminology and public administration help us keep up-to-date with the best research on law and justice. We have profited from the multidisciplinary research potential of universities by awarding research contracts and by co-sponsoring colloquia and roundtables on family violence, the

future of legal service delivery, workplace harassment and commissions of inquiry. Consultations with university-based research centres have given us challenging feedback from both professors and students who have ongoing projects in our research fields.

The policy research community has been another source of collaborative networking. We recently launched a research programme with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to finance multidisciplinary studies on a different one of our research themes over each of the next four years. We have also taken leadership in building an alliance with the Canadian Law and Society Association, the Canadian Association of Law Teachers, and the Council of Canadian Law Deans to sponsor an annual multidisciplinary research competition, organized around one of the new concepts of law that we identify each year. Research papers will be presented at the annual meetings of the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities, and an edited collection of the papers will be published each fall.

Many creative studies of law and legal institutions have emerged from agencies and institutes in the non-profit sector. Joint initiatives with research





participated in our discussion groups and consultations.

bodies whose interests overlap with our research themes enable us to take advantage of empirical studies and policy perspectives that have been in maturation for years. Such projects are under development with the Institute on Governance and the Canadian Policy Research Networks. Cooperation with public interest groups, such as the National Association of Friendship Centres and the Church Council on Justice and Corrections, also helps us frame our research and broaden the base of our consultations and feedback.

*The Meaning of Law Reform in the Broader Community*

Partnerships and networks are a stimulus to learning from those with fresh points of view. They help to prevent consultation from becoming simply an excuse to convince others of the

*Joint initiatives with research bodies whose interests overlap with our research themes enable us to take advantage of empirical studies and policy perspectives that have been in maturation for years.*

wisdom of one's position. They can give immediate access to peoples' real concerns and ensure that we listen to diverse voices before taking a position. Over the past year, we have attempted to develop partnerships that assist us in engaging with the ideas expressed by people who have

We have learned much from our project on the abuse of children in institutions. Study panels have shaped the form and content of our research, discussion papers and the direction of our report to the minister. Online discussion groups about institutional abuse and about restorative justice have enriched our understanding of issues and possible solutions. Meetings with survivors groups and others concerned with the reference from a variety of perspectives have led us to undertake new research and to reframe some of our organizing principles.

Canadians have responded warmly to our attempts to involve them in law reform. Our Web site is popular, and the consultations we have set up in connection with the Ministerial

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Reference show that people have a thoughtful and subtle view of their law and its possibilities. They seek information that will help them become more active in law reform, occasions to express their views about the values that matter to them, and the feeling that their participation is meaningful.

1998

**April 21**

*Presented a paper to a conference on "Judicial Independence" sponsored by the Centre for Constitutional Studies, Edmonton.*

**May 12**

*Presented a paper to a conference on "Litigating the Values of a Nation," Tel Aviv, Israel.*

**May 27**

*Presented a paper to a conference on "Transdisciplinarity and New Forms of Knowledge" sponsored by UNESCO, Paris, France.*

**June 3**

*Sponsored a panel at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Law Teachers, Ottawa.*

**June 23**

*Presented a paper at the Second Languages Training Seminar for federal judges, Halifax.*





**August 14**

Participated in the annual meetings of the Uniform Law Conference of Canada and the Federation of Law Reform Agencies of Canada, Halifax.

**August 22**

Co-sponsored an international conference on consumer bankruptcy law, Toronto.

**August 27**

Presented a paper to the Alternative Dispute Resolution seminar at Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto.

**September 20**

Presented a paper to the first annual general meeting of the Commission des lésions professionnelles, Montreal.

**October 1**

Presented a paper to the annual Federal Court Judges Seminar, Ste-Adèle.

**October 28-31**

Co-sponsored the 12th Annual National Mediation Conference, Saskatoon.

**November 1**

Presented a paper to the annual meeting of the British Columbia Council of Administrative Tribunals, Vancouver.

**November 3-5**

Co-sponsored the Aboriginal Governance in Urban Settings Conference, Winnipeg.

**November 19-20**

Co-sponsored a conference on sexual harassment in the workplace, London.

1999

**January 15-16**

Co-sponsored a conference, at the University of Windsor, on the future of the legal professions.

**January 20**

Presented a paper to a conference on dejudicialization sponsored by the Board of Notaries of Quebec and the Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec, Montreal.

**February 9**

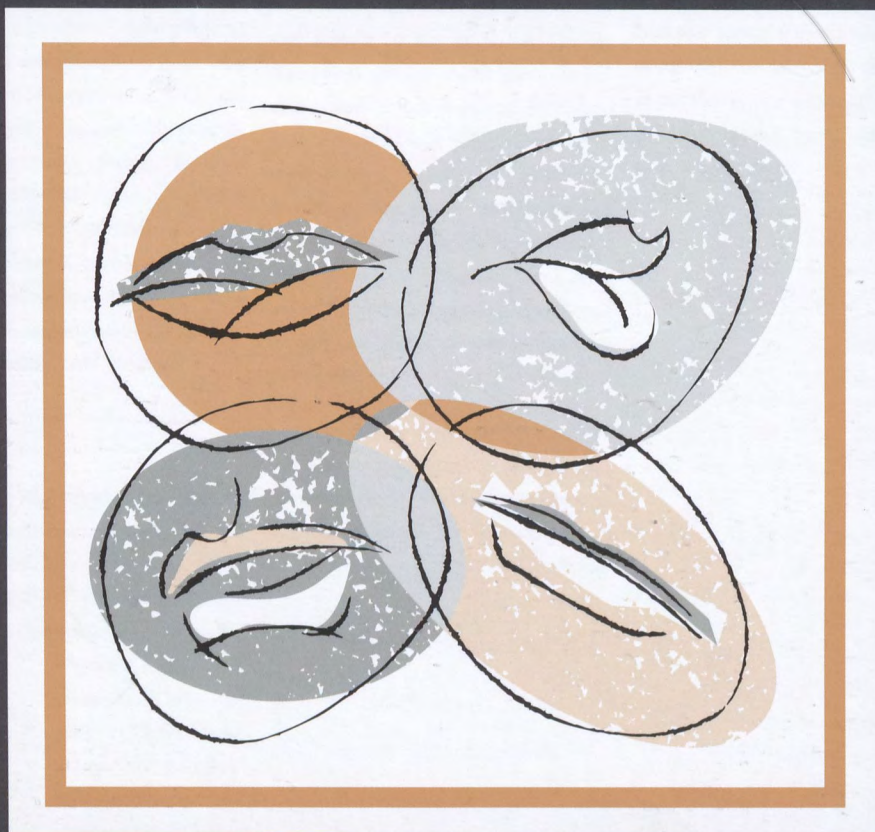
Presented a paper to the administrative and constitutional law subsection of the Quebec Division of the Canadian Bar Association, Montreal.

**February 14**

Presented a paper to a conference on public inquiries, co-sponsored by the Commission and Queen's University, Kingston.







## *Speaking*

*Accessible law in the service of justice is a central component  
of our mandate and mission.*



Accessible law in the service of justice is a central component of our mandate and mission. Law reform is not only about the technical correction of outdated rules. It is also about recognizing and responding to major changes in society and the economy. This means that the style and the substance of our reports and recommendations must be closely interwoven.

Proposing amendments to statutes is only one way we seek to renew and improve the law. Presenting briefs to Parliamentary committees is another. Of course, a charged agenda may make it difficult for Parliament to

*The written word — whether in the form of background studies, collections of essays, discussion papers or reports — is an important vehicle through which we seek to encourage reflection about law reform.*

respond legislatively to our suggestions and recommendations. We have also attempted to interest Canadians in projects that address law's assumptions as well as its possibilities through public meetings.

The written word — whether in the form of background studies, collections of essays, discussion papers or reports — is an important vehicle through which we seek to encourage reflection about law reform. We are using audio and videotapes to emphasize our commitment to public involvement. Online discussions,

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documentary films, magazines and pamphlets can be effective tools to promote non-legislative law reform. The monthly feature story on our Web site attempts to connect the dilemmas of law reform with the experiences of everyday life. Royal commissions have proven the success of these means to involve people in debates about legal policy and law reform, especially where social justice is the fundamental concern.

#### *Ministerial Reference*

Much of our energy this past year was devoted to the Ministerial Reference on historical abuse of children that occurred in institutions. We were asked to examine various processes for handling these revelations and to assess the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches to providing

redress. On the basis of discussions with officials, survivors and Aboriginal leaders, we launched eight studies to investigate current processes and understandings, the experiences in Canada and internationally, and the needs of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal survivors of abuse.

To assist in our work, we appointed two study panels, one of which was specifically concerned with residential schools for Aboriginal children. A Discussion Paper released in December drew together the results of these research studies and set out various policy questions. The Discussion Paper was made available on audio tape and posted on our Web site. Its executive summary was translated into three Aboriginal languages and a Braille version was also produced. This Discussion Paper gave us an opportunity to organize and participate in several meetings, roundtables and colloquia to obtain feedback. We held special consultations with the Deaf community and set up two online discussion groups. A final report will be delivered to the minister in the early fall of 1999, accompanied by a video summarizing some key findings and recommendations.

The Ministerial Reference has been our first substantive research project. The effective use of study panels,







background papers, discussion documents, live consultations and the Internet to involve Canadians in our work are among the valuable lessons we learned from the experience. We are now incorporating these lessons into our other research activities.

#### *Strategic Agenda*

Projects are now underway in connection with each of our four strategic themes. As background studies mature, we aim to produce papers that draw together more general ideas and highlight the interconnectedness of projects within each research programme. Ultimately, our goal is to publish a compendium of papers about how the law might better nurture just personal, social, economic and governance relationships.

#### *Personal Relationships*

The organizing idea for the Personal Relationships theme is to examine how the law imagines and regulates

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close relationships of dependence and interdependence. An initial project assesses whether current approaches to family relationships are adequate

to the needs of an increasingly diverse society. We are also looking at the

relationship between the elderly and those upon whom they depend with a view to evaluating how well the law succeeds in palliating power imbalances that can lead to abuse and exploitation. We are contemplating projects on legal relationships such as those between immigrant and sponsor, or professional and client. In each of these cases, the question is whether the law works to balance power in support of justice, or whether it provides and legitimates opportunities for exploitation. Among the lessons we hope to draw

*An initial project assesses whether current approaches to family relationships are adequate to the needs of an increasingly diverse society.*

from these studies is a better understanding of how the law can be structured, both in its concepts and its rules, so as to pursue public policies aimed at justice in personal relationships.

#### *Social Relationships*

As a first step in developing the Social Relationships theme, we have chosen to look at the concept of restorative or

transformative justice. What are the root ideas associated with the concept, and how do they compare to traditional legal notions of retributive and distributive justice? In the fall, we published a study paper and sponsored a roundtable to help us work through the potential of the concept as an approach to resolving conflicts where maintaining just multi-party and inter-group relationships is of prime value. This spring, we sponsored an online discussion forum to advance our thinking prior to releasing a Discussion Paper for general circulation. The lessons we hope to draw from this project will allow us to consider whether we have over-relied on a form of dispute settlement, and a form of structuring rights that exacerbates rather than heals conflict in social relationships.

#### *Economic Relationships*

The Economic Relationships theme has given rise to three research projects. One evaluates the factors that would argue in favour of adopting alternative legal policies such as resisting social and economic changes, or compensating those who suffer, or even facilitating change through a regulatory framework that promotes market transactions. A gen-

*We are contemplating projects on legal relationships such as those between immigrant and sponsor, or professional and client.*



eral analysis of these choices is now in preparation. We are also sponsoring a project to look at whether it is desirable to create a uniform commercial law regime in Canada, by harmonizing federal and provincial law. A complementary objective has been to sponsor a background study of how criminal law creates economic opportunities for organized crime through ill-advised or unenforceable rules that no longer enjoy broad public support in practice. We hope these studies will assist us in understanding how the law should mediate between economic efficiency and social justice concerns, in reconciling the conflicting interests of complex modern societies.

#### *Governance Relationships*

The aim of the Governance Relationships theme is to examine ways to enhance the capacity of citizens to participate in the decision-making processes of public and private institutions. An initial research project inquires whether the concept of citizen agency can be useful in organizing our research under this theme. Broadly speaking, the animating concern is whether late 20th century law has lost its normative capacity and has

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become simply managerial direction through detailed bureaucratic commands. Another project investigates the processes by which we seek to ensure the ethical conduct of medical research, assessing the extent to which the multiple regulatory frameworks now in place in both public and private sectors work to provide a coherent (or incoherent) governance regime. We have also co-sponsored research that explores how to increase the participation of Aboriginal youth in urban governance, and supported a study that investigates what governments may learn from the private and voluntary sectors about how to recognize and manage socio-cultural diversity in pan-Canadian institutions. The more general lesson is to ask how well law now serves to give people real

choices about their lives, and the opportunity to participate meaningfully in elaborating the regimes of governance by which these choices are framed.

#### *Other Projects and Activities*

The core of our work this year has been the development of ideas, research and studies connected to the Reference and our strategic agenda. But we have not shied away from sponsoring other conferences and roundtables — on the delivery of legal services, workplace harassment, the follow-up to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, and public inquiries — that are designed to draw out complementary themes about the relationship of law and justice.

The Law Commission of Canada has the rare opportunity to approach a statutory mandate creatively. We are determined not to squander this opportunity. This means undertaking innovative research activities, seeking new approaches to reforming the law, offering up unusual perspectives on and solutions for contemporary legal conundrums, and using a wide variety of methods to publicize and distribute our studies, research and reports. These are a central part of our response to the direction in the

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1998

preamble to the *Law Commission of Canada Act* that our work should be open, inclusive, accessible and understandable. Doing so in a manner that seeks to engage Canadians in the quest for a more just law has been a crucial part of our research activities this year.

**July 17-18**

Study Panel on institutional child abuse, Ottawa.

**September 25-26**

Study Panel on institutional child abuse, Hull.

**October 6-7**

Feedback session on institutional child abuse with members of the Aboriginal community, Alkali Lake.

**March 3**

Feedback session on institutional child abuse at the Aboriginal Ganootamag Justice Services Centre, Winnipeg.

**March 4**

Feedback session on institutional child abuse with representatives from church organizations, Toronto.

**March 5-7**

Facilitated feedback session on institutional child abuse with members of the Deaf community, Vancouver.

**March 17**

Feedback session on institutional child abuse with representatives from church organizations, Ottawa.

1999

**January 22-24**

Study Panel on institutional child abuse, Hull.

**February 4**

Feedback session on institutional child abuse with students at McGill University, Montreal.

**February 19**

Feedback session on institutional child abuse with members of the Law Society, Yellowknife.

**February 22**

Feedback session on institutional child abuse with members of the Child Welfare League, Victoria.

**February 26**

Meeting with Traditional Indigenous Healers, Vancouver.





## *Commissioners*

*Roderick A. Macdonald*

*Gwen M. Boniface*

*Nathalie Des Rosiers*

*Alan G. Buchanan*

*Stephen Owen, Q.C.*



## Advisory Council Members

**Wendy Armstrong**  
Edmonton, Alberta

**Jacques Auger**  
Sherbrooke, Quebec

**Lorraine Berzins**  
Ottawa, Ontario

**Céline Bureau**  
St-Lambert, Quebec

**Dave Cassels**  
Radium Hot Springs,  
British Columbia

**Dan Christmas**  
Sydney, Nova Scotia

**Bradley Crawford, Q.C.**  
Toronto, Ontario

**Margaret Denike**  
Vancouver, British Columbia

**Priscilla de Villiers**  
Burlington, Ontario

**Emerson Douyon**  
Montreal, Quebec

**Gerry Ferguson**  
Victoria, British Columbia

**Vinh Ha**  
Burnaby, British Columbia

**Bernice Hollett**  
Goose Bay, Labrador

**Andrée Lajoie**  
Montreal, Quebec

**Alcide Leblanc**  
Moncton, New Brunswick

**Wade MacLauchlan**  
Fredericton, New Brunswick

**Hans Mohr**  
Gananoque, Ontario

**Michael Morrison**  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

**Irma Murdock**  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

**Katherine Peterson, Q.C.**  
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

**Jennifer Stoddart**  
Westmount, Quebec

**Morris Rosenberg (ex officio)**  
Ottawa, Ontario

## Commission Staff

**Bruno Bonneville**  
Executive Director

**Susan Zimmerman**  
Director of Research

**Cathy Hallsley**  
Communications Manager

**Suzanne Schryer-Belair**  
Administration and Financial  
Services Officer

**Patricia Steele**  
Executive Secretary

**Susan Alter**  
Research Officer

**Dennis Cooley**  
Research Officer

**Sébastien Leblanc**  
Administrative Assistant



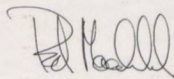


## *Management Report for The Law Commission of Canada*

We have prepared the accompanying financial statement of the Law Commission of Canada in accordance with the reporting requirements and standards of the Receiver General for Canada. The financial statement was prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies set out in note 2 of the statement on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year. Financial information included in the ministerial statements, in the Report on Plans and Priorities, and elsewhere in the Public Accounts of Canada is consistent with that contained in this financial statement, unless otherwise indicated.

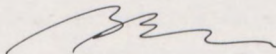
Some of the information included in the financial statement is based on management's best estimates and judgements with due consideration given to materiality.

To fulfill its reporting and accounting responsibilities, the Commission maintains a set of accounts which provides a centralized record of financial transactions and maintains systems of financial management and internal controls at appropriate costs. They are designed to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorized by Parliament and are executed in accordance with prescribed regulations, and are properly recorded as to maintain accountability of Government funds and safeguard the Commission's assets. The Commission also seeks to assure the objectivity and integrity of data in its financial statements by careful selection, training and development of qualified staff, by organizational arrangements that provide appropriate divisions of responsibility, and by communication programs aimed at ensuring that its regulations, policies, standards and managerial authorities are understood throughout the Commission.



*Roderick A. Macdonald*

*President*



*Bruno Bonneville*

*Executive Director*



1998-99 annual report



*Law Commission of Canada*  
*Statement of Operations*  
*For the Year Ended March 31, 1999*  
*(in dollars)*



	1999	1998 (9 months)
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Professional and special services	966,539	286,901
Salaries and employee benefits	591,323	249,439 <sup>(1)</sup>
Travel, communication and publications	398,055	102,452
Commissioners and Commission meetings	363,098	60,036
Accommodation	65,626	39,508
Supply, materials and equipment	47,402	314,520
Advisory Council	35,574	56,957
Rental, repair, equipment maintenance and fit-up	27,315	72,054
Others	12,511	5,828
Training, conference and memberships	8,725	13,731
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>2,516,167</b>	<b>1,201,422</b>
<b>Non-tax revenue</b>		
Refund of previous year's expenditures	2,214	—
<b>Net cost of operations</b>	<b>2,513,953</b>	<b>1,201,422 <sup>(1)</sup></b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Amendment to the Statement of Operations as per 1997-98 Public Accounts of Canada.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Statement of Operations.



## NOTES ON THE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

*For the period ended March 31, 1999.*

### *1. Authority and Operations*

The mandate of the Law Commission of Canada is derived from the *Law Commission of Canada Act*, which came into force in 1997.

The Commission's expenditures are funded by an annual appropriation from Parliament.

### *2. Significant Accounting Policies*

The Statement of Operations has been prepared in accordance with the requirements and standards for reporting established by the Receiver General for Canada. The most significant accounting policies are as follows:

#### *A) Expenditure Recognition*

All expenditures are recorded for all goods and services received and/or preformed up to March 31, 1999, in accordance with the government's payable-at-year-end accounting policies.

#### *B) Capital Purchases*

Acquisition of capital assets are charged to operating expenditures in the year of purchase.

#### *C) Services Provided without Charge by Government Departments*

Amounts for services provided without charge from government departments are included in the operating expenditures. They consist of accommodation costs and payments to employee insurance plans.







Parliamentary Appropriations	1999	1998
	\$	\$ (9 months)
Law Commission of Canada – Vote 35	2,791,000	1,836,917
Supplementary Estimates (B)	124,493	
	<u>2,915,493</u>	<u>1,836,917</u>
Budgetary Lapsed	648,867	672,465 <sup>(1)</sup>
	<u>2,266,626</u>	<u>1,164,452</u>
Statutory contributions to employee benefit plans	149,000	36,970
<b>Total use of appropriations</b>	<u>2,415,626</u>	<u>1,201,422</u>
Add: Services provided without charge by other Government departments	100,541	—
Less: Non-tax revenue	<u>2,214</u>	
<b>Net cost of operations</b>	<u><u>2,513,953</u></u>	<u><u>1,201,422</u></u> <sup>(1)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> Amendment to the Statment of Operations as per 1997-98 Public Accounts of Canada.



## *Publications*

- 1) **Law Commission of Canada:**  
*Setting Judicial Compensation –  
Multidisciplinary Perspectives*  
(March, 1999)
- 2) **Law Commission of Canada:**  
*Discussion Paper on Institutional  
Child Abuse* (December 1998)
- 3) **Law Commission of Canada:**  
*Interim Report on Institutional  
Abuse* (February 1998)
- 4) **Law Commission of Canada:**  
*1999-2000 Estimates – Plans &  
Priorities* (March 1999)
- 5) **Law Commission of Canada:**  
*Performance Report* (October 1998)
- 6) **Law Commission of Canada:**  
*Annual Report, 1997-1998*
- 7) **Law Commission of Canada:**  
*1998-1999 Estimates – Plans &  
Priorities* (March 1998)
- 8) **Law Commission of Canada:**  
*Strategic Agenda* (December 1997)
- 9) **Law Commission of Canada:**  
*Briefing Notes* (November 1997)

## *External Research Publications*

### **1) Restorative Justice –**

#### ***A Conceptual Framework***

*By Jennifer Llewellyn & Robert  
Howse*

### **2) Institutional Child Abuse in Canada**

*By Ronda Bessner*

### **3) Needs and Expectations for Redress of Victims of Abuse**

*By SAGE*

### **4) Review of “The Needs of Victims of Institutional Child Abuse”**

*By Institute for Human  
Resource Development*

### **5) An International Perspective: A Review and Analysis of Approaches to Addressing Past Institutional or Systematic Abuse in Selected Countries**

*By Mark Gannage*

### **2) The Integrity of Institutions** (May 1998)

### **3) Transdisciplinarity and Trust** (May 1998)

### **4) The Acoustics of Accountability: Towards Well-Tempered Tribunals** (June 1998)

### **5) Grotius, Gandhi and Governance** (June 1998)

### **6) Implicit Law, Tacit Lawyering** (August 1998)

### **7) Reconceiving Administrative Law** (September 1998)

### **8) In Search of Law** (October 1998)

### **9) Law Reform and its Agencies** (October 1998)

### **10) Measure for Measure – Audits and Accountability** (November 1998)

### **11) Lessons of Law** (January 1999)

### **12) Does Law Reform Depend on Lawyer Reform?** (February 1999)

### **13) Interrogating Inquiries** (February 1999)

## *Electronic Publications*

Please visit our Web site at  
**[www.lcc.gc.ca](http://www.lcc.gc.ca)** where you will  
also find feature stories on Law and  
Life by Roderick Macdonald,  
speeches and other information  
about the work of the Law  
Commission of Canada, as well as  
the following essays:

### **1) Auctioneers, Fence-Viewers, Popes and Judges** (April 1998)





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