



**AJC-AJJ**  
ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICE COUNSEL  
ASSOCIATION DES JURISTES DE JUSTICE

Press Clippings for the period of January 18-24, 2013  
Revue de presse pour la période du 18 au 24 janvier 2013

## English Media

### **Supreme Court to rule on employer's right to disclose bargaining unit employees' home addresses and telephone numbers to union**

The Supreme Court of Canada will shortly decide a case that pits the rights of the collectivity – organized labour which claims statutory entitlement to access to some personal information about its members – against the rights of an individual – an involuntary bargaining unit member who demands the privacy right to shield her home contact information from the union.

[http://lancasterhouse.com/updates/article/update\\_id/3377/article\\_id/14208/tkn/39BHCJ](http://lancasterhouse.com/updates/article/update_id/3377/article_id/14208/tkn/39BHCJ)

January 19, 2013

### **Misreading Rand formula**

Rationality flies out the window when it comes to discussing labour policy with labour leaders. Since the PC Party and I launched our 'Paths to Prosperity: Flexible Labour Markets' white paper, union leaders have said our proposal to make union membership optional would make collective bargaining illegal, toss out the Rand Formula and lead to other evil deeds.

<http://www.windsorstar.com/Misreading+Rand+formula/7843102/story.html>

### **Government lawyer Edgar Schmidt courageously blows the whistle**

Even at the risk of his reputation and livelihood, Edgar Schmidt couldn't stay quiet any longer. For more than a decade, the senior justice department lawyer has been trying to convince his bosses that they are breaking the law by inadequately evaluating whether proposed bills violate the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. When he was finally satisfied that no one would ever listen to him, he decided to sue the government.

<http://fairwhistleblower.ca/content/government-lawyer-edgar-schmidt-courageously-blows-whistle>

January 20, 2013

## **Iain Hunter: Harper in a hurry to make new laws**

It has been apparent for some time that the government of Stephen Harper might benefit from a little help in making law.

The prime minister's hell-for-leather approach has opposition parliamentarians upset and other people brandishing rude signs, marching in the streets and threatening blockades — as some First Nations and friends of the environment are today.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/columnists/iain-hunter-harper-in-a-hurry-to-make-new-laws-1.51082>

January 21, 2013

## **Editorial: Trouble Brewing at Justice Canada**

In a sign of potential discord at the federal Justice Department, a government lawyer has gone to court over his employer's duty to inform Parliament of legislation that may violate the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

<http://www.lawtimesnews.com/201301219565/Commentary/Editorial-Trouble-brewing-at-Justice-Canada>

January 23, 2013

## **Actions contradict concern for human rights**

Despite MPP Randy Hillier's claim of championing human rights by freeing the poor coerced union members from having to pay dues or belong to the union, he and his regressive Conservative party's real agenda is to weaken and dismantle the unions by cutting off their source of revenue.

<http://blogs.windsorstar.com/2013/01/23/actions-contradict-concern-for-human-rights/>

## **Supreme Court of Canada to examine boundaries of 'conflict of interest'**

The Supreme Court of Canada on Thursday hears a case that will likely clarify when lawyers can act against former clients in unrelated matters.

<http://business.financialpost.com/2013/01/23/supreme-court-of-canada-to-examine-boundaries-of-conflict-of-interest/>

## **Is Ottawa losing another crucial whistleblower?**

A second brave public servant's job is in danger for warning about how the 1982 Charter and the 1960 Canadian Bill of Rights are potentially being undermined by the Department of Justice.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/commentary/is-ottawa-losing-another-crucial-whistleblower/article7653372/>

January 24, 2013
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## **Hasty federal legislation being challenged by Canadians, courts**

On Jan. 16, it became clear that others are concerned with the Conservatives' hasty law-making.

A lawyer from the Justice Department is taking his own government to court for failing to respect its obligations when it reviews bills to be introduced in Parliament.

Edgar Schmidt is arguing that the federal government does not take due care to ensure all legislation is consistent with the Bill of Rights and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

<http://www.canada.com/Hasty+federal+legislation+being+challenged+Canadians+courts/7870740/story.html>

## **PBO report says government cuts hit front line, while back office costs rise**

The Conservative government's spending restraint is focusing on front-line services while back-office spending continues to rise, says a new report from the Parliamentary Budget Office.

That's exactly the opposite of promises made by Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, who said last year that the majority of Ottawa's \$5.2-billion austerity program would target administrative and support costs without impacting service to the public.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/pbo-report-says-government-cuts-hit-front-line-while-back-office-costs-rise-1.55392>

# Médias francophones

24 janvier 2013

## **Les compressions touchent les services plus que l'administration**

Alors que les services de première ligne encaissent les compressions du gouvernement conservateur, les dépenses administratives, elles, ne cessent de croître, indique un rapport du directeur parlementaire du budget (DPB) publié jeudi.

<http://www.lapresse.ca/le-droit/politique/fonction-publique/201301/24/01-4614683-les-compressions-touchent-les-services-plus-que-ladministration.php>