



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

Press Clippings for the period of March 1-7, 2013  
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English Media

March 1, 2013

**Feds' law-and-order agenda takes a fiscal hit**

The federal government outlined its spending plan Monday for the fiscal year that begins on April 1. All told, the feds will spend \$252 billion next year, just slightly less -- about 2.5% -- than the government will spend in the current fiscal year that ends in March.

But while a couple of departments are getting more, those at the heart of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's law-and-order agenda are seeing billions slashed.

<http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Politics/2013/02/26/pf-20609121.html>

**\$4.9-billion Decline in Planned Voted Expenditures - Minister Clement Tables the 2013-14 Main Estimates (Press Release)**

<http://news.gc.ca/web/article-eng.do?nid=722679>

**Getting it wrong on wrongful conviction**

Miscarriages of justice are not isolated incidents. In 2004, the Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) Heads of Prosecutions Committee Working Group completed its Report on the Prevention of Miscarriages of Justice, making recommendations organized around seven main areas of concern, including tunnel vision, eyewitness identification and testimony, false confessions, in-custody informers, and DNA evidence.

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/opinion/op-ed/Getting+wrong+wrongful+conviction/8037239/story.html>

## **Jim Flaherty hints next budget will chop spending and close tax loopholes**

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty signalled Friday that his upcoming budget might close tax loopholes and further slash spending by forcing federal departments to make a “sacrifice.”

Flaherty made the comments in the wake of new Statistics Canada figures that showed the country experienced economic growth last year that was slower than expected.

<http://www.canada.com/news/Flaherty+hints+next+budget+will+chop+spending+close+loopholes/8037428/story.html>

**March 4, 2013**

## **Prepare for Alberta’s ‘fudge it’ budget**

Premier Alison Redford will have reason to celebrate next Thursday when the government unveils the provincial budget.

Whether Albertans will be in a mood to celebrate is a whole different matter. To listen to the doom and gloom emanating from the legislature the past few weeks, this will be the toughest budget in years. There’ll be cuts to some government services and many who rely on government paycheques are facing a wage freeze or worse.

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/business/Thomson+Prepare+Alberta+fudge+budget/8038307/story.html>

**March 5, 2013**

## **Government is not a business**

**Excerpt from: Whatever Happened to the Music Teacher? How Government Decides and Why.**

The New Public Management and recent public sector reforms have created new constituencies. In the process, front line workers, the music teacher type, have become no one’s constituency. Those who in the past would have spoken on their behalf — the local member of Parliament, the local media and local community groups — have been shunted aside by more powerful forces.

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/opinion/op-ed/Government+business/8053076/story.html>

## **Successful labour relations are more like ‘a marriage, not a boxing match’**

Investing the time and effort to build smooth labour relations is good business, but even with best intentions on both sides, dealings between unions and management can still break down. When that happens, mitigating harm and keeping an eye on the company’s future become high priorities.

The Canada Post strike of 2011 cost the crown corporation \$100-million in revenues, and while last year’s Air Canada strike was contained via government intervention, a two-week walkout by the airline’s pilots in 1998 took a \$130-million toll on the business. How leaders handle tense negotiations, threats of job action, and strikes can make the difference between a short-term challenge and a crisis with long-lasting effects.

<http://business.financialpost.com/2013/03/05/successful-labour-relations-are-more-like-a-marriage-not-a-boxing-match/>

<b>March 6, 2013</b>
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## **Lawyers are people too**

Last month, the Ontario Bar Association launched a public relations campaign aimed at improving the image of lawyers. I, like many others, actually found out about the campaign through an article in the Globe and Mail. So I went to the OBA’s web site and despite my fairly strong research skills, was unable to find even a single word about it — no link, no press release, nothing, at least not on the public parts of the site. A few lawyer colleagues I spoke to had done the same thing and come up empty as well. Turns out, the OBA has created a micro site, [whyiwenttolawschool.ca](http://whyiwenttolawschool.ca), which gives lots of details about the plan.

<http://www.canadianlawyermag.com/4555/lawyers-are-people-too.html>

## **Job and spending cuts loom as Newfoundland politicians return to legislature**

Newfoundland and Labrador politicians head back to the legislature Thursday facing tough decisions as deficits of almost \$4 billion are projected over the next three years.

It's a stark new fiscal reality that has already spurred the majority Progressive Conservative government to freeze members' wages and start trimming the civil service as it scours departments for potential savings.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/business/spending+cuts+loom+Newfoundland+politicians+return+legislature/8058554/story.html>

March 7, 2013

## **Federal government ordered to pay legal costs for staffer suing Justice**

### **Ruling cited as victory for whistleblowers**

In a novel move cheered by whistleblower advocates, a judge in Ottawa on Friday ordered the federal government to cover the legal expenses of a Department of Justice lawyer who filed a lawsuit against his own department.

Edgar Schmidt, who was suspended without pay after filing his claim in December, asserts in court documents that the government has failed to live up to its obligations to ensure that new legislation complies with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/Federal+government+ordered+legal+costs+staffer+suing+Justice/8072359/story.html>

## **Alberta budget: Public servants face wage freeze and some job losses**

The Redford government set the stage for tough bargaining this month by allowing for no provision for pay increases in Thursday's budget.

"There's no mood among our membership to just lay down," said Guy Smith, head of the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees. "It's going to be very difficult negotiations."

The budget's hard line applies to teachers, nurses, health sciences workers and civil servants. Many are in bargaining or about to start this spring.

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/business/Alberta+budget+Public+servants+face+wage+freeze+some+losses/8065073/story.html>

## **'Painful' cuts, billions in borrowing in Alberta budget**

Alberta will borrow billions and drain the provincial savings account in a "painful" new budget that holds the line on program spending and public-sector salaries.

<http://www.canada.com/Painful+cuts+billions+borrowing+Alberta+budget/8064050/story.html>

## **Alberta budget 2013 marked by billions in deficit spending, service cuts**

Alberta will soon join the ranks of the heavily indebted; its government announced Thursday as it tabled what has been billed as a "watershed" budget.

Although its economy is still strong, growth is high and unemployment is low, a decline in bitumen prices brought on by decreased pipeline capacity has thrown the province's finances off the rails.

<http://news.nationalpost.com/2013/03/07/alberta-budget-2013/>

## **Deal opens Quebec doors to Ontario lawyers**

The Law Society of Upper Canada has become the first legal regulator to ratify the 2013 national mobility agreement that will allow lawyers "full and permanent" mobility between common and civil law jurisdictions.

Currently, the difference between common and civil law means limited practice opportunities for Ontario lawyers who want to do work in Quebec.

The existing provisions under the Quebec mobility agreement allow lawyers from common law provinces to practise in areas "only with respect to matters under federal jurisdiction."

<http://www.lawtimesnews.com/201303119661/Headline-News/Deal-opens-Quebec-doors-to-Ontario-lawyers>

# Médias francophones

7 mars 2013

## **Sureprésentation autochtone dans les prisons canadiennes**

L'enquêteur correctionnel du Canada, Howard Sapers, est d'avis que le système carcéral fédéral n'offre pas les mêmes chances aux détenus autochtones qu'aux non autochtones et que la situation empire, même 20 ans après l'adoption d'une loi pour rectifier le tir.

<http://www.radio-canada.ca/regions/manitoba/2013/03/07/002-rapport-enqueteur-correctionnel-canada-autochtones-prisons.shtml>