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ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICE COUNSEL
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Press Clippings for the period of May 11-17, 2012
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English Media

May 17

Federal public service braced for 10,000 more job cuts, group says

Federal departments are girded to lose more than 10,000 jobs over the next three years before they swallow the \$5.2-billion spending reductions announced in the federal budget that will wipe out another 19,200 jobs in the same period.

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/business/Federal+public+service+braced+more+cuts+group+says/6636819/story.html>

29,600 PS jobs to be cut by 2015: economist

Tally includes 10,400 full-time positions lost in previous budgets

Federal departments are girded to lose more than 10,000 jobs over the next three years before they swallow the \$5.2-billion spending reductions announced in the federal budget that will wipe out another 19,200 jobs in the same period.

The yearly reports on plans and priorities that departments tabled in Parliament last week show that 10,400 full-time positions will disappear over the next three years, said David Macdonald, chief economist at the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, who tallied the numbers. That means departments are cutting 29,600 jobs between now and 2015.

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/business/jobs+2015+economist/6634178/story.html>

Taxpayers on hook for \$850 million in severance for laid-off public servants

The federal government will spend at least \$850 million this fiscal year on severance payments owed to federal employees, including thousands of civil servants losing their jobs due to billions of dollars in budget cuts.

<http://www.canada.com/business/Taxpayers+hook+million+severance+laid+public+servants/6639850/story.html>

Aboriginal sentences reduced over ‘shameful’ lack of background reports

Judges enraged by inadequate access to native sentencing services — despite an edict from the Supreme Court of Canada requiring it — have been reducing prison terms for serious aboriginal offenders in response, recent court decisions reveal.

<http://news.nationalpost.com/2012/05/17/aboriginal-sentences-reduced-over-shameful-lack-of-background-reports/>

May 15

Support-staff hires to ease burden on crown attorneys

Quebec is coming to the aid of the province's crown attorneys by hiring additional support staff so prosecutors can spend more time with victims and witnesses and be better prepared when they arrive in court.

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/business/Support+staff+hires+ease+burden+crown+attorneys/6620856/story.html>

May 14

Executive ranks of the public service also on the chopping block

The Conservative government is thinning the ranks of executives in Canada's public service because there are too many of the high-priced senior managers.

<http://www.leaderpost.com/business/Public%20Service/6619964/story.html>

Ottawa's true spending, and cuts, shrouded in a fog of bafflegab

Treasury Board President Tony Clement — Ottawa's equivalent of a chief operating officer — insists he's all about making Canada a model of open government.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/commentary/barrie-mckenna/ottawas-true-spending-and-cuts-shrouded-in-a-fog-of-bafflegab/article2431282/>

May 11

Federal watchdogs to reduce operations due to budget cuts

The watchdog agencies that oversee the federal government's operations have not been spared from sweeping cuts in this year's budget.

Those cuts will force operational changes and staffing reductions for such parliamentary officers as the auditor general, who provides oversight on federal spending.

<http://www.canada.com/news/Federal+watchdogs+reduce+operations+budget+cuts/6608607/story.html>

Unions deserve access to company-collected email addresses: Labour Board

The BC Labour Relations Board (LRB) has ruled that provincially regulated employers with unionized employees must provide the union with the email addresses of its members upon request.

<http://www.labour-reporter.com/articleview/13045-unions-deserve-access-to-company-collected-email-addresses-labour-board>

Médias francophones

14 mai

Québec améliore les conditions de travail des procureurs

Le ministre de la Justice, Jean-Marc Fournier, annonce un plan de réorganisation du travail au sein du bureau du Directeur des poursuites criminelles et pénales pour améliorer les conditions de travail des procureurs.

Cent-vingt-six personnes seront embauchées, soit 85 techniciens en droit et 41 employés administratifs. Un service centralisé de coordination de la recherche juridique sera également créé. Des mesures seront aussi mises en place pour améliorer et bonifier la formation continue offerte aux procureurs.

<http://www.radio-canada.ca/nouvelles/Politique/2012/05/14/002-fournier-procureurs-embauces.shtml>

12 mai

Mythe et réalité sur la prime de départ des fonctionnaires

Dans son dernier budget, le gouvernement conservateur a annoncé la suppression de 19 200 postes, soit 4,8% de la fonction publique fédérale. D'ici trois ans, 12 000 postes seront abolis. Le reste des coupures sera fait par attrition: le gouvernement ne remplacera pas 7200 personnes qui partiront volontairement ou prendront leur retraite.

<http://affaires.lapresse.ca/finances-personnelles/plus-value/201205/11/01-4524456-mythe-et-realite-sur-la-prime-de-depart-des-fonctionnaires.php>