



Association of Justice Counsel Association des Juristes de Justice

1545 av. Carling Ave., #406, Ottawa, ON Canada K1Z 8P9

TEL: 613-798-9900/866-218-3310

FAX: 613-564-0606

www.ajc-ajj.com

admin@ajc-ajj.com

Press Clippings for the period of July 29-August 4, 2011
Revue de presse pour la période du 29 juillet au 4 août 2011

English Media

August 3

700 Environment Canada jobs on the chopping block

Meteorologists, scientists, chemists and engineers are among more than 700 Environment Canada employees on the chopping block as the department launches sweeping cuts to cope with federal belt-tightening.

<http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/politics/article/1034331--700-environment-canada-jobs-on-the-chopping-block>

Early retirement can still be possible for some Especially if you have public sector job

Before smartphone apps became a billion-dollar business, thousands of civil servants installed a retirement countdown clock on their computers to tick away the seconds until they began their retirement. Many don't have to wait all that long: With the right combination of age and years of service, retirement at 55 is a possibility.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/life/Early+retirement+still+possible+some/5197478/story.html>

August 2

Opinion: Crime policy is all stick, no carrot

A prison is a massive, bleak, depressing monument to failure. The Harper government's tough-on-crime policy will reinforce and exacerbate the failures that prisons symbolize.

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/Opinion+Crime+policy+stick+carrot/5195462/story.html>

Good policy needs good data

On July 20, Statistics Canada released its 2010 data on crime in Canada. The annual "Police reported crime statistics" offers an opportunity to analyze crime empirically, so Canadians can understand how well (or not) our justice system is performing, and why.

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Good+policy+needs+good+data/5190456/story.html>

August 1

Why the crime rate is irrelevant

Statistics Canada reported recently that crime is down five per cent, and serious crime is down six per cent. As measured by crimes reported to police, Canada has its lowest crime rate since 1973 and lowest homicide rate since 1966. Statistics Canada's "severity of crime" index is at its lowest since it was established in 1999.

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/crime+rate+irrelevant/5187314/story.html>

July 30

Strong gains fail to sway pension plan critics

It was one of the most profitable Canadian pension funds in 2010-11, but critics are unwavering that the public-service pension fund is unsustainable, going so far as to brand it one of the "biggest drivers of deficit."

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/business/Strong+gains+fail+sway+pension+plan+critics/5183352/story.html>

July 29

Unions call attack on pensions a divisive, 'cynical campaign'

Critics calling for drastic reform of the public service pension system are being financially irresponsible, union representatives argued Friday.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/business/Unions+call+attack+pensions+divisive+cynical+campaign/5177012/story.html>

Delayed court cases in B.C. could double

Sixty-five criminal cases have been tossed in British Columbia Provincial Court so far this year because of significant delays in the legal system.

If the trend continues, the number of cases stayed in 2011 because of delays could be more than double what it was in 2010, when the provincial government says 56 cases were thrown out.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/Delayed+court+cases+could+double/5179414/story.html>

Judge appointments won't fix backlog: critics

The B.C. government says five new provincial court judges will help reduce delays in the court system, but others in the legal community say it's far too little to combat a growing backlog of cases.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/Judge+appointments+backlog+critics/5159153/story.html>

Public sector pension plan under attack

The Public Sector Pension Investment Board's annual report boasted a healthy 14.5% return for the 2011 fiscal year, resulting in a gain of \$7 billion and an approximate \$58 billion in net assets for the year ending March 31, 2011.

However, despite these positive figures, the public sector DB plan has been under attack from various lobby groups.

<http://www.benefitscanada.com/news/public-sector-pension-plan-under-attack-19019>

The sanofi-aventis Healthcare Survey - 2011 - Canadian employees prefer peace of mind over cold hard cash

Fifty-nine percent of group health benefit plan members in Canada would rather keep their health benefit plan than receive \$10,000. When the money is doubled to \$20,000, 48% of those asked would choose their benefits over the money. This is one of the messages the health benefits industry can take away from The sanofi-aventis Healthcare Survey. Highly regarded as a credible reference tool for employers and insurers, The sanofi-aventis Healthcare Survey explores what Canadian employees in a wide range of industries think of their health benefit programs and interprets the findings to help employers better manage employee health benefits.

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/June2011/16/c6520.html>

Survey: <http://www.sanofi-aventis.ca/l/ca/en/download.jsp?file=97AAB9B2-2EB0-4C84-BAD2-491FF19B4B72.pdf>

Médias francophones

4 août

Tempête à Environnement Canada

Plus de 775 employés d'Environnement Canada - dont près de la moitié travaillent dans la région de la capitale nationale - perdront leur emploi d'ici 90 jours.

<http://www.cyberpresse.ca/le-droit/actualites/fonction-publique/201108/04/01-4423562-tempete-a-environnement-canada.php>

29 Juillet

Négos en douce

Québec a conclu au cours des dernières semaines des ententes avec ses médecins, ses policiers, ses ingénieurs et ses juristes.

<http://fr.canoe.ca/cgi-bin/imprimer.cgi?id=973436>