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Press Clippings for the period of April 15-21, 2011 Revue de presse pour la période du 15 au 21 avril 2011

English Media

April 21

Feds' private prosecutors payout soars Record \$39 million paid in 2010, Liberal suspects patronage still a factor

Law firms across Canada billed the Public Prosecution Service of Canada (PPSC) a record \$39 million last year to do drug, tax and other federal prosecutions, reveal records obtained under the federal Access to Information Act.

http://www.lawyersweekly.ca/index.php?section=article&volume=30&number=47&article=1

All-candidates debate: In Victoria riding, crime pushes buttons

Residents of the Victoria riding, one of region's most affluent, sat on the floor, leaned against walls and seemed to respond most vigorously to questions about justice issues at an all-candidates meeting Wednesday night.

http://www.timescolonist.com/candidates+debate+Victoria+riding+crime+pushes+buttons/465 1619/story.html

You lose when you take on taxman

A tax system must be fair if taxpayers are expected to respect it. An unfair system fosters tax evasion. Unfortunately, any discussion about fair taxation causes glassy eyes for the duration of the discussion.

http://www.nationalpost.com/news/lose+when+take+taxman/4644541/story.html

April 19

Feds sitting on our money: fraud victims

MONTREAL - While the Conservative government recently moved to tighten up the sentencing rules for white-collar criminals, that same government is sitting on some of the financial proceeds of those crimes, the victims of Earl Jones claim.

Seventy-seven individuals who paid taxes on fictional interest for years have yet to see one cent of the \$3.1 million in tax refunds they were promised in May 2010.

 $\underline{\text{http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/Feds+sitting+money+fraud+victims/4639122/story.ht}} \\ \text{ml}$

Legislation by other means

Appointing judges to the Supreme Court of Canada is the most important thing the next prime minister will do. He can and will choose whatever senior lawyers strike his fancy. He will single-handedly shape Canada's most significant governance institution for a generation.

http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Legislation+other+means/4638492/story.html

Why judges like 'hot-tubbing'

It is only a matter of time, lawyers say, before a Canadian courtroom plays host to a procedure known as "hot-tubbing." Despite the name, it does not involve installing Jacuzzis to relax witnesses.

"Hot-tubbing," common practice in Australian courts, is also known by the less colourful label "concurrent evidence." It means that expert witnesses in a complex, technical trial – such as a patent dispute about pharmaceuticals, for example – can testify in court together on a panel, rather than one-by-one in the witness box.

http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/the-law-page/why-judges-like-hot-tubbing/article1991694/

April 18

Software glitch kills electronic stubs for federal workers' paycheques

A mysterious security breach has shut down the federal government's online pay system, affecting some 320,000 public servants.

The system was pulled offline for "urgent" repairs on April 4 after officials discovered the privacy of eight account-holders had been breached.

http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/breakingnews/software-glitch-kills-electronic-stubs-for-federal-workers-paycheques-120127944.html

April 16

Crime policy should be based on reality, not ideology

Another election, another round of blather about crime.

More punishment, say the Conservatives. That's how you control crime. No, the Liberals and NDP respond. Prevention and rehabilitation work. Emphasize that.

http://www.edmontonjournal.com/news/Crime+policy+should+based+reality+ideology/462669 2/story.html

The problem with mandatory sentences

Parliament can't possibly foresee all offenders or situations, so judicial discretion is needed to determine appropriate punishments

http://www.vancouversun.com/news/decision-canada/problem+with+mandatory+sentences/4628033/story.html

B.C. Liberals' governing by decree backfires with Supreme Court rulings

As the B.C. Liberals set about breaking public sector labour contracts during their first year in office, they received some cautionary advice from one of the most experienced negotiators in the public sector.

http://www.vancouversun.com/business/Liberals+governing+decree+backfires+with+Supreme+Court+rulings/4620055/story.html

Top court reserves securities decision

The federal government wrapped up the securities act reference case before the Supreme Court of Canada Thursday with assurances that Ottawa is not out to seize jurisdiction over a variety of areas currently regulated by the provinces.

http://www.financialpost.com/news/court+reserves+securities+decision/4619656/story.html

Médias francophones

19 Avril

Le populisme sécuritaire des conservateurs

À l'automne 2008, le premier ministre Stephen Harper souhaitait punir plus sévèrement les adolescents et, au besoin, leur infliger de lourdes peines. De son propre aveu, le chef conservateur se fie à «monsieur et madame Tout-le-monde plutôt qu'aux experts pour déterminer ses politiques, notamment en matière de criminalité». Depuis lors, le gouvernement fédéral multiplie tous azimuts les projets de loi à teneur répressive.

http://www.cyberpresse.ca/opinions/201104/18/01-4391096-le-populisme-securitaire-desconservateurs.php

17 Avril

Stephen Harper veut serrer la vis aux trafiquants de migrants clandestins

Stephen Harper courtise à la fois les électeurs immigrants et les partisans de la loi et l'ordre en mettant l'accent sur le durcissement conservateur promis envers les trafiquants d'êtres humains.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5iIPG3IIZZPg_E-3i3MtBYi1IE2ew?docId=6593343

15 Avril

Les procureurs choisissent BLG

L'Association des procureurs aux poursuites criminelles et pénales passe de la parole aux actes et contestera sous peu en cour la loi spéciale qui les a forcés à retourner au travail. Pour les représenter, un dream team de BLG. L'APPCP a en effet choisi le cabinet d'avocats Borden Ladner Gervais (BLG), au terme d'un processus d'appel d'offres.

http://lapresseaffaires.cyberpresse.ca/dossiers/affaires-juridiques/201104/15/01-4390069-y-a-t-il-trop-davocats-en-politique.php