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Press Clippings for the period of April 29-May 5, 2011
Revue de presse pour la période du 29 avril au 5 mai 2011

English Media

May 5

Mounties say they lack resources to probe vast majority of pirated product cases

The Mounties say they had the resources to investigate only "a mere fraction" of bogus product cases in recent years — a problem that's likely to worsen as technology makes it easier to fake everything from DVDs to cancer drugs.

An RCMP intelligence report obtained by The Canadian Press also says sentences "are not sufficiently significant" to deter all perpetrators, making the counterfeiting trade "an attractive criminal undertaking."

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/breakingnews/mounties-say-they-lack-resources-to-probe-vast-majority-of-pirated-product-cases-121273074.html>

Employers up in arms over Ontario's 'secret' wage deal

The Ontario government awarded employees of the province's largest public-sector union an additional wage increase of 1 per cent for 2012 as part of a "secret deal" that critics say undermines the integrity of the collective bargaining process and calls into question other settlements.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/employers-up-in-arms-over-ontarios-secret-wage-deal/article2009740/>

Court resources shift to unrepresented litigants

With high numbers of unrepresented litigants arriving in courts across Canada, courts are updating and expanding information packages to assist them.

But, court officials say, the demand and shifting of resources is placing undue stress on the system and affecting its work.

<http://www.lawyersweekly.ca/index.php?section=article&volume=31&number=1&article=1>

May 4

Juggling law and family

A relatively new national organization called Young Women in Law (YWL) is committed to providing support, mentoring and networking for young women practitioners to ensure they stay in the practice, which can be very demanding, especially for those who have families.

Young women constitute about 50% of new lawyers. Once they start a family, many find the hours and workload are onerous.

<http://www.financialpost.com/news/Juggling+family/4722248/story.html>

Public service jobs safe, says Baird

No plans for 'massive layoffs'

A day after the Conservative government swept to a huge victory in the federal election, senior cabinet minister John Baird sought to reassure public servants in the nation's capital that they have nothing to fear from a Tory majority -which some worry could translate into big program and job cuts.

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/business/Public+service+jobs+safe+says+Baird/4722014/story.html>

May 1

Reform young criminals with less jail time

Instead of spending \$600 million on the new Edmonton Remand Centre, we should be spending it on rehabilitation, reparation and community programs such as community conferencing.

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/news/decision-canada/Reform+young+criminals+with+less+jail+time/4705456/story.html>

April 30

Canadians buy into Harper's crime crackdown

Despite statistics showing falling crime rates, two-thirds of the public like the get-tough stance

Everybody wants to be a tough guy, but no one wants to pay the price -except for Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

He has embraced his inner Clint Eastwood, vowing if reelected in his first 100 days to force judges to impose stiffer sentences, to do more to protect victims of crime and to tighten up parole rules.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/decision-canada/Canadians+into+Harper+crime+crackdown/4702689/story.html>

Top court upholds ag-sector union ban

One of the country's largest unions said Friday it will take its fight for agricultural workers to the Ontario government after the Supreme Court of Canada ruled a provincial ban on farm unions is constitutional.

The Supreme Court's 8-1 decision means that more than 80,000 Ontario farm workers have lost the right to join a union and bargain collectively.

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/top-court-upholds-ag-sector-union-ban-121017239.html>

April 29

Supreme Court quashes right of farm workers to unionize

Ontario farm workers did not get the right to unionize in Friday's long-awaited Supreme Court of Canada ruling. The court sided with the province in ruling its Agricultural Employees Protection Act, which doesn't include collective bargaining, does not infringe on the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/business/Supreme+Court+quashes+right+farm+workers+unionize/4698395/story.html>

Supreme Court denies right of farm workers to unionize

The Supreme Court of Canada has abandoned Ontario's farm workers and the charter of rights has failed them, UFCW Canada national president Wayne Hanley said Friday after the union lost a 16-year court battle to allow agricultural workers to unionize.

<http://www.windsorstar.com/business/Supreme+Court+denies+right+farm+workers+unionize/4697807/story.html>

Farm workers have no right to unionize, top court rules

The Supreme Court of Canada dealt a harsh blow to the union movement today, ruling in favour of an Ontario law that restricts the right of farm workers to bargain collectively.

The Court said that the constitutional right to free association guarantees that “meaningful” negotiations take place between workers and their employers – but it is not intended to police the mechanics of how those negotiations take place.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/ontario/farm-workers-have-no-right-to-unionize-top-court-rules/article2003759/>

Médias francophones

4 mai

Rapport sur l'intégrité des gouvernements Le Canada recule du 11e au 19e rang

Le Canada n'arrive plus qu'au 19e rang dans le classement d'une centaine de pays en ce qui concerne la démocratie, l'intégrité et l'imputabilité du gouvernement fédéral, indique un nouveau rapport intitulé 2010 Global Integrity Report.

<http://fr.canoe.ca/infos/quebeccanada/archives/2011/05/20110504-142907.html>

29 Avril

Harper et la justice — Retour à l'équilibre ou retour en arrière?

Ce n'est un secret pour personne, la loi et l'ordre sont des thèmes chers aux conservateurs de Stephen Harper. L'idée de mettre les criminels au pas, de mieux traiter les victimes et de promettre des villes plus sécuritaires fait encore une fois partie des priorités bleues durant cette élection.

<http://www.ruefrontenac.com/nouvelles-generales/politiquefederale/36507-elections-loi-ordre-harper-boisvenue-criminalite>