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ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICE COUNSEL
ASSOCIATION DES JURISTES DE JUSTICE

Press Clippings for the period of March 29 – April 4, 2013
Revue de presse pour la période du 29 mars au 4 avril 2013

English Media

March 31, 2013

Prosecutor quitting after budget cuts leaves Crown's office with low numbers

Hours after her office was gutted by the provincial budget, at least one Crown prosecutor has decided it's case closed — for good.

"I'm leaving," said the woman, who didn't want to be identified.

<http://www.thetelegram.com/News/Local/2013-03-31/article-3211030/Prosecutor-quitting-after-budget-cuts-leaves-Crown%26rsquo%3Bs-office-with-low-numbers/1>

April 3, 2013

Feds chopping funding for some justice programs by 20%

The government is planning to cut federal funding for programs aimed at increasing access to justice and developing court efficiencies by 20 per cent by 2015-16.

Detailed figures contained within Department of Justice documents released late last week shed further light on the impact of the March 21 federal budget.

<http://www.canadianlawyermag.com/legalfeeds/1397/feds-chopping-funding-for-some-justice-programs-by-20.html>

[DOJ 2013-14 Report on Plans and Priorities](#)

Bar association opposes cuts to justice system in the province

The Canadian Bar Association — Newfoundland and Labrador Branch (CBA-NL) said today it strongly opposes cuts to the justice system resulting from the 2013 provincial budget.

<http://www.thetelegram.com/News/Local/2013-04-03/article-3212742/Bar-association-opposes-cuts-to-justice-system-in-the-province/1>

Diplomats' union threatens strike over pay equity

Canada's Foreign Service officers began job action this week after their 1,350-member union declared it was in a legal strike position.

The Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers, which includes more than 600 Canadian diplomats in overseas missions, has been without a contract since mid-2011 and wants pay equity with other public servants.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/diplomats-union-threatens-strike-over-pay-equity/article10748196/>

Federal government faces \$3.5-billion severance payout, reports show

The federal government expects to pay more than \$3.5 billion in accumulated severance over three years to public servants who remain in their jobs, retired, quit, were fired or laid off.

Newly released reports show the federal government expected to spend \$1.45 billion in the 2012-13 fiscal year that just ended — and at least another \$600 million in 2013-14 — on the payout of voluntary and regular severance accumulated over several years by tens of thousands of government employees.

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/business/Federal+government+faces+billion+severance+payout+reports/8188006/story.html>

April 4, 2013

Crown attorneys would rather quit than do sub-par job: letter

Budget cuts will send justice back to pre-Lamer inquiry times, warns a group of Crown attorneys.

“The NLCAA (Newfoundland and Labrador Crown Attorneys’ Association) executive has spoken to front-line prosecutors in each of the province’s regions and is seriously concerned that recent reductions in personnel will have significant negative implications in our ability to carry out our responsibilities,” the group of Crown lawyers said in a letter to The Telegram, which can be found on page A6 of today’s paper.

<http://www.thetelegram.com/News/Local/2013-04-05/article-3214150/Crown-attorneys-would-rather-quit-than-do-sub-par-job%3A-letter/1>

Crown attorneys speak out

In response to the recent reductions in personnel at the Crown Attorneys' Office, the Newfoundland and Labrador Crown Attorneys' Association (NLCAA) would like to submit the following comments.

The NLCAA represents the majority of the prosecuting attorneys in the criminal division of the Department of Justice. The NLCAA executive has spoken to front-line prosecutors in each of the province's regions and is seriously concerned that recent reductions in personnel will have significant negative implications in our ability to carry out our responsibilities.

<http://www.thetelegram.com/Opinion/Letters-to-the-editor/2013-04-05/article-3214151/Crown-attorneys-speak-out/1>

Justice minister says critics jumping the gun on cuts

Newfoundland and Labrador's embattled justice minister says the lawyers and others who have been lining up to denounce spending cuts are wrong, and that they should wait to see what happens before they make judgments.

"I have no question, whatsoever, that I believe the justice system will be just as strong going forward as it has been," Darin King told CBC News, responding to a growing chorus of complaints about cuts that will see layoffs throughout the system, from Crown prosecutors to probation officers.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/story/2013/04/04/nl-darin-king-justice-cba-cuts-403.html>

Crown attorneys denounce justice system cuts

Wrongful convictions more likely, prominent defence lawyer warns

The organization representing Newfoundland and Labrador's Crown attorneys has warned that a wave of spending cuts will roll the province's justice system back to the period before the Lamer Inquiry, which examined wrongful convictions and systemic problems in prosecutions.

"We would have hoped that the expensive lessons of the Lamer Inquiry would not be brushed aside so easily only six years after they were brought to light and addressed," says a strongly-worded letter from the Newfoundland and Labrador Crown Attorneys' Association that is published in Friday's edition of the St. John's Telegram.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/story/2013/04/05/nl-crown-attorneys-justice-cuts-405.html>

Which federal departments are facing the biggest cuts?

A collection of recently-released planning documents give Canadians the first detailed glimpse of which federal departments are facing cuts. These figures, collected by The Globe from 92 separate documents, show three out of every four federal departments are projected to operate with a smaller budget in 2015-16 than today. While these are projections and do not reflect plans announced in the 2013 budget and may yet change, the overall picture shows the role federal departments will play in resolving the deficit.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/which-federal-departments-are-facing-the-biggest-cuts/article10788957/>

Public-sector workers paid 12% more than private-sector counterparts: Fraser Institute report

Canadian public-sector workers are paid 12% more than their private-sector counterparts, says a study released Thursday by the Fraser Institute.

Although the conservative think-tank said Statistics Canada did not record data in enough detail to make a more rigorous comparison, public workers probably also had better pensions and other non-wage benefits, such as shorter work weeks and earlier retirement.

<http://news.nationalpost.com/2013/04/04/public-sector-workers-paid-12-more-than-private-sector-counterparts-fraser-institute-report/>

[Comparing Public and Private Sector Compensation in Canada](#)

Médias francophones

4 avril 2013

Le secteur public plus payant que le privé, selon l'Institut Fraser

Les fonctionnaires canadiens gagnent en moyenne 12 % de plus que leurs collègues du secteur privé, selon une nouvelle étude de l'Institut Fraser rendu public jeudi.

Les conclusions de l'étude du groupe de réflexion de droite démontrent que les fonctionnaires canadiens ont des avantages salariaux plus importants que les travailleurs du secteur privé qui occupent des postes équivalents.

L'étude compare les compensations des secteurs privé et public à l'échelle nationale et se base sur des données recueillies par Statistique Canada pour l'année 2011.

<http://www.radio-canada.ca/regions/ottawa/2013/04/04/003-institut-fraser-salaire-public-prive.shtml>

Menace de grève chez les diplomates

Le service extérieur entame une première ronde de moyens de pression

Les diplomates canadiens se préparent à un débrayage. Demandes de visas, négociations de libre-échange et développement économique font partie des secteurs d'activité qui seront touchés par les moyens de pression entamés à l'échelle mondiale cette semaine, et qui pourraient bien mener à une grève générale, prévient leur syndicat.

<http://www.ledevoir.com/politique/canada/374828/menace-de-greve-chez-les-diplomates>