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1. New Provincial Court Practice Directives

Since February 4, 2008, contested Notices of Motion and Notices of Application filed in the Provincial Court in Winnipeg have been returnable for any Monday to Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom 308. The Provincial Court has recently finalized formal [Practice Directives](#) for the court in determining contested motions and applications and these will be implemented as of October 6, 2008. Information sessions for lawyers will take place in Room 413 of the Winnipeg Law Courts Complex from 12:00-1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 23, 2008 and again on Thursday, September 25, 2008. For further details, see the [July 2008 Notice](#) from the Provincial Court.

2. Criminal Code Provisions in Force

On October 1, 2008, ss. 7, 8, 18-21.1, 29, 35, 37-40, 42 and 44 of [An Act to Amend the Criminal Code \(Criminal Procedure, Language of the Accused, Sentencing and Other Amendments\)](#), S.C. 2008, c. 18 (Bill C-13) will come into force. The balance of the Act has been in effect since receiving Royal Assent on May 29, 2008.

3. 6th Annual Crown Defence Conference

The Sixth Annual Crown Defence Conference, [Achieving Justice in an Adversarial System](#), will be held September 18 and 19, 2008 at the Canad Inn Polo Park. For further information and to register, contact the [Criminal Defence Lawyers Association](#).

4. Upcoming CLE on FASD

[Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders](#) is a must-attend CLE program for any lawyer representing clients with FASD. The program takes place at The Law Society of Manitoba on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. and features a presentation by Associate Chief Judge Mary Kate Harvie of the Provincial Court of Manitoba.

5. Current Articles on Criminal Justice

[Voor Dire](#), the newsletter of the Canadian Bar Association's [National Criminal Justice Section](#), is

now available online (August 2008 issue) and contains the following articles:

- [*Expert medical witnesses: scientists or advocates*](#)
 - [*Immigration issues at sentencing*](#)
 - [*The Tackling Violent Crime Act*](#)
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6. Acknowledging Our Volunteers

Finally, a special thank you to our eLaw Criminal Law Update volunteers from 2008: Melanie Bueckert, Kathy Buetti, George Derwin, Mary Goska, Sarah Inness, Baerbel Langner, Chris Mainella and Rekha Malaviya. Their contributions are integral to making this publication a success.

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