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1. Provincial Court Amendments

Family proceedings in the Provincial Court of Manitoba are the subject of Bill 4, [The Provincial Court Amendment Act \(Family Mediators and Evaluators.\)](#) The Bill, introduced in the Legislature on November 26, 2007, would give the Provincial Court jurisdiction to order appointment of a designated mediator or family evaluator in family proceedings before it.

2. Bill 7 - Reporting Child Pornography

Bill 7, [The Child and Family Services Amendment Act \(Child Pornography Reporting\)](#) was introduced in the legislature on November 28, 2007. The effect of the proposed legislation is to add a definition of child pornography to [The Child and Family Services Act](#), C.C.S.M. c.C80, and to include child pornography in the definition of when a child is "in need of protection." The Bill also creates a new reporting obligation for anyone who "reasonably believes" that material is or might be child pornography, but does not extend that obligation to privileged information obtained in a solicitor and client relationship.

3. Family Law Innovations

The Fall 2007 issue of *News & Views on Civil Justice Reform* focuses on Family Law Innovations. It is published by the [Canadian Forum on Civil Justice](#) and is available entirely (and free) [online](#).

4. Motions Court Practice Tips

The "basic expectations that a Court has of counsel appearing on motions" are succinctly set out in the recent Ontario Superior Court decision in [Kaplan v. Kaplan](#), 2007 CanLII 38396. The court sets out six reminders and then summarizes these as follows: "Motions court lists usually are long. For motions court to work efficiently and fairly, the court depends upon counsel observing the "Three Cs" - Courtesy, Civility and Co-operation." If you spend any time in motions court, you need to read this decision.

5. Family Practice Makeover!

The Law Society CLE program [Family Practice Makeover](#) is scheduled to take place at The Fort Garry Hotel on Friday, February 8, 2008. This half-day program is chaired by the Honourable Madam Justice Allen and features presenters [Lonny Balbi, Q.C.](#) and [Jennifer Cooper, Q.C.](#) For

complete details and to register, visit the Law Society [website](#).

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