Family Law Update



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1. Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines: Final Version

The final version of the <u>Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines</u> has now been posted to the <u>Justice Canada website</u>. The authors of the Guidelines, Professors Carol Rogerson and Rollie Thompson have also prepared <u>A User's Guide to the Final Version</u>.

2. Unrepresented Litigants & Access to Justice: CLE

Supreme Court Justice Marshall Rothstein will be the keynote presenter for the upcoming Law Society of Manitoba CLE program, *Unrepresented Litigants & Access to Justice: Today's Reality and a View to the Future*. This full-day CLE program will take place on Wednesday, October 29, 2008 at the Fort Garry Hotel and features presenters from both the Bench and Bar. Contact Legal Studies at the Law Society for more information and to register.

3. The Family Way

The August 2008 issue of *The Family Way*, the newsletter of the Canadian Bar Association's Family Law Section, is now available online. Articles of interest include:

- A New Code of Conduct for Family Law Lawyers? by Cori McGuire
- <u>Children's voices, children's interests and children as litigants in family matters</u> by Elizabeth Greene

4. Guide to CPP Credit Splitting

Earlier this year, Human Resources and Social Development Canada released a new publication entitled <u>Canada Pension Plan Credit Splitting: A Guide for the Legal Profession</u>.

5. Legal bill slashed to \$50,000 from \$200,000

The September 8, 2008 issue of <u>Law Times</u> reports on a case in which the Ontario Superior Court reduced a legal bill of over \$200,000 for a divorce case to \$50,000 after finding that the lawyer

claiming the costs "lost focus" that her client wanted a quick resolution, not a big pay day from her wealthy ex-husband.

6. Information on Hague Convention Compliance

The U.S. State Department maintains <u>a web page</u> that reviews the State Department's experiences in dealing with signatory countries to the Hague Convention.

7. Thanks to Volunteers

Thank you to the following eLaw volunteers for 2007-2008: Shannon Breckman, Melanie Bueckert, Andrea Dodgson, Greg Evans, Lori Glowacki, Rhonda Hercus, Joan MacPhail, Q.C. and Norm Yusim. Their contributions each month are integral to the success of this publication.

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