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1. New Parental Support Program Kicks Off October 1/CLE Set for October 15

Starting October 1st the Law Society of Manitoba will be offering a free and confidential parental support program. The program will provide lawyers with coaching sessions designed to help them plan for maternity and parental leave and meet the challenges of becoming new parents. Six coaching sessions will be provided by Brenlee Carrington Trepel, the law society's [Equity Ombudsperson](#), with additional resources offered through Blue Cross Manitoba. The sessions, which will include the lawyer and his or her spouse or life partner, will focus on issues such as how to discuss leave and transition options with the lawyer's firm, handling the new dynamics of having a family, and successful reintegration into practice while juggling career and home life.

The Law Society program is modelled on one introduced at the McCarthy Tetrault firm in Ontario by the firm's regional managing partner, [Kirby Chown](#). Register to attend the [Parental Support Program](#) CLE on October 15th at 12:00 noon to hear what Brenlee, Kirby and Law Society President Grant Mitchell have to say about this new and exciting program.

2. Conflicts of Interest Toolkit & More

The Canadian Bar Association's [Task Force on Conflicts of Interest](#) has recently released their [Final Report](#) and with it, a [Conflicts of Interest Toolkit](#) that includes checklists, precedent agreements and model letters that you may wish to use or adapt for your practice.

3. Law Firm General Counsel?

Lawyers need lawyers too. The article [Legal Help for Law Firms](#) by Julius Melnitzer, published online in [Lexpert Magazine](#) outlines the steps some Canadian law firms are taking in retaining General Counsel to address risk management issues within their firms.

4. Law Firm Leadership Conference

The Canadian Bar Association's 4th annual [Law Firm Leadership Conference](#) will take place in Montreal from November 2-4, 2008. For further details and to register, please visit the [CBA website](#).

5. Practice Management on the Web

Following are a few highlights appearing on the web in the last few months on the topic law practice management:

- [*Law Consulting Blog - Tools for Your Client Development Tool Kit*](#)
 - [*The Complete Lawyer*](#), Volume 4, No. 4, Focus on *What's Your Exit Strategy?*
 - [*Law Practice Magazine: 10 Tips for Building a Better Clientele*](#)
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6. Thanks to Volunteers

Finally, a special thank you to our eLaw Practice Management Update volunteers from 2008: Barney Christianson, Q.C., Tana Christianson, Robert Dawson, Sherri Jack and Alan Pollard. Their contributions are integral to the success of this publication.

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