Property & Succession Update



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1. Cottage Succession: CLE

The Manitoba Bar Association's <u>Wills & Estates section</u> is presenting a CLE on the topic of Cottage Succession Issues at the Law Society on Monday, November 19, 2007 at noon. <u>John Poyser</u> is the featured speaker. <u>Register through the MBA</u> by noon on Friday, November 16.

2. Medical Evidence of Capacity: B.C. S.C.

In <u>Woodward v. Grant</u>, 2007 BCSC 1192 (CanLII), the court admitted the evidence of a geriatric psychiatrist who never met the deceased in considering the issue of testamentary capacity of the deceased. The court found that:

...in this case, the business records include observations which are technical and which it is difficult for the court to assess without assistance.

The court could make a decision without Dr. Sheldon's evidence. However, in light of the observations recorded in the records admitted as business records, Dr. Sheldon's evidence will assist the court to appreciate the technical facts, and to avoid confusion over some of the records.

As is pointed out in the <u>Rule of Law</u> blog entry, <u>Expert Medical Evidence in Will Challenges</u>, this decision may assist in getting medical evidence before the court where there were no examinations of the deceased to determine capacity at the time the will was executed.

3. Advising the Snow Bird: CLE

On December 12, 2007 at 12:00 noon, The Law Society is presenting <u>Advising the Snow Bird</u>, part of the recent series of Elder Law CLE programs. Presenters <u>Dave Christianson</u> and <u>Peter Glowacki</u> will address the legal and financial issues you should know about when talking to your snow bird clients. Contact <u>Legal Studies</u> for further details and to register.

4. Estates Resources

The following recent articles will be of interest to estates practitioners:

- Emotions of Family Dynamics Play Role
- Power of Attorney Protection Breaks Down Across Borders

• The Elderly Deserve More Protection

5. Trust Conditions Materials

If you missed the recent Law Society CLE program, <u>Trust Conditions and Undertakings for Lawyers and Support Staff</u>, be sure that you get a copy of the materials available for purchase from <u>The Law Society</u>.

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