



# Law Society of BC

@LawSocietyofBC

The Law Society of British Columbia regulates the legal profession in BC in the public interest.

Vancouver, BC · <http://www.lawsociety.bc.ca>

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## Tweets



**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

9m

We're done for the day! Thanks to all who participated in Law Society revealed: a one-day insider's view through Twitter. Feedback welcome.



**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

10m

@acfe\_vancouver Thanks, glad you enjoyed it.

← In reply to ACFE\_Vancouver



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14m

Reviewing an application from a lawyer who wants to act as a principal to an articulated student. [ow.ly/anaco](http://ow.ly/anaco)



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15m

Notifying some applicants about decisions made by Credentials Committee. Committee ensures good character and competence of lawyers.



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17m

Member rep working with lawyer who wants to transfer to BC. We didn't get the required 30 days notice but are doing our best to

complete.



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19m

It's our budgeting cycle at the Law Society. We are working to keep costs, and lawyers fees, as low as possible.



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23m

Lawyers: our IT staff are working on improvements to the search function for CPD on our website.



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26m

Today our IT staff are rolling out new energy efficient monitors. Our commitment to sustainable workplace practices: [ow.ly/an8Uc](http://ow.ly/an8Uc)



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29m

Why are we talking about a CEO & President? CEO directs staff. President changes annually & leads Board [ow.ly/an8qu](http://ow.ly/an8qu)



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30m

Caller asking how to change lawyers. Intake officer: shop around, discuss your expectations to ensure can be met. New lawyer does the rest.



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34m

Our CEO is travelling to Toronto now for Federation of Law Societies of Canada meeting [ow.ly/an8fM](http://ow.ly/an8fM)



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47m

Since 1949 we have provided compensation to clients of lawyers who steal money. Sadly, it happens, but not often. [ow.ly/an7yx](http://ow.ly/an7yx)



55m

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Caller wondering how to find out if their lawyer has previously been disciplined. Check here: [ow.ly/an5R6](http://ow.ly/an5R6)



59m

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Less than an hour to go in "Law Society revealed: a one-day insider's view through Twitter" We'd love to hear from you.



1h

**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

Writing a letter to remind lawyer of an upcoming audit. Every lawyer is audited at least once every 6 years to ensure clients' \$ protected.



1h

**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

Re our earlier q: can only a lawyer give legal advice? For the most part only a lawyer can. Read the common exceptions: [ow.ly/amVwy](http://ow.ly/amVwy)



1h

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Conducting regular follow-up procedure with newly-retired lawyer to ensure trust account is closed.



1h

**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

Intake officer tells caller: make list of probs w/ lawyer & tell lawyer. If still not happy, complaint an option [ow.ly/an5s9](http://ow.ly/an5s9)



1h

**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

@jaymichi Receive more than 1000 complaints a year. Roughly 13 % go to Discipline Committee. See 2011 Annual Report [ow.ly/an5it](http://ow.ly/an5it)

← In reply to Jay Michi



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1h

Caller complaining lawyer not returning calls or providing case updates. 85% of client complaints are service related: [ow.ly/an5d1](https://ow.ly/an5d1)



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1h

@jaymichi We got rid of hangings awhile back. Trust you'll be sending it at some point?

← In reply to Jay Michi



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1h

Investigator informs lawyer that he must attend at Law Society offices to explain his conduct in a criminal defence matter.



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1h

One of our paralegals reviewing a file in preparation for a hearing. This is an information-based organization to be sure.



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1h

After two years of hard work, a large complaint file has been resolved. Four boxes of documents are being sent to offsite storage.



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1h

Staff working on scheduling several conduct meetings for lawyers found offside our rules. These meetings are one form of discipline we use.



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1h

Staff lawyer just left to attend a course. Like all BC lawyers, she's required to have 12 hours of pro-d annually. [ow.ly/an2SN](https://ow.ly/an2SN)



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1h

Hearing about common mistake made when changing membership status:applying 4 non-practicing when eligible for retired. [ow.ly/an2yr](https://ow.ly/an2yr)



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1h

Policy lawyer looking at ways to help boost number of lawyers offering pro bono (free) services. Part of strategic plan [ow.ly/an2uY](https://ow.ly/an2uY)



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2h

Some Law Society staff are wearing #Canucks jerseys and t-shirts today to show support on game day!



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2h

Staff are updating online courses to provide small firm lawyers with guidelines aimed at improving client interaction.



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2h

Explaining to caller processes for making a complaint and reviewing lawyer's fee through Court Registrar's office.



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2h

@nrusse Alas, no. Next time...

← In reply to Nate Russell



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2h

Caller asking about certifying a digital signature for an electronic land title filing. We do this through Juricert [ow.ly/an003](https://ow.ly/an003)



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2h

This is our Bencher room. Nothing on now - Board of Directors meets here regularly. Reporters sometimes attend. [ow.ly/i/zBJh](http://ow.ly/i/zBJh)



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2h

Call from someone who assumed lawyer who is working but not practising must be disbarred. Lawyers stop practising for many reasons.



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2h

Just received a common inquiry - someone looking to hire a lawyer. We recommend the CBA's Lawyer Referral Service. [ow.ly/amZSQ](http://ow.ly/amZSQ)



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2h

Switchboard explaining to caller how to have his documents 'authenticated'. We provide the service with two-day turnaround.



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2h

Investigative lawyers meeting shortly to discuss complex complaints against lawyers. Complaints cover all areas of law, but can also be...



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2h

Inquiry about someone claiming to be a lawyer; determined that person is a former lawyer using legal experience but not practising.



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2h

[@kevinharding](#) Indeed but the legal profession is changing with technology and demand for services at lower cost. Regulators must keep pace.

← In reply to [kevin harding](#)



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3h

Investigations lawyer is reviewing witness statements for evidence to support the complaint against a lawyer.



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3h

What's up with the Law Society? We're tweeting about the inner workings all day, as part of our contribution to #LawWeek. #BCLegal



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3h

Can only lawyers provide legal advice? Let us know what you think.



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3h

We look into about 1200 complaints per year and take many, many more phone calls. Our intake team works hard to help resolve things early.



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3h

Incoming mail is processed. Careful attention goes to date of receipt as documents may serve as evidence in hearings.



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4h

Caller talking to intake officer about next steps for complaint that a lawyer may not be handling a complex case in timely manner.



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4h

Person representing self complains about opposing party's lawyer. Intake officer will review & explains the duties lawyers owe clients.

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4h



Staff are sending lawyers their audit results - not necessarily a bad thing and often a big help to sole practioners with limited resources.



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4h

Practice advisor updated list of confirmed fraudsters today. Alphabetical list on our site: [ow.ly/amO3d](http://ow.ly/amO3d)



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4h

Answering inquiry from retired lawyer about how to properly dispose of corporate seals from defunct companies.



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4h

Our Practice Advisors provide confidential advice to lawyers w/ questions to ensure professional responsibilites met [ow.ly/amN74](http://ow.ly/amN74)



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4h

Practice advisor received call from lawyer concerned "new client" might be fraudster. Read about scams & lawyers. [ow.ly/amMUa](http://ow.ly/amMUa)



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4h

Email from student registering for PLTC 2014 session. Common for students to register two years ahead. Registration: [ow.ly/amMMD](http://ow.ly/amMMD)



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4h

Processing summer articling applications to ensure law students get their practical experience at law firms.

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5h





@vanderfluit Yes, there's a lot going on here today thanks for indulging us in our public education initiative as part of Law Week.

← In reply to Sean Vanderfluit



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5h

@karentankard Glad to hear you're enjoying it!

← In reply to Karen Tankard



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5h

Hearing administrator putting together panels for May & June hearings into lawyer conduct. Each panel has public on it [ow.ly/amKnA](http://ow.ly/amKnA)



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5h

Just received info about lawyer who has applied to become a judge. We review conduct record of lawyer.



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5h

Law Society wants to see paralegals offer services like contracts and leases with lawyer supervision at lower cost. New rules out soon.



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5h

Law Society staff are sorting exams to ensure students remain anonymous when being marked by instructors.



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5h

Access to justice key focus of governors. Working with courts to launch paralegal family law pilot project. Lower cost service the goal.



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5h

Judgements re. hearings must be filed w/in 60 days of hearing. Part of National Discipline Standards Pilot Project [ow.ly/amIF1](https://ow.ly/amIF1)



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5h

Lots of calls from lawyers about the Trust Admin fee, due April 30. The fee helps fund Trust Assurance program. [ow.ly/amI6U](https://ow.ly/amI6U)



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5h

President reports that in the last five weeks he has attended 23 events on behalf of the Law Society. It's demanding, but very rewarding.



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5h

Hearing administrator clarifying earlier tweet about number of discipline hearings. Make that about two dozen hearings completed per year.



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5h

Law Society staff are sending reminders to hearing panel chairs about their outstanding judgments. [ow.ly/amHXe](https://ow.ly/amHXe)



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5h

From the president: People are often amazed when I describe everything the Law Society does. Who knew? [ow.ly/amHRO](https://ow.ly/amHRO)



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5h

Review of Law Society governance is a key objective of president this year. Hasn't been done for 17 years and a lot has changed since then.



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5h

Letters are going out notifying lawyers of upcoming compliance audits. Currently we have 12 audits happening around the province.



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5h

Instructors are busy invigilating the final exams of the PLTC February session. Good luck to all students!



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5h

President met with North Shore Bar Association last night to discuss ethics. That's two hours of CPD credit for attendees.



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5h

Our data supervisor is helping someone locate his files after lawyer retired. Find your lost files. [ow.ly/amGZw](http://ow.ly/amGZw)



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5h

From the prez: My term here is one year. Was home in Trail for the weekend, but spending most of 2012 here in Vancouver [ow.ly/amGN1](http://ow.ly/amGN1)



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5h

Lawyer asking for help to file online Trust Report. This is part of the Trust Assurance program, which helps protect client money.



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5h

Files coming into our custodianships department getting sorted. Did you know Wills are kept for 100 years?

5h



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Got questions about the Law Society? We're standing by to answer them.



**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

Law Society president Bruce LeRose on deck. His day started at 6 am with an interview on CBC radio and Rick Cluff.

6h



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Discipline hearing underway today - hearings just one of many outcomes of lawyer misconduct More: [ow.ly/amFqx](http://ow.ly/amFqx)

6h



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Two in-house audits taking place today. We are making sure members follow trust account controls in the Law Society Rules.

6h



**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

Caller looking for a free legal advice service in Victoria. Referred to [clicklaw.bc.ca](http://clicklaw.bc.ca) as a resource for this information.

6h



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We've received a fax from a lawyer with an urgent request for "Certificate of Standing." Needs it to represent clients in Yukon.

6h



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Intake officer entering notes from latest call. Notes are taken on all calls and stored for future reference. Speeds up resolution.

6h

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6h



Taking call from lawyer outside BC about becoming a lawyer here. Most transfer requests we get come from Alberta and Ontario.



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6h

Law Society received 1200 trust reports in March and are now being reviewed by staff.



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6h

Investigations is objectively reviewing & scanning original client files for evid. that either confirms wrongdoing or clears accused lawyer



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6h

Received a request to verify that a lawyer's seal and signature are true on a legal document. Law Society provides this service.



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6h

Law Society investigations staff heading to court soon to review civil case file where questions raised about conduct of a lawyer on a case



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6h

Inquiry about funds not returned by a lawyer. Intake officer has recommended steps to take and encouraged a call back if they don't work.



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6h

Taking call from lawyer about digital certificate. Law Society registers e-signatories for e-filing in courts and Land Title Office.

6h



**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

Still early but addressing four calls so far to our complaints officer. Not all lawyer complaints but hoping to help. [ow.ly/amBhd](https://ow.ly/amBhd)



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6h  
police academy trained law society staff member reviewing evidence in case where lawyer alleged to have had a conflict of interest



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6h  
Discipline hearing today. One of more than a dozen hearings a year into lawyer conduct.



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7h  
Audit team in Victoria sifting through bank records at law firms. Part of regular program to ensure clients \$ protected [ow.ly/amy3x](https://ow.ly/amy3x)



**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

7h  
Count down is on! in just 3 mins, join us "Law Society revealed: a one-day insider's view through Twitter" [ow.ly/amvZb](https://ow.ly/amvZb) #bclaw



**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

17 Apr  
What's up at the Law Society? Day-in-the-life Twitter campaign to showcase inner workings. [ow.ly/algVe](https://ow.ly/algVe)



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17 Apr  
See how a trial is conducted and be part of the jury at tonight's mock trial in Cranbrook! It is open to everyone: [ow.ly/agFZI](https://ow.ly/agFZI)

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17 Apr



News release - Law Society exposed: Regulator uses social media to demonstrate inner workings. [ow.ly/al8JC](http://ow.ly/al8JC) [ow.ly/i/zs93](http://ow.ly/i/zs93)



17 Apr

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The Law Week open house at Vancouver art gallery is today. An obstacle course and mock crime scene by SFU criminology: [ow.ly/agGfx](http://ow.ly/agGfx)



16 Apr

**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

RT @legalaidbc: It's Law Week! We'll be at the #Vancouver Art Gallery tomorrow from 10-3pm along with @AccessProBono @Clicklaw and @povnet



16 Apr

**Law Society of BC** @LawSocietyofBC

Law week continues with an open house at Vancouver art gallery ([ow.ly/agFKA](http://ow.ly/agFKA)) and a mock trial in Cranbrook ([ow.ly/agFOd](http://ow.ly/agFOd))



16 Apr

**Slaw** @slaw\_dot\_ca

Twitter, Facebook and the Rule of Law: To have a country governed by the rule of law and not the rule of man... [bit.ly/HZ44YB](http://bit.ly/HZ44YB)

↻ Retweeted by Law Society of BC



14 Apr

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Want to see the Big Bad Wolf in trial? This and many other fun activities are all possible at Nanaimo Law Day: [ow.ly/agFwx](http://ow.ly/agFwx)



13 Apr

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@trulaw\_sls Glad you'll be joining us and all the best to law students writing their finals.

← In reply to TRULaw SLS