

Legal Defence Fund Update, January to June 2019



Thanks to the generous support of our donors we have been able to continue our "ministry of presence" among policy makers, academics and the media. Given recent news reports involving law and religion around Canada you will undoubtedly be aware that Christian ministries need a strong organization that "has their back" when faced with uncertainty.

Our effective work is making a difference. For example, the federal government no longer imposed its "values test" in the 2019 Canada Summer Jobs program like it did last year. We celebrate that success but recognize our efforts must continue as some groups were still denied funding, and a new 2019 court challenge has been launched.

In March, the legal department welcomed Deina Warren as the new Associate Director, Legal Affairs. Prior to joining CCCC, Deina's practice focused largely on constitutional and human rights law. Her keen insights, eloquence and expertise have already been a blessing to the team!



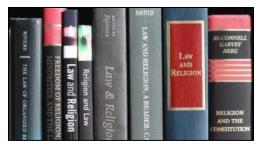
The team has also been active in:

- Researching and writing law review articles:
 - Barry W. Bussey, "The Law of Intervention After the TWU Law School Case: Is Justice Seen to Be Done? (2019) Supreme Court Law Review (2d) 90 S.C.L.R. (2d), pp. 265-296. Available at SSRN: <u>https://ssrn.com/abstract=3381257</u>
 - Barry W. Bussey, "The Canada Summer Jobs Debate and the Democratic Decline" (2019) 91 Supreme Court Law Review (2d) 91 S.C.L.R. (2d), pp. 245-296, Available at SSRN: <u>https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3401591</u>
 - Derek Ross and Deina Warren, "Religious Equality: Restoring Section 15's Hollowed Ground" (2019) 91 Supreme Court Law Review (2d)
- Publishing **op-ed pieces**:
 - <u>"With Ontario court's ruling on doctors, the revolution continues," National Post</u>, May 17, 2019
 - o <u>"The Beam of Christian Schooling,"</u> Convivium, March 15, 2019
 - <u>"Stigma and Shame,"</u> Convivium, May 22, 2019
- Providing legal review and input for the CCCC's submission to the Special Senate Committee on the Charitable Sector, which presented its report on June 20th, 2019. You can download CCCC's written report <u>here</u>.

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ADVANCING MINISTRY TOGETHER

• Editing a **book** on the advancement of religion as a charitable "head" or purpose. This collaborative project includes contributions from scholars in the UK, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, and addresses arguments for and against granting registered charitable status to religious organizations. This book is expected come out within the next year.



- Participating in academic discourse through **conferences** and symposia on law and religion, including:
 - University of Alberta Augustana Campus "Religion and Law in North America: Comparisons between Canada and the United States"
 - Keynote speaker at a symposium on "The Future of Freedom of Religion" at Leiden University, the Netherlands.

We Need Your Support

Our efforts remain relevant to your ministry by striving towards the goal of maintaining a favourable environment for religious charities to flourish in Canada. Though it may seem a step removed from day to day ministry, regularly publishing ongoing scholarly articles has real potential to influence judicial and political decision-makers, and simultaneously presents intellectually rigorous arguments in support of religious freedom. We covet your prayers and are grateful for your support of this work!

We trust that your organization or church has benefited from our legal work. Will you please consider a special financial gift to the <u>Legal Defence Fund</u> before the end of this month? We are actively working on your behalf throughout the summer, and this work is only made possible by your generosity.

We post regularly to our blog. Consider <u>subscribing to it</u> for timely and valuable information.

Thank you for your continued support of the Legal Affairs team through 2019!

Blessings,

Barry W. Bussey, BA, LLB, MA, LLM, MPACS Director, Legal Affairs Canadian Council of Christian Charities