

SUMMER 2021

OCLA ACCESS POINT

The Newsletter of the Ontario Courthouse Libraries Association



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Welcome to the Spring / Summer edition of the OCLA newsletter! Whether you're reading this from your garden, camp, patio, or (perhaps less fun) your desk, I hope you have a great summer ahead of you.

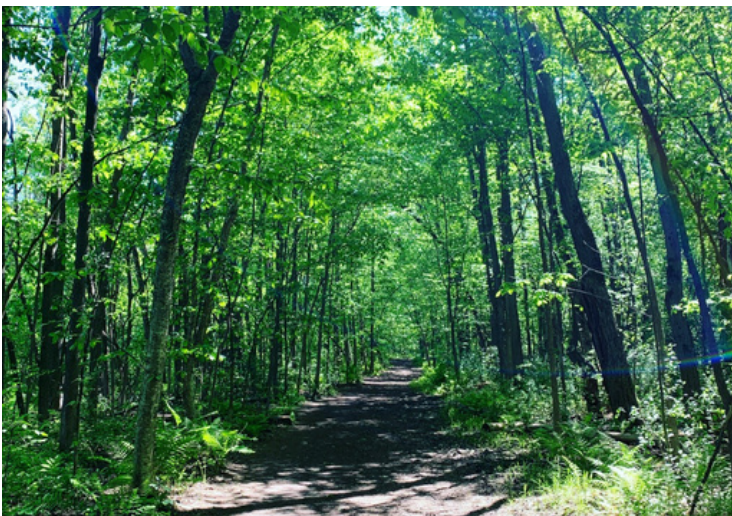
As we inch towards a post-COVID normal, it at times feels like things are more hectic than ever. Some of us continue to work from home, others are back occasionally in the library, and some of us never left our posts in the first place. That combined with the pressures of pandemic-life and the uncertainty that comes with moments of big change (such as in the leadership at the LSO and the new LIRN organization), well, everything feels a little off-kilter.

I hope for us all that we can continue to hang in there, help each other when and where possible, show grace towards those who are struggling, and eventually, all find a rhythm again.

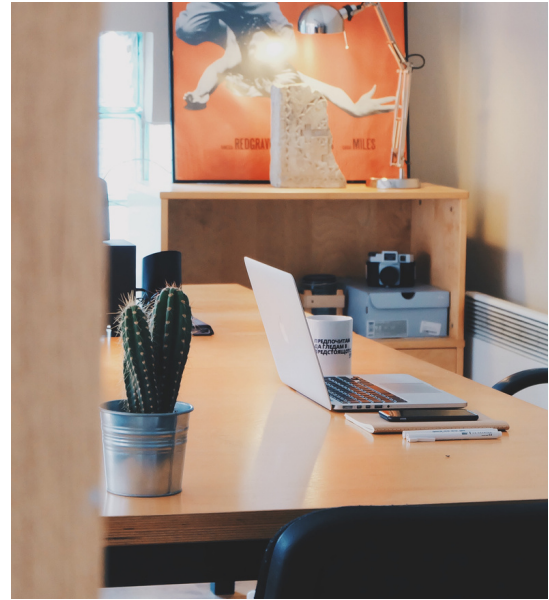
I'd like to thank Stacey Zip for not just her work on this edition of the OCLA Newsletter, but for stepping up in the OCLA executive. When our previous Vice Chair Laura Richmond left the courthouse library system earlier this year, Stacey graciously volunteered to move from the Member at Large spot to the Vice Chair position. She also took the helm on this newsletter, which I'm sure you'll agree has turned out wonderfully. I'd also like to take this time to once again acknowledge and thank Mary-Jo Petsche of Welland who volunteered to take on the Member at Large role mid-term. We thank you for your time and participation, Mary-Jo, and welcome you to the Executive!

Enjoy this newsletter, and have a wonderful and healthy summer,

Jennifer Walker



Summer hiking in the National Capital Commission Greenbelt - a favourite pastime for Ottawa library staff!



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Stacey Zip

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Michelle Gerrits

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Windows Tips with a Twist!

By Chris Wyskiel, Brant Law Association



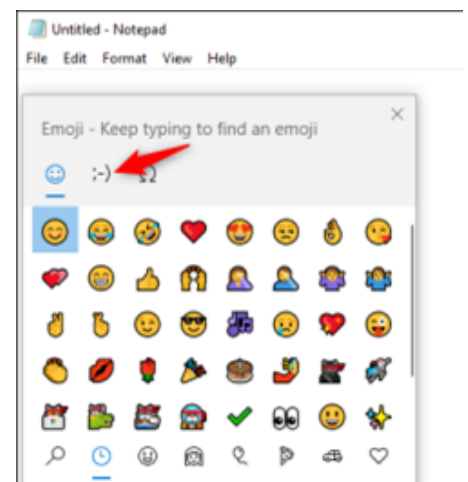
Here's a riff off Windows tips paired with song titles by Taylor Swift, Charles Wright & the Watts 103rd Street Rhythm Band, Blondie, and Newcleus.

Shake it Off

This feature launched in Windows 7 and I use it all the time to shake it off. Usually my desktop has a full display of open windows. To clear the mess, grab the top of the window you do like by holding down the left mouse button and "shake" it to minimize all the other windows. To reverse the action, shake again and the windows will pop back.

Express Yourself

Windows 10 - Hit the Windows Key + Period(.) or the Windows Key + Semicolon(;) to pop up an expanded menu of emojis and a wide array of symbols. Note your cursor has to be in a place that accepts text. You can use this shortcut in practically any application. Just click the emoji in the window that pops up to insert it. My favourite is "hipster cat". The emoji panel stays open so that you can insert as many emojis as you like. To close it, click the "x", or press the Esc key on your keyboard. Kaomoji are also available and are more like text-based emoticons (._.`). Click the ;-) icon at the top of the list to view a library of cool kaomoji.



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I Want to Drag You Around

Drag a window's title bar to one side of your desktop and let go of the mouse button. Repeat with the second window, dragging it to the opposite side of the desktop. If you want to place four windows, drag the title bar of each window to a different corner of the screen. Each window will resize to a quarter of the screen. To have the windows line up side by side, right-click on the taskbar and choose Show Windows Side by Side. To align the windows in horizontal rows, choose Show Windows Stacked. More than three open windows will tile them across the desktop.

(Computer Age) Push the Button

Typically, the desktop on my computer holds shortcuts and docs. Usually I'm working in a Word document that I don't want to close, but need to access the desktop quickly. The Show Desktop button (I call it a slice) is super handy and dates back to Windows 7. On the bottom-right corner of the desktop beyond the date & time is a snip of a button that looks practically invisible. Click it (push the left mouse button) to minimize all your open windows to access the desktop – volia!



OCLA Member & Library Profile

OCLA Member: Judith Dale

Library: Hastings & Prince Edward Law Association



Tell us a bit about your association and city!

The Hastings & Prince Edward Law Association is a local law association comprised of 135 members located in Belleville, a small city of approximately 68,000 people, which is situated on the traditional territory of the Wendat, Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee peoples. Located on the Toronto Montreal corridor 170 km east of Toronto and 260 km west of Ottawa, Belleville offers a singular blend of small town charm with big city comforts.

All law association Practice Resource Centers (PRC) are great places for lawyers to network and to make lasting friendships. In the thirty years I have worked for this association I have found our local bar to be a very collegial and collaborative group. Prior to the pandemic they met regularly in the PRC to attend continuing education sessions, numerous ad hoc meetings, and social events. I hear from members that they anticipate socializing again, and I'm told that the social committee is busy planning 'post-pandemic' events.

Do you have a favourite kind of research? What is it?

Just about any kind of research is grist to my mill. In the course of my searches I often resort to Google Scholar, Hein Online, legal blogs or metasearch engines such as Dogpile.com for those elusive commentary requests that just can't be found in LexisNexis QL Advance.

Although the local areas of practice are primarily family law, criminal law, wills and estates, and real estate law, I can receive requests for reference or research in any other area of law at any point in a day. Because the law is always in a state of flux, locating an answer to any specific question can be challenging and rewarding. Reference and research work is fun!

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What do you like the most about being a library technician?

I like to think of my job as a service job. I have worked in various libraries (academic, government, public and law) for over 40 years and when I locate the information and materials I am seeking I think that it is the most satisfying work that I can do. I can honestly say that every day is a voyage of exploration and the probability of learning something new.



What projects are you currently working on?

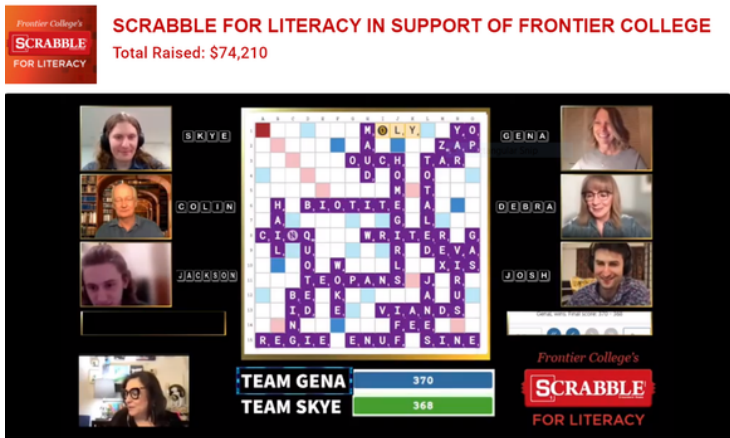
I have been compiling a history of the Hastings & Prince Edward Law Association (formerly the Hastings County Law Association). Due to lack of space at the first recorded location of the law library, no records were ever retained, so I am exploring online resources for historic material. During the period from 1890 to 1892 the first declaration of Incorporation and By-Laws of the 'County of Hastings Law Library Association' was registered, but over the years the even those records were lost, and when the Hastings Law Association was incorporated in 1990, it was thought that this was the first incorporation.

The pandemic has proven a temporary research challenge as I have not been able to access The Belleville & Community Archives in person. There is limited information in the online archives records, but I hope to continue with the project once the library reopens.

What keeps you busy outside the library?

Reading is a solitary pleasure, and as with most people who work in libraries, I am a voracious reader. I have just read *The Duchess of Death: An Unauthorized Biography of Agatha Christie* by Richard Hack. Hack's biography is an interesting blend of fact and fiction. Apparently he referenced "over 5,000 previously unpublished letters, notes, and documents" but has speculated freely on Dame Agatha's internal dialogue in order to produce this enjoyable light literary biography.

Charles Dickens wrote about his many walking tours: "I think I must be the descendant, at no great distance, of some irreclaimable tramp." and as an avid walker I share his point of view. Cooking, cats and road trips are also high on my favourites list.



Back in March, Frontier College held their annual Scrabble Tournament, which is usually a large corporate fundraising event in Toronto. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the tournament was held online this year and open to all individuals to participate. I participated in several tournaments in past years as part of a corporate team with a law firm in Toronto. After getting the second highest score in the tournament, I went on to play the live championship round. It was Team Gena (myself, Debra McGrath, and a Scrabble pro, Josh) against Team Skye (Skye, Colin Mochrie and a Scrabble pro, Jackson) and the event was hosted by Martha Chaves. Team Gena won and Frontier College raised over \$70,000. The games were played through a new app called Scrabble GO. If you're a Scrabble lover, you should check out the app.

Frontier College is a national literacy organization.

For more information, please check out their website, www.frontiercollege.ca

Gena Lowe

County of Perth Law Association



Game Night



Want a new idea for social Zoom events?
Try Scrabble or Trivia!

TRIVIA

Fictional Law Firms and Lawyers

Can you identify the TV show, movie, or novel that gave us each of the following make-believe lawyers and law firms?

Firms

1. McKenzie, Brackman, Cheney, & Kuzak
2. Dewey, Cheatham & Livingstone
3. Cage, Fish, & Associates
4. Barr, Rabinovitch, & Tchobanian
5. I Can't Believe It's a Law Firm
6. Firth, Wynn, & Meyer

Lawyers

7. Sydney Carton
8. Harmon Rabb
9. Jeff Winger
10. Elle Woods
11. Steve Dallas
12. Carson Drew
13. Adam Schiff
14. Oliver Wendell Douglas
15. Claire Huxtable
16. Atticus Finch

*For the answers, contact Maria L. Berezowski,
Kenora District Law Association*

Whine vs. Wine

By Betty Dykstra, York Region Law Association

Oftentimes, the perfect gift for a Librarian is wine. And we all know that the perfect Librarian is a Law Librarian. Much like wine, we have character and personality. Some of us are a little dry and acidic, others are bold or perhaps even fruity. Perhaps you could be described as deep, dark, full bodied, with a hint of spice. Never cheap, but sometimes bubbly. We have a nose for research and some of us have aged well and really should demand a higher price. With that in mind, we could suggest that the perfect persons to gift that wine are lawyers. Not all of us want or need another cat or cardigan.

One only needs to do their research to find the many benefits of the consumption of wine. It has been around for thousands of years (6000 BC) and it is the end result of one of my personal favourite miracles. Imagine how blessed we would be to have the benefit of living in Canada with its largest supply of renewable freshwater, if only that miracle could be reproduced in modern times.

Some of the following wines have been gifts to me from lawyers. Having a bit of fun with this, I have made a few suggestions as to which wine may be appropriate gifts based on areas of practice.

Criminal Lawyers would have their choice of gifts that any Law Librarian would enjoy. There are numerous varieties of 19 Crimes wine from Australia (19crimes.com), with names such as "The Warden," "The Banished," and "19 Crimes Hard Chard" that can be found in your local LCBO. As a side note, they have also expanded their range with California wines in collaboration with the one and only Snoop Dog.



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I find this pairing a bit progressive as I don't associate Snoop with wine, but rather other legal substances with equally beneficial claims. A little closer to home, a seasoned criminal lawyer might find something to enjoy at organizedcrimewinery.com but more junior Criminal Lawyers may have to start with "[Bicycle Thief Red Blend](#)."

Lawyers who practice Wills and Estates might want to offer you some Ontario Wines from just outside of Owen Sound. Coffin Ridge Winery (coffinridge.ca) offers beautiful views and a selection of wines such as "Back from the Dead Red" and "Into the Light White" or perhaps "Resurrection Rosé." If they are truly generous, they could offer a little wine getaway and you could stay at their B&B aptly named "The Resting Place."

There are numerous family wineries in the Niagara Region, but those families are more likely about working and staying together to bring us nice wines. Our Family Lawyers don't always have clients that reflect such harmony. Battling clients in the family realm may be more likely to refer to their spouse as a "Fat Bastard" (fatbastard.com), or find any number of ways to describe their soon to be Ex with some choices from hughhamiltonwines.com.au, such as "The Drama Queen", "The Ratbag" or perhaps "The Floozie." Note that only a couple of these wines are available in Canada but I would love to make a road trip to check out the rest.



Alas, due to Covid I may have to pick up something from a little closer to home at the foreignaffairwinery.com in Ontario. This winery could as easily work for the Family Lawyers as it could pair with Immigration Lawyers. They could offer some "Conspiracy" to a "Temptress" and "Embrace" the "Dream" of wedded bliss and life in Canada. Alternatively, they could just feel free to offer wines from any of their client's countries of origin. There are so many to choose from that you easily could enjoy a bottle of wine from a different country every day of the week.

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We don't see the Real Estate Lawyers too often these days, but that should never preclude them from gifting wines to their favourite law librarians. My personal opinion is that generic "House Wine" is unacceptable as a gift. My preference would be "Nederburg The Manor House Cabernet Sauvignon" (enjoyed last weekend) or perhaps "Flat Roof Manor Pinot Grigio." They could select something from any number of "Estates" wineries, and I would even settle for "The Beachhouse Sauvignon Blanc" or somewhere I could just go "Barefoot".

Strangely enough, although Civil Lawyers come in various subsets and generally encompass a large group in my membership, the choice of wine representing the practice was very limited. I did come up with a nice little winery called megalomaniacwine.com, which is defined in their tagline as original, bold and audacious - all great attributes for a good Civil Litigator. They offer "Unconventional" & "Savvy" & "Outspoken" and even some "Bravado." We will ignore some others such as "Coldhearted" & "Pompass" and "Bigmouth and maybe even "Narcissist". I would never suggest that was a reflection of my Civil Lawyers so I'm going to just leave it with this last one: "KIN Vineyards Civil Grit Chardonnay".

Editor's Note: KIN Vineyards is actually owned by a lawyer! Possible collaboration opportunity here?

I have been personally gifted many lovely bottles of wine. Some are chosen with great care specifically for library staff and one of my lawyers in particular takes this task quite seriously. Recently, he needed to drop off something for a program we were doing. He stood at a distance at my front door, handed me the required USB and followed it up with a bottle of wine. He said, "I figured you needed this about now and it's probably how you are feeling these days." The wine? An extraordinary gift, appropriately labelled, "The Prisoner."

*If you enjoyed this article, please stay tuned for the next one on "last minute requests" which has a working title of "Cannabis: What are you smoking?"



Bah, COVID!

By Jackie Hassefras, Frontenac Law Association



The Shack

Grab a glass of wine, sit down, and get ready to laugh! I've included a few photos of my highlights during the past year, trying to balance a move from our bed & breakfast in Millhaven, working full time from a shack, and building a house on Dog Lake. Throw our adopted grandson (now 12) in the mix and you get the picture!

When COVID hit in March 2020, my family and I were in transition. We had bought a piece of land and were building a new house. There was a little shack on the property with a outhouse and no running water- needless to say, no internet service either. Did I omit to mention there was no way to bath or wash your clothes? Yep, we used the good old water barrel filled with hot water from the woodstove in the middle of the shack!



The Frame

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I had my laptop, but what was I to do when not permitted to go to the office and being bombarded with emails of new legal directions to be sent to our membership? Initially, I drove to the Storrington branch of Kingston Frontenac Public Libraries. There was wifi available, but the signal was poor and I often left frustrated.

An idea emerged: I was aware that of one of the Frontenac Law Association members, a criminal lawyer named Matt Hodgson, lived across the lake from our property. I turned the wifi on on my laptop, and lo and behold, I could (occasionally) pick up his signal from across the lake!

I asked Matt permission and thankfully was granted access to his internet. Wrapped in blankets and laptop pointed toward his house, I was overjoyed to have this figured out. That is, until the leaves came on the trees! Never deterred, I trudged down our two kilometer laneway and positioned myself under his deck to do my work, swatting mosquitos. It was then when I heard the screen door open. Matt was on the deck! I had been discovered!

Ever honest I gently said, "Who is that trip trapping across my bridge??"

As a criminal lawyer, he has seen a lot but likely nothing like this.

The FLA membership never experience an interruption in service! 😊



Completed House

Remedies in *Tortes*

Enjoy these easy baking projects to try during the summer months!



Flourless Almond Butter Chocolate Chip Cookies

Recommended by Lynda Cavanagh, Leeds & Grenville Law Library

Ingredients

- 1 large egg
- 1 cup (250g) almond butter
- 1/2 cup (90g) light or dark brown sugar, lightly packed
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- optional and tasty: 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 cup (190g) chocolate chips

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350F. Line your cookie sheets with parchment paper.

Whisk 1 large or 2 small eggs together in a bowl and mix in 1 cup almond butter, then add 1/2 cup light or dark brown sugar, 1 tsp baking soda, 1/2 tsp vanilla extract (if using). Fold in 1 cup of semi-sweet chocolate chips.

I use a tablespoon to press them onto my baking sheet (12 at a time). It will make approximately 36 cookies.

Bake for 10 minutes, then let them cool for 10 minutes before putting them on a wire rack to cool completely.

They will last for 7 days, if you have self control, in a tightly fit jar or 3 months in the freezer.

Enjoy!

Peaches and Cream Pie

Recommended by Stacey Zip, Simcoe County Law Association

The perfect summertime dessert! Super easy to make and tasting like a cold and peachy Cinnabon, this Internet cult classic is famous for good reason.

Ingredients

- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup (100 g) all-purpose flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 (3 ounce) package non-instant (cooking) vanilla pudding mix
- 3 tablespoons (60 g) butter, softened
- 1 large egg, room temperature
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk, room temperature
- 1 (29 ounce) can sliced peaches, drained and syrup reserved
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup (100 g) white sugar
- 1 tablespoon white sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon



Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease sides and bottom of a 10 inch deep-dish pie pan.

In a medium mixing bowl, mix together flour, salt, baking powder and pudding mix. Mix in butter, egg and milk. Beat for 2 minutes. Pour mixture into pie pan. Arrange the peach slices on top of the pudding mixture.

In a small mixing bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar and 3 tablespoons reserved peach syrup. Beat for 2 minutes. Spoon mixture over peaches to within 1 inch of pan edge. Mix together 1 tablespoon sugar and 1 teaspoon cinnamon, and sprinkle over top.

Bake in preheated oven for 30 to 35 minutes, until lightly golden brown. Chill completely before serving.

Recipe slightly adapted from allrecipes.com

From the Garden

A collection of photos submitted by OCLA members



“If you have a garden in your library, everything will be complete.”
— Marcus Tullius Cicero, Letter to Varro, 1st century AD

