AGLC Legal Citation Usage Guide

for

the lawcite BIBLATEX style

Abstract

This is the instruction manual for using the (lawcite) BIBLATEX format to produce AGLC-style legal citations.

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1 Getting Ready

1.1 What you will need

1.2 Installing the files

Place the lawcite Biblatex definition files (lawcite.dbx, lawcite.bbx, lawcite.cbx, english-lawcite.lbx), and an index style file for SplitIndex to use (e.g., plain.ist), in a location where TEX can find them, for example, in the current folder.

AGLC-style is activated via option settings when calling the Biblatex package.

```
\usepackage[
style=lawcite,
lawcitestyle=aglc,
    use-toc-parnumrefs=false,
...
]{biblatex}
```

Settings used by lawcite may be changed inside the document, as well.

1.3 The Workflow

To compile a file *foo.tex*, do:

- xelatex/lualatex/pdflatex
- biber (collect bibliographic data)

- xelatex/lualatex/pdflatex (resolve citations, insert Table of Contents, Bibliography; page numbers change)
- splitindex (create the ToC etc files)

```
splitindex foo -- -s plain.ist -c
```

- xelatex/lualatex/pdflatex (Table of Cases is inserted; page numbers change)
- splitindex (pick up the new page numbers)
- xelatex/lualatex/pdflatex (refresh the ToC, and any cross-references)

The index style file (for the Table of Cases, etc), is a plain dot-fill style:

```
delim_0 "\\space\\dotfill\\space "\hss
delim_1 "\\space\\dotfill\\space "\hss
delim_2 "\\space\\dotfill\\space "\hss
delim_n ", "
delim_r "--"
delim_t ""
encap_prefix ""
encap_suffix ""
```

2 How lawcite works

2.1 AGLC settings

For a behind-the-scenes look, in terms of on/off switches (that is, where there is a typographical choice), the AGLC style is defined as follows: party names are italic, party separator (usually a "v") is also italic, and not dotted, main citation method is footnoting, square brackets are used for the year component of medium neutral citations, and so on...

```
\newcommand\lcsetstyleaglc{%
  \toggletrue{partynamesitalic}
  \toggletrue{partysepitalic}
```

```
\togglefalse{partysepdotted}
\toggletrue{mncbrackets}
\setcounter{reftypemode}{3}
\toggletrue{printlegtoc}
\toggletrue{statjurisdiction}
\togglefalse{stattycomma}
\toggletrue{stattyitalic}
\toggletrue{commainindex}
\togglefalse{multicitecomma}
\togglefalse{casenamecomma}
\togglefalse{ljarttitleitalic}
}
```

Other components of style depend on data input and/or user choice (the decision year if different to the reporting year); or 'fixed', in the sense that there is only one layout (like using "/" for some provincial regulation formats to separate regulation number and year, or year and regulation number). Coding can be done to the $n^{\rm th}$ degree, but, at some point, practicality switches on.

- 2.2 The Data
- 2.3 The Data Model
- 2.4 The Option Settings
- 2.5 Changing Settings
- 2.6 Bibentries
- 2.7 Citations
- 2.8 Bibliographies

Table of Cases

- \rightarrow References are to page numbers.
- \rightarrow 'Duplicated' entries are intentional.

Alliance of Canadian Cinema Television and Radio Artists v Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, 91 CLLC 16
Betts v Norris, 120 NBR (2d) 384 26 Bradshaw v Attorney-General (Qld), [2000] 2 Qd R 7 9
Case Concerning Military and Paramilitary Activities in and against Nicaragua (Nicaragua v United States of America), [1986] ICJ Rep No 14
Clearbrook Ironworks Ltd v Letourneau, [2006] FCA 42
Director of Public Prosecutions (Vic) v Finn, (2008) 186 A Crim R 235
Fucella v Ricker, 35 OR (2d) 423
Graham v R, [1978] 6 WWR 48, 90 DLR (3d) 223
Hopp v Lepp, [1980] 2 SCR 192
Jimenez v Romeo, [2009] CanLII 68472
Kristel Homes Ltd v Edmonton (City of), [2001] ABCA 317
Litz v Litz, 180 WAC 116

Massachusetts v Environmental Protection Agency, (2007) 549 US 497, 127 S Ct 1438
R v Cole, [2012] SCC 53
Re Sarg Oils Ltd, [2011] ABERCB 32
Saskatoon (City) v Wal-Mart Canada Corp, [2019] SKCA 3; [2019] 3 WWR 284
Thomas v Mowbray, (2007) 233 CLR 307 9 Tiesmaki v Wilson, 23 DLR (3d) 179 26 Tulk v Moxhay, [1848] 1 H & Tw 105 17
VDN Cable Inc, on behalf of a corporation to be incorporated, Toronto, Ontario, 2005-1, online: CRTC <www.crtc.gc.ca> [perma.cc/LF5] 5MM3]</www.crtc.gc.ca>
Table of Statutes
ightarrow References are to page numbers.
Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth) 9 Criminal Code RSC 1985, c C-46 20 Criminal Code, RSC 1985, c C-46 20, 31
Fair Trading Act, RSA 2000, c F-2
Law of Property Act 1969 (UK)

18, 31
197/1976 21, 31
21, 31
21, 31 21, 31 20, 31
21, 31 21, 31 21, 31 21, 31 21, 31 21, 31
21, 31 21, 31
21, 31 19, 31
580 . 22, 31
21, 31
21, 32

3 Cases

3.1 Bibentries

This subsection illustrates the bibentry data fields driving the citations.

● Short name in footer: \lawcitetitle{bradshaw}\lawcite{bradshaw} In Bradshaw v Attorney-General (Qld)¹ ...(AGLC example)

```
@case{bradshaw,
partya = {Bradshaw},
partyb = {Attorney-General},
partybsn = {A-G},
partybjur = {Qld},
reportyear = {2000},
volyearneeded = {true},
reportvolume = {2},
reportseries = {Qd R},
reportpage = {7},
}
```

\lawcite is a footer style under AGLC. Use the \lawcitehf command to explicitly place the case name inline and have the reference in a footer with one command, like so:²

In *Thomas v Mowbray*³, the control order regime established under the schedule to the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth) survived a constitutional challenge.

Use $\label{lawcitehfn}$ for the short name in the footer. In *Director of Public Prosecutions (Vic) v Finn*⁴ ...

Medium Neutral Citation: \lcinline{cole}

R v Cole [2012] SCC 53

¹Bradshaw v A-G (Qld) [2000] 2 Qd R 7.

²The example is from *AGLC*, r 2.1.15 'Omitting the Case Name' p 48.

³(2007) 233 CLR 307.

⁴DPP (Vic) v Finn (2008) 186 A Crim R 235.

```
@case{cole,
partya = \{R\},
partyb = {Cole},
caseyear = \{2012\},
courtname = {SCC},
casenumber = \{53\},
}
  The default party separator is "v". Use the partysep= field to
specify a different party separator, e.g., contre: \lcinline{arbia}
   Arbia c Brousseau [2020] QCCA 1073
@case{arbia,
partya = {Arbia},
partysep = \{c\},
partyb = {Brousseau},
caseyear = \{2020\},
courtname = {QCCA},
casenumber = \{1073\},
  Printed report, by year: \lcinline{hopp}
   Hopp v Lepp [1980] 2 SCR 192
@case{hopp,
partya = {Hopp},
partyb = {Lepp},
reportyear = \{1980\},
volyearneeded = {true},
reportvolume = {2},
reportseries = {SCR},
reportpage = {192},
}
  Printed report, by volume: \lcinline{fucella}
   Fucella v Ricker (1982) 35 OR (2d) 423 (H Ct J)
```

```
@case{fucella,
partya = {Fucella},
partyb = {Ricker},
decisionyear = \{1982\},
reportvolume = {35},
reportseries = {OR (2d)},
reportpage = {423},
note = {H Ct J},
}
  Printed report, by year, decided and published in different years:
\lcinline{swissair}
   Swiss Bank Corp v Air Canada (1987) [1988] 1 FC 71
@case{swissair,
partya = {Swiss Bank Corp},
partyb = {Air Canada},
decisionyear = \{1987\},
reportyear = {1988},
volyearneeded = {true},
reportvolume = {1},
reportseries = {FC},
reportpage = {71},
```

Parallel reports: \lawcitesinlinerr{grahamwwr,grahamdlr}

Graham v R [1978] 6 WWR 48; 90 DLR (3d) 223 (Sask QB)

```
@case{graham,
partya = {Graham},
partyb = \{R\},
options = {skipbib=true},
@case{grahamwwr,
reportyear = {1978},
volyearneeded = {true},
reportvolume = {6},
reportseries = {WWR},
reportpage = {48},
options = {skipbib=true},
crossref = {graham},
@case{grahamdlr,
reportvolume = {90},
reportseries = {DLR (3d)},
reportpage = {223},
crossref = {graham},
note = {Sask QB},
```

Citations 3.2

NOTE: Pinpoints are illustrative only.

Available commands: Ex 1 key \lawcite{key} footer, single key \lawcite{cole} Text⁵ key postnote Ex 2 \lawcite[postnote]{key} footer, single key, single cite \lawcite[\nopp at 67]{cole} Text⁶ *prenote* key Ex 3 **\lawcite**[prenote][]{key} footer, single key \lawcite[See also][]{cole} Text⁷ prenote key postnote Ex 4 \lawcite[prenote][postnote]{key} footer, single key, single cite \lawcite[See also][\nopp at 67]{cole} Text⁸ ⁵ R v Cole [2012] SCC 53.

⁶R v Cole [2012] SCC 53, at 67.

⁷See also *R v Cole* [2012] SCC 53.

⁸See also *R v Cole* [2012] SCC 53, at 67.

key1 key2 ... Ex 5 \lawcitesfoot{key1,key2} footer, multi key \lawcitesfoot{cole,mcleanbclr} Text⁹ key1,key2 postnote Ex 6 \lawcitesfoot[postnote]{key1,key2} footer, multi key, single cite \lawcitesfoot[\addcomma\addspace both on point]{cole,mcleanbclr} Text¹⁰ prenote key1,key2 Ex 7 \lawcitesfoot[prenote][]{key1,key2} footer, multi key \lawcitesfoot[See also][]{cole,mcleanbclr} Text¹¹

prenote key1,key2 postnote

Lx 8

\lawcitesfoot[prenote][postnote]{key1,key2}

footer, multi key, single cite

 $\label{lawcites} $$ \operatorname{lost}[See also][\addcomma\addspace\ both\ on\ point]{cole, mcleanbclr} $$ \operatorname{Text}^{12} $$$

⁹ R v Cole [2012] SCC 53; McLean v Pilon (1978) 7 BCLR 99.

¹⁰ R v Cole [2012] SCC 53; McLean v Pilon (1978) 7 BCLR 99, both on point.

¹¹See also *R v Cole* [2012] SCC 53; *McLean v Pilon* (1978) 7 BCLR 99.

¹²See also *R v Cole* [2012] SCC 53; *McLean v Pilon* (1978) 7 BCLR 99, both on point.

overall-pre prenote key
1 postnote, prenote key
2 postnote overall-post

 $E\overline{x}$ 9

\lawcites foot(overall prenote)(overall postnote)[prenote][postnote]{key1} [prenote][postnote]{key2}

footer, multi key, multi cite

\lawcitesfoot(There are two further cases\addcomma)(\addcomma\addspace but neither case directly applies)[a criminal matter][at para 42]{cole}[and also][101]{mcleanbclr}

Text¹³

Corresponding inline commands

```
\lawcitesfoot \lawcitesinline
\lawcitesfootrr \lawcitesinlinerr
```

- \rightarrow There are two further cases, a criminal matter *R v Cole* [2012] SCC 53, at para 42; and also *McLean v Pilon* (1978) 7 BCLR 99, p. 101 (SC), but neither case directly applies
- \rightarrow See firstly *McLean v Pilon* (1978) [1978] CanLII 237, at para 42; and secondly 7 BCLR 99, at 101 (SC)

Thre is also:

\lawcitetitle \lawcitetitlerr R v Cole McLean v Pilon (1978)

¹³There are two further cases, a criminal matter *R v Cole* [2012] SCC 53, at para 42; and also *McLean v Pilon* (1978) 7 BCLR 99, p. 101, but neither case directly applies.

key1 key2 ...
\lawcitesfootrr{key1,key2}

footer, multi key, parallel, multi cite

\lawcitesfootrr{mcleanlii,mcleanbclr} Text¹⁴

 ${\tt key1}\ postnote, {\tt key2}\ postnote$

Ex 11

Ex 10

\lawcitesfootrr[postnote]{key1}[postnote]{key2}

footer, multi key, parallel, multi cite

 $\label{lawcites} $$ \operatorname{longp} at para 42]{mcleanlii}[\nopp at 101]{mcleanbclr}$

Text¹⁵

prenote key1, prenote key2

Ex 12

\lawcitesfootrr[prenote][]{key1}[prenote][]{key2}

footer, multi key, parallel, multi cite

 $\label{lawcites} $$ \operatorname{Imm}_{\mathbb{R}^{16}} $$ \operatorname{Imm}_{\mathbb{R}^{16}} $$ Text^{16} $$$

 $prenote \; key 1 \; postnote, prenote \; key 2 \; postnote$

Ex 13

\lawcitesfootrr[prenote][postnote]{key1}[prenote][postnote]{key2}

footer, multi key, parallel, multi cite

Text¹⁷

¹⁴ McLean v Pilon (1978) [1978] CanLII 237; 7 BCLR 99.

¹⁵ McLean v Pilon (1978) [1978] CanLII 237, at para 42; 7 BCLR 99, at 101.

¹⁶See firstly McLean v Pilon (1978) [1978] CanLII 237; and secondly 7 BCLR 99.

 $^{^{17}}$ See firstly *McLean v Pilon* (1978) [1978] CanLII 237, at para 42; and secondly 7 BCLR 99, at 101.

\lawcitesinline{key}

Re Sarg Oils Ltd [2011] ABERCB 32

Clarke Institute of Psychiatry v Ontario Nurses' Assn (Adusei Grievance) (2001) 95 LAC (4th) 154 (OLRB)

Tulk v Moxhay [1848] 1 H & Tw 105

Case Concerning Military and Paramilitary Activities in and against Nicaragua (Nicaragua v United States of America) [1986] ICJ Rep No 14

Alliance of Canadian Cinema Television and Radio Artists v Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (1990) 91 CLLC 16 (CLRB)

VDN Cable Inc, on behalf of a corporation to be incorporated, Toronto, Ontario (January 2005) 2005-1, online: CRTC <www.crtc.gc.ca> [perma.cc/LF5P-5MM3]

R v Crete (18 April 1991) Ottawa 97/03674 (Ont Prov Ct)

Clearbrook Ironworks Ltd v Letourneau [2006] FCA 42, at para 3, Sexton JA

\lawcitesinlinerr{key}

Massachusetts v Environmental Protection Agency (2007) 549 US 497; 127 S Ct 1438

R v Syncrude Canada Ltd [2010] ABPC 154; [2010] CarswellAlta 981 (WL Can)

3.3 MNC & printed combination

Saskatoon (City) v Wal-Mart Canada Corp [2019] SKCA 3, [2019] 3 WWR 284

```
@case{walmart,
partya = {Saskatoon (City)},
partyb = {Wal-Mart Canada Corp},
caseyear = {2019},
courtname = {SKCA},
casenumber = {3},
reportyear = {2019},
volyearneeded = {true},
reportvolume = {3},
reportseries = {WWR},
reportpage = {284},
}
```

4 Statutes

4.1 Bibentries

```
Ordinary statutes: \lawcite{fla}
    Family Law Act, SA 2003, c F-4.5
@statute{fla,
citeref = {canleg},
title = {Family Law Act},
svjy = {SA 2003},
chapter = {F-4.5},
}
```

4.2 Citations

```
\lawcite{key}

Family Law Act, SA 2003, c F-4.5

Territorial Lands Act, RSC 1985, c T-7, s 3

Fair Trading Act, RSA 2000, c F-2
```

Safe Drinking Water Act 42 USC §300f (1974)

This last uses the semantic structure of the @statute bibentry:

```
title, year (jurisdiction) (note)
to store

Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 USC §300f (1974)
```

The year value 1974 could just as easily have been stored in the jurisdiction field, with no note field, to produce an identical result.

To display the jurisdiction for non-Canadian statutes, do:

```
\toggletrue{statjurisdiction} or \setstatjurison
    Law of Property Act 1969 (UK)
\togglefalse{statjurisdiction} or \setstatjurisoff
```

4.3 Regulations

4.3.1 Bibentries

Ordinary regulations: \lawcite{canregnb}

```
NB Reg 2006-23
@statute{canregnb,
citeref = {nbreg},
year = {2006},
regnum = {23},
sorttitle = {nbreg200623},
}
```

4.3.2 Citations

```
\lawcite{key}
NB Reg 2006-23
```

Polar Bear Pass Withdrawal Order, SOR/84-409

Migratory Birds Regulations, CRC, c 1035, s 9

Alberta Forest Land Use and Management Regulations, Alta Reg 197/1976, s 2

Because of the multiplicity of regulation format types, in the data structure, using the citeref field in the @statute bibentry is the more flexible method since it can process both (Canadian) statutes and regulations in one sweep; although, the 'traditional' statute fields can still be used, but operate only at the level of statutes, and regulations that look like statutes.

```
(using citeref field)
Criminal Code, RSC 1985, c C-46, s 515 provides that ...
(using statute bibentry fields)
Criminal Code RSC 1985, c C-46, s 515 provides that ...
  The corresponding bibentries are:
@statute{crimcodecan,
citeref = {canleg},
title = {Criminal Code},
svjy = \{RSC \ 1985\},
chapter = \{C-46\},
}
  versus
@statute{crimcan,
statutetitle = {Criminal Code},
statutetitleyear = {RSC 1985, c C-46},%for the title
}
```

The available citeref values for regulations are:

```
Example of format (from AGLC3)
...reg
       Maple Products Regulations, CRC, c 289
crc
       Regulations Amending the Food and Drug Regulations, SOR/98-580
sor
alta
       Alta Reg 62/2009
       BC Reg 278/2008
bc
man
       Man Reg 351/87
nb
       NB Reg 2006-23
nfld
       Nfld Reg 19/97
nlr
       NLR Reg 4/9
       NWT Reg 26-2008
nwt
       NS Reg 235/2007
ns
nu
       Nu Reg 40-99
       O Reg 361/8
0
       PEI Reg EC 2002-249
pei
       OC 764-97, 25 June 1997, GOQ 1997.II.2737
qc
       Sask Reg 444/67
sask
       YOIC Reg 1995/87
yoic
```

The bibentry data fields required by the various Canadian regulation types are:

Reg Type						
crc	title	chapter				
sor	title		year	regnum		
alta			year	regnum		
bc			year	regnum		
man			year	regnum		
nb			year	regnum		
nfld			year	regnum		
nlr			year	regnum		
nwt			year	regnum		
ns			year	regnum		
nu			year	regnum		
0			year	regnum		
pei			year	regnum		
qc			year	regnum	fulldate	gazette
sask			year	regnum		
yoic			year	regnum		
verb				regnum		

For the non-federal regulations, if a title field is available, it will be printed.

For regulations with no available pre-set format, use the verbreg citeref, and type the full reference into the regnum field, and it will be printed as-is:

Road Rules 2008 – **Reg 15** What is a vehicle (New South Wales)

```
@statute{anyregverb,
citeref = {verbreg},
regnum = {Road Rules 2008 -- \textcolor{red}{\textbf{Reg 15}}}
What is a vehicle (New South Wales)},
sorttitle = {Road Rules 2008},
}
```

4.4 Currently not covered

• Bills

- Constitutions and Charters
- Treaties, Agreements, and Accords

5 Law Journals

5.1 Bibentries

Law Review articles: \licite{renaud}

Matthew Renaud, From Reading Courses to Robson Hall: The Development of Legal Education in the Province of Manitoba, 1877–1968, (2019) 42 Manitoba Law Journal 286

```
@ljarticle{renaud,
author = {Matthew Renaud},
subtitle = {The Development of Legal Education
in the Province of Manitoba, 1877-1968},
title = {From Reading Courses to Robson Hall},
mncyear = {2019},
mncname = {CanLIIDocs},
mncnumber = {4192},
date = {2019},
volume = {42},
journaltitle = {Manitoba Law Journal},
pages = {286},
}
```

5.2 Citations

\footnote{\ljcite{key}}

* Looking at the 1914 Manitoba Law School lecture schedule, 18 – Contracts, Torts, Real Property, Criminal Law, Evidence, Equity, and

¹⁸Reproduced in Matthew Renaud, *From Reading Courses to Robson Hall: The Development of Legal Education in the Province of Manitoba*, 1877–1968, (2019) 42 Manitoba Law Journal 286, p. 295

so on – it becomes obvious that things haven't changed much, for any law school.

* "it has been argued¹⁹ that, stylistically, dissents are often looser than majority judgments."²⁰

\ljcite{key}

* the "amorphous ... swirl of text, unwritten principles, and internal architecture" of the open-ended definitions within the constitutional stories, "the narratives that [we tell ourselves] about the constitution and its meanings as a whole" — Eric M Adams, *Canadian Constitutional Identities*, (2015) 38 Dalhousie Law Journal 311, at p316, and p313 n7.

ightarrow The author, Eric M Adams, uses the word, 'amorphous', a second time, at p 318: "sub-national provinces with amorphous constitutional roles".²¹

It may indeed seem long-winded rigmarole, typing
< \lcliauthor{adams} > and < \lcpostnote[at p 318]{adams}>,
to get

< Eric M Adams > and < at p 318>, instead of typing plain text, but ...

ADAMS, in a recent issue of the Dalhousie Law Journal, has stated that ...

Lawrence Friedman, Robert Kagan, Bliss Cartwright, Stanton Wheeler, in their classic article in the Stanford Law Review, ...

The Friedman paper in the Stanford Law Review, for example, ...

"l'exercice par un peuple autochtone de ses droits possède une dimension de droit public"²²

¹⁹By Lawrence Friedman, Robert Kagan, Bliss Cartwright, Stanton Wheeler, *State Supreme Courts*: *A Century of Style and Citation*, (1981) 33 Stanford Law Review 773, 785 (covering 16 state supreme courts in the period 1870-1970), as cited by Russell Smyth.

²⁰ Russell Smyth, *What do Intermediate Appellate Courts Cite? A Quantitative Study of the Citation Practice of Australian State Supreme Courts*, (1999) 21 Adelaide Law Review 51, 59.

²¹ Eric M Adams, *Canadian Constitutional Identities*, (2015) 38 Dalhousie Law Journal 311, at p 318

²² Ghislain Otis, Les droits ancestraux des peuples autochtones au carrefour du

6 Other Material

6.1 Epigraphs

"The methods for citing cases vary from country to country, from court to court, and from publisher to publisher."

— Butt on Legal Usage (2018), p. 93

"Questions of proprietary right often involve nice distinctions."

— *Addison on Torts* (2nd ed. 1872), p. 12

For *Clerk and Lindsell on Torts* -type referencing.

\looks in the bibentry for shortitle (or title), and, optionally, author(s), edition, and date.

6.2 Book citations

Just the standard built-in commands: Text²³ Text²⁴ Text²⁵ Text²⁶

6.3 Supra

For Rv Cole, see supra, n 5, and n 14 for McLean v Pilon (1978).

droit public et du droit privé: le cas de l'industrie extractive, (2019) 60 Les Cahiers de droit 451, at p 456. See also Rosalie Jukier, Good Faith in Contract: A Judicial Dialogue Between Common Law Canada and Québec, (2019) 1 Journal of Commonwealth Law 1.

²³ Eco, Come si fa una tesi di laurea, p. 110.

²⁴ Butt, *Legal Usage*, p. 42.

²⁵ Howie and Johnson, *Annotated Criminal Legislation New South Wales*, para [2.4].

²⁶ Bishop, *The First Book of the Law*, c 1.

6.4 Parallel Reports

```
Text<sup>27</sup>
@case{litz,
partya = {Litz},
partyb = {Litz},
reportvolume = {180},
reportseries = {WAC},
reportpage = {116},
parallel = {[1998] 10 WWR 145 and 129 Man R (2d) 121},
}
```

Ludmer v Ludmer [2012] ONSC 5738, [2012] CarswellOnt 16100 Sheen v Sheen [2003] MBCA 93, [2003] MJ No 230 (QL)

Betts v Norris 120 NBR (2d) 384, 302 APR 384, [1991] CarswellNB 51, [1991] NBJ No 1036 (QL)

Tiesmaki v Wilson (1971) 23 DLR (3d) 179, [1972] 2 WWR 214, [1971] AJ No 145 (QL) (AB SC AppDiv, 1971)

Saskatoon (City) v Wal-Mart Canada Corp [2019] SKCA 3, [2019] 3 WWR 284

7 This Odyssey

Absence of Authority

"Perhaps the reason for my being unable to find authority touching the present application is because the matter is too simple and plain." – Clarry, MC.²⁸

Bleak House

"If ever there was a case that demonstrates the need for the court's involvement to ensure it moves forward, this is that case." ²⁹

²⁷Litz v Litz 180 WAC 116, [1998] 10 WWR 145, 129 Man R (2d) 121.

²⁸Kybich v Mangus [1919] 3 WWR 532 (AB QB, Chambers).

²⁹Master DE Short *Jimenez v Romeo* [2009] CanLII 68472 (ON SC), at para 55.

"It is 125 years since Charles Dickens in the opening chapter of *Bleak House* chronicled the sorry saga of the litigation before the English Court of Chancery in Jarndyce and Jarndyce. (see *Bleak House*, (1884) full text available on line via http://books.google.ca/books)"³⁰

"The entire Twentieth Century intervenes between Dickens' fictional case and this real one." ³¹

"This Master is not going to permit these files to become any dustier." 32

"Because the will must be proved in solemn form, it is expected that some considerable pre-trial process will be undertaken: questioning on affidavits, assessment of expert evidence, etc. Perhaps having in mind the ominous warning about the Court of Chancery in Charles Dickens' Bleak House, "Suffer any wrong that can be done you, rather than come here", prudently, the parties have agreed to provide ..."³³

This matter³⁴ has a somewhat Dickensian history, and I am beginning to feel some sympathy for the Lord Chancellor in *Bleak House*.³⁵

"This has become an unusually and perhaps unnecessarily complex family file involving jurisdictions in Alberta and Nevada, as well as a virtual smorgasbord of legislation. The parties, whether deliberately or through misadventure, have developed a voracious appetite for filing affidavits and court applications. The resulting legal carnage has created our own 'bleak house'."

"Further, the non-financial toll on the parties, and the need to bring this odyssey to an end, are significant considerations. There has been seven years of litigation and at least two prior adjournments of this trial. The issues are clear and have been reasonably well-defined

³⁰ *Jimenez v Romeo* [2009] CanLII 68472 (ON SC), at para 60.

³¹ Jimenez v Romeo [2009] CanLII 68472 (ON SC), at para 61.

³² *Jimenez v Romeo* [2009] CanLII 68472 (ON SC), at para 63.

³³Seib Estate [2012] ABQB 126, at para 2, Veit J.

³⁴An injunction asking for the barring of demolition of a property in Edmonton.

³⁵Kristel Homes Ltd v Edmonton (City of) [2001] ABCA 317 (TRANSCRIPT OF ORAL REASONS), at para 3, Côté JA.

³⁶Anderson v Fawthrop [2018] ABPC 226, at para 4, O'Gorman ACJ.

since at least 2008. People have to get on with their lives. In addition, my earlier allusion to the famous *Jarndyce v. Jarndyce* case from *Bleak House* was not without purpose. This is a case where the parties' dissipation of assets on the mere cost of litigation alone is staggering."³⁷

"Bleak House by Charles Dickens is a family chronicle in which a disputed estate is exhausted by the payment of legal costs before the dispute is finally resolved. The parties to these proceedings are either unaware of that classic novel's lesson or unenlightened by it." ³⁸

"Equity stepped in. The courts of equity, despite the reputation they got from works like Dickens' *Bleak House*, tried to mitigate some of the harshness of the common law. That is where the concept of an equitable right to redeem, or the equity of redemption, came from. The mortgage was then treated as a form of security only and the rights that remained after the mortgage was granted were protected by equity, in the Courts of Chancery."³⁹

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³⁷Ludmer v Ludmer [2012] ONSC 5738, [2012] CarswellOnt 16100, at para 49, Penny J.

³⁸ Sheen v Sheen [2003] MBCA 93, [2003] MJ No 230 (QL), at para 1, Twaddle JA.

³⁹CIBC Mortgages Inc v Dima Estate [2019] NSSC 61, at para 14, Campbell J.

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