Abridgment Abridgment

HIGHLIGHTING NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND PROVIDING RESEARCH TIPS FOR USERS OF THE CANADIAN ABRIDGMENT.

Issue 42 April 2006

FROM THE PUBLISHER:

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In this issue of the Bulletin, we describe two new enhancements to the online version of The Canadian Abridgment.

The addition of hypertext links to Abridgment classifications will facilitate the task of finding similar cases by making it easier for users to move from the digest of a particular case to others on the same classification.

Graphical KeyCite, which was implemented earlier, allows users to view the flow of the history of a case in a new graphical format, providing a visual aid to understanding complex case histories.

Finally, we offer a behind-the-scenes look at the work that has gone into the planning and creation of the Third Edition volumes of The Canadian Abridgment.

I welcome any comments or suggestions that you have concerning The Canadian Abridgment.

Rachel Francis, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Director, Legal Strategic Market Group

Abridgment Classification Linking Makes Case Law Research Easier

This Spring, Carswell is pleased to announce the launch of a new tool added to WestlaweCARSWELL that makes finding similar cases when researching full text case law easier and more efficient. In response to customer demand, a dynamic link has been added to the Abridgment classification number appearing at the top of each digest; this link will take users from within the digest to all other digests within the same classification.

Don't forget — you can now reach the Abridgment Helpline by E-mail at: Carswell.Abridgment@ thomson.com

In this issue . . .

 Abridgment Classification Linking Makes Case Law Research Easier

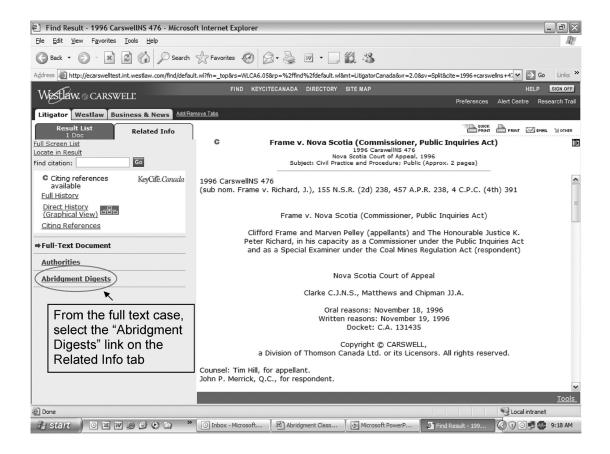
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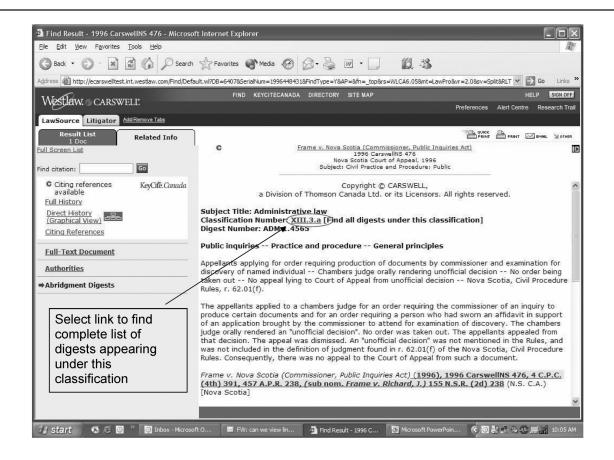
Graphical KeyCite — Case
 History at a Glance

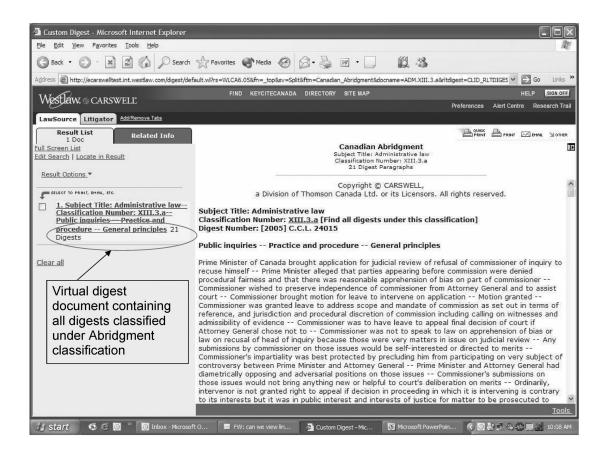
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 Creating the Third Edition: Behind the Scenes of The Canadian Abridgment Abridgment digests for each issue discussed in a decision appear as an option on the Related Information tab for the full text decision. In the past, there was no easy way to access all other digests under the same classification; users had to manually copy the classification number, maneuver to a search template and enter the classification number into the template. Now users can simply click on the dynamic link contained in the classification numbers appearing at the top of each digest and they will automatically be taken to the complete list of digests appearing under that classification and dealing with the legal issue in question.

We hope the Abridgment classification linking tool will enhance the ease and efficiency of your WestlaweCARSWELL use and allow you to access the benefits of the Canadian Abridgment throughout your research process.

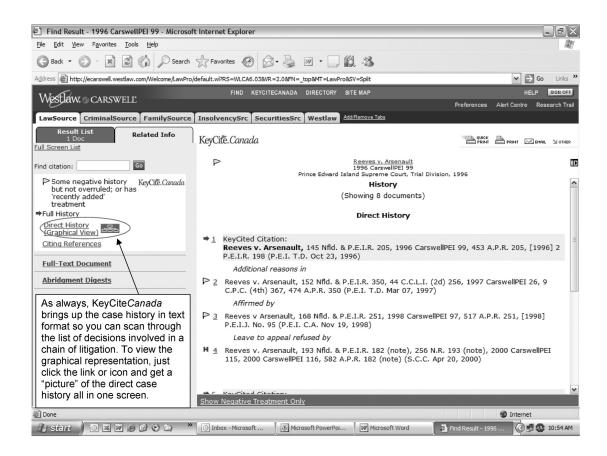


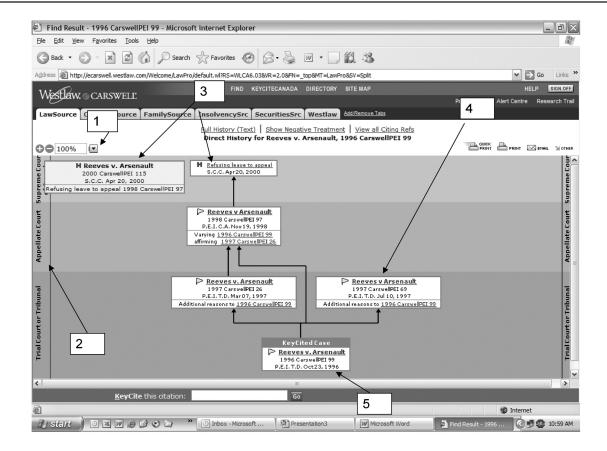




Graphical KeyCite — Case History at a Glance

Implemented earlier this year, Graphical KeyCite provides users with a diagrammatic view of the flow of the history of a case. Available along with the traditional text-based description, this enhancement should be particularly useful as a visual aid to understanding complex case histories, and may be valuable as a tool for teaching the appeal process. The following illustrations explain how to access and interpret a graphical KeyCite result.





- 1. Enlarged case boxes appear when you roll your cursor over them (when zoom level is below 90%).
- 2. Visually depicts how a case has moved through the court system; lowest courts are at the bottom and highest court at the top.
- 3. For a closer look at a procedural box, just roll over it, and the case title and cite information appear.
- 4. A case's cite, title, jurisdiction, date, and history treatments are displayed in each case box.
- 5. Graphical KeyCite clearly labels the case you KeyCited. Cited cases and court documents are linked directly to WestlaweCARSWELL; just click on the link, view the document or case, and click right back to the graphical view.

Graphical KeyCite 5

Creating the Third Edition: Behind the Scenes of The Canadian Abridgment

The Canadian Abridgment, Third Edition was created in response to customer feedback requesting accommodation of current legal concepts and research methodologies, as well as elimination of outdated subject titles and the consolidation of very narrow subject titles under broader, more inclusive headings. As a result, the Third Edition contains a reduced number of subject titles, together with revised and updated classification schemes. By combining very narrow subject titles under broader headings, the Third Edition better reflects where users expect to find case law and facilitates fast, easy research.

The subject titles for the Third Edition were developed in consultation with Daniel Boyer, Wainwright Librarian at the Nahum Gelber Law Library, McGill University, as well as members of The Canadian Abridgment Editorial Advisory Board, legal practioners, research lawyers, academics and law librarians. A team of lawyers within Carswell, the Legal Writing Group, also provided valuable input and advice.

Third Edition Publication Plan

The publication schedule for the Third Edition is much the same as under the Reissue program. Volumes are released in alphabetical order, with the exception of *Criminal Law* and *Evidence* which, as the last subject titles published in 2002 as part of the Second Edition Reissue program, will be published after all other Third Edition subject titles are complete. The first of the Third Edition volumes were published in 2003, and, as of December 2005, 91 volumes have been published, up to and including *Public Law*. As customers receive Third Edition volumes, transitional instructions are included, guiding users on how to integrate the new volumes with pre-existing Second Edition volumes. The transition will be complete with the publication of *Criminal Law* in 2007.

Many of the objectives driving the Third Edition initiative have already been accomplished. The reduction in the number of Subject Titles by more than fifty per cent facilitates the task of researchers by making it easier to know where to start. As the new Subject Titles each have a three-letter abbreviation assigned, identifying the topics related to the digests is a much simpler task than it was formerly.

Legal Writing Group and the Third Edition

The Legal Writing Group plays a key role in the revision of the subject titles for the Third Edition.

As the legal writers specialize in writing for the various law reports, their expertise is drawn upon to reorganize and augment the classifications for the Subject Titles. Some of the recent titles given this kind of attention include *Motor Vehicles*, *Pensions*, *Personal Property Security* and the Barristers and solicitors section of *Professions and Occupations*. The new municipal legislation recently enacted in various provinces is reflected in the language of the *Municipal Law* Title; and the *Freedom of Information and Privacy* title will undoubtedly soon be populated with digests relating to the federal and provincial statutes reviewed in creating it.

For each new Subject Title, the following tasks are performed:

- The new title is prepared in draft form;
- A request for input is circulated to the Legal Writing Group
- The digests found under "General" and "Miscellaneous" classifications are reviewed to see whether new, more specific, classifications are necessary;
- The revised draft is sent to an expert in the field for comments;
- After the final draft is reviewed, the existing digests are reclassified to the new classifications;
- The Key & Research Guide and General Index are updated to reflect classification changes;
- External and internal cross references within the Abridgment Key are corrected;
- A new or block release to the Abridgment Key is sent to subscribers.

We hope that the updating of the organization of the Canadian Abridgment being done for Third Edition will better suit the research needs of today's legal researcher. As the law keeps evolving, we will continue to update the Abridgment classification, to ensure that it it remains an authoritative guide to the law of Canada.

The Canadian Abridgment Helpline

Since 1992 Carswell has provided a toll-free Helpline to connect you with our Abridgment experts. Our bilingual Helpline representatives can assist you in:

- Using both print and electronic Abridgment editions effectively
- Integrating the various Abridgment components
- Maximizing your research strategies
- Learning more about our upcoming publications

We are proud of our Abridgment Helpline representatives who are experienced legal researchers. They are part of Carswell's Customer Relations team, participating in our training and support initiatives, and they will be pleased to assist you with all of your Abridgment needs.

In Toronto, call (416) 298-5140
Outside Toronto, all 1-800-463-4106
or E-mail us at *Carswell.Abridgment@thomson.com*Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time



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