

CANADIAN GUIDE TO UNIFORM LEGAL CITATION/MANUEL CANADIEN DE LA REFERENCE JURIDIQUE by McGill Law Journal/Revue de droit de McGill. 2d ed. (Toronto: Carswell, 1988) pp. 288.

In the true spirit of one nation with two official languages, the Citation Guide Committee of the McGill Law Journal has once again published this, their second edition of the Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation/Manuel Canadien de la Reference Juridique in English and French. In keeping this format, clearly their stated hope that "a citation system which mirrored Canada's bilingual and bijuridical legal community would have the greatest likelihood of providing a nationally acceptable reference system"¹ continues today. Though not universally accepted, the editors can proudly boast to date that the McGill Law Journal/Revue de Droit de McGill, Osgoode Hall Law Journal, Ottawa Law Review, University of Toronto Faculty of Law Review, University of British Columbia Law Review, and the Courts of British Columbia, have all officially adopted this style guide. (This represents an increase over the last edition.)

Certainly for journal editors, law school professors, law students, lawyers and librarians alike, a nationally accepted style would make life easier. But until that happens we will have to struggle through the *Harvard Blue Book*, *Tang's Guide to Legal Citation*, *McGill's Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation*, the *Alberta Law Review Style Guide* and the myriad of others that are used, though not specifically designed for legal writing.

After consultation with legal publishers, lawyers, students, librarians, judges and academics the student editors and staff of the Journal have made some substantial changes to this edition of the Guide. Most notable among the changes is the "double-date" rule. In this instance, the editors have conformed to the Canadian Law Information Council's Standards for Case Identification, by no longer requiring the year of the decision to appear in the cite "when the volume of the reporter is identified by a year and that year is the same as the year of decision."²

Though in basically the same format as the first edition, (French and English in separate, but equal halves) there are some additions, and changes in structure.

The detailed "Table of Contents" reveals seven chapters: "Legislation", "Cases", "Secondary Materials", "Canadian Government Documents", "United Kingdom", "France", and "International Materials", plus appendices and an index. The United Kingdom and France chapters are new for this edition. The one shortcoming of the Table of Contents is that the contents of the Appendices, unlike the other chapters, are not listed. One must leaf through all six to discover that they are: "Status of Reporters", "Jurisdictions", "Courts", "Law Reporters", "Administrative Boards and Tribunals" and "Periodicals".

1. CANADIAN GUIDE TO UNIFORM LEGAL CITATION/MANUEL CANADIEN DE LA REFERENCE JURIDIQUE. McGill Law Journal/Revue de droit de McGill. 2d ed. (Toronto: Carswell, 1988) at xvii.

2. *Id.* at 36.

In addition to being divided into English and French, the Guide is bilingual within the halves. In the English half, for instance, examples are illustrated in each section of the chapter first in English and then in French. The rule and any accompanying notes explaining the proper citation are explained in English.

The layout of the entire publication is nicely designed to facilitate ease of use. Each chapter introduces a "general form" as an example of the particular format being illustrated. Following this the "elements" of each citation are listed in the order in which they will be discussed, in detail, further on in that chapter.

The editorial committee has arranged this work in a subject-based manner, and so removed the topic of footnotes from these chapters, because the problems associated with them cross all subject fields. Oddly, the discussion of them has been tacked on to the end of the "Introduction". Considering the importance of this area of citation, there should have been a separate chapter on footnotes, or at a minimum, some indication in the Table of Contents where the reader could find that information.

There are some omissions. Considering the variety of secondary sources that are drawn from, could we not have seen some examples of citing to digests, encyclopedias, or looseleaf services? "Books, articles, collections of essays, book reviews, forwards, prefaces, comments and case comments, remarks, addresses, unpublished dissertations, letters, theses, newspaper articles and press releases" are the secondary sources referred to, however, three of the most utilized of legal reference tools, digests, encyclopedias and looseleaf services, are not included.

The inclusion of a chapter on France complements the bilingual nature of Canada and the civil law system in Quebec. It is most certainly welcome. Perhaps a chapter on the United States should be considered for the next edition.

Overall, it would appear that the editorial committee did its homework when researching this guide. They consulted the Canadian Association of Law Librarians (CALL), the Canadian Law Information Council (CLIC), Professors of Law who teach legal research and writing, the Legislative Council who drafts legislation, the foremost texts on Canadian legal research, and followed recognized standards of the International Organization for Standardization.

The organizational structure is much more precise, and obvious at a glance than some citation manuals. Less verbiage makes this guide easy to consult on the spot. The rules are clear and sensibly written and the abundance of examples helps in illustrating a variety of situations. As a recognized Canadian authority, it is important for lawyers, students, Professors of Law and Law Librarians to use this work. The text is attractively bound in a comfortably sized volume, and at \$29.95 it is a reasonably priced reference work.

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