

RIGHTS TALK 10TH ANNUAL FREEDOM IN ACTION CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 20, 2014 SFU HARBOUR CENTRE

BC CIVIL LIBERTIES
ASSOCIATION

IN COLLABORATION WITH



twitter.com/bccla
facebook.com/BC-Civil-Liberties

www.bccla.org

WELCOME TO THE BC CIVIL LIBERTIES ASSOCIATION'S RIGHTS TALK CONFERENCE!



Thank you for joining us for this, our tenth annual Youth and Civil Liberties Conference. Human rights and civil liberties are important for everyone, and especially for youth. Internet privacy – are you being spied on when you

tweet or post on Instagram? Should you care? Maybe you're concerned about the latest proposed pipeline development and are thinking about attending a demonstration to protest. What are your rights?

We hope that this Rights Talk conference will help to equip you to answer those questions, and encourage you to learn more and become active as a defender of human rights and civil liberties.

The BCCLA is actively involved in a broad array of issues: defending the rights of protesters to freedom of expression; working to safeguard your privacy online; fighting to ensure that individuals' rights and liberties are respected. The list is ever-growing. Whether we're suing the Government of Canada to defend your right to privacy against Canadian intelligence agencies spying on everyone all of the time, or going to the Supreme Court of Canada to establish a *Charter* right to choice at the end of life, the motivating principle behind all of our work is respect for the dignity of each and every human being.

Consider the work we have done over the past few years with a brave young Indigenous woman named BobbyLee Worm. She was just 19 years old and a first time offender when she went to prison, and was held in solitary confinement for more than three years. During this time she was forced to spend up to 23 hours a day in a cell just 8 by 10 feet in size. Often the only human contact she had was through the food slot in the door of her

cell. Just think about that, and trying to survive in those conditions. The BCCLA filed a lawsuit on her behalf, challenging the legality of long-term solitary confinement in Canadian prisons. The government settled BobbyLee's case in May of 2013. We are dedicated to ensuring that every Canadian is treated with dignity and respect and dealt with according to the law. You can learn more about BobbyLee's case and our ongoing work to end long term solitary confinement in just one of the workshops we're holding today.

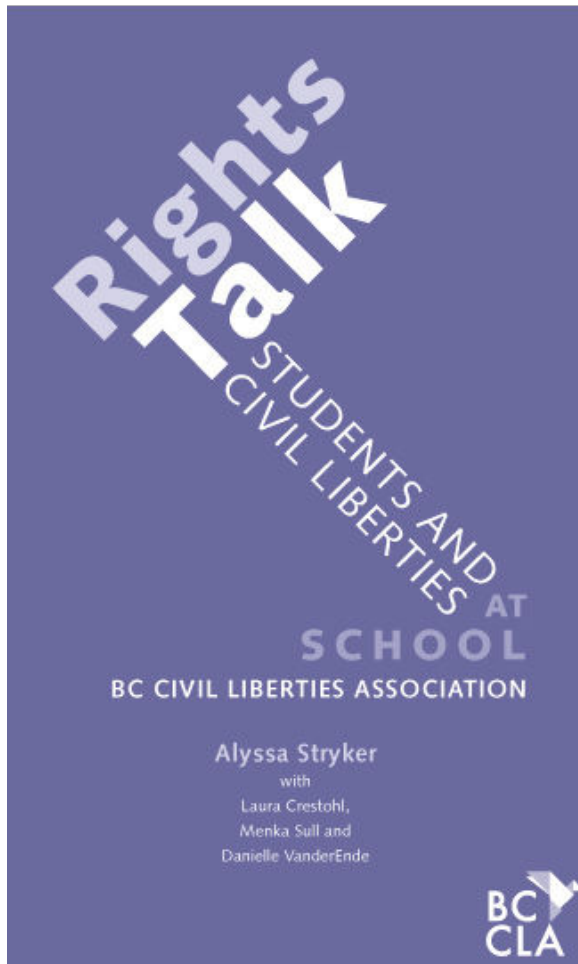
The BCCLA is committed to educating Canadians about their own rights. We believe that informed and active citizens are vital to protecting and furthering fundamental rights and freedoms in Canada. This conference, the many protest rights workshops we conduct each year, and our handbook designed to inform students like you about your rights, *Rights Talk: Students and Civil Liberties at School*, are just a few of the ways we reach out to our fellow citizens to help everyone know their rights and duties as Canadians.

Today, you will be immersed in many complex and challenging issues that are at the forefront of the BCCLA's work. How do we work with others to make rights and liberties real for the most marginalized among us? How do we stand up for and empower those that are disenfranchised? Do we have the courage to defend our fellow citizens' right to be heard even when we disagree with them? These are sensitive and sometimes polarizing topics. We hope to challenge you to join with us in thinking critically about the world around you, the rules that structure it, and your place within it.

All the best,

Lindsay M. Lyster

DO YOU KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AT SCHOOL?



Have you checked out our fully updated youth handbook, *Rights Talk: Students and Civil Liberties at School*?

Ever wondered...

- Whether you could face criminal charges for sexting?
- Whether your teacher or the police can search the contents of your cell phone?
- If you can be disciplined at school for something you said outside of school?
- Whether it's ok for religious parents to pull their children out of classes that discuss topics like LGBTQ issues and sex ed?
- If the police can use sniffer dogs to look for drugs at your school?

For the answers to these (and many other) questions, download a copy of *Rights Talk* today!

Access it online here:
http://bccla.org/our_work/rightstalk

BECOME A MEMBER

The BC Civil Liberties Association depends on the active donation and participation of our membership to make our work possible. Be a part of Canada's rights movement by becoming a student member, or signing up with your family. You can find information about membership online at bccla.org/take-action/become-a-member

GET TO KNOW SFPIRG

The Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group (SFPIRG) is a student-funded and student-directed resource centre based at the Burnaby campus of Simon Fraser University. Our mission is to engage students in social and environmental justice, and we've been doing that since 1981 through Education, Action, Research and Community-Building Initiatives. There are many ways to volunteer here,



access great resources, take part in educational workshops and get involved in our vibrant campus community. Please check out our website (www.sfpirg.ca) or drop by the centre to find out more. We are located in TC326 in the Rotunda, SFU Burnaby. We are open Monday to Friday, 10:30am to 4:30pm.

Rights Talk Conference Schedule 2014

Time	Topic	Speaker	Venue
9:00-9:05	Welcome and Territorial Acknowledgement	Josh Paterson, BCCLA Executive Director	Rm. 1900
9:05-9:55	Keynote Address	Carmen Cheung, BCCLA Senior Counsel	Rm. 1900
9:55-10:05	BREAK: Please head to your first workshop room		
10:05-11:05	Workshop 1		
11:05-11:20	BREAK: Please head to your second workshop room		
11:20-12:15	Workshop 2		
12:15-1:15	LUNCH		
1:15-3:10pm	PANEL DISCUSSION Taking Civil Liberties to the Streets: Protest, Politics and Public Safety <i>Each speaker will deliver a short presentation, after which we will open the floor to questions from the audience and discussion amongst the speakers.</i>	Panelists: Josh Paterson, BCCLA Executive Director Staff Sergeant Lee Patterson, Vancouver Police Department Jolan Bailey, Organizer - Leadnow	Rm. 1900
3:10-3:25	Help improve the conference for 2014! Fill out a feedback form.		

WORKSHOP SESSIONS			
Know Your Rights! Detention, Arrest, Search & Seizure with <i>Raji Mangat</i>	Power Play: Marginalization in the Law with <i>Chrissie Arnold</i>	Crowdsourcing Sensible Privacy Safeguards for Canadians in the 21st Century with David Christopher, Alexa Pitoullis and Jes Simkin	Alone and Afraid: The Use of Solitary Confinement in Canadian Jails and Prisons with Grace Pastine
Rm. 1315	Rm. 1425	Rm. 1520	Rm. 1430
			Rm. 1900
			Compassion? Why do we bother? with James Tigchelaar

MORNING SPEAKER



CARMEN CHEUNG / bccla.org

Belonging

What does it mean to belong to a society? How do we decide who has rights and who doesn't, who's included and who's excluded? BCCLA Senior Counsel Carmen Cheung discusses inequality in Canada, past and present, and the continuing struggle for equal rights under the law.

Carmen Cheung is Senior Counsel at the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, where she focuses on issues relating to national security and works generally on litigation matters for the Association. From 2013 to early 2014, she took a leave from the Association to serve as the acting Director of the International Human Rights Program at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Law, where she taught international human rights advocacy and the law of armed conflict.

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS



CHRISSIE ARNOLD / westcoastleaf.org

Power Play: Marginalization in the Law

In this session, we use games and activities to facilitate discussions about power, discrimination and equality. It serves as a brief introduction to equality law in Canada, introducing the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and looking at some of the cases where it has been used. If you are interested in social change and how the law can be used to further it, don't miss this session!

Chrissie Arnold is a feminist, social justice advocate, and firm believer that youth hold the key to a better future. She has over 10 years of experience facilitating transformative educational experiences for youth, both within Canada and internationally. She loves asking questions, drinking coffee, and playing outside. Chrissie is also currently completing her Master's in Educational Studies (with a focus on global education) at UBC. She is currently the Education Manager at West Coast LEAF.

DAVID, ALEXA & JES / openmedia.ca

Crowdsourcing Sensible Privacy Safeguards for Canadians in the 21st Century

An introduction to privacy issues and a look at how government agencies like CSEC can monitor law-abiding Canadians. What do we know, and what are Canadians doing about it? There will also be an exciting hands-on opportunity to crowdsource ideas for new safeguards to help protect Canadians from government surveillance.



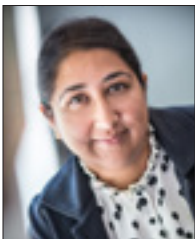
David Christopher is the Communications Manager of OpenMedia.ca and blogs regularly for the organization. He's from the west of Ireland and holds a degree from Trinity College Dublin, where he studied History and Political Science. He worked in communications in New Zealand, Northern Ireland and Scotland before moving to Vancouver, Canada.



Alexa Pitoulis is the Managing Director with OpenMedia.ca. Alexa brings over 15 years experience building and leading teams and projects for government and community organizations. A self-proclaimed kale-powered supermom on two wheels, she is a creative strategist driven by her passion for building regenerative social and ecological systems.



Jes Simkin is the Operations & Outreach Coordinator of OpenMedia.ca. Jes first joined OpenMedia back in 2011 as an Intern and she's been hooked on the possibilities for the open internet ever since. Jes brings with her experience from both the non-profit and start-up worlds, including volunteer work with the BC Civil Liberties Association. She also studied Political Science at UBC.



RAJI MANGAT / bccla.org

Know Your Rights! Detention, Arrest, Search & Seizure

Do you know your rights? What happens if you are stopped by the police in the street — do you have to answer questions? Can the police search you? What about your cell phone, can the police search it? This workshop will answer these questions and more!

Raji Mangat is Counsel for the BC Civil Liberties Association. Raji's work at the BCCLA focuses on sentencing, prisoners' rights, due process, and civil forfeiture, and she is the author of the BCCLA's recently released report on the rise of mandatory minimum sentencing in Canada. Prior to working at the BCCLA, Raji worked at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in The Hague and at the International Secretariat of Amnesty International in London. She has also worked in support of equal rights for the LGBTQ community. Raji received her law degree from the University of Victoria.



ELIN SIGURDSON / jfkllaw.ca

Alone and Afraid: The Use of Solitary Confinement in Canadian Jails and Prisons

Every day, in jails and prisons across Canada, prisoners are held in solitary confinement. They spend 22 or more hours each day, alone, usually in cells the size of a bathroom, for months or years at a time. Solitary confinement can cause extreme psychological harm. So why is Canada continuing to confine prisoners in lengthy solitary confinement?

Elin Sigurdson is a lawyer who focuses on Aboriginal and constitutional litigation. She has appeared before the British Columbia Supreme Court and Provincial Court and has been co-counsel at the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Canada. Elin is active in community organizations and is passionate about public law. In her spare time she can be found playing music, running, cycling, practicing yoga, boxing and strategizing about social justice.



JAMES TIGCHELAAR / bccdc.ca

Compassion: Why Do We Bother?

People from socially disadvantaged places are more likely to contract HIV, live with addictions, and die prematurely than the socially advantaged. How do we respond to this as individuals and as a society? What challenges does this present in providing health care in these areas? Is it human nature to be caring, or are we more likely to abandon those who can't 'make it' to suffer? In this workshop we will examine the tension between selfishness and caring, and try to work out how to respond.

James Tigchelaar is an educator with the BC Centre for Disease Control. He worked with the Outreach Program (Street Nurse Program) since 1991, first as a front line nurse, then as the clinical/outreach supervisor, and then as the Outreach Education Leader. Much of James' current work in education involves working with students in the health professions, as well as nurses and other health and social service providers to address the challenges related to providing effective and accessible care to people who are most vulnerable to STI, Hepatitis and HIV.

AFTERNOON PANEL

Taking Civil Liberties to the Streets: Protest, Politics and Public Safety

The Oppenheimer Tent City brought protest into the spotlight in Vancouver in 2014, as have the many news stories about actions opposing resource development throughout the province and as close to home as Burnaby Mountain. What is so important about protest as a mode of free expression? How should society balance the rights of protesters with the rights of other community members to access public space? What safety considerations are important? What is the role of the police at protests? Start thinking of questions to ask our panellists!



JOSH PATERSON / bccla.org

Panellist

Josh Paterson is the BCCLA's executive director. Prior to joining BCCLA, he was the Aboriginal and Natural Resources Lawyer at West Coast Environmental Law, where he led that organization's highly effective legal work protecting the rights of people in northern and coastal BC. Josh is Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of British Columbia Faculty of Law. He is a founding board member of the Vancouver Public Space Network, where he has served for several years as the coordinator for Surveillance and Security issues.



LEE PATTERSON / vancouver.ca/police

Panellist

Lee Patterson is a Staff Sergeant with the Vancouver Police Department. He began his career in the United Kingdom and in 2002 immigrated to Vancouver and joined the VPD. Upon promotion to Sergeant, he became the Departmental Public Order Coordinator. Lee was selected as the Chief Search Coordinator responsible for the security searching of all of the Olympic venues. Lee was promoted to Staff Sergeant in December 2010 and joined District Four before being utilized for the 2011 Riot Review, Integrated Riot Investigation Team, and the Riot Recommendations Implementation Team.



JOLAN BAILEY / leadnow.ca

Panellist

As Vancouver Organizer for Leadnow, **Jolan Bailey** works to support the formation and development of on-the-ground organizing teams in the greater Vancouver area. Before joining Leadnow, Jolan helped galvanize opposition to pipelines and tankers in BC, through tried and true, boots-on-the-ground organizing. Jolan sees face-to-face conversations between regular people as the building blocks of any successful movement.

