

## Government Law Libraries in Nunavut

The *Nunavut Court of Justice Law Library* (Law Library) at the Nunavut Court of Justice is funded by the Court Services division of the Government of Nunavut's (GN) Department of Justice. The primary clientele of the Nunavut Court of Justice Law Library are the 6 Justices of the Nunavut Court of Justice, visiting deputy Justices, and the Justices of the Nunavut Court of Appeal. All members of the *Law Society of Nunavut* (both local and national), the staff of the Department of Justice, Paralegals, and Law Clerks / Law Students have borrowing and access privileges with the Law Library. Members of the public and staff members of the GN outside of the Department of Justice may make use of the facility on-site but do not have borrowing privileges or access to the Document Delivery Service.

There is one full-time Court Librarian who handles all aspects of the Law Library program operation including budgeting, providing research and reference services, collection management, and instruction. The Court Librarian also provides editing and distribution services for the official published court judgments. The published decisions of the Nunavut Courts are distributed to *CanLII*, *Westlaw*, and *Quicklaw*. A listing of all published decisions is available through the Court Librarian.

The main collection of the Law Library is located in the *Nunavut Justice Centre* in Iqaluit (the capital city). The Court Librarian is also responsible for the Judges Chambers' Collection which supports the research needs of the Judiciary. This collection is catalogued in the online catalogue but available only to the Judiciary and the Judges' Law Clerk. After-hours access to the Law Library is available to current members of the *Law Society of Nunavut* by application to the office of the Sheriff. Library materials do not circulate outside of Iqaluit.

Currently, the Law Librarian maintains the content of the court website at [www.nucj.ca](http://www.nucj.ca). On this site the Law Library's *Collection Development and Access Policies* are available, as well as guidelines for citing Nunavut legislation, the *Nunavut Rules of Court*, various court forms, annual court dockets, and *Notices to the Profession & Practice Directives*.

The Law Library provides two OPACs for legal research and use by visiting lawyers. Access to *Westlaw* and *Quicklaw* is available upon request. There are also a variety of open access content such as *CanLII* and *DivorceMate* as well CD-ROM based research database tools.

Nunavut statutes are the responsibility of the Department of Justice and are available on their website at [www.justice.gov.nu.ca](http://www.justice.gov.nu.ca). NWT (prior to 2000) and federal statutes are available in the print collection. The print collection includes case reporters, secondary materials providing practice guides to a wide variety of legal practice areas, and a limited selection of legal journals. The library catalogue for the Law Library shares an interface with the Legislative Assembly Library, Arctic College Library and the Nunavut Public Library system, accessible at <http://nuvt.vtls.com/cgi-bin/nuvt/chameleon>.

The Law Library has a resource-sharing agreement through the Courthouse and Law Society Libraries Management Group with the *Law Society of Saskatchewan Libraries* for Document Delivery of articles. This service is limited to the content of the Law Society's holding and is for the Judiciary and Lawyers only. Interlibrary loan of texts is no longer available due to the closure of the Interlibrary loan department of Library & Archives Canada.

For further information, the Court Librarian can be contacted at: [courtlibrary@gov.nu.ca](mailto:courtlibrary@gov.nu.ca)

Updated June 27, 2013