

Legal Research Resources

There are many resources and approaches that can help you improve your legal research skills. Here are a few suggestions:

- Take a legal research course during library school, if one is available, or speak to other students who have. Continuing education classes through some academic institutions or library associations are also available.
- Ask the law librarian at your local university or courthouse library to suggest some resources or provide you with some commonly asked questions to practice with. Academic and courthouse libraries often provide subject guides, video tutorials, or in-person training on various legal research topics.
- Learn how to use print resources in addition to the electronic ones; some materials are only available in print!
- Familiarize yourself with the history and organization of the Canadian judicial system.
- Follow law librarians on social media to gather tips on research strategies and best practices.

Here are a few key resources to get you started:

Books

Maureen Fitzgerald, *Legal Problem Solving: Reasoning, Research & Writing*, 7th ed (Toronto: Lexis Nexis Canada, 2016).

Moira McCarney, *Comprehensive Guide to Legal Research, Writing & Analysis*, 2nd ed (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2016).

Nancy McCormack, John Papadopoulos, and Catherine Cotter, *The Practical Guide to Canadian Legal Research*, 4th ed (Toronto: Carswell, 2015).

Ted Tjaden, *Legal Research and Writing*, 4th ed (Toronto: Irwin Law, 2016).

Depending on your jurisdiction, local guides may also be available. For example, the following book provides information on BC legislative research:

Beverly Gail Nash, *Legislation made Easy*, 3rd ed (Victoria: Government of BC, 2010).

Online Research Guides

The Canadian Legal Research and Writing Guide <http://legalresearch.org/>

Academic Law Libraries

Dalhousie University Sir James Dunn Law Library <https://libraries.dal.ca/hours-locations/dunn.html>

Lakehead University Law Library <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/departments/law/law-library>

McGill University Nahum Gelber Law Library <http://www.mcgill.ca/library/branches/law>

Queen's University Lederman Law Library <http://library.queensu.ca/law/>

Thomson Rivers University, Faculty of Law Library <http://libguides.tru.ca/lawlib>

Université de Moncton Bibliothèque de droit Michel-Bastarache <http://www.umoncton.ca/umcm-bibliotheque-droit/>

Université de Montréal Bibliothèque de droit <http://www.bib.umontreal.ca/dr/>

Université de Sherbrooke Bibliothèque de droit <http://www.usherbrooke.ca/biblio/disciplines/droit/>

Université Laval Bibliothèque de droit <http://www.fd.ulaval.ca/services-ressources/bibliotheque>

University of Alberta John A. Weir Memorial Law Library <http://guides.library.ualberta.ca/law>

University of British Columbia Law Library <http://law.library.ubc.ca/>

University of Calgary Bennett Jones Law Library <http://library.ucalgary.ca/law>

University of Manitoba E.K. Williams Law Library <http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/law>

University of New Brunswick Gerard V. La Forest Law Library
<http://www.unb.ca/fredericton/law/library/>

University of Ottawa Brian Dickson Law Library <http://biblio.uottawa.ca/en/brian-dickson-law-library>

University of Saskatchewan Law Library <http://library.usask.ca/law/>

University of Toronto Bora Laskin Law Library <http://library.law.utoronto.ca/>

University of Victoria Diana M. Priestly Law Library <http://www.uvic.ca/library/locations/law/>

University of Western Ontario John & Dotsa Bitove Family Law Library <http://www.lib.uwo.ca/law/>

University of Windsor Paul Martin Law Library <http://www.uwindsor.ca/law/library/>

York University Osgoode Hall Law School Library <http://www.osgoode.yorku.ca/library>

Training

New Law Librarians' Institute, Canadian Association of Law Libraries <http://www.callacbd.ca/NLLI>

Legal Research on the Web, University of Toronto <http://learn.utoronto.ca/interactive-course-search#/profile/3076>

Case Law Websites

CanLII <http://www.canlii.org/>

Legislative Websites

Federal

Parliament of Canada <http://www.parl.gc.ca/>

Justice Laws <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/>

Provincial

Alberta - Laws Online http://www.qp.alberta.ca/Laws_Online.cfm

British Columbia - BC Laws <http://www.bclaws.ca/>

Manitoba - Manitoba Laws <http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/index.php>

New Brunswick - Acts and Regulations

http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/attorney_general/acts_regulations.html

Newfoundland & Labrador - Statutes & Regulations <http://www.assembly.nl.ca/legislation/default.htm>

Northwest Territories - Legislation of the Northwest Territories

<https://www.justice.gov.nt.ca/en/legislation/>

Nova Scotia - Nova Scotia Legislature <http://nslegislature.ca/>

Nunavut - Legislation <http://gov.nu.ca/justice/information/legislation>

Ontario - e-Laws <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/about-e-laws>

Prince Edward Island - Statutes and Regulations

<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/legislation/all/all/a>

Québec - Légis Québec <http://legisquebec.gouv.qc.ca/en/>

Saskatchewan - Freelaw <http://www.qp.gov.sk.ca/>

Yukon - Legislation <http://www.gov.yk.ca/legislation/index.html>

Blogs

Canadian Law Blogs List <http://www.lawblogs.ca/>

Slaw, Canada's Online Legal Magazine <http://www.slaw.ca/>

Slaw Tips: Research and Writing <http://tips.slaw.ca/category/research/>

Database Guides

Heinonline <http://help.heinonline.org/guides/>

LexisNexis Quicklaw <http://www.lexisnexis.ca/en-ca/products/quicklaw-full-service.page#Resources>

Westlaw Next Canada <http://www.carswell.com/learning/westlawnextcanada>

Research Tips: <http://www.westlawnextcanada.com/blog/category/wlc-research-tips/>