

Crime & the Law **Criminalité et droit**

The Future
of Justice
in Canada

L'avenir
de la justice
au Canada



Conference Programme

March 15-16, 2012 – Faculty Club of McGill University

Conference Summary

Since 1995, the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada (MISC) has hosted a major bilingual conference every year in Montreal on topics that matter to Canadians and are relevant to current public policy concerns. These public events, designed to raise provocative questions and encourage open and nonpartisan discussion, have brought together hundreds of people and attracted national and international media coverage. MISC's annual conferences are widely recognized as rare learning experiences and attract experts on policy and public life from around the globe.

For our 2012 annual conference, we turn our focus to crucial issues associated with crime, policing and justice in Canada. A series of events -- from the introduction of the Federal government's omnibus crime bill through the rise of new forms of urban political protest -- have put policing and justice at the centre of public attention. Scheduled for **March 15-16, 2012**, this conference will bring together academics and practitioners to address a variety of questions concerning crime and justice in Canada. Leading figures from different fields will tackle a range of questions.

Crime and the Law: The Future of Justice in Canada will be co-Chaired by Daniel Jutras, Dean of Law at McGill University, and The Honourable Marlene Jennings, Special Visitor, the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada

Sponsored by the CRB Foundation, the U.S. Consul General in Montreal, Dean of Arts Development Fund, and the McGill Faculty of Law

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McGill Institute for the Study of Canada
L'Institut d'études canadiennes de McGill



Crime and the Law: The Future of Justice in Canada

PROGRAMME

NB: Names in **green** are confirmed; names in **red** are pending.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2012

13:30 WORDS OF WELCOME

- ✘ **William Straw** – Director, McGill Institute for the Study of Canada
- ✘ **Daniel Jutras** – Dean, Faculty of Law, McGill University

13:45 **PLENARY SESSION 1: WHO POLICES THE POLICE?**

Are Canada's police oversight systems effective? Where might we look for 'best practices' in police oversight? What is the ideal relationship between police forces and political institutions? Are current complaint and complaint-investigation systems working? Are the current civil oversight systems effective in dealing with ever-increasing joint law enforcement operations as experienced with the G20 summit?

PANELISTS:

- ✘ **Nathalie Des Rosiers** – General Counsel of Canadian Civil Liberties Association
- ✘ **Jacques Duchesneau** – Former head of Quebec's Anti-Collusion Unit, and former Chief of Police of the Montreal Urban Community Police Service
- ✘ **Chief Dale McFee** – President of The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police
- ✘ **Peter Tinsley** – Former Director of the Government of Ontario's Special Investigations Unit

Moderated by **The Honorable Marlene Jennings** – Conference Co-Chair and Visitor, McGill Institute for the Study of Canada

15:15 BREAK

15:30 **PLENARY SESSION 2: PROTESTS AND CONFLICT – WHO'S TO BLAME?**

What is to be learned from the official response to events like those of the Occupy movement and the G20-related confrontations in Toronto in 2010? Do current legal frameworks and policing policies provide appropriate guidelines

for responding to such events? More broadly, how may policing practices best accommodate the different and often competing interests of different social forces in Canadian urban life?

PANELISTS:

- ✘ **David Eby** – Executive Director, BC Civil Liberties Association
- ✘ **Alex Hundert** – G20 Toronto Activist
- ✘ **Judy Rebick** – Former Canadian Auto Workers-Gindin Chair in Social Justice and Democracy at Ryerson University
- ✘ **Jaggi Singh** – Activist
- ✘ **Joe Warmington** – Journalist, Toronto Sun

Moderated by **Caroline Van Vlaardingen** – CTV Montreal

17:00 BREAK

17:15 SPECIAL PRESENTATION: FILM AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

GUEST DIRECTORS/FILMMAKERS:

- ✘ **Josh Freed** – Filmmaker, Journalist and Co-Director of *To Kill or to Cure* (2003)
- ✘ **Jon Kalina** – Filmmaker, Journalist and Co-Director of *To Kill or to Cure* (2003)
- ✘ **Alan Zweig** – Documentary Filmmaker, Director of Genie Award Winning film *A Hard Name* (2009)

Moderated by **Patti Schmidt** – Broadcaster, CBC Radio

19:00 OPENING RECEPTION COCKTAIL

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2012

09:00 WORDS OF WELCOME

- ✘ The Honourable **Marlene Jennings** – Conference Co-Chair and Visitor, McGill Institute for the Study of Canada
- ✘ **Christopher Manfredi** – Dean, Faculty of Arts, McGill University
- ✘ **Heather Munroe-Blum** – Principal and Vice-Chancellor, McGill University

9:15 SPECIAL PRESENTATION

KEYNOTE ADDRESS (Video Recording):

- ✘ **The Honourable Robert Douglas Nicholson** – Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

✂ Introduction by / Introduction par : **Heather Munroe-Blum** – *Principal and Vice-Chancellor, McGill University*

09:30 PLENARY SESSION 3: CRIME REPORTING

Have the ways in which crime reporters learn their profession changed in recent years? Is crime reporting best when it is practiced by specialists? How do entertainment media (film, television) shape media audiences' expectations about crime reporting? Are there major crime-related stories in Canada that have not been covered appropriately in recent years? Has the changing economic condition of news media (and print media in particular) affected the investigative side of crime reporting? In what ways, if any, has crime reporting been subject to political pressure?

PANELISTS:

- ✂ **Yves Boisvert** – *La Presse Radio- Canada, and CKAC*
- ✂ **Marie-Maude Denis** – *Radio-Canada*
- ✂ **Betsy Powell** – *Crime Journalist, Toronto Star*
- ✂ **Julian Sher** – *Investigative journalist, writer with the Toronto Star, and author of several books on crime*

Moderated by **Anne Lagacé Dowson** – *Journalist and CJAD radio talk show host*

10:45 BREAK

11:00 SPECIAL PRESENTATION: IS THE OMNIBUS CRIME BILL GOOD FOR QUEBEC?

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

- ✂ **The Honourable Jean-Marc Fournier** – *Quebec Minister of Justice*

11:30 SPECIAL PRESENTATION: ANTI-RACIST JUSTICE IN THE AGE OF THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

- ✂ **Joanne St. Lewis** – *Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Ottawa*
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12:45 LUNCH

14:00 PLENARY SESSION 5: SENTENCING AND IMPRISONMENT

What will be the effect of new sentencing guidelines on the Canadian social fabric? On the functioning of the justice system? What are the key issues facing

Canada's correction systems in the light of an aging population, increased social diversity and a possibly stagnant economic climate? What might Canada learn from other countries in the area of sentencing and imprisonment policies and practice?

PANELISTS:

- ✘ **Michael Jackson** – UBC Law Professor and Aboriginal Rights Advocate
- ✘ **Howard Sapers** – Correctional Investigator of Canada
- ✘ **Steve Sullivan** – Executive Director, Ottawa Victim Services

Moderated by **Alana Klein** – McGill University Faculty of Law

15:30 BREAK

15:45 PLENARY SESSION 6: THE JUSTICE WE NEED

What are the key challenges facing Canada in the areas of justice and policing in the near future? What is the justice we need for Canada? How might we best achieve this?

PANELISTS:

- ✘ **Matthew Carroll** – Co-Founder of LeadNow
- ✘ **Senator James S. Cowan, Q.C.** – Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
- ✘ **Sandra DeLaronde** – Executive Director, Helen Betty Osborne Memorial Foundation
- ✘ **Edward Greenspan** – Defense Lawyer, Greenspan Partners
- ✘ **The Honourable Patrick Healy** – Judge, Court of Quebec, Criminal and Penal Division, Montreal
- ✘ **Carrie Rentschler** – Director, Institute for Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies, McGill University

Moderated by **Harvey Yarosky** – Lawyer, Yarosky Daviault & Isaacs

17:15 CLOSING REMARKS

- ✘ **William Straw** – Director, McGill Institute for the Study of Canada
- ✘ **Lili de Grandpré** and **Denise Chong** – MISC Board Co-Chairs

17:30 CLOSING RECEPTION
