

## **Media & Communication Law Section Report 2010-2011**

As usual, our Section was light on meetings. We tend to follow Abe Lincoln's proverb: "A meeting if necessary, but not necessarily a meeting". A lot of our work involved activities and initiatives from the National Section which hosts monthly conference calls and reports from those conference calls were circulated to Section members.

As well, several of our members made the annual foray to the Canadian Media Lawyers Association Conference where our own Chris Wullum presented a paper to the national group this year.

We have also endeavoured to continue to liaise with the Bench on issues such as access to exhibits and camera access to Court proceedings, and this year Chief Justice Joyal got the ball rolling on that front by hosting a very useful and informative session involving several members of the Bench, as well as members of our Section. The topic of camera access to Court proceedings is presently under review by a committee of judges. We were afforded the opportunity to share with that committee some examples of developments on this front from other jurisdictions, and we are reasonably confident that other Sections will enthusiastically support our initiatives in facilitating access to the Courts that has been guaranteed by the Charter so that members of the public who do not enjoy the luxury of being able to attend Court can have the opportunity to have access to public Court proceedings through the media cameras. The support and encouragement to pursue this important Charter public access issue is appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted  
Robert Sokalski, Chair