

CIAJ ICAJ

Canadian Institute
for the Administration
of Justice

Listening. Learning. Leading.

Institut canadien
d'administration
de la justice

Écouter. Apprendre. Inspirer.

THE 2016 CHARLES D. GONTHIER FELLOWSHIP



The Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice (CIAJ) provides funds for the Charles D. Gonthier Research Fellowship, named in honour of the late Mr. Justice Charles D. Gonthier of the Supreme Court of Canada, a former President of the Institute. The Fellowship supports research in relation to the topic of the Institute's annual conference. Each conference focuses on a specific aspect of the Institute's themes:

- Justice as a humanistic and social value
- Justice as a public service
- Justice in a global economy and interdependent world

CIVIL JUSTICE AND ECONOMICS: A MATTER OF VALUE

October 5 - 7, 2016
FAIRMONT CHÂTEAU LAURIER
OTTAWA (ON)

THE 2016 CHARLES D. GONTHIER FELLOWSHIP

Overview:

What is the value of justice? Does justice have a price tag? The question is intriguing. But justice certainly has a cost. It is part of the world where material resources and time are limited. Can we put dollar figures on Justice? Certainly. Should we? Therein lies the dilemma. Since justice is financed from public funds, some would argue that governments should be able to measure its quality, performance and accessibility. Governments are required to report on court house costs, delays and other expenses; and to those numbers must be added expenses incurred by litigants and the costs associated with the lack of justice i.e., self-representation or refusal to enforce rights recognized by our laws. The economics of law and justice is the theme of CIAJ's 2016 Annual Conference.

The absence of reliable data on judicial activity poses many problems. The development of reforms based on inaccurate data and the absence of a documented monitoring of the implemented reforms within the justice system attest that the legal culture is not transparent. What information does justice need about its own activity? What do we know about its activity? How can we improve the practice of law, and the processes of the law, and, thereby, improve access to justice? How can we better understand and measure the activities of our legal institutions?

In the absence of data, what steps is the system taking to improve and to provide the means to fulfill the fundamentals of civil justice. What insights can an economic focus lend to an analysis of how to improve civil justice?

Topics include:

- Building the Bridge Between Law and Economics and Improving the Delivery of Civil Justice
- The Value of Justice
- The Cost of Justice
- Ways of Making Existing Systems Work Better
- What Can The Courts Learn From Dispute Resolution Mechanisms Developing Outside the Court Structure?
- What Can Technology Do to Better Use Civil Justice Dollars?
- Do We Need to Reconfigure the Court System?
- Are We Offering a Cadillac When All We Need is a Volkswagen?

Applicants are invited to research one of these specific topics, or any other topic related to 'Civil Justice and Economics'.

THE 2016 CHARLES D. GONTHIER FELLOWSHIP

ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS

The funds are administered by CIAJ on behalf of the successful applicant and are available to support research assistance or other out-of-pocket expenses, but may not be used as an honorarium. It is expected that the completed research will be presented to the Institute's annual meeting in October 2016 in Ottawa (ON).

The maximum amount of the Fellowship is \$7,500. The selection of the project for the research fellowship will be made by a committee composed of the President of the CIAJ (or his/her nominee), the CIAJ Academic Advisor, one of the Co-Chairs of the Education and Research Planning Committee, and one other person selected by the Executive Committee.

The successful applicant will be notified by the end of April 2016 and the completed research paper must be forwarded to CIAJ by the end of August 2016.

The recipient of the Charles D. Gonthier Research Fellowship is encouraged to seek publication of the paper in a reputable scholarly publication and to indicate, in an introductory note, that financial support for the research was provided by the CIAJ.

TO APPLY

- The fellowship competition is open to faculty and graduate students at Canadian universities.
- Applicants should complete the attached application form and submit it, **no later than March 15, 2016** to the address on the form.
- In addition to submission of a completed research report, the Institute expects to receive a complete account of expenditures.

For more information about CIAJ, contact us at ciaj@ciaj-icaj.ca or 514-343-6157 or visit our website at: www.ciaj-icaj.ca

FOLLOW US:

