

ADVICETALK

AdviceScene Monthly Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 *So much has happened!*
 - The Hamilton Connection
 - Speaking of podcasts
 - New face at AdviceScene
 - AdviceScene Real Estate
 - Free website templates

- 2 *Three new lawyers*

David Page
Antonin I. Pribetic
Michael Carabash

- 3 *MoralityMeter Results*



So much has happened!

The Hamilton connection

Nancy Kinney travelled to Ontario to meet up with three Hamilton boys, Justice Harvey Brownstone, Omar Ha-Redeye (lawiscool.com), and Brian Melo (Canadian Idol). Justice Brownstone was in Hamilton, his home town, discussing his book *Tug of War*, which is about the family law system and the people that use it. He is a colourful, entertaining speaker. In fact he should have his own TV show—he would be great at it. Justice Brownstone donates the proceeds of his book to the Children's Wish Foundation and Feed the Children. Representatives from both those organizations were in attendance. They presented a tear-jerking slide show about Maddie the girl that gave her wish away to help children in Africa. Brian Melo performed two of his newly-written songs, one of which he wrote for Maddie, entitled "Move and be Moved." Nancy and Omar spent the afternoon driving to Hamilton from Toronto (Omar was nice enough to drive). Omar recorded Justice Brownstone's talk and Brian Melo's songs. The talk and the songs will soon be available on the new AdviceScene podcast station.



Speaking of podcasts...

Thanks to dailysplice.com, AdviceScene is now able to offer podcasting to its lawyer members. This means that we'll be able to hear, see, and read legal answers and information. Jim Clapp and Natalie McFarlane have volunteered to be the guinea pigs for our podcasting experiment. Look for their audio and video responses to legal questions in the coming weeks.

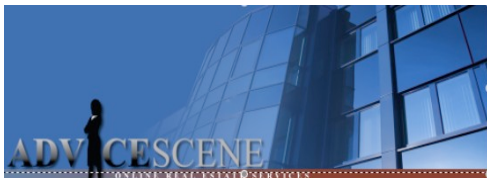


New face at AdviceScene

Alex Batko joined us at our office in Mattick's Farm back in April. He's a very creative and competent computer programmer. Alex is also involved in a start-up called Exitloop, which recently debuted with a mobile phone app called TippoBilloSplitamus, for both Apple's iPhone and Google's Android-based mobile phones. For more info, see: <http://exitloop.ca/products.html>. Alex, under Carl Constantine's guidance, is building the CyberCourt. Very exciting!

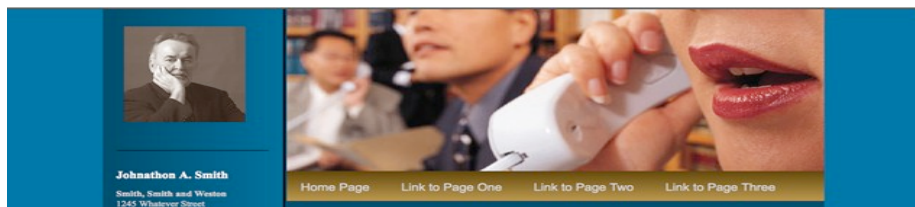
AdviceScene Real Estate

By the next newsletter, we should have our real estate site up and running. That site will look similar to the legal site, but will cater to real estate agents and the public looking for answers to common real estate questions. Our designer has done a great job on the site—it looks really good!



Free website templates with free hosting & SEO

Very soon we'll be offering free website templates for legal professionals and others. The templates will come with an editor so that you can add, change and delete information on your site yourself, whenever you like. The templates will be available with free hosting and free SEO (search engine optimization). We will be able to offer this by placing ads on the individual sites. But you won't have to allow ads on your site, instead you could opt to pay for hosting services, which will be very reasonable. Our designer has outdone himself again on these templates—the design is so appealing we're sure you'll love them.



Three new lawyers

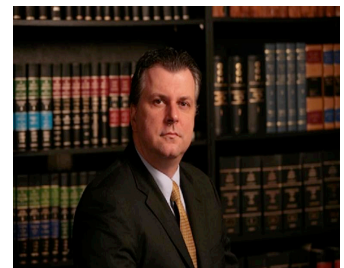
David Page (Page Law Offices, Ottawa, ON)

David is a sole practitioner. He answers general legal questions on a variety of topics.



Antonin I. Pribetic (Steinberg Morton Hope & Israel LLP, Toronto)

Antonin's practice consists of acting for a broad range of Canadian and international clients in the areas of international commercial litigation and/or arbitration, civil litigation, business torts, corporate litigation, class actions and administrative law. He provides litigation management advice to foreign counsel with respect to the prosecution or defence of actions in Ontario, including coordination of international debt recovery efforts. Antonin has over 50 reported and unreported decisions in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Court of Appeal for Ontario, the Federal Court of Canada and various provincial and federal administrative tribunals and commissions. Antonin has published articles, both nationally and internationally, in the fields of international sales law, private international law and trial advocacy. He is an active member in a number of professional organizations and a frequently invited speaker at various law schools and legal conferences.



Michael Carabash (dynamiclawyers.com, Toronto, ON)

Michael is a business lawyer that founded dynamiclawyer.com just a few months ago. On his site the public can post questions and get quotes and answers from lawyers in Ontario. "The site accommodates questions covering most common legal areas including personal injury, labour and employment, family, business, criminal, highway & traffic tickets, immigration, insurance, landlord and tenant, intellectual property, real estate, tax, and wills and estates." Michael and Nancy have discussed collaboration—after all, the two sites share a similar vision. Look for posts from Michael on the forum and for collaborative new applications on advicescene and dynamiclawyers in the future.





MoralityMeter

The question in May was “How morally bad is it for a parent to spank their 2-year old?.” The meter results after 35 votes was at 5, meaning that on average, people don't think it is that morally bad and should be a legal thing to do. The Supreme Court of Canada agreed in January 2004 with it's decision in Canadian Foundation for Children, Youth and the Law v. Canada (Attorney General) (<http://bit.ly/E90JI>).

“The issue was whether s. 43 is unconstitutional. Six of nine justices concluded that the provision does not violate the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms,(4) as it does not infringe a child's rights to security of the person or a child's right to equality, and it does not constitute cruel and unusual treatment or punishment. Three justices dissented in three different respects.”

The court set parameters for when force is acceptable and when it is not—to simplify, between the ages of 2 and 13 it's OK in the right circumstances.

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