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Subject: **CCJA News April 15, 2011**  
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## **CCJA-News, April 15, 2011**

### **Nouvelles-ACJP, le 15 avril, 2011**

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#### **CONGRESS 2011- CONGRES 2011**

The Canadian Criminal Justice Association is holding **CONGRESS 2011** in collaboration with the Société de criminologie du Québec, October 26 - 29, 2011, at the majestic Chateau Frontenac in Québec City

**CONGRES 2011** organisé conjointement par l'Association canadienne de justice pénale et la Société de criminologie du Québec se tiendra du 26 au 29 octobre 2011, au majestueux Château Frontenac, ville de Québec.

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## **CCJA now on facebook - go to Canadian Criminal Justice Association, see our posts and discussions and *like* us**

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1. Registration for Congress 2011 now open at: <http://www.ccja-acjp.ca/cong2011/en/registration.html>

The full Congress programme is on-line on our website and you can register at <http://www.ccja-acjp.ca/cong2011/en/registration.html>

Reserve your hotel room at the Chateau Frontenac by going to : [https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\\_ei\\_new&eventID=3300081](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=3300081)

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## 2. Politicians exploit myth that Canada's soft on crime

On average, first-degree murderers in our country spend 10 more years in prison than their American counterparts

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## 3. Employment Opportunity- BC Public Service, Ministry of Environment

Sergeant

*A unique leadership opportunity for an expert in conservation compliance and enforcement*

Fort St. John, B.C.

The ministry's Conservation Officer Service provides conservation and natural resource law enforcement services on behalf of the natural resource sector.

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## 4. Employment Opportunity BC Public Service, Ministry of Environment

Sergeant, Training and Professional Development

*A dynamic leadership role ensuring staff safety and professionalism in natural resource law enforcement*

Victoria (Vancouver Island), B.C.

Your critical work involves planning and delivering operational training to ministry and agency enforcement staff. These complex multi-week training programs will include firearms certification, defensive tactics, emergency vehicle operations and dealing with dangerous wildlife.

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## 5. Election notice for CCJA Members- Avis d'élections pour les membres de l'ACJP

Elections are underway at the CCJA for 1 Board Director each for Quebec, New-Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario and the Territories. Any member of the CCJA who is in good standing (meaning that their membership dues are up to date) may either nominate himself or someone else. Nominees must reside in the province that corresponds to the position for which they are running. The deadline for nominations is May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011, so if you have plans to run or to nominate someone else, please go to our Winter issue of the Justice Report (26.1), fill out the nomination form, and send it in to the CCJA. Board Directors have a four-year mandate, and newly elected directors will begin their term at the Annual General Assembly which takes place at Congress in Québec City this October.

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L'ACJP tiendra bientôt des élections pour les postes de directeur du conseil d'administration pour les provinces du Québec, du Nouveau-Brunswick, de la Nouvelle Écosee, de l'Ontario et des Territoires. Tout membre de l'ACJP qui est en règle (c'est à dire dont l'adhésion est à jour et les frais payés) peut soit poser sa candidature, soit poser la candidature de quelqu'un d'autre. Les candidates et les candidats doivent résider dans la province qui correspond avec le poste pour lequel elles ou ils sont nommés. La date limite pour les mises en nomination est le 15 mai 2011, donc si vous prévoyez vous présenter ou présenter une tierce personne, veuillez consulter le numéro d'hiver d'Actualités-Justice (26.1), remplir le formulaire de mise en candidature qui s'y trouve, et le retourner à l'ACJP. Les directeurs du conseil d'administration ont un mandat de quatre ans, et les nouveaux élus seront mis en poste à l'assemblée générale annuelle qui se tiendra au Congrès d'octobre à Québec.

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The full Congress programme will be on-line next week. In the meantime you can register at <http://www.ccja-acjp.ca/cong2011/en/registration.html>

and also reserve your hotel room at the Chateau Frontenac by going to : [https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\\_ei\\_new&eventID=3300081](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=3300081)

Cliquez sur 'Francais' si vous le preferez.

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## 2. Politicians exploit myth that Canada's soft on crime

On average, first-degree murderers in our country spend 10 more years in prison than their American counterparts  
By Peter McKnight, Vancouver Sun April 2, 2011

Canada leads the industrialized world in the length of its murder sentences, even with the faint hope clause.

Now that an election is upon us, prepare to hear politicians trot out the two great myths about the Canadian justice system: One, the system is soft on serious crime, and two, Canadians, perhaps as a result of embracing the first myth, strongly support tougher sentencing for serious crimes.

Both myths were on display during the limited parliamentary discussion of Bill S-6, which would eliminate the Criminal Code's faint hope clause. Also known as the Serious Time for the Most Serious Crime Act, the bill received royal assent this week, thereby removing from murderers the opportunity to apply for early parole eligibility.

The title of the bill suggests the first myth, that Canada isn't tough on serious crime, or at least wasn't until this week. But a close examination of the history and rationale behind the faint hope clause will explode that myth, along with the myth that Canadians support bills like S-6.

In 1976, Parliament abolished the death penalty, and, as a result of a compromise reached between proponents and opponents of capital punishment, it introduced mandatory sentences of life imprisonment for both first-and second-degree murder. First-degree murderers were required to serve at least 25 years in prison before becoming eligible for parole, while parole ineligibility for second-degree murder was set at at least 10 years.

At the same time, Parliament introduced the faint hope clause, which permitted murderers who had served at least 15 years imprisonment to apply for a reduction in their parole eligibility. The rationale for the clause was twofold: First, it was thought that the clause would provide an incentive for murderers to rehabilitate themselves, and thereby provide more protection for correctional officers. And second, Parliament was aware that in most modern democracies, murderers served an average of 15 years before receiving parole.

Thus we arrive at the first myth -that Canada is soft on serious crime. Given the automatic life sentences for murder, one would expect that Canadians convicted of murder would spend much more time in jail than their counterparts in other industrialized nations. And so they do: According to a 2005 Department of Justice report, first-degree murderers spend on average 28.4

furthermore, one should remember that jury members live in the region in which the offender was convicted, and in which the offender will return if paroled. yet they still make thoughtful, intelligent decisions, rather than responding hysterically to the threat that a murderer might move in next door. This is the way ordinary, informed Canadians think and act - a far cry from the hysterical characterization of Canadians offered by Nicholson and others. Indeed, the very idea of eliminating the faint hope clause seems an attack on ordinary Canadians, since it represents one of just two ways in which members of the public can have a direct impact on sentencing. (The other concerns the setting of parole eligibility periods for those convicted of second-degree murder.) It is odd, then, that the government would remove from Canadians this important responsibility, especially given that, time and again, ordinary Canadians say that what they want most is a voice, an opportunity to influence the system. Yet when they're given that opportunity, the government decides it can't trust them. It's worth remembering that during the election campaign, as we'll no doubt hear more politicians offering us more Trojan horses, more measures that will protect Canadians, not from murderers, but from ourselves.  
[pmcknight@vancouver.sun.com](mailto:pmcknight@vancouver.sun.com)

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### 3. Employment Opportunity- BC Public Service, Ministry of Environment

#### Sergeant

*A unique leadership opportunity for an expert in conservation compliance and enforcement*

Fort St. John, B.C.

The ministry's Conservation Officer Service provides conservation and natural resource law enforcement services on behalf of the natural resource sector.

You will oversee and plan compliance and enforcement activities to ensure the effective delivery of the Conservation Officer Service compliance and enforcement program. As you provide direction to a team of conservation officers, you'll have the opportunity to exercise your leadership capabilities. You'll guide, mentor and provide oversight by establishing priorities as well as monitoring work progress and quality—all while addressing public safety issues and ensuring operational enforcement on a day-to-day basis.

Along with having gained a degree or technical diploma in environmental law enforcement, administrative law, investigation or renewable resources management, you're seasoned in conducting inspections and complex criminal investigations.

You have five years of environmental compliance or enforcement experience plus two years' supervisory experience in a large, geographically dispersed organization or seven years' environmental compliance or enforcement experience. An equivalent combination of education and related experience will also be considered.

If you enjoy a dynamic, challenging work environment, working in a highly engaged team setting, this may be the role for you. A criminal record check will be required.

To learn more about this opportunity, including how to apply online by April 19, 2011, please visit:  
<http://employment.gov.bc.ca/SergeantTrainingandProfessionalDevelopment3498>.

*Attention: only applications submitted through the BC Public Service's employment website (see link above) will be accepted.*

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### 4. Employment Opportunity BC Public Service, Ministry of Environment

#### Sergeant, Training and Professional Development

*A dynamic leadership role ensuring staff safety and professionalism in natural resource law enforcement*

Victoria (Vancouver Island), B.C.

Your critical work involves planning and delivering operational training to ministry and agency enforcement staff. These complex multi-week training programs will include firearms certification, defensive tactics, emergency vehicle operations and dealing with dangerous wildlife.

Your responsibilities will also encompass participating in key recruitment staffing initiatives and management functions such as inventory maintenance, budget administration and human resources planning. Your work will also include research and risk assessments as well as cost benefit and data analyses. At times, you will be called upon to represent the ministry in inter-agency, interprovincial and international committees, working groups and panels.

Officers working for the Ministry of Environment and other natural resource agencies may, upon occasion, be called upon to use force during the course of public safety service delivery. It is imperative that officers are equipped with the resources and training to reduce risk to themselves, the ministry and the public.

You are a certified firearms and defensive tactics instructor (or have a related background) and have at least five years' experience as a Tier 1 natural resource law enforcement officer or supervisor. Your thorough knowledge of applicable training requirements with regard to natural resource law enforcement, training techniques and relevant government legislation is accompanied by an ability to apply both project and budget management principles. You must also be able to obtain a Special Provincial Constable appointment. A criminal record check will be required.



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