



Court of Appeal of British Columbia



Supreme Court of British Columbia



Provincial Court of British Columbia

## MEDIA ACCREDITATION PROCESS

Effective 17 September 2012, the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court and the Provincial Court adopted a new policy concerning the use of electronic transmission devices in courtrooms. Under the new policy, accredited journalists and lawyers are able to use electronic devices to send or receive text in the courtrooms of the Supreme Court and the Provincial Court. In the Court of Appeal, where cases proceed on the written record with no witnesses present, a more permissive policy will be in place which also allows members of the public to use electronic devices to send or receive text.

As in the past, in all three Courts, members of accredited media will be permitted to audio record court proceedings. The audio record may be used only for the purpose of confirming the accuracy of notes taken, and may not be broadcast or used in any other way.

An Accreditation Committee comprised of professional journalists will receive and respond to requests from media personnel to be accredited. All journalists who wish to receive media accreditation should first contact a member of the committee, who will then refer qualified candidates to the Courts for processing. Candidates who are approved for media accreditation by the Accreditation Committee are required to review the Courts' *Policy on the Use of Electronic Devices in Courtrooms*, and sign an Undertaking to adhere to its terms. Members of accredited media will be issued photo ID cards to be worn in the courtroom. The Accreditation Committee members are:

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