

Property and Civil Rights

'Property and civil rights' is the constitutional jurisdiction assigned exclusively to the provincial legislatures by s. 92(13) of the Constitution Act, 1867. The phrase was used in pre-Confederation constitutions to refer to the totality of the private law - the law

Charlottetown Accord

This article was written by a law student for the general public. Following the failure of the Meech Lake Accord in 1990, a series of deliberations took place on the future of Confederation both within and outside of Quebec. In

Privy Council (for Canada)

The Privy Council for Canada is a group of prominent individuals appointed, for life, by the Governor General. The appointments are made, as a matter of convention, on the advice of the Prime Minister. The Privy Council is tasked with

Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

SECTION 2(C): FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY Section 2(c) of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees the freedom of "peaceful assembly." It is one of the fundamental freedoms protected in the Charter. The section protects a person's right to gather with others and express ideas. The

Centralization **and** **Decentralization**

Federal systems (see Federalism) differ greatly in the constitutional structures and powers of the two levels of government. Those in which the central government has preponderant weight, whether in legislative jurisdiction, financial capacity or administrative activity are described as centralized.

Preamble

The 'preamble' usually refers to the words that preface an act of Parliament or the legislatures. Here, we refer to the opening words contained in each of Canada's constitutional texts. Preambles typically are used to state the general object or

Freedom of Expression

'Freedom of expression' is one of the fundamental freedoms protected by section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Section 2(b) provides that everyone has "freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other

BNA Act

The British North America Act (BNA Act) was passed by the British Parliament in 1867 and came into effect July 1 of that year, bringing together the colonies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Canada into a new political entity. The two

Freedom of Conscience

Freedom of conscience is one of the fundamental freedoms protected by section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. What is the legal impact of this freedom? Ultimately, the freedom of conscience constitutionally recognizes “the centrality of individual conscience

Positive and Negative Rights

This article was written by a law student for the general public. Some constitutional rights outline the activities that the government must do, while other constitutional rights outline the activities that the government must not do. This distinction is described by the