



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE from Pro Bono Students Canada

September 7, 2010

New partnership gives pro bono legal field a boost

Exclusive legal research partner offers financial support, specialized legal research training

Toronto, ON – Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) began its 15th year of community service today with the announcement of an exciting new partnership with Carswell, a Thomson Reuters business. Carswell will be the exclusive legal research partner for PBSC, providing financial support and specialized training for law students across the country.

Nikki Gersh bain, National Director of PBSC, said that the new partnership will make a very real contribution to the advancement of *pro bono* work in Canada.

“Legal research training has always been available to our organization from the research providers. Now, thanks to this exciting and unique partnership with Carswell, PBSC law student volunteers across the country will benefit from a legal research training program that has been customized to focus on the kind of public interest and social justice work that we do. This will significantly improve the quality of the *pro bono* legal services our students are able to provide,” said Gersh bain.

Carswell, a leading provider of legal research services, will develop a program that covers not only its own research tools like Westlaw Canada, but other legal research services and sources relevant to public interest and social justice issues. The partnership also includes a substantial financial commitment over the next three years.

“We are proud to be a partner in the important work of the PBSC,” said Don Van Meer, President and CEO of Carswell. “Together with other partners like the Law Foundation of Ontario, McCarthy Tétrault LLP and the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, I believe we are making a real difference in improving access to justice for community-minded organizations that rely on *pro bono* legal services to continue their important work.”

About Pro Bono Students Canada

PBSC is a national *pro bono* organization with a chapter in every law school in Canada. PBSC provides legal services without charge to organizations and individuals in need from coast to coast. PBSC's mission is to provide law students with opportunities to develop their legal skills; to have a positive impact on the legal profession through the promotion of a *pro bono* ethic; and to increase access to justice in Canada. PBSC's impact on access to justice in Canada is remarkable. Each year, about 1,500 PBSC law student volunteers – fully a quarter of all law students in Canada – provide approximately 120,000 hours of free legal services to between 400-500 public interest and other community organizations, courts and tribunals across the country. For more information, go to www.probonostudents.ca.

About Carswell

Carswell, a Thomson Reuters business, is Canada's leading source of intelligent information solutions for legal, tax, finance and human resource professionals. Headquartered in Toronto, Ontario, Carswell provides integrated information in a range of formats, including books, loose-leaf services, journals, newsletters, CD-ROMs and online. For more information, go to <http://www.carswell.com>.

About Thomson Reuters

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