

Paisley Irregulars Essay Competition in Negligence Law

Competition Rules 2022-23

INTRODUCTION

The Paisley Irregulars Essay Competition in Negligence Law was established in recognition of the Honourable Martin R. Taylor QC, a former Justice of the British Columbia Court of Appeal and Supreme Court, and Cayman Island Court of Appeal. Mr. Taylor led the Canadian Bar Association's 1990 Conference on the Law of Negligence (aka "The Pilgrimage to Paisley"), which commemorated the 60th anniversary of the judgment of the House of Lords in *Donoghue v. Stevenson*, [1932] AC 562 (HL), which established the duty of care principle in Anglo-Canadian negligence law. He was also a speaker at the 2012 Paisley Snail Conference organized by the University of West Scotland to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the judgment and at the 2022 "The Immortal Snail" Conference organized by the Law Society of Scotland to commemorate the 90th anniversary.

The objectives of the Paisley Irregulars Essay Competition in Negligence Law are:

- (1) to honour Mr. Taylor's work and interest in *Donoghue v. Stevenson*,
- (2) to further scholarship on the topic of duty of care in negligence law, and
- (3) to promote and reward interest and participation by law students and articulated students in legal scholarship, particularly in negligence law.

The Paisley Irregulars are an informal group of lawyers and judges (some active, some retired), comprising Mr. Taylor's former judicial law clerks and several other members *honoris causa*. Members are located in several Canadian provinces and in the United Kingdom; some are textbook authors or law school professors or adjunct faculty.

ELIGIBILITY, THEME, AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Authors must be either (a) a full-time student pursuing a law degree at a Canadian law school, or (b) an articling student (including judicial law clerk) enrolled with a Canadian law society.

Papers must be author's original, unpublished work. Papers (and revisions of papers) previously submitted for academic credit are eligible. Papers previously published or originally prepared for professional development courses are not eligible.

For the 2022-23 competition, papers must address the specific theme of:

Donoghue v. Stevenson at 90: a review of the global influence of *Donoghue v. Stevenson* in the period 1932-2022. Authors may take either a temporal view (reference to the case over time) or a spatial view (reference to this UK case in non-UK jurisdictions). Authors may focus on manageable discrete jurisdictions, e.g. Australia (federal and state), Caribbean region, European civil law countries, etc.).

Extent of citations will be an additional judging criterion to the general criteria specified below. Authors seeking clarification or approval for a focus may contact the Competition Chair.

Authors are encouraged to check our website (www.PaisleyIrregulars.ca) from time to time for a forthcoming presentation/paper by Prof. John Kleefeld about his recent spatio-temporal analysis of *Donoghue v. Stevenson*. We anticipate his material to be published by Christmas 2022.

Papers must be submitted by email by Monday 26 June 2023 (12:00 noon Mountain Time) to the Competition Chair (email: PaisleyIrregularsEssay@gmail.com). Receipt of papers will be acknowledged by return email. Papers received after the deadline will not be considered.

PRIZE

\$1000, publication on the Paisley Irregulars website, and possible publication in a Canadian legal journal (we are pursuing negotiations with a leading journal). Prize may be withheld if no paper of sufficient quality is received.

JUDGING

Papers will be judged by a committee designated by the Paisley Irregulars. Judges will be named at a later date. Papers that plagiarize or that are suspected of plagiarism will be disqualified from consideration. The decision of the judging committee is final.

Papers will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- a) Originality
- b) Quality of presentation of ideas
- c) Persuasiveness of argument
- d) Clarity of thesis statement
- e) Organization and structure
- f) Research and the use of relevant sources and authorities

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Papers must include a cover page showing: author's name and contact information (telephone and email address), paper title, date of submission, and indication of whether the paper was submitted for academic credit, and if so, state the law school, course name and number, and professor's name and contact information (telephone and email address). Author's name or other personal identifying information must not appear in the body of the paper.
- 2) Papers must be submitted in Microsoft Word file format (.doc or .docx), and must be set to print on 8½ x11" paper, single sided, in Times New Roman or Arial font, 12-point size, monochrome, with 1-inch margins on all borders. The body of the paper must be double-spaced. Endnotes are to be used (not footnotes), which must also be in 12-point font but may be single spaced. Text and endnotes must not include highlighting or hyperlinks.
- 3) Papers must be of publishable quality and must be written in English. Following the body of the paper, there must be a Table of Authorities showing legislation, cases, texts/articles, etc., referred to in the paper. The Table of Authorities may be formatted in any standard legal or academic style. Citations must be in accordance with the Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation (aka "McGill Guide") edition current as of submission date.
- 4) Papers may be up to 12 pages / 2500 words in length. This limit excludes cover page, endnotes, and Table of Authorities. Pages are to show pagination using Arabic numerals beginning with "1" on the first page of text (after the cover page).

CONTACT and FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, see the Paisley Irregulars Essay Competition website at www.PaisleyIrregulars.ca.

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