



## NEWS RELEASE

### **BCCLA names new Acting Executive Director**

**For immediate release – November 24, 2008**

**Vancouver** – The British Columbia Civil Liberties Association is pleased to announce that it has named housing and policing accountability advocate and lawyer David Eby as its Acting Executive Director. Eby, one of Vancouver Magazine's top seven advocates in 2007 and one of the Vancouver Sun's top 20 most public Vancouverites, will be taking over the role effective December 1, 2008.

"The BCCLA has been very fortunate to have attracted such an array of talented individuals to its staff positions through the years. Murray Mollard provided excellent service throughout the time that he worked for the association, including his years as Executive Director. During his tenure, the BCCLA built up a strong team of professionals, including Micheal Vonn as Policy Director, Grace Pastine as Litigation Director and Jesse Lobdell as Case Worker" said Robert Holmes, president of the BCCLA. "We are confident that the addition of David Eby to our team will enable us to continue advancing the interests of the association, including providing the education and information about civil liberties and defending the rights of Canadians."

Having spent his first summer job in law school with the BCCLA, Eby has had a long relationship with the Association, most recently joining the Board in 2005 and writing the BCCLA's *The Arrest Handbook: A guide to your rights*, now in its second printing.

"I am thrilled to have this opportunity to deepen my work with the BCCLA at this stage of historic growth and impact for the organization," said Eby. "I can't wait to get to work with the staff, the membership, and the Board on ensuring Canada's democratic commitments are met."

Eby comes to the BCCLA after doing extensive work with Pivot Legal Society on police accountability and housing, including acting as counsel for the family of Gerald Chenery for the coroner's inquest into Mr. Chenery's in-custody death, and co-counsel with Cameron Ward for the recent Frank Paul Inquiry.

David is currently the Vice-President of the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, and is a board member with the Impact of the Olympics on Community Coalition.

The BCCLA is currently posting the position of Executive Director, and will be hiring an Executive Director on a permanent basis in June of 2009. Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Rob Holmes for information on the hiring process.

**For more information, please contact:**

Rob Holmes, President, BCCLA      [holmes@bccla.org](mailto:holmes@bccla.org)  
David Eby, Acting E.D., BCCLA      [david@bccla.org](mailto:david@bccla.org)

604-838-6856  
778-865-7997