

16 November 2009

Dear Friend,

In 2009, the BCCLA has been able to take its cases to the front pages of Canada's newspapers and the top levels of Canada's courts a record number of times, to get the results that Canadians need on a variety of important issues.

**Police Accountability:** The BCCLA participated in the Braidwood Inquiry regarding Taser use by police in the death of Robert Dziekanski. We were the only public interest representative and, of course, we didn't receive any government funding. Due to our advocacy, for the first time ever, B.C.'s RCMP and municipal police Chiefs have publicly acknowledged that policing themselves in cases of in-custody deaths is no longer an option.

**Anti-Torture:** We partnered with Amnesty International at a Military Complaints Tribunal in Ottawa to end Canadian Forces involvement in handing over Afghan detainees to face torture in Afghan prisons. Our work helped to prevent those handovers, but hard work still remains on this critical issue as the federal government attempts to avoid answering tough questions on who knew what, and when.

**Free Speech:** The BCCLA has aggressively defended free speech in regards to the 2010 Olympics in the face of unprecedented attempts by government to ban dissent. Our Legal Observer program is on track to train 300 neutral observers to monitor security forces during the Games. Our lawsuit is forcing the City of Vancouver to scramble to rewrite its anti-free speech bylaws. These initiatives are only possible thanks to private donations.

We urgently need you to send a donation today to help us keep our momentum on these critical projects and so many others. If you send your contribution on or before December 31, 2009, you will receive a tax-deductible receipt for this year.

I hope we can count on you this year to help keep the BCCLA active and on the front lines of the fight for rights and freedoms. We can only do it with help from citizens like you!

Many thanks,  
David Eby  
Executive Director

*P.S. Please consider becoming a monthly donor so we can count on your regular support in our ongoing efforts to defend the rights of all citizens. Thank you!*