

# Quicklaw® Cheat Sheet: Digests and Definitions

Discover how to search and browse *The Canada Digest*, Canadian Case Summaries, and Canadian Legal Words & Phrases.

## The Canada Digest

The *Canada Digest* group source on the LexisNexis® Quicklaw® service includes 52 individually titled topical *Canada Digest* sources. These sources contain digests of both court and tribunal decisions uniformly sorted by our bilingual LexisNexis® classification system, making summary searches straightforward and reliable. The sources are also browsable by heading, allowing you to drill down through the table of contents to find digest groups relevant to your subject of interest, and quickly locate cases on point. Case citations are hyperlinked to the full-text version of each decision.

To search a *Canada Digest* source, click the **Court Cases** subtab followed by **The Canada Digest** link in the left-hand panel. From the **Sources** drop-down list, select **The Canada Digest** or one of its individual content sources. To add the source you want, click the **Find more sources...** link.

1. Enter search terms in the text box provided.
2. Enter the case name if you know the specific case you are searching for (e.g., **Smyth**).
3. Enter the full or partial citation to find a specific case digest (e.g., **[1991] A.J. No. 1261**).
4. Enter the classification number (e.g., **FAM3055**) to find digests of cases arranged under that number. Use the **Browse** link (see step 9) to locate specific classification numbers.
5. Search by keywords that would only appear in the digest headnotes (e.g., **Obligation**).
6. Search for terms that would only appear within the summary of the case (e.g., **Spousal**).
7. Select one or more jurisdictions.
8. Click the **Show document segments** link. To search by court (e.g., **Supreme Court of Canada**), select the **COURT** segment, enter the court name, and click the **Add to Search** button.
9. Click the **Browse** link to browse the selected *Canada Digest* source.

## Canadian Case Summaries

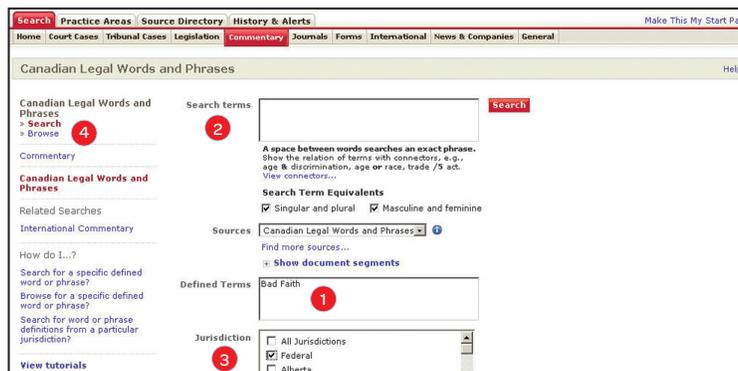
The **Canadian Case Summaries** source is a comprehensive collection of English-language case summaries, with some cases dating as far back as 1574. (For French-language summaries, use the **Résumés de décisions québécoises** source.) While not browsable, Canadian Case Summaries uses the LexisNexis classification system to help highlight the main issues in cases and locate keywords found in headnotes and/or summaries. Links to the full text of cases are also included. To search the Canadian Case Summaries source, click the **Court Cases** subtab and select **Canadian Case Summaries** from the drop-down sources menu.

## Canadian Legal Words & Phrases

This online legal dictionary contains legislative terms; legal maxims; and Canadian, Commonwealth, and Latin terms defined in case law. To quickly find definitions, click the **Home** subtab and enter words or phrases in the **Find a definition** box. By default, the autocomplete feature will suggest matching definitions if you enter at least three characters. This feature can be disabled in the **Preferences**.



To search or browse all definitions contained in the legal dictionary, click the **Commentary** subtab and then the **Canadian Legal Words and Phrases** link in the left-hand panel.



1. Enter terms (e.g., **bad faith**) in the **Defined Terms** box to limit searches to the definition field – to achieve more narrow and specific definition results, or
2. Enter search terms to search across the entire Words & Phrases source.
3. Select a **Jurisdiction** to limit results to federal and/or individual provincial courts.
4. Click the **Browse** link to browse the alphabetic list of defined terms according to definitions from various courts, boards, and jurisdictions.



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or email [service@lexisnexis.ca](mailto:service@lexisnexis.ca).

