

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation v. New-Brunswick [1996] 3 S.C.R At paragraph 23 of the Judgment the Court held:

"The principle of open courts is inextricably tied to the rights guaranteed by s. 2(b). Openness permits public access to information about the courts, which in turn permits the public to discuss and put forward opinions and criticisms of court practices and proceedings. While the freedom to express ideas and opinions about the operation of the courts is clearly within the ambit of the freedom guaranteed by s. 2(b), so too is the right of members of the public to obtain information about the courts in the first place.

Cory J. in *Edmonton Journal* described the equally important aspect of freedom of expression that protects listeners as well as speakers and ensures that this right to information about the courts is real and not illusory. At pages 1339-40, he states: That is to say as listeners and readers; members of the public have a right to information pertaining to public institutions and particularly the courts. Here the press plays a fundamentally important role."