

## **Family Duty Counsel Pilot**

This September, the Legal Services Society will initiate a Family Duty Counsel Pilot Project at Port Coquitlam and New Westminster Provincial Courts. The purpose of the projects is to provide assistance to low-income family litigants who do not qualify for assistance under our current family coverage guidelines. The project will include providing —

- summary information and advice about the client's specific family law problems;
- help preparing court documents such as financial statements;
- representation for adjournments, interlocutory motions, and uncontested matters on family and child protection list days; and
- referrals to other resources, including family justice counsellors.

This project does not include providing representation at trial.

Critical to the success of this initiative is a close working relationship between duty counsel, court registry staff, and family justice counsellors.

LSS plans to provide duty counsel services for this project through a select roster of experienced family bar lawyers who can act as duty counsel on family and child protection list days. Lawyers on the roster will be paid the family tariff rate of \$72 per hour.

If you have a minimum of two years recent family court experience and would like to be considered as a candidate for the family duty counsel roster, please send your résumé to the attention of —

**Sherry MacLennan**  
**Barrister & Solicitor**  
**Manager, Family Initiatives**  
**1500 – 1140 W. Pender Street**  
**Vancouver, BC V6E 4G1**  
**Fax: (604) 681-5217**

**Deadline: August 6, 2003**