



Information Sheet: Legal Services Society Clear Skies project

The stats behind the project:

- Aboriginal youth is the fastest growing population segment in BC, which highlights the importance of making information accessible to a younger population. The [2011 Census Fast Facts](#)¹ for BC reports that 45 percent of the Aboriginal population in BC was under the age of 25.
- In 2012 the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development published a report titled [Taking Action on Domestic Violence in British Columbia](#),² which states “the increased risk and vulnerability of Aboriginal women and children to domestic violence is a serious concern.”
- Aboriginal people make up less than 6% of BC’s population yet in 2014/15, 21% of legal aid family law clients were Aboriginal.

About the Legal Services Society:

- The [Legal Services Society](#) (LSS)³ is a non-profit organization created by the [LSS Act](#) in 1979 to provide legal aid to British Columbians with low incomes, including legal information, advice, and representation services.
- Core services include legal information provided through front-line staff, local agents, community partners, publications and websites; legal advice provided through criminal, family and immigration duty counsel, a telephone line for people who have been arrested and detained by police, Family LawLINE telephone services, and family advice lawyers; and representation services for financially eligible people with serious family law problems, child protection matters, criminal law issues, and some immigration, mental health and prison law issues.
- LSS is also committed to integrating its services with the services of our many partners in the justice and social services system, sharing knowledge and improving access to justice.
- LSS operates two regional centers and has local agents offering services in 33 communities in BC. Staff at these offices takes applications for legal representation, make referrals for those eligible and, along with 27 LSS community partners, provide legal information services. LSS has approximately 145 staff members.

¹ <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/Census/2011Census.aspx>

² http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/podv/pdf/domestic_violence_response_booklet.pdf

³ <http://www.legalaid.bc.ca/>



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British Columbia
www.lss.bc.ca

Images for Clear Skies (png, 1,200px x 628px)



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