



## Family Tariff (Extended Services) items suspended

Effective immediately, the Legal Services Society (LSS) will not issue further authorizations for Extended Services referrals. LSS will honour existing Extended Services authorizations, but will not approve additional hours on existing authorizations unless additional time is required to meet professional obligations that you cannot otherwise avoid.

Additional hours on Extended Services referrals can only be approved by the manager of Legal Services. Submit requests for additional hours using the Opinion Letter form and address the status of the case that requires you to continue.

This change does not affect other family services, including family Emergency Services referrals and family duty counsel.

LSS continues to face increasing demand for our family services. Our budget for Extended Services referrals that will be billed this fiscal year has already been exhausted by referrals made in 2008 and 2009. The limits of available funding require us to closely control our services to remain within budget. We will continue to monitor our family services budget to determine whether and when Extended Services referrals can resume.

We will provide background information about these changes in an upcoming *Legal Aid Fax*.

We welcome your feedback about our services. Please feel free to e-mail your comments to [lawyersresources@lss.bc.ca](mailto:lawyersresources@lss.bc.ca).

Heidi Mason  
*Director, Legal Advice and Representation*