



# The Legal Aid Fax

May 2007

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## Overview of LSS tariff review and renewal

In the special edition of [The Legal Aid Fax](http://www.lss.bc.ca) at [www.lss.bc.ca](http://www.lss.bc.ca) (under For lawyers > Legal Aid Fax) distributed earlier this month, LSS provided a short summary of the tariff review and renewal process which began in January 2004 and is scheduled to wrap up with a final set of tariff changes in July 2007. For a more detailed summary of that process and the resulting tariff improvements, see the LSS report, [Overview of LSS Tariff Review and Renewal 2004-2007](#), at [www.lss.bc.ca](http://www.lss.bc.ca) (under For lawyers > Online resources > Tariff resources).

## New early preparation fee and changes to the arraignment court process fee

LSS is introducing a new early preparation fee to compensate lawyers for taking steps that reflect best practices and promote early, effective resolution in appropriate cases. The fee will be billable once per referral where lawyers take specified preparation steps prior to setting a trial date.

Changes have also been made to arraignment court process fees. For complete details, see [Notice to Counsel #57](#), dated May 30, 2007, at [www.lss.bc.ca](http://www.lss.bc.ca) (under For lawyers > Notices to counsel).

## Disbursement block fee clarification

In [Notice to Counsel #56](#) (at [www.lss.bc.ca](http://www.lss.bc.ca) under For lawyers > Notices to counsel), the line “Criminal – s.278 victim/witness referrals” (tariff code #270) should have appeared as “CC – s.278 victim/witness representation referrals.” We apologize for any confusion this may have caused. Should you have any questions or comments regarding this new tariff item, please contact the tariff helpdesk at (604) 601-6155 or at [helpdesk.tariff@lss.bc.ca](mailto:helpdesk.tariff@lss.bc.ca).

## Meals & meterage

In accordance with B.C. Public Service Agency rates, meal allowances were increased, effective April 1, 2007, as follows:

MEAL	RATE
Breakfast	\$11.00
Lunch	\$12.75
Dinner	\$21.75
Per diem	\$45.50

Meterage was increased to \$0.48 per kilometre.

## Operations department — update

The Legal Advice and Representation Division is pleased to advise that the Operations Department is now responsible for the Case Management Section (formerly known as Tariff Services and Disbursements). Janice Staryk is the manager and Nardene Hesketh is the supervisor. The new contact e-mail address is: [helpdesk.case-mgt@lss.bc.ca](mailto:helpdesk.case-mgt@lss.bc.ca) (please note: this address replaces [helpdesk.disbursements@lss.bc.ca](mailto:helpdesk.disbursements@lss.bc.ca)).

The helpdesk phone number remains as (604) 601-6145 and the case management assistant who can help you with your inquiry is as follows:

INQUIRY	STAFF	PRESS
Strategic Case Assessment Program matters, including Enhanced Fees & Rowbothams	Dorothy	“1”
Disbursement, Transcript or Pro bono matters; Criminal, CFCSA, Duty Counsel, or Extra Fee requests	Jan	“2”
Dispute Resolution Service, Extended Services, or Family Extra Fee requests	Michael	“3”
Immigration or Immigration Extra Fee requests	Ingrid	“4”

## Tariff accounts examiners — update

Please note that, effective April 2, 2007, the tariff accounts examiner who processes your accounts has changed. The tariff helpdesk phone system at (604) 601-6155 remains unchanged; however, you can now select “5” for general inquiries or if your examiner is unavailable.

STREAM	EXAMINER	PRESS
A — F	Jennifer	“1”
G — L	Lynne	“2”
M — R	Margaret	“3”
S — Z	Linda	“4”