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## Implementation of the simplified tariffs coming in June

LSS is nearing the completion of the simplified tariff for Criminal and Family matters. The design of the new tariffs has benefitted from input from tariff lawyers around the province. We thank all of you for your input. The exact implementation date near the end of June will be announced soon. We will also post on the LSS website a summary of the final simplified tariff models. A more complete revised Tariff Guide will be posted closer to the actual implementation date. New referrals issued after the implementation date will be subject to the new simplified tariff. Referrals issued prior to the implementation date of the simplified tariff will continue under the current until their stop date (or maximum of 2 years).

## Tiered rates reinstatement payments

LSS is pleased to advise that the reinstatement payments for tiered rates for criminal duty counsel accounts received between April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2010 were included with the regular May 27<sup>th</sup> tariff payments. This is a month ahead of schedule! If you have questions about your payment, please email [helpdesk.finance@lss.bc.ca](mailto:helpdesk.finance@lss.bc.ca).

## Message from Audit and Investigation – settlement judgment policy

Under our Settlement Judgment Policy, referral lawyers must notify LSS immediately upon learning that a settlement will be received or judgment will be awarded to the client. In addition, you must provide the Audit and Investigation department with the client's current contact information and the amount of the expected settlement or judgment. Referral lawyers must also submit a final account to LSS within 30 days of receipt of the settlement or judgment and a completed Settlement or Judgment Confirmation form.

This policy can be found at [www.lss.bc.ca](http://www.lss.bc.ca) under Lawyers>LSS policies.

If you have any questions concerning this policy please contact Leslie Gault, Collection Audit Clerk at 604-601-6016 or e-mail [helpdesk.sj@lss.bc.ca](mailto:helpdesk.sj@lss.bc.ca).

## Gladue fundamentals workshop

[Gladue in Practice](#): a free 2-hour workshop on Gladue fundamentals, including Gladue report submissions, is being held Wednesday June 16, 2010 at UBC. Credit will be given for CPD hours. To RSVP, or to sign up to receive information on Aboriginal legal issues, please contact Pamela Shields, Aboriginal Services Program Manager, at [pamela.shields@lss.bc.ca](mailto:pamela.shields@lss.bc.ca).

## Stats from tariff accounts

Did you know that:

- We receive 10,000 accounts each month
- 92% of accts are received via e-billing and are paid in less than 8 days (an improvement over last year 10-12 days)
- Paper accounts take longer to be paid – 19 to 21 days (from when you mail them)
- 84% of lawyers are paid by direct deposit and use My Payments to review payment details (cheque remittance)

## Mentoring program

LSS continues to offer two types of mentoring opportunities for lawyers with less than five years' experience. The goal is to afford practical learning opportunities to lawyers.

Under mentoring assistance, a lawyer with less than five years' experience can ask LSS to authorize a senior lawyer to provide practical advice and feedback on the conduct of a legal aid case. Alternatively, a lawyer with less than five years' experience can request authorization to act as apprentice counsel to a senior lawyer who is working on a complex legal aid case.

For more details go to [www.lss.bc.ca](http://www.lss.bc.ca) under Lawyers>Practice resources.

## Continuing Legal Education of BC

LSS offers lawyers discounts and a limited number of bursaries for CLEBC courses that are relevant to a legal aid practice. To apply, please email [LawyersResources@lss.bc.ca](mailto:LawyersResources@lss.bc.ca), indicating your call date, and agreeing to accept a minimum of 12 referrals in the coming year.