



New directors

Five new directors have been appointed to the LSS board: **Tom Christensen**, lawyer and former Minister of Children and Family Development (Law Society appointment); **Barbara Brink**, CM, OBC, president of Applied Strategies Ltd., a management-consulting firm, former board chair and CEO of Telus Science World, and immediate past chair of the UBC and Vancouver General Hospital foundation (government appointment); **Darrell J. Wickstrom**, lawyer, Fasken Martineau and adjunct professor of law at UBC (government appointment); and **Marion Wright**, former elected chief councillor of the Kwakiutl Indian Band in Port Hardy and former chair of the Vancouver Island Aboriginal Transition Authority (government appointment). In November, current board member Janice Comeau will be replaced by **Sheryl Lee**, a chartered accountant with many years of experience in managing not-for-profit agencies (government appointment).

"The new directors bring the skills needed to ensure LSS remains a leader in the provision of legal aid to low-income people," said Mayland McKimm, QC, board chair. "Their varied backgrounds include public policy development, corporate governance, collaborative dispute resolution, and Aboriginal issues, all of which will be invaluable to LSS."

The new directors join Mayland McKimm, QC, David Crossin, QC, Deanna Ludowicz (Law Society appointments), and Todd Ormiston (government appointment).

CLE bursary opportunities

LSS is offering discounts and a limited number of bursaries for the following upcoming CLE courses:

- **Psychology and the Law:** October 16, 2009
- **Children's Participation in Family Justice Processes:** November 19 and 20, 2009
- **Criminal Law Boot Camp:** November 21, 2009
- **The Powerful Performance: Effective Advocacy Skills for Lawyers:** November 26, 2009

Less than five years' call: LSS will pay the registration fee for one conference for a limited number of tariff lawyers who agree to take 12 legal aid referrals in the coming year. To apply, e-mail

lawyersresources@lss.bc.ca, indicating your call date and the conference name, and agreeing to accept 12 legal aid referrals in the coming year. Spaces are limited, so apply early!

Five or more years' call: A 25% discount on the registration fee is available if you agree to take 12 legal aid referrals in the coming year. To receive the discount, let CLEBC know you will take 12 or more referrals when you register.

Family Emergency Referrals

The recent suspension of Extended Family Services (EFS) referrals has resulted in increased requests for change of counsel or new Emergency Referrals where counsel has run out of time. Extended Family Services were suspended because the budget was exhausted, in part because of increased demand for our services. Our budget does not allow us to replace EFS with Emergency Referrals. LSS is monitoring all change of counsel requests in family cases to determine whether the underlying issue(s) that generated the referral have been addressed and whether a continuing Emergency Referral is appropriate.

The limit of our budget in the face of increased demand requires LSS, counsel, and clients to remain attentive to the limits of our services. Clients should understand your plan to manage the case within the hours available in the Emergency Services tariff. We expect this will include reasonable efforts to resolve the issue(s) that justified the referral. To assist you with this, LSS has changed the referral form. You will now find the coverable issue(s) identified by Intake staff listed on the referral under the heading "Reasons for Referral."

In many circumstances, clients will need to consider how they will proceed on their own once their legal aid retainer is exhausted. The suspension of EFS means this will happen more frequently.

LSS is on Twitter!

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