Notice to Counsel



## Family Tariff changes

To reflect changes associated with the *Family Law Act (FLA)*, LSS will implement changes to our <u>Family Tariff</u>, effective March 18, 2013.

## **Protection order referrals**

You may receive a limited referral ("protection order only") if a client requires a protection order under the *FLA* and does not otherwise qualify for a family law referral. Such referrals may be issued for family members as defined by the *FLA*. The protection order referral provides seven hours of general preparation and actual court attendance. The referral authorizes you to obtain a protection order for the family member and is not intended to resolve ancillary issues. Extended Services hours are not available for protection order referrals.

## **Out-of-court dispute resolution (including arbitration)**

The Family Tariff is being revised to expand the **collaborative processes and/or mediation** tariff items to include any combination of mediation/arbitration/collaborative process sessions, with the same hourly limits as the current tariff. These tariff items are now called **out-of-court-dispute resolution**. A family law referral will continue to provide up to 10 hours of preparation and up to 15 hours attendance at mediation/arbitration/collaborative process sessions.

Arbitration and arbitrators will be paid at the same rate and under the same guidelines as mediation in the Disbursements Tariff.

Heidi Mason Director, Legal Advice and Representation March 15, 2013

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