

## Extended Contract Service Dates

### Cases Impacted by COVID-19

#### Criminal and Child Protection (CFCSA)

Pursuant to the June 22, 2020, [Notice to Counsel #109](#), Legal Aid BC (LABC) extended contracts with stop dates between September 1, 2020, and November 12, 2020, to November 13, 2020, due to court delays associated with COVID-19.

As a result of the continued impacts of COVID-19, LABC is extending Criminal and CFCSA contracts with stop dates between November 13, 2020, and March 30, 2021, to March 31, 2021, up to a maximum of three years from the contract start date. The bill-by date for all extended contracts will be six months from their new stop date. This change will be reflected on your contract(s) shortly.

This change excludes the following contract types:

- All duty counsel;
- All Family;
- All Immigration;
- All Criminal early resolution;
- All show cause/bail hearing contracts.

If your contract reaches three years from the contract issue date and requires a further extension, please confirm through an authorization request that the case is still active and that your client still qualifies financially.

#### Family

Due to the complexity of Family contracts, extension requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Counsel who require contract extensions are to submit an authorization request via the Lawyer Portal and confirm whether there are still primary issues that

require resolution, that the client continues to qualify financially (click [here](#) to see LABC's current financial eligibility guidelines), and that there is an upcoming scheduled hearing or mediation.

## Immigration

Pursuant to the June 22, 2020, [Notice to Counsel #109](#), LABC previously advised that all active Immigration contracts with stop dates prior to March 19, 2021, would be extended to March 19, 2021.

All active Immigration contracts will receive an extension to one year from their contract issue date. New Immigration contracts will be issued for one year. This change will be reflected on your contract(s) shortly.

As always, we welcome your feedback regarding the *LABC Tariffs*. If you have any comments, please email [lawyer.support@legalaid.bc.ca](mailto:lawyer.support@legalaid.bc.ca).

Heidi Mason,  
*Vice-President, Legal Advice and Representation*

December 17, 2020

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## Questions or comments?

Contact our Lawyer Support team:

- Call 604-601-6155; 1-888-401-6206 (no charge), or
  - Email [lawyer.support@legalaid.bc.ca](mailto:lawyer.support@legalaid.bc.ca)
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*Sent from the traditional unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.*



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