

Message to the Private Bar from David S. Duncan

I am pleased to advise that our current funding permits us to make a number of changes to the tariff. As I reported in my last message, LSS has received a commitment from the Attorney General's ministry for a \$6.8 million increase to the Society's base funding in the coming year. The AG was clear that the added funding is intended to alleviate the immediate budget concerns of the Society, so there will be "no service or program reduction." With this additional revenue, we are able to:

- continue funding for the arraignment court process;
- continue the out-of-custody duty counsel service; and
- adjust the meterage rate from \$0.26/kilometre to \$0.40/kilometre, in keeping with standard government rates, effective April 1, 2001.

A Notice to Counsel about these changes is attached. Thank you for your ongoing assistance in working with us to ensure that representation is available to the low-income people of British Columbia.

David S. Duncan
Chief Executive Officer