Legal Aid Brief



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The Legal Services Society of British Columbia and HiiL Innovating Justice announce a partnership for MyLawBC.

LSS and HiiL announce MyLawBC partnership

The <u>Legal Services Society</u> of British Columbia and <u>Hill Innovating Justice</u> are pleased to announce a partnership for <u>MyLawBC</u>, an interactive new online legal resource for British Columbia. This innovation will enhance access to justice in BC and give ordinary British Columbians access to a range of new tools to help them resolve their legal problems. It will feature public legal information, interactive guided pathways to diagnose legal problems and direct users to self-help resources, both online and in person. People experiencing relationship breakdowns can access action plans and online negotiation tools to help each party make a separation agreement that works for the family.

MyLawBC will be based on the interactive Rechtwijzer platform, a public legal resource developed by HiiL in partnership with the Dutch Legal Aid Board. It will include legal information on everyday legal problems and links to key public legal information and education resources. The platform builds on HiiL's experience with interactive information, best practices for online dispute resolution, and research conducted with users and professionals. The scope of the interactive platform will include family law, family violence, wills/estates and life planning and foreclosure.

MyLawBC will help many people who cannot afford to hire a lawyer. It will improve the average British Columbian's access to justice for everyday legal problems. As a platform it will support other organizations in pursuit of the same goal. LSS will establish an advisory committee with key BC stakeholders. We will also work with an international committee to develop these new online resources.

MyLawBC represents an exciting new chapter in the history of public legal information services, not just for British Columbia but with its international partnership model, around the world.

Funding for MyLawBC is provided by The Law Foundation of BC.

We plan to launch MyLawBC by the end of June, 2015.

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