Legal Aid Brief



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E-services upgrade successfully launched

Our Lawyer e-services upgrade, which includes the new E-authorization tool, has been successfully launched! We apologize if you encountered any e-services disruption or technical difficulties with your username and password change. We thank you for your understanding and patience while we resolved these issues.

We're pleased so many of you have already accessed the system, submitting your accounts and disbursement authorization requests. For those of you who haven't logged in yet, please check for an email from our Lawyer Resources on January 15 with your new username and password. We suggest you complete the new login process now, so it's set up for when you need to access Lawyer eservices.



If you don't have your General e-mail address entered in My Profile, please update it now, then contact us and we'll create your username and password.

If you need any help with your e-services account, please contact <u>Tariff Helpdesk</u> or call 604-601-6155 or 1-888-401-6206 (no charge).

Helpful hints

- To ensure all the characters are entered correctly, cut and paste your username and password into the appropriate fields.
- From the login page, select "I want to change my password." Enter your new password (minimum 8 and maximum 16 characters). Your password must contain three of the following four criteria: upper case, lower case, number, and special character.
- Select "Private" computer this will permit a 30-minute time-out session while you're logged in (versus 10 minutes for "Public").

System upgrade benefits

- The new login security technology follows industry best practices and standards, providing users and LSS with greater security and information protection.
- E-authorizations are submitted in real time.
- All e-services user guides are current.
- Tariff Helpdesk is your direct link to experienced staff who can assist you with all e-services functions, including password resetting.

Tariff Lawyer Satisfaction Survey

In January, you received a <u>letter from Mark Benton</u> about Ipsos Reid inviting you to participate in our 2013 Tariff Lawyer Satisfaction Survey. Our tariff lawyers have an important voice — we value your input, so please take the time to complete and submit the survey. All feedback from our tariff bar helps us gain insight. Please let us know what you think.

Downtown Community Court

Downtown Community Court agent

Recently, LSS adopted a tariff change to allow counsel to use Lead Defence Counsel Kelly Connell as an agent to conclude matters in Downtown Community Court (DCC). This was done to avoid unproductive and, in some cases, counterproductive adjournments. We remind you that

you're permitted to bill for bail, guilty plea, and/or sentencing in DCC, provided that you've made arrangements in advance for the release or disposition and that Kelly's role is limited to confirming those arrangements in court. Please bill these services with Kelly listed as the alternate service provider and include her vendor number on your billing.

Downtown Community Court duty counsel

LSS is considering changes to the allocation of duty counsel between 222 Main Street (222) and DCC. Currently, two lawyers are assigned to 222 and one to DCC. Over time, there has been a significant shift in the number of in-custody clients from 222 to DCC. As a result, we're considering ways to add flexibility so duty counsel can cover the court with the higher demand on any given day. Options will be discussed in an upcoming meeting of DCC roster lawyers. Changes will affect how assignments are made in order to reflect DCC training requirements. If you have comments about these options, please email dutycounsel@lss.bc.ca.

Courthouse Libraries: New Criminal Law Practice Portal

Courthouse Libraries has launched a free, online collection of practice resources designed specifically for criminal lawyers. <u>Find out more...</u>

Gladue report disbursement project: Myths and facts



The LSS Gladue report disbursement pilot project addresses the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in prison through Gladue report funding. These reports support the court in applying Gladue principles by presenting details on the defendant's Aboriginal status and

circumstances. The reports also provide practical information for the court in consideration of the least restrictive sentencing options that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Learn about the **Top 10 Gladue myths and facts...**

Resources | e-services | Tariff guides | Contact us





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