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**Legal
Services
Society**

August 2018

Legal Aid Brief

LSS expands its Quality Assistance Program!

In this issue: Investing in lawyer training to achieve better client outcomes; Bursary for cultural competency training

Investing in lawyer training to achieve better client outcomes

Over the years, LSS' Quality Assistance Program has had limited funding to provide training and resources to lawyers. This year, one of LSS' strategic priorities is to increase the capacity of lawyers (and staff) to meet the unique needs of our clients. New funding allows LSS to expand its Quality Assistance Program and to develop a curriculum of courses and resources in support of the work you do for legal aid clients.

This year, the program's focus will be on:

- assisting you to keep pace with technology
- expanding the number of bursaries for legal training courses
- delivering specialized cultural competency training for lawyers (and staff) to provide culturally appropriate legal aid services for Indigenous people
- delivering specialized training to address clients' unique needs, such as mental health or domestic violence

To that end, LSS will be working with Continuing Legal Education and other legal training providers to develop a

curriculum for lawyers.

Furthermore, we will be offering more bursaries to more lawyers (we are expanding the criteria for qualifying for bursaries) and we will be using a number of training delivery options to make the program as accessible as possible.

Watch for announcements on upcoming opportunities in the What's New section of LSS Online!

Bursary for cultural competency training

LSS has a high proportion of Indigenous clients, and is supporting the Truth and Reconciliation Report's calls to action in a number of ways. One is to deliver specialized cultural competency training for lawyers (and staff).

As part of our Quality Assistance Program, we are offering bursaries to attend Continuing Legal Education BC's "Cultural Competency for Lawyers" training:

Place: Vancouver

Date: September 17 and 18, 2018

Format: You can attend in person, or via webinar

Click [here](#) for more details about this course.

To be eligible for a bursary, you must meet the following criteria:

- You have taken 3 or more contracts in the previous 12 months (since August 1, 2017)
- You agree to take 3 contracts in the next 12 months

If you meet the criteria, apply by emailing lawyersresources@lss.bc.ca and indicate in the subject line: Cultural Competency bursary request. In your email state:

- your call date
- your vendor number
- whether you would attend in person or via webinar

- and that you agree to take at least 3 legal aid contracts in the next 12 months

Please note that there is a group rate if several lawyers view the webinar together. If you plan to do this, kindly let us know when you apply which lawyers you will view the webinar with.

The selection of bursary recipients is at the discretion of LSS.

Can't make the September conference? This course will be rebroadcast February 4, 2019. Watch for announcements of LSS bursaries for the rebroadcast!

Questions or comments?

Contact our Lawyer Support team:

- call 604-601-6155; 1-888-401-6206 (no charge), or
- email lawyer.support@lss.bc.ca



Legal Services Society, 400- 510 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC

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