

## Family Limited Representation Contracts— Trial Period Continuing with Some Changes

In September 2020, Legal Aid BC (LABC) expanded family limited representation services for a trial period ([see Notice to Counsel #110](#)) as a way to better assist clients during the pandemic. LABC will continue the trial period into fiscal year 2021/2022, with some changes to clients' eligibility.

We're extending this service as the pandemic continues to affect some clients' ability to access in-person court services. Family Limited Representation Contracts may also help support clients pursue early resolution of their family law problems under the new Provincial Court Family Rules.

Family Limited Representation Contracts will continue to be monitored for demand and will be based on available budget. LABC also intends to perform an evaluation of these contracts during the next fiscal year to help inform future decisions about this service.

### Financial Eligibility

As of April 1, 2021, the financial eligibility guidelines for Family Limited Representation Contracts will be the same as those for Family Standard Representation Contracts (see the LABC website for [financial eligibility guidelines for standard cases](#)). We're making this change because LABC has other legal advice services available to serve clients with higher income levels.

### Service Stop Dates

Starting immediately, all Family Limited Representation Contracts will be issued with a service stop date of 120 days and a bill by date of 30 days. All active Family Limited Representation

Contracts with a service stop date of March 26, 2021, and *less than* 120 days from the service start date, will have their service stop date extended to 120 days. This change will be reflected on your contract(s) shortly.

The Family Tariff will be updated by April 1, 2021, to reflect these changes.

All other features of Family Limited Representation Contracts issued *on or after* September 25, 2020, will remain the same as those outlined in [Notice to Counsel #110](#), including the 30-day bill by date.

Lawyers with Family Limited Representation Contracts that were issued *before* September 25, 2020, can continue to provide services under those contracts until they reach their one-year service stop date, and should bill all work and disbursements under the [April 2020 Family Tariff](#).

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*

March 12, 2021

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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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