

Further changes related to immigration services

As a result of reduced immigration case volumes in March and April this year, LSS has decided to increase authorized hours for services to clients.

Revised pages for your *Guide to Legal Aid Tariffs* will be sent out in June 2004 with the next tariff update.

Immigration Tariff

The following changes to the Immigration Tariff in the tariff guide apply to all referrals issued on or after June 1, 2004:

- General preparation for a refugee case (tariff code 4010) is increased to 10 hours
- Refugee hearing referrals will be separate from initial referrals for PIF preparation and will be issued only by the Vancouver Regional Centre
- Counsel may seek authorization for hearing attendance in excess of 5 hours
- Counsel may seek extra funding in exceptional circumstances; e.g., visits to clients in custody , exceptional disbursement requests
- PIF referrals will have a service stop date of 2 months from the date of issue
- Refugee hearing referrals will have a service stop date of March 31, 2005, and must be billed by April 8, 2005

Appeals and Judicial Reviews Tariff

The following changes to the Appeals and Judicial Reviews Tariff (Immigration appeals section) in the tariff guide apply to all referrals issued on or after June 1, 2004:

- Stay application in Federal Court (tariff code 1879) is increased to 15 hours
- Preparation of leave application (tariff code 1271) is increased to 20 hours
- Preparation if leave is granted (tariff code 1297) is increased to 10 hours
- Application to reinstate proceeding before the IRB (tariff code 1342) is increased to 5 hours
- Visits to clients in custody (tariff code 1237) is eliminated
- Counsel may seek extra funding in exceptional circumstances; e.g., visits to clients in custody, exceptional disbursement requests
- All referrals will have a service stop date of March 31, 2005, and must be billed by April 8, 2005

Disbursement for All Tariffs

- No prior authorization is required for interpretation accounts of up to —
 - \$125 for referrals for immigration hearing representation
 - \$250 for all other referrals
- Prior authorizations are required for any translation service; however, all referrals for refugee hearing representation will include an authorization for \$200 in translation services

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