



Unifor Legal Services Plan

DIVORCES AND DOMESTIC CONTRACTS - PLAN COVERAGE

For divorces and domestic contracts the type of Plan coverage depends on whether the matter is "**uncontested**" or "**contested**".

For the purposes of the Plan, "uncontested" means that the parties (i.e. the spouses) are in agreement about all issues (i.e. nothing remains to be negotiated) when they first retain a lawyer.

Very often one spouse will think that everything is agreed to and the other spouse will have a completely different opinion. It is only after the initial interview with their respective lawyers and, perhaps, some minimal communication between the lawyers, that the reality can be ascertained. **It has been our experience that the majority of these cases are "contested"**, in that they **do** require negotiations to resolve matters that are in dispute.

For all contested matters, the Plan pays for the first twelve hours of lawyer time if a Staff Lawyer or Co-operating Lawyer is used. If a Non-co-operating Lawyer is used, the Plan will reimburse you \$175.00 per hour up to twelve hours.

Fees for subsequent legal services are paid by you directly to your lawyer. If you choose, and if available, a Co-operating Lawyer or a Staff Lawyer will charge you \$175.00 per hour for contested matters. If you use a Non-co-operating Lawyer you will pay at whatever rate you have negotiated with your lawyer.

Most uncontested matters involve no billing of lawyer time to you.

In all cases, disbursements, court filing fees and the G.S.T. are your responsibility.