

Funding for Legal interpreting

Police matters:

- Accessible through WIDHH, at no cost to the Deaf person.

The court registry:

- The Attorney General's Office contracts and pays for interpreting services for the following:
 - Criminal,
 - Civil,
 - Family law,
 - Traffic matters
 - Meetings with the crown prosecutor.

Federal courts

- The Attorney General's Office contracts and pays for interpreting services; this is a different jurisdiction than provincial.

Additional information regarding funding available for legal interpreting needs of Deaf persons:

- Suggests there is monies available for unfunded interpreting services:
http://www.widhh.com/services/is_fees.php
- Outlines when the Ministry will provide interpreting services:
<http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/courts/faq/info/interpreter.htm>
- Legal Aid funding available (limited) to defendants with court matters:
http://www.lss.bc.ca/legal_aid/legalRepresentation.php
- Island Deaf and Hard of Hearing Centre <http://idhhc.ca/programs-and-services/>

NOTE: When a Deaf person hires a lawyer (e.g., defense, small claims, ICBC), legal costs are billed to the Deaf person. Such costs may be deducted from a settlement.