

April 7, 2015

Changes to Court Fees in Alberta

The Budget delivered by the Alberta Government on March 26, 2015 announced an increase in court filing fees. The new fee schedule will be in effect commencing May 1, 2015.

Some of the fee schedules coming from the Court of Queen's Bench that are likely to affect those in the insurance industry may include the following:

- The fee for filing a Statement of Claim will rise from \$200.00 to \$250.00;
- The Courts will now charge a \$50.00 fee for the filing of any application – it is not clear whether this will apply to applications without notice, such as applications for *service ex juris* or declaring service valid and sufficient;
- A new fee of \$50.00 to file a Statement of Defence;
- A new fee of \$150.00 to file a Counterclaim or third party claim;
- A new daily trial fee of \$250.00/day (starting on the 5th day of trial)

The Provincial Court will also have some increased fees, including:

- \$25.00 to file a Dispute Note
- \$50.00 - \$100.00 to file a Counterclaim (depending on whether the counterclaim exceeds \$7,500)
- \$50.00 for applications and third party claims

These new fees will increase disbursements on an average defence file by \$500.00 - \$1,000.00. The new fees, however, may act as a minor deterrent for unrepresented parties bringing frivolous applications and counterclaims.

If you have any questions, or would like any further information, please feel free to [contact](#) the Insurance Group at Field Law.

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