

3.4 Impact Studies

The Centre may commission, at the request of either panel, impact studies of important court decisions relevant to litigation under the Program, up to a maximum of \$25,000 per fiscal year, for dissemination to users of the Program and to the public, when the panel believes that such research would assist users in conducting litigation under the Program and would provide for a more efficient and effective administration of the Program.

4. PANELS

- 4.1 In order to ensure independence in the selection of cases, the Centre shall establish two panels, one for language rights, the other for equality rights, which solely will be responsible for approving the cases that warrant financial assistance and determining the amount of financial assistance.
- 4.2 Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Centre shall appoint the panel members, including designated chairpersons, on the basis of their recognized standing and competence in the field of equality or language rights as the case may be.
- 4.3 Each panel shall be composed of not less than five, and not more than seven members.
- 4.4 Chairpersons shall establish the agenda and the frequency of the meetings.
- 4.5 Panel members shall be appointed for a term of a maximum of three years, renewable once. The appointments shall be made so as to ensure, as far as possible, the expiration in any one fiscal year of the terms of not more than two members.
- 4.6 In addition to reimbursement for reasonable travel and accommodation expenses according to the Treasury Board Travel Directive, the Centre may remunerate panel members at a rate of \$250 a day for the days during which the panel is convened.

5. CEILINGS ON AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- 5.1 The Centre may provide financial assistance for each stage of litigation up to the following maximum amount:

Trial	\$35,000	(including \$5,000 for case development, if any)
Appeal	\$35,000	
Supreme Court	\$35,000	