

## Service Fees

The Maintenance Enforcement Program's (MEP) standard services are currently available at no charge. However, the *Maintenance Enforcement Act* and the *Maintenance Enforcement Regulation* allow MEP to charge fees for certain services. The funds collected from service fees helps pay for additional resources to improve service for all clients.

### Re-registration of a Closed File: \$200 per instance

The re-registration fee applies if the file was closed after October 1, 2008 and:

- the client who initially opened the file closes it and then asks for it to be re-opened; or
- creditors ask to re-open a file that MEP closed because the creditor did not comply with a MEP request for information, for example:
  - not providing direct deposit or current contact information
  - not returning a completed child status report

The re-registration fee does **not** apply if:

- the client is registering for the first time
- a file was closed because the terms of the court order were not enforceable, but now there are new circumstances (including a new court order or change in child circumstances) which allow MEP to enforce
- a file was closed before October 1, 2008 (when the service fee was introduced)

Creditors do not pay the re-registration fee up front. Instead, MEP collects the fee only after MEP receives enough funds to cover at least one full month of current support owing. Debtors seeking to re-register a file they previously registered and then closed are asked to pay the re-registration fee at the time of re-registration.

### Third-party Service of Documents: \$50 per instance

Some court orders allow individuals to serve documents on debtors or creditors through third parties such as MEP. This is called *substitutional service*. MEP charges \$50 to cover the cost of serving the documents on the appropriate party. This fee is payable when the service is requested.

### Interest Charges

When interest is charged on a file, MEP keeps twenty percent of any interest MEP collects to offset some of the costs of charging and collecting interest. For more information on interest, including when interest is charged and how interest is calculated, see *Interest Charges* (catalogue #99025).

This document is part of a series of MEP information sheets that can be obtained in the following ways:

- MEP's website at [www.albertamep.gov.ab.ca](http://www.albertamep.gov.ab.ca)
  - MEP's fax-on-demand service on the *MEP Info Line* by calling 780-422-5555 and using the catalogue number of the information sheet you wish to request
- \* **Toll-free** service to all Government of Alberta phone numbers is available from anywhere in Alberta by calling 310-0000 and following the voice prompts