TAB 14

Getting and Keeping Clients

Lori Brazier
Parnter
Catalyst Consulting

Practice Workshop: Opening your Law Office



The Law Society of Upper Canada

Continuing Legal Education

Getting and Keeping Clients



LSUC - Toronto June 10, 2004

Lori D. Brazier

Catalyst Consulting

www.catalystlegal.com

Introduction

Purpose of session

Raise your profile

Raise your firm's profile

Assess your effectiveness

NOT about rainmaking

Trends and Issues

Client-driven Initiatives

More likely to mobilize lawyers

More likely to bring about change

Need information about top 10 clients of firm

Need information about your top 10 clients

Your Challenge

100 Hours of Innovation

Must be strategic and aligned

Must be balanced

(financial, clients, processes, people)

Must be practical

Domination in Your Market Sector

Two Principles

The Contrast Principle

Something negative said or expected followed by something positive regarding legal services

Time-based competition

Two Principles

Creating Value

Quality

ServiceResults

Price



The Strategy

Differentiate

- Your lawyers are unique
 - Your clients are unique

The Strategy

- 7-Point Service Guarantee
- 7-24 access
- @ 2-hour response time
- Never come in
- No paper
- Price, not rate
- 5-point evaluation
- 2 x money back if not satisfied with service and results

Innovation

100 Hours of Innovation

2 hours per lawyer / paralegal each week

100 hours each per year

Team-based approach

Innovation

100 Hours of Innovation

Ideas and priorities by December 15th

10 hours of focused thinking and discussion

Innovation

Four Types Essential

Innovation with Clients

Innovation with New Services

Innovation with Pricing

Innovation with Talent

- Two (2) serious initiatives each year
- Initiatives must be SMART
- Specific
- @ Measurable
- Achievable
- Results-oriented
- Feam-based

Some initiatives will be industry or client-specific

Some initiatives will be for Practice Group

Some will be for yourself (skills, knowledge)

Write it down

Give it to the Managing Partner Give nagging rights

Revise it every 90 days

- Visit one prospect each week
- Visit one ex-client each week
- 30 minutes per visit
- 8 minutes for the firm
- leave 2 minutes early
- Ask to come back in six months

Bring a partner (to listen)

Ask for a tour

Client panels

Use testimonials

Legal home page

FAQs

No-cost services

Dress casually

No discounts

Conclusion

The past is not a predictor of the future

Conclusion

Fortune Favors the Brave

(Old Golf Proverb)

Conclusion

The Future's so bright, you're going to need shades