



Core Purpose

The Law Society of Saskatchewan regulates the practice of law in the public interest.

Mission Statement

The Law Society serves the public interest and advances the administration of justice by regulating the competence and integrity of the practice of law in a flexible and innovative manner, ensuring the independence of the legal profession, and promoting access to justice.

Values

Integrity ► the Law Society acts honestly and ethically.

Transparency ► the Law Society provides open and timely communication and process and makes informed decisions.

Fairness ► the Law Society treats all people fairly, respectfully and consistently through impartial application of policies, procedures and practices.

Independence ► the Law Society is an autonomous regulator, maintaining independence from government, which is fundamental to upholding the rule of law.

Inclusivity ► the Law Society promotes and supports inclusion, equity and diversity within its leadership and staff, and amongst Saskatchewan firms, lawyers, other legal service providers and the public.

Access ► the Law Society promotes access to legal services through proportionate regulation and collaboration with stakeholders.

Effectiveness ► the Law Society is innovative, proactive and flexible in its approach to regulation, in order to achieve efficient and appropriate outcomes.

Innovation ► the Law Society is aware of significant shifts and changes in the society in which it operates and is open to lead and respond to such changes to maintain relevance in the regulation of the practice of law.

Strategic Directions

EXPANDED APPROACH TO COMPETENCY

The Law Society applies a broad and evolving concept of competency and supports Saskatchewan firms, lawyers and legal service providers in acquiring and maintaining those competencies to provide innovative, efficient, quality legal services.

- 1 Increase the support (both proactive and reactive) given to members and other legal service providers to ensure competent and ethical legal services in an evolving legal landscape.
- 2 Increase interest in and support for the new competencies members will require to deliver innovative, efficient and effective legal services.
- 3 Increase the cultural competency of the Law Society and its membership.
- 4 Modernize the models and strategies used to deliver effective competency programming.

TRUSTED AND TRANSPARENT REGULATION

The Law Society of Saskatchewan is a trusted regulator of the practice of law because:

- a) it makes timely, fair and informed decisions by consistent application of policy; and
- b) its stakeholders have a clear understanding of its mandate, core functions and strategic plan.

- 1 Increase awareness of the role the Law Society plays in society and key issues relevant to the delivery of legal services in Saskatchewan, thereby increasing confidence in and positive perception of the Law Society amongst all stakeholders.
- 2 Increase and diversify communication from the Law Society to the membership and dialogue with the membership about initiatives, regulatory developments and other relevant information, including the basis for decisions affecting regulation.
- 3 Increase timeliness of all processes, decisions and communications.
- 4 Increase the dialogue between the Law Society and its stakeholders and between the Law Society and the media.
- 5 Increase reliance on data to improve defensibility of processes and decisions.

INNOVATIVE AND FLEXIBLE LEADER OF AN ENGAGED AND FORWARD-THINKING MEMBERSHIP

Through innovative and flexible regulation, the Law Society of Saskatchewan leads an engaged membership that is adaptive to change and provides innovative and effective legal services to the public.

- 1 Increase the Law Society's ability to effectively and efficiently adapt to changes relevant to the delivery of legal services in Saskatchewan and to effectively communicate those changes to stakeholders.
- 2 Increase the profession's readiness and openness to evolve according to developments in globalization, technology and regulation.
- 3 Increase proactive measures taken to prevent legal service issues and improve legal service delivery by Saskatchewan firms, lawyers and legal service providers.
- 4 Reduce barriers to experimentation and allocate resources for pilot projects to test new regulatory and practice initiatives.
- 5 Enhance the relationship between the Law Society and Saskatchewan firms, lawyers and legal service providers.

INCREASED EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN THE LAW SOCIETY AND LEGAL SERVICE PROVISION

The Law Society of Saskatchewan is led by a diverse staff and Board who promote and support diversity, inclusiveness and cultural competence amongst all Saskatchewan firms, lawyers and legal service providers.

- 1 Evolve the composition of the Law Society Board and staff to reflect the diversity of experience and perspective of the public we serve.
- 2 Increase the cultural competency of the Law Society Board and staff, as well as lawyers and other legal service providers.
- 3 Reduce barriers to entry, advancement and retention in the legal profession faced by equity-seeking groups.
- 4 Increase the commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion in Law Society policies and procedures.

INCREASED ACCESS TO LEGAL SERVICES

The Law Society demonstrates a commitment to improving access to legal services in its regulatory structure, policies and initiatives and supports the provision of accessible legal services by Saskatchewan firms, lawyers, legal service providers and other legal organizations.

- 1 Reduce barriers to access to legal services caused by the Law Society's regulatory framework.
- 2 Increase support to Saskatchewan firms, legal organizations, lawyers and legal service providers to diversify the service delivery methods used to provide legal services to underserved segments of the public.
- 3 Increase collaboration with stakeholders to develop novel ways to address unmet legal needs.