

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

That's a wrap on another successful year for PLEA! As I continue my involvement with this organization, I am continually impressed by its commitment to providing a necessary and important service to the people of Saskatchewan.

As President of the Board, I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to Amanda Doucette and Kim Newsham for their many years of dedicated service to PLEA. Amanda has been involved with PLEA in some capacity for almost 20 years and served on the Board in many roles, most recently as the PLEA Board President. Kim has been involved on the PLEA Board for many years as the representative from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice and has also been a major supporter of PLEA in her daily work. Kim stepped down from the Board in June 2017 and Amanda stepped down from the Board in January of this year. I think I speak for the entire PLEA staff and Board of Directors when I say that they will both be greatly missed.

We have also added many new faces to the Board this year and so I would also like to welcome them to the PLEA Board of Directors.

I wish to also acknowledge and thank the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan for their continued financial support of PLEA, which allows PLEA to provide necessary legal information to the entire population of Saskatchewan free of charge. We also wish to thank several other agencies for their generous support, including the Federal and Provincial Ministries of Justice and SGI, who partnered with PLEA to complete special projects, some of which are highlighted in this report.

In particular, PLEA took on a new major project this past year in partnership with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice to assist in providing legal

advice and information to survivors of sexual violence. This project has been moving forward with an amazing amount of interest from Saskatchewan lawyers willing to provide legal advice for this program. I for one am excited to see how this project unfolds.

We at PLEA also wish to express our gratitude for all of the volunteers who continually step up and generously provide their time and knowledge to meet the needs of those most requiring legal information. This organization would not be what it is today without our excellent volunteers from the legal community and other service sectors.

Finally, I wish to thank the dedicated PLEA staff for their commitment, innovation and creativity in providing quality legal information to the people of Saskatchewan and also all across Canada. As someone still fairly new to the Board, it has been a pleasure getting to know you all and I look forward to many more years working together with this great organization.

Allison Katarey

OUR MISSION

The Public Legal Education Association of Saskatchewan (PLEA) is a non-profit, non-government, charitable organization which exists to educate, inform, and empower through law-related education.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT PLEA.ORG.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

PLEA enjoyed another tremendous year of creating and enhancing public legal education resources, and expanding our reach. Again, hundreds of thousands of people accessed our services in dealing with their legal questions or issues. Perhaps making PLEA's 2017 even more impressive is that all was accomplished while facing challenging times with respect to our funding.

Our Youth & Schools programming continued to raise our profile through collaborations with education agencies, officials, events, and with individual educators. Many new resources and presentations were offered to school communities. Highlights included a novel study based around the classic *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*, with an accompanying edition of our school newsletter *The PLEA*, and other editions looking at Hammurabi's Code and impaired driving. Presentations in high schools on healthy relationships, consent, and the law were delivered with the help of law students.

We were very pleased to partner with Saskatchewan Government Insurance, SGI, to produce a comprehensive booklet on impaired driving, reflecting

new provincial laws, along with a school resource on the subject for use in driver education classes. During the holiday season we were assisted in the booklet's distribution through retail outlets of Federated Co-operatives Limited, Sobeys Liquor, and the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority.

Our Law Foundation of Saskatchewan-funded *Information Revitalization Initiative* continued in 2017 with work to enhance our *Family Law Saskatchewan* website, and re-engineer PLEA's main website. This project's *NewLi* website for newcomers experienced thousands of visits in its first full year of operation. *Family Law Saskatchewan* continued to experience tens of thousands of users, with usage growing markedly over the year.

The Department of Justice Canada's Canadian Family Justice Fund approved funding for our *Interactive Agreement Platform* project. This online tool will complement the *Family Law Saskatchewan* website and will be used by individuals to create an agreement document in the resolution of their family law issues.

The Department of Justice Canada's Victims Fund provided us with the opportunity to work with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice on a project entitled *LISTEN*. The project has also involved the generous cooperation of the Law Society of Saskatchewan. This important four-year pilot program will direct Saskatchewan survivors of sexual violence to participating lawyers for up to four hours of free legal advice or information.

In 2018, we will continue to provide the utmost in quality public legal education and information services. Funding challenges will remain, but we are confident we will continue to solidly meet our mission. We look forward in particular to a new and exciting main website, an online family law agreement-maker tool, helping survivors of sexual violence, and continued outreach in new and appealing ways to young people and school communities.

Joel Janow

70,237

PRINT PUBLICATIONS
DISTRIBUTED

508,150

WEBSITE
PAGE VIEWS

PUBLISHED

Booklets

Alcohol, Drugs & Driving – Provides information on provincial and federal laws related to mixing alcohol or drugs with driving.

After Sexual Assault – Provides information about the medical and legal responses to sexual assault and supports that are available for survivors.

Newsletters

Alcohol, Drugs, and Driving – Explores how mixing alcohol and drugs with driving will impact you, your passengers and others.

Revisiting Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town – Asks how have we succeeded as a liberal democracy.

Hanging Out & Hooking Up – Examines dating relationships and explores ways to establish and maintain healthy relationships.

Teacher Resource

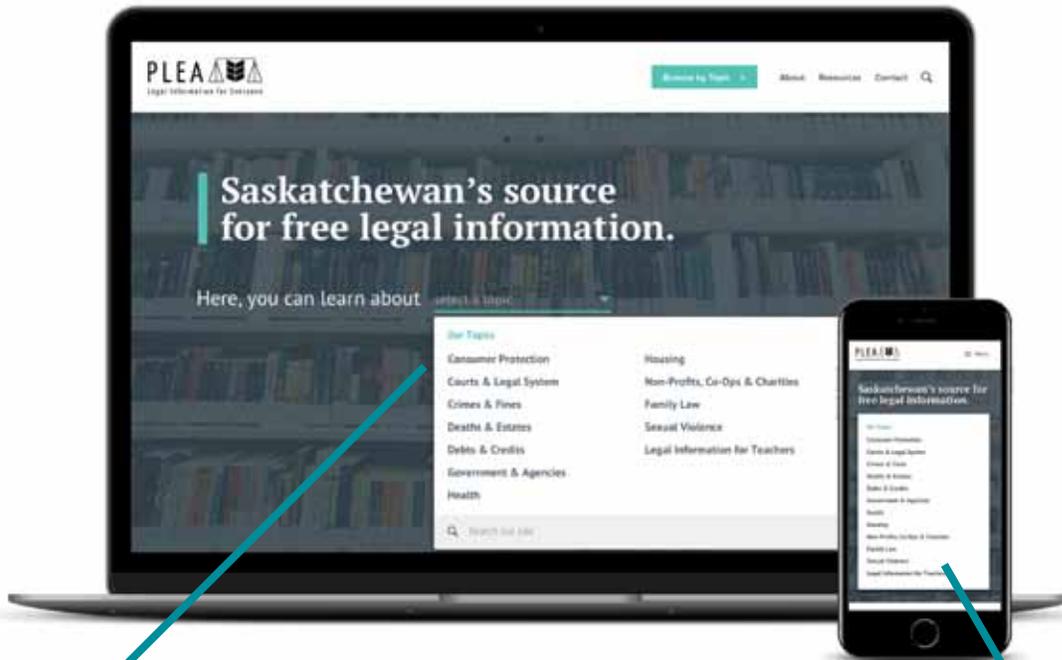
Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town: The Learning Resource – An examination of how Canadians navigate relationships between the individual, the community and the state.

PARTNERS

- Libraries, including courthouse and public libraries
- Pro Bono law groups including Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan, Pro Bono Students Canada (national and local offices) and CLASSIC
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, including the Family Law Information Centre and the Family Matters program
- College of Law
- Canadian Bar Association – Saskatchewan Branch
- Saskatchewan Access to Justice Working Group
- Saskatchewan Access to Justice Network
- Dean’s Forum on Access to Justice and Dispute Resolution
- Saskatchewan Access to Legal Information Project
- Self-represented Litigants Working Group

INFORMATION REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE

PLEA'S RE-ENGINEERED AND REDESIGNED SITES



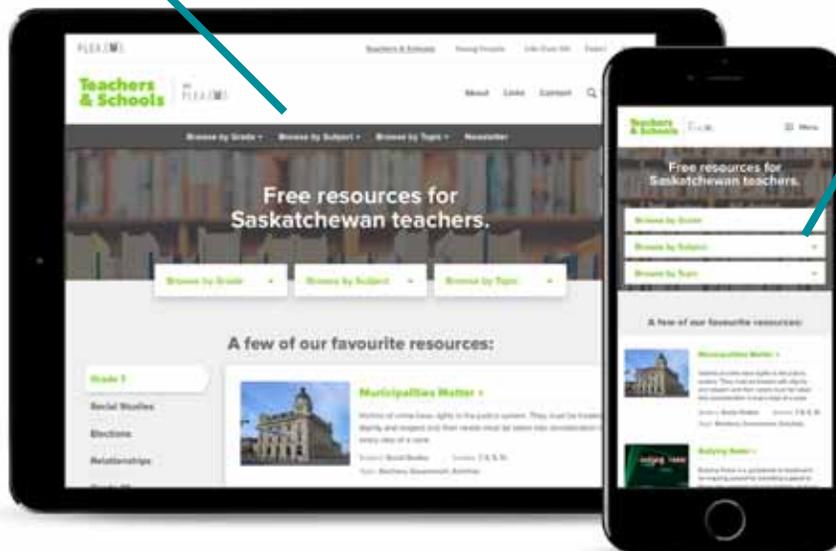
REDESIGNED ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION

SUPERIOR CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

WEB-SPECIFIC RESOURCES

MOBILE ADAPTABLE



1,468

INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS
FOR LEGAL INFORMATION
HANDLED

88%

RATED THE INFORMATION
ON PLEA.ORG
HELPFUL

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Cam Partridge Memorial PLEA Volunteer of the Year Award recipient for 2017 is Saskatoon lawyer Mr. Ted Koskie.

Ted has volunteered his valuable time for PLEA for decades. Most notably, he has presented dozens upon dozens of public legal information sessions throughout the community. Ted has never hesitated to help when called upon for these sessions, and he remains one of PLEA's most knowledgeable and charitable volunteers ever.

Ted is a senior lawyer, of over 35 years at the Bar, and practices with the Saskatoon law firm Koskie-Helms. In addition to his Juris Doctor degree, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in mathematics and computational science.

Ted focuses his skills on trial and tribunal advocacy, appeals, judicial review, negotiations, dispute resolution and business and conveyancing transactions. He serves a broad range of businesses, organizations and individuals. He also has experience with

a range of issues unique to government, public utilities, and the health care sector. He has appeared before all levels of court in Saskatchewan and many administrative tribunals.

Ted also serves in the vital roles of adjudicator and arbitrator concerning labour and employment issues under provincial and federal legislation.

He is greatly committed to legal education – for professionals and for the public. In addition to his volunteer work for PLEA, he has served on the faculties of seminars, conferences and conventions of entrepreneurial, marketing, community-based, government, and educational organizations. He has also prepared and presented publications on marketing, file management, and communications.

Ted is clearly committed to serving his community. His great community spirit has led him to serve on the Board of

Directors, with time as Board Chair, of Saskatoon Services for Seniors; on the Special Asks Committee, Capital Campaign, Persephone Theatre; on the Board of Directors, with time as Co-Chair, of the Saskatoon Sexual Assault and Information Centre; and on the Board of Directors of Saskatoon's Community Service Village.

Ted's strong experience, expertise and commitment to serving the public have greatly enhanced public legal education in our community.

We are very grateful and privileged to know and work with a person such as Ted. We are honoured to be able to name him 2017's Cam Partridge Memorial PLEA Volunteer of the Year. Congratulations and thank you, Ted.

THANK YOU

We thank first the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan and its members for their generous support and encouragement. We are also very grateful for the support of the Department of Justice Canada and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice. In particular, we are very grateful for the opportunity to work with both ministries on the *LISTEN* project.

We thank the Saskatchewan legal community for its support, including our lawyers, all levels of court, and government. We are thankful for the volunteer efforts of the practitioners who offer their skills and expertise in supporting our programming. We are thankful for the opportunities to work with bodies such as the CBA, Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan, Pro Bono Students Canada, CLASSIC, the College of Law, the Colleges of Education at the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina, the Provincial Access to Justice Network, the Dean's Forum on Access to Justice and Dispute Resolution, the Self-represented Litigants Working Group, the Saskatchewan Access to Justice Working Group, CREATE Justice, the Saskatchewan Access to Legal Information Project, Law Society of Saskatchewan Libraries, public libraries, and the College of Law Library.

We are again grateful for the extraordinary assistance of Blaine Korte Software Inc. in the production of web-based/electronic/interactive public legal education resources.

There are many to thank in relation to our new impaired driving resources. Community volunteer Mr. Bruce Phillips was instrumental in sparking the project and in efforts to raise public awareness. Federated Co-operatives Limited, Sobeys

Liquor, and the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority assisted in the distribution of the publication. Most of all, SGI generously partnered with us by providing funding, input, and review of the materials.

We thank the PLEA Board of Directors and institutional member-appointing agencies for their tremendous support. We also thank the members of the Public Legal Education Association of Canada for their cooperative spirit, expertise, and kind support.

As always, special thanks go to the PLEA team. Their hard work, dedication, perfectionism, cooperation, mutual support, intelligence, skills, and extreme attention to detail – demonstrated on a daily basis – keeps PLEA in its position as one of the top PLEI agencies in Canada.

We take this opportunity to express special thanks to Amanda Doucette and Kim Newsham, who left our Board in 2017 after many years of dedicated service to PLEA and the people of Saskatchewan – in Amanda's case for almost twenty years. They are two of the most committed and supportive people with respect to PLEA and public legal education that we will ever know. Their contributions to our work are immeasurable. We are very fortunate that we will continue to work with Amanda and Kim as their dedication will not let them leave the cause entirely.

Finally, we thank the people of Saskatchewan for your support. Our statistics show this support grew again in 2017. We cannot do our work without you, and hope you continue to access our many resources for reliable, pertinent legal information. PLEA plans on always being here for you.

"It's was very helpful.
Thank you so much."

"The best info on Google
-thanks." (Joint Tenants and
Tenants in Common)

"Thank you so much, this
really helped me solve
my case." (Harassment,
Intimidation & Threats)

"Great info package
to use for discussion
circle in class."
(Hanging Out & Hooking Up)

"Thank you this link
is very resourceful."
(Abuse of Older Adults)

"Very well written and
presented.! Clear and
concise. In 2 min."
(Health Care Directives)

"Good info I must say – I
went around for a few days
to get some creditable
info. I got that now! "
(Changing Your Name)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 1,363	\$ 1,198
Short term investments	262,415	242,309
Accounts receivable	8,476	2,342
GST receivable	2,988	1,827
Prepaid expense	<u>8,971</u>	<u>8,111</u>
	284,213	255,787
Capital Assets	<u>6,664</u>	<u>8,539</u>
	<u>\$ 290,877</u>	<u>\$ 264,326</u>
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 58,758	\$ 69,573
Deferred contributions	<u>113,607</u>	<u>36,490</u>
	<u>172,365</u>	<u>106,063</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Net Assets	66,218	66,094
Internally Restricted Net Assets	45,630	83,630
Investment in Capital Assets	<u>6,664</u>	<u>8,539</u>
	<u>118,512</u>	<u>158,263</u>
	<u>\$ 290,877</u>	<u>\$ 264,326</u>

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
Revenue		
Donations and sponsorships	\$ 625	\$ 7,387
Grants (see breakdown next page)	894,696	909,302
Interest	3,614	2,583
Memberships	20	80
Miscellaneous	3,132	2,656
Portfolio program	720	840
Unrealized gain (loss) – investments	<u>892</u>	<u>(318)</u>
	903,699	922,530
Expenses	<u>943,450</u>	<u>916,099</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses	(39,751)	6,431
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	158,263	151,832
Allocation to internally restricted net assets	38,000	(6,000)
Internally restricted net assets	<u>(38,000)</u>	<u>6,000</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 118,512</u>	<u>\$ 158,263</u>

To obtain a complete Financial Statement, please contact PLEA.

2017 GRANTS

70%

Law Foundation of Saskatchewan

9%

Department of Justice Canada

1%

Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice

20%

Other:

- Law Foundation of Saskatchewan – Special Project
- Saskatchewan Government Insurance
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice / Department of Justice Canada – The *LISTEN* Project

2,283

FAMILY LAW
ACCOUNTS

81

FAMILY LAW INFORMATION
SESSIONS THROUGHOUT
SASKATCHEWAN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amanda Doucette, BA, LLB – Member at Large	President (beginning of year)
Allison Katarey, B.Comm., LLB – Member at Large	President (end of year)
Christine Varnam, BA&Sc., M.Sc., M.L.I.S. – Saskatoon Public Library	Secretary/Treasurer (beginning of year)
Shaela Verma, BFA, Law Student – Member at Large	Secretary/Treasurer (end of year)
Janelle Anderson, BA, JD – Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice	
Craig Goebel, B.Sc.(Hons.), LLB – Legal Aid Saskatchewan (CEO)	
Ian Hingley, B.Ed., M.Ed. – Member at Large	
Melanie Hodges Neufeld, BA, LLB, LLM – Member at Large	
Andrea Jorde, BA, B.Ed., JD – Canadian Bar Association	
Stephenie Leitao Csada, B.Ed., MA (Education), Ph.D. – Saskatchewan Ministry of Education	
Kim Newsham, LLB – Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice	
Maya Scott, BA(Hons.), LLB – Law Society of Saskatchewan	
Theresa Slind, BA, M.L.I.S. – Saskatoon Public Library	
Keir Vallance, BA, LLB, LLM – College of Law, University of Saskatchewan	
Jocelyn Wedel, BA, M.L.I.S. – Saskatoon Public Library	
Zandra Wilson, BA, LLB – Member at Large	

STAFF

Executive Director	Joel Janow, BA, LLB
Legal Writer	Allyson Gagne, LLB
Legal Writer	Jocelyn Gagne, LLB, LLM
Youth and Schools Coordinator	Jonas Kiedrowski, BA, B.Ed., M.Ed.
Financial Administrator	Sharon Mark-Chan, B.Comm.
Administrative Coordinator/Office Manager	Sharon Peterson, B.Comm.
Administrative Assistant	Cathy Doucette
Program Assistant	Shannon Lebalt

“Just wanted to let you know if no one else does . . . you are doing a GREAT JOB with your publications. I have found that they are great tools to help my clients all year round not just at tax season. Thank you.”

“Thank you for creating these resources for our classroom. The information that you share is so well written it is of great benefit.”
(ESL teacher in Prince Albert)

“Thank you so much for your reply. I would be representing myself. Hiring a lawyer is financially out of the question. On behalf of many in my situation, please pass along my heart felt gratitude for the resources and service you provide the community.” (Family Law)

“We really liked the presenter and had very positive feedback from the participants.”



PUBLIC LEGAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

500-333 25th Street East
Saskatoon SK S7K 0L4

Tel: 306-653-1868
Fax: 306-653-1869

Web: plea.org
Email: plea@plea.org