



Law Society
of Saskatchewan

2020 Annual Report

Year in Review

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Benchers and Staff

Executive

- Gerald Tegart, Q.C., **President**
- Foluke Laosebikan, Ph.D, **Vice-President**
- Leslie Belloc-Pinder, Q.C., **Past President**
- Tim Brown, Q.C., **Executive Director**

Benchers

Andrea Argue

Jeff Baldwin

Jill Drennan

Monte Gorchinski

Cara Haaf (appointed to the Queen's Bench Court November 19, 2000)

Glenn Hepp

Suzanne Jeanson

Nolan Kondratoff

James Korpan, Q.C.

Lynda Kushnir Pekar

William Lane

Kaitlynn McArthur

Scott Moffat

John Morrall

James Morrison, Q.C.

Barbara Mysko

Crystal Norbeck

Martin Phillipson

Ian Wagner

Craig Zawada, Q.C.

Professional Staff

Tim Brown, Q.C.

Executive Director

Ken Fox

Reference Librarian

Co-Director of Legal Resources (from Aug 2020)

Jakaeden Frizzell

CPD Program Coordinator (to Sept 2020)

Business Development Specialist (from Oct 2020)

Don Hansen, FCPA, FCA

Acting Senior Auditor

Pamela Harmon, CPA, CA
Co-Director, Trust Safety & Finance

Timothy Huber
Deputy Executive Director - General Counsel

Laurie Johnson
Director of Human Resources

Andrea Johnston
Director of Admissions & Education

Christine Johnston
Admissions & Education Counsel (from May 2020)

Kara-Dawn Jordan
Director of Strategy & Governance

Stephanie Kievits, CPA, CA
Co-Director of Trust Safety

Alan Kilpatrick
Reference Librarian
Co-Director of Legal Resources (from Aug 2020)

Pam Kovacs
Senior Policy Counsel (from Dec 2020)

Jenna Bailey
Professional Responsibility Counsel

Jackie Lane
Professional Responsibility Counsel (from October 2020)

Kiran Mand
Admissions & Education Counsel

Jody Martin
Director of Regulation

Stacey McPeck
Professional Responsibility Counsel

Melanie Hodges Neufeld
Director of Legal Resources, Access & Outreach (to July 2020)

Valerie Payne
Director of Professional Responsibility

Julie Sobowale
Director of Communications

Paul Westgate
Project Director

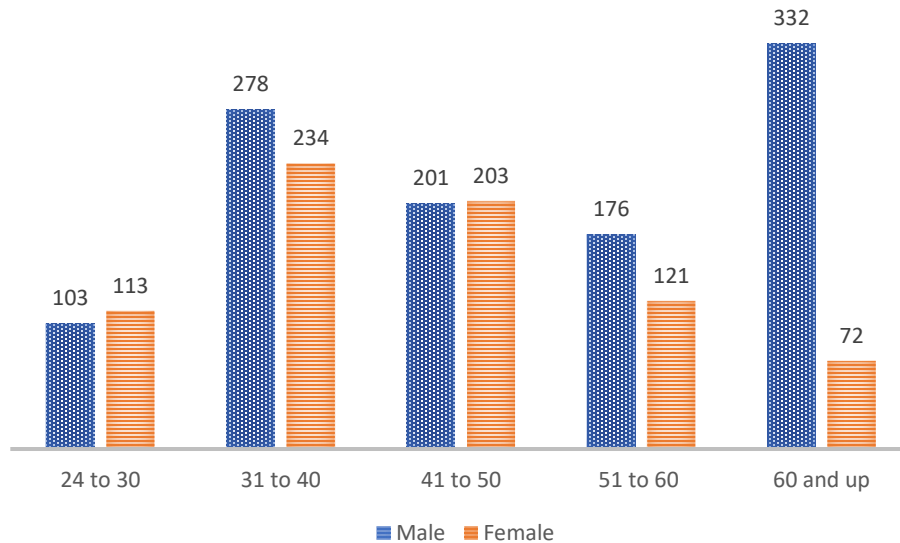
Mary Ellen Wellsch, Q.C.
Legislative Policy Consultant (to January 2020)

Membership

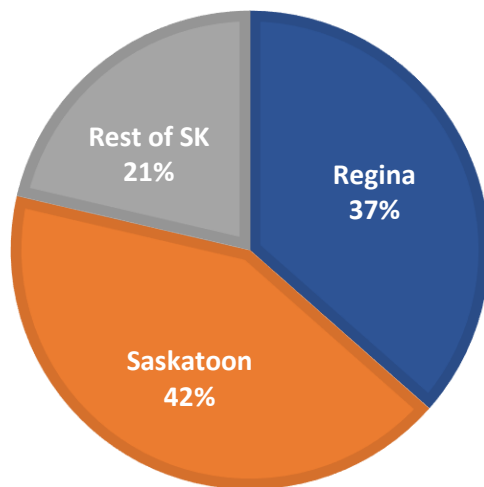
In 2020, the Law Society of Saskatchewan was the regulator of **1,982** active practicing lawyers and **464** inactive members in Saskatchewan and across the country. For more information on our membership categories, please see our [Membership Services Index](#).

Practicing Lawyers Living in Saskatchewan by Age and Gender

Note: Data does not include students-at-law



Geographic Location of Practicing Lawyers

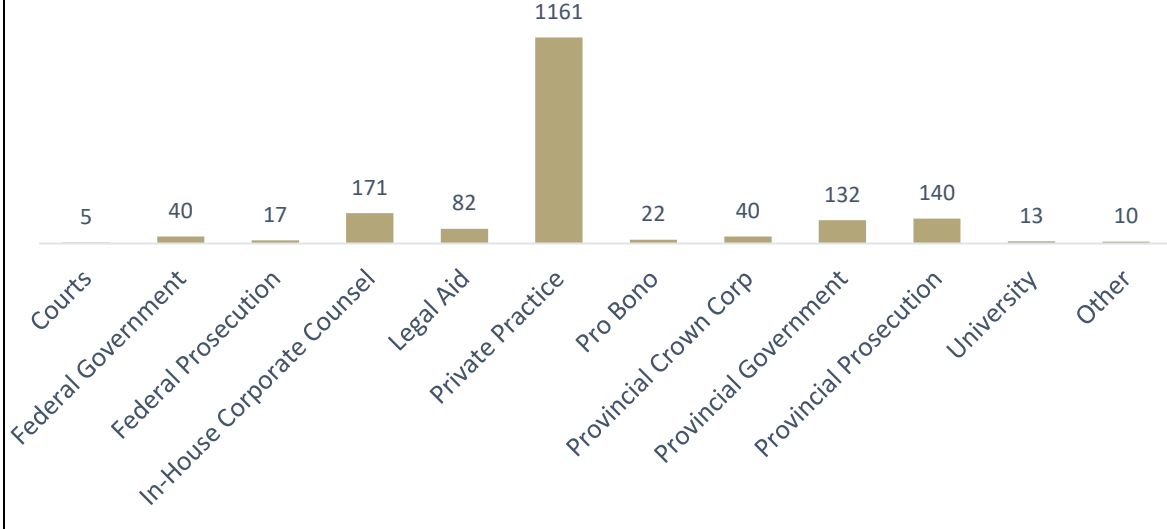


Change in Status

	Male	Female
Admitted from student-at-law status	40	45
Transfer Lawyers	16	17
Deaths	7	0
Judicial Appointments	2	5

The statistics were prepared from the Law Society database and represent a reasonable representation of the demographics. Statisticians should be cautioned that the final numbers are not always in agreement.

Allocation of Practitioners in SK by Type of Practice



Number of Practitioners Per Firm (Private Practice Only)	Number of Firms	Number of Practitioners
1	182	182
2	57	114
3	34	102
4	16	64
5	13	65
6	6	36
7	4	28
9	2	18
10	4	40
11	2	22
13	1	13
14	1	14
15	1	15
16	1	16
17	1	17
19	1	19
20	1	20
21	1	21
22	1	22
26	1	26
28	1	28
31	1	31
37	1	37
77	1	77
88	1	88
89	1	89
TOTAL:	336	1204

2020 demographic data information based on responses from 1,641 Active Members (84%) and 342 Active Members (74%)

Gender

- 52.45% identified as male
- 40.85% identified as female
- 0.15% indicated that they identify in another way
- 6.65% replied by indicating their choice not to answer the question

Aboriginal/Indigenous

- 7.06% identified as Aboriginal/Indigenous (including Inuit, Metis, First Nations)
- 10.99% replied by indicating their choice not to answer the question

Visible/Ethnic Minority

- 7.82% self-identified as being a visible/ethnic minority
- 10.89% replied by indicating their choice not to answer the question

LGBT

- 3.68% identified as being lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender
- 11.85% replied by indicating their choice not to answer the question

Disability

- 1.97% identified as having a physical disability
- 4.59% identified as having a mental health disability
- 1.51% identified as having a disability of another kind
- 14.83% replied by choosing not to answer the question

Language

- 89.44% indicated that English is their first language
- 0.61% indicated that French is their first language
- 0.91% identified both English and French as first languages
- 2.02% identified a language other than English and French as their first language
- 7.01% indicated their choice not to answer the question.

Complaints and Discipline

544 contacts to
Professional
Responsibility

- 3 member requests for Ruling from the Ethics Committee
- 5 reports of potential unauthorized practice
- 34 New Solo/Small Firm Practice Reviews
- 113 Complaints filed by the public, courts, and/or members
- 204 Informal Ethics Opinions requested by members
- 183 contacts remained as potential complaint matters

113 Complaints
Filed

- 2 were referred to Ethics Committee
- 11 were referred to Conduct Investigation Committee (CIC)
- 6 were dealt with by Formal Caution
- 47 were dismissed as requiring “no further action” by Professional Responsibility Counsel
- 47 remain under investigation

21 Complaints
considered by
Conduct
Investigation
Committee

(10 files carried over
from 2019)

- 13 matters were directed to a Conduct Review Committee
- 5 matters were referred to a Hearing Panel to hear charges of “conduct unbecoming a lawyer”
- 1 matter was addressed by Formal Caution
- 1 matter resulted in the voluntary practice cessation by the member
- 1 matter was sent back for further investigation and remains under consideration

Legal Resources

Our innovative information services and resources advance the Law Society's Strategic Plan, support our members and their competency, and increase access to legal information for all throughout the province.



Case Digests authored/sent to CanLII: **498**

[Case Mail](#) views on website: **2,727**

Reference Questions



Total reference questions answered: **1,180**
(Academic, Courts, Rural members, Inmates, Libraries, Out of province, Public, Regina members, Saskatoon members, Law Society staff)

Members questions: **735** (Law Society staff, Regina, Rural, Saskatoon)

Public questions: **268** *Low due to the Covid-19 closure of our physical spaces.*

Questions Answered by Area of Law

<i>Litigation - General</i>	234
<i>No Category Listed</i>	234
<i>Criminal Law</i>	166
<i>Family - Divorce/Custody/Access</i>	72
<i>Administrative/Boards/Tribunals</i>	36
<i>Employment/Labour Law</i>	32
<i>Litigation - Personal Injury</i>	31
<i>Wills & Estates - Estate Admin</i>	31
<i>Wills & Estates - Wills Preparation</i>	28
<i>Corporate - Contracts/Leases</i>	20

Questions Answered by Type of Question

<i>Textbook</i>	371
<i>Quick reference</i>	216
<i>Case locate/note-up</i>	134
<i>Referral</i>	122
<i>Research</i>	110
<i>Instruction</i>	68
<i>Legislation (historical)</i>	53
<i>Form/precedent</i>	33
<i>Legislation (quick)</i>	32
<i>Article</i>	26

Questions Answered by Initial Mode of Contact

<i>Email</i>	678
<i>Phone</i>	387
<i>In person (low due to Covid-19)</i>	110
<i>Chat</i>	32
<i>Fax</i>	2

Communications

Last year we surpassed more than **1 million** [page views](#) for our website for the first time. The increased traffic is likely due to our new website design and improved functionality.

Top 10 Pages on Law Society Website		Page Views
1	Member Resource Section	135,193
2	Career and Volunteer Opportunities	77,926
3	Queen's Bench Forms	39,288
4	Finding a Lawyer	20,209
5	Legal Resources Library	15,432
6	Discipline Decisions	12,822
7	My account (LSS Shop)	10,557
8	Search bar	10,455
9	Contact Us	10,040
10	Continuing Professional Development homepage	9,456