

November 18, 2021

To: Members of the Law Society of Saskatchewan

Colleagues,

I hope this finds you well.

In 2018, I reported that the Benchers adopted a plan intended to fund programming and resources while also maintaining stable fees through to the end of 2021 assuming various financial targets could be met.

Last year, I reported that financial forecasting found us on track to meet those targets and this year, I am happy to report that strong investment performance and expense reductions through 2020 and 2021 have positioned us to exceed those targets. Accordingly, fees will remain stable at **\$2,283.75** for a fourth consecutive year.

As an organization, we are proud of the many services and resources we provide to the profession which presently provides a robust suite of online tools for active members, including full access to Westlaw through July of 2023.

Fee stability and the total cost of practice for Saskatchewan lawyers is a significant concern for members and for the Law Society. As a result, in 2022 a committee will be struck to provide the Benchers with recommendations about the future of membership fees and appropriate Society reserve levels. The work of this committee will ensure in the years ahead that we continue to strike the proper balance between continuously improving services and resources while also ensuring that we maintain our legacy as one of the most affordable places in Canada to practice law.

The chart below demonstrates our position in Canada in terms of 1) fees; and 2) the total cost of practice.

	2021/22 Annual Fees			2021/22 Insurance Levy	TOTAL - Fees + Insurance
Yukon	\$ 1,200		Yukon	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,200
NTWT	\$ 1,230		Quebec - Barreau	\$ 750	\$ 2,302
PEI	\$ 1,425		NTWT	\$ 1,096	\$ 2,326
Quebec - Barreau	\$ 1,552		Saskatchewan	\$ 926	\$ 3,101
Quebec - Notaries	\$ 1,599		Nunavut	\$ 1,143	\$ 3,118
Newfoundland	\$ 1,860		Newfoundland	\$ 1,300	\$ 3,160
Ontario	\$ 1,873		British Columbia	\$ 1,800	\$ 4,086
Nunavut	\$ 1,975		Manitoba	\$ 1,545	\$ 4,220
Saskatchewan	\$ 2,175		Nova Scotia	\$ 1,944	\$ 4,424
British Columbia	\$ 2,286		PEI	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,425
Nova Scotia	\$ 2,480		New Brunswick	\$ 2,165	\$ 4,692
New Brunswick	\$ 2,527		Ontario	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,873
Alberta	\$ 2,550		Alberta	\$ 2,617	\$ 5,167
Manitoba	\$ 2,675		Quebec - Notaries	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,599
Average Annual Fees	\$ 1,958		Average Total Fees, incl. Insurance		\$ 3,835
SK Annual Fees	\$ 2,175		SK Total Fees, incl. Insurance		\$ 3,101

Where do Member Fees Go?

The work of the Law Society, as regulator of the legal profession in Saskatchewan, is multi-faceted. With our mandate to act in the public interest, many of our programs provide support to the profession in providing quality legal services in the public interest. Some of the initiatives your fees support are as follows:

Regulation and Governance	1,460
Libraries (Legal Resources)	440
PREP – Bar Admissions Course	104
Special Fund Assessment	100
Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers	11
Federation of Law Societies of Canada	30
Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan	<u>30</u>
	\$2,175
 GST	 <u>108.75</u>
 Total	 \$2,283.75

Deadline for Payment

The deadline for payment of the annual fees is **December 9, 2021**.

If you have any questions regarding payment, please contact Ruth Armstrong at ruth.armstrong@lawsociety.sk.ca.

Renewal Process

There have been some updates to the annual renewal process, including:

- *Demographic data collection practices:* This year, our demographic data collection practices have changed. To learn about the Law Society's collection of demographic data, including information about *usage, access and privacy*, please review our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- *"Find Legal Assistance" profile:* this year, modernizations include the ability to add practice areas, languages and service models, as well as pricing and payment models for publication in the "Find Legal Assistance" directory, helping the public understand available options and locate legal assistance.

Instructions to complete annual renewal can be accessed in both written and video form in the body of the Notice email.

Be well and best regards,



TIMOTHY J. BROWN, Q.C.
Executive Director