

## STRATEGIC PLAN: 2023 - 2026



### **MISSION:**

The Law Society serves the public interest and advances the administration of justice by regulating competence and integrity in the practice of law, safeguarding the independence of the legal profession, and promoting access to legal services and justice.

### **VALUES:**

#### **ETHICAL**

the Law Society acts honestly and with integrity.

### **ACCOUNTABLE**

the Law Society is transparent and provides timely communication and processes and makes informed decisions.

### **FAIR**

the Law Society treats all people respectfully and is consistent in the application of policies, procedures, and practices.

### **INCLUSIVE**

the Law Society embraces and promotes equity, diversity, and inclusion.

### **COLLABORATIVE**

the Law Society works cooperatively to achieve efficiencies and increase impact.

### **RESPONSIVE**

the Law Society remains educated and aware and considers changes in the environment to achieve continuous improvement and innovation and effective regulatory outcomes.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



## GOAL 1: **STRENGTHEN REGULATION**

The Law Society demonstrates transparent, timely, fair, and informed decision-making to build stakeholder understanding, trust, and confidence in the regulation of the practice of law.



## GOAL 2: ENHANCE COMPETENCY

The Law Society supports members<sup>1</sup> in acquiring and maintaining the competencies necessary to provide quality legal services to meet the evolving needs of the public.



# GOAL 3: INCREASE EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The Law Society promotes equity, diversity, and inclusion within the legal profession to strengthen access to legal services and the legitimacy and responsiveness of the administration of justice.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- 1. Increase stakeholder awareness of the role of the Law Society.
- 2. Improve Law Society communications regarding regulatory matters, including the public interest basis for decisions.
- 3. Increase dialogue with stakeholders and the use of data to regulate proactively and better inform decisions.
- 4. Increase timeliness and quality of regulatory processes and decisions.
- 5. Enhance effectiveness of Law Society governance.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- 1. Increase awareness and understanding of the current and evolving range of competencies required to deliver quality legal services.
- 2. Enhance supports and resources available for members to acquire and maintain these competencies.
- 3. Increase the effectiveness of professional development regulation and programming.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- 1. Increase diversity within the Law Society to better reflect the diversity of the public in Saskatchewan.
- 2. Increase the competency of the Law Society Board, staff, and members in relation to human rights, equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- 3. Strengthen the Law Society's commitment to human rights, equity, diversity, and inclusion in its regulatory structure, policies, and initiatives.
- 4. Reduce barriers to entry, advancement, and retention in the legal profession faced by equity-seeking/equity-deserving groups.<sup>2</sup>



# GOAL 4: ADVANCE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

The Law Society demonstrates commitment to truth and reconciliation and acts to support the unique needs of Indigenous peoples and Indigenous-led solutions to strengthen: (i) access to legal services; and (ii) the legitimacy and responsiveness of the administration of justice.



# GOAL 5: INCREASE ACCESS TO LEGAL SERVICES AND JUSTICE

The Law Society demonstrates commitment to access to justice and supports accessible legal services to improve legal outcomes for the public.



### GOAL 6: INCREASE WELLNESS

The Law Society promotes a culture of wellness in the legal profession to facilitate the delivery of quality legal services to the public.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- 1. Increase diversity within the Law Society Board, staff, and members to reflect Indigenous perspectives.
- 2. Increase the cultural competency of the Law Society Board, staff, and members in line with the Calls to Action and Calls to Justice.
- 3. Reduce barriers to entry, advancement, and retention in the legal profession faced by Indigenous peoples.
- 4. Advance the areas of priority and focus as recommended by the Law Society's Truth and Reconciliation Advisory Group.
- 5. Advance the *Truth, Reconciliation, and Treaty Implementation Action Plan* prepared in partnership with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- 1. Reduce barriers to access caused by the Law Society's regulatory framework.
- 2. Increase the competency of the Law Society Board, staff, and members in relation to access to justice issues.
- 3. Increase support to members to diversify the methods used to deliver legal services, particularly to underserved segments of the public.
- 4. Increase support for initiatives that address unmet legal needs and advance access to justice.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- 1. Increase awareness and understanding of mental illnesses, addictions, and other health concerns to support members in identifying and addressing issues to mitigate risk to the public.
- 2. Reduce the stigma associated with mental illnesses, addictions, and other health concerns to encourage members to seek appropriate supports.
- 3. Provide regulatory options to address mental illnesses, addictions, and other health concerns experienced by members.
- <sup>1</sup> Members of the Law Society include licensees entitled to practice law in Saskatchewan and firms as referenced in the *Legal Profession Act, 1990*.
- <sup>2</sup> See the Government of Canada <u>Guide</u> on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Terminology.