

Consumer

Amplifying Saskatchewan Legal Information: Stay informed about legal information developments, resources, and updates with SALI's quarterly email newsletter.



#### Save the Date!

In October 2023, the Saskatoon Public Library (SPL) and Regina Public Library (RPL) will host "Law Fair" events to connect the public with free legal information, assistance, and support.

SPL Frances Morrison Branch Legal Resource Fair Sunday, October 22 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

RPL Central Branch Law Fair Saturday, October 28 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The events will feature free education sessions on common areas of law, legal clinics on key areas of legal need, and tradeshows featuring relevant local and provincial organizations.

# New Consumer Disputes Information and Online Dispute Resolution Platform

The Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan (FCAA) recently launched a new legal guided pathway and online dispute resolution platform to resolve consumer disputes. The legal guided pathway portion of the project is called <u>Consumer Rights</u> and includes twelve dispute areas ranging from auctions to vehicle dealers.

I have an issue with:		
Auction	Cemetery	Charitable Fund-raising Business
Collection Agent	Consumer Contract	Credit Reporting

The goal of the <u>Consumer Rights</u> pathway is to help consumers and businesses resolve issues in a fast, efficient and fair manner. It is an interactive pathway that takes the user through a series of questions and answers that provide plain-language information about the user's rights and responsibilities, applicable legislation and self-help tools to assist in resolving the consumer dispute. For consumers, the <u>Consumer Rights</u> pathway includes communication templates, links and references that may help the consumer to resolve their issues on their own. For businesses, information is provided to assist in better understanding their obligations to consumers.

If a consumer completes the Consumer Rights pathway and believes they have a valid dispute but are unable to resolve the dispute with the tools provided, they are invited to file a dispute through the online 'Resolve My Consumer Dispute' service. This process enables consumers and businesses to negotiate directly with one another by making proposals to resolve the dispute, upload documentation, and accept or continue to negotiate a remedy for the dispute. If a resolution cannot be reached, either party can request a Facilitator to provide assistance. In some cases, an independent, third-party mediator may be assigned to provide further assistance.

# Free Family Law Help Available

Free family law help is available throughout Saskatchewan this summer! For more information, contact <a href="mailylaw@gov.sk.ca">familylaw@gov.sk.ca</a> or 1-888-218-2822 (extension 2). Click to view our full-size graphic <a href="mailylaw@gov.sk.ca">here</a>.



## **Legal Needs Assessment**



CREATE Justice, with the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies, is pleased to announce the final report of the Legal Needs Assessment. The report captures lawyers' and legal and non-legal service providers' perceptions of access to justice issues and legal needs within communities across Saskatchewan.

### **Access to Justice Week**

2023's Access to Justice week will occur from October 23-27. The event focuses on people-centered access to legal services, broadening awareness of legal rights and responsibilities.



## **Seeking Your Feedback**

SALI is seeking your feedback on how we can best assist you in connecting members of the public with legal information and assistance. What resources or assistance would you find most helpful? Contact us if you have any thoughts. Find our latest resources here.