

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we close another great year for PLEA I am consistently impressed by its hard work and dedication to the people of Saskatchewan! The dedicated employees and volunteers work tirelessly to help the many, many people that are looking for quality legal information and assistance.

As President of the Board, it has been my pleasure to see the many different avenues that PLEA works through to provide this necessary service. This year, PLEA created new resources for students and teachers, worked extensively on its primary website and officially launched the *Listen* project to assist survivors of sexual violence with referrals to free legal advice and information from lawyers across the province. PLEA works to provide information on a wide variety of legal concerns and is continually expanding their reach to better serve the people of Saskatchewan.

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 Justice Canada for their funding of our development of an online, interactive family law agreement-maker tool and for their assistance in creating a French version of

our *Family Law Saskatchewan* website to increase the accessibility of the information.

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. During my past few years on 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 year of great success in 2018. Through our phone lines, websites, email, volunteer speakers, and printed word, we continued to reach hundreds of thousands of people seeking help with every day legal concerns. The general public, as well as specific patrons like teachers and students, seniors and survivors, increasingly turned to PLEA for legal information or where to go next. Our strong work was only made possible through the support of the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan, along with support for major projects from other funding partners including our provincial and federal Ministries of Justice.

The Youth & Schools branch of PLEA again inspired meaningful, thorough, and wide-reaching learning experiences for our younger citizens. Partnership with Pro Bono Students Canada led to many more sessions for high school students on issues of consent and healthy relationships. PLEA again attended many teachers conferences around the province to raise our profile, distribute resources, and learn of educational needs. New resources for students and teachers included issues of *The PLEA*

newsletter, entitled *Revolution and Democracy and the Rule of Law*. The latter was accompanied by a learning resource for teachers. We were also excited to see the launch of the new *Teachers & Schools* website, teachers.plea.org, now more visually appealing and accessible.

PLEA's new primary website was also worked on extensively in 2018, and the *NewLi* site for newcomers increased in popularity with usage growing rapidly.

We were very pleased in 2018 to begin, or receive approval for, several new projects. The Law Foundation of Saskatchewan granted special project funding to create a tool for sustaining online interactive platforms. This will be critical in keeping our current and future online interactive resources up to date and operational at reasonable or no outside cost to the organization. The Department of Justice Canada and Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice *Listen* Project for survivors of sexual violence was launched and has provided dozens of successful referrals to free legal advice and information from lawyers throughout the province. Development of our online interactive family law agreement-maker tool, funded by Justice Canada, was begun

in 2018 and is well underway. Justice Canada is also supporting our work on a French version of our *Family Law Saskatchewan* website to better serve our Francophone communities.

Throughout the year, we continued to participate in many access to justice initiatives for Saskatchewan. The Dean's Forum on Access to Justice and Dispute Resolution, the Saskatchewan Access to Justice Working Group, a Medical-Legal Partnership conference, and the Saskatchewan Access to Legal Information Project have been, and will be, extremely important in idea-generation and outreach in matters of access to justice for the province.

For 2019, we look forward to continuation of our vital work and the arrival of several new or enhanced legal information resources for the people of Saskatchewan.

Joel Janow

68,096

PRINT PUBLICATIONS
DISTRIBUTED

475,850

WEBSITE
PAGE VIEWS

PUBLISHED

Booklets

Renting a Home – Provides information to tenants and landlords about their rights and responsibilities and the process for resolving disputes.

Legal Cannabis – Provides information about the legal use and possession of cannabis as well as information about new criminal and administrative offences regarding cannabis.

Newsletters

Revolution – Explores the concept of revolution, pointing to some key revolutionary moments in history.

Democracy and the Rule of Law – Explores what democracy is, how it works and how the rules of a democracy keep power in check.

Teacher Resources

No Matter What: Annotated Version – A companion piece that discusses the underlying principles of family law, for use by teachers and parents.

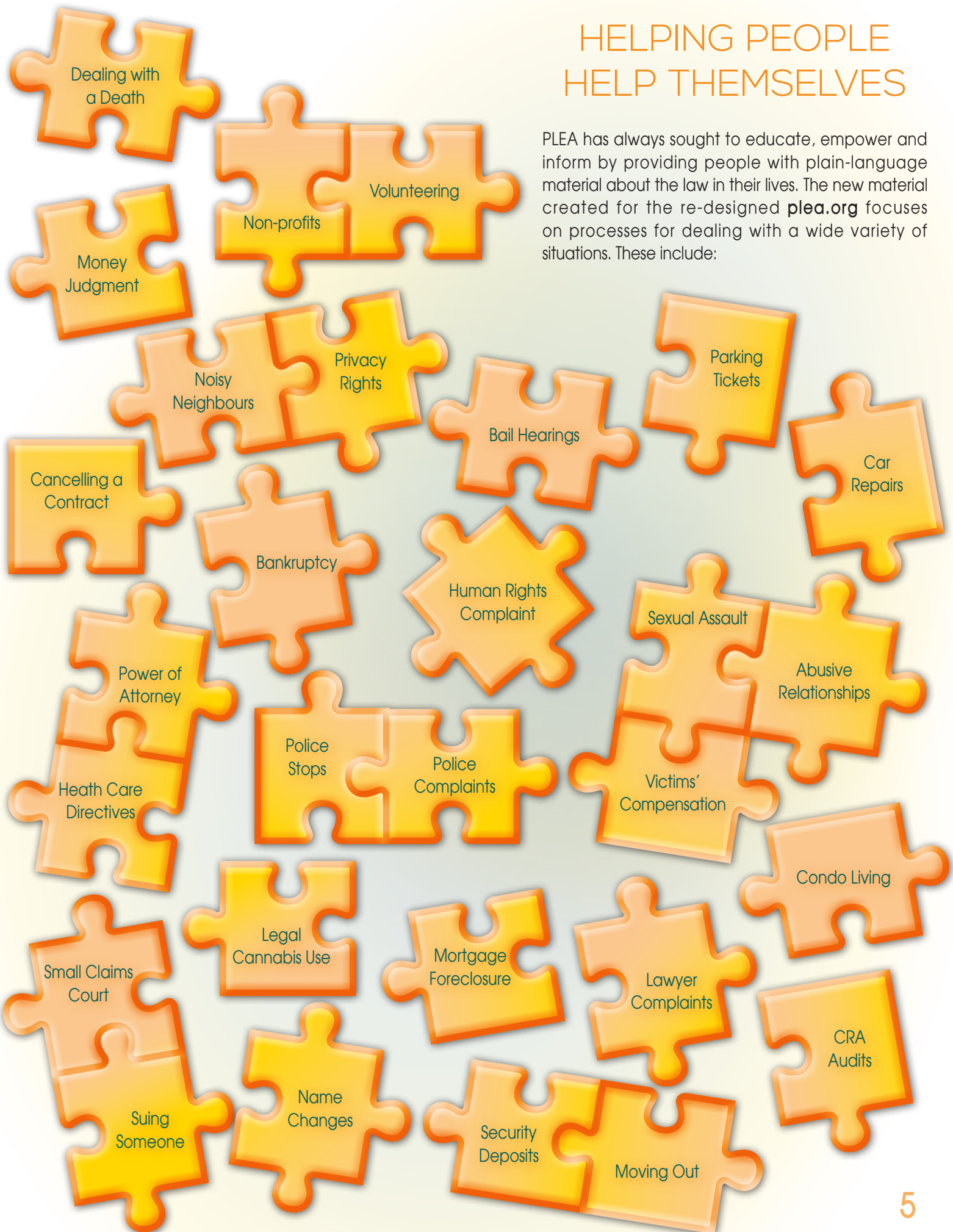
Democracy and the Rule of Law – Helps to teach high school students how the rule of law supports democracy, and how democracy supports the rule of law.

PARTNERS

- Libraries, including courthouse, public libraries, and the College of Law Library
- 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
- CREATE Justice
- Law Society of Saskatchewan
- Association des juristes d’expression française de la Saskatchewan

HELPING PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES

PLEA has always sought to educate, empower and inform by providing people with plain-language material about the law in their lives. The new material created for the re-designed **plea.org** focuses on processes for dealing with a wide variety of situations. These include:



1,237

INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS
FOR LEGAL INFORMATION
HANDLED

91%

RATED THE INFORMATION
ON PLEA.ORG
HELPFUL

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Cam Partridge Memorial PLEA Volunteer of the Year Award recipient for 2018 is Saskatoon retiree Mr. Bruce Phillips.

Bruce has volunteered his valuable time for PLEA over the past three years in the way of promotion and print distribution. He was greatly moved toward such community service as he saw in our province the high rates of impaired driving incidents and related fatalities.

Bruce was aware of PLEA publications on impaired driving, and took it upon himself to approach Saskatoon businesses and agencies such as liquor stores, grocery stores, convenience stores, and medi-clinics, in order to have our materials more widely displayed and distributed. He regularly ordered publications from us for this purpose.

This led to his contact with government officials and a consequential partnership between PLEA and SGI to produce a more comprehensive booklet on impaired driving which would take into account new Saskatchewan laws on these offences. He also continued to grow

the distribution of these resources to include major businesses such as Co-op stores, Canadian Tire, and McNally Robinson. Bruce also contacted Marion Graham Collegiate in Saskatoon; leading to PLEA impaired driving materials being utilized in driver education courses. Mosaic Stadium in Regina is another important location where Bruce's outreach has led to awareness activities.

Bruce retired in 2009 from a 38-year career in the building industry, where the great majority of that time was spent with the Co-op as an Estimator and Salesman. He was involved in some

4400 successful home projects, wherein he very much enjoyed the challenges and working with customers. He is deeply committed to his faith, family values, and doing what is good and right for his community. He very much enjoys volunteering for PLEA to promote the organization and heighten awareness in the province concerning the issue of impaired driving.

We are very grateful and privileged to know and work with a person such as Bruce. We are honoured to be able to name him 2018's Cam Partridge Memorial PLEA Volunteer of the Year. Congratulations and thank you, Bruce.

Some words from Bruce...

I would like to thank the PLEA organization for choosing me as PLEA volunteer of the year. I am honoured to receive this award in appreciation for my efforts in distributing educational pamphlets on drinking and driving and drugs to the public. As a citizen of Saskatoon and our province I give a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in the PLEA organization. This includes the financial supporters, administration, researchers and designers of very innovative brochures and education materials with respect to the law. Thanks to Joel Janow for all your assistance and feedback. Education is vital for people to make informed decisions about safe driving. Never stop the very important work you do.

*Thank you
Bruce Phillips*

THANK YOU

We thank foremost the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan and its members for their generous support and encouragement, now for almost 40 years. We are also very grateful for the support of the Department of Justice Canada and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, particularly so again this year in relation to the *Listen* Project.

We thank the Saskatchewan legal community for its support, including 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 collaborate with agencies such as the CBA, the Law Society of Saskatchewan, Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan, Pro Bono Students Canada, CLASSIC, the College of Law, the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan, 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.

We thank the PLEA Board of Directors and institutional member-appointing agencies for their strong support. We also thank the members of the Public Legal Education Association of

Canada for their cooperative spirit, expertise, and encouragement.

As always, special thanks go to the PLEA team. Their hard work, dedication, true teamwork, unsurpassed talents, and extreme attention to detail ensures that PLEA resources and services remain the "go-to" launch point for anyone about to address a legal concern in Saskatchewan.

Finally, we thank the people of Saskatchewan for your support. Public awareness and support continue to grow. Our work is only possible because of you, and you are why PLEA has been part of Saskatchewan life for almost 40 years.

In other messages in this Report, we have noted the many funders and people who make PLEA possible. But it would also not be possible without a staff that is connected to the cause, nor without the connections we enjoy amongst ourselves and with funders, governments, academics, our Canadian counterpart organizations, students, educators, various community partners, and (most importantly) the Saskatchewan public. We must have such connection. Why else would we receive such strong support from all if they did not, from their viewpoints, connect with us, our mission, and our efforts? We are very thankful this connection exists.

"This is an amazing and necessary resource for our organization. It allows appropriate conversation for young adults and teens about sex and relationships. I wish this was given out to every student in schools. Please continue the great work!"

(Hanging Out & Hooking Up)

The site has been really helpful and easy to use.

(Family Law Saskatchewan)

Thank you, now I know what to do.

(Harassment Intimidation and Threats)

It was helpful because I was looking for some info on babysitting and this was perfect. Thank you!

(Babysitting)

Thank you for having this information available and in plain English.

(Non-profit Organizations)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2018

	2018	2017
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 1,758	\$ 1,363
Short term investments	369,318	262,415
Accounts receivable	-	8,476
GST receivable	1,656	2,988
Prepaid expense	<u>8,567</u>	<u>8,971</u>
	381,299	284,213
Capital Assets	<u>5,560</u>	<u>6,664</u>
	<u>\$ 386,859</u>	<u>\$ 290,877</u>
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 74,067	\$ 58,758
Deferred contributions	<u>158,997</u>	<u>113,607</u>
	<u>233,064</u>	<u>172,365</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Net Assets	68,605	66,218
Internally Restricted Net Assets	79,630	45,630
Investment in Capital Assets	<u>5,560</u>	<u>6,664</u>
	<u>153,795</u>	<u>118,512</u>
	<u>\$ 386,859</u>	<u>\$ 290,877</u>

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	2018	2017
Revenue		
Donations and sponsorships	\$ 1,385	\$ 625
Grants (see breakdown next page)	953,323	894,696
Interest	2,596	3,614
Memberships	60	20
Miscellaneous	78	3,132
Portfolio program	360	720
Unrealized gain (loss) – investments	<u>(5,678)</u>	<u>892</u>
	952,124	903,699
Expenses		
	<u>916,841</u>	<u>943,450</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses	35,283	(39,751)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	118,512	158,263
Allocation to internally restricted net assets	(34,000)	38,000
Internally restricted net assets	<u>34,000</u>	<u>(38,000)</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 153,795</u>	<u>\$ 118,512</u>

To obtain a complete Financial Statement, please contact PLEA.

2018 GRANTS

68%

Law Foundation of Saskatchewan

16%

Department of Justice Canada

16%

Other:

- Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice / Department of Justice Canada – The *Listen* Project

2,725

FAMILY LAW
ACCOUNTS

98

FAMILY LAW INFORMATION
SESSIONS THROUGHOUT
SASKATCHEWAN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Allison Katarey, B.Comm., LLB – Member at Large	President
Maya Scott, BA(Hons.), LLB – Law Society of Saskatchewan	Vice-President
Shaela Verma, BFA, Student at Law – Member at Large	Secretary/Treasurer
Janelle Anderson, BA, JD – Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice	
Craig Goebel, B.Sc.(Hons.), LLB – Legal Aid Saskatchewan (CEO)	
Kylie Head, QC, BA, LLB – Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice	
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	
Delise Pitman, B.Ed., M.Ed. – Saskatchewan Ministry of Education	
Theresa Slind, BA, M.L.I.S. – Saskatoon Public Library	
Keir Vallance, BA, LLB, LLM – College of Law, University of Saskatchewan	
Chelsie McKay, BA, JD – 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, B.Ed., BA, M.Ed., MA
Financial Administrator	Sharon Mark-Chan, B.Comm.
Administrative Coordinator/Office Manager	Sharon Peterson, B.Comm.
Administrative Assistant	Cathy Doucette
Program Assistant	Shannon Lebalt

I received a sample in my mailbox from you guys the other day on Revolution (Vol.38 No.1) and it is really great. (Teacher)

I am a social worker and needed to help a client. Your site was very informative. Thank you! (Family Law Saskatchewan)

I just placed an order for some Wills & Estates books to pass along to each family that we serve. As I was filling everything out, I found myself thinking about what a wonderful resource this is – and how very fortunate we are to have an organization like PLEA in Saskatchewan. I commend you – and thank you – for the work that you do. Thank you. (Funeral home)

The lawyer presented complicated information in a manner that was easy to understand. His years of experience developed a trust with the participants. (Request for a speaker on Wills & Estates)



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