

Media advisory: Monday, Oct. 16

Public, Justice, Healthcare and Library Sectors Among Groups Invited to Participate in Second Annual Saskatchewan Access to Justice Week

SASKATOON – Following a successful inaugural week in October 2016, justice stakeholders are again coming together to host the *Second Annual Saskatchewan Access to Justice Week* which will take place Oct. 16 to 21, 2017.

Established as a means of “putting the public first” in the access to justice conversation, the week will involve a range of activities and calls-to-action to bring members of the public, law students, legal professionals and members of diverse disciplines together to continue discussions around improving access to justice in Saskatchewan. The week will also invite the public to learn about existing initiatives that aim to improve and remove barriers to access to justice for Saskatchewan residents.

The week will invite input on topics such as the future of legal services provision in Saskatchewan; and how legal information providers and public libraries can help educate the public and promote access to justice.

One of the topics that will be explored in a lecture is creating justice and health partnerships to address intersecting legal and health problems. Partnerships are on the increase in Canada, and involve legal professionals partnering with health professionals to identify legal issues that could potentially result in health problems, and negatively impacting people’s wellbeing. The connections between delivery of justice and health services have an important role to play in increasing access to justice in the province, especially for those in low-income households.

“Solving complex issues like access to justice requires diverse perspectives and collaborative dialogue,” said Brea Lowenberger, coordinator of the week as director of CREATE Justice at the College of Law, and Saskatchewan’s access to justice coordinator. “We aim to raise the awareness and profile of the topic of access to justice, and expand our partners in Saskatchewan among the public, justice stakeholders, and members from diverse disciplines,” she explained.

Visit the Saskatchewan Access to Justice [webpage](#) to learn more about the week, and use the hashtag #SKA2J2017 to join the conversation on Twitter and Facebook.

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