

An invitation to help improve access to legal information for Saskatchewan residents

Saskatchewan library staff are invited to participate in the next phase of the [Saskatchewan Access to Legal Information Project \(the SALI Project\)](#).

As you may be aware, the objective of the SALI Project is to increase access to legal information for Saskatchewan residents through a collaboration between justice and library stakeholders in Saskatchewan. The SALI Project partners hosted a conference on October 20-21, 2017, during the Second Annual Saskatchewan Access to Justice Week. The primary purpose for the event was to bring together a large number of public library representatives from rural, remote, and small urban centres in Saskatchewan as well as experts in the topic area, to further address how greater access to legal information can be achieved through partnering with libraries. Since October 2017, the project partners have been collaborating to implement the ideas for next steps that were identified during the conference. Specifically, three of those next steps have included collaborating to establish:

- 1. **Online training webinars and in-person training;**
- 2. **An advertising campaign**, to make the public more aware of public libraries as an 'access to justice entry point' (i.e. an accessible place to find legal information); and
- 3. **A second data collection pilot project** to further understand the nature of legal information inquiries occurring in public libraries.

We invite library staff to, in relation to these next steps, help us to improve access to legal information in Saskatchewan by:

1. Taking the - NEW, FREE - SALI Project Module 1 Training Webinar for Saskatchewan Public Library Staff (launched in July 2018), called "Detecting Legal Problems", presented by Melanie Hodges Neufeld and Alan Kilpatrick from the Law Society of Saskatchewan (approximately 37 minutes). Watch individually or with a group by simply entering your name and email here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/9023916621416795650>.

- This webinar provides information to help public library staff distinguish between providing legal information and legal advice, to detect when a patron is presenting with a legal issue, and to refer patrons to the relevant organization and/or resources to assist with their legal issue.
- Email sali_project@usask.ca for accompanying resources:
 - Detecting Legal Problems in Saskatchewan; and
 - Representing Yourself in Saskatchewan.
- All staff are encouraged to complete the Law Society's short evaluation form to provide feedback on the webinar and suggest topics for future webinars on legal information: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SALIwebinar>.

2. Spreading the word about the SALI Project Public Awareness Campaign (during Third Annual Saskatchewan Access to Justice Week, October 20-26, 2018).

- Information and campaign materials will be made available on the SALI Project website: <https://law.usask.ca/createjustice/projects/Saskatchewan-Access-to%20Legal-Information.php>.

3. Participating in the SALI Project Data Collection Pilot Project 2.0 (in Saskatoon and Wheatland locations, November, 2018).

- More information about the SALI Project Data Collection Pilot Project 2.0 coming soon!
- The results from the SALI Project Data Collection Pilot Project 1.0 (March 2018) will be posted on the SALI Project website.

If you are interested in receiving updates on the SALI Project and legal resources for the public, **please sign up for our Newsletter:**

<https://us14.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=efc3c57cece972bfbb049fb03&id=6c46f615d9>.