



Consultation Letter: Implementing the Legal Services Task Team Recommendations

In the fall of 2017, the Legal Services Task Team, a collaborative effort of the Law Society of Saskatchewan and the Ministry of Justice, engaged in consultations with your organization and other interested stakeholders to assist with the development of recommendations regarding the expansion of legal services. This process was undertaken to help improve public access to legal services in Saskatchewan.

The Task Team released its [final report](#) in August 2018. The report includes a number of recommendations on how to improve the regulation and provision of legal services in the province. The recommendations include:

- providing greater clarity to service providers about what legal services are regulated;
- expanding the list of exceptions to the prohibition against practicing law to recognize existing service providers;
- providing the Law Society with licensing authority to allow service providers to practice law with a limited license on a case-by-case basis;
- modernizing the legislation regulating legal services to provide more flexibility for future developments in this area;
- creating guidelines to help educate the public about legal services; and
- conducting pilot projects to help develop and test the recommendations.

There are several recommendations in this report that fall under the responsibility of the Law Society of Saskatchewan. Benchers of the Law Society have agreed to implement the recommendations on a principled basis over time, beginning with consultation to better inform the regulatory framework that will serve the profession and, ultimately, the public interest.

Within this context, we seek your input on two specific Task Team recommendations, 2(b) and 5(a) as noted below.

- **Recommendation 2(b):** Create guidelines to help the public better understand when legal services are needed, the difference between legal information and legal advice, the options available for obtaining legal services, and the value associated with each option.
- **Recommendation 5(a):** Expand the list of exceptions to the prohibition against practicing law.



**Law Society
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Separate consultation will be held at a later date to explore potential pilot projects with respect to limited licenses.

We are including detail about the specific recommendations and some questions to reflect upon. You can provide us with your written comments by September 15, 2019 or if you wish to arrange an in-person discussion, contact Melanie Hodges Neufeld at (306) 569-8242 or melanie.hodgesneufeld@lawsociety.sk.ca.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Melanie Hodges Neufeld
Director of Legal Resources & Communications