

# 2026 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

JAN 29 - 30, 2026 | HOTEL SASKATCHEWAN | REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

## RETURN TO THE RULE OF LAW

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29<sup>TH</sup>

**7:30 am**

### **REGISTRATION / EXHIBITS / HOT BREAKFAST**

Start your day with breakfast and coffee, then join us for an inspiring message from the Minister of Justice!

**8:00 am**

### **WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**8:05 am**

### **1A BREAKFAST WITH THE MINISTER**

The Honourable Tim McLeod, K.C., Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Saskatchewan

**8:35 am HEALTH BREAK**

**8:45 am**

### **2A PRESIDENT'S FORUM: SAFETYISM: THE THREAT TO CIVIL LIBERTIES IN CANADA THROUGH HISTORY AND IN THE FUTURE**

Christine Van Geyn // Canadian Constitution Foundation  
*Sponsor: SPM Law*

**10:15 am HEALTH BREAK**

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS – CHOOSE ONE

**10:30 am**

### **3A GETTING IT RIGHT: STRATEGIES FOR CONTRIBUTING TO INDIGENOUS SUCCESS THROUGH URBAN RESERVES AND MORE**

Josh Morrison // MLT Aikins LLP  
Allan Brabant // Brabant & Company Law  
Sonia Eggerman // MLT Aikins – *Moderator*

Ensuring the success of Indigenous people and business are key to the successful future of our communities. Learn about the strategies being created through initiatives and legal structures to contribute to and support Indigenous success.

### **3B CHANGING THE RULES: NAVIGATING TRADE AND TARIFF TURBULENCE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES**

Scott Masson // MLT Aikins LLP  
Chad Eggerman // Procido LLP  
Prabha Ramaswamy // CEO, Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce  
Steven Dribnenki, K.C. // City of Regina – *Moderator*

Growing tensions and changing rules in trade relations pose risk to the prosperity of Saskatchewan – and your clients. This session will explore the importance of trade to Saskatchewan, ways forward in rebuilding relations and finding new opportunities, and protecting your clients from risk.

### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We acknowledge that the 2026 Mid-Winter Conference will be held on treaty land, referred to as Treaty 4 Territory and that the City of Regina and all who visit and call it home are beneficiaries of this treaty. Treaty 4 encompasses the lands of the Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect and honour the Treaties that were made on all territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we are committed to move forward in partnership with Indigenous Nations in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

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## THURSDAY, JANUARY 29<sup>TH</sup>

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### **3C LEADING FOR TOMORROW: STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING MODERN LAW FIRMS**

Kurt E. Schlachter, K.C. // CEO, Stringam Law

Carla Carlson // Stringam Law, Swift Current office

Talon Regent // Stringam Law, Moose Jaw office

An in-depth session exploring innovative strategies, technology integration, and best practices for modern law firm management tailored to Saskatchewan's legal landscape.

### **12:30 pm DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD LUNCH**

Join us for a special luncheon honoring an individual whose exemplary service has made a lasting impact in Saskatchewan.

*Sponsor: Lawyers Financial*

### **2:00 pm HEALTH BREAK**

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#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS – CHOOSE ONE

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#### **2:15 pm**

### **4A THE SASKATCHEWAN SOLICITORS' M&A TOOLBOX: PRACTICAL ETHICS AND ASPECTS - EMPLOYMENT MATTERS TO CLOSINGS & EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN**

James Sproule, K.C. // McKercher LLP

Erin Eccleston // MLT Aikins LLP

This session offers a solicitor's M&A "toolbox," covering key ethical points like trust letters and candor, followed by essential employment issues such as consulting agreements, non-competes and liability for termination. The session will finish with a practical potpourri of deal mechanics, including vendor take-back financing, holdbacks, indemnities and limits of liability.

### **4B Advocacy and Effective Legal Writing: A Litigation Workshop**

Justice Caldwell // Saskatchewan Court of Appeal

Justice Wildeman // Court of King's Bench

Lauren Wihak, K.C. // McDougall Gauley LLP – *Moderator*

This workshop will be focused on effective written advocacy, from members of the judiciary as well as a seasoned advocate. This will include a round-table panel discussion regarding persuasive and effective written advocacy, as well as a workshop component wherein the panelists work through demonstrative examples of effective legal writing.

### **4:30 pm BENCH & BAR RECEPTION**

Connect with distinguished judges and leading lawyers at the Bench & Bar Reception—a vibrant evening dedicated to collegiality, networking, and celebrating excellence in justice. Build bridges across the legal community and strengthen the vital partnership between the bench and the bar in a welcoming atmosphere.

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## FRIDAY, JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup>

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### **7:30 am HOT BREAKFAST**

Start your day with breakfast, coffee, and connect with your colleagues!

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#### CONCURRENT SESSIONS – CHOOSE ONE

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#### **8:00 am**

### **5A Navigating the Grey: Ethics in Modern Legal Practice**

Andy Chiang // Chiang Consulting

Randy Sandbeck, K.C. // OWZW Lawyers

Sarah Buhler // Professor, College of Law, University of Saskatchewan

Carly Romanow // Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan

Drawing on diverse experiences across the legal community, the moderators will share perspectives and best practices before facilitating participant discussions on ethical responsibilities in modern legal practice. Through scenario-based analysis, the session will explore professional obligations including issues of internal harassment and reporting duties, confidentiality and privilege, duties owed to the court, and working with self-represented litigants.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup>

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### 5B The Anatomy of a Financing Transaction

Ryan Laidlaw // McDougall Gauley LLP

Eric Johnson // Miller Thomson LLP

Samer Awadh // MLT Aikins LLP

This session provides a practical walkthrough of a typical commercial financing transaction, from initial term sheet to closing. Our presenters will outline key stages, common documentation, and critical considerations for lawyers advising on these deals. We'll also explore special topics, including financing farmland acquisitions, construction projects, and renewable energy developments. Designed for practitioners seeking both foundational insights and nuanced strategies, this two-hour session combines structure with real-world complexity.

### 5C Professional Misconduct and Criminal Liability: The Crossroads of Regulatory and Criminal Law

Connor Clyde // McKercher LLP

Meagan Ward // Ward Mischuk Thomson LLP

Darren Kraushaar // McDougall Gauley LLP

Allison Graham // MLT Aikins LLP -- *Moderator*

Practitioners will speak to the current interests in professional regulatory and criminal law, with a particular focus on where they interconnect and considerations that apply in both arenas.

### 10:00 am HEALTH BREAK

10:15 am

### 6A BOB PELTON MEMORIAL LECTURE: VOICES THAT MATTER: DRIVING ACCESS TO JUSTICE FROM THE GROUND UP

Chantelle Johnson // CLASSIC

Nicole Obrigavitch // Elizabeth Fry Society

Grace Gardner // John Howard Society

Dominic Sikora // Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan

Anthony Olusola // Truly Alive Foundation

Anthony Thera // McKercher LLP -- *Moderator*

This panel brings together non-profit and community leaders to share observations on the most pressing needs facing our communities, and the challenges that shape them. Through shared perspectives and discussion of potential solutions, this session will foster collaboration and empower participants to consider new approaches for driving meaningful change.

*Sponsor: McKercher LLP*

### 12:15 pm CLOSING & LUNCH

*Please help yourself to our grab n go lunch on your way out.*

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## CONFERENCE INFORMATION

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### REGISTRATION

Register Online at [www.cbask.org](http://www.cbask.org)

For login assistance, email: [info@cbask.org](mailto:info@cbask.org), or call the Branch 306-244-3898 (Saskatoon) or 1-800-424-8288.

**Member: \$545 Non-Member: \$995**

### ACCOMMODATION

The Hotel Saskatchewan, Autograph Collection is Offering

Your Special Group Rate: \$179 CAD per night

Link on Registration Page. Booking Deadline:

**December 30, 2025**

### REFUND POLICY

Cancellations must be received by Jan 21, 2026, for a refund of the registration fee.

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## SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

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### 2026 Mid-Winter Conference Partner Sponsors



CBA Saskatchewan extends a heartfelt thank you to our event sponsors and exhibitors who help to make this a successful event.

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Law Society of Saskatchewan  
LawyerDoneDeal Corp.  
PLEA  
Prairie Process Serving  
Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan  
SaskTel Business Solutions  
Transitions Estate Services Inc.

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## MID-WINTER CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Thank you to our committee for your dedication and thoughtful work in planning our upcoming conference. Your efforts have crafted an event that will deliver cutting-edge legal insights, dynamic speakers, and in-depth discussions on the latest trends shaping the field.

Angela Stolz, (*Chair*) // McDougall Gauley LLP  
Steve Dribnenki, K.C. // City of Regina  
Allison Graham // MLT Aikins LLP  
Jamie LaRose // McKercher LLP  
Evan Olson // Bunge  
Tarissa Peterson // McDougall Gauley LLP  
Gabrielle Robitaille // McDougall Gauley LLP  
Darlene Wingerak, K.C. // Robertson Stromberg LLP  
Jessie Buydens, K.C. // SPM Law