Legislative Assembly Service
SASKATCHEWAN

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The Legislative Library of Saskatchewan Celebrates 150 Years of Trusted Service

REGINA, SK – For 150 years, the Legislative Library of Saskatchewan has been supporting democracy, helping people find information, and preserving history.

The Library's origins trace back to 1876 when Lieutenant Governor David Laird arrived in present-day Saskatchewan to establish the new capital of the North-West territorial government. What started as a small collection supporting a young government has grown into a trusted institution that continues to serve legislators, legislative staff, the public service, and the people of Saskatchewan every day.

"Congratulations to the Legislative Library on its 150th anniversary!", said Lieutenant Governor Bernadette McIntyre. “Since my early predecessor, Lieutenant Governor Laird, initiated the Library, it has conserved records of the work of our government and tracked our developing culture. Today the Library continues to provide invaluable services to our MLAs, and to offer a treasure trove of diverse, informative publications and collections to the benefit of our politicians, public servants, and the general public.”

The Legislative Library’s humble beginnings are a contrast to the highly specialized institution it is today. Adaptive and responsive to an information-saturated world, the Legislative Library is embracing innovation and advancing information literacy to help clients navigate today's complex environment.

"While our foundations are historic, our focus is firmly on the future. As technology continues to transform how information is created, shared, and consumed, the Legislative Library is evolving with it, while maintaining our high standards of trust, accuracy, and reliability." said Melissa Bennett, Legislative Librarian.

The Saskatchewan Legislative Library is one of 13 parliamentary libraries in Canada which are among the country’s most trusted public institutions and form an important part of the Canada’s democratic resilience infrastructure. Early founders of the country’s democratic systems of government understood the importance of access to reliable,

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trustworthy information for legislators and citizens. As is the case in Saskatchewan, with much of its work happening behind the scenes. The Legislative Library remains a sought-after and dependable resource, quietly providing continuity and expert support to those who rely on it.

"One of the greatest strengths of our Legislative Library is the ability to curate information and tailor services to each client's needs," said Iris Lang, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. "Every day, our Library team delivers confidential, non-partisan service, helping legislators quickly find the information they need, from sources they can trust. That's been our promise for 150 years, and it remains our commitment today."

As it marks its sesquicentennial year, the Legislative Library celebrates not only its past achievements, but also its ongoing commitment to serve Saskatchewan with integrity, expertise, and responsiveness for generations to come.

"As the Speaker and as a Member of the Assembly, the Legislative Library has always been welcoming and helpful to me. I have personally experienced and benefitted from their responsiveness and resourcefulness," said Hon. Todd Goudy, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. "The Library is a valuable institution for supporting the work of the Legislative Members and staff."

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