



The Proposed Access to Justice Program

Principles Guiding the LSN's Access to Justice Program

The LSN will:

- Build connections and use a collaborative approach
- Avoid duplicating services
- Focus on relevant, effective projects that meet needs in Nunavut
- Reflect the capacity of the members to support access to justice project



The Projects

Access to Knowledge - information with support

The Access to Knowledge project will collect existing and produce additional resources on the identified themes and make them available in each community by liaising with community leaders. The Access to Knowledge project will connect people with someone who can help them identify their problem and connect them with legal help. Not only will the project produce high-quality, multi-lingual information, but will also make that information available through multiple delivery sources (phone line, online, in person, using different community resources or leaders etc.).

The initial topics of the Access to Knowledge project will be Family issues, Family violence, Tenants' rights, Foreclosure, Disability rights, Consent and confidentiality in provision of services and Court processes.

Legal Capability - Building Law as a Life Skill

This project will see lawyers, judges and court staff connecting with students through school-based projects to introduce legal concepts, and legal professionals as helpful people who are approachable and trustworthy. The Legal Capability project will focus on attitudes about the justice system and building trust and interest in legal sector careers. The project will include a focus in Law 10 / 12 at Inukshuk High School and a Circuit Court school outreach project for Grade 4-6.

Legal Health - Public Workshops

Basic public information sessions will provide an overview of a legal topic and allow people to meet a lawyer without the anxiety of an active conflict. These sessions will rely on reinforcing the CBA legal health checklists and connect the LSN's A2J program with activities underway in other jurisdictions. A roster of topics and session outlines, handouts and visuals for public sessions on commonly requested topics will be enhanced and made available to LSN members, building on the existing base of Legal Aid sessions.



Measuring the Impact of the Access to Justice Program

Each of the activities undertaken as a part of this program will be evaluated according to the specific project goals and the overall principles of the program, allowing for decisions about next steps, project success and the impact of each project. Results will be shared with LSN members and factored into ongoing efforts to promote access to justice in Nunavut.



Communications Strategy

The Access to Justice program will be launched using a communications strategy that ensures that LSN members, intermediaries, courts, judges, RCMP, and those in the community are aware of the range of resources and events available and are invited to participate and build a better understanding of the range of needs in each community.

Next Steps: Approval

The LSN will approve an Access to Justice Program that will seek to build connections and address local needs. Upon approval (and after the Rule amendment), activities under the program will be covered under CLIA.

The following three projects are proposed as the first projects, balancing the focus between meeting the public's needs, building capacity and connections and taking a preventative approach to everyday legal problems.