

## NOTICE

## First Ever Citation Guide for the Courts of Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan has never had a single or standard set of rules for legal citations. Most courts and lawyers have used the *Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation* (McGill Guide). However, as a result of concerns with the seventh edition of the McGill Guide, a project was undertaken to develop a Saskatchewan legal citation guide. That initiative is now complete.

The new *Citation Guide for the Courts of Saskatchewan* provides a clear, authoritative and standard set of citation rules for use in and by the courts of Saskatchewan.

Some of the most notable features of the Guide are:

- An emphasis on the importance of the neutral citation. If a decision has a neutral citation, it must be used.
- A requirement to identify an electronic source in a citation under certain circumstances.
- A streamlining of parallel citations. Along with the neutral citation, one print report must be cited if available. If there is no neutral citation, only one print report is cited.
- A hybrid approach to the use of periods in citations. All periods are removed from citations except those contained in proper nouns, including corporate names or abbreviations of individual names.
- A consistent approach to the use and format of short forms to identify case law or legislation that has been cited previously.
- A quick reference section, along with detailed explanations and examples of each citation pattern.

The Guide can be found here.

The Court of Appeal, the Court of Queen's Bench and the Provincial Court are each putting in place a practice directive requiring that citations conform to the *Guide*. Those directives will be in force as of October 1, 2014.

Robert G. Richards Chief Justice of Saskatchewan