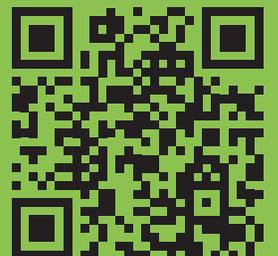


# Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner

Annual Report  
2024





**Public Interest  
Disclosure  
Commissioner**

*Speak out. Safely.*

April 2025

The Honourable Todd Goudy  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
Province of Saskatchewan  
Room 129, Legislative Building  
2405 Legislative Drive  
Regina SK S4S 0B3

Dear Mr. Speaker:

As required by subsection 23(1) of *The Public Interest Disclosure Act*, I am pleased to submit to you the annual report of the Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner for 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Pratchler', written in a cursive style.

Sharon Pratchler, K.C.  
Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner

## Commissioner's Message

The purpose of *The Public Interest Disclosure Act* is to provide a confidential process for public servants to make disclosures about suspected wrongdoings in government and to protect the public servant from reprisal if they make a disclosure. The first step in that process often involves a public servant contacting our office to obtain information in order to decide if they want to make a disclosure.

In order to proceed under the legislation, we have to identify two key elements. First, the person making the disclosure must be a public servant as defined in the Act. Second, the subject matter of the disclosure must fall within the definition of wrongdoing set out in the Act, which includes:

- A contravention of a provincial or federal Act or regulation;
- An act or omission that creates a substantial and specific danger to the life, health or safety of persons or the environment;
- Gross mismanagement of public funds or a public asset;
- Counselling to commit a wrongdoing.

All provincial government ministries, the Saskatchewan Health Authority, the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, and many agencies, boards, commissions, and Crown Corporations are covered by the Act.

At times, we receive anonymous disclosures but are not able to proceed with them as we have to first determine that the individual making the disclosure meets the definition of public servant set out in the Act.

We understand the emotional toll that witnessing a wrongdoing in the workplace can take on an individual and have over the past year received training in trauma-informed practices. Confidentiality is a key aspect of our processes.

**Provincial public sector employees who want to seek advice about making a disclosure can contact our office to discuss the process. If you are unsure about whether the legislation applies to you, you can reach out to us and we will review your circumstances to make that determination.**

# OUR WORK IN 2024

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## Training Designated Officers

*The Public Interest Disclosure Act* provides two avenues for public servants to make a disclosure: they can make their complaints to the Commissioner or to the designated officer within their Ministry or public entity.

In 2024, the Public Service Commission of Saskatchewan hosted an online training session for all designated officers under *The Public Interest Disclosure Act*. We participated in the session and provided training on how the legislation operates and how to apply its provisions.

## Providing Advice

*The Public Interest Disclosure Act* provides an opportunity for a public servant who is considering making a disclosure to ask for advice from the Commissioner or the designated officer for their workplace. We received six inquiries in 2024 where the individuals contacting us wanted to discuss a potential disclosure. The legislation also requires that any disclosure must be in writing, using the prescribed form. No disclosure form was submitted by these individuals after they sought advice.

## More Appropriate Forum to Deal with Issue

We received two disclosure forms this year which contained concerns that were more appropriately dealt with under a different piece of legislation, specifically Occupational Health and Safety. We referred the individuals to that process.

## Files in Assessment Stage

We ended the year with four files in the assessment stage, which involves determining if the information provided constitutes a disclosure under our Act.



# OMBUDSMAN SASKATCHEWAN

## PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE COMMISSIONER

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