



**Law Society
of Saskatchewan**

Next Level Legal Research

USask LRW 245

November 26, 2025

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Alan Kilpatrick, Co-Director, Legal Resources, Law Society of Saskatchewan

Learning Goals

Our goals for today's session:

1. Highlight good practices for practical legal research, especially in an era of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI).
2. Demonstrate an effective approach to legal research that is broadly transferable to any area of law or legal research tool.
3. Convey the iterative nature of legal research through a demonstration scenario and a small group session scenario.
4. Provide guidance on GenAI and its place in legal research.

Overview

Lecture (Rm 150), 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm

- *Good Practices*
- *Using GenAI*
- *Demonstration Scenario*

Break, 3:15 pm – 3:25 pm

Small Group Scenario (Small Groups), 3:25 pm – 3:55 pm

Break, 3:55 pm – 4:05 pm

Conclusion (Rm 150), 4:05 pm – 4:30 pm

Good Practices for Legal Research



Good Practices for Legal Research

Tip: The **most effective** legal research:

- Is iterative
- Is messy
- Includes mistakes and missteps
- Has multiple starts and stops
- Isn't static
- Is rarely complete after the first attempt



Good Practices for Legal Research

Myth: No one reads law books anymore!



Good Practices for Legal Research

Tip: Use legal commentary in any format (digital or print) to energize your research.

Free to use sources

- Your law library
- CanLII's Commentary

Commercial sources

- Texts/eBooks: Lexis+, Westlaw, vLex
- Encyclopedias: Canadian Encyclopedic Digest, Halbury's Laws of Canada

Summaries

- Newsletters (Law Society CaseMail, Lexis+)
- AI summaries (CanLII, Lexis+)
- Canadian Abridgment (Westlaw)

Good Practices for Legal Research

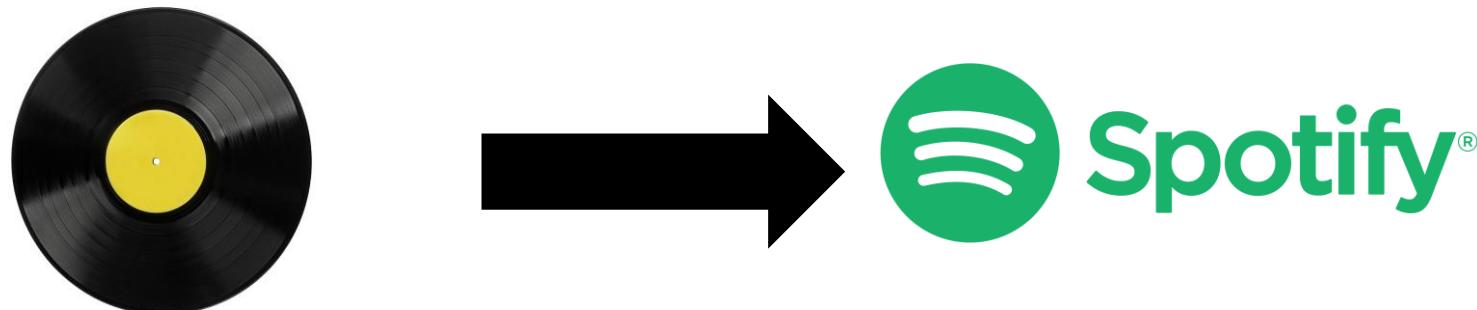
Myth: Online is easy, right?



Good Practices for Legal Research

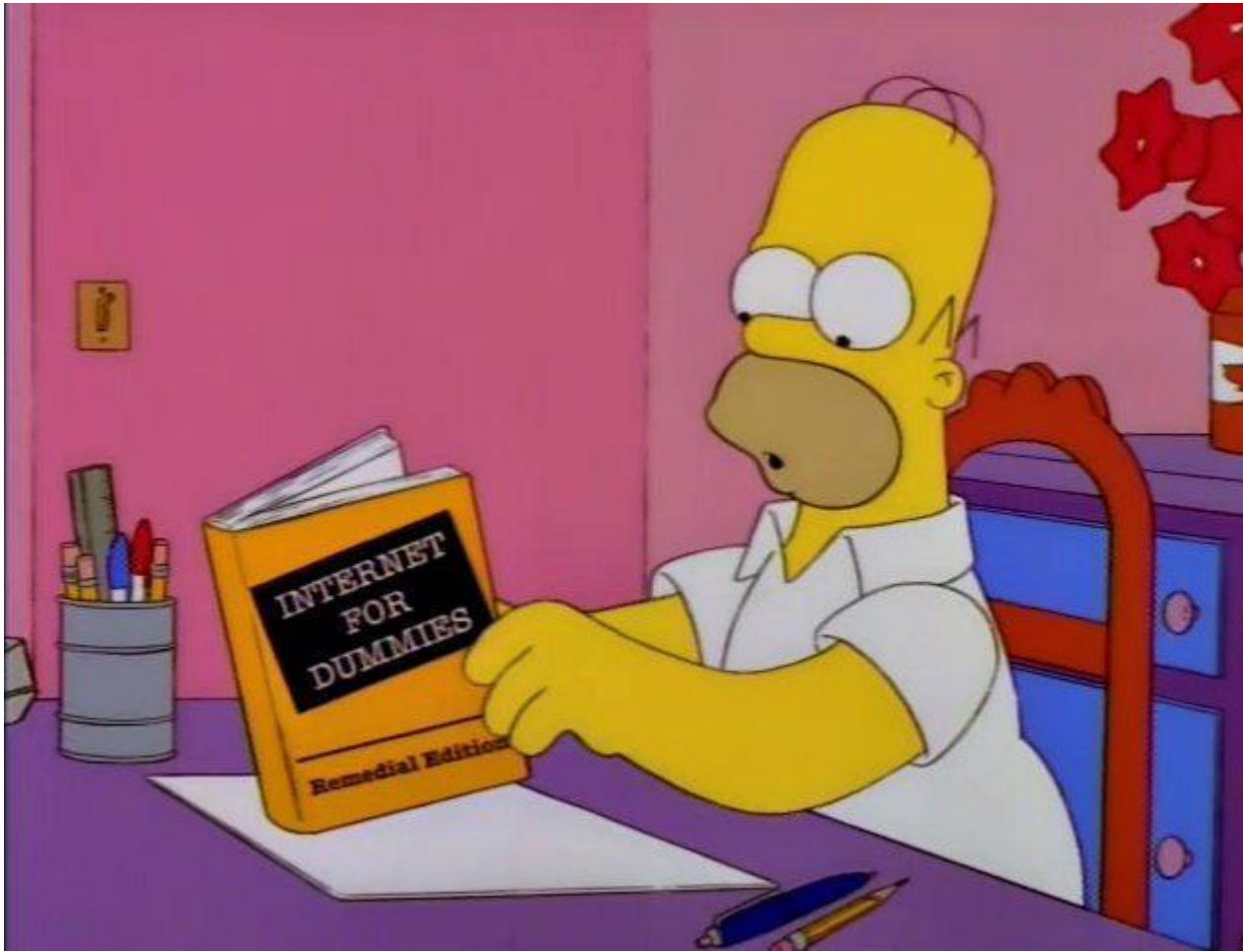
Effective online research requires at least as much skill and knowledge as print legal research.

- It can be difficult to understand how digital resources are organized without any sense of how the corresponding print resources are organized
- Tip: Learn to use online and offline resources in tandem.



Good Practices for Legal Research

Myth: Online research is fast, right?



Good Practices for Legal Research

Tip: Choose the resource/tool that best meets your needs in the information jungle.



- Primary law coverage across Canada's free and commercial legal databases (CanLII, Lexis+, vLex, Westlaw) is largely comparable with similar coverage being offered.
- Commercial resources far exceed free resources in terms of the digital commentary content available.

	CanLII	Lexis+	vLex	Westlaw
Cost	Free to use	Commercial	Commercial	Commercial
Who?	Public	Commercial	Commercial	Commercial
Searchability	Comparable	Comparable	Enhanced functionality	Comparable
SK Legislation	Current & Historical	Current Only	None	Current Only
SK Tribunals	Excellent	Good	None	Poor
Commentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CanLII Connects case digests • Growing collection of miscellaneous commentary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case law headnotes • Dictionaries • Drafting materials • Halsbury's Laws of Canada • Legislative concordances • Multiple eTexts & commentary • Practical guidance • Quantums 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emond eBooks • Irwin Law eBooks • Legal news and blogs • Selected journals • Vincent AI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles & newsletters • Canadian Abridgment • Canadian Encyclopedia Digest • Case law digests • Citing references • Criminal Source, Employment Source, Estates Source, Family Source, Labour Source • O'Brien's Forms • Words & Phrases

Using GenAI for Legal Research



Using GenAI for Legal Research

Commercial legal technology companies are launching GenAI tools in Canada:

- LexisNexis+ Protégé (*Launched in June 2024*)
- Thomson Reuters Westlaw CoCounsel (*Launched in June 2024*)
- CanLII Research Assistant (*Forthcoming in 2026*)
- vLex GenAI (*Not yet available in Canada*)

Using GenAI for Legal Research

Use Cases

- Quick reference at the start of legal research.
- Confirm nothing has been missed at the end of your research.
- Quick summaries of law.
- Update research on a point of law you are very familiar with.
- Pivot to credible commentary and law from which you continue your own research

Recommendation

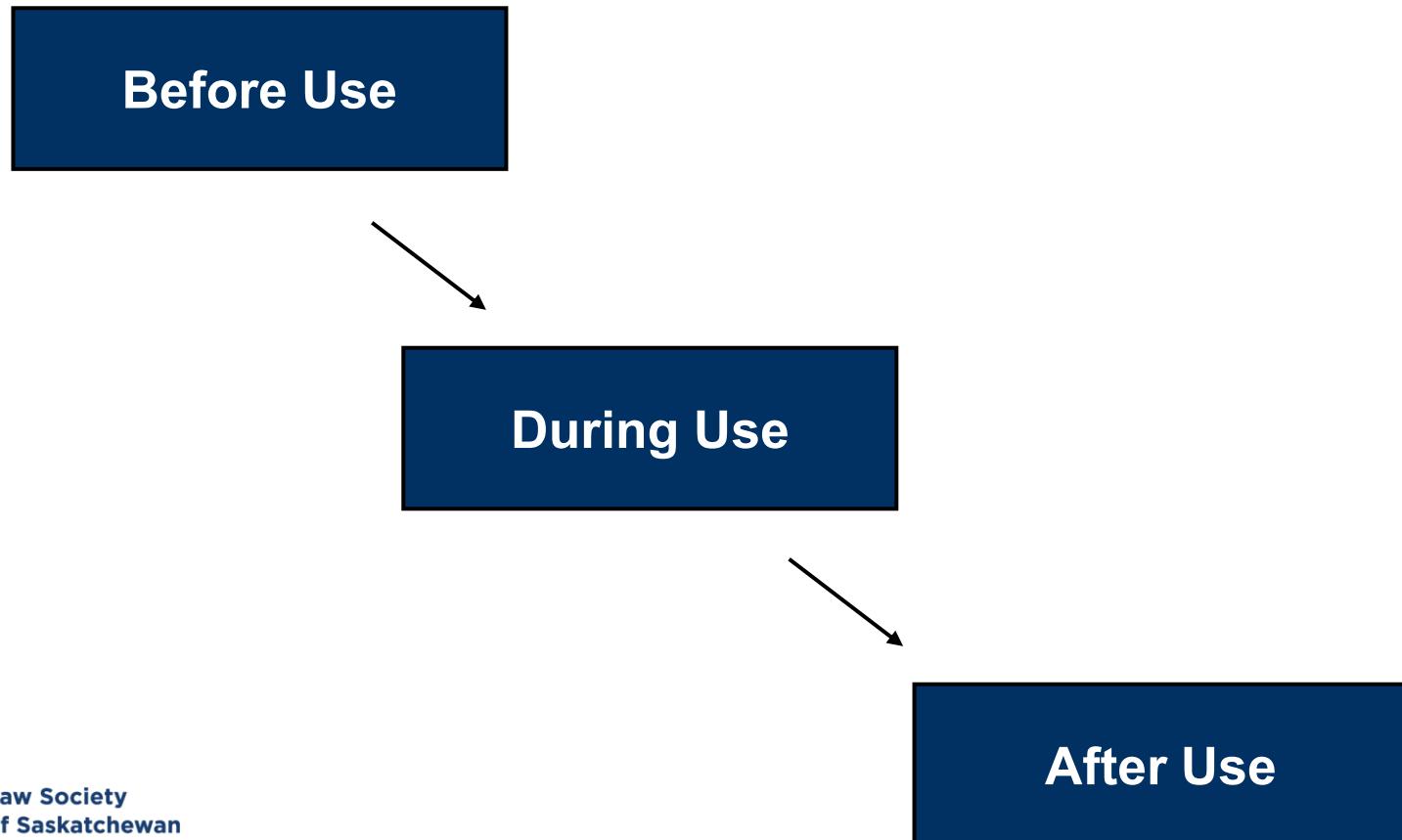
- Use GenAI as a complement and supplement to your existing/traditional legal research processes and analysis.

You Must

- Verify all GenAI outputs and be careful not over-rely on GenAI.

Using GenAI for Legal Research

Considerations **before**, **during**, and **after** using GenAI tools.



Using GenAI for Legal Research

Before using GenAI tools:

1. Understand what GenAI is and how it works.
2. Consider the risks of using a GenAI tool.
3. Understand your professional and legal obligations.

Using GenAI for Legal Research

Before using GenAI tools, understand what GenAI is and how it works.

- Generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) is artificial intelligence that creates new content (text, images, audio and video) by analyzing large datasets and predicting patterns:
- GenAI does not think independently but generates outputs based on learned structures and predictions.
- While GenAI tools have potential, concerns about accuracy, currency, hallucinations (made-up information) and privacy exist.

Using GenAI for Legal Research

Before using GenAI tools, understand what GenAI is and how it works.

General Purpose Uncurated GenAI

Some GenAI tools, like ChatGPT or CoPilot, are uncurated, general-purpose tools. This means that they are trained on huge datasets that are not limited by source. These tools can provide broad answers to many types of questions. The outputs may be incomplete or outdated.

Legal Curated Purpose-built GenAI

Some GenAI tools are curated, meaning they are limited to searching content from selected sources or are purpose-built for legal information. Closed or purpose-built tools provide additional safeguards that reduce, though not eliminate, these risks. The information generated should still be verified as credible.

Using GenAI for Legal Research

Before using GenAI tools, understand what GenAI is and how it works.

General Purpose Uncurated GenAI

- ChatGPT 4 hallucinates 58% of the time when asked a direct, verifiable question about a court case.
- Dahl, M., Magesh, V., Süzgun, M., & Ho, D. E. (2024). *Large legal fictions: Profiling legal hallucinations in large language models.*
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.01301>

Legal Curated Purpose-built GenAI

- Lexis+ Protégé and Westlaw CoCounsel each hallucinate between 17% and 33% of the time.
- Magesh, V., Surani, F., Dahl, M., Suzgun, M., Manning, C. D., & Ho, D. E. (2025). *Hallucination-Free? Assessing the reliability of leading AI legal research tools.*
https://dho.stanford.edu/wp-content/uploads/Legal_RAG_Hallucinations.pdf

Using GenAI for Legal Research

Before using GenAI tools, understand the risks:

- Accuracy
- Currency
- Confidentiality
- Hallucinations
- Privacy
- Limitations

Using GenAI for Legal Research

Before using GenAI tools, understand your professional and legal obligations:

- E.g., Law Society of Saskatchewan Guidelines on GenAI in the Practice of Law:
 - Duties of Competence and Diligence
 - Duty of Confidentiality
 - Duty to Comply with the Law
 - Duty to Supervise and Delegation
 - Communication
 - Charging for Work
 - Candour to the Tribunal
 - Prohibition on Discrimination, Harassment and Guarding Against Bias

Using GenAI for Legal Research

During use of GenAI tools:

4. Prompt the tool with clear and specific questions and statements to generate the most accurate results. (Lexis+ AI Protégé Training, Westlaw Edge Canada with CoCounsel)
5. Understand that while clear prompting or using a curated purpose-built tool may reduce the risks, the output may still be incomplete, inaccurate, or hallucinated.
6. Often, the first prompt or question does not yield the desired information. Ask new prompts based on the initial output from the tool to get more detail or clarity or to have the information presented in alternate ways

Using GenAI for Legal Research

After use of GenAI tools:

7. Verify the content generated:

- E.g., Law Society of Saskatchewan Guidelines on GenAI in the Practice of Law:
 - “A lawyer must critically review, validate, and correct both the inputs and the outputs of generative AI tools to ensure the content accurately reflects and supports the interests and priorities of the client in the matter at hand.
 - “A lawyer should take steps to avoid over-reliance on generative AI to such a degree that it hinders critical legal analysis fostered by traditional research and writing.”

Demonstration Scenario



Demonstration Scenario

A will was found in the testator's files, but it had been crumpled up and ripped into three pieces. Will the will be revoked?



Demonstration Scenario

For the demonstration scenario, we will use:

- The Canadian Legal Information Institute (CanLII) website.
- A five-step legal research search strategy that is broadly transferable to any legal research tool and area of law.
- Boolean search operators.

Please pay attention, you will be asked to research a scenario in a small group using this scenario next.

Demonstration Scenario

CanLII is available at CanLII.org:

- Free online access to Canadian court cases, legislation, and law through an easily searchable website.
- Funded by Canada's Law Societies through the Federation of Law Societies, on an FTE membership basis.



Search all databases

Document text



Keyword search

Case name, document title, f



Noteup/Discussion cited cas



Primary law



Canada (Federal)

British Columbia

Alberta

Saskatchewan

Manitoba

Commentary



Books, articles, reports and more...

CanLII Connects

By default, the search engine processes a space between terms as a logical AND. The following operators allow you to change this default processing.

Find	Operator (case sensitive)	Example
This exact phrase	""	"R. v. Douglas"
All these words	AND, and, no operator	permit hunting
Any of these words	OR, or	city or municipality
None of these unwanted words	NOT	custody NOT child
Words within the same paragraph	/p	levy /p probate
Words within the same sentence	/s	tax /s income
Words within n words	/n	letter /5 credit
Exclude plurals and derivatives	EXACT(), exact()	exact(translator)

For an introduction to CanLII's search, please review our [help page](#) and [videos](#).

Search or browse commentary



Demonstration Scenario

CanLII's Boolean search operators include:

AND

OR

“ ”

()

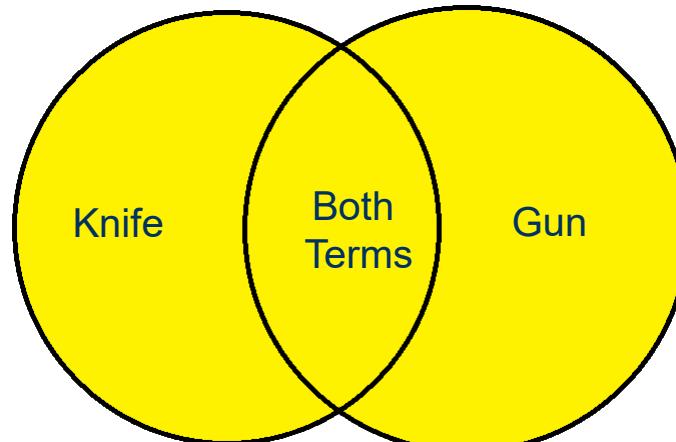
*

/p

/5

EXACT

OR



Broadens the search & more results

Demonstration Scenario

Search Strategy:

- Step 1: Brainstorm for keyword
 - Step 2: Identify concepts
 - Step 3: Create search query
 - Step 4: Analyze results
 - Step 5: Reformulate search

A will was found in the testator's files, but it had been crumpled up and ripped into three pieces. Will the will be revoked?

Demonstration Scenario

Search Strategy:

- Step 1: Brainstorm for keywords
 - will
 - estates
 - testator
 - destroyed
 - damaged
 - crumpled
 - ripped
 - revocation

A will was found in the testator's files, but it had been crumpled up and ripped into three pieces. Will the will be revoked?

Demonstration Scenario

Search Strategy:

- Step 2: Identify concepts and group synonyms
 - CONCEPT 1 = wills
 - CONCEPT 2 = estates
 - CONCEPT 3 = destroy / rip / damage / tear
 - CONCEPT 4 = revocation

A will was found in the testator's files, but it had been crumpled up and ripped into three pieces. Will the will be revoked?

Demonstration Scenario

Search Strategy:

- Step 3: Create search query
 - Advanced Search Formula:
 - **(1a OR 1b OR 1c) AND (2a OR 2b OR 2c) AND (3a OR 3b OR 3c)**
 - 1 and 2 and 3 are distinct CONCEPTS
 - 1a, 1b, 1c are synonyms of CONCEPT 1

A will was found in the testator's files, but it had been crumpled up and ripped into three pieces. Will the will be revoked?

Demonstration Scenario

Search Strategy:

- Step 3: Create search query
 - Advanced Search Formula:
 - **wills AND estates AND (destroy OR rip OR damage OR tear)**

A will was found in the testator's files, but it had been crumpled up and ripped into three pieces. Will the will be revoked?

Search all databases

 x? Q x ? ?

Primary law

[Canada \(Federal\)](#)[British Columbia](#)[Alberta](#)[Saskatchewan](#)[Manitoba](#)[Ontario](#)[Quebec](#)[New Brunswick](#)[Nova Scotia](#)[Prince Edward Island](#)[Newfoundland and Labrador](#)[Yukon](#)[Northwest Territories](#)[Nunavut](#)

Commentary

[Books, articles, reports and more...](#)[CanLII Connects](#) 

EXACT(wills) EXACT(estates) (destroy or rip or damage or tear)

Case name, document title, file number, author or citation



Noteup/Discussion: cited case names, legislation titles, citations or dockets



All CanLII (62,886)

Cases (54,364)

Legislation (3,256)

Commentary (5,266)

My Documents

All jurisdictions ▾

By relevance ▾

EN ▾

grid ▾

list ▾



Browse myCanLII

Save this query

Set up alert feed

Share this query

Run a saved query

1. [Morton v. Christian](#), 2014 BCSC 1303 (CanLII)
Supreme Court of British Columbia — British Columbia
2014-07-14 | 19 pages | cited by 3 documents

Wills and estates

AI-generated

Wills and estates — Wills — Revocation — Validity

[...] should **rip** your **Will** in half until you are able to finalize your new **Will**." [23] Ms. Iverson swears that she does not tell family law clients to simply **destroy** their **wills** unless they have told her they do not want their estranged spouse to inherit their **estate** and there is a concern that they may not have a new **will** [...] [32] So while I accept the evidence of Ms. Iverson and Ms. Buchanan as to what Mr. Christian said to them about **ripping** up or **destroying** his notarial **will** as evidence of his intentions toward that **will** at the time he made the statements attributed to him, I do not admit it to prove the fact of destruction. [...] In support of this assertion they rely on s. 14(1) (d) of **Wills** Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 489 , and the evidence of what Mr. Christian said to Ms. Iverson and Ms. Buchanan about having "**destroyed**," or "**ripped** up," his **will**. [...]



2. [23005877 \(Re\)](#), 2023 ABRTDRS 33 (CanLII)
Alberta Residential Tenancy Dispute Resolution Service — Alberta
2023-08-18 | 9 pages
rental premises — sewer line — amount — tenancy — backyard

[...] I can accept that the Landlord's communication likely constituted a breach of this right, and I **will** further award an additional \$250.00 in general **damages** to the Tenant. [...] I accept that this **damage** was likely done by the Tenant through abnormal use rather than normal wear and **tear**, and **will** allow the claimed amount

Quick Survey

EXACT(wills) AND EXACT(estates) AND (destroy OR rip OR damage OR tear)

X ?

Q X

Case name, document title, file number, author or citation

?

Noteup/Discussion: cited case names, legislation titles, citations or docket

?

All CanLII (1,907)

Cases (1,071)

Legislation (188)

Commentary (648)

My Documents

All jurisdictions ▾

By relevance ▾

EN ▾

= ▾

□ ▾

 Canada (Federal) 41Set up alert feed British Columbia 282 Alberta 121

I)

h Columbia

 Saskatchewan 1

nents

 Manitoba 34AI-generated i Ontario 199

lidity

 Quebec 6

6

use you do not wish Ms. Morton to inherit your assets, you should **rip** your Will in half until you are able to finalize your New Brunswick 20does not tell family law clients to simply **destroy** their **wills** unless they have told her they do not want their [...] In Nova Scotia 361) (d) of **Wills** Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 489 , and the evidence of what Mr. Christian said to Ms. Iverson and Ms. Buchanan Prince Edward Island 10his will. [...] [34] Although the **Wills** Act was repealed March 31, 2014, it governs the revocation of the notarial will Newfoundland and Labrador 21legislation became effective: **Wills**, **Estates** and Succession Act , S.B.C. 2009, c. 13, s. 185 . [...] Yukon 5nd **Solicitors**, 2021 PESC 48 (CanLII) Northwest Territories 9

Prince Edward Island

 Nunavut 3

3

AI-generated i Include commentary 252

solicitor-client relation to patient

EXACT(wills) AND EXACT(estates) AND (destroy OR rip OR damage OR tear)



Case name, document title, file number, author or citation



Noteup/Discussion: cited case names, legislation titles, citations or dockets



All CanLII (98)

Cases (65)

Legislation (33)

Commentary (0)

My Documents

Saskatchewan ▾

All legislation ▾

All versions ▾

Clear filters

By relevance ▾

EN ▾

≡ ▾

□ ▾



Browse myCanLII

Save this query

Set up alert feed

Share this query

Run a saved query

9.

[An Act to make Uniform the Law respecting Wills, SS 1931, c 34](#)

Annual Statutes of Saskatchewan — Saskatchewan

12 pages | cited by 1 document

[...] some writing declaring an intention to revoke the same and executed in accordance with the provisions of this Act respecting the execution of a will; or (d) by burning, **tearing** or otherwise **destroying** the same by the testator, or by some person in his presence and by his direction, with the intention of revoking the same.

[...] other general devise which would describe a leasehold estate if the testator had no freehold estate which could be described by it shall be construed to include the leasehold estate of the testator or his leasehold **estates**, or any of them to which the description extends, as the case may be, as well as freehold **estates**. [...] 1931 **WILLS** Cap. 34 175 PART III Supplementary. 37. This Act shall be so interpreted and construed as Construction to effect its general purpose of making uniform the law of Act those provinces which enact it. 38.—(1) Except as provided in subsection (2), this Application of Act Act shall apply only to **wills** made after [...]



10.

[The Wills Act , 1996, SS 1996, c W-14.1](#)

3 older versions ▾

Consolidated Statutes of Saskatchewan — Saskatchewan

25 pages | cited by 163 documents



11.

[The Wills Act , 1996, SS 1996, c W-14.1](#)

Annual Statutes of Saskatchewan — Saskatchewan

45 pages | cited by 2 documents

[...] 1996 CHAPTER W-14.1 An Act respecting **Wills** (Assented to June 25, 1996) HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows: PRELIMINARY Short title 1 This Act may be cited as The **Wills** Act, 1996. [...] by some writing declaring an intention to revoke the will or part of the will and executed in accordance with this Act; or (d) by burning, **tearing** or otherwise **destroying** the will or part of the will by the testator, or by some person in his or her presence and by his or her direction, with the intention of revoking it. [...] Inclusion of leaseholds 28 Unless a contrary intention appears in the will, the testator's intention in any of the following shall be included in the interpretation of the will, which shall be construed according to the law of the

The Wills Act , 1996, SS 1996, c W-14.1

[EN](#) [French Version](#)[RSS](#)[PDF](#)[TXT](#)Table of
Contents

Versions



Regulations



Amendments



Cited by



AI analysis

REVOCATION AND REVIVAL

16 No will or any part of a will is revoked other than:

- (a) **Repealed.** 2020, c8, s.16.
- (b) by another will executed in accordance with this Act;
- (c) by some writing declaring an intention to revoke the will or part of the will and executed in accordance with this Act; or
- (d) by burning, **tearing** or otherwise **destroying** the will or part of the will by the testator, or by some person in his or her presence and by his or her direction, with the intention of revoking it.

1996, c.W-14.1, s.16; 2001, c.51, s.10; 2020, c8, s.16.

Search all databases

 x? ? Q x ? ?

Primary law

[Canada \(Federal\)](#)[Ontario](#)[Newfoundland and Labrador](#)[British Columbia](#)[Quebec](#)[Yukon](#)[Alberta](#)[New Brunswick](#)[Northwest Territories](#)[Saskatchewan](#)[Nova Scotia](#)[Nunavut](#)[Manitoba](#)[Prince Edward Island](#)

Commentary

[Books, articles, reports and more...](#)[CanLII Connects](#) 

x ? 🔍 ✖ ? ?[All CanLII \(122\)](#)[Cases \(66\)](#) [Legislation \(41\)](#)[Commentary \(15\)](#)[My Documents](#)[All jurisdictions ▾](#)[By relevance ▾](#)[EN ▾](#)[= ▾](#)[□ ▾](#)[Browse myCanLII](#)[Save this query](#)[Set up alert feed](#)[Share this query](#)[Run a saved query](#)

1. [Royal Trust Company v. Baxter](#), 1931 CanLII 470 (AB CA)
Court of Appeal of Alberta — Alberta
1931-03-20 | 4 pages | cited by [12 documents](#)

[Wills and estates](#)

AI-generated

Wills — Holograph wills — The Wills Act, 1927, 1 CK 2 Edw. VII, c. 21, ss. 17, Wills Act, 1837

[...] or by some writing declaring an intention to revoke the same and executed in the manner in which a will is hereinbefore required to be executed or by the **burning, tearing or otherwise destroying** the same by the testator or by some person in his presence and by his direction with the intention of revoking the same." [...] The writing upon it of this word and its signature by the testator did not under the authorities constitute a "**burning, tearing or otherwise destroying**" of the codicil. And so if the testator before July 1, 1927, attempted by this method to revoke this codicil his attempt entirely failed. , The 1927 Wills Act of Alberta [...]



2. [Gallant Estate, Re](#), 1984 CanLII 3942 (NB KB)
Court of King's Bench of New Brunswick — New Brunswick
1984-11-15 | 7 pages | cited by [4 documents](#)

[Wills and estates](#)

AI-generated

Wills and estates — Wills — Revocation — Wills Act, R.S.N.B. 1973, c. W-9, ss. 15(d), 18(1).

[...] [9]Section 15 of the Wills Act reads as follows: "A will or part of a will is revoked only by (d) **burning, tearing or otherwise destroying** it by the testator or by some person in his presence and by his direction with the intention of revoking it." [...] "There was no '**burning, tearing or otherwise destroying**' of the will; an

[Quick Survey](#)

[X](#) [?](#)[All CanLII \(122\)](#)[Cases \(66\)](#)[Legislation \(41\)](#)[Commentary \(15\)](#)[My Documents](#)[All jurisdictions ▾](#)[By relevance ▾](#)[EN ▾](#)[= ▾](#)[□ ▾](#) Canada (Federal)

1

 British Columbia

4

 Alberta

12

 Saskatchewan

12

 Manitoba

4

 Ontario

8

 Quebec

1

 New Brunswick

6

 Nova Scotia

6

 Prince Edward Island

0

 Newfoundland and Labrador

3

 Yukon

0

 Northwest Territories

1

 Nunavut

0

 Include commentary

0

s query

[Set up alert feed](#)[Share this query](#)[Run a saved query](#)[▼](#)

931 CanLII 470 (AB CA)

alberta

[View 12 documents](#)AI-generated [\(i\)](#)

Wills Act, 1927, 1 CK 2 Edw. VII, c. 21, ss. 17, Wills Act, 1837

1

6 g an intention to revoke the same and executed in the manner in which a will is hereinbefore required to be executed .or by the
6 **destroying** the same by the testator .or by some. person in his presence and by his direction with the intention of revoking the
6 of this word and its signature by the testator did not under the authorities constitute a "**burning, tearing or otherwise destroying**"
0 or before July 1, 1927, attempted by this method to revoke this codicil his attempt entirely failed. , The 1927 Wills Act of Alberta [...]



6

6

6

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

[X](#) [?](#)[X](#)[?](#)[?](#)[All CanLII \(26\)](#)[Cases \(13\)](#)[Legislation \(13\)](#)[Commentary \(0\)](#)[My Documents](#)[Saskatchewan](#)[All courts and tribunals](#)

13

[Clear filters](#)[By relevance](#)[EN](#)[=](#)[□](#)[Browse myCanLII](#)[All courts](#)

13

[Share this query](#)[Run a saved query](#)[✓ Appeal courts](#)

2

1.

[Nec](#)[Cour](#)[198](#)[Th](#)[se](#)[\(v](#)[Labour](#)

0

[Privacy](#)

0

[Human rights](#)

0

[Discipline](#)

estator's intention to dispose of all assets differently. The
te.

AI-generated[Securities](#)

0

[Es](#)

lls, dated January 20, 1983, and March 20, 1983 — Whether the second will...

[Es](#)

*l's Act, R.S.S. 1978, c. W-14 — Revocation by subsequent will or writing executed i...
solicitor-client basis*

[Es](#)

[...] (d) by **burning, tearing or otherwise destroying** the will or part thereof by the testator, or by some person in his presence and by his direction, with the intention of revoking it." [...]

[Show more](#)

2.

[Wagenhoffer Estate, Re; Wagenhoffer v. Wagenhoffer Estate, 1983 CanLII 2334 \(SK SU\)](#)

Saskatchewan Surrogate Court — Saskatchewan

1983-03-04 | 8 pages | cited by 2 documents

The Court upheld the validity of a lost holograph will, rejecting claims of revocation and undue influence, and dismissed the application to probate

AI-generated[Quick Survey](#)

[X](#) [?](#)[Q](#) [X](#)[?](#)[?](#)[All CanLII \(26\)](#)[Cases \(2\)](#)[Legislation \(13\)](#)[Commentary \(0\)](#)[My Documents](#)[Saskatchewan](#) [▼](#)[Appeal courts](#) [▼](#)[Any date](#) [▼](#)[All subjects](#) [▼](#)[Clear filters](#)[By relevance](#) [▼](#)[EN](#) [▼](#)[▼](#)[▼](#)[Browse myCanLII](#)[Save this query](#)[Set up alert feed](#)[Share this query](#)[Run a saved query](#)

There is 1 decision from the Supreme Court of Canada that matches your search. [Add it to your results](#).

1.

[Fitzpatrick v Ollenberger](#), 2017 SKCA 24 (CanLII)

Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan — Saskatchewan

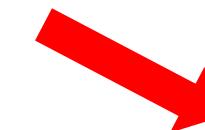
2017-03-21 | 24 pages | cited by [13 documents](#)

The Court upheld the trial judge's finding that the testator revoked his will through handwritten notes and presumed destruction, concluding he died intestate. The decision emphasized the testator's clear intent and the absence of palpable error in the trial judge's factual findings. Appeal dismissed.

AI-generated [\(i\)](#)[Appeal](#) [Wills and estates](#)

Estates and trusts — Revocation of wills — Handwritten communications — Testator's handwritten notes to lawyer expressing intent to revoke will — Whether handwritten...

Estates and trusts — Presumption of destruction animo revocandi — Missing will — Will last known to be in testator's possession — Whether trial judge erred in applying...



[...] (d) by **burning, tearing or otherwise destroying** the will or part of the will by the testator, or by some person in his or her presence and by his or her direction, with the intention of revoking it. [...] [49] Subsection 16 (d) of the Act also provides that a will is revoked "by **burning, tearing or otherwise destroying** the will or part of the will by the testator, or by some person in his or her presence and by his or her direction, with the intention of revoking it." Problems arise when the testator dies and the will cannot [...]

[Show more](#) [▼](#)[Upload](#) [Email](#) [Print](#)

2.

[Santiago v Trottier](#), 2016 SKCA 113 (CanLII)

Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan — Saskatchewan

2016-08-31 | 20 pages | cited by [3 documents](#)[Quick Survey](#)

EXACT(wills) AND EXACT(estates) AND ((destroy OR damage OR rip OR tear) /5 will)

X?

Case name, document title, file number, author or citation

?

Noteup/Discussion: cited case names, legislation titles, citations or dockets

?

All CanLII (98)

Cases (65)

Legislation (33)

Commentary (0)

My Documents

Saskatchewan ▾

All courts and tribunals ▾

Any date ▾

All subjects ▾

Clear filters

By relevance ▾

EN ▾

≡ ▾

□ ▾



Browse myCanLII

Save this query

Set up alert feed

Share this query

Run a saved query



There are 22 decisions from the Supreme Court of Canada that match your search. [Add them to your results.](#)

1.

[Kot v Kot](#), 2018 SKQB 338 (CanLII)

Court of King's Bench for Saskatchewan — Saskatchewan

2018-12-03 | 20 pages | cited by [2 documents](#)

The Court dismissed an application to revoke probate and challenge a will, finding no genuine issue for trial regarding alleged revocation or undue influence. The applicant's evidence was insufficient to rebut the presumption of validity, and the propounders successfully upheld the will's authenticity. Costs were awarded to the respondents.

AI-generated

Contracts Wills and estates

Estates and trusts — Revocation of probate — Intentional destruction of Will — Testator allegedly destroyed a copy of the Will believing it to be the original — Whether the...

Estates and trusts — Undue influence — Allegations of coercion in preparation and execution of Will — No evidence of unfair or improper conduct by beneficiaries —...

Civil procedure — Affidavits — Supplementary affidavits in interlocutory applications — Whether affidavits based on information and belief admissible — Rule 13-30 of Th...

[...] [4] Ronda asserts that the Will she presented for probate was not Sheridan's last will and testament, as he had revoked the Will by **destroying** it just prior to his death. Robin and Claire maintain that the Will is genuine and the last will and testament of their brother Sheridan. [...] Accordingly, it was an error to have dismissed the **wills** challenges on the basis of those doctrines. ... [117] The policy considerations which underlie the law of probate also augur against permitting estoppel to be used to bar challenges to the validity of **wills**. [...]

Show more ▾



2.

[Figley v Figley](#), 2018 SKQB 102 (CanLII)

Court of King's Bench for Saskatchewan — Saskatchewan

Quick Survey

EXACT(wills) AND EXACT(estates) AND (destroy OR rip OR damage OR tear) /5 will



Case name, document title, file number, author or citation



Noteup/Discussion: cited case names, legislation titles, citations or docket



All CanLII (29)

Cases (19) 

Legislation (10)

Commentary (0)

My Documents

Saskatchewan All courts and tribunals Any date All subjects 

Clear filters

By relevance EN  Browse myCanLII  Save this query Set up alert feed Share this query Run a saved query There are 6 decisions from the Supreme Court of Canada that match your search. [Add them to your results](#).1. [Flaman Estate, Re](#), 1997 CanLII 11042 (SK KB)

Court of King's Bench for Saskatchewan — Saskatchewan

1997-06-27 | 6 pages | cited by [7 documents](#)

The Court outlined the requirements for admitting a lost will to probate, emphasizing proof of execution and contents. It also clarified that administration of an unadministered estate should be completed by beneficiaries or their representatives, following established rules of priority.

AI-generated [Wills and estates](#)

Estates and trusts — *Lost or destroyed wills* — *Admission to probate* — *Presumption of revocation* — *Lost will not traced to testator's possession* — *Evidence required to...*

Estates and trusts — *Administration of estates* — *Death of administrator before completion of administration* — *Application for letters of administration de bonis non wit...*

[...] the **will** was either lost or **destroyed** when Cecilia was in Mutchmore Lodge or Santa Maria Nursing Home. [...] **destroy** or revoke or change his **will** after Cecilia was appointed committee. [...]

[Show more](#) 2. [Kot v Kot](#), 2018 SKQB 338 (CanLII)

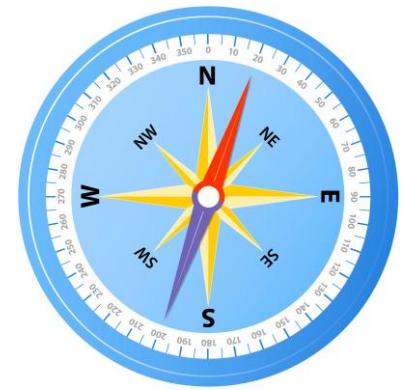
Court of King's Bench for Saskatchewan — Saskatchewan

2018-12-03 | 20 pages | cited by [2 documents](#)

The Court dismissed an application to revoke probate and challenge a will, finding no genuine issue for trial regarding alleged revocation or undue influence. The applicant's evidence was insufficient to rebut the presumption of validity, and the propounders successfully upheld the will's authenticity. Costs were

AI-generated [Quick Survey](#)

Our Iterative Research Trail



1. Scenario: A will was found in the testator's files, but it had been crumpled up and ripped into three pieces. Will the will be revoked?

2. Facts: will, rip, tear
Legal concepts: revocation

3. First search: wills AND estates AND (destroy OR rip OR damage OR tear)

Result: More than 40,000 cases and 2000 legislative documents

4. Refined search: EXACT(wills) AND EXACT(estates) AND (destroy OR damage OR rip OR tear)

Result: 33 Saskatchewan legislative documents

Result: Section 16 of *The Wills Act*, SS 1996, c 14.1

5. New search: "burning tearing or otherwise destroying"

Result: 13 Saskatchewan cases

Result: Two recent Court of Appeal decisions

6. Refined search: EXACT(wills) AND EXACT(estates) AND ((destroy OR damage OR rip OR tear) /5 will)

Result: 17 Saskatchewan cases

Small Group Scenario



Small Group Scenario

Your principal has asked you to research an important criminal law matter this afternoon:

- Two undercover police constables enter a Saskatoon bar where they believe drugs are being sold. They notice two young men (the accused and a friend) who look suspicious, approach them, and ask to buy some cocaine. The accused then sells them a small amount of powder cocaine. The next day, the constables arrest the accused (our client) and charge him with drug trafficking. Given that the police asked to buy drugs, is entrapment a viable defense?

For this scenario, your group's goal is to get started and explore the legal research process using both traditional searching and GenAI tools.

Small Group Scenario

Part One (First 20 minutes)

- Using CanLII, create a search query following the five-step search strategy (with Boolean operators).
- Find commentary and case law related to the scenario.
- Review and revise your query to improve relevance.

Part Two (Last 10 minutes)

- Using GenAI (Lexis+ Protege or Westlaw Edge CoCounsel), prompt the system using the scenario.
- Find commentary and case law, then compare these results with your CanLII search.

Small Group Scenario

Important:

- Complete Part 1 (the CanLII search) on your own before using any GenAI tools.
- This means you should first create your own Boolean search using the five-step search strategy and work through your initial results.
- Once you've finished that process, you can move on to Part 2, where you'll compare your results with what the GenAI tool produces.

Small Group Scenario

Select one group representative to report back on these questions:

Five-Step Search Strategy (CanLII)

- How did you begin?
- How did your search evolve?
- What challenges did you encounter
- What did you learn about refining or structuring a search?

GenAI

- How did the GenAI results compare with CanLII?
- What differences did you notice in accuracy, depth, or usefulness?
- If this were real research, how would you combine both methods for best results?

Small Group Scenario

Good Practices for Legal Research (Rm 150), 2:30 pm – 3:15 p

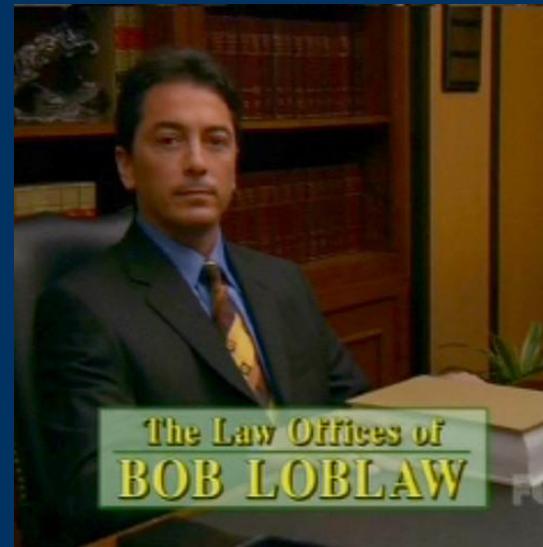
Break, 3:15 pm – 3:25 pm

Small Group Scenario (Small Groups), 3:25 pm – 3:55 pm

Break, 3:55 pm – 4:05 pm

Conclusion (Rm 150), 4:05 pm – 4:30 pm

Conclusion



Conclusion

Welcome back!

Five-Step Search Strategy (CanLII)

- How did you begin?
- How did your search evolve?
- What challenges did you encounter
- What did you learn about refining or structuring a search?

GenAI

- How did the GenAI results compare with CanLII?
- What differences did you notice in accuracy, depth, or usefulness?
- If this were real research, how would you combine both methods for best results?

Survey

Please complete this anonymous survey:
<https://forms.gle/X2R282grpT4fPcQn7>.



Thank You

Thank you.

Alan Kilpatrick, BA, MLIS

Co-Director, Legal Resources, Law Society (Regina)

alan.kilpatrick@lawsociety.sk.ca

Ken Fox, BSc, MLIS

Co-Director, Legal Resources, Law Society (Saskatoon)

ken.fox@lawsociety.sk.ca



Law Society of Saskatchewan

Avord Tower
1100 - 2002 Victoria Avenue Regina, SK S4P 0R7
Phone: 306-569-8242 | Fax: 306-352-2989