

INTRODUCTION

Inception The Nunavut Law Foundation (the “Foundation”) came into being on or about January 12, 2001 upon the transfer of the Nunavut share of capital assets of the Law Foundation of the Northwest Territories.

Authority The Foundation is established by and derives its authority from Part VII of the *Legal Professions Act*, RSNWT 1988, and c. L-2, (the “Act”) as amended for Nunavut pursuant to section 76.05 of the *Nunavut Act* (Canada).

Directors Pursuant to section 52 of the Act, the affairs of the Foundation are governed by a Board of Directors composed of four persons appointed by the Law Society of Nunavut (the “Society”) from among its members and one person who is not a member to be appointed by the Minister. Under the Act, the Directors have the authority to decide all aspects of its governance and are required annually to report on their activities to the Society.

The Directors of the Foundation at December 31, 2022:

Appointed by the Law Society:

**Sarah
Arngna’naaq**

Chair, Yellowknife
Since October 2020

Kyle DeYoung

Director, Halifax

**Eamonn
Carroll**

Director, Iqaluit

Eva Tache-Green

Director, Iqaluit

Appointed by the Minister:

Vacant

Director- Public Representative

Foundation Administrator:

**Nalini
Vaddapalli**

Auditors The auditors of the Foundation are EPR Yellowknife Accounting Professional Corporation, Chartered Professional Accountants, Yellowknife, NT.

Contact Persons interested in information about the affairs of the Foundation or about applying for a grant from the Foundation may direct enquiries as follows:

Nunavut Law Foundation

Att: Nalini Vaddapalli

P.O. Box 69 I

Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

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Fax: (867) 979-2333

e-mail: administrator@nulf.ca

MANDATE

The Nunavut Law Foundation was created through the *Consolidation of Legal Professions Act* (the “Act”). Through the Law Society of Nunavut (the “Society”), we collect and manage certain funds from lawyers practicing in Nunavut. We are mandated to advance several law-related objectives, as set out in the Act.

Pursuant to section 57(2) of the Act, all lawyers who are members of the Law Society are required to maintain an interest bearing trust account. Any interest earned on the monies held in trust are then supposed to be remitted to the Foundation. Unfortunately since the Foundation was established, there has been very little interest accruing from trust accounts actually held in Nunavut. As a necessary alternative, the Society collects a special levy from all members who are not required to maintain a trust account (i.e. government workers). The interest and capital from our fund are used for:

- I. Conducting and contributing to research into and recommending law reform and improving the administration of justice,
- II. Contributing to the establishment, maintenance and operation of law libraries,
- III. Contributing to the legal education and knowledge of members and of the people of Nunavut and providing programs and facilities for that purpose,
- IV. Awarding bursaries and scholarships for the study of law or related subjects, and
- V. Providing assistance to legal aid programs, restorative justice programs and programs of a similar nature.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors for the Nunavut Law Foundation is supposed to be comprised of five individuals. Four directors are appointed by the Executive from the membership of the Law Society of Nunavut and one member is appointed by the Minister of Justice from the general public. During the 2022 year, the Board had all four members from the Law Society however there was no member from the public. That appointment is expected to occur in the 2023 year.

My name is Sarah Arngna'naaq and I am the Chairperson of the Board of Directors. I was first appointed to the Board in the fall of 2018 and I have been the Chairperson since October 2020. Aside from awarding the regular awards and grants, the focus of my tenure as Chairperson has been securing an increase in our long-term, sustainable funding through the enforcement of section 57(2) of the *Legal Professions Act*. The Board is hopeful that with additional funds, we will be able to increase the Foundation's capacity to fulfill our mandate.

Lucien Ukaliannuk Awards for Law or Law-Related Studies

Lucien Ukaliannuk was a respected Inuit Elder, who passed away on September 29, 2007. Prior to his passing, Mr. Ukaliannuk worked as the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Advisor in the Government of Nunavut Department of Justice in Iqaluit. He was also the Inuit Law Instructor and Mentor to the Akitsiraq Law Students. The Foundation wishes to honour Lucien's memory with this award for deserving persons who undertake studies that further the objects of the Foundation.

The Board was pleased to award three Inuit recipients in 2022 and in early 2023, all recent graduates of the Nunavut Law Program. All applicants demonstrated financial need as well as a strong commitment to Nunavut. We wish them all well as they transition from law school to the practice of law. In addition, a long-time Nunavut resident completing a Bachelor of Arts in Law, Justice and Society, at Dalhousie University, was a well-deserved recipient.

Upinnaqtuq Awards

The Nunavut Law Foundation created the Upinnaqtuq Awards in 2011 to honour Madam Justice Beverley Browne. Justice Browne was first appointed to the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories in 1990 and was later appointed as the first Chief Justice for the Nunavut Court of Justice when Nunavut was created in 1999. The Upinnaqtuq Awards were created to celebrate her commitment to volunteerism in Nunavut's communities, commitment to social justice, and dedication to working with youth. Justice Browne passed away in March of 2021.

The Upinnaqtuq Awards were stalled during the COVID-19 pandemic, however the award process began again in the 2022 year. The Foundation was pleased to award ten deserving youth with this award in 2022. You can [learn more about the award and the recipients on our website](#).

Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts - Update

In 2021 the Board began a process to correct a long-standing error related to interest on lawyer trust accounts (“IOLTA”). Throughout the 2022 year we continued discussions both internally and with stakeholders in an effort to ensure a smooth transition to enforcement of subsection 57(2) of the *Legal Professions Act* in the beginning of the 2024 membership year. A remind of the change has been issued and there is an expectation that members of the Law Society of Nunavut who maintain a trust account will come into compliance with the subsection as required.

Other

Website: The Foundation is maintaining its website: www.nunavutlawfoundation.ca. If you would like an update on our work throughout the year, please visit the [updates and announcements](#) webpage.

Investments: Over the last year, we have monitored the investment performance. This year, the Foundation’s investments did not do well however this is consistent with the Canadian economy over the course of the year. We expect our investments to recover as the economy does in the 2023 year.

General Grant: We completed an update of the General Grant application and review process.

Revenue: The Foundation continues to be limited in its annual revenue. We operate using income from investments accruing from a single lump sum payment from the Law Society of the Northwest Territories at division and the annual levies that non-trust account bearing members pay. We are hopeful that after completing the process of enforcing section 57(2) of the *Legal Professions Act*, the Foundation’s annual revenue will increase. With an increase in revenue, we expect an increase in the Foundation’s capacity to fulfill its mandate.

Communications: We ensure continued communications with the Nunavut public through our website, posters, social media and general outreach. We thank every organization that help disseminate the Foundation’s various funding opportunities. The Foundation continues to demonstrate its commitment to the Official Languages of Nunavut by ensuring that our public communications and annual report are available in English, French and Inuktitut.

Mat’na.
Nakurmiik.
Qujannamiik.
Quana.
Merci.
Thank you.



Sarah Arngna’naaq
Chair, Nunavut Law Foundation

SUMMARY OF 2022 DISBURSEMENTS
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Awards and Grants	\$38,000
Administrative Costs	\$11,780
Professional Fees	\$9,496
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TOTAL	\$59,276