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NUNAVUMI MALIGALIUQTIT
NUNAVUT LAW FOUNDATION
LA FONDATION DU DROIT DU NUNAVUT

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending December 31, 2023

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

Victoria Perrie

Director, Winnipeg

Eamonn Carroll

**Director,
Whitehorse**

Eva Tache-Green

Director, Iqaluit

Appointed by the Minister:

Ruth Oyukuluk

**Director- Public Representative
Arctic Bay**

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

Tel: (867) 979-2330

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 subsection 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.

In addition, subsections 54(3) and (4) of the Act allow the Nunavut Law Foundation to incur administration costs and director expenses. They include professional fees for translation, communication and annual audit; and travel expenses to attend the annual meeting of the Association of Canadian Law Foundations.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Board of Directors

My name is Sarah Arngna'naaq and I am the Chairperson of the Board of Directors for the Nunavut Law Foundation. I was first appointed to the Board in the fall of 2018, and I have been the Chairperson since October 2020.

The Board of Directors for the Nunavut Law Foundation is 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 2023 year, the Board had all four members from the Law Society and a member of the public, Ruth Oyukuluk, was appointed in the fall. Ruth brings a thoughtful community perspective to our Board. A very warm welcome to Ruth.

During the 2023 year, we said a fond farewell to one of our long-standing Board members. Kyle DeYoung was an active member of our Board for six years. He spearheaded the transfer of our savings to an investment firm, securing long-term investment income for the Law Foundation. A big thank you to Kyle for his years of service. In Kyle's place, we welcomed Victoria Perrie to the Board. Victoria offers a strong dedication to furthering the best interests of Inuit. Welcome, Victoria!

Cy-Près Award

In the fall of 2023, the Nunavut Law Foundation was approached by the Law Foundation of British Columbia and offered a generous portion of a cy-près award they had been granted. Our Board of Directors was thrilled to accept, and we look forward to being able to increase our Foundation work with this additional funding. I would like to extend a big thank you to the Law Foundation of British Columbia for this very generous contribution to the Nunavut Law Foundation.

IOLTA Funding

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*. That is to say, the collection of interest on lawyers' trust accounts (IOLTA). The Board is hopeful that with additional funds, we will be able to increase the Foundation's capacity to fulfill our mandate.

During the 2023 year, we took concrete steps towards being able to collect this additional funding, though barriers continue to present themselves in this process. We are hopeful that we will have the IOLTA collection process finalized with each major bank in the 2024 year.

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 one Inuk recipient, a recent graduate of the Nunavut Law Program, with this award: Stephanie Tagalik Eccles. Ms. Eccles requested assistance with the bar admission course, and the Board was glad to assist. We wish her well as she begins her journey in the legal field.

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. You can [learn more about the award and past recipients on our website](#).

Over the last couple of years, the Foundation has increased advertisement for this award and this year we saw the results of that extra effort. We were thrilled to recognize 19 deserving young people from across Nunavut with this award. This was the largest group of recipients since the award's inception in 2013!

This year's recipients were:

- Alice Kilaodluk from Cambridge Bay
- Cynthia Kilabuk from Iqaluit
- Desiree Kalluk from Resolute Bay
- Eunice Kalluk from Resolute Bay
- Joanasie Aglak from Pond Inlet
- Josiah Kalluk from Resolute Bay
- Kallaarjuk Taukie from Kinngait
- Kaniq Allerton from Iqaluit
- Katsuaq Saila from Kinngait
- Kiana Ekpakohak from Cambridge Bay
- Kiana Laurer Kitigon from Cambridge Bay
- Kim Canlas from Iqaluit
- Kupaaq Kalluk from Resolute Bay
- Nathalie Lexus Dion from Rankin Inlet
- Samuel Kalluk from Resolute Bay
- Sandy Temela from Kimmirut
- Suki Hogaluk from Cambridge Bay
- Tanner Kalluk from Resolute Bay
- Tia Kilabuk from Iqaluit

General Grant

The Foundation has funding available under its general grant, where projects that fall within the Foundation's mandate can apply for financial support. This year, the Law Society of Nunavut sought and was granted \$10,000 to assist with the costs of running a successful Intensive Trial Advocacy Program held in Iqaluit in September.

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: As expected, our investments recovered from the negative performance in 2022. We continue to monitor the performance of our investments and work with our advisor to try and ensure the optimal returns on investment.

Communications: We ensure continued communications with the Nunavut public through our website, posters, social media and general outreach. We thank every organization that helps 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.

Ma'na.
Nakurmiik.
Qujannamiik.
Quana.
Merci.
Thank you.



Sarah Arngna'naaq
Chair, Nunavut Law Foundation

SUMMARY OF 2023 DISBURSEMENTS
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General Grant	\$10,000
Lucien Ukaliannuk Awards	\$9,522
Upinnaqtuq Awards	\$2,000
Administrative Costs	\$9,163
Professional Fees	\$11,163
TOTAL	\$41,848

Overview of financial performance

The 2023 year was an exciting time for the Nunavut Law Foundation. We had a significant increase in our assets from a generous contribution from the Law Foundation of British Columbia. The Nunavut Law Foundation has five years to spend that money. In anticipation of an increased internal capacity, both financial and administrative, we have increased spending on professional and administrative services. We expect to see the benefits of this increase in spending during the 2024 year, when we aim to hire an administrator who can dedicate him or herself directly to the Law Foundation's work.

With the stabilization of the Canadian market, we were able to realize a small revenue from our investments. This is a positive shift from the unrealized loss on investments during the 2022 year. We are hopeful that the 2024 year will continue to bring positive returns on our investments.

At year-end, the Law Foundation remained in a very good financial position with an overall year-end balance of \$545,183. We are looking forward to the coming years when this significant increase in our finances leads to an increase in our capacity to fulfill our mandate.