

## **Membership Guiding Questionnaire and Nunavut Trust Account Information Note**

### ***Background:***

The Law Society of Nunavut (LSN) is focused on streamlining its trust account requirements for Members in a manner that supports the needs of the jurisdiction and the Nunavut Law Foundation (NLF). This project will be ongoing throughout 2026, and Members will need to provide proof of compliance with their 2027 Membership Renewal.

With this in mind, we are providing Members with guiding questions to assist Members in understanding the requirement to open a Nunavut trust account, whether that account is opened physically in Nunavut or at a branch in their home jurisdiction.

### ***Guiding Questions:***

1. In your current practice, are you or your firm taking money in trust for clients in Nunavut?
2. Do you or your firm maintain a trust account remitting interest to a law foundation of another jurisdiction?
3. Do you or your firm have a Nunavut-specific trust account that remits interest to the NLF?
4. If the answer to question 1 is YES and if the answer to question 3 is NO, then you must take steps to come into compliance before the next membership renewal period in 2027.

### ***Important Note if you are banking with CIBC or with Scotia McLeod:***

Agreements between these institutions and the Nunavut Law Foundation must be finalized. If a member is experiencing challenges in regard to setting up their Nunavut Trust Account, kindly advise the LSN by contacting us at [info@lawsociety.nu.ca](mailto:info@lawsociety.nu.ca)

### ***Information on Trust Accounts in Nunavut:***

Section 57(2) of the *Legal Profession Act*, RSNWT (Nu) 1988, c L-2 (the *Act*) provides that trust accounts must be interest-bearing, and that interest earned on moneys held in trust must be remitted semi-annually to the Nunavut Law Foundation.

Members of the Law Society of Nunavut (LSN) who take monies in trust for Nunavut clients must maintain a Nunavut-specific trust account which remits interest earned on trust money to the NLF. Trust money for Nunavut clients cannot be held in a trust account that remits interest to a Law Foundation in a different jurisdiction.

Section 48(1) of the *Act* requires members maintaining trust accounts for Nunavut clients to deliver both certificates of the member and of either a chartered accountant or a certified general accountant to the Secretary of the LSN on a yearly basis. Expenses associated with preparation of a member's certificates as well as certificates from either a chartered accountant or certified general accountant are borne by the member.

### ***Additional Information***

For additional information, please see the following resources available on the LSN's website:

- The Information Note on the [Trust Account Levy](#); and,
- The Information Note on the [History on Trust Account Levy](#)