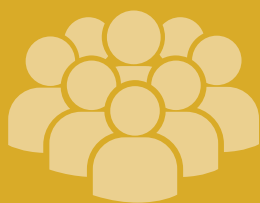




SUPPORTING LAW STUDENTS TO SERVE THE PUBLIC

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



**The Law
Foundation
of Ontario**

Advancing access to justice

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Message from the Board Chair



2016 was a dynamic year of outreach, grantmaking, and evaluation here at The Law Foundation of Ontario.

BUSY YEAR OF GRANTMAKING

Our national Access to Justice Fund (ATJF) had a very busy year. Three granting calls were in various stages of being processed. In 2016, we received 201 letters of intent and 100 full applications and we made 35 grants totalling \$2.8 million. Read more about the year’s ATJF activity on page 14.

All our other granting programs were active and busy as well. Including the \$27.9 million to Legal Aid Ontario, the ATJF, and all other granting, we invested over \$39.2 million in 2016 to advance access to justice.

EVALUATING OUR EFFORTS

One of our current strategic priorities is to better understand and communicate the impact of our funding. We established common quantitative measures for our grantees so we could better identify how many people are being served with our funding. We also developed a multi-year evaluation plan. We evaluated our Connecting Articling Fellowship program and are in the process of reviewing the Connecting Ottawa program. We also commissioned important research about frontline workers who provide community-based legal help. We will be sharing the results of our evaluations.

EVERY PENNY COUNTS

The Foundation’s primary source of revenue is the interest earned on lawyers’ and paralegals’ mixed trust accounts. It is important that every penny owed finds its way to the Foundation in order for us to continue our grantmaking. This is especially true in these times of record low interest rates. We depend on the cooperation of the legal professions and financial institutions to achieve this goal.

We worked closely with the Law Society of Upper Canada on improvements to the professions’ annual reporting process to ensure that the legal professions are reporting their mixed trust accounts, and we continued to meet with financial institutions to verify that all mixed trust accounts are recorded accurately.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHANGES

Paul Schabas resigned as Chair of the Board in 2016, and I had the honour of succeeding him in that position. Paul was, and is, an extraordinary champion of the Foundation and of access to justice. Paul served on the Foundation for nine years. He brought a serious and thoughtful approach to the Foundation’s work and was always focused on supporting and valuing the perspectives of our grantees.

Also in 2016, Christopher Clifford stepped down from the Board after three years of dedicated service. Two new Trustees joined us: Paul Le Vay and Isfahan Merali. Over his career, Paul has shown a deep commitment to improving access to justice for Franco-Ontarians and is past President of L'Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario (AJEFO). The first female South Asian Bencher in the Law Society's history, Isfahan has spent her legal career working to advance the rights of diverse groups and individuals who face barriers and challenges in society.

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE GRANTS

Writing this message gave me the opportunity to reflect on my first year as Chair. I spent many hours learning about the work of our grantees, meeting them in-person, and seeing them in action. For example, I met with the Ontario law Deans and visited law schools in Windsor and Thunder Bay. I talked to lawyers and law students at student legal aid clinics and to faculty who focus on improving justice for Indigenous peoples and self-represented litigants, among others.

My visit to Thunder Bay also allowed me to attend the opening ceremony of the Indigenous Peoples' Court and a celebratory dinner hosted by the Thunder Bay Indian Friendship Centre, a grantee, and the Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporation. This gave me a wonderful opportunity to see how the tremendous efforts of community organizations and justice partners, with a little help from a grant from us, can lead to innovative solutions that address pressing access to justice needs, such as the over-representation of Indigenous people within the criminal justice system.

For this annual report, we wanted to give you the opportunity to meet some of the people 'behind the grants' too. We chose one area of our granting to focus on, sharing some of what I learned and saw first-hand: how law schools and law students are serving the public and furthering access to justice.

Getting to know the people behind the grants has been a real gift to me. But more than that, I am convinced that the work they are doing to understand the issues and provide practical solutions is helping to advance access to justice for the people of Ontario.

Sincerely,



Linda Rothstein
Chair, The Law Foundation of Ontario

Granting highlights:

SUPPORTING LAW STUDENTS TO SERVE THE PUBLIC



The Law Foundation of Ontario envisions a justice system that puts people at its heart. In part, this means a system that understands and responds to the changing needs of the public and is made up of people who reflect the diversity and experiences of the people being served. One way the Foundation champions this vision is by supporting law students as they prepare to enter this system.

The Foundation was created under the *Law Society Act* in 1974. One of its four statutory objects is legal education. Legal education is a broad term. It encompasses: legal education and information for the public; training community-based workers to help them support their clients who are facing legal problems; educating young people about democracy and the justice system; and experiential learning opportunities for students.

Two significant ways the Foundation supports legal education is through our granting to Ontario's law schools and as the primary funder of Pro Bono Students Canada, which has chapters at every law school in the province. Since its inception, the Foundation has invested over \$80 million to support law schools and over \$7 million to support Pro Bono Students Canada.

Each year, the Foundation grants close to \$2 million in total to Ontario's eight law schools. This funding helps support the schools' efforts to:

- Offer experiential learning opportunities for students so they can provide legal assistance to individuals and community service organizations
- Foster diversity within the legal professions and advance the legal professions' understanding of diversity
- Respond to the access to justice needs of the local community
- Foster law students' commitment to lifelong learning, high ethical standards, pro bono work, and work that serves the public interest

Thanks in part to the Foundation's longstanding support, law students are advancing access to justice while in law school. Law students are getting on-the-ground experience serving the public and helping people use the law to improve their lives. Students gain an understanding of the legal issues that people in their community are facing and the public benefits from the knowledge and dedication of the students. The law schools and law students are important partners in realizing the Foundation's vision of putting people at the heart of justice.



HANDS-ON LEGAL EXPERIENCE HONES SKILLS AND SAFEGUARDS HOUSING



**Annie
Legate-Wolfe**

Western University,
Faculty of Law

Law school presents a whole new world of information and ways of thinking. Law students have a lot of knowledge and experience to gain. Yet, they also have a lot to give. One way they can do both is by getting involved with student legal clinics.

Law schools have legal clinics that provide legal help to people in the community. Through these clinics, students provide public legal information, advice, and representation, all supervised by lawyers. These clinics are supported by the law schools and Legal Aid Ontario, and the close to \$2 million in funding provided by The Law Foundation of Ontario to Ontario's eight law schools.

Many law schools also set up specialized clinics to respond to specific needs in their communities. For example, Queen's Law operates an Elder Law Clinic to provide tailored legal services for seniors in the Kingston area. Lakehead University's Bora Laskin Law School runs a satellite clinic to provide general legal help to people living in rural and remote areas outside of Thunder Bay.

At Western University in London, Western Law's Community Legal Services, in partnership with Pro Bono Students Canada and Community Law School (Sarnia-Lambton), created the Eviction Prevention Program (EPP) as a direct response to students and community members coming to them in desperate situations, often facing homelessness.

Since the EPP began in 2012, five to eight students have assisted about 20 tenants per year. Approximately 90% of these tenants are able to settle with the assistance of the students. Under the direction of clinic lawyers, the students help their clients to understand their legal rights,

negotiate with landlords, and provide representation at the Landlord and Tenant Board.

Using the law to help people uphold their rights is important to Annie Legate-Wolfe. Annie is a third year Western Law Juris Doctor student. She is also an EPP team leader and student supervisor at the clinic. In her role to date, Annie has successfully negotiated to have all of her EPP clients remain within their rentals, if they chose to do so.

"I feel a lot of satisfaction in knowing that people have been able to exercise their rights and they're not just faced with a piece of paper that says, 'You have to leave in 10 days' and so they do."

Annie explains there are many reasons a person may face eviction, such as late rent payments, too many people in a unit, or alleged criminal acts. Sometimes the reason is a lack of understanding between tenants and landlords. That was the case with one of Annie's files last summer.

"I had clients who were Deaf and they were refugees who didn't speak English. They would get the notices dropped off but they couldn't read them. They thought they were flyers. To talk to my client, I spoke to a sign language interpreter and the sign language interpreter talked to a Deaf interpreter because they're two different languages. I was able to show the landlord that they wanted to comply, they just didn't understand. It was a challenge, but it was so satisfying knowing I was able to prevent them from being evicted. At the end of it all, the client wrote me a card in English and it said, 'Thank you for helping me keep my home'. That was really rewarding."



PEER MENTORS BUILD CONNECTIONS AND CONFIDENCE



Scarlett Trazo

University of Ottawa,
Faculty of Common Law

Clients and justice are both better served when lawyers and paralegals represent the full spectrum of diversity within our society. It is especially important then that students from communities traditionally underrepresented within the legal professions are supported while at law school.

Ontario law schools have equity and academic success programs that are designed to do just this. They help students academically and personally, giving them the support and resources they need to overcome challenges and build networks.

The Law Foundation of Ontario provides a total of close to \$2 million in funding to Ontario's eight law schools each year. The law schools are able to use this funding to help support a variety of student success programs that foster diversity within the legal profession and advance the profession's understanding of diversity.

One example is the Peer Mentor Program offered by The University of Ottawa Faculty of Common Law through its Equity and Academic Success department. The program matches approximately 20 second and third year students with first year students. The support is offered in small groups and students can also reach out to their mentor for one-to-one help. The mentors provide practical and emotional support, helping the new students to navigate the social and academic world of law school.

For Scarlett Trazo, having a mentor was instrumental to her success at law school. Currently articling in Ottawa, Scarlett Trazo was in the French Common Law program at the University of Ottawa.

One of Scarlett's first-year academic tutors became an informal mentor to her (the school's formal mentorship program had not launched yet). He was always available to answer her questions and give her advice.

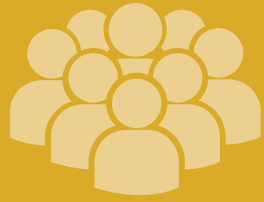
"I went to him for everything. If I had anxiety about an exam, I'd go and ask him questions. I had questions about recruitment and applying to firms. I'd get reassurance that everything was going to be okay. I realized that it was so important for me to have a go-to person."

Thankful for all the help she received, Scarlett wanted to pay it forward and decided to become a mentor in her final year of law school.

"I myself am a French-speaker and a Black woman and I've lived in so many different places in Canada. The program has been a way for me to reach out to other people and, because of my background, I feel that a lot of people are able to relate to me."

Scarlett is grateful she had someone she could count on and the students she mentored feel the same – a few attributing their success at law school to Scarlett's empathetic and practical support.

"As a mentor we try to not just focus on the academics but also try to get students to realize there's much more outside these four walls. I feel like students need somebody that's gone through something similar to their own situation or with a similar cultural background to relate to them and be able to absorb what they're saying. It's one way to encourage students and let them know there are so many different people out there in the legal profession."



MANY OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE NONPROFIT SECTOR TO FIGHT FOR JUSTICE



Surrounded by students, faculty, and staff from the University of Toronto's law faculty, Elder Bob Phillips performs a traditional smudge ceremony to begin the Blanket Exercise, an interactive session that walks participants through a representation of the experiences of Indigenous peoples in Canada



Amanda Carling

University of Toronto,
Faculty of Law

The law is diverse and spans all sectors of society. To serve the public's broad legal needs, it is important that law students are given the opportunity to understand and explore their many career options.

Law schools support this exploration by offering students practical work experience while still at school through legal clinics, pro bono projects, co-ops, internships, and summer jobs at nonprofit and government agencies. The Law Foundation of Ontario helps support these initiatives through its annual granting to law schools and Pro Bono Students Canada.

The Foundation encourages legal careers within the nonprofit justice sector through its Public Interest Articling Fellowship (PIAF). The Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations to allow them to hire articling students. The aim of the PIAF program is to help build the capacity of the nonprofit justice sector and to encourage more lawyers to practice within it. Since the program began 10 years ago, the Foundation has provided more than \$5.6 million in funding for 81 articling placements.

Some of the nonprofit organizations that have benefited from the PIAF include Amnesty International, Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, Canadian Civil Liberties Association, Innocence Canada, Peacebuilders, and Public Interest Advocacy Centre. Most host organizations would not be able to afford an articling student without Foundation funding.

Amanda Carling entered the University of Toronto's Faculty of Law convinced she was going to be a criminal lawyer championing the rights of Indigenous youth. Six years later, Amanda is living her passion of helping young

Indigenous people, just not in the way she originally expected. It was Amanda's PIAF at Innocence Canada (formerly known as the Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted or AIDWYC) that opened up a whole new world of career opportunities to her.

"I thought I would fight the good fight and help reduce Indigenous over-representation by working as a trial lawyer. I really didn't know about the advocacy work that nonprofits did. The PIAF opened my eyes to all the different ways I can try to effect the change that I went to law school to do. I think that opens a bunch of doors for people who want to do something that is about law and uses law but isn't your traditional defence lawyering, Crown prosecuting, or appeal work."

After articling, Amanda was able to secure a job at Innocence Canada working on wrongful conviction cases. She also initiated and ran the organization's first education program to help prevent wrongful convictions from happening in the first place, a program funded, in part, by the Foundation. This program focuses on justice sector professionals, such as court workers and police officers, and Indigenous peoples across Canada.

Coming full circle, Amanda recently became the manager of Indigenous Initiatives at her alma mater, a program that is funded in part by the Foundation's grant to the University of Toronto law school.

"As one individual working as a trial lawyer, I could only help so many people but if I can help get more Indigenous youth into law school and also help the school community with intercultural competency and anti-racism training, that too is bringing access to justice to Indigenous youth."

The Law Foundation of Ontario and Ontario's law schools:

PARTNERS IN ACCESS TO JUSTICE

The Law Foundation of Ontario provides funding to Ontario's law schools to help support a variety of access to justice initiatives. On the following pages, the Deans of Ontario's law schools share their thoughts about this access to justice partnership.

"With The Law Foundation of Ontario's funding, Lakehead Law students are able to engage in meaningful Aboriginal legal education activities such as learning on the land in the Fort William First Nation as part of the Sugar Bush teaching with community knowledge holders. As a law school, we hosted the Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School for a Law Day to introduce First Nation students from remote communities to the possibility of pursuing a career in the legal field.

Our law students received support for summer opportunities such as interning for the Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corp. assisting with reviewing court services and a third year law student who spent her summer as a Justice Intern at the Nokiiwin Tribal Council where she conducted legal workshops to communities, assisted in the development of a regional Access to Justice strategy, and drafted a proposal to implement the strategy to the Ministry of the Attorney General.

As a contributor to our Lakehead University Community Legal Services Clinic, the funding is instrumental in the work of our law students representing low-income clients, a majority of whom are Aboriginal, involved in a variety of legal matters from Landlord-Tenant Law to Provincial Offences. The clinic can be a beacon of hope for those without representation in a time of great need.

We are deeply grateful for the Foundation's support making these legal initiatives possible."

- **Angelique EagleWoman, Dean,**
Bora Laskin Faculty of Law, Lakehead University



"The Law Foundation of Ontario's generous support enables Osgoode to fulfill its mission to provide experiential legal education, accessible justice, and advance the public interest. In 2006, with a Foundation grant, Osgoode launched Canada's first Public Interest Requirement (OPIR) under which every JD student engages in at least 40 hours of legal related public interest placements. In 2012, Osgoode added to OPIR with the Praxicum, which ensures that all JD students participate in clinical and intensive programs that bring together innovative ideas in law with law in action.

From Parkdale Community Legal Services, a leading voice in the clinic system in Ontario for over 45 years, to CLASP, the Mediation Intensive Clinic, and Osgoode's newest clinical programs in Investor Protection with FAIR, and Feminist Legal Advocacy in collaboration with the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, the Foundation's support has made possible enduring community partnerships, outstanding opportunities for diverse law students, and better access to justice for those in need. The Foundation has been instrumental in other organizations that enrich Osgoode's academic community, from Law in Action within Schools (LAWS) to the Law Commission of Ontario. In all these (and other ways), The Law Foundation of Ontario has provided the spark and sustaining energy for Ontario's Law Schools to build progressive communities of learning while improving the communities around them."

- **Lorne Sossin, Dean and Professor,**
Osgoode Hall Law School, York University



"Thanks to funding from The Law Foundation of Ontario, a number of students had the opportunity to learn first-hand about the needs of the population in terms of access to justice and the financial and administrative barriers that people face on a daily basis.

As part of the Centre de justice de proximité de l'Outaouais, the students were also able to develop transferable skills by collaborating in the organization of a large event, le Salon Accès Justice, where the population had access to free legal information and in preparing 32 radio segments and 27 newspaper articles on legal issues. One student was involved with the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario in the improvement of a virtual library (Jurisource.ca), which lists thousands of legal resources concerning the practice of law and legal terminology, in order to fill the lack of legal tools adapted to the realities of French Common Law and English Civil Law. The research and census work completed by the student was an important contribution.

The Foundation's contribution helps to create awareness among law students around the many challenges facing access to justice while informing and helping people who truly need the support."

- **Céline Lévesque, Dean,**
Civil Law Section, University of Ottawa



“The funding provided by The Law Foundation of Ontario has played a crucial role in our ongoing expansion of experiential learning opportunities oriented to access to justice. Through courses and fellowships, our students have offered Free Law events at a local shopping mall, assisted street-involved people in defending against ‘nuisance’ ticketing, supported environmental justice seekers and international human rights advocates, and helped guide low-income community members, refugee claimants, individual tax-payers, small charities, and budding entrepreneurs through legal forms and processes. Students attest to the benefit of these courses in opening their eyes, shifting their perspectives, and deepening their knowledge and skills. But for these courses, the people served would have no legal help.

Beyond experiential learning, the Foundation’s funding also contributes to our efforts to foster diversity in the legal profession, which, in turn, can enable access to justice. The funding sustains a variety of academic, social/cultural, and professional development support programs aimed at ensuring the success of Indigenous students and others from groups and circumstances that are underrepresented in the legal profession. Many of these students go on to be legal assistance providers and leaders in their own communities.

We are proud of our students’ contributions to access to justice, at law school and beyond. And, we are profoundly grateful for the invaluable support of The Law Foundation of Ontario.”

**- François J Larocque, Interim Dean,
Common Law Section, University of Ottawa**



“At Queen’s Law, experiential education is a key part of our mandate, and we cannot overstate the value of the support provided by The Law Foundation of Ontario. With the Foundation’s help, the Queen’s Law Clinics provide a central resource for access to justice in Kingston and region, providing low-income residents with the legal help they need. The Clinics also provide a tremendous learning opportunity for our students, allowing them to get hands-on experience in a wide range of legal issues.

Along with advancing access to justice, it is also vital that our legal profession reflect the diverse society in which we live in. The Foundation’s support of our Education Equity program means that we can provide essential support services to all our students, including those from diverse backgrounds, thereby ensuring that all of our students are given an equal opportunity to thrive.”

**- Bill Flanagan, Dean,
Queen’s Law, Queen’s University**



“The Faculty of Law and The Law Foundation of Ontario share a commitment to access to justice, diversity, and experiential learning. Thanks in significant part to the Foundation’s generosity, we are able to offer our students a wonderful experiential opportunity with our well-developed clinical programs. As one example, Downtown Legal Services serves to both benefit the broader community by delivering much-needed legal assistance to low-income clients and provides our students with a hands-on learning opportunity.

The Foundation’s support also enables the Faculty to offer pipeline building programs that increase the diversity of the justice sector. One such program, Law in Action Within Schools, offers educational programs, support, and mentorship for marginalized high school students. It serves to expose young minds to the importance of law in structuring society and opens up the possibility of future legal studies to those who might not otherwise have regarded this as a realistic path to pursue.

With the release of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Final Report, our Faculty has placed increasing emphasis on Indigenous matters, including supporting our Indigenous students. The role of our Indigenous Initiatives Office, which receives significant funding from the Foundation, has expanded in response to the TRC’s Calls to Action. We are proud of what the Office has accomplished and what is planned for future years, and are very grateful for the Foundation’s support.”

**- Edward Iacobucci, Dean,
Faculty of Law, University of Toronto**



“The Law Foundation of Ontario’s support is critical to the legal clinics housed at Western Law. Not only do these clinics provide experiential education to our students, but more importantly, they teach our students the value of pro bono legal work and a spirit of community service. Western’s Community Legal Services Clinic and our chapter of Pro Bono Students Canada involve students in the provision of legal services to a range of community organizations and unrepresented parties. This is especially important in the fields of family law, eviction prevention, and small claims.

Our students also provide assistance to those with physical and mental disabilities, youth at risk, victims of domestic violence, and cultural organizations. This work brings students face-to-face with community members whose personal circumstances are vastly different than their own, helping them to develop the sense of empathy that is vital to our profession. Through the Foundation’s funding, Western Law is able to improve access to justice and other services within London and the surrounding community, and to ensure that the next generation of lawyers appreciate the serving nature of our profession.”

**- Erika Chamberlain, Dean,
Western Law, Western University**



“Access to Justice - or A2J - is one of Windsor Law’s two primary institutional themes. The Law Foundation of Ontario funding has been crucial in supporting our A2J outreach in Southwest Ontario and beyond. This outreach takes several forms, including coaching self-represented litigants through the National Self-Represented Litigants Project and establishing active partnerships with local First Nations in the wake of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s report. Our outreach allows us to assist vulnerable people in our community while, at the same time, providing quality experiential and clinical learning opportunities for students.



Windsor-Essex is a significant gateway for refugee and immigration clients to enter Canada and also hosts a significant population of migrant workers, a precarious and underserved group who often do not have access to provincially funded settlement services. Very tangibly, the Foundation allows one of our clinics, Legal Assistance of Windsor, to have a full-time immigration and refugee lawyer. We also use the Foundation support to hire student caseworkers during the summer at a sister clinic, Community Legal Aid. These students learn client-centred and community-based lawyering during the summer and then mentor their peers during the academic year. This multiplies the effects of the Foundation funding.”

- Christopher Waters, Dean,
Windsor Law, University of Windsor



Access to Justice Fund highlights:

THREE NEW GRANTING OPPORTUNITIES TO ADVANCE ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACROSS CANADA



The Law Foundation of Ontario’s Access to Justice Fund (ATJF) was very active in 2016. Throughout the year, it was receiving, assessing, and approving applications for three new granting opportunities. The funding aims to support areas of great need, including the distinct legal concerns of: children and youth; consumers; Indigenous peoples; investors; racialized groups; and refugees.

INVESTOR RIGHTS

Purpose

Better understand and protect vulnerable investors

Examples of funded projects

- Direct legal service for individual investors at a first-of-its-kind legal clinic located at Osgoode Hall law school
- Public legal education and information for seniors about their legal rights when it comes to investing
- Broad range of research to explore investor vulnerabilities, including research into disciplinary action by self-regulatory bodies and the experience of low-income families with group plan RESPs

**8 grants
approved
totalling
\$717,929**

**Call
completed**

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ LEGAL NEEDS

Purpose

Help address legal priorities identified by Indigenous communities, including interactions with the child protection and criminal justice systems

Examples of funded projects

- Support the implementation of an Indigenous peoples’ court in Thunder Bay
- Information and support for families of missing and murdered Indigenous people
- Public legal education about the criminal justice system delivered within 28 Anishinaabe communities in Northwestern Ontario
- Training frontline workers to support their clients when interacting with the police
- Indigenous peer support worker in Ottawa for Indigenous women released from custody

**As of
May 1, 2017,
16 grants
approved
totalling
\$1,433,764**

**Final funding
decisions in
process**

2016 CALL

Purpose

Help address the legal needs of or relating to: children and youth; consumers; public legal education, intake and referral; racialized groups; and refugees.

Examples of funded projects

- Pro bono legal services for the parents of sick children who are experiencing legal issues relating to the care of their children, such as unhealthy housing, immigration, and paid leave
- Design of a policy framework to support the establishment of an ombudsperson to oversee payday loan complaints, disputes, and violations and the creation of a user-friendly guide that outlines the rights of payday loan users in each province
- Online certification course for librarians about public legal information and referrals
- Educational information for those working within the criminal justice system about the causes and consequences of wrongful convictions, with a focus on the particular vulnerabilities of Indigenous and racialized populations
- An expanded Mock Refugee Hearing Program to help refugee claimants prepare for their hearings before the Immigration and Refugee Board

**As of
May 1, 2017,
38 grants
approved
totalling
\$3,149,812**

**Final funding
decisions in
process**



FITTING AND ACCOUNTABLE STEWARD OF CY-PRÈS AWARDS

The Law Foundation of Ontario created the unique and permanent ATJF after receiving its first cy-près award in 2009. Since then, the Foundation has been receiving and directing cy-près awards to fund access to justice initiatives across Canada. As of May 1, 2017, the ATJF had received 16 cy-près awards and funded more than \$20 million to support more than 185 grants.

Many courts have approved the Foundation as a fitting and accountable recipient of both fixed and residual cy-près awards given its: experience and expertise in grantmaking; broad access to justice mandate; and long history of prudent financial management. With additional cy-près awards, the ATJF can continue to develop funding calls and make grants in a variety of areas that aim to improve access to justice for the people of Canada.

Awards received as of May 1, 2017:

- *Cassano v Toronto Dominion Bank*, 2009 CanLII 35732 (ON SC)
- *Skopit v BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc* (8 November 2010), Essex County CV-10-15239 (ON SC)
- *Smith Estate v National Money Mart*, 2010 CanLII 1334 (ON SC)
- *Wein v Rogers Cable Communications Inc*, 2011 CanLII 7290 (ON SC)
- *Markson v MNBA*, 2012 CanLII 5891 (ON SC)
- *Carom v Bre-X Minerals Ltd*, 2014 CanLII 2507 (ON SC)
- *Krajewski v TNOW Entertainment Group* (February 2014)
- *Lee Valley Tools v Canada Post Corporation* (15 October 2014), Toronto 06-CV-320840 CP (ON SC)
- *Occhiuto v Agropur Cooperative and Natrel Ontario Inc* (15 August 2014), Toronto 05-CV-283533CP (ON SC)
- *Lawrence v Atlas Cold Storage Holdings Inc* (4 December 2014), Toronto 04-CV-263289CP (ON SC)
- *Mlinaric v North American Palladium Ltd* (16 September 2014), Windsor CV-11-16787 (ON SC)
- *Edwards v Swisher Hygiene Inc* (13 February 2015), Windsor CV-13-20282CP (ON SC)
- *Poole v PetroMagdalena Energy Corp* (26 October 2015), Windsor CV-11-16208 (ON SC)
- *Martin v Southwestern Resources Corp* (15 January 2015), Vancouver S075049 (BC SC)
- *Simmonds v Armtex Infrastructure Inc* (31 May 2016), Toronto CV-11-16465 (ON SC)
- *Carom v Bre-X Minerals Ltd* (20 April 2017), Toronto 97-GD-39574 (ON SC)

Legal coaching, youth and urban design, precarious immigration status, and Indigenous economic justice:

FOUR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP IN JUSTICE FELLOWSHIPS FOR FOUR EXCEPTIONAL NONPROFIT LEADERS

The Law Foundation of Ontario established the Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship in 2006 to provide a unique professional development opportunity for leaders in the nonprofit sector and to build bridges between the community and academia in the areas of law reform, legal advocacy, and the justice system. In 2016, the Foundation received a record number of high-quality applications. Fellowships were awarded to four extraordinary leaders.

NEW APPROACHES TO SERVING FAMILY LAW CLIENTS

Nikki Gershbain is the National Director of Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) and has extensive experience developing and overseeing programs that use law students and pro bono lawyers to provide legal services to people in need.



Ms Gershbain's fellowship is with the University of Windsor, Faculty of Law. There, she partnered with Dr. Julie Macfarlane, Distinguished University Professor and Director of the National Self-Represented Litigants Project (NSRLP). The NSRLP emerged out of a ground-breaking research study conducted by Dr. Macfarlane, and partially funded by The Law Foundation of Ontario, that documented the experiences of self-represented litigants in Canada.

As part of her Fellowship, Ms Gershbain researched and developed teaching tools for a new model of legal service delivery called legal coaching. She worked with legal institutions to refine and promote the coaching model as part of the profession's response to the increase in self-represented litigants. Her fellowship could have far-reaching consequences for how a new generation of lawyers interact with clients and approach the practice of law.

EFFECT OF URBAN ENVIRONMENTS ON ACCESS AND DIVERSITY WITHIN THE JUSTICE SECTOR

Sarah Pole is the Executive Director of Law in Action Within Schools (LAWS), a youth outreach partnership between the University of Toronto Faculty of Law and Osgoode Hall Law School. She has extensive experience in youth justice education and has focused in particular on youth facing personal and systemic barriers to success.



The theme of Ms Pole’s fellowship was urban inequity. Hosted by the Masters of Teaching Program at the University of Toronto, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), Ms Pole researched and built connections among the education, legal, and urban planning sectors to explore how our physical environments impact diverse youth, their education, and their ability to engage as citizens in issues that matter to them. Ms Pole also looked at the impact the built environment has on young people’s ability to consider and enter legal careers.

Ms Pole’s fellowship included the development of a community asset mapping project that incorporated a teaching unit linked to the Ontario curriculum; a tri-sector collaboration among legal, urban planning, and educational professionals to consider issues of access, inclusion, and participation; and a youth symposium.

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN RACE AND GENDER AND IMMIGRATION STATUS

Deepa Mattoo is the Legal Director at the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic. Ms Mattoo is an expert in violence against racialized women, refugee law, and the rights of non-status immigrant women.



In partnership with the University of Toronto, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, academics from the faculties of law and sociology, and the Rights of Non-Status Women Network, Ms Mattoo’s fellowship focused on the experiences of racialized women who become non-status immigrants or have precarious immigration status in Canada. She examined the relationships between race and gender and immigration status as they relate to immigration and refugee law.

Ms Mattoo’s fellowship involved an intersectional analysis of the relevant legislation and how the laws impact the delivery of services to immigrant women. As part of her fellowship, she delivered workshops to share client-centered best practices with law students, settlement workers, social work students, and lawyers.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Brenda Young is the Community Justice Director for the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation (COTTFN). Ms Young was a 2013 Indigenous Fellow at the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and is currently active in a number of community and legal organizations, including the Law Society of Upper Canada’s Equity Advisory Group and Legal Aid Ontario’s Aboriginal Issues Advisory Committee.



Hosted by Western University, Faculty of Law, Ms Young’s fellowship focused on the connection between international and domestic legal frameworks on the human right to economic justice for Indigenous peoples and how these can be translated and applied to achieve economic justice locally.

Ms Young’s fellowship included collaborative research that informed the development of a course, structured as a guideline curriculum, which she will co-teach at Western and will then share with other law schools and Indigenous communities. She led discussions with Western faculty and with members of the COTTFN and used these discussions to develop an Economic Justice Symposium. Ms Young’s fellowship will help advance the university’s response to Call to Action 28 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which discusses the role of law schools in increasing the understanding of Indigenous law, and it will help advance economic justice locally for the COTTFN.

2016 granting

ACCESS TO JUSTICE FUND

Aboriginal Legal Services

Access fasdjustice.ca \$89,250

Video to Assist Families of Murdered and Missing Indigenous People and Working Effectively with Indigenous Clients \$72,204

Action Committee on Access to Justice in Civil and Family Matters

Public Education about Access to Justice in Canada \$54,000

Brandon University

Aboriginal and Treaty Rights to Health in Prison \$61,330

British Columbia Law Institute, Canadian Centre for Elder Law Division

Investing with Supported Decision Making: Protecting the Rights of Vulnerable Investors \$100,000

Canadian Foundation for Advancement of Investor Rights (FAIR Canada)

Vulnerable Investor Protective Action and Legal Safe Harbour \$100,000

Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family

Limited Scope Retainer Assessment Project \$38,400

Child Protection Parent Education Program Committee

Child Protection Parent Education Project Phase 3 - Translation and Printing of Court Based Parent Information Booklet for First Nations Communities \$3,500

Community Legal Education Ontario

Legal Information Online Course for Library Staff \$40,600

Éducaloi

Your Money...for the Rest of Your Life! \$97,612

Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa

Indigenous Peer Support Worker \$110,000

Ending Violence Association of British Columbia

Increasing Access to Justice and Safety for Indigenous Women in British Columbia \$41,800

Fondation du Barreau du Quebec

Vulnerable investors and the enforcement of securities laws \$91,723

Fonds d'Aide¹	\$9,600
Grand Council Treaty #3 Kaakewaaseya Justice Education Program	\$200,000
Indian Youth Friendship Society Indigenous People's Court	\$74,664
Innocence Canada Indigenous and Other Racialized and Marginalized Peoples' Legal Needs	\$118,840
John Howard Society of Ontario Intersections at an Impasse: Improving Access to Reasonable and Timely Bail for Youth in Ontario	\$100,000
Level Dare to Dream	\$60,000
Matthew House Refugee Reception Services Mock Refugee Hearing Program	\$100,000
MIAG Centre for Diverse Women and Families Closing the Gap: Building Service Providers' Legal Capacity to Improve Access to Justice for Immigrants and Refugees	\$74,598
OCASI - Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants Building Capacity within Administrative Tribunals to Improve Access to Justice for Racialized Communities in Ontario	\$99,868
Osgoode Hall Law School Investor Protection Clinic and Living Lab	\$98,959
People's Law School Justice Theatre: Restorative Justice	\$125,000
Pro Bono Ontario Enhanced Intake, Triage, and Advice for Remote Clients	\$29,550
Public Legal Information Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Newfoundland and Labrador's Child Protection System: Legal Support for Indigenous Communities	\$93,100
Saqijjuq Saqijjuq - A Change in Wind Direction	\$60,000

¹ As directed by terms of cy-près award.

Small Investor Protection Association²	\$30,400
SEED Winnipeg Group RESP Research & Education Project	\$92,500
Social Health and Economic Development Society of Bella Coola Mid-Coast Indigenous Law Project	\$90,070
Union of Ontario Indians First Nation Access to Justice Toolkit	\$100,000
University of Alberta Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine Problem-solving Courts and Protective Factors in the Arctic: An Approach to Integrating Inuit Values and Canadian Criminal Courts to Improve Justice Outcomes for Young Inuit Males	\$100,000
University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section Refugee Sponsorship Support Program (SSP)	\$84,500
University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section Investor Rights and Corporate Misreporting: Strengthening Remedies	\$59,096
University of Toronto, Faculty of Law Investor Rights and Remedies in Canada	\$78,039
Total Access to Justice Fund	\$2,779,203

REGULAR GRANTING

Arab Canadian Lawyers Association Access to Justice and Arab Canadians in Ontario	\$15,000
Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario Law Day 2017	\$15,000
Between the Lines Initial Development Phase	\$15,000
Black Law Students' Association of Canada Annual Conference 2017	\$20,000
Canadian Civil Liberties Education Trust Program Activities 2017	\$221,100

² As directed by terms of cy-près award.

Canadian Families and Corrections Network	
Parole Information for the Incarcerated and their Families	\$24,350
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network	
Access to Supervised Consumption Sites: A Community Consultation to Remove Barriers to an Essential Health Service for People Who Use Drugs	\$15,000
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health	
Access to Justice, Procedural Justice, and Fairness in Ontario Review Board Hearings: A Qualitative Study and Therapeutic Jurisprudence Analysis	\$94,047
Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation	
Making Room, Creating Place: Arts-based Human Rights Legal Education for Sex Workers	\$15,000
Centre ontarien de prévention des agressions (COPA)	
Legal-Ease in Parenting	\$15,000
Communication Disabilities Access Canada	
Increasing access to justice for people who have speech and language disabilities	\$98,894
Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship	
Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic	\$50,000
Law in Action Within Schools	\$50,000
Pro Bono Students Canada	\$50,000
University of Toronto	\$15,000
University of Toronto, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work	\$15,000
University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law	\$50,000
University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law	\$15,000
University of Windsor, Faculty of Law	\$15,000
Community Legal Education Ontario	
CLEO’s Centre for Research and Innovation	\$95,000
Your Legal Rights 2016-2017	\$140,000
Conestoga College	
Ontario College Libraries: Access to QuickLaw for fourteen college libraries with Law Society accredited paralegal programs	\$100,000
Connecting Articling Fellowship 2018-2019	
Algoma Community Legal Clinic	\$60,000
Community Advocacy & Legal Centre	\$60,000
Keewaytinok Native Legal Services	\$60,000
Metro Toronto Chinese and Southeast Asian Legal Clinic	\$60,000
South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario	\$60,000
The Legal Clinic	\$60,000

Connecting Communities	
Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto Chapter	
Supporting the human rights of migrant sex workers in Toronto: access to legal services and justice	\$49,930
Gilbert Centre for Social and Support Services	
Navigating Human Rights and the Law for Transgender People in Simcoe Muskoka	\$33,100
Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporation	
On the Front Line: Legal Information Training for Frontline Workers Supporting Clients when Interacting with Police or the Legal System	\$38,450
Peel Multicultural Council	
Learning the Law: Legal information training for frontline community workers in Peel and surrounding areas	\$44,546
Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton	
The [Dis]placement Project: Supporting New Canadians Encountering Gentrification in Hamilton	\$50,000
South-East Grey Support Services	
Legal Education for Staff of Agencies Supporting Individuals with Disabilities in Rural Ontario	\$38,405
The Table Community Food Centre	
Sleep a Night Under My Roof	\$16,135
Connecting Legal Interpretation Services	
Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic	
Connecting Legal Services to Interpretation: Two Online Courses	\$27,769
FCJ Refugee Centre	
The Relearning Refugee Protection Program	\$50,000
Gillian’s Place	
Inclusive Access to Justice for Victims of Domestic Violence	\$3,500
Innocence Canada	
Program Activities January-June 2017	\$115,000
Lakehead University, Department of Women’s Studies	
Dementia and Human Rights	\$15,000
Domestic Violence: New Policing and Community Prevention Approaches	\$15,000
Law Commission of Ontario	
Program Activities 2016-17	\$621,752
Website Redevelopment/Research Papers	\$72,379

Law in Action Within Schools

Program Activities 2017-18	\$100,000
Summer Job Program 2017	\$15,000

Law School Comprehensive Grants 2017-2018

Lakehead University, Faculty of Law	\$153,000
Osgoode Hall Law School	\$306,000
Queen’s University, Faculty of Law	\$254,000
University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section	
(\$40,068 carried forward from Comprehensive Grant 2016-17)	\$193,068
University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section	\$306,000
University of Toronto, Faculty of Law	\$254,000
University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law	\$254,000
University of Windsor, Faculty of Law	\$254,000

Metropolitan Action Committee on Violence Against Women and Children

A Social Enterprise Innovation Venture: Campus Cultures of Consent E-Courses	\$40,000
Ontario Women’s Justice Network Revitalization	\$16,740
Program Activities 2016-17	\$293,575

Native Law Centre

Support for the Native Law Centre’s mandate	\$20,000
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Northwatch

Exploration: Determining Legal Education Needs of First Responders Dealing with Hazardous and Radioactive Substances	\$9,000
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Ontario Justice Education Network

Program Activities 2016-17	\$850,000
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Osgoode Hall Law School

Design Thinking and Technology: Responding to the Justice Needs of Aboriginal Youth	\$54,083
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Pro Bono Ontario

Program Activities 2017	\$800,000
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Pro Bono Students Canada

Program Activities 2016-17	\$541,396
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Public Interest Articling Fellowship 2017-18

Amnesty International Canada	\$69,500
Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic	\$69,500
Canadian Centre for International Justice	\$69,500
Canadian Civil Liberties Association	\$69,500
Innocence Canada	\$69,500
Peacebuilders International (Canada)	\$69,500
Public Interest Advocacy Centre	\$69,500

Regent Park Focus Youth Media Arts Centre

Youth and the Law Neighbourhood Expansion Initiative: A Community Media Training and Justice Education Strategic Collaboration Project	\$37,925
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Roy & Ria McMurtry Endowment Fund

Second Chance Scholarship Foundation Inc.	\$5,000
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Ryerson University

Disseminating Practice-Based Evidence on the Implementation of an Addictions Treatment Court	\$15,000
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Ryerson University, Legal Innovation Zone (LIZ)

Youth Access to Justice	\$50,000
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Scadding Court Community Centre

The Talk: Peer education to increase access to mental health supports for young people who are, or are at-risk of being, involved in the criminal justice system	\$74,486
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Shared Path Consultation Initiative

Planning Together: The Shared Path Consultation Initiative Legal and Educational Resources Development Project	\$15,000
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The Law Society of Upper Canada

The Action Group on Access to Justice (TAG)	\$160,000
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The Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History

Program Activities 2017	\$195,700
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The Women’s Centre of Halton

Women’s Centered Legal Clinic	\$12,969
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Youth Now Canada

Connections for Youth with FASD	\$60,000
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Total Regular Granting	\$8,520,799
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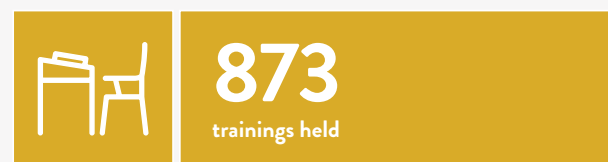
TOTAL 2016 GRANTING	\$11,300,002
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2016 granting in action

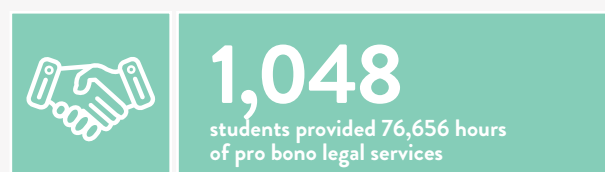
Public legal education and information



Justice education



Pro bono



Nonprofit justice sector



*As reported by grantees representing approximately 66% of the total grants funding awarded in 2016.

Class Proceedings Fund

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Class Proceedings Committee (the Committee) has been very busy, with the trend of hearing and funding more and more cases continuing in 2016.

We held 22 hearings and funded 17 new applications. The Class Proceedings Fund received levies of \$5,961,678 and paid cost awards in favour of defendants in the amount of \$528,767. The balance in the Fund at the end of 2016 was \$19,861,537.

These numbers are significant yet it is ultimately the contribution to our mandate that gives the greatest return. This year the Committee was especially active with cases concerning such diverse issues as prisoners' rights, privacy rights, employee overtime, and, at the other end of the spectrum, misrepresentations to the holders and purchasers of securities in the capital markets. Whether upholding basic rights and freedoms or the integrity of our capital markets, the Fund's support of cases in the public interest has the potential to fundamentally affect not only the lives of the class plaintiffs but every single member of the public by helping to achieve justice, accountability, and transparency in our society's institutions, both public and private.

The increasing number of applications requires our Committee to focus on monitoring our levels of disbursement funding, assessing the risk of costs exposure in unsuccessful outcomes as well as projecting levies from successful cases. This is a complex ongoing analysis, which the Committee examines at its meetings and more intensely at our retreat.

On a personal note, I would like to thank: the members of the Committee – Paul Evraire, Scott Hutchison, Jasminka Kalajdzic, and Kim Twohig; our Counsel, Gina Papageorgiou and Legal Assistant, Linda Patki; and the Committee's Secretary, Judy Mark. It is a great joy to work with such talented and astute people who, without exception, devote an enormous amount of time and hard work to the Committee's activities.

Finally, I would like to give a special acknowledgement to Jasminka Kalajdzic. After six years of dedicated service (including a monthly commute from Windsor for meetings), Jasminka stepped down from the Committee. We are grateful for the many ways that Jasminka served and advanced the Committee's work. Her commitment, hard work, and encyclopedic knowledge of class action law and procedure will be greatly missed.

Wendy J. Earle
Chair, Class Proceedings Committee



Class Proceedings Fund financial highlights

NEW APPLICATIONS HEARD AND APPROVED – 2007-2016

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Hearings held	3	12	13	9	22	12	13	20	17	22
New applications approved	2	9	12	7	15	7	7	11	12	17

2016 RESULTS

Statement of financial position

	For the period from Jan. 1, 2016 to Dec. 31, 2016	For the period from 1994 to Dec. 31, 2016
Opening balance	\$16,750,105	\$500,000
Total funding awarded	(3,144,373)	(20,593,328)
Funding repaid/cancelled	964,008	6,396,083
Administration costs/expenses	(504,308)	(4,052,700)
Interest received	363,194	2,985,988
10% levies received	5,961,678	44,565,772
Cost awards in favour of defendants	(528,767)	(9,940,278)
Balance as at Dec. 31, 2016	\$19,861,537	\$19,861,537

AS REQUIRED BY O.REG.771/92, S.13, WE REPORT AS FOLLOWS:

1. Number of new applications made, by stage in proceeding, at the time of application.

Stage in the proceeding	2016	2015
Pre-certification	19	16
Appeal re: certification		
Discovery	2	
Determination of common issues	1	1
Appeal re: common issues		
Post common issue stage		
Total	22	17

2. New applications granted and refused or pending/withdrawn, by stage in the proceeding, at the time of application.

Stage in the proceeding	Granted	Refused	Deferred/Pending*/ Stayed, etc.	Total
2015				
Pre-certification	11	4	1	16
Discovery				
Other (common issues)	1			1
Total	12	4	1	17
2016				
Pre-certification	14	3	2	19
Discovery	2			2
Other (common issues)	1			1
Total	17	3	2	22

*Carried forward to the next year.

3. In 2016, financial support was awarded for seventeen (17) new cases under section 59.3(1) of the Act¹ and further financial support was awarded for eight (8) cases, which had previously been approved, as a result of supplementary funding applications under section 59.3(5) of the Act. In 2015, financial support was awarded for twelve (12) new cases under section 59.3(1) of the Act and further financial support was awarded for seventeen (17) cases that had previously been approved, as a result of supplementary funding applications under section 59.3(5) of the Act.

4. Total awards, by disbursement type is \$3,144,373.

Type of disbursement	Total amount awarded 2016
Administrative expenses	\$ 548,966
Travel	224,343
Examiners' charges	165,692
Experts' fees	1,917,299
Notice to class	26,984
Other	261,089
Total	\$3,144,373

Under regulation 771/92, this section includes only amounts awarded during 2016. Total amounts paid out by the Class Proceedings Fund (CPF) during 2016 may vary as amounts awarded are reimbursed to applicants on an ongoing basis after funded disbursements have been duly incurred and paid by the applicant.

¹ References are to the Law Society Act.

5. The total amount of money paid from the CPF to applicants under section 59.3 of the Act: 2016, \$1,080,364; 2015, \$2,079,284. At December 31, 2016, the balance of all awards outstanding which had not yet been paid to applicants was \$4,479,767.

6. In 2016, 7 (seven) funded proceedings were certified. In 2015, 2 (two) funded proceedings were certified.

7. In 2016, 4 (four) applicants who had received financial support settled their proceedings such that the classes involved in these proceedings would receive or will receive a monetary payment, and summary judgement was obtained in another case. In 2015, 1 (one) applicant who had received financial support settled their proceedings such that the classes involved in these proceedings would receive or will receive a monetary payment.

8. In 2016, 2 (two) defendants made applications to the CPF for payment of costs awards made in their favour pursuant to section 59.4 of the Act; seven (7) applications were received in 2015. This results from the indemnification of plaintiffs against cost awards.

9. In 2016, \$528,767 was paid from the CPF to defendants under section 59.4 of the Act. In 2015, \$676,520 was paid from the CPF to defendants under section 59.4 of the Act. This results from the indemnification of plaintiffs against cost awards.



10. Proceedings for which plaintiff was awarded financial support under section 59.3 of the Act (these included both newly approved cases and previously approved cases for which supplementary funding was awarded during 2016).

	Administrative expenses	Travel expenses	Examiners' charges	Experts' fees	Notice to class	Other	Total
2016	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Consumer protection	48,413	22,742	12,700	-	1,000	-	84,855
Crown liability - general breach of duty	3,795	638			2,622		7,055
Crown liability - prisoners' rights	30,000	20,000	10,000	125,000			185,000
Employment	35,000	45,000	35,000	390,000	-	-	505,000
General negligence	26,463	8,317	53,992	11,353	362	5,634	106,121
Investments/Securities	153,150	75,050	27,000	1,061,750	-	91,360	1,408,310
Physician negligence	21,000	15,000	15,000	15,000		10,000	76,000
Product liability	12,000		3,000	185,000			200,000
Product liability - drugs						195	195
Product liability - medical products	5,645	96	-	52,196	-	153,900	211,837
Residential schools	213,500	37,500	9,000	77,000	23,000	-	360,000
Total	548,966	224,343	165,692	1,917,299	26,984	261,089	3,144,373
2015							
All cases	269,459	24,013	28,592	1,344,275	120,000	66,256	1,852,595

Class Proceedings Committee

The Class Proceedings Committee has five members, one appointed by each of The Law Foundation of Ontario and the Attorney General of Ontario, and three appointed jointly.



Wendy Earle, Chair
Advocate and Arbitrator



Paul J. Evraire, Q.C.
Special Counsel (Retired), Department of Justice



Scott C. Hutchison
Senior Partner, Henein, Hutchison LLP



Jasminka Kalajdzic
Associate Dean, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Windsor

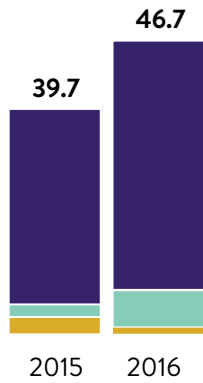


Kim Twohig
General Counsel (Retired), Ministry of the Attorney General

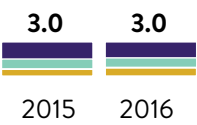
2016 financial highlights

CONSOLIDATED RESULTS (\$M)

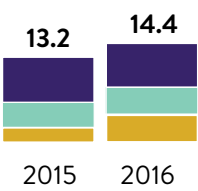
Revenues



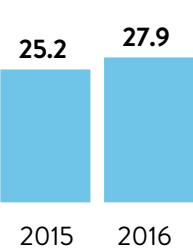
Expenses



Grants & awards authorized



Legal Aid Ontario



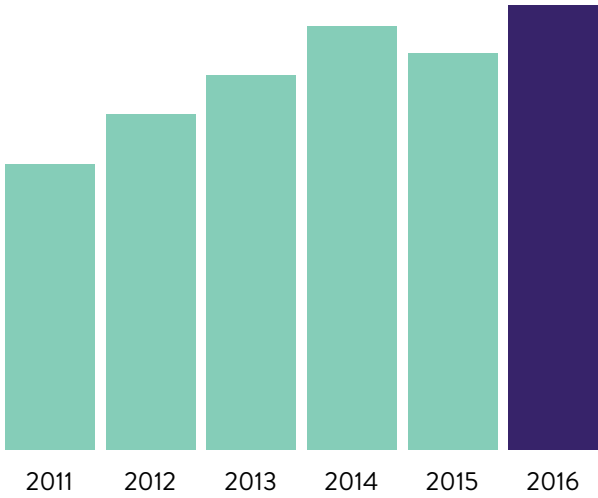
REVENUES

The Law Foundation of Ontario’s main source of revenue is interest earned on Ontario lawyers’ and paralegals’ mixed trust accounts. These mixed trust accounts hold funds in trust for more than one client. By law, all such interest is paid to the Foundation. Revenues increased in 2016 due to higher mixed trust account balances and back interest on accounts identified through lawyers’ and paralegals’ annual filing. The level of mixed trust account balances may vary and the prime rate continues to be near historic lows.

The Foundation periodically negotiates rates of return with all financial institutions that are authorized to hold mixed trust accounts for lawyers and paralegals. Some of these agreements are more favourable than others and the Foundation continues to seek improvements in all of them. To illustrate the importance of these negotiations, if the bank with the worst terms matched the bank with the best terms, the additional interest generated could fund close to 10 additional Public Interest Articling Fellowships, allowing nonprofit organizations to take on exponentially more legal cases and clients.

Interest revenues and rates

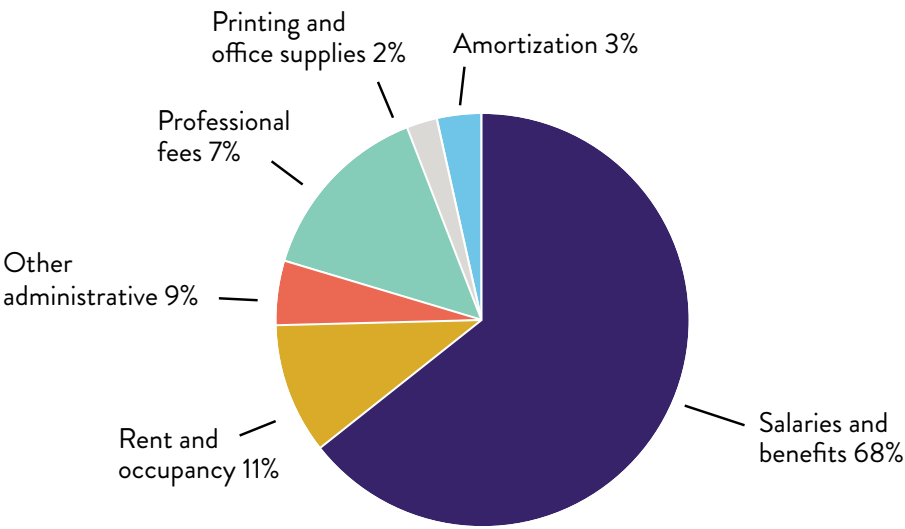
Mixed trust account interest (\$M)			Average prime interest rate (%)		
\$26.5	\$29.6	\$34.2	\$37.7	\$35.4	\$39.0
3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	2.78%	2.70%



The 2016 audited financial statements are available online at: lawfoundation.on.ca/who-we-are/annual-reports

EXPENDITURES

The Foundation continued to manage its expenses prudently to respond to needs in these difficult economic conditions. Operating expenses (excluding Class Proceedings Fund operating costs) were \$1.9 million or 1.0% lower in 2016. This follows an increase of 7.1% in 2015 and no change in 2014.



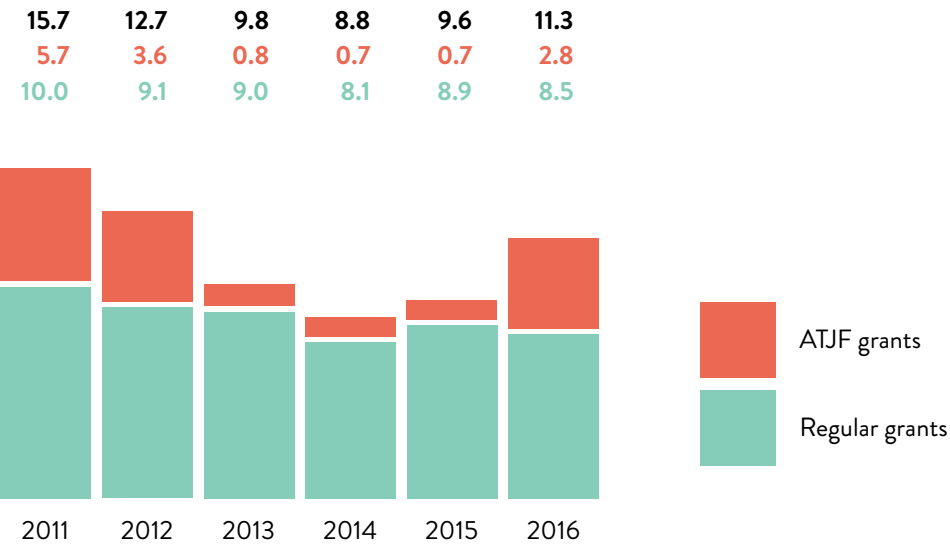
FUNDING TO LEGAL AID ONTARIO

Seventy-five per cent of mixed trust account revenue net of operating expenses is paid to Legal Aid Ontario. The Foundation’s contribution increased in 2016 to \$27.9 million compared to \$25.2 million in 2015.

GRANTS AUTHORIZED

With its remaining funds, the Foundation awards grants that support improved access to justice. Total grants authorized in 2016 were higher because of increased Access to Justice Fund granting.

Grants authorized (\$M)



Governance and staffing

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Law Foundation of Ontario is governed by a five-person voluntary board of trustees. Three trustees are appointed by the Law Society of Upper Canada and two by the Attorney General of Ontario. The Foundation submits its annual report to the Attorney General for tabling in the Legislative Assembly.



Linda R. Rothstein, Chair
Partner, Paliare Roland Rosenberg
Rothstein LLP



Ross F. Earnshaw
Partner, Gowling WLG



Paul Le Vay
Partner, Stockwoods LLP Barristers



Isfahan Merali
Counsel and Deputy Registrar, Ontario
Judicial Council



Stephen Rhodes
Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transportation

STAFF

Tanya Lee
Chief Executive Officer

Tracy Au
Office Assistant (on leave)

Aliyah Bhayani
Grants Officer

Monica Carreon Diez
Program Coordinator

Alida De Lorenzi
Grants Officer

Patricia Doherty
Program Coordinator (until September 2016)

Kathryn Hunter
Grants Officer

David Kinsman
Grants Officer

Marlene Law
Manager, Accounting and Administration

Judy Mark
Director, Strategic Finance and Administration

Kirsti Mathers McHenry
Director, Policy and Programs

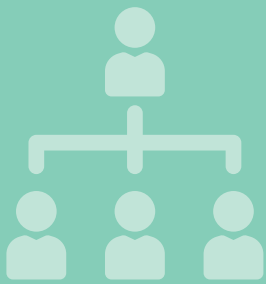
Maria Motakis
Executive Assistant to the CEO

Nathalie Noël
Communications Specialist

Gina Papageorgiou
Counsel, Class Proceedings Committee

Linda Patki
Legal Assistant, Class Proceedings Committee

Arta Tafaj
Senior Administrative Coordinator





Advancing access to justice

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