



## A) 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, c. L-2, 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 to be 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 Commissioner of Nunavut. 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, 2012 were:

**Appointed by the Law Society:**

**Thomas Druyan, Iqaluit - Chair**  
**Sandra Omik, Iqaluit**  
**Mandy Sammurtok, Iqaluit**  
**Cindy Kieu, Iqaluit**  
**Kenny Bell<sup>1</sup>**

**Appointed by the Commissioner:**

*Auditors* The auditors of the Foundation are MacKay, Landau, Chartered Accountants, Iqaluit.

*Administration* The administrator of the Foundation is Nalini Vaddapalli who is also the CEO of the Society. The Board meets regularly throughout the year and applications for grants are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

*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:

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<sup>1</sup> The report being presented at the Law Society of Nunavut 2012 AGM in May 2013, it is noted that Mr. Bell submitted his resignation in February 2013.

## *Mandate*

The Nunavut Law Foundation provides grants for the purpose of encouraging and supporting projects and initiatives that generally will serve to advance greater awareness of the law and promote greater access to justice in Nunavut.

Pursuant to section 57(2) of the Act all members of the Society are legally required to maintain an interest-bearing trust account in a bank which is to hold monies held in trust for clients related to legal transactions in this Territory and to instruct the bank to remit interest earned on such trust monies to the Foundation. However, since the Foundation was established there has only been one Nunavut practitioner who remitted interest accruing from a trust account.

As a necessary alternative the Society collects from all of its members a special levy which currently represents the source of the Foundations revenues.

The Foundation's legislated mandate is to use the interest and capital from its fund to:

- i) conduct research into and recommend reform of law and the administration of justice,
- ii) establish, maintain and operate law libraries,
- iii) contribute to the legal education and knowledge of members and of the people of Nunavut and provide programs and facilities for that purpose,
- iv) provide assistance to legal aid programs and programs of a similar nature, and
- v) assist all other endeavors that, in the opinion of the Board, are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objects.

## B) REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

It is my privilege to submit my first annual report as Chair of the Nunavut Law Foundation.

We awarded grants of almost \$10,000.00, while we received over \$25,000 in levies from the Society; our total assets now total approximately \$300,000. The audited financial statements for the fiscal year are set out in Part D of this Annual Report.

Several years ago, the Foundation decided to focus on investing in the future of this Territory by creating awards to assist Nunavummiut in furthering their education, and this continues to form the core of the Foundation's activities.

In 2007, the Foundation had established the *Lucien Ukaliannuk Award for Studies in Law*, which provides awards to students wishing to pursue law-related studies and who qualify on the basis of need and a commitment to Nunavut. One award of \$8000.00 was awarded in 2012. The Foundation spent this year finalizing Terms of Reference for the *Lucien Ukaliannuk Award for Studies in Law*.

The Foundation was pleased to award *Upinnaqtuq Awards* to four young Nunavummiut in the amount of \$500.00 each. These young individuals were nominated by principals, teachers or counselors in recognition of their commitment to leadership and peacemaking or their significant efforts at rehabilitation. Awards were given to students in communities throughout Nunavut.

The Foundation was also pleased to host the *Akitsiraq Law Society* "meet and greet" between students and resident members of the Nunavut Bar.

The Foundation recognizes that it must ensure a reserve fund and act with prudence in its approval of grants, scholarships and awards as its funds received from the members of the Law Society are Nunavut are limited. At the same time, the Foundation also recognizes that these funds are transferred to the Foundation for the above mentioned purposes and as defined in the *Legal Profession Act*. As such, the Foundation is actively pursuing a communications strategy to better inform potential candidates and organizations across Nunavut (or organizations with ties to the North) of our mandate and potential assistance to them. With this new strategy along with finalized Terms of Reference for the *Lucien Ukaliannuk Award for Studies in Law* the Foundation is optimistic that more Grants and Awards can be bestowed in future years.

### Financials in brief

At December 31, 2012:

- \$64,000 in General Operating Account
- \$255,000 in RBC Investment Account – The Board sought advice for strategic investment and will be working on a reserve fund policy during the next fiscal year

### Incoming expenditures

- Administrative Support - New Agreement since September 2012 : Compensation in the amount of \$250 per month to the Society in recognition of the administrative support provided to the Foundation by the Society's CEO who acts as the administrator for the Foundation

- Professional Development (PD) Annual Grant : The Board has approved a grant in the amount of \$5,000 to support such an activity in a community outside of Iqaluit where lawyers are providing legal services; the grant is tied to the Society's new PD mandatory policy that came into effect on January 31,2013
- Upinnaqtuq award \$500 per student and up to 5 students at most per year but could be reconsidered depending on the reserve fund policy
- Amount of up to \$500 reserved for the development of a social media strategy
- Approximately \$25,000 in grants/scholarships to support :
  - community initiatives ( for ex : projects that support access to public legal information )
  - internships and articles in NU and for post graduate students with ties to the North

Respectfully

Mandy Sammurtok  
Chair

C) *GRANTS MADE*

*Grants Made in 2013*

1.	<i>Lucien Ukaliannuk Award</i>	\$ 8,000.00
2.	<i>Upinnaktuq Award</i>	\$ 500.00
3.	<i>Upinnaktuq Award</i>	\$ 500.00
4.	<i>Upinnaktuq Award</i>	\$ 500.00
5.	<i>Upinnaktuq Award</i>	\$ 500.00
6.	<i>Akitsiraq Law Society – meet and greet</i>	\$ 367.50
	Total	<u>\$ 10,367.50</u>