

# **THE LAW FOUNDATION OF NUNAVUT GRANT POLICY**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Law Foundation of Nunavut was established pursuant to Part VII of the *Legal Profession Act* for the purpose of receiving interest which banks will pay on client's funds held by lawyers in mixed trust accounts.

The Law Foundation of Nunavut will manage and disburse funds in a manner consistent with Part VII of the *Legal Profession Act* and with the Grant Policy outlined within this document.

The Foundation is administered by a Board of Directors consisting of five members; four being members of the Law Society and appointed by the Executive of the Law Society and one who is not a member of the Law Society and who is appointed by the Commissioner.

The Directors will serve a term of two years.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The Law Foundation of Nunavut will use the funds collected for the following purposes:

- **Conducting research into and recommending reform of law and the administration of justice;**
- **Establishing, maintaining and operating law libraries;**
- **Contributing to the legal education and knowledge of members and the people of Nunavut and providing programs and facilities for that purpose;**
- **Providing assistance to legal aid programs and programs of a similar nature;**
- **Contributing to the Assurance Fund; and,**
- **Doing all other things that are, in the opinion of the Board, incidental or conducive to the attainment of this objects.**

### ELIGIBILITY

Priority will ordinarily be given to Applicants that have their head office or other facilities in Nunavut or who are resident within Nunavut.

Grant proposals for all projects fitting within the objectives of the Foundation are eligible for funding, with the following exceptions:

- Grant proposals to support commercial or private ventures will not be considered; and,
- Grant proposals for any project operated by the Governments of Nunavut or Canada, or any agency or department of these Governments, or for any project that, in the opinion of the Board, is ordinarily the responsibility of these Governments will not be considered.

### GRANT PROPOSALS

All grant proposals and allocation of funds will be considered by the Board of Directors at a meeting to be specified as a *Grant Meeting*, held in April of each year, or as soon as practicable thereafter.

The application deadline for grant proposals is March 31<sup>st</sup>. Applications will be in a form as established by the Foundation.

Extraordinary grant proposals may be considered at a regular Directors meeting, depending upon the availability of funds and the majority approval of the Board of Directors.

Grant funds will ordinarily be paid out on an annual basis. Any multi-year funding will be disbursed to an individual or organization under the strict understanding that future disbursements will continue only if funds are available to the Foundation.

### ASSESSMENT OF GRANT PROPOSALS

Grant applicants will be encouraged to obtain funding from other sources, and the willingness and ability of the applicant to pursue and obtain other sources of funding will be an important factor in the consideration of an application.

**The Board of Directors will use the following criteria to assess the merits of all grant proposals.**

- **To fund projects that will be beneficial to the general public of Nunavut;**
- **To fund projects that will improve the delivery of legal services to the residents of Nunavut;**
- **To fund projects that will provide training, education and services to lawyers who deal directly with the general public;**
- **To fund projects that will provide training, education and services to persons employed by Governments, or government agencies, whose duties and responsibilities are to provide legal services to the general public; and,**
- **To fund projects that will preserve the heritage and tradition of law in Nunavut;**
- **To fund projects that will promote the use of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in the development of law in Nunavut;**
- **To fund projects of historical significance to the development of law in Nunavut.**

#### **GRANT DISBURSEMENTS**

**The Foundation will not allocate grant funds to cover salaries, capital purchases, land or lease purchases, plant or equipment costs, within any grant proposal. The only exception to this policy will be the allocation of grant funds for the purchase of library materials and resources—including, but not limited to: books, computers, software, licenses, electronic databases, networking peripherals, multimedia devices and internet services.**

**The Foundation will not allocate grant funds to support commercial or private ventures.**

**The Foundation will not ordinarily allocate grant funds for any project operated by the Governments of Nunavut or Canada; or for any project that is ordinarily the responsibility of these Governments or any agency of these Governments.**

**Grant disbursements will be made upon the terms and conditions determined by the Foundation. All successful applicants will execute the necessary documents in the form and content provided by the Foundation. Failure to observe the terms and conditions of grant disbursements can result in the immediate cessation of disbursement and the repayment of disbursed funds to the Foundation.**

### **RESERVE FUND**

**The Foundation will maintain a reserve fund to ensure a continuing yield of investment income and to provide a source of funding for grant proposals.**

**The Board of Directors of the Foundation may encroach upon this reserve fund for the extraordinary funding of a grant proposal which the Board deems worthy and consistent with the objectives of the Foundation. Any encroachment on the reserve fund will be determined by a vote of the majority of the Board of Directors at a Director's meeting where advance notice of the encroachment have been given and all Directors are present.**

### **ADMINISTRATION**

**This policy was adopted on January 31<sup>st</sup> 2003 and may be changed or altered only by a vote of the majority of the Board of Directors at a Director's meeting where advance notice of the proposed changes or alterations have been given and all Directors are present.**

**This policy will supersede all previous policies regarding the disbursement of grant money.**