

An abstract graphic consisting of several overlapping, flowing, ribbon-like shapes in various shades of blue and white. The shapes curve and swirl across the page, creating a sense of movement and depth. They are layered in a way that some appear to be in front of others, with some edges being sharp and others soft and blended.

AnnualReport

2018 – 2019

LAW FOUNDATION
OF NOVA SCOTIA

ANNUAL REPORT

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LAW FOUNDATION OF NOVA SCOTIA

The Law Foundation of Nova Scotia was established in 1976 by amendment to the *Barristers and Solicitors Act* (now the *Legal Profession Act*, 2004, c. 28, s. 1.) Its central purpose is to receive and distribute interest earned on lawyers' pooled trust accounts in accordance with its mandate. It is the only foundation in Nova Scotia devoted solely to community law-related initiatives and legal education.

The objects of the Law Foundation are "to establish and maintain a fund to be used for the examination, research, revision and reform of and public access to the law, legal education, the administration of justice in the Province and other purposes incidental or conducive to or consequential upon the attainment of any such objects."

The Foundation is administered by a board of up to nine members. The Governor in Council appoints up to five members. The Nova Scotia Barristers' Society appoints four. Three members' appointments expired in September 2018, and three new appointees joined the board, keeping the complement to nine members of the board in 2018 – 2019.

*Board members whose appointments expired in September 2018 are denoted with an asterisk**

Appointed by the Governor in Council:

Paulette Anderson
Steve Graham*
Meg Green
George W. Hudson, TREASURER*
Valerie MacKenzie*
Kent Noseworthy
Tokunbo Omisade
M. Estelle Theriault, Q.C., VICE-CHAIR

Appointed by the Council of the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society:

Robert G. MacKeigan, Q.C., CHAIR
Margaret M. MacKenzie, SECRETARY
Dwight Rudderham, Q.C.
Douglas G. Ruck, Q.C., TREASURER

The Governor in Council appoints the chair from the members of the board, upon the joint recommendation of the Attorney General and the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society.

The board meets 3 – 4 times per year and reviews grant applications for the following fiscal year at its winter meeting. t

During 2018 – 2019, the Foundation employed two part-time staff members:

Mary D. Hamblin, Executive Director
Kathy Samson, Executive Assistant

Please visit nslawfd.ca for more information on the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia.

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

The Law Foundation of Nova Scotia acts as a conduit to help thousands of people across the Province of Nova Scotia achieve access to justice.

Pursuant to the *Legal Profession Act* financial institutions pay the Foundation interest accrued on lawyers' pooled trust accounts. These funds are in turn paid out as grants to support public access to the law, legal education, research and reform, and the administration of justice.

GRANTS

For the fiscal year April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020, the Foundation approved twenty-two grants totaling \$1,493,359. During the fiscal year April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019, twenty-two grants were approved totaling \$1,086,056. Increased grant capacity for the current fiscal year is due to higher prime interest rates.

The grants approved by the Foundation support valuable work in meeting the legal needs of individuals who face barriers to accessing justice and to fund projects targeted to address gaps identified by the 2017 *Grants Review and Future Directions Report*. This report assessed the value of current grants and aided in identifying new projects worthy of support should revenues improve. It is my hope that we will continue to sustain and grow the Foundation's grants program for years to come.

GRANTS REVIEW AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The 2017 *Grants Review and Future Directions Report* continues to fulfill its mandate to help the board evaluate the current distribution of funds and provide a roadmap for the future. It sets out specific barriers to access to justice and highlights certain populations' unmet needs to remedy legal vulnerabilities identified during the research. It provides a list of issues that includes:

- the prohibitive cost of legal services;
- rural inaccessibility;
- lack of cultural competency;
- the growing need for family law information;
- the plight of self-represented litigants, including their effect on the legal system;
- the need for pro bono and alternate dispute resolutions services.

Foundation grantees state the report has shed light on the critical aspects of their work toward improved access to justice. They have leveraged the findings of the report at community and board meetings, as well as in their research programs to raise awareness. The legal community, and the general public, also have an interest in improving access to justice in Nova Scotia. The Foundation will continue to respond to these calls for action, through its granting program.

"The Access to Justice & Law Reform Institute of Nova Scotia is deeply grateful for the support of the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia. Without the Foundation's support, we would have been unable to operate for 27 years as the Law Reform Commission of Nova Scotia, and we would not have been able to transition to the Access to Justice Institute. The Law Foundation consistently proves itself to be a strong champion for law reform and access to justice in Nova Scotia."

Ilana Luther, Executive Director, Access to Justice & Law Reform Institute of Nova Scotia

REVENUE AND GRANTS

Our capacity to support better access to justice for all Nova Scotians is driven largely by interest rates. Pursuant to the Legal Profession Act, financial institutions pay the Foundation interest accrued on lawyers' pooled trust accounts. These funds are in turn paid out as grants to support public access to the law, legal education, research and reform, and the administration of justice.

Interest is remitted in accordance with negotiated agreements between the Foundation and the financial institutions using formulas tied to the prime rate of interest. The prime rate of interest and balances in pooled trust accounts are crucial to the Foundation's yearly revenue. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019, the Foundation received \$2,523,686 in trust interest revenue, a welcome increase over the past two years: \$1,306,790 (2018), and, \$703,059 (2017).

A reserve fund is maintained by the Foundation to ensure sustainability of its grants mandate. Declining interest rates in past years have forced the Foundation to call upon the reserve to fund grants, but, the reserve is now being replenished to ensure a hedge against the potential for future challenging economic times, including reductions in interest rates.

TRUST INTEREST REVENUE TRACKING

The Foundation works with financial institutions and lawyers in an effort to ensure that the financial institutions are reporting on all lawyers' pooled trust accounts. The Nova Scotia Barristers' Society provides the Foundation with a list of the pooled trust accounts reported by lawyers and firms on Annual Trust Account Reports. This allows the Foundation to identify accounts which

have not been included in the remittance reports received from the financial institutions. Tracking of this nature began in earnest in 2014, resulting in recovery to date of \$219,492 in retroactive interest owing on trust accounts that had not been included on monthly remittance reports.

RECOGNITION OF THE BOARD, STAFF & TRUSTEES

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all board members and staff for their dedication and commitment in the work of the Foundation; in particular, those whose terms ended in September 2018: Steve Graham, George Hudson and Valerie MacKenzie. Their significant contributions will be missed.

In September, 2018, we welcomed three new members of the Board: Paulette Anderson, Meg Green and Tokunbo Omisade. I would like to thank them for their valuable contributions to date and look forward to their continuing assistance.

I also wish to express my appreciation and that of all board members for the work of the Foundation's Executive Director, Mary Hamblin and its Executive Assistant, Kathy Samson. Their assistance is so important to the success of the work of the Foundation.

I also wish to recognize and thank R. Camille Cameron, Dean, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University and Estelle Theriault, Vice-Chair of the Foundation for their work in acting with me as co-trustees of the Law Foundation Scholarship Fund.



Robert G. MacKeigan, Q.C. Chair

REVENUE

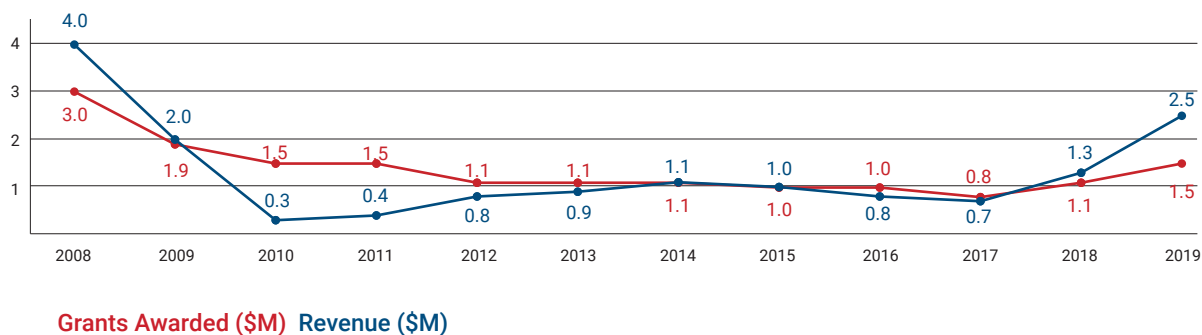
The Foundation’s main source of revenue is interest earned on lawyers’ pooled and Service Nova Scotia trust accounts in the province. Trust account revenue fluctuates with the balances in the trust accounts and with the prime rate of interest. Financial institutions remit interest based upon “prime – X” formulas negotiated with each law foundation in Canada; changes in the prime rate can produce dramatic results. The Foundation experienced highs and lows between 2008 and 2010, seeing trust account revenue top the \$4 million mark and then drop to \$331,560. Trust account revenue remained steady at about \$1 million for the next 3 years but that changed in 2015 – 2016. After holding the target for the overnight rate at 1 per cent for several years, the Bank of Canada reduced it unexpectedly to ¾ per cent in January 2015 and then again to ½ per cent in July.

Financial institutions followed by dropping their prime rates to 2.85 per cent and 2.7 per cent, resulting in a drop in the Foundation’s trust account revenue from \$1,054,754 in 2015 to \$766,388 for the year ending March 2016, then declining to \$703,059 for the year ending March 2017. In a turn-around, then, financial institutions followed the Bank of Canada’s three successive increases in the

overnight rate between July 2017 and January 2018 resulting in the prime rate jumping from 2.7 per cent, to 2.95 per cent, to 3.2 per cent, and, by March 31, 2018, to 3.45 per cent. Since then, revenues have continued to improve. In July of 2018, the prime rate increased to 3.7 per cent, followed by another increase in October to 3.95 per cent. The average prime rate in the fiscal year 2018-2019 was 3.7 per cent, with the range being 3.45 per cent to 3.95 per cent.

Historically, dramatic interest rate swings, coupled with different methods of calculating interest paid by financial institutions and higher or lower trust account balances, have produced interesting results. For instance, the prime rate peaked at 22.75 per cent in August 1981 but trust account revenue was under \$300,000. By 1993 – 1994, a different formula for calculating interest payments produced the same amount of trust account revenue with an average prime rate of 5.7 per cent. An average prime of 7.4 per cent in 2001 resulted in trust account revenue of \$1.9 million, whereas, an average rate of 6 per cent in 2008 yielded over \$4 million. More recently, in 2018-2019 the average prime rate of 3.7% resulted in trust account revenue of \$2,523,686.

TRUST ACCOUNT REVENUE & GRANTS | Fiscal Years Ending 2008 - 2019



RESERVE FUND MAINTAINS GRANT LEVELS

It was recognized early in the Foundation's history that a severe decline in the prime rate could severely reduce trust interest revenue and force the board to reduce or eliminate grants. To help protect against this risk, the Foundation established a prudent reserve fund in 1986 to be used to maintain grants in periods when low interest rates result in insufficient income to fund them. The Foundation has, in recent years, been forced to resort to making withdrawals from the reserve fund to maintain operations and to provide a consistent level of funding for the grantees.

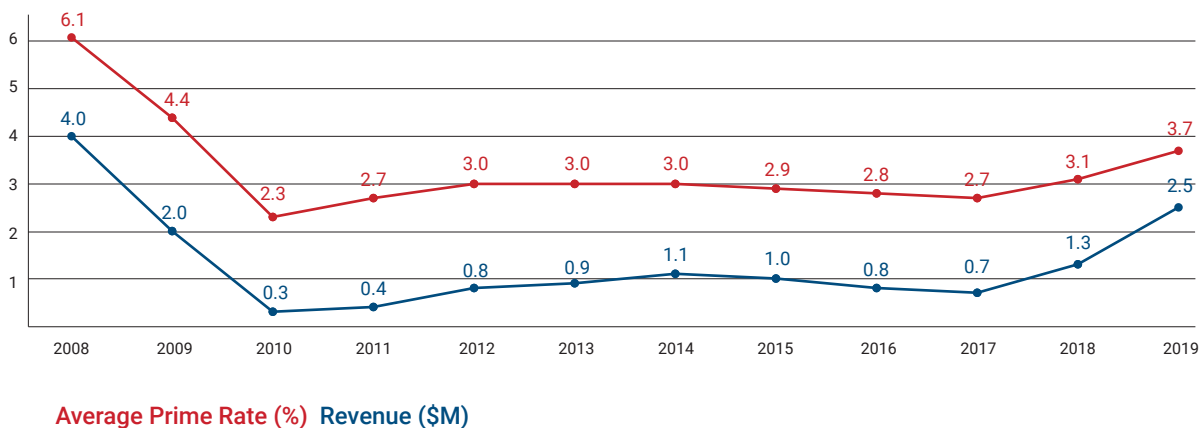
For example, although trust interest revenue dropped dramatically in 2010 due to the reduction in the prime rate of interest, the decision to maintain grant allocations at \$1.5 million, higher than the revenue stream, forced the Foundation to rely upon the reserve. Then, as revenues climbed slightly, the Foundation continued to provide grants equal to, or incrementally higher than, revenues, which meant that it often had to use reserve funds for administrative operations. The Foundation, then, decided to slightly reduce grants, hovering at the \$1.1 - \$1 million mark for several years. In 2015 the prime rate dropped further, which, ultimately, resulted in a reduction of most grants by 15% for 2017 – 2018, and an increasing draw upon the reserve. There were concerns that this may be unsustainable if revenues continued to flag.

The downward trend reversed when the prime rate increased in fiscal year 2017-2018 starting in July (from 2.7 to 2.95 per cent); then, September (to 3.2 percent); and, finally, in January when it climbed to 3.45 per cent, allowing the Foundation to increase grants for the 2018-2019 fiscal year to \$1,086,056, higher than the previous year's \$798,529 grants budget. Prime rate increases in 2018-2019 (to 3.7 percent in July and 3.95% in October) further allowed the Foundation to increase grant levels to \$1,493,359 in 2019-2020.

During the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018, the Foundation began the year relying upon transfers from the reserve, but ended the year with enough surplus to replenish at least that year's amount withdrawn. The positive trend has continued, and as of March 31, 2019, the reserve fund balance was \$4,418,751.

Since its creation in 1976, the Foundation has received approximately \$45.8 million in revenue from interest on lawyers' trust accounts, and has awarded over \$42.1 million in grants. These grants have made it possible for community organizations to help Nova Scotians understand the law and to use it to improve their lives while also promoting improvements in the law and excellence within the profession.

TRUST ACCOUNT REVENUE & PRIME RATES | Fiscal Years Ending 2008 - 2019



GRANTS

GRANTS TO BE DISBURSED IN 2019 – 2020

During the 2018 – 2019 fiscal year, the Foundation awarded grants totaling \$1,493,359 to be disbursed during 2019 – 2020. Grants are categorized according to the Foundation's four mandated objectives. Activities of many of the funded organizations fall under more than one of the objectives.

LAW FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Law Foundation established a trust fund in 1981 to provide scholarships to students attending the Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University. The fund supports scholarships valued at \$16,000 for students entering first year, renewable in second and third years provided the recipient maintains a B+ average. Fellowships at the graduate level are also available. The Law Foundation Scholarship Fund has provided \$4.13 million in scholarships to support 385 students during the past 38 years.

The 2018 – 2019 scholarships included three entrance and a total of four second and third-year scholarships. Two graduate fellowships valued at \$10,000, each, were also awarded. Scholarship payments for the year totalled \$132,000.

2018-2019 Law Foundation Scholarship recipients were:

Entering 1st Year: Laura Burlock, Madysen Gillespie, Natalie MacDougall

Entering 2nd Year: Sarah Dobson, Marc Lewis

Entering 3rd Year: Raylee Hunter, Jack MacDonald

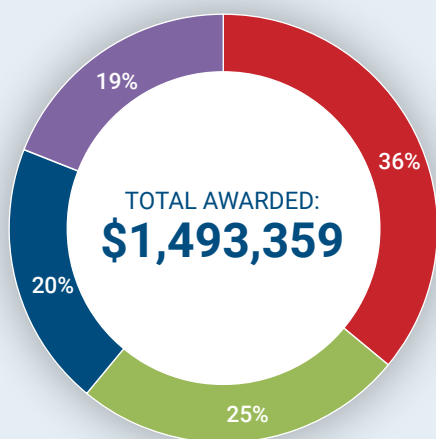
Graduate Fellowships: Sarah Greenwood, Michael Karanicolas

FUNDING GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The board strives to be accountable in the distribution of funds received by the Foundation. The board also endeavours to be transparent and consistent in its evaluation of applications. It takes into consideration where programs will operate and who will benefit from them, as well as whether they fit within the Foundation's mandate. Accountability extends to the careful assessment and consistent monitoring of programs that receive funding. Funding guidelines and grant application procedures may be obtained by contacting the executive director, and, or by visiting the Foundation's website at nslawfd.ca.

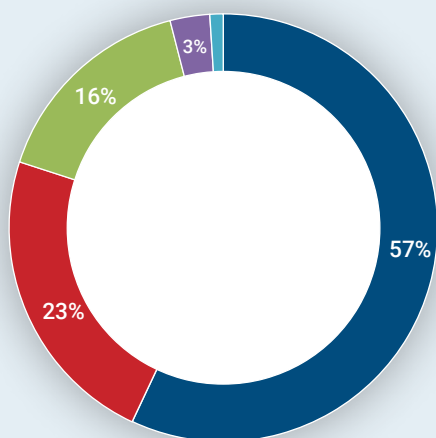
Editor's note: We wish also to recognize the following scholarship recipients who, due to error, were inadvertently left out of the 2016-2017 Annual Report. These are: *Undergraduates* - Grace MacCormick, Simon MacCormick, and Vinidhra Vaitheeswaran, and *Graduate Fellowship* – Akinwumi Ogunranti.

"The Justice Matters for Women program is a valued and much used service providing rural women with access to legal information, individual support, and advocacy. As the outreach worker, I support women as they identify barriers and navigate challenges. I work with them to create solutions that fit their circumstances. I assist women to navigate these issues by providing resources and accompaniment. This program is an essential service that works to mitigate the loss of government services in rural communities as the program supports rural women and adolescent girls in accessing information about their rights."



GRANTS AWARDED BY MANDATE

Public Access to Law:	\$542,340	36%
Legal Education:	\$370,828	25%
Research and Reform:	\$302,013	20%
Administration of Justice:	\$278,179	19%



GRANTS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Province Wide	\$847,777	57%
HRM	\$336,800	23%
Cape Breton	\$238,968	16%
Antigonish Pictou Guysborough	\$49,814	3%
King's County	\$20,000	1%

GRANTS TO BE DISBURSED IN 2019 – 2020:

Access to Justice and Law Reform Commission of Nova Scotia	\$150,000
Access to justice research and reform, review of provincial laws & recommendations for improvement, modernization and reform	
Antigonish Women's Resource Centre	\$49,814
Justice Matters for Women – Rural Outreach in Antigonish and Guysborough counties - a rural outreach program providing law-related information and support for women and adolescent girls in rural counties and the Strait area	
Avalon Sexual Assault Centre	\$45,660
Prevention, Intervention, and Awareness (PIA) Program - legal information and education, professional training workshops, support services and policy development aimed at improving the criminal justice process for victims of sexual violence	
Concilio Prison Ministry	\$45,000
St. Luke's Renewal Centre – for inmates at Springhill Institution and their families an innovative approach to re-integration of long-term offenders into the community as productive citizens, addressing issues of barriers to justice	
Coverdale Courtwork Services	\$50,625
Information and support for women in the criminal court process; counseling and support at parole hearings & pre-release planning	
Dalhousie Legal Aid	\$99,988
Legal services for marginalized populations; community development and law reform; an educational experience for 3rd year law students	
East Coast Environmental Association	\$55,000
Collaboration among students, academics & practitioners responding to environmental law issues; environmental legislation and policy review; environmental law education	
Elizabeth Fry Cape Breton	\$102,888
Support for women in prison; programs & services for women charged with offences or at risk in the community; law reform & community education	
Elizabeth Fry Mainland	\$62,000
Support Services for Vulnerable, Criminalized Women and Girls help women charged with offences or at risk in the community; law reform & community education	
EPIC Society	\$44,280
After school programs for youth in conflict with the law & support for parents; reduces recidivism amongst at-risk youth	
Halifax Refugee Clinic	\$129,600
A legal clinic to assist financially eligible refugee claimants before the Immigration & Refugee Board & in related matters	
Indigenous Blacks and Mi'kmaq (I B & M) Initiative	\$100,000
A legal education initiative to increase the representation of Indigenous Blacks & Mi'kmaq people in the legal profession	
King's County Seniors' Safety Program	\$20,000
A program to provide legal, safety & security information on an individual and group basis to seniors in King's County	

Leave Out Violence (LOVE)	\$15,000
Youth who have experienced violence are trained to be peer educators to deter and reduce violent behavior	
Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia (LISNS)	\$172,000
Programs providing Nova Scotians with immediate access to legal information & resources to increase access to justice	
Mainline Needle Exchange	\$30,504
A legal education program to reduce recidivism; help for drug users and service providers in court & correctional institutions	
Pro Bono Students Association	\$13,500
Law students volunteer their time to provide legal services to public interest community organizations	
reachAbility	\$22,832
Access to legal services & plain language information for persons with disabilities across Nova Scotia	
Stepping Stone	\$46,470
Court support & assistance for current or former sex trade workers; workshops for sex trade workers and the legal community; community education	
Project – Prison Law Advocacy	\$76,000
Legal navigator for women and girls in the criminal justice system, province wide; provides alternatives to incarceration, programs in correctional institutions and in the community, presentations, consultations; trains pro bono lawyers	
Project – African Nova Scotian Social Worker Pilot for Nova Scotia Legal Aid	\$89,398
Information, navigation, and bridge between the African Nova Scotian community and the legal system, innovative program designed to have sustainable aspects increasing organizational cultural competency	
Project – Social Justice Support Assistant (SJSA) Pilot for Nova Scotia Legal Aid	\$72,800
Support geared towards helping legal aid lawyers and other quasi-legal or front line workers to assist low income and vulnerable client populations; self-represented individuals; rural populations primarily in Cape Breton	

TOTAL GRANTS: \$1,493,359

"The Justice Matters for Women program is a response to the challenges and complexities that rural women experience in their lives. Because of the program, women are able to facilitate change, open up new opportunities, and gain dignity, respect and new knowledge. We are able to provide these programs and supports to rural women and girls through the generous support of the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia."

Wyanne Sandler, Executive Director, Antigonish Women's Resource Centre

LAW FOUNDATION GRANTEE STORIES & TESTIMONIALS

ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND LAW REFORM INSTITUTE OF NOVA SCOTIA

The Law Reform Commission of Nova Scotia has had a busy year this year transitioning to the new Access to Justice and Law Reform Institute of Nova Scotia. As per the recommendations of the Access to Justice Coordinating Committee, the Institute is focusing its mandate to address the access to justice crisis in Nova Scotia, including coordinating the #TalkJustice project. The Institute launched in January and is now located at the Schulich School of Law. We have been busy this year not only continuing our law reform mandate but undertaking concerted rural outreach and engaging the faculty and student body at the law school.

For more information go to lawreform.ns.ca



Jimmy Peterson and Ilana Luther at the new offices of the Access to Justice and Law Reform Institute of Nova Scotia, launched January 2019



Chief Justice Michael MacDonald addresses the audience at the launch of the new Access to Justice and Law Reform Institute of Nova Scotia offices at the Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, January 2019.

AVALON SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRE

"What a positive impact funding from the Law Foundation has had on Avalon's work! Funding from the Law Foundation has supported the Avalon Sexual Assault Centre in embarking on legal research and best policy practices, expanding our navigation program, and offering education and legal training to service providers and the wider community. Thank you!"

Dee Dooley, MA, Coordinator of Prevention, Intervention, and Awareness, Avalon Sexual Assault Centre

For more information go to avaloncentre.ca

ANTIGONISH WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE & SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Justice Matters for Women extends the services of the Antigonish Women's Resource Center and Sexual Assault Services Association (AWRCSASA) to adolescent girls and women living in rural communities of Antigonish and Guysborough County. We provide law-related information and resources to and support women and adolescent girls in making informed decisions. The Justice Matters for Women program is of particular importance to women of Guysborough County as only two lawyers practice law within this large geographical area. Some women have no choice but to seek legal services outside the county; this can be difficult as there is no public transportation service. One example is this story.

"The Justice Matters for Women program provided crucial support during a significant turning point for a young woman who had been assaulted and arrived at our center in distress. The immediate, compassionate, and confidential response of the outreach worker allowed for a survivor centered safety plan. The action plan resulted in this woman seeking further support during her involvement with the justice system. A positive outcome was the approval by the court for the outreach worker to be a testimonial aid for this woman during her testimony."

For more information go to awrcsasa.ca



CONCILIO PRISON MINISTRY

"With the generous support of the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia, Concilio Prison Ministry, through St. Luke's Renewal Centre, offers retreats and small group activities for inmates inside the CSC Springhill Institution. The home-like atmosphere of St. Luke's creates a safe place and space for inmates to experience healing, personal growth, and fosters a new vision for their life."

Clarence DeSchiffart, Board Chair, Concilio Prison Ministry

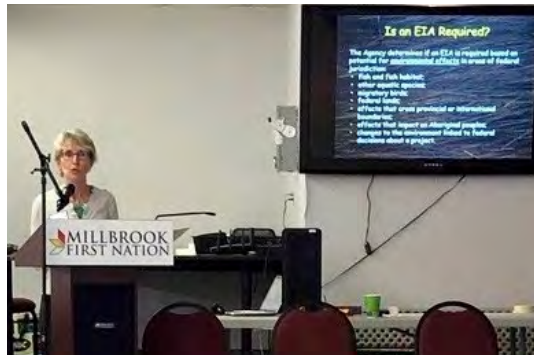


Coverdale provides a welcoming space at the Quinpool Centre for their clients to access support and services

COVERDALE COURTWORK SERVICES

Coverdale Courtwork Society provides support and services to women and girls who are involved in the criminal justice system in the HRM and surrounding areas. Through programming, prison visits, court accompaniment and resource navigation, Coverdale is able to work alongside women experiencing the impacts of marginalization, institutionalization, victimization and criminalization. Our over-all goal is to reduce risk factors, support incarcerated women and girls, foster successful prison to community transitions, work to break the legacy of crime and impact systemic barriers that marginalize women while promoting dignity, equality & opportunity. In 2018 we reached 564 women and girls navigating the criminal courts, supported 308 women and girls in the community in various capacities. We ran vital programs that saw 78 participants overall. The financial support that the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia provides truly strengthens our ability to offer community based solutions and supports to the women and girls in our communities. We extend a sincere 'thank you' to the Law Foundation for their commitment to furthering access to justice by supporting our mission.

For more information go to coverdale.ca



Lisa Mitchell, Executive Director, East Coast Environmental Law

EAST COAST ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

East Coast Environmental Law is an environmental law charity that encourages the development and fair application of innovative and effective environmental laws in Atlantic Canada through public legal education, community collaboration, and legal action.

On March 30, 2019, East Coast Environmental Law staff travelled to Millbrook, NS to participate in Flowing Together: Protecting Water & Communities From Mining Impacts in Nova Scotia, a day of collaboration among Mi'kmaq leaders, experts and settlers to share knowledge and strategies to address mining in Nova Scotia. East Coast Environmental Law's Executive Director, Lisa Mitchell, delivered a presentation on the opportunities and limitations of environmental impact assessment in relation to intervening in mining project proposals and mitigating long-term social and environmental effects.

For more information go to ecelaw.ca



Elizabeth Fry Society staff and clients at Holly House, their supportive transitional home for women in Dartmouth

ELIZABETH FRY MAINLAND

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Mainland Nova Scotia has three core priorities:

1. housing
2. programming
3. prison law advocacy, navigation and triage.

In 2018 – 2019 we partnered with Elizabeth Fry Cape Breton in a special project to reach out with a Prison Law Project.

Some news from the work of the Prison Legal Advocate project in 2018-2019:

"This past year we have held nine prison law training sessions in Yarmouth, Truro, Sydney and Halifax. These workshops were focused on the following topics: prison law 101, institutional charges, parole advocacy and habeas corpus law. As a result of these trainings we have a roster of over 100 lawyers and community advocates who want to provide us with pro bono prison law support!"

For more information go to efrymns.ca

ELIZABETH FRY CAPE BRETON

"Funding from the Law Foundation has provided the Elizabeth Fry Society of Cape Breton the financial stability to assist criminalized women island-wide in specialized courts, and to offer programming and support. Such access to justice work contributes to increasing collaboration between advocates, lawyers, and criminalized women. This work, then, leads to alternatives to incarceration, better referrals to services, and improvements in housing. Thank you."

Darlene MacEachern, Executive Director & Julie Kendall, Associate Executive Director, Elizabeth Fry Society of Cape Breton

For more information go to efrycb.com

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS INNOVATIONS CHARITY (EPIC) SOCIETY

EXAMPLE OF IMPACT

"Three months ago, EPIC received a referral for a youth removed from school for violent behaviours. A mental health and school roundtable had determined that the youth should attend an alternate program 2 hours/week with no student contact. One mental health clinician who knew EPIC well pleaded with the group to let him try Youth Peer. The group relented, but with strong objections and warnings. From his first day, this boy was welcomed to Youth Peer without judgment or fear. He stayed with his matched youth volunteer, participated in tutoring, and stayed for a guitar lesson. He has now attended more hours in Youth Peer than he is allowed in school. Despite having a risk profile as high as any we've seen, this youth is engaged in the process of learning and socializing appropriately. He is still a challenging kid, but he is a drastically different person in this nourishing environment. He recently told his volunteer that Youth Peer is the only place he feels safe. We know that he also feels accepted, supported, and understood, and that this enables him to get along with staff and participate adaptively with other youth."

Barry Waldman, volunteer Executive Director,
Educational Programs Innovations (EPIC)

For more information go to epiccharity.com



EPIC Youth Peer youth-volunteer guitar instruction mentoring

INDIGENOUS BLACKS AND MI'KMAQ INITIATIVE (IB&M)

An initiative to increase the representation of Indigenous Blacks & Mi'kmaq people in the legal profession, the IB&M Initiative has had a successful year.

"The Law Foundation's ongoing support of the Indigenous Blacks & Mi'kmaq (IB&M) Initiative has helped to enable African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaq students to access legal education and become leaders in the legal profession - working with and on behalf of their respective communities. As we move into our 30th Anniversary year, we say 'thank you!' to the Law Foundation for 30 years of partnership and support of the IB&M Initiative."

www.dal.ca/faculty/law/indigenous-blacks-mi-kmaq-initiative.html

*Prof. Michelle Y. Williams, BSW, LLB, LLM, Director,
Indigenous Blacks & Mi'kmaq Initiative,
Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University*

For more information go to dal.ca › [Schulich School of Law](http://dal.ca)

LEAVE OUT VIOLENCE (LOVE)

At LOVE, youth who have experienced violence are trained to become educators about the root causes, effects & alternatives to violent behavior.

"Support from the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia has been highly valuable to LOVE Nova Scotia's programs over the years. Currently, the Foundation supports LOVE's Succeed & Proceed Program, which equips youth with the employment and life skills, support, and resources to succeed in their lives, and also provides them with 24/7 on-call support. We are thankful for the Foundation's ongoing belief in our work."

Jaime Forsythe, Fund Development Manager and Youth Worker, Leave Out Violence (LOVE)

For more information go to novascotia.leaveoutviolence.org

KINGS COUNTY SENIORS SAFETY SOCIETY

"The support of the law foundation has funded the Kings County Seniors' Safety Society's Program Coordinator in the promotion and enhancement of the safety, security and well-being of seniors in Kings County. The program provides informative and educational material of interest to seniors, including information related to potential seniors' abuse, fraud and scams. The Coordinator also provides information regarding the importance of such legal instruments as personal directives, powers of attorney, and wills. Being informed ensures that Kings County seniors may better avoid victimization and thrive within the community in a more secure and comfortable environment.

Here is one example: The Coordinator organized a Fraud Chat in Berwick with the local Community Policing Officer. It had a really well attended group of seniors (100 attendees) from the area. The following comment is provided by the Berwick CAO following the event.

'Wow, what a turnout! Well done and thank you for the work you do in our community.' "

*Daisy J. Dwyer, Board President,
Kings County Seniors' Safety Society*



Program Coordinator Michelle Parker speaking to the audience at Fraud Chat in Berwick

On March 14th 2019 the Kings County Seniors' Safety Society organized a Fraud Chat in Berwick with more than 100 seniors in attendance. A presentation on Frauds/Scams, Cyber Crime and Identity Theft was delivered by the Program Coordinator Michelle Parker in partnership with Kings District RCMP Community Policing officer Cst. K. Gaudet. A display table with information was made available by the Competition Bureau, Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, Kings County Seniors' Safety Society (including free RFID card protectors) and the local police. Participants were able to ask questions and share stories following the presentation over coffee and refreshments.

For more information go to kingsseniorsafety.com



THE HALIFAX REFUGEE CLINIC

The Halifax Refugee Clinic hosted a refugee/immigration law workshop on Thursday, April 18, 2019. This workshop was about the Refugee Appeal Division and was geared towards legal counsel with general knowledge of refugee and immigration law.

This was the last of a five-part series of workshops on key areas of immigration and refugee law held as part of the Halifax Refugee Clinic Legal Training and Capacity Building program, made possible through generous project funding from the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia.

For more information go to halifaxrefugeeclinic.org

LEGAL INFORMATION SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA (LISNS)

"The support provided by the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia to the Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia ensures that Nova Scotians receive high quality legal information, when they need it, and in the manner they need it. The Foundation's support is critical to LISNS delivering access to justice on a daily basis to the many Nova Scotians who contact us through our telephone helpline, e-mail, livechat and website, in addition to our award winning public navigator programs. The support provided by the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia reflects the value of the importance of services such as those provided by LISNS, services which improve the chances that every Nova Scotian may have the confidence and skills to spot, prevent, and solve legal problems; and, that every Nova Scotian may have access to legal help and justice when they need it, and in the form that may best address their needs."

*Heather de Berdt Romilly, B.Comm., LL.B., LL.M.
Executive Director, Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia*

For more information go to legalinfo.org.



LISNS receiving the 2018 Access to Justice Award – CBA-NS – helping communities navigate the legal system through trained volunteers in recognition of digital innovation through our free apps and public navigators helping people navigate the legal system and accessing legal information to help them solve their issues.



The Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia (LISNS) was honoured to be the co-recipient with McInnes Cooper of the 2018 IWK Board of Directors' Award for Community Excellence, for our collaborative work on the IWK Family Legal Health Program. Left to right: Jen Feron, IWK In-house counsel; Melanie Comstock, Partner, McInnes Cooper; Dr. Krista Jangaard, Interim President and CEO of the IWK Health Centre; Wendy Turner, Legal Info Services Manager, LISNS; Karen Hutt, IWK Board Chair; Jackie Pidduck, IWK Medical Social Work Liaison.



LISNS Award winning Public Navigator Project - Key goals of this project are to help self-represented individuals understand their issue(s) and options, gain confidence with making a decision for conflict resolution, be satisfied with the process, less frequently use formal court processes when applicable, and, have proper documentation when proceeding with any court-based actions.

MAINLINE NEEDLE EXCHANGE

Mainline provides a legal education program for drug users & service providers, as well as legal assistance for drug users in court and correctional institutions.

With funding received from the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia for the “Community Based Legal Support & Education Project”, Mainline plays a critical and essential role in reducing risks and improving the health of people who use drugs (PWUD) in Nova Scotia. Extensive evidence from the past 25 years has demonstrated the successes and benefits of a harm reduction approach in terms of reducing transmission of disease.

Mainline provides placements for 4th year nursing, 2nd year medical, 4th year criminology and students from the Service Learning Program who along with project staff received CBC media attention presenting the amazing work at Mainline. They submitted two papers that were presented to medical magazines, Doctors NS and MD magazine highlighted the project – “The Power of Peers, PEER POWER getting better together”.

The students mentioned in the MD magazine that, “...it was a truly inspiring experience to witness the trusting and supportive peer-to-peer dynamic that Mainline had created with its clients. If it wasn’t already clear to us, this showed us firsthand how valued – and how needed – this program was”.

Also, “...but the real value for us, as students, was the chance to learn, through real-world experience, about the people who struggle with addiction and the obstacles they face – experience that will someday help us treat patients who face similar challenges.”

Peer based legal navigators shared their experience and knowledge to assist in expanding access to harm reduction services throughout HRM, and providing opportunities for disconnected people to become connected, increasing the awareness of substance use in our community and instilling self-worth among peers who realize that they have much to contribute in our community.

Although the “Community Based Legal Support & Education Project” share the same client base with the “Empowering People who use Drugs Project” the latter project enabled staff to make valuable direct contact through “street walk about” rather than through calls from federal and provincial institutions, drop in at the office and court appearances.

For more information go to mainlineneedleexchange.ca



Mainline peer navigator education day



Mainline peer navigator education day with Jacqueline Atkinson, nurse practitioner from mobile street health outreach (M.O.S.H.).

“What has the Law Foundation grant done for Mainline? The Community Based Legal Support and Education Project is a small portion of what Mainline does, overall, but, the Project supports so many of people we serve! The Foundation grant support serves to allow us to provide much-needed services, to “Step forward and do the hard and unseen jobs. To give of ourselves, measuring our own success not by wealth or comfort, but by the lives we may touch along the way”. Thank you so much!”

*Diane Bailey, Program Director
Community Based Legal Support and Education Project
Mainline Needle Exchange*

REACHABILITY

reachAbility provides access to legal services & plain language information for persons with disabilities across Nova Scotia. reachAbility writes, "Please find attached a success story from one of our volunteers. reachAbility has just begun working with NSCC paralegal students to help them receive volunteer hours and we wanted to share it with you."

For more information go to reachability.org



The reachAbility staff including Nathan Kaulback, reachAbility legal coordinator, in the Pride Parade 2018

SUCCESS STORY, GRACE YUAN--PARALEGAL STUDENT, VOLUNTEER

"When I was in my first year in paralegal services at NSCC, my instructor informed me about a volunteer opportunity at reachAbility. reachAbility is a charitable organization which helps disenfranchised people and provides them with free legal services, and consultations with experts on their legal matters. I applied immediately and, thankfully, I was selected.

It is the first time I really worked in a professional legal environment. I was entrusted with their Community Outreach Initiative (COI), which provides a public venue for lawyers to advise on a variety of legal issues. I also assisted with their Legal Referral program, which entails connected those in need with legal aid.

It was such an exciting experience for me to work in the legal field and to connect with people: to hear about their lives, and issues, and to know that I was able to facilitate their aid.

Sometimes, they would arrive frustrated and without hope. I always took care to listen to them and try to address their problems with a positive attitude. I would refer them to the lawyers who practice in the applicable field—but along with that, I like to think that listening to them with a sympathetic ear and a positive attitude gave them a sense of comfort.

One of my biggest achievements was the Community Outreach Initiative program to educate foreign nationals and international students on the immigration process, and what could negatively affect their immigration status; such as driving under the influence. Not only did I propose the idea to reachAbility, but I located a lawyer who specializes in immigration law and criminal law to speak at an information session on this very topic.

I was once an international student when I first came to Canada. I was the one who needed help. Now, I can actually help people.

reachAbility has helped me, and the clients I was in contact with grow and to achieve success.

I am grateful to them for giving me this opportunity, and for having faith in me."

"reachAbility is an organization dedicated to equalizing the playing field for people facing barriers. Through the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia grant, we have been able to better achieve this mandate by partnering with lawyers and the disability community to provide free legal services to persons with disabilities. This grant laid the foundation for our involvement in the disability community and has led to other successful projects like the Bluenose Ability Film Festival. We sincerely thank the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia for this grant, which helps to equalize the playing field for Nova Scotians in the legal system."

*Nathan Kaulback, Legal Services Coordinator
reachAbility Association*

STEPPING STONE

"Stepping Stone's Tipping the Scales program provides current and former sex workers who have come into contact with the Criminal Justice System, with direct support and assistance in the navigation of the system. This is an important program for Stepping Stone and ensures that sex workers that come into contact with the law on a regular basis are more likely to receive equal treatment and access to legal representation, as well as empowerment through education about their rights and responsibilities. Without the support of the Law Foundation, Stepping Stone would not be able to offer such a vital and important service to our program users.

Alex MacDonnell, Executive Director, Stepping Stone – Tipping the Scales

"When I was at my lowest point, I had lost everything and felt completely alone, Linda (of Tipping the Scales) came into my life. I had court charges. Linda helped me get into Mental Health Court and because of her support, I have no criminal record. When I turned my life around, Linda helped me become a volunteer in the community and, because of that, I was able to get full time employment doing what I love! It's because of this program and people like Linda that I have a second chance."

Anonymous client, Stepping Stone – Tipping the Scales

For more information go to steppingstonens.ca

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Grant Thornton

Financial Statements

Law Foundation of Nova Scotia

March 31, 2019

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Independent auditor's report

To the Members of the Board of the
Law Foundation of Nova Scotia

Grant Thornton LLP
Nova Centre, North Tower
Suite 1000, 1675 Grafton Street
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Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Law Foundation of Nova Scotia (the "Foundation"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2019, and the statements of operations for the general and reserve fund, statement of changes in net assets for the general and reserve fund and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Law Foundation of Nova Scotia as at March 31, 2019, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

The Law Foundation of Nova Scotia derives substantially all of its revenue from interest credited by financial institutions of Nova Scotia Barristers' Society members' mixed trust funds which is not susceptible to complete audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of revenue from this source was limited to accounting for the amounts received from financial institutions and recorded in the records of the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia. Therefore we were unable to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary for revenue, excess of revenue over expenses, and cash flow from operations for the years ended March 31, 2019 and 2018, assets as at March 31, 2019 and 2018 and net assets as at April 1, 2018 and 2017 and March 31, 2019 and 2018. Our audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2018 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation in scope.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Grant Thornton LLP

Halifax, Canada
June 5, 2019

Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

Law Foundation of Nova Scotia**Statement of operations and changes in general fund**

Year ended March 31

2019

2018

Revenue

Interest on trust accounts	\$ 2,523,686	\$ 1,306,790
Interest recovery from prior years	-	8,906
Interest on operating account	5,410	1,795
Miscellaneous income	115	1,713
	<u>2,529,211</u>	<u>1,319,204</u>

Grants disbursed

<u>1,493,359</u>	<u>1,086,056</u>
<u>1,035,852</u>	<u>233,148</u>

Expenditures

Accounting and audit	9,315	8,855
Amortization	296	369
Bank charges	159	288
Consulting	2,870	3,881
Director's insurance	1,908	1,908
Miscellaneous	3,264	2,405
Office	9,610	7,600
Rent and common area	20,101	19,710
Salaries and benefits	140,141	137,020
Telephone	1,822	1,753
Travel and meetings - board	3,275	2,851
Travel - staff and chair	241	5,609
	<u>193,002</u>	<u>192,249</u>

Excess of revenue over expenditures

\$ <u>842,850</u>	\$ <u>40,899</u>
-------------------	------------------

General fund, beginning of year

\$ -	\$ -
------	------

Excess of revenue over expenditures

842,850	40,899
---------	--------

Transfer to reserve fund

<u>(842,850)</u>	<u>(40,899)</u>
------------------	-----------------

General fund, end of year

\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>-</u>
-------------	-------------

Law Foundation of Nova Scotia**Statement of operations and changes in reserve fund**

Year ended March 31

2019

2018

Revenue

Interest on investments	\$ 29,583	\$ 31,891
Dividend income	114,290	102,397
Change in market value of investments	<u>300,593</u>	<u>(132,284)</u>
	<u>444,466</u>	<u>2,004</u>

Expenditures

Brokers' and investment management fees	<u>34,844</u>	<u>31,015</u>
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Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$ <u>409,622</u>	\$ <u>(29,011)</u>
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Reserve fund, beginning of year	\$ 3,166,279	\$ 3,154,391
---------------------------------	--------------	--------------

Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	409,622	(29,011)
--	---------	----------

Transfer from general fund	<u>842,850</u>	<u>40,899</u>
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Reserve fund, end of year	\$ <u>4,418,751</u>	\$ <u>3,166,279</u>
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Law Foundation of Nova Scotia **Statement of financial position**

March 31

2019

2018

Assets

Current

Cash

\$ 624,521

\$ 367,505

Prepays

2,602

2,602

627,123

370,107

Investments (note 3)

5,291,543

3,887,101

Equipment (note 4)

1,183

1,479

\$ 5,919,849

\$ 4,258,687

Liabilities

Current

Payables and accruals (note 5)

\$ 7,739

\$ 6,352

Designated grants payable (note 6)

1,493,359

1,086,056

1,501,098

1,092,408

Fund balances

Reserve fund

4,418,751

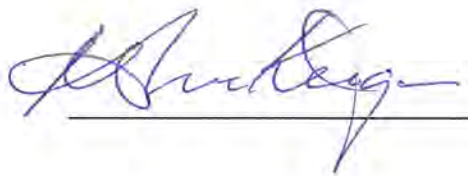
3,166,279

\$ 5,919,849

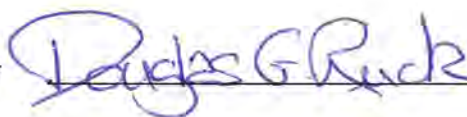
\$ 4,258,687

Commitment (note 7)

On behalf of the Board



Director



Director

Law Foundation of Nova Scotia

Statement of cash flows

Year ended March 31

2019

2018

Increase (decrease) in cash

Operating

Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 1,252,472	\$ 11,888
-------------------------------------	--------------	-----------

Items in earnings not involving cash

Amortization	296	369
--------------	-----	-----

Change in market value of investments	(300,593)	132,284
---------------------------------------	-----------	---------

Reinvested dividends	(3,370)	(797)
----------------------	---------	-------

	<u>948,805</u>	<u>143,744</u>
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Change in non-cash working capital balances

Prepays	-	(130)
---------	---	-------

Payables and accruals	1,387	(1,894)
-----------------------	-------	---------

Designated grants payable	<u>407,303</u>	<u>267,842</u>
---------------------------	----------------	----------------

	<u>1,357,495</u>	<u>409,562</u>
--	------------------	----------------

Investing

Purchase of investments	(3,060,070)	(1,602,820)
-------------------------	-------------	-------------

Proceeds on disposal of investments	<u>1,959,591</u>	<u>1,255,626</u>
-------------------------------------	------------------	------------------

	<u>(1,100,479)</u>	<u>(347,194)</u>
--	--------------------	------------------

Net increase in cash

	257,016	62,368
--	---------	--------

Cash

Beginning of year	<u>367,505</u>	<u>305,137</u>
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End of year	\$ <u>624,521</u>	\$ <u>367,505</u>
-------------	-------------------	-------------------

Law Foundation of Nova Scotia

Notes to the financial statements

March 31, 2019

1. Nature of operations

The Law Foundation of Nova Scotia (the "Foundation") was established in 1976 by a Nova Scotia statute as a not-for-profit organization and is exempt from income tax. Its purpose is to grant funds to groups for projects connected with the law.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

Basis of presentation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO"). The significant policies used in the preparation of these statements are detailed as follows:

Fund accounting

The Board has internally restricted funds to finance future operations of the Foundation. The net investment income earned on these assets is recorded in the reserve fund.

The general fund accounts for the Foundation's day-to-day activities which include the interest income on the lawyers' trust accounts, the interest income on the investments, less grants approved and paid, and the administrative expenses for running the Foundation.

Cash

Cash includes cash balances on hand and held in investment accounts.

Investments

The investments of the Foundation consist of money market funds, fixed income securities, and equities. They are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in the statement of operations and changes in reserve fund in the period in which they arise.

Equipment

The cost of equipment is amortized over its useful life using the following annual rates and methods:

	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Method</u>
Office equipment	20%	Declining balance
Furniture and fixtures	20%	Declining balance

When equipment no longer has any long term service potential to the Foundation, the excess of its net carrying amount over any residual value is recognized as an expense in the statement of operations. Any write-downs recognized are not reversed.

Financial instruments

Initial measurement

The Foundation's financial instruments are measured at fair value when issued or acquired. For financial instruments subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost, fair value is adjusted by the amount of the related financing fees and transaction costs. Transaction costs and financing fees relating to financial instruments that are measured subsequently at fair value are recognized in operations in the year in which they are incurred.

Law Foundation of Nova Scotia

Notes to the financial statements

March 31, 2019

2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Financial instruments (continued)

Subsequent measurement

At each reporting date, the Foundation measures its financial assets and liabilities at cost or amortized cost (less impairment in the case of financial assets), except for equities quoted in an active market, which must be measured at fair value. The Foundation has also irrevocably elected to measure its investments in fixed income securities at fair value. All changes in fair value of the Foundation's investments in equities quoted in an active market and in fixed income securities are recorded in the statement of operations. The financial instruments measured at amortized cost are accrued interest receivable and payables and accruals.

The Foundation is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the Foundation's risk exposure as at the date of the financial statements.

i) Credit risk

The Foundation is exposed to credit risk in the event of non-performance by counterparties to financial instruments. The Foundation is not exposed to any significant credit risk.

ii) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Foundation will not be able to pay financial liabilities as they come due. The majority of assets held by the Foundation are invested in securities that are traded in an active market and can be readily disposed of as liquidity needs arise.

iii) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. For purposes of this disclosure, the Foundation segregates market risk into three categories: interest rate risk, currency risk and other price risk.

Interest rate risk

The Foundation holds cash, money market funds and fixed income investments of \$2,687,428 at year end (2018 - \$1,311,312). A 1% absolute change in interest rates would increase or decrease interest income by \$20,629 (2018 - \$ 9,436).

Currency risk

The Foundation's functional currency is the Canadian dollar. Foreign currency risk arises from the Foundations investments that are denominated in a foreign currency. Fluctuations in the relative value of foreign currencies against the Canadian dollar can result in positive or negative effect on the fair value of the investments. The Foundation holds \$1,692,352 (2018 - \$1,342,560) in cash and investments denominated in United States Dollars. A 5% absolute change in the foreign exchange rate would result in a gain or loss of \$84,618 (2018 - \$67,128).

Other price risk

Other price risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, other than those occurring from interest rate risk or currency risk. Securities held for trading are carried at fair value and, as such, impact earnings as changes occur. Investments held by the Foundation are managed by professional investment managers and are monitored by management.

Law Foundation of Nova Scotia

Notes to the financial statements

March 31, 2019

2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Revenue recognition

Interest on trust accounts is recorded in the General Fund on an accrual basis.

Interest income and dividend income are recorded on an accrual basis, in the General or Reserve Fund.

Realized gains or losses on sale of investments are the difference between the proceeds received and the cost of investments sold.

Unrealized gains or losses on investments represent the difference between the carrying value at the year end and the carrying value at the previous year end or purchase value during the year, less the reversal of previously recognized unrealized gains and losses in respect of disposals during the year.

Use of estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with ASNPO requires the Foundation's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenue and expenditures during the year. Certain of these estimates require subjective judgments by management that may be uncertain. These items could include fair value of investments and useful lives of capital assets. Actual results could differ from those reported.

3. Investments

	2019		2018	
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market Value</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
Equities and mutual funds	\$ 2,770,244	\$ 3,228,636	\$ 2,746,761	\$ 2,943,474
Fixed income	1,318,263	1,337,604	729,532	741,651
Money market fund	<u>718,475</u>	<u>725,303</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>201,976</u>
	<u>\$ 4,806,982</u>	<u>\$ 5,291,543</u>	<u>\$ 3,676,293</u>	<u>\$ 3,887,101</u>

4. Equipment

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>	<u>2019 Net Book Value</u>	<u>2018 Net Book Value</u>
Office equipment	\$ 30,718	\$ 29,764	\$ 954	\$ 1,193
Furniture and fixtures	<u>8,769</u>	<u>8,540</u>	<u>229</u>	<u>286</u>
	<u>\$ 39,487</u>	<u>\$ 38,304</u>	<u>\$ 1,183</u>	<u>\$ 1,479</u>

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LAW FOUNDATION OF NOVA SCOTIA

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