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NUNAVUMI MALIGALIUQTIT
NUNAVUT LAW FOUNDATION
LA FONDATION DU DROIT DU NUNAVUT

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending December 31, 2013

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 for Part VII of the *Legal Professions Act*, RSNWT 1988, and c. L-2, (the Act”) 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 amongst 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, 2013:

Appointed by the Law Society:	Mandy Sammurtok, Iqaluit – Chair Sandra Omik, Iqaluit Cindy Kieu, Iqaluit Thomas Lemon, Toronto
Appointed by the Commissioner:	Wendy Kootoo- Wood, Cambridge Bay

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

Contact Persons interested in information about the affairs of the Foundation or about applying for a grant from the Foundation may direct enquires as follows:

Nunavut Law Foundation
P.O. Box 69
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0
Attention: Mandy Sammurtok
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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 and 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 client related to legal transactions in the 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 a very tiny handful of Nunavut practitioners who remitted interest accruing from a trust account.

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

AMENDMENT TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION ACT

The Foundation's legislated mandate was amended in May of this year (Bill 60) to expand the objects of the Foundation and provide a protection from liability for the board of the Foundation for actions done in good faith. The interest and capital from its fund are used for:

- I. conducting and contributing to research into and recommend reform of law and the administration of justice,
- II. contributing to the establishment, maintenance and operation of 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. awarding bursaries for the study of law or related subjects, and
- V. Provide assistance to legal aid programs, restorative justice programs and programs of a similar nature.

A) REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

In my first year as Chair of the Nunavut Law Foundation I am pleased to inform the stakeholders in the Foundation that we have been active in fulfilling our mandate. In 2013 the Foundation awarded grants in the amount of \$48,050.00. Although we received only \$32,000.00 in levies we used some of the \$25,000.00 surplus from 2012 to make up the difference. Our assets total approximately \$300,000.00.

The Foundation awarded three **Lucien Ukaliannuk Award** for Law of Law-Related Studies, which provides awards to students wishing to pursue law-related studies and who qualify on the basis of need and a commitment to Nunavut.

Lucien Ukaliannuk was a respected Inuit Elder in the community, who passed away on September 29, 2007. Prior to his passing, Mr. Ukaliannuk worked as the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Advisor to the Department of Justice in Iqaluit. He had also been the Inuit Law Instructor and Mentor to the first cohort of Akitsiraq Law Students. Mr. Ukaliannuk shared his wisdom with a new generation – a generation committed to fulfilling the promise of Nunavut, and to meeting the standards and ideals of the Law Society of Nunavut.

The amounts of the awards were \$4500.00, \$5000.00 and \$5000.00. The Foundation is in the final stages of finalizing Terms of Reference for this award and we wish to acknowledge in particular the contributions of Board member Sandra Omik.

The Foundation was pleased to provide **Upinnaqtuq Awards** to seven young Nunavummiut in the amount of \$500.00 each. The Upinnaqtuq Award honours Justice Beverly Browne who was the first senior judge in the Nunavut Court of Justice. She demonstrated great leadership in the community and had a strong commitment and passion for working with youth.

These young individuals were nominated by their principals, teachers, coaches and other people in the community in recognition of their commitment to leadership and peacemaking or their significant efforts at rehabilitation. We held our first **community ceremony event in Iqaluit** at the Nunatta Sunakkutaangit Museum that was well attended.



**Upinnaqtuq Award Community Ceremony Event
November 28, 2013 - Iqaluit**

Also, we sponsored community events for recipients of the Award including a community feast in Grise Fiord to celebrate and recognize the young Upinnaqtuq Recipient.



Upinnaqtuq Recipient Celebrations in Grise Fiord, December 27, 2013

Thanks to **Teacher Tanya Cross** (left) for making this happen! More than 75 community members came to witness Manasie Noah (the DEA Chairman for Grise Fiord) present **Jesse Ningiuk** (right) with the award. The night was celebrated with games, Christmas carols, and caribou stew, caribou burgers, and caribou chili provided by the Nunavut Law Foundation!

The Foundation awarded **General Grants** to support the following various activities which include first time contributions for many:

- Association des francophones du Nunavut - Public Legal Education in French
- Contribution to a PhD candidate- Mental Health Research Grant
- Law Society of Nunavut - Contribution for professional development events
- Canadian Bar Association – CBA National Aboriginal Conference, June 2014 , Iqaluit
- Individual person - Travel support for LSAT exam

The Foundation is still working to create a communication strategy that will be ideal in order to inform those individuals and organizations across Nunavut who fall within our mandate of our mandate and of our potential assistance to them. We launched a **Facebook page** in November 2013 as an additional mean of communication to connect with our communities. We are grateful to the **Law Foundation of Ontario** for providing training and support on this project. Please *like* our page!

Finally, we are delighted to welcome **Wendy Kootoo-Wood** of Cambridge Bay on our Board as the public representative who will no doubt bring an invaluable community based perspective.



**New Public Representative
Wendy Kootoo-Wood
and her granddaughter Alyssa**

Respectfully submitted,


Mandy Sammurtok, Chairperson

B) SUMMARY - GRANTS MADE

Lucien Ukaliannuk Award for law or law related studies	14,500.00
Upinnaqtuq Award for youths and students	3,500.00
General Grants	30,050.00
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TOTAL	\$48,050.00