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NUNAVUMI MALIGALIUQTIT  
NUNAVUT LAW FOUNDATION  
LA FONDATION DU DROIT DU NUNAVUT

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

For the year ending December 31, 2017

## 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, 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 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 (the Commissioner). 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, 2017:

<b>Appointed by the Law Society:</b>	<b>Marie Belleau</b>	<b>Chairperson, Iqaluit (since August 2017)</b>
	<b>Cindy Kieu</b>	<b>Director, Edmonton</b>
	<b>Thomas Lemon</b>	<b>Director, Toronto</b>
	<b>Kyle DeYoung</b>	<b>Director, Iqaluit</b>
<b>Appointed by the Commissioner:</b>	<b>Lisa Tootoo</b>	<b>Director – Public Representative, Iqaluit</b>

*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 enquiries as follows:

Nunavut Law Foundation  
P.O. Box 69  
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0  
Attention: Nalini Vaddapalli  
Tel: 867-979-2330  
Fax: 867-979-2333  
Email: [administrator@nulf.ca](mailto:administrator@nulf.ca)

## MANDATE

The Nunavut Law Foundation provides grants for the purpose of encouraging and supporting projects and initiatives that generally 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 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 have been very few Nunavut practitioners who remitted interest accruing from a trust account. The Foundation is taking steps to ensure members with a trust account in Nunavut are receiving the necessary information and documents to properly set up the transfer of IOLTA (Interest on Lawyer Trust Account) revenues.

As a necessary alternative, the Society collects from all of its members a special levy (Trust Account Levy) which currently represents the source of the Foundations revenues. The interest and capital from its fund are used for:

- I. Conducting and contributing to research into law reform and improving the administration of justice,
- II. Contributing to the establishment, maintenance and operation of law libraries,
- III. Contributing to the legal education and knowledge of members and of the people of Nunavut and providing programs and facilities for that purpose,
- IV. Awarding bursaries and scholarships for the study of law or related subjects, and
- V. Providing assistance to legal aid programs, restorative justice programs and programs of a similar nature.

## REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

### **Board Composition**

I have been serving on the Nunavut Law Foundation since February 2014 and currently in my second term on the Board. I was appointed as the Chair in August 2017. Thank you to Cindy Kieu for her service as the outgoing Chair. She has continued on the Board as a Director for a third term.

We were very pleased to welcome our new Public Representative to the Board of Directors, Lisa Tootoo. Lisa was appointed to the Foundation by the Minister of Justice in February 2017. She brings to her role a wealth of experience as a Community Justice Specialist. Lisa plays an important role on the Foundation by providing a community perspective on how to promote the Foundation, its mandate and how to provide Nunavummiut with information on the law and law related topics. Lisa knows first-hand how difficult it can be to disseminate information throughout Nunavut's vast territory. She brings her experience from the Division of Community Justice at the Government of Nunavut, where part of her responsibilities is to ensure Nunavummiut have information and direct access to the government's programs and services.

We have also welcomed Kyle DeYoung to our Board in November 2017. He is Legal Counsel at the Government of Nunavut and resides in Iqaluit. His background and expertise in Finance will be a very welcomed contribution to our Board.

We are currently functioning at full capacity as there are no vacancies on our Board.

### **Lucien Ukaliannuk Awards for Law or Law-Related Studies**

Lucien Ukaliannuk was a respected Inuit Elder, who passed away on September 29, 2007. Prior to his passing, Mr. Ukaliannuk worked as the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Advisor in the Government of Nunavut Department of Justice in Iqaluit. He had also been the Inuit Law Instructor and Mentor to the first cohort of Akitsiraq Law Students. The Foundation wishes to honour Lucien's memory with this award for deserving persons who undertake studies that serve to assist the objects of the Foundation.

In September 2017, the Board was delighted to award 6 deserving recipients from Nunavut currently enrolled in law or law-related studies in Nunavut, Ottawa and Victoria. All of the applicants demonstrated a strong commitment to Nunavut and we wish them

the best in their academic endeavours. We have provided Lucien Ukaliannuk Awards in the total amount of \$17,500 for the winter-fall semesters. The 2017 recipients are:

- ❖ Jessica Black, law student attending the University of Victoria
- ❖ Cassandra Coman, Bachelor of Arts; Major in Law, Carleton University
- ❖ Jennifer Hunt-Poitras, law student attending the University of Victoria
- ❖ Colin MacKay, law student attending the Nunavut Law Program
- ❖ Nastania Mullin, law student attending the Nunavut Law Program
- ❖ Beth Kotierk, law student attending the University of Ottawa



Nastania Mullin (left) receiving his award from  
Nalini Vaddapalli, Nunavut Law Foundation Administrator

### **Upinnaqtuq Awards**



**UPINNAQTUQ AWARD**  
To celebrate and be proud of a person's accomplishments  
*Nunavut Law Foundation*

The Upinnaqtuq Awards were established in honour of 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.

The Nunavut Law Foundation provided \$2,500 in Upinnaqtuq Awards to a remarkable group of young Nunavummiut who demonstrated a commitment to leadership, peacemaking and/or rehabilitation. The 2017 recipients of the Upinnaqtuq Award were nominated from the communities of Qikiqtarjuaq and Pond Inlet. They were:

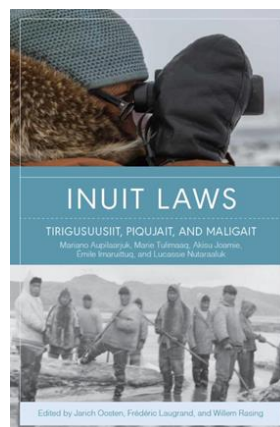
- ❖ Sarah Enoogoo, Grade 12, Pond Inlet
- ❖ Deanna Kooneeliusie, Grade 12, Qikiqtarjuaq
- ❖ Linda Kopalie, Grade 11, Qikiqtarjuaq
- ❖ Adam Jonah Nookiguak, Grade 12, Qikiqtarjuaq
- ❖ Annie Nookiguak, Grade 12, Qikiqtarjuaq

### **General Grants**

We started the review of our General Grant Policy as it was adopted in 2003 and had not been updated since. We are looking at revamping the application form (in all official languages) as well as the policy itself.

This year, we provided General Grants in the total amount of \$6,500 for the following projects:

- ❖ Law Society of Nunavut: Continuing Professional Development events that are also open to members of the public when the topic could be of interest to the community
- ❖ Indigenous Law Students' Association (University of Ottawa): Support for the registration fees of 2 Inuit students to attend the 2017 Indigenous Bar Association annual conference
- ❖ Nunavut Arctic College: Support to publish the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the *Inuit Laws* (Volume 2) book which is part of the Interviewing Inuit Elders Series.



In addition, we have been approached by the new University of Saskatchewan Nunavut Law School Program for financial assistance. The Program is delivered in Iqaluit and the Board is considering how to best support it and its students.

### **Law Libraries**

Part of our legislated mandate is to contribute to the establishment, maintenance and operation of law libraries. This has been a first and an ongoing project for the Nunavut Law Foundation under the leadership of our past Chair, Cindy Kieu. The community library project aims to provide materials to every community library in Nunavut that meet the needs of members of the law society as well as the broader public readers. The materials are a combination of substantive law, Inuit history and Inuit cultural readings and movies. This year, our *wish list* was drafted with the guidance of knowledgeable members of the legal community. These members included the Hon. Justice Beverley Browne, the Hon. Justice (Retired) René Foisy and Professor Rebecca Johnson (University of Victoria). The Foundation wishes to acknowledge the invaluable support and contributions made throughout the project by Jessika Whitters of Iqaluit.

### **Association of Canadian Law Foundations**

2017 was the first year that Nunavut hosted the annual meeting of the Association of Canadian Law Foundations (ACLF). The meeting was held in Iqaluit from August 17-19, 2017. We are confident in saying that this meeting was a success on all fronts. We welcomed over 30 participants including law foundation staff, Chairs and other Board members, as well as some of their spouses and children. Through a lot of hard work and planning from our Administrator, we have ensured that on top of taking part in fruitful meetings, that our guests from all across Canada would have a great visit to Nunavut. We wanted them to have a true taste of what Nunavut has to offer.

Our guests started off their visit with a guided tour of Iqaluit. In the evening, the NLF hosted a reception at the Nunatta Sunakkutaangit Museum at which there was a showing of “Diet of Souls”. We were grateful that the Hon. Mr. Justice Neil Sharkey, Senior Judge of the Nunavut Court of Justice (photo below), accepted our invitation to be our keynote speaker.



Sean Guistini from the Nunavut Arctic College presented the updated book on Inuit traditional Law that was funded in part by the Nunavut Law Foundation. The reception was followed by the viewing of *Angry Inuk* with a Q&A with the director, Alethea Arnaquq-Baril.

Before the start of the meetings we invited Elder Alacie Joamie to light the qulliq. We invited Paul Okalik as a keynote speaker for one of our luncheons. He offered a compelling speech that included a testimony about his own personal and professional life as well as other very touching and thought-provoking remarks.

Our guests took part in a cultural event at the Sylvia Grinnell Park where they tasted country food, listened to traditional Inuit throat singing and learned about Inuit tools. Some participants also took the opportunity to visit Pangnirtung while they were in Nunavut.

We organized a visit to the Uquutaq Society – Iqaluit Men’s Shelter and donations brought by the ACLF participants were delivered to the Shelter and then also to the Nunavut Food Bank.



*Generous Donations!*



Our very own Board Member, Lisa Tootoo, took part in a luncheon panel alongside GN Justice Deputy Minister Yvonne Niego on restorative justice in Nunavut.



Photo (from left to right): Marie, Belleau, Yvonne Niego and Lisa Tootoo

### **Other remarks**

We are a small law foundation, especially in comparison with other Canadian law foundations, many of whom receive more than a million dollars of income per year. However, the needs in Nunavut are great and spread across a vast geographic landscape. The initiatives that our Foundation could undertake with more funding are considerable. We are looking at ways to maximize our revenues in order to fully implement all aspects of our mandate to the best of our abilities. This is an ongoing commitment.

Moreover, we have taken steps with the guidance of our new Board Member, Kyle DeYoung, to look into the Foundation's investment portfolio to increase the rate of return on the its investments.

We ensure continued communications with the Nunavut public through our website <http://lawsociety.nu.ca/law-foundation-of-nunavut/>, our Facebook page, posters, public serve announcements through media, general outreach, etc.

The Foundation continues to demonstrate its commitment to the Official Languages of Nunavut by ensuring that our public communications and documents are available in Inuktitut, French and English.

Respectfully submitted.



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Marie Belleau  
Chairperson, Nunavut Law Foundation

SUMMARY OF GRANTS DISTRIBUTED
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Lucien Ukaliannuk Award for law or law related studies	\$17,500
General Grants	\$6,500
Upinnaqtuq Awards	\$2,500
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,500</b>