



Culture Connects

2022 Annual Report

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Cover photos, clockwise: Elvis Lazaro, Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples; Chris Ramsaroop and Taneeta Doma, Migrant Farmworkers Clinic & Justicia for Migrant Workers; Iman Mohamed, Muslim Legal Support Centre

Our vision

Putting people at the heart of justice.

Our mission

Through granting and collaboration we invest in knowledge and services that help people understand the law and use it to improve their lives.

Advancing access to justice

Established by statute in 1974, The Law Foundation of Ontario is the sole foundation in Ontario with the mandate of improving access to justice.

Each year, The Law Foundation of Ontario awards millions of dollars to many carefully selected grantees. Through the work of grantees, the administration of the Class Proceedings Fund, and through funds paid to Legal Aid Ontario, the Foundation is carrying out its mission to advance access to justice in the province.

Message from the Chair and CEO

We are living in a time when inclusion and belonging are paramount. Culture Connects, the theme of this year’s report, highlights the practices and benefits of centring people and their cultures in the design and delivery of legal supports. We continue to learn from and be inspired by the ways our grantees are leading and embracing this approach, as highlighted in the three examples featured in this report.

In 2022, we saw unprecedented revenue due to increases in the Bank of Canada interest rate; a testament to the Foundation’s unpredictable and volatile year-over-year revenue. In light of this year’s financial position, we were delighted to be able to increase granting to our Catalyst, Responsive, and law school programs and are excitedly finalizing plans to be able to invest these dollars into the community.

With funds to Legal Aid Ontario, funding of class actions through the independent Class Proceedings Fund, and our regular granting, the Foundation invested more than \$166M to advance access to justice in 2022.

We were excited to be able to host our first Guthrie Award Reception since the pandemic, celebrating the remarkable Roberto Lattanzio. We were also pleased to move forward on important operational priorities, including a full organizational review, an updated staff learning and development program, and the beginning of a strategic planning process.

The Board welcomed Heather Johnston, a financial and operational management consultant who recently retired from BDO Canada. She replaced Stephen Rhodes, Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation, and Trade. Trustees and staff are deeply grateful for Stephen’s exceptionally sage guidance over his decade of dedicated service. We also said a fond farewell to Judy Mark, the Foundation’s inaugural Director of Strategic Finance and Administration. Judy retired after 13 years, leaving the Foundation on rock-solid footing and with big shoes to fill.

We are proud and grateful to be part of such a diverse and dynamic community. By respecting and leveraging our unique identities and experiences, we are creating more inclusive access to justice across Ontario.



Linda Rothstein
Chair, The Law Foundation of Ontario



Lisa Cirillo
CEO, The Law Foundation of Ontario

Board of Trustees

The Law Foundation of Ontario is governed by a five-person voluntary Board of Trustees. Three Trustees are appointed by the Law Society of Ontario and two by the Attorney General of Ontario. The Foundation submits its annual report to the Attorney General for tabling in the Legislative Assembly.



Linda R. Rothstein, Chair
Partner, Paliare Roland Rosenberg
Rothstein LLP



Catherine Banning
General Manager, Maawandoon Inc.



Jack Braithwaite
Counsel, Weaver Simmons LLP



Heather Johnston (as of November)
Consultant, Financial and Operational
Management



Stephen Rhodes (until September)
Deputy Minister, Economic Development,
Job Creation, and Trade



Stephen Thiele
Partner and Director of Legal Research,
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(until June)
Director & Counsel, Class Proceedings Committee
(as of July)

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Legal Assistant, Class Proceedings Committee

Marlene Law (until October)
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Judy Mark (until June)
Director, Strategic Finance and Administration

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Communications Specialist

Lili Pach
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Lara Sanders (as of June)
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Margaret Sims (until April)
Counsel, Class Proceedings Committee

Rachael Simser
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Tiffany Smith
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Yvette Taylor (as of September)
Program Assistant

Helen Tewolde (until March)
Director, Policy and Programs

Alex Trabballo
Law Student, Class Proceedings Committee

Maricela Villalta Morales (until September)
Legal Assistant, Class Proceedings Committee

Centring clients and culture

It is well documented, including in the Foundation-commissioned [Trusted Help](#) research report, that people are more likely to ask for help from someone they know and trust and to approach service providers who they believe are “like them”.

This is especially true for communities who are marginalized due to their intersectional identities and social location. For these groups, a shared identity or culture creates a strong bond of relatability and trust. This does not mean people cannot help or be helped by someone who is different from them, but it does mean that the importance of culture and community should inform the design and delivery of services, especially services for marginalized groups.

Building supports around culture, community, relatability, and trust are key qualities of being client centred and/or culturally informed or culturally appropriate. With these approaches, the needs and values of the individual being supported are the priority. People’s intersectional identities and lived experiences are acknowledged and respected, including but not limited to, their language, culture, religion, race, gender, sexuality, income level, and immigration status. This approach also encourages the individual, not the agency, to drive what services are offered and how.

In some scenarios, services are adapted to suit the clients. In others, services are designed and delivered by people who are part of the community being served.

The goal is to see and to serve the whole person. When done consistently, this approach builds mutual trust and respect. It makes services more effective, the system more equitable, and the individual more confident: all outcomes that bring more engagement and credibility to the justice sector.

The stories in this report exemplify this approach. By embracing client and culturally centred legal supports, the Muslim Legal Support Centre, the Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples Legal Clinic, and the Migrant Farmworkers Clinic are fostering more effective and inclusive access to justice for everyone. ▾



“ We provide information that is designed to help meet people’s specific needs, wishes, and preferences to ensure they walk away feeling heard and seen. ”
- Iman Mohamed, Director,
Muslim Legal Support Centre



“ To us, client centric means having the services required for community members and also investing in our people and community so we can strengthen their capacity. ”
– Elvis Lazaro, Executive Director,
Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples



“ The role is understanding the community you’re working with. Trying to build trust and relationships, and meeting people where they’re at. ”
– Chris Ramsaroop, Co-director, Migrant Farmworkers Clinic
& Co-founder, Justicia for Migrant Workers

Roberto Lattanzio champions inclusion for people with disabilities

The room was buzzing with excitement for our first Guthrie Award Reception since 2019. Family, friends, and colleagues gathered on December 8, 2022 to celebrate our 2022 Guthrie Award recipient Roberto (Robert) Lattanzio. The Guthrie Award is the Foundation’s signature award to recognize exceptional access to justice champions.

Robert is Executive Director of ARCH Disability Law Centre, a lawyer, and a disability rights advocate who has been at the forefront of the most substantial test case litigation, law reform advocacy, professional development, and public legal education initiatives in support of people with disabilities in Ontario.

Visit our website to watch Robert’s speech and see photos from the event.



2022 granting

General Fund	\$12,710,370
Roy & Ria McMurtry Endowment Fund	\$5,000
Access to Justice Fund	\$50,000
ALL 2022 GRANTING	\$12,765,370

General Fund

Catalyst

Catalyst provides multi-year core funding to established nonprofit organizations working to advance access to justice. The funding supports organizations with a proven track record of high-quality services to improve their ability to adapt, innovate, take advantage of opportunities, and respond to emerging needs. Responding to the extraordinary inflationary pressures faced by grantees, the Foundation proactively increased all 2023 Catalyst grants by 5%. In response to the Foundation’s improved financial situation, some grantees were also invited to apply for additional funds up to the amount sought, but not initially granted, in their 2022 Catalyst application.

Aboriginal Legal Services	\$157,500
Access to Justice and Direct Legal Services, The 519 Church Street Community Centre	\$157,500
Association des juristes d’expression française de l’Ontario	\$232,500
Canadian Civil Liberties Education Trust	\$271,055
Canadian Forum on Civil Justice	\$115,500
Childhood Arrivals Support and Advocacy Program, Justice for Children and Youth	\$269,744
CLEO Connect, Community Legal Education Ontario	\$424,250

Connecting Ottawa, Community Legal Services of Ottawa	\$293,738
Criminalization of Women Pro-Bono Project, Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic	\$158,214
FCJ Refugee Centre	\$ 202,252
Indigenous Youth Outreach Program, Level	\$87,150
Innocence Canada	\$362,650
Justice Program, Métis Nation of Ontario	\$169,959
Law Commission of Ontario	\$627,500
Law in Action Within Schools	\$232,500
Luke’s Place Support and Resource Centre for Women and Children	\$232,500
Muslim Legal Support Centre	\$118,854
National Self-Represented Litigants Project, University of Windsor, Faculty of Law	\$157,500
Ontario Justice Education Network	\$934,500
Pro Bono and Public Education Program, Canadian Centre for Housing Rights	\$157,500
Probono Inmate Appeal Program	\$107,993
Pro Bono Ontario	\$924,000
Pro Bono Students Canada	\$625,278
Public Education, Workers’ Action Centre	\$182,100
The Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History	\$193,441



Iman Mohamed, Director, Muslim Legal Support Centre

Trusted legal help for Muslims

Muslims in Ontario face growing Islamophobia and discrimination. A first of its kind legal clinic in Ontario offers help.

Launched in 2019, the Muslim Legal Support Centre (MLSC) provides free culturally and linguistically informed legal information and services to Muslims in Ontario. Clients seek help in a wide range of legal areas including family law, immigration, criminal law, wills and estates, and human rights. The MLSC also helps identify and address systemic legal issues with the help of community partners.

“Muslims deal with many barriers when it comes to accessing legal justice and navigating the legal system,” says Iman Mohamed, MLSC’s Director. “Creating a centre that’s for us by us, while recognizing our many different identities and intersectionalities, is important in building a space of empowerment for the community, especially at a time when many individuals within Muslim communities feel unsafe or unheard.”

The MLSC began as a pilot project of the Canadian Muslim Lawyers Association, whose pro bono efforts were overwhelmed by the demand for culturally and linguistically appropriate legal services. The Law Foundation of Ontario supported the project’s development with Responsive and Capacity-building for an Inclusive Sector grants. MLSC now receives core funding through the Foundation’s Catalyst program.



Nabeel Muhammad, Staff Lawyer; Shaimaa Kabli, Community Outreach Coordinator; Iman Mohamed, Director; Dinna Abdulahi, Program Coordinator; Idman Waberi, Program Coordinator; Hajar Tohme, Staff Lawyer

“ The MLSC knows the tough stuff that Muslim women go through. Whenever I need legal advice, I can always trust that it will be given with my gender, culture, and human rights in mind. ”

— Muslim Legal Support Centre client

“The MLSC is in a position to provide culturally competent and legally informed, practical, and sound advice to its clients,” says Iman. “There’s trust with the MLSC. We often hear, ‘I don’t understand what this legal issue or legal concept means, can you explain it to me?’ People trust that we will serve them with cultural or religious understanding and are prepared to help them with their unique legal challenges.”

For example, a participant at one of MLSC’s legal education sessions asked about filing for a divorce. Although the participant was religiously married, the marriage was not recognized under Ontario law. It is imperative that a lawyer providing advice in this situation understand the nuance of the question and can explain the differences between a religious marriage and marriage under Ontario law.

Demand for these culturally grounded and linguistic legal services is strong and growing. By the end of 2022, 350 participants attended MLSC’s public legal education sessions and intakes increased by 67%. ♥

Law schools

The Foundation has a long history of supporting legal education. Funds are dedicated to access to justice initiatives, in particular experiential learning opportunities for students so they can provide legal assistance to community members. In 2022, the Foundation approved grants for the 2023-2024 academic year for Ontario law schools. The grants included an increase to funding levels to partially restore previous cuts, made during a period of revenue decline.

Lakehead University, Faculty of Law	\$201,960
Lincoln Alexander School of Law at Toronto Metropolitan University	\$335,280
Osgoode Hall Law School	\$403,920
Queen’s University, Faculty of Law	\$335,280
University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section	\$201,960
University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section	\$403,920
University of Toronto, Faculty of Law	\$335,280
University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law	\$335,280
University of Windsor, Faculty of Law	\$335,280

Public Interest Articling Fellowship

The Public Interest Articling Fellowship grants nonprofit organizations funding to host an articling student. The program helps respond to the significant need for legal assistance within the community while also giving articling students valuable work experience in public interest law. In 2022, the Foundation approved PIAF grants for the 2023-2024 articling year for the following organizations.

Amnesty International Canada	\$69,500
Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic	\$69,500
Canadian Centre for Housing Rights	\$69,500
Innocence Canada	\$69,500
John Howard Society of Canada	\$69,500
Peacebuilders International (Canada)	\$69,500
Public Interest Advocacy Centre	\$69,500
Women’s Legal Education and Action Fund	\$69,500



Chris Ramsaroop, Clinic Co-director & Justicia for Migrant Workers Co-founder and Taneeta Doma, Staff Lawyer, Migrant Farmworkers Clinic

In community with farmworkers

Seeking legal help can be a risky proposition for Ontario’s almost 30,000 migrant farmworkers. They come to Canada through an employer-driven system with little choice as to where they live and work, and can face reprisal for voicing concerns.

Canada’s first Migrant Farmworkers Clinic is helping these workers exercise their rights. The clinic is a partnership of the University of Windsor, Faculty of Law and Justicia for Migrant Workers. Through a unique combination of legal services and community organizing, the clinic offers summary advice and representation, referrals and case support, public legal education, student training, and advocacy and outreach with farmworkers in Essex County. It started as a pilot project supported by a Responsive grant from The Law Foundation of Ontario in 2019. Now it receives funding through the Foundation’s law schools grants.

Through a clinical course, the faculty’s law students volunteer for the clinic and study the complex intersection of laws affecting migrant workers, including immigration, employment, international, health, and social benefits law. Students also probe barriers migrant workers face, such as racism and discrimination, housing and employment restrictions, geographic and social isolation, and lack of entitlement to health care and benefits.



Kelly-Anne Johnson, University of Windsor law student; Vasanthi Venkatesh, Associate Professor, University of Windsor, Faculty of Law & Clinic Co-director; Chris Ramsaroop, Clinic Co-director & Justicia for Migrant Workers Co-founder; Taneeta Doma, Clinic Staff Lawyer

“ I saw firsthand how impactful grassroots endeavours are. There is no better way to understand the accumulated experiences of migrant farmworkers than from them directly. I take what I learned into practice. ”

– Clinic law student, 2022

“This work is an opportunity to see a world where you don’t know everything, especially for law students,” says Taneeta Doma, Staff Lawyer, and a former law student at the clinic. “Workers have no reason to trust us at the beginning. Our approach is less about, ‘you’re our client and we’ll fix your problem’ and more ‘we’re in community together’. Workers are the best people to talk about what the issues are and how they can be resolved.”

Prioritizing accessibility and visibility, outreach and workshops are carried out in the Leamington area. There are drop-ins at a community centre, pop-up tables in parking lots, community dinners, and Zoom and WhatsApp discussions. Information is delivered in English or Spanish and often by staff from or familiar with Caribbean and Central American cultures. Topics are

worker-driven and have included wage theft, deductions, and holiday pay; health concerns, injuries, and unsafe work; open work permits and permanent residence status. In 2022, approximately 400 workers in the county were supported, and hundreds more through general outreach.

“Traditional methods of legal help, education, and outreach do not work with this community,” says Chris Ramsaroop, Clinic Co-director & Justicia for Migrant Workers Co-founder. That’s why this clinic is different and imperative.”

Responsive

The Responsive program funds projects to encourage new community-driven ideas, approaches, and relationships that can help address emerging needs and connect more people to legal information and supports, especially people who are not currently being reached. In 2022, the Foundation approved Responsive grants for the following organizations.

Angels of Hope Against Human Trafficking	\$99,600
RISE: Increasing Access to Justice for Survivors of Human Trafficking	
BGC Durham	\$88,135
Youth Court Access Initiative	
Black Femme Legal	\$65,000
Black Femme Legal Pro Bono Clinic	
Black Law Students’ Association of Canada	\$35,000
2023 BLSA Canada Conference	
Canadian National Institute for the Blind Foundation	\$21,878
Bringing CNIB’s Y.E.L.L. Program to W. Ross Macdonald School	
Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples Legal Clinic	\$99,872
Access to Justice for Spanish Speaking Seniors	
Christie Refugee Welcome Centre	\$97,100
Centre for Refugee Children – Legal Education Resources for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children and Refugee Children	
Downtown Legal Services	\$78,200
Prison Outreach Project	
Hispanic Development Council	\$62,420
Community Legal Information and Preventive Education for Spanish-speaking Latinos in Toronto	

John Howard Society of Ontario	\$98,670
Building Systems of Community Practice to Address the Civil Legal Needs of Justice-Involved Ontarians	
JusticeTrans	\$100,000
Community- and Arts-Based PLEI for Two Spirit, Trans, Non-binary, and Gender Nonconforming People in Ontario	
Korean Legal Clinic	\$25,000
Korean Legal Clinic Empowerment Project	
Law Commission of Ontario	\$63,000
Indigenous Environmental Accountability Project	
National Associations Active in Criminal Justice	\$15,000
Plain Language Info-Sheets: Employment Rights and Criminal Records in each Canadian jurisdiction	
Ontario Nonprofit Network	\$100,000
Building healthy public benefit nonprofits: A public legal education approach	
Parry Sound Friendship Centre	\$100,000
PSFC Restorative Justice Program	
Peacebuilders International (Canada)	\$50,000
Making a Difference: a Pre-Sentencing Assessment Program	
Pro Bono Ontario	\$77,400
Creating a client-centred response to unmet legal needs	
Sexual Assault Support Centre of Waterloo Region	\$86,141
Rapid Response Sexual Assault Legal Advocate Pilot Program – Year 2	
Survivors’ Secretariat	\$99,996
Justice Navigator	
Thunder Bay Multicultural Association	\$100,000
Newcomer Legal Clinic	

University of Toronto, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work The Child Welfare Toolkit	\$100,000
University of Windsor, Faculty of Law Health Justice Clinic in Mental Health & Addictions	\$83,120
Wilfrid Laurier University Precarity, Everyday Lives, and Access to Justice: Precarious Status Migrants Seeking Legal Aid in Rural Southern Ontario	\$25,000
Women’s Legal Education and Action Fund Applying innovative lessons from the pandemic to public legal education	\$100,000



Chris Ramsaroop, Taneeta Doma, Vasanthi Venkatesh, Migrant Farmworkers Clinic

Roy & Ria McMurtry Endowment Fund

The Roy and Ria McMurtry Endowment Fund was established in honour of the Honourable Roy McMurtry, and his wife Ria. The fund provides an annual grant to The Second Chance Scholarship Foundation, which awards scholarships to students who are, have been, or are at risk of becoming in conflict with the law and who are enrolled in a college or university program relating to legal education.

Second Chance Scholarship Foundation Inc. Roy & Ria McMurtry Endowment 2022	\$5,000
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Access to Justice Fund

The Access to Justice Fund (ATJF) is a unique national fund that provides grants to nonprofit organizations across Canada. The fund is supported by class action cy-près awards. Granting is made in priority areas as established by a national ATJF Consultation Group and as per the direction of a cy-près award. The Foundation approved one ATJF grant in 2022.

Action Committee on Access to Justice in Civil and Family Matters Fostering National A2J Coordination	\$50,000
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Elvis Lazaro, Executive Director, Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples

Connecting with Spanish-speaking seniors

Research by the Hispanic Development Council found that Spanish-speaking seniors in the Greater Toronto Area are falling through the cracks.

The 2019 report found two thirds of Latinx/Hispanic seniors have no connection to social support agencies and live at or below the poverty line. Many live alone with little or no contact with family and friends. Also, many do not speak English and cannot access virtual supports, challenges exacerbated by the pandemic and the public sector's shift to online-only legal and social services.

The Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples Legal Clinic, in partnership with Hispanic Development Council, developed an interagency outreach initiative to connect this vulnerable group to the legal help they need. Most commonly, the needs relate to wills, powers of attorney, fraud, and maintaining social assistance income, such as Old Age Security. The project is funded by a Responsive grant from The Law Foundation of Ontario.

The Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples is a nonprofit organization that has been providing a range of legal and social programs to Latinx/Hispanic



Wendy Vasquez, Client Support & Outreach; Diana Prado, Seniors Program Coordinator; Gloria Carrasquero, Staff Lawyer; Elvis Lazaro, Executive Director

“ The legal clinic helped me understand and navigate the legal system at the age of 83! I learned things I didn’t know about living in Canada. I’m very grateful to the team for always taking care of me with love and support. ”

communities in Ontario for close to 50 years. Its Legal Aid Ontario-funded legal clinic provides representation, advice, and public legal education and information to low-income members of the Spanish-speaking community.

“Culturally, the Spanish language is what identifies us. That’s the commonality and what allows people to be their authentic selves,” says Elvis Lazaro, the Centre’s Executive Director. “Being culturally appropriate also means acknowledging the different nationalities that community members represent, understanding there are many reasons for migration to Canada, and respecting the perspectives and experiences that each person has.”

In 2022, the project supported over 200 seniors through in-person intake days and public legal information sessions hosted by a broad network of agencies serving Latinx/Hispanic seniors. One of the most



successful initiatives were Cafecitos. Translated as ‘coffee breaks’, these are popular social gatherings in Spanish-speaking cultures.

“When you have coffee breaks in our countries, you meet people and engage in conversation,” says Elvis. “To connect with isolated seniors, we knew we needed to focus on in-person legal outreach that creates welcoming spaces where people feel safe and comfortable enough to receive information and ask questions. They’ve become places of community and belonging.”

Class Proceedings Fund

Message from the Chair

In 2022, the Class Proceedings Fund (the Fund) continued to see the resolution of some funded cases. While only three cases were certified, 10 funded cases were settled.

The Fund continued to grow in 2022, as the amount of statutory levies in successful funded cases surpassed the adverse costs in unsuccessful funded cases. As has been the case over the last few years, levies have continued to rise at an overall higher rate than adverse cost awards. Ever mindful that this trend could change, the Class Proceedings Committee members regularly review our processes and always ensure that original and supplementary funding applications are properly assessed to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the Fund.

2022 marked the first time the Committee agreed to fund individual plaintiffs in determining their damages once the common issues stage of a class action has been resolved. This is an important step for access to justice. It allows vulnerable plaintiffs to obtain the damages they are entitled to by providing disbursement support and protecting them from potential adverse cost awards.

Remissa Hirji was promoted as Counsel to the Committee and has continued to support the Committee as we held funding application hearings both virtually and in a hybrid format. In addition, the work to enhance the statistics of funded cases has continued.

I am grateful for the significant contribution of our former Chair and current member Wendy J. Earle and Committee members Sandra Barton, John P. Brown, Danielle Marks, and Monique Jilesen. Sandra Barton stepped down from the Committee in October 2022 and I thank her for her years of service.



Paul Evraire, KC
Chair, Class Proceedings Committee



Class
Proceedings
Fund

Paul Evraire, Class
Proceedings
Committee Chair

Highlights

Established in 1993, the Class Proceedings Fund provides support to approved class action plaintiffs through funding for disbursements and adverse cost award protection. The Foundation provided initial seed monies of \$500,000 to establish the Fund. Under the careful stewardship of the Foundation and the independent Class Proceedings Committee, the Fund has grown considerably, allowing it to continue to advance the goal of increasing access to justice in Ontario.

Over the 30 years since the Fund was created, the Committee has considered hundreds of funding applications brought by plaintiffs and approved funding for 213 proceedings under the Ontario *Class Proceedings Act*.

Over the past two years, Fund staff worked to significantly enhance the statistics tracked with respect to funded cases. Highlights of these statistics include:

	Number of cases	% of funded cases	% of completed cases
Active funded cases	106	50%	
Completed funded cases > Won or settled > Lost	107 > 62 > 45	50%	100% > 58% > 42%
Total funded cases	213	100%	100%

New applications heard and approved – 2013-2022

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Hearings held	13	20	17	22	27	21	19	19	20	17
New applications approved	7	11	12	17	18	14	8	10	16	9

2022 results

Statement of financial position

	For the period from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2022	For the period from 1994 to Dec. 31, 2022
Opening balance	\$20,077,092	\$500,000
Total funding awarded	\$7,691,507	\$50,318,893
Funding repaid/cancelled	\$6,467,659	\$16,720,035
Administration costs/expenses	\$584,772	\$7,611,652
Interest and cy-près received	\$767,719	\$6,186,488
10% levies received	\$9,066,805	\$85,023,072
Cost awards in favour of defendants	\$681,170	\$23,077,224
Balance as at Dec. 31, 2022	\$27,421,826	\$27,421,826

Results and statistics (as required by O.Reg.771/92, s.13)

1. Funded case certification, settlement, and adverse cost award results

	Certified	Settled	Defendants obtaining adverse cost awards	Total amount paid out by the Fund for adverse cost awards
2021	7	9	8	\$816,103
2022	3	10	8	\$681,170

Class Proceedings Fund

2. New funding applications

New applications made, granted, refused and deferred, by stage in the proceeding, at the time of application.

Stage in the proceeding	Granted	Refused	Deferred*	Total
2021				
Pre-certification	17	2		19
Discovery		1		1
Other (common issues)				
Appeal re: certification				
Determination of common issues				
Appeal re: common issues				
Post common issue stage				
Total	17	3		20
2022				
Pre-certification	6	7		13
Discovery				
Other (common issues)				
Appeal re: certification				
Determination of common issues		1		1
Appeal re: common issues				
Post common issue stage	3			3
Total	9	8		17

*Carried forward to the next year.

3. New and supplementary funding awards

In 2022, the Committee considered a number of initial applications as well as supplementary funding applications for previously funded cases. Total amounts paid out by the Fund during 2022 vary as funding awards may be made in advance of amounts being reimbursed to applicants. Amounts are reimbursed to applicants on an ongoing basis, after funded disbursements have been incurred and paid by the applicant.

	New awards	Supplementary awards	Total awards (new and supplementary funding applications)	Total amounts paid out (disbursement reimbursement)	Award amounts balance (awarded but not yet paid out) at Dec. 31
2021	16	20	\$4,696,650	\$4,210,671	\$10,062,445
2022	9	34	\$7,691,507	\$5,830,443	\$10,521,783



Nabeel Muhammad, Shaimaa Kabli, Hajar Tohme, Iman Mohamed, Idman Waberi, Dinna Abdulahi, Muslim Legal Support Centre

4. Funding awards by case category and disbursement type

2022 funding awards for both newly approved cases and previously approved cases by case category and by disbursement type.

	Administrative expenses	Travel expenses	Examiners' charges	Experts' fees	Notice to class	Other	Total
2021 all cases	236,136	43,360	121,420	3,925,875	134,551	235,308	4,696,650
2022 all cases	422,789	35,847	122,934	6,243,028	592,641	254,268	7,691,507
By case category							
Consumer protection - general				114,893	241,675		356,569
Crown liability	54,402	15,865	46,780	628,605	22,250	50,000	815,902
Employment	9,401		5,000	2,298,705	22,600		2,335,706
Franchise				1,500,000			1,500,000
General negligence	46,859	17,982	37,820	219,990		49,323	371,975
General - professional negligence	33,000		10,000	674,617	73,387	65,000	856,004
Insurance	1						1
Investments/ securities	33,120	2,000	15,000	466,828	227,729	75,425	820,102
Product liability - consumer products	15,396		3,973	15,476			34,845
Product liability - medical products	250,861			123,386			374,247
Residential schools	1,749		4,361	200,528	5,000	14,520	226,157

Class Proceedings Committee

The Class Proceedings Committee has five members, one appointed by each of The Law Foundation of Ontario and the Attorney General of Ontario, and three appointed jointly.



Paul J. Evraire, KC
Chair
Special Counsel (Retired), Department of Justice



Sandra Barton (until October)
Partner, Gowling WLG



John P. Brown
Legal and Strategic Advisor, Indigenous Initiatives, McCarthy Tétrault



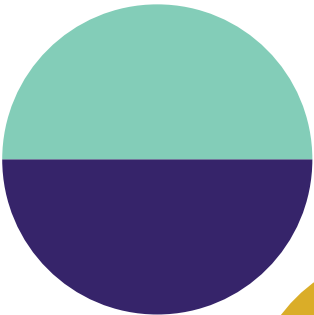
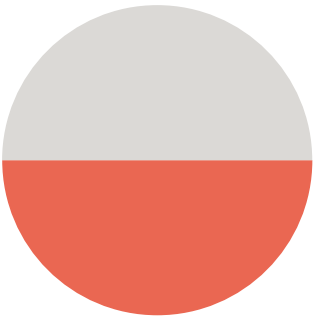
Wendy J. Earle
Advocate and Arbitrator



Monique Jilesen (as of October)
Partner and Commercial Litigation lawyer, Lenczner Slaght

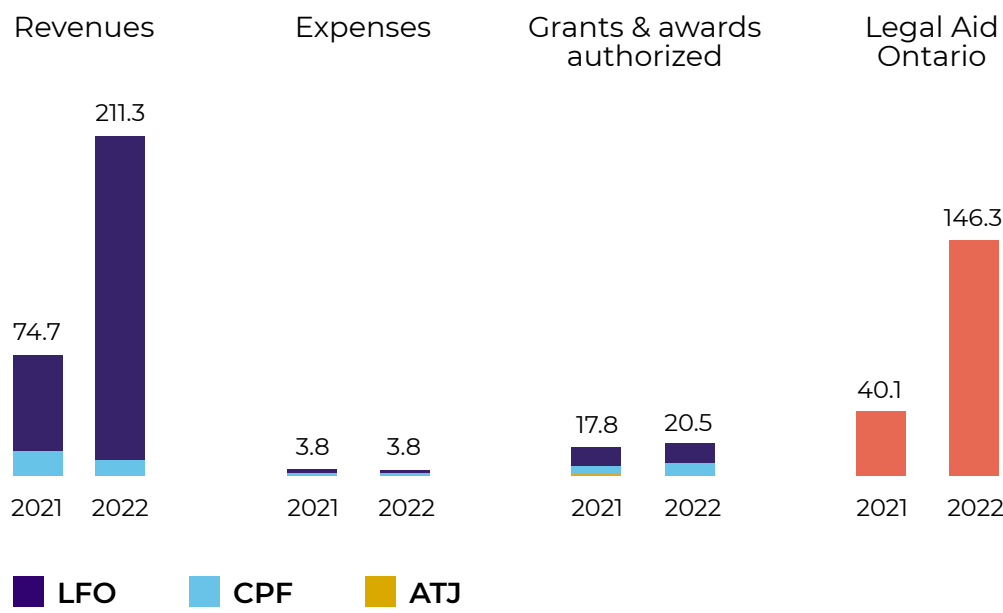


Danielle Marks (as of January)
Partner and Chair, Civil Litigation, SV Law



2022 financial highlights

Consolidated results (\$M)



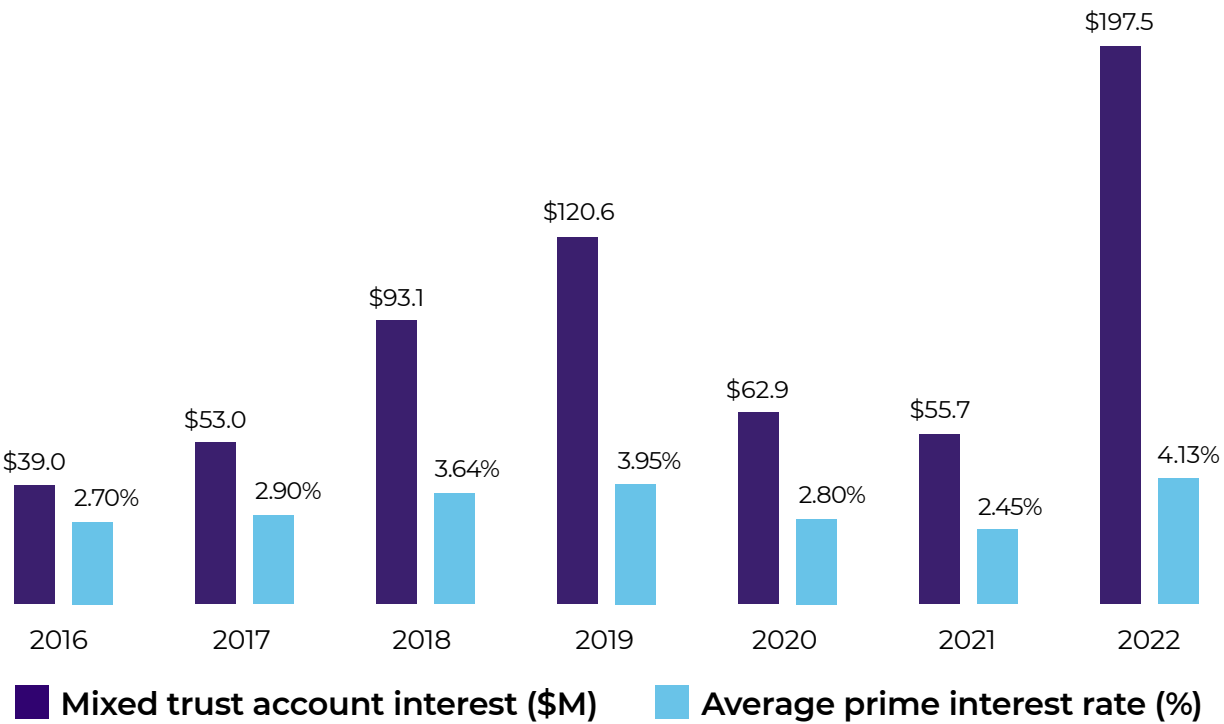
Revenues

The Law Foundation of Ontario's main source of revenue is interest earned on Ontario lawyers' and paralegals' mixed trust accounts. These mixed trust accounts hold funds in trust for more than one client. By law, all such interest is paid to the Foundation.

Revenue from mixed trust accounts reached an all-time high of \$197.5M due to a series of interest rate increases, with the prime rate moving from 2.45% to 6.45%. This was further supported with higher average mixed trust account balances compared to 2021. During the year, work continued to identify interest arrears through reconciliation with lawyers' and paralegals' annual filings, contributing an additional \$1.4M.

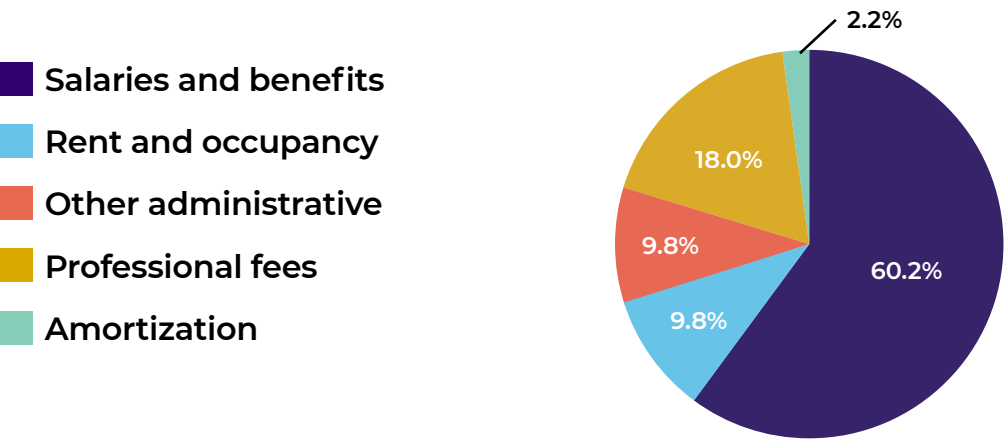
The Foundation periodically negotiates rates of return with all financial institutions that are authorized to hold mixed trust accounts for lawyers and paralegals. Some agreements are more favourable than others and the Foundation continues to maintain and seek improvements in all of them.

Interest revenues and rates



Expenditures

Despite inflationary pressures following the pandemic, the Foundation's overall operating costs, including the Class Proceedings Fund, remained at \$3.8M, the same as in 2021.

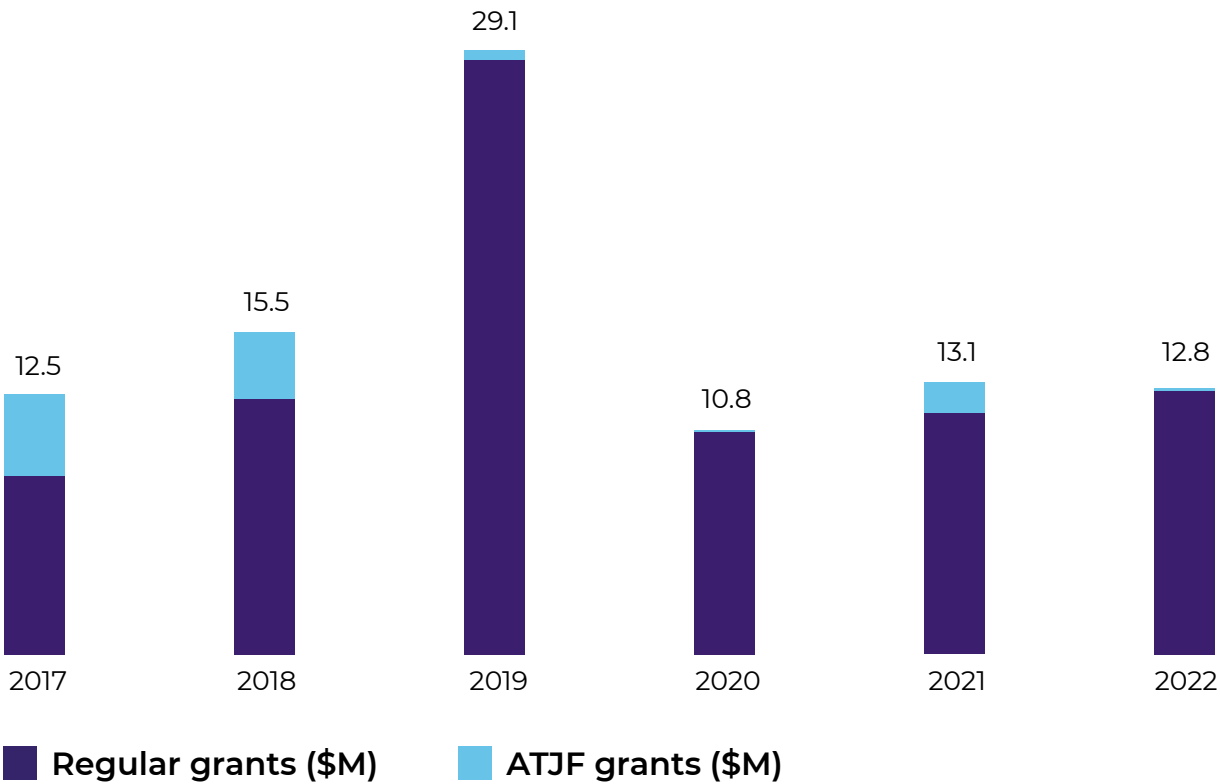


Funding to Legal Aid Ontario

As per the *Law Society Act*, 75% of mixed trust account revenue net of operating expenses is paid to Legal Aid Ontario. Due to unprecedented growth in mixed trust accounts revenue, the Foundation’s contribution increased from \$40.1M in 2021 to \$146.3M in 2022.

Grants authorized

With its remaining funds, the Foundation awards grants that support improved access to justice. Total grants authorized in 2022 were lower, compared to 2021, with a reduction in Access to Justice Fund grants partly offset with an increase in authorized regular grants.



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
ATJF grants	3.9	3.2	0.5	0.1	1.5	0.1
Regular grants	8.6	12.3	28.6	10.7	11.6	12.7
	12.5	15.5	29.1	10.8	13.1	12.8

The 2022 audited financial statements are available online at: lawfoundation.on.ca/about-us/revenue-and-reporting/annual-reports/



Gloria Carrasquero, Elvis Lazaro, Diana Prado, Wendy Vasquez, Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples



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