

THE LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO  
2014 ANNUAL REPORT

—JUST  
THE  
FACTS

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**OUR VISION** THE LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO IS A CATALYST FOR ADVANCING THE IDEAL OF A TRULY ACCESSIBLE JUSTICE SYSTEM. THE LFO IS RECOGNIZED AS A LEADER, WORKING THROUGH CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS TO SUSTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JUST SOCIETY.

**OUR MISSION** THE LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO IS COMMITTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF LEGAL KNOWLEDGE, EXCELLENCE WITHIN THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN THE LEGAL SYSTEM. THE LFO FUNDS PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES THAT PROMOTE AND ENHANCE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL ONTARIANS.

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

—THE LAW FOUNDATION  
OF ONTARIO PURSUES  
EXCELLENCE IN ACCESS  
TO JUSTICE.

For this, my first message as Chair of The Law Foundation of Ontario (LFO), I am proud to say that access to justice has been a continuing passion for me and one of the reasons I am delighted to lead an organization that sets high standards of excellence in promoting it.

It's my pleasure to briefly share with you our many important achievements over the past year.

**Collaboration is key to all our accomplishments.**

We worked with the Law Society of Upper Canada to establish The Action Group on Access to Justice (TAG), a community of organizations working together to improve access to justice in Ontario.

In partnership with the province's law schools, we implemented new guidelines to ensure that LFO grants support practical learning opportunities for students and activities that promote access to justice in local communities. One important outcome from this initiative was that LFO funding now largely supports student legal aid clinics that provide direct legal services to the public.

Through grants and other strategic support, the LFO invested in strengthening the capacity of public interest organizations (such as the Ontario Justice Education Network (OJEN), Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) and Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO), to name a

few) that play a critical role in advancing access to justice.

Although many of our grants are directed at long-time partners, we continue to encourage innovative new ideas from first-time applicants for projects that address the needs of Ontario's most vulnerable communities. Among the exciting initiatives we funded in 2014 were:

- An integrated solution to high conflict custody and access cases involving early intervention, judicial case management, and linkages to wrap-around social services.
- The development of a toolkit to address systemic disadvantages experienced by First Nations children on reserve.
- A youth-oriented media program providing accessible education about youth justice issues in Regent Park.

**Our success in enhancing access to justice is only possible as a result of our efforts to maximize revenue.**

LFO is primarily funded by the interest on lawyers' and paralegals' mixed trust accounts.

Our capacity to support better access to justice for all Ontarians is driven largely by interest rates – which in recent years have remained at historic lows. Now, more than ever, we're focused on negotiating the best possible rates with financial institutions and ensuring accurate payments from all accounts.

Over the years these efforts have yielded significant returns, including two agreements renegotiated last year. In addition, we recovered substantial interest arrears owing to LFO. But we know more needs to be done and we're working with financial institutions to make even greater improvements.

Another key source of revenue for LFO is cy-près awards in class actions.

We created the Access to Justice Fund in 2009 to receive cy-près awards, which are used to fund access to justice initiatives across Canada. By the end of 2014 our first cy-près award of \$14.6 million had been followed by nine more. Additional awards in 2014 generated almost \$8 million.

**There are many people who contributed to our achievements in 2014.**

On behalf of the other Trustees and staff, I offer my sincere thanks to Mark Sandler who was appointed Trustee in 2006 and led as Chair from 2009 until 2014. His extraordinary vision set LFO on the path to remarkable success in enhancing revenues and ultimately deepening the focus, breadth and national impact of our programs.

One of Mark's particular legacies is the 26 grants worth more than \$3M made by LFO to address the needs of Aboriginal people. In one of his last acts as Chair, Mark presented

LFO's Guthrie Award to Kim Murray, honouring her as an exceptional community leader and advocate for Aboriginal access to justice.

I am also very pleased to recognize the contributions of Carol Hartman, Trustee from 2011 to mid-2014, and to welcome Linda Rothstein and Ross Earnshaw who both recently joined the board.

And finally, I extend my deepest gratitude to our very professional and dedicated staff for a wonderful year of important achievements in improving access to justice for all Ontarians.



**Paul B. Schabas**  
Chair

— \$8M IN  
NEW CY-PRÈS  
AWARDS  
WERE MADE  
TO THE LFO'S  
ACCESS TO  
JUSTICE FUND.

**ACCESS TO JUSTICE FUND**

— 100+: ACCESS  
TO JUSTICE  
GRANTS FUNDED  
BY THE ATJF  
SINCE 2010.



The LFO's Access to Justice Fund (ATJF) receives cy-près awards and directs them to fund essential access to justice initiatives across Canada. Since its launch in 2010 the ATJF has funded more than 100 grants worth a total of over \$14 million. Five new cy-près awards were made to the ATJF in 2014.

#### ATJF CY-PRÈS AWARDS

*Cassano v Toronto Dominion Bank*,  
2009 CanLII 35732 (ON SC)

*Skopit v BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc* (8 November 2010), Essex County CV-10-15239 (ON SC)

*Smith Estate v National Money Mart*,  
2010 CanLII 1334 (ON SC)

*Wein v Rogers Cable Communications Inc*,  
2011 CanLII 7290 (ON SC)

*Markson v MNBA*,  
2012 CanLII 5891 (ON SC)

*Carom v Bre-X Minerals Ltd*,  
2014 CanLII 2507 (ON SC)

*Krajewski v TNOW Entertainment Group*  
(February 2014)

*Lee Valley Tools v Canada Post Corporation*  
(15 October 2014),  
Toronto 06-CV-320840 CP (ON SC)

*Occhiuto v Agropur Cooperative  
and Natrel Ontario Inc* (15 August 2014),  
Toronto 05-CV-283533CP (ON SC)

*Lawrence v Atlas Cold Storage Holdings Inc*  
(4 December 2014),  
Toronto 04-CV-263289CP (ON SC)

Through the ATJF, the LFO continues to extend its reach and support projects that enhance access to justice across Canada.

**GRANTS AUTHORIZED IN 2014 IN ALL PROGRAM AREAS**

## ACCESS TO JUSTICE FUND GRANTS

**Community Legal Information Association of PEI**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Answering the Call for Legal Information – The Next Generation | \$50,000 |
|--|----------|

**Connecting Articling Fellowship**

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Algoma Community Legal Clinic | \$54,121 |
|-------------------------------|----------|

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Community Advocacy & Legal Centre | \$54,121 |
|-----------------------------------|----------|

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Keewaytinok Native Legal Services | \$54,121 |
|-----------------------------------|----------|

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Metro Toronto Chinese and Southeast Asian Legal Clinic | \$54,121 |
|--|----------|

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Rural Legal Services | \$54,121 |
|----------------------|----------|

|                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario | \$54,121 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|

Connecting Communities

**Equay–Wuk**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Connecting Communities: Increasing our Knowledge, Building our Strength | \$59,470 |
|---|----------|

**Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Connecting Communities Tenant Schools: Focus on Rural Communities | \$105,610 |
|---|-----------|

**Huron Women's Shelter – Second Stage Housing and Counselling Services**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Connecting Communities: Poverty Law through a Mental Health Lens | \$45,150 |
|--|----------|

**Migrant Workers Alliance for Change**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Connecting Communities: Building Capacity for Migrant Workers and Service Providers to Access Justice | \$48,400 |
|---|----------|

**Sandgate Women's Shelter of York Region**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Connecting Communities: Domestic Violence Legal Training Project | \$29,015 |
|--|----------|

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**Total**

**\$662,371**

## REGULAR GRANTS

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted</b>                             |           |
| Program Activities 2015  | \$230,000 |
| <b>Bearskin Lake First Nation</b>  |           |
| Community Law Renewal  | \$100,000 |
| <b>Black Law Students' Association of Canada</b>                                   |           |
| 24th Annual National Conference  | \$12,000  |
| <b>Canadian Centre for International Justice</b>                                   |           |
| Online Legal Education Platform  | \$15,000  |
| <b>Canadian Civil Liberties Education Trust</b>                                    |           |
| Program Activities 2015  | \$221,100 |
| <b>Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network</b>   |           |
| Bridging the Gap: Connecting Workers Serving Women Living with and Affected by HIV | \$15,000  |
| <b>Canadian Lawyers Abroad</b>   |           |
| Dare to Dream  | \$10,000  |
| <b>Centre Haïtien des Carrières et des Emplois</b>                                 |           |
| Young Newcomers Taking Action for Justice  | \$14,900  |
| <b>Community Information Fairview</b>  |           |
| Law Student and Paralegal Training   | \$11,628  |
| <b>Community Law School (Sarnia-Lambton) Inc.</b>                                  |           |
| Certificate in Community Advocacy Program Updates and Enhancements                 | \$15,000  |
| <b>Community Legal Education Ontario</b>   |           |
| Connecting Communities Secretariat   | \$114,000 |
| Your Legal Rights 2014-2015  | \$162,331 |
| CLEO Centre for Research and Innovation (Yr IV)                                    | \$9,024   |
| CLEO Centre for Research and Innovation (Yr V)                                     | \$95,000  |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Elizabeth Fry Society of Peterborough</b>  |           |
| Women's Court Diversion Project   | \$10,000  |
| <b>Family Services Ottawa</b>   |           |
| The Coordinated Case Management Project for High Conflict Custody and Access Cases                          | \$99,500  |
| <b>FCJ Refugee Centre</b>   |           |
| Access to Justice and Support for Refugee Claimants Through the Refugee Determination and Appeal Processes  | \$50,000  |
| <b>First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada</b>  |           |
| Justice for First Nations Children and Young People is Justice for All                                      | \$91,348  |
| <b>Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, Library</b>                                |           |
| Ontario College Libraries: Quicklaw for Fourteen College Libraries which have Accredited Paralegal Programs | \$100,000 |
| <b>Kinbrace Community Society</b>   |           |
| Refugee Hearing Preparation: a Guide for Refugee Claimants in Ontario                                       | \$50,000  |
| <b>Law Commission of Ontario</b>  |           |
| Program Activities 2014-2015  | \$550,000 |
| <b>Law in Action Within Schools</b>   |           |
| Program Activities 2015-2016  | \$100,000 |
| Summer Job Program 2015   | \$ 15,000 |
| <b>Law School Comprehensive Grants 2015-2016</b>  |           |
| Lakehead University, Faculty of Law   | \$153,000 |
| Osgoode Hall Law School   | \$306,000 |
| Queen's University, Faculty of Law  | \$254,000 |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section<br>((\$33,000 carried forward from Comprehensive Grant 2014-2015)) | \$186,000 |
| University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section   | \$306,000 |
| University of Toronto, Faculty of Law  | \$254,000 |
| University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law  | \$254,000 |
| University of Windsor, Faculty of Law  | \$254,000 |
| <b>Luke's Place Support and Resource Centre for Women and Children</b>   |           |
| Technology Research Project  | \$5,000   |
| <b>Medico-Legal Society of Toronto</b>   |           |
| MLST-PBSC Advocacy Project 2014-2017   | \$15,000  |
| <b>Metropolitan Action Committee on Violence Against Women and Children</b>  |           |
| Program Activities 2014-2015   | \$293,575 |
| <b>Native Law Centre</b>   |           |
| Support for Native Law Centre's Mandate  | \$20,000  |
| <b>Ontario Justice Education Network</b>   |           |
| Program Activities 2014-2015   | \$850,000 |
| Creating a PLE Hub for Ontario   | \$15,000  |
| Flip your Wig for Justice (Yr II)  | \$50,072  |
| Investigating New PLE Ideas for Ontario  | \$16,000  |
| <b>Pathways to Potential</b>   |           |
| Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship 2014-2015   | \$24,652  |
| <b>Planned Lifetime Networks (Waterloo-Wellington-Oxford)</b>  |           |
| 2015 PLN Future Planning Educational Workshops   | \$9,965   |
| <b>Pro Bono Law Ontario</b>  |           |
| Program Activities 2015  | \$800,000 |
| <b>Pro Bono Students Canada</b>  |           |
| Program Activities 2014-2015   | \$542,411 |

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>Public Interest Articling Fellowship 2015–2016</b>       |                    |
| Amnesty International Canada                                | \$69,500           |
| Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted             | \$69,500           |
| Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic                        | \$69,500           |
| Canadian Centre for International Justice                   | \$69,500           |
| Canadian Civil Liberties Association                        | \$69,500           |
| Lake Ontario Waterkeeper                                    | \$69,500           |
| Public Interest Advocacy Centre                             | \$69,500           |
| <b>Roy &amp; Ria McMurtry Endowment Fund 2014–2015</b>      |                    |
| Queen's University, Faculty of Law                          | \$5,000            |
| <b>Regent Park Focus Youth Media Arts Centre</b>            |                    |
| Youth & Law TV Broadcast Project                            | \$14,500           |
| <b>South Ottawa Community Legal Services</b>                |                    |
| Connecting Ottawa   | \$256,560          |
| <b>Sudbury Workers' Education and Advocacy Centre</b>       |                    |
| Workers' Educational Outreach Project                       | \$50,002           |
| <b>The Law Society of Upper Canada</b>                      |                    |
| The Catalyst Project on Access to Justice in Ontario        | \$400,000          |
| <b>The Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History</b>       |                    |
| Program Activities 2015                                     | \$184,912          |
| <b>University of Windsor, Faculty of Law</b>                |                    |
| Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship 2014–2015        | \$14,384           |
| <b>York University, Centre for Feminist Research</b>        |                    |
| Envisioning Global LGBT Human Rights: LGBT Asylum in Canada | \$14,926           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$8,126,290</b> |

— IMPROVING ACCESS

TO JUSTICE BY:

– EDUCATING THE

PUBLIC ABOUT THE LAW

– PROVIDING LEGAL

SERVICES TO

VULNERABLE PEOPLE

– BUILDING THE

CAPACITY OF COMMUNITY

ORGANIZATIONS.

**CLASS PROCEEDINGS FUND**

— IN CASES APPROVED BY THE CPC, CLASS ACTION PLAINTIFFS RECEIVE AN INDEMNITY AGAINST ADVERSE COSTS AND FUNDING FOR SOME DISBURSEMENTS.

IN RETURN, 10% OF ANY AWARD OR SETTLEMENT IN THESE CASES GOES TO THE CPF.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE CLASS PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE

On June 23, 2015 I stepped down from my role as Chair of the Class Proceedings Committee (CPC) after 15 years of service on the CPC, with 10 years as its Chair. It is with a profound sense of accomplishment that I look back over my tenure in this, my final report.

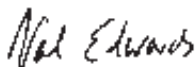
During my time with the CPC I have witnessed the Class Proceedings Fund's (Fund) growth from an unknown part of the class action regime to a significant contributor to access to justice in Ontario.

The Fund has supported numerous public interest cases, such as those involving alleged abuse at residential schools and alleged unpaid overtime, both of which settled in 2014. Many of these cases could not have proceeded without the Fund, which also provided financial support for ground-breaking test cases or those which have established novel principles. Throughout, the CPC has prudently and carefully managed the Fund's finances so that as at the end of December 2014, its balance was a healthy \$19,313,255 – the highest in its history.

2014 was a record year for the Fund. Levies received totalled \$10,350,989. Cost awards made in funded cases were lower in 2014 (perhaps beginning a reversal in the trend towards growing cost awards). And there is a record number of cases in the Fund's current portfolio as at the end of 2014. It is important to note that the results of funding

decisions do not emerge until many years later when the outcome of a funded case is known. The CPC is mindful of this and will continue to rigorously monitor the status of ongoing cases and inform future funding decisions accordingly to ensure the continued sustainability of the Fund.

As Chair of the CPC I have had the pleasure of working with a distinctly talented and dedicated committee. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served alongside this group and am gratified to know that the Fund will continue to thrive with their guidance.



**Valerie A. Edwards**

Class Proceedings Fund  
New Applications Heard and Approved – 2005-2014

|                           | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Hearings Held             | 2    | 8    | 3    | 12   | 13   | 9    | 22   | 12   | 13   | 20   |
| New Applications Approved | 1    | 5    | 2    | 9    | 12   | 7    | 15   | 7    | 7    | 11   |

2014 RESULTS

Statement of Financial Position

|                                     | For the period<br>from Jan. 1, 2014<br>to Dec. 31, 2014 | For the period<br>from 1993<br>to Dec. 31, 2014 |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Opening balance                     | \$9,495,618   | \$500,000                                       |
| Total funding awarded               | (1,852,595)   | (13,860,644)                                    |
| Funding repaid/cancelled            | 1,695,592   | 4,823,603                                       |
| Administration costs/expenses       | (377,585)   | (3,186,459)                                     |
| Interest received                   | 259,986   | 2,282,862                                       |
| 10% levies received                 | 10,350,989  | 37,489,883                                      |
| Cost awards in favour of defendants | (258,750)   | (8,735,990)                                     |
| Balance as at Dec. 31, 2014         | 19,313,255  | 19,313,255                                      |

As required by O.Reg.771/92, s.13, we report as follows:

1. Number of new applications, by stage in proceeding, at the time of application.

| Stage in the Proceeding        | Number of New Applications |      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------|
|                                | 2014                       | 2013 |
| Pre-certification              | 20                         | 11   |
| Appeal re: Certification       | -                          | -    |
| Discovery                      | -                          | 1    |
| Determination of Common Issues | -                          | 1    |
| Appeal re: Common Issues       | -                          | -    |
| Post Common Issue Stage        | -                          | -    |
| Total                          | 20                         | 13   |

2. New applications granted and refused or pending /withdrawn, by stage in the proceeding, at the time of application.

| Stage in the Proceeding | Granted | Refused | Deferred/<br>Pending*/<br>Stayed, etc. | Total |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|--|-------|
| 2013                    |         |         |  |       |
| Pre-certification       | 7       | 2       | 2                                      | 11    |
| Discovery               | -       | -       | -                                      | -     |
| Other (Common Issues)   | -       | 2       | -                                      | 2     |
| Total                   | 7       | 4       | 2                                      | 13    |
| 2014                    |         |         |  |       |
| Pre-certification       | 11      | 3       | 6                                      | 20    |
| Discovery               | -       | -       | -                                      | -     |
| Other (Common Issues)   | -       | -       | -                                      | -     |
| Total                   | 11      | 3       | 6                                      | 20    |

\*Carried forward to the next year.

3. In 2014 financial support was awarded for eleven (11) new cases under section 59.3(1) of the Act<sup>1</sup> and further financial support was awarded for nine (9) cases which had previously been approved, as a result of supplementary funding applications under section 59.3(5) of the Act. In 2013 financial support was awarded for seven (7) new cases under section 59.3(1) of the Act and further financial support was awarded for seven (7) cases which had previously been approved, as a result of supplementary funding applications under section 59.3(5) of the Act.

4. Total awards, by disbursement type is \$1,852,595.

| Type of Disbursement    | Total Amount Awarded 2014 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Administrative Expenses | \$269,459                 |
| Travel                  | 24,013                    |
| Examiners' Charges      | 28,592                    |
| Experts' Fees           | 1,344,275                 |
| Notice to Class         | 120,000                   |
| Other                   | 66,256                    |
| Total                   | \$1,852,595               |

Under regulation 771/92, this section includes only amounts awarded during 2014. Total amounts paid out by the CPF during 2014 may vary as amounts awarded are reimbursed to applicants on an ongoing basis after funded disbursements have been duly incurred and paid by the applicant.

1 References are to the *Law Society Act*.

5. The total amount of money paid from the CPF to applicants under section 59.3 of the Act: 2014, \$1,329,046; 2013, \$879,756; 2012, \$404,596; 2011, \$1,914,374. At December 31, 2014, the balance of all awards outstanding which had not yet been paid to applicants was \$1,590,585.

6. In 2014, 5 funded proceedings were certified. In 2013, 7 funded proceedings were certified.

7. In 2014, 5 applicants who had received financial support settled their proceedings such that the classes involved in these proceedings would receive or will receive a monetary payment. In 2013, 7 applicants who had received financial support settled their proceedings such that the classes involved in these proceedings would receive or will receive a monetary payment.

8. In 2014, 4 defendants made applications to the CPF for payment of costs awards made in their favour pursuant to section 59.4 of the Act; 6 applications were received in 2013. This results from the indemnification of plaintiffs against cost awards.

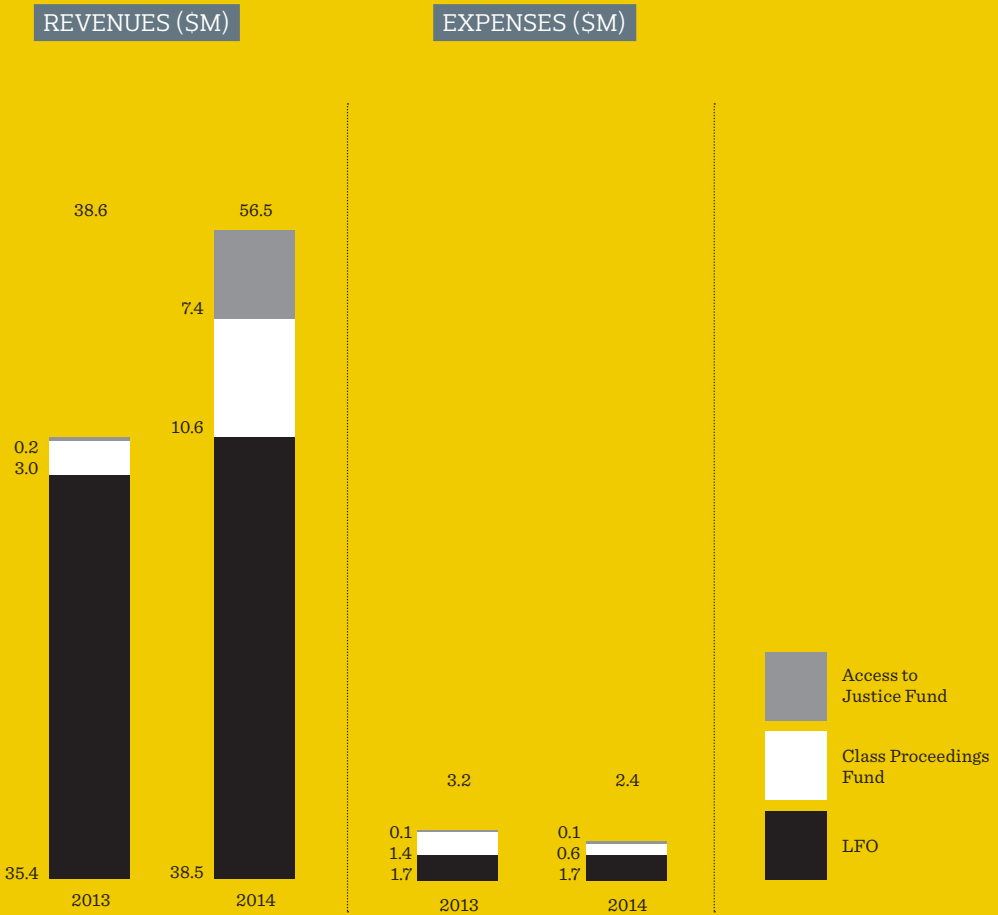
9. In 2014, \$258,750 was paid from the Fund to defendants under section 59.4 of the Act. In 2013, \$977,397 was paid from the Fund to defendants under section 59.4 of the Act. This results from the indemnification of plaintiffs against cost awards.

10. Proceedings for which plaintiff was awarded financial support under section 59.3 of the Act (these included both newly approved cases and previously approved cases for which supplementary funding was awarded).

|                        | Administrative Expenses | Travel Expenses | Examiners' Charges | Experts' Fees | Notice to Class | Other  | Total     |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------|-----------|
| 2014                   | \$                      | \$              | \$                 | \$            | \$              | \$     | \$        |
| Product Liability      | 14,000                  | 5,500           | 5,500              | 255,000       | -               | 22,898 | 302,898   |
| Pension Funds          | -                       | -               | -                  | 90,400        | -               | 16,950 | 107,350   |
| Residential Schools    | 25,300                  | 6,700           | 5,600              | 147,400       | -               | -      | 185,000   |
| Medical Negligence     | 13,509                  | 1,213           | 492                | 5,650         | -               | 1,073  | 21,937    |
| Environmental          | -                       | -               | -                  | 80,000        | -               | -      | 80,000    |
| Investment/ Securities | 27,500                  | 1,600           | -                  | 578,825       | 60,000          | 22,934 | 690,859   |
| Consumer Protection    | -                       | -               | -                  | 150,000       | 60,000          | -      | 210,000   |
| Negligence             | 6,650                   | 5,000           | -                  | -             | -               | 2,401  | 14,051    |
| Breach of Contract     | 178,000                 | -               | -                  | -             | -               | -      | 178,000   |
| Crown Wards            | 3,000                   | 3,000           | -                  | 4,000         | -               | -      | 10,000    |
| Charter Rights         | 1,500                   | 1,000           | 5,000              | 10,000        | -               | -      | 17,500    |
| Employment             | -                       | -               | 12,000             | 23,000        | -               | -      | 35,000    |
| All Cases              | 269,459                 | 24,013          | 28,592             | 1,344,275     | 120,000         | 66,256 | 1,852,595 |
| 2013                   |                         |                 |                    |               |                 |        |           |
| All Cases              | 34,300                  | 6,000           | 15,000             | 354,454       | 54,737          | -      | 464,491   |

—THE CPC HAS  
GROWN FROM AN  
UNKNOWN PART  
OF THE CLASS  
ACTION REGIME  
TO A SIGNIFICANT  
CONTRIBUTOR TO  
ACCESS TO JUSTICE  
IN ONTARIO.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

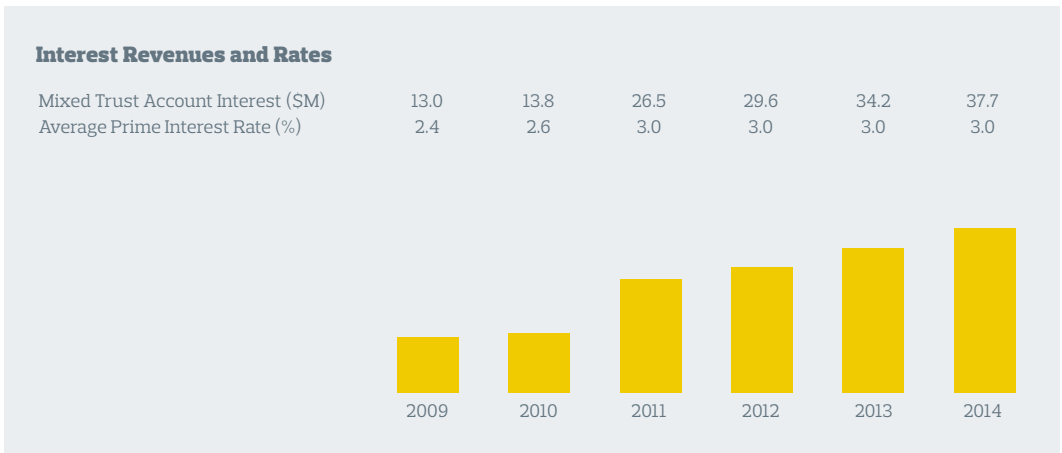


The 2014 audited financial statements are available online at: [www.lawfoundation.on.ca/who-we-are/annual-reports](http://www.lawfoundation.on.ca/who-we-are/annual-reports)

**REVENUES**

The LFO'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 LFO. Revenues were higher in 2014 due

to higher mixed trust account balances and improvements in agreements negotiated by the LFO with financial institutions. However, because prime rate continues to be at historic lows, mixed trust account revenue remains lower than the average for the last 10 years.

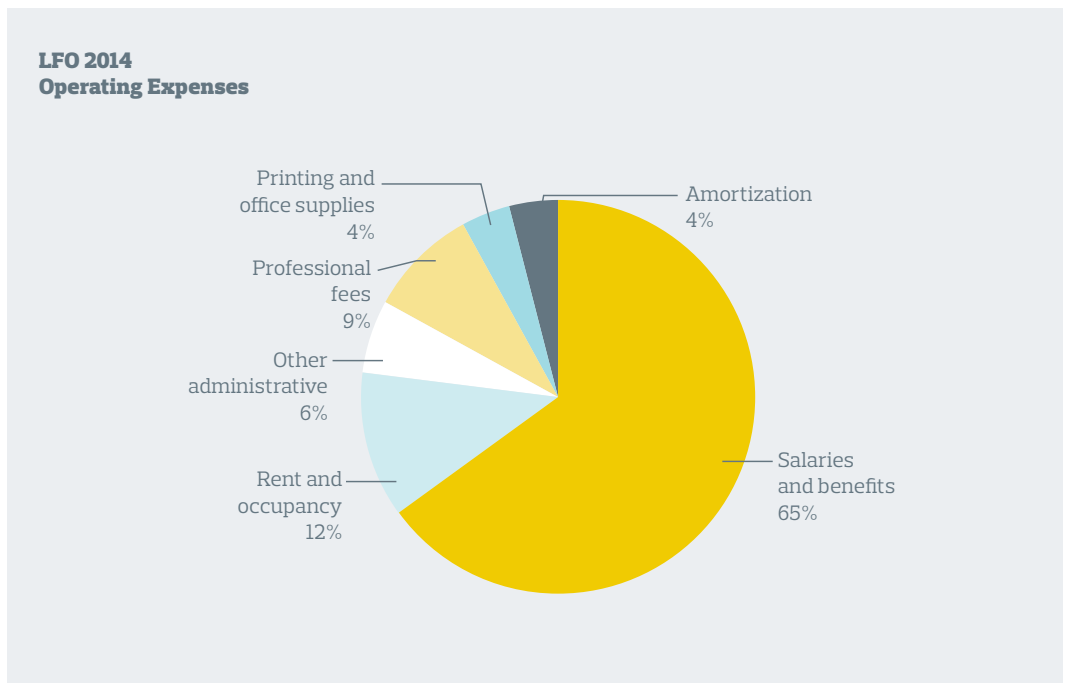


The LFO periodically negotiates rates of return with all financial institutions that are authorized to hold mixed trust accounts for lawyers and paralegals. Some of these agreements are more favourable than others and the LFO continues to seek improvements in all of them. To illustrate the importance of these negotiations, if the bank with the worst terms matched the bank

with the best terms, the additional interest generated could fund 10 more Connecting Articling Fellowships that would provide legal services in their own language to people who do not speak English or French.

### EXPENDITURES

LFO continued to manage its expenses prudently in these difficult economic conditions. Operating expenses (excluding CPF operating costs) were the same as 2013 at \$1.8 million. This follows decreases in operating expenses of 8.0% in 2013 and 5.6% in 2012.

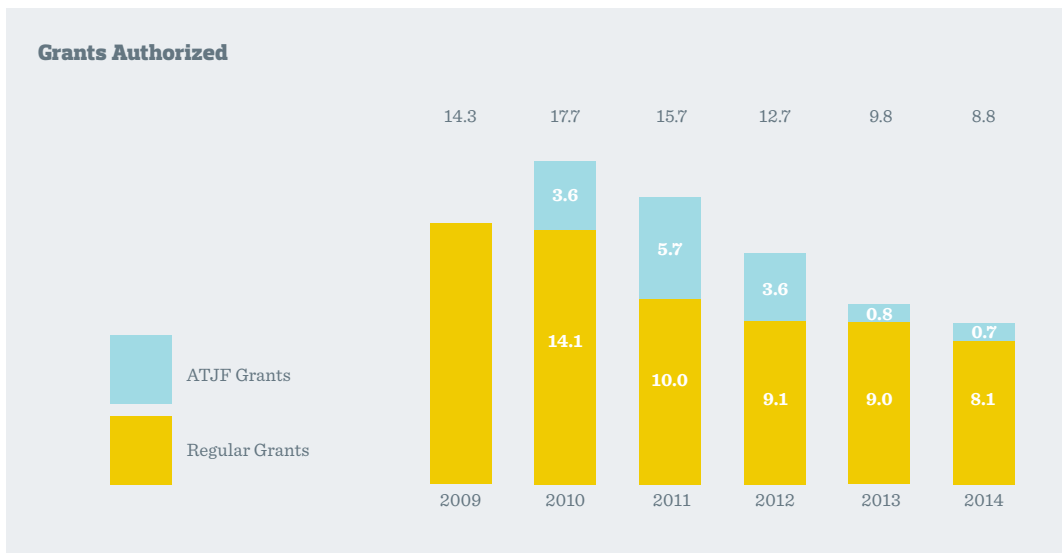




**LFO FUNDING TO LAO**

Seventy-five per cent of mixed trust account revenue net of operating expenses is paid to Legal Aid Ontario (LAO). The LFO's contribution improved in 2014 but it still represents a small component of LAO's revenues.

With its remaining funds, the LFO awards grants that support improved access to justice and excellence in the legal profession. Total grants authorized in 2014 were slightly lower than in 2013 due to the timing of grant applications and approvals.



**THE GUTHRIE AWARD 2014**

— 2014  
GUTHRIE  
AWARD  
WINNER:  
KIMBERLY  
MURRAY.

The Law Foundation of Ontario was pleased to recognize Kimberly Murray with the 2014 Guthrie Award. During two decades of outstanding public service as a lawyer, educator and community leader, Ms. Murray has consistently demonstrated exceptional commitment to improving access to justice for Aboriginal Peoples.

Ms. Murray is a member of the Kahnésatake Mohawk Nation and was the Executive Director of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. In that role she worked to ensure survivors of Canada's Indian Residential Schools system are heard and remembered, with the goal of inspiring Aboriginal Peoples and Canadians in a process of reconciliation and renewed relationships based on mutual understanding and respect.

Previously, as Executive Director for Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto, she appeared before the Ipperwash Inquiry, engaged in community focused advocacy before the Supreme Court of Canada and made an important contribution to the creation of the Gladue Court, a Toronto court which is specially equipped to hear matters involving Aboriginal Peoples. She also litigated a case which led to the Honourable Frank Iacobucci's review of the Ontario Jury System. The review confirmed and provided recommendations to address the lack of representation of Aboriginal Peoples on the Ontario jury rolls.

The Guthrie Award was established in honour of former Law Foundation Trustee and Chair H. Donald Guthrie. It acknowledges outstanding individuals or organizations for their contributions to access to justice and excellence in the legal profession.



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