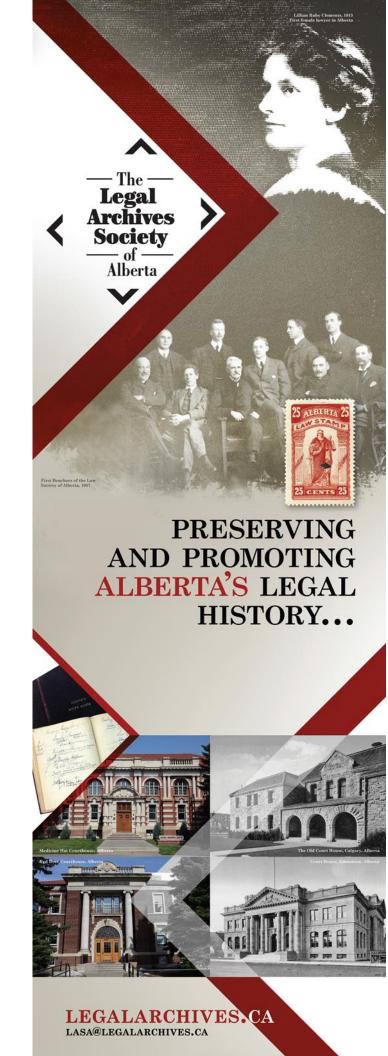
# 2014 Annual Report



"To understand the evolution of law and society in Alberta is to understand our past...

The Legal Archives Society of Alberta is your link to this understanding."

# Society Profile

The Legal Archives Society of Alberta (LASA) is dedicated to preserving, promoting and understanding the evolution of law and society in Alberta by establishing and preserving a complete and accurate historical record of the legal profession in Alberta. Incorporated under the *Societies Act of Alberta* in 1990, LASA is governed by an independent Board of Directors.

In fulfillment of its mission, LASA operates a legal heritage program and facility for the private sector legal community. LASA's principal objectives are to:

- preserve the documentary heritage of lawyers, judges, and legal organizations in Alberta
- provide services for the legal community to identify, retain and use their archival records
- provide source material for legal and public research in the history of law and society in Alberta
- enhance awareness of and celebrate the role of law in Alberta's history

LASA's seven program areas are:

- Archives
- Exhibits and Interpretation
- Research Services
- Records and Archives Consulting

- Legal History Library
- Publications
- Oral History

# President's Report



The Legal Archives Society of Alberta received some significant records in the past year including those from the Edmonton Bar Association, the Hon. J. Herbert Laycraft, Q.C., the Edmonton Bench and Bar Oral History program, and the Hon. Blair Mason, Q.C.

We are pleased that the legal profession continues to choose LASA as its repository for preserving its history. LASA's staff work diligently to provide archival and research services and promote Alberta's legal history through LASA's various programs.

Once again, the Law Society of Alberta provided our core funding, for which we are grateful. Our annual campaign and the generosity of our donors provided the financial assistance that allowed us to meet our project goals. We would like to thank our donors for making 2014 another successful year for LASA.

Everett Bunnell, Q.C. President

# **Executive Director's Report**



The Legal Archives Society of Alberta was busy in 2014 celebrating the the centennial of the Court of Appeal of Alberta. LASA participated in two dinners celebrating the milestone in both Edmonton (April) and Calgary (October). Both events were successful at increasing LASA's presence in the legal and judicial communities.

LASA also published the long-awaited history of the Court of Appeal entitled: *People Principles Progress: The Alberta Court of Appeal's First Century* 1914-2014. We are pleased with the finished product, which has received a

positive reception.

LASA continues to grow and received a number of significant archival donations throughout 2014. Our finances remain stable, and we look forward to continuing as Canada's only independent legal archives.

Stacy F. Kaufeld, M.A. Executive Director

# **Key Statistics**

# Administration and Finances

- received \$195,000 from the Law Society of Alberta in operating grants
- LASA continues to await a decision from the Law Society regarding the \$43,000 loan
- · received \$26,000 in special project grants
- received \$58,420 in special project donations
- \$37,660 raised through our annual campaign
- · received \$10,818 in publication sales
- received \$11,207 in Endowment fund income
- received \$76,467 from casino proceeds (pro-rated over 2 years from the 2014 casino)
- received \$10,659 from the Historical Dinners (after expenses)

# Archives

- acquired 11 accessions amounting to approximately 3.72 metres of textual records
- · holdings consist of over 850 metres of records by the end of the year

# **Exhibits and Interpretation**

- LASA participated in "Law Day" in Calgary
- LASA participates annually in the Archives Society of Alberta virtual exhibit (archivesalberta.org)
- · LASA's website (legalarchives.ca) includes upcoming events and a virtual exhibit
- Developed several exhibits for events celebrating Alberta's legal heritage

# **Research Services**

received 166 requests for information

# **Historical Publications**

• *People Principles Progress: the Alberta Court of Appeal's First Century 1914-2014* by David Mittelstadt was published and sold at a cost of \$100. The book is 464 pages, and includes black and white as well as colour photographs illustrating the Court's history

# **Oral History**

- LASA restarted the Calgary Oral History program with a grant from Alberta Historical Resources Foundation
- · LASA continues to work on the Edmonton Oral History Program

# Library

• 1 title was added to the library

# Administration and Finances

In 2014, LASA operated on a budget of \$473,500. The Law Society of Alberta provided the core grant of \$195,000.

LASA is a registered charity and holds category "A" status under the *Cultural Properties Export and Import Act*.

# **Project Funding**

For the fiscal year of 2014 LASA received a total of \$83,000 in project funding or commitments from outside sources to fund specific projects. Though a number of applications were submitted to various organizations, many were not successful due to the high number of applicants and a limited amount of funds available. LASA plans to reapply to the Calgary Foundation, Community Initiatives Program, and Community Facility Enhancement Program for funding in 2014.

# Archives Society of Alberta

LASA received no project funding from the Archives Society of Alberta. Though we applied for an Oral History migration project, our application was declined. LASA received funding for an arrangement and description of the Hon. John Sisson, first resident judge of the Northwest territores in 2015.

#### Ministry of Justice/Court of Appeal of Alberta

\$30,000 was received from Ministry of Justice for the publication of the history of the Court of Appeal of Alberta.

# 2014 Annual Campaign

The purpose of the annual campaign is to raise funds to cover operating expenses for the current and next fiscal year. Staff and volunteer supporters normally set out to achieve an annual goal of \$50,000 (after expenses) through two major fundraising efforts: a direct mail campaign, and the Historical Dinner. The total amount received in 2014 campaign was \$48,320.

# Direct Mail Campaign

LASA mailed out approximately 1,000 appeal letters and donor cards to Alberta's legal and judicial communities. Combined with other contributions throughout the year, the profession responded with \$37,660 in direct donations. Lower than previous years, but LASA didn't expense \$7,000 for printing and mailing out.

# Historical Dinners

LASA held its annual fundraising Dinner in 2014 in Calgary celebrating the centenary of the Court of Appeal of Alberta. The keynote speaker was the Hon. Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. It was a dinner co-hosted with the Calgary Bar Association, who generously donated their surplus from the dinner to LASA. The total surplus was \$10,660.

# Alberta Legal Heritage Fund

In 1997 LASA established the Alberta Legal Heritage Fund at the Edmonton Community Foundation, the Calgary Community Foundation and the Medicine Hat Community Foundation. In 1998 funds were established in the Community Foundations of Red Deer, Lethbridge and Grande Prairie. Funds from casinos held in 1998,1999, 2000, 2002, 2003 and 2004 were also added to the Alberta Legal Heritage Fund in each community. The interest income received from the funds is used to ensure the future preservation of legal archives in Alberta. In the past year \$9,925 was received in Endowment Income.

# Casino

LASA held a charity casino at Cowboys Casino in Calgary on May 23 & 24, 2014. Casino profits are first deposited in a city-wide pool and then distributed. LASA's portion of this profit was received during the third quarter of 2014 and amounted to \$76,467, which is prorated over two years.

# Membership

Membership stood at 143 on December 31, 2014, a decrease from last year's total of 173. Revenue from annual campaign donations for 2014 was \$37,660 a decrease from last year's amount of \$45,560. The average donation in 2013 was \$263; in 2014 it was \$263.

Contributions were distributed among the following categories:

Honourary Members - 20 Supporter (up to \$149) - 9 Friend (\$150 - \$249) - 66 Sustainer (\$250 - \$499) - 45 Advocate (\$500 - \$999) - 20 Patron (\$1,000 - \$4,999) - 3 Benefactor (\$5,000 - \$9,999) - 0

A list of donors for 2014 can be found on page 12 of the Annual Report.

# **Annual General Meeting**

On June 11, 2014, LASA held its Annual General Meeting via video conference in Edmonton and Calgary. Members of the current Board of Directors, Everett Bunnell, Q.C., Aaron Bickman, and Hon. Robert Philp, Q.C., allowed their names to stand. LASA elected Oliver Ho and the Hon. Willis O'Leary, Q.C. to the Board.

David Mittelstadt spoke about the history of the Court of Appeal of Alberta. His talk was based on his recently published book entitled *People Principle Progress: The Alberta Court of Appeal's First Century, 1914 to 2014.* 

LASA operates a province-wide archives program and facility based in the Law Society of Alberta offices in Calgary. The main components of the archive's function are:

- acquiring and appraising records of the legal and judicial communities
- arranging, describing and constructing finding aids for records
- storing and preserving records

# **Facilities and Conservation**

LASA's administrative and research offices and storage vault is limited. In 2006 there was approximately 100 metres of records stored at Iron Mountain. In 2011 LASA has 500 metres of records stored at Iron Mountain and 300 metres of records onsite. 85 bankers boxes of archival records were transferred to Iron Mountain for permanent storage in August 2011.

LASA still requires a long-term solution to archival storage space. Investigation on installing mobile shelving onsite in LASA's office is underway.

# Acquisitions

LASA acquired 7 accessions in 2014, amounting to nearly 3.72 linear metres of textual records, over 350 photographs, 2 sound recordings and 25 computer discs. Currently LASA's holdings exceed 850 metres. Noteworthy acquisitions in 2014 include:

# Hon. J. Herbert Laycraft, Q.C.

Accession number 2014-004 12 photographs; 1video Date Range: 1930-2000

Consists of a collection of personal photographs belonging to retired Chief Justice of Alberta, Hon. J. Herbert Laycraft, Q.C. Images include personal family shots as a youngster and span his life with his wife, children and grandchildren. There are several portrait shots taken during significant occasions throughout his legal career.

# Edmonton Bar Association

Accession number 2014-005 1 metres of textual records; 350 photographs; 25 computer discs Date Range: 1985-2010

Consists of records retrieved from past President James F. McGinnis, Q.C. and represent EBA working files dating back several years, spanning the tenures of Executive members, including R. Wachowich, Sophia Dodloski, Cecilia Johnstone, and Marilena M. Carminati. Files include meeting minutes, annual



J. Herbert Laycraft, World War II Veteran Accession #: 2014-004 financial statements, some EBA correspondence, and memorabilia from events hosted by the EBA. Three photo albums include members of the Edmonton Bench and Bar in attendance at EBA dinners. Seven over-sized prints depict Edmonton Bar Assocation board of directors, 1989-1997. Nine banker boxes of non-archival financial records were returned at the request of the donor.



**Hon. Blair Mason, Q.C.** Accession number 2014-003 12.5 cm of textual records; 40 photographs Date Range: 1984-2006

Edmonton Bar Association, Executive, 1996 Accession #: 2014-005

A donation of trophies, correspondence, and photographs relating to legal community sporting traditions. Events include: Calgary Queen's Bench judges road race running events and marathons; Stampede race and hockey games organized between the female lawyers and Calgary judges organized by now deceased Calgary lawyer Judy Norman.

# **Arrangement and Description**

The activity of arranging and describing archives involves: accessioning the records to gain physical control; completing a preliminary listing of the material to facilitate access to the holdings; storing material for long-term preservation; and producing finding aids compliant with the *Rules of Archival Description* to aid researchers. A group of records from one person or organization is described in archival terms as Fonds. Detailed descriptions of all acquisitions received by LASA are available on the automated ACCESSION database. Approximately 75% of LASA's holdings are archivally arranged and described at the fonds and series level on the FONDS database. Of the 116 fonds described, most are processed to the file and item level and include a finding aid available for researchers.

To date, LASA has received a total of \$16,000 in funding to complete a short historical film on Alberta lawyers who fought in World War I. LASA paid \$1,000 to Aaron Coates to write a script based on the meeting minutes of the Medicine Hat Bar Association send off event for two lawyers practicing in that city. LASA has engaged Julian Antelope Black (film maker) and Megan Reneau (actor representative) to discuss the production of a film on a \$15,000 budget. This project has received funding and support from various organizations, including the City of Medicine Hat, Medicine Hat Bench and Bar Association, Veterans Affairs Canada, Community Initiatives Program, Project Grant from the Alberta government, and private donations. As well, LASA has obtained a number of in-kind donations, including venue rental, costume rental, props, and services for extras on set), which amounts to approximately \$14,500. The intended format is a short film, and the goal is to produce a work in a medium that is engaging and entertaining.

LASA experienced a significant data loss/recovery in 2014. LASA's digital vault contained original photographs, high-resolution scans of archival images, and oral history interviews. This was a considerable loss of data. Recovery involved sending the digital vault to the manufacturer at a significant cost -- \$3,355. Seagate was able to recover all lost data. LASA has taken steps to ensure improved IT support to avoid these losses.

# **Reference Services**

LASA maintains an automated reference system which provides access to information on lawyers, legal organizations, and judges in the province and supports research projects such as family histories, case law, and biographies. Staff perform limited searches and interpretation of material in response to reference inquiries.

LASA received 166 requests for information relating to or taken directly from its holdings. Some of these requests involved extensive in-house research of archival material over a period of weeks; other were simple requests for information provided in a matter of minutes over the telephone. The information has been used for locating practice files, to complete genealogical research, or to produce historical publications. The types of researchers are broken down as follows: Donor/ Depositor - 5; Legal Community - 63; Academic Community - 13; Private Researchers - 21; Media - 5; Other Archives/Libraries - 44; and the Law Society of Alberta - 55.

# **Exhibits and Outreach**

# World War I Commemoration, 1914-1918

Over the next several years LASA will highlight the link between Alberta lawyers and service in WWI with articles in *Architypes*, and a display highlighting Alberta's experience and response to WWI. LASA has also been working on developing a historical short film detailing the experiences of Alberta's lawyers and the First World War

# Bennett Jones LLP

Bennett Jones borrowed LASA's display celebrating the career of Mac Jones, Q.C., as well as detailing the history of the law firm. The display was developed in 2010 to commemorate Mr. Jones's 70 years at the Bar. In September 2014, the display was featured at the opening of a University of Calgary, Faculty of Law lecture hall bearing his name.

# Meeting minutes from the Medicine Hat Bar Association, August 26, 1914. Accession #:

o studiory, proten

#### 2005-007

# Court of Appeal of Alberta 100 Year Anniversary

A extensive and thorough display was mounted to compliment the celebrations of the Court of Appeal's centennial in 2014. Structured around each Chief Justice of Alberta, the exhibit highlighted the personalities and history of the court through its one hundred year history. The display was featured at several court-related events, including the two gala dinners in Edmonton in April and Calgary in October.

# **Publications**

LASA completed one major publication projects in 2014. The history of the Court of Appeal of Alberta was completed in December 2013 and released in April 2014.

LASA also released its first 'Occasional Paper' available for download on LASA's website (<u>www.legalarchives.ca</u>). The paper details the life and times of Leonard Brockington, Q.C. written by Ed Bredin.

#### Architypes

LASA published only one issue of its newsletter, *Architypes*, which was distributed to members of the Law Society and Alberta Courts. Articles recapped the 2013 historical dinner with John Martland, Q.C. and previewed the 2014 dinner celebrating the Court of Appeal's centennial featuring the Hon. Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. The issue also highlighted a significant donation of materials from the late Judge John H. Sissons, the first resident judge of the Northwest Territories. It also featured the first in a series of articles commemorating Alberta lawyers who fought in World War I. LASA hopes to return to a bi-annual publication of *Architypes* in 2015.



Memorial plaque honouring WWI veterans, Edmonton Courthouse. LASA #: 61-G-35



D. Clifton Prowse, Old Man River flood, 1937 Accession #: 2012-010

# **Oral History**

LASA has initiated a province-wide series of recorded interview projects preserving the memory of the legal community for posterity. Most of the previous year's oral histories have now been transcribed and copies have been sent to the interviewees for final edit.

# Calgary Project

The Calgary Oral History project was restarted near the end of 2014. Supported by a grant from the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation, David Mittlestadt began doing background research on a number of candidates, and commenced interviews in early 2015.

# Edmonton Project

Kathy Fisher started conducting interviews in Edmonton in 2014. She has completed interviews with Don Bishop, Q.C. and Phil Lister, Q.C. Two prominent Edmonton lawyers. She is continuing this round of interviews throughout 2015. Jim Neilson resigned as Chair of the Edmonton Committee.



Don Bishop, Q.C. LASA #: 5-G-151



Phil Lister, Q.C. LASA #: 5-G-152

# Legal History Library

LASA has spent a number of years reevaluating its library holdings. Limited space has required LASA to limit the number of books we collect. Going forward, we are limiting the collection of books in LASA's library to those that deal directly with Alberta's legal heritage. Though, other donations will be considered on a per case basis.

# **Board of Directors**

Everett Bunnell, Q.C., President Calgary (2014-2016)

Aaron Bickman, Treasurer Calgary (2014-2016)

T. Catherine Christopher, Q.C. Calgary (2013-2015)

Susan V.R. Billington, Q.C. Calgary (2013-2015)

Shaun T. MacIsaac Calgary (2013-2015)

Hon. Mr. Justice A.G. Park Calgary (2013-2015)

Hon. Mr. Justice Jack Watson Edmonton (2013-2015)

Hon. Willis O'Leary, Q.C. Calgary (2014-2016)

Oliver Ho Calgary (2014-2016)

Dennis A. McDermott, Q.C. Calgary (2013-2015) Hon. Judge Robert A. Philp Edmonton (2014-2016)

Wayne M. Schafer, Q.C. Edmonton (2013-2015)

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Hon. Mr. Justice Dallas K. Miller Lethbridge (2013-2015)

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Andrew J. MacRae Medicine Hat (2013-2015)

Duncan McKillop, Q.C. Calgary (2013-2015)

Hon. Judge Shelagh Creagh Edmonton (2013-2015)

Michel G. Fontaine Edmonton (2013-2015)

# LSA Benchers' Representative

Brett Code, Q.C.

# **Annual Campaign Donors 2014**

#### **Honourary Members**

Donald G. Bishop, Q.C. Edward Bredin, Q.C. Hon. Mary Hetherington Hon. J.H. Laycraft, O.C., LLD, Q.C. Hon. D.C. McDonald (deceased) Glenn Morrison, Q.C. Hon. W.A. Stevenson, O.C. Hon Marjorie M. Bowker, C.M. (deceased) Garth Fryett, Q.C. Louis D. Hyndman, Sr., Q.C. (deceased) Hon. J.W. McClung, Q.C. (deceased) Hon. J.V.H. Milvain, Q.C. (deceased) Kirsten M. Olsen Hon. Allan H. Wachowich, Q.C. Wilbur F. Bowker, O.C., Q.C. (deceased) James H. Gray (deceased) Hon. Roger P. Kerans John A.C. McDonald (deceased) Hon. W.K. Moore, Q.C. Graham Price, Q.C.

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The Hon. Robert A. Philp, Q.C.

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#### Friend (\$150 - \$249)

Anonymous Leslie E. Ahlstrom, Q.C. Linda A. Anderson Arnold & Arnold Alan V.M. Beattie, Q.C. Tudor A.H. Beattie, O.C. Beresh Aloneissi O'Neill Hurley O'Keeffe Millsap Aaron Bickman The Hon. Dietrich Brand Janice M. Bruni, Q.C. R. Ian Cartwright The Hon. Edward R.R. Carruthers, Q.C. William J. Coll John H. Cuthbertson, Q.C. The Hon. Russell A. Dixon, Q.C. Leslie R. Duncan, O.C. William A. Dushenski Barry E. Emes Allan W. Fraser W. Donald Goodfellow, Q.C. The Hon. Judge Marlene L. Graham Alison J. Grav Eric P. Groody The Hon. Mr. Justice Robert J. Hall Christopher R. Head Paul J. Holubitsky and Gwen May William H. Hurlburt, LL.D.(Hon), O.C. The Hon. Roger P. Kerans Dr. Louis A. Knafla

#### Supporter (up to \$149)

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University of Alberta Library Bibliographic Services (EBSCO) Harold W. Veale, Q.C. The Hon. L. Diane Young, Assistant Chief Judge The Hon. Mr. Justice Frans F. Slatter The Hon. Paul G. Sully, Q.C. E. David D. Tavender, Q.C. The Hon. John Z. Vertes David J. Wachowich, Q.C. Neil B. Watson Scott A. Watson, Q.C. The Hon. L. David Wilkins, Q.C.

# Staff

Stacy F. Kaufeld, M.A., Executive Director Brenda McCafferty, Archivist Ewa Gniazdowska, Administrative and Development Officer



The Three Ten(s)ors Performing, Edmonton Court of Appeal Dinner, April 10, 2014.



Female Lawyers vs. Judges Hockey Team, ca. 1996 Accession #: 2014-003



J. Herbert Laycraft, LL.B. Graduation Accession #: 2014-004



LASA's Display Commemorating Court of Appeal's Centennial, Edmonton, April 10, 2014.

# THE LEGAL ARCHIVES SOCIETY OF ALBERTA Financial Statements Year Ended December 31, 2014 (Unaudited)

# **REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

To the Members of The Legal Archives Society of Alberta

I have reviewed the statement of financial position of The Legal Archives Society of Alberta as at December 31, 2014 and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. My review was made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and, accordingly, consisted primarily of inquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to me by the Society.

A review does not constitute an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Calgary, Alberta June 4, 2015

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

# Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2014

		operating <i>cember 31</i> 2014		estricted cember 31 2014	De	Casino ecember 31 2014	De	Total ecember 31 2014	Total lonths Ending ecember 31 2013
		ASSET	S						
CURRENT Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses	\$	22,379 2,579 4,807	\$	26,445 14,753 -	\$	80,177 1,321 3,034	\$	129,001 18,653 7,841	\$ 95,190 4,363 7,768
	\$	29,765	\$	41,198	\$	84,532	\$	155,495	\$ 107,321
	LIABIL	ITIES AND	NET A	SSETS					
CURRENT Accounts payable Interfund balances (Note 5) Deferred revenue - Other (Note 6)	\$	15,362 25,264	\$	9,146 (3,530) 31,117	\$	- (21,734)	\$	24,508 - 31,117	\$ 21,829 - 35,907
Deferred revenue - Casino (Note 7) Short term debt (Note 8)		43,000		-		70,512		70,512 43,000	 36,321 43,000
		83,626		36,733		48,778		169,137	137,057
NET ASSETS		(53,861)		4,465		35,754		(13,642)	(29,736)
	\$	29,765	\$	41,198	\$	84,532	\$	155,495	\$ 107,321

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD Elbannel Director Shaw Mantsaac Director

# Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

# Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Operating accember 31 2014	centricted cember 31 2014	De	Casino ecember 31 2014	De	Total ecember 31 2014	Total onths Ending cember 31 2013
REVENUE							
Grants - Law Society of Alberta (Note 10)	\$ 195,000	\$ -	\$	-	\$	195,000	\$ -
Grants - Other	-	84,420		-		84,420	11,982
Gala Income	-	94,211		-		94,211	-
Fundraising	35,509	-		42,277		77,786	19,866
Investment and sundry income	11,207	14		11		11,232	4,357
Publications	 10,818	-		-		10,818	55
	 252,534	178,645		42,288		473,467	36,260
EXPENSES							
General administration	31,913	1,000		-		32,913	7,338
Fundraising	2,950	-		-		2,950	276
Projects	-	83,434		2,286		85,720	12,539
Gala	-	94,211		-		94,211	_
Publications	1,648	_		-		1,648	-
Premises	43,610	-		40,002		83,612	14,251
Salaries and benefits	 156,320	-		-		156,320	21,746
	 236,441	178,645		42,288		457,374	56,150
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 16,093	\$ -	\$	-	\$	16,093	\$ (19,890)

# Statement of Changes in Net Assets

# Year Ended December 31, 2014

	С	perating	Re	estricted		Casino		Total	
	De	cember 31 2014		ember 31 2014	De	cember 31 2014	De	ecember 31 2014	2 Months Ended <i>ccember 31</i> 2013
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR Excess of revenue over expenses	\$	(69,954) 16,093	\$	4,465 -	\$	35,754 -	\$	(29,735) 16,093	\$ (9,846) (19,890)
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$	(53,861)	\$	4,465	\$	35,754	\$	(13,642)	\$ (29,736)

# Statement of Cash Flows

# Year Ended December 31, 2014

	De	Total December 31 2014		Total onths Ending cember 31 2013	
OPERATING ACTIVITIES Excess of revenue over expenses Item not affecting cash:	\$	16,093	\$	(19,890)	
		16,093		(19,890)	
Changes in non-cash working capital: Accounts receivable Accounts payable Deferred revenue - Casino Deferred revenue - Other Prepaid expenses		(14,290) 2,680 34,191 (4,790) (73) 17,718		(628) (9,313) (7,777) (11,981) <u>566</u> (29,133)	
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW		33,811		(49,023)	
Cash - beginning of year		95,190		144,213	
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$	129,001	\$	95,190	
CASH CONSISTS OF: Unrestricted cash Restricted cash ATB Casino	\$	22,379 26,445 80,177	\$	16,711 45,411 33,068	
	\$	129,001	\$	95,190	

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

#### Year Ended December 31, 2014

(Unaudited)

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY

The Legal Archives Society of Alberta (the "Society") is a not-for-profit organization incorporated on January 18, 1990 under the Societies Act of the province of Alberta. The purpose of the Society is to preserve, promote and understand the evolution of law and society in Alberta. The Society meets the qualifications of a non-profit organization and is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act.

#### 2. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for notfor-profit organizations (GAAP).

#### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes cash and cash equivalents.

#### Financial instruments policy

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale, or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and short term debt.

At the end of each reporting period the Society assess whether there are any indications that a financial asset measured at amortized cost may be impaired. Objective evidence of impairment might include significant financial difficulty of the issuer, default or delinquency in interest payments, or bankruptcy. When there is an indication of impairment, the Society determines whether a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows from the financial asset. Any impairment loss is recognized in the statement of revenues and expenditures in the current period. Impairment losses can be reversed to the extent of the improvement. The amount of the reversal is recognized in the statement of revenues and expenditures in the period the reversal occurs.

#### Contributed goods and services

Volunteers contribute a significant amount of their time each year. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements. At times, goods are also donated to the Society. Due to the difficulty in determining the fair value, contributed goods are not recognized in the financial statements.

(continues)

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

#### Year Ended December 31, 2014

#### (Unaudited)

#### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Fund accounting

Revenues and expenses related to program delivery and administrative activities are reported in the Operating Fund.

Revenues and expenses related to special archival activities are reported in the Restricted Fund, these include:

- i) cataloguing and preserving archival records,
- ii) researching and documenting oral histories,
- iii) commissioning bronze busts of individuals who have contributed significantly to legal history in Alberta.

The Casino Fund reports only funds raised from casino activities. These funds are not for general use. The majority of these funds must be used for qualifying activities in accordance with the Alberta Gaming Control guidelines and may be distributed to specified community trusts.

#### Revenue recognition

The Legal Archives Society of Alberta follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Casino contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

#### Archival collection

The archival collection consists items related to Alberta legal history, prominent lawyers and judges, including textual records, audio-visual materials, cultural items, medals and memorabilia, publications, prints and photographs. The archival collection has not been capitalized in the statement of financial position. Any purchases of collection items are expensed in the period in which the items are acquired. Contributions of collection items are reported as revenue and expenses at their fair value. When fair value cannot be determined, the contribution is not recognized in the financial statements.

#### Capital assets

Capital assets are expensed on acquisition. Capital assets include leasehold improvements related to the Calgary office, furniture and office equipment. For the year ending December 31, 2014 capital assets with a cost of \$nil (two months ending December 31, 2013 - \$nil, 12 months ending October 31, 2013 - \$1,205) were purchased.

(continues)

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

#### Year Ended December 31, 2014

(Unaudited)

#### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-forprofit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### 4. INCOME TAXES

The Society is a registered charity within the meaning of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and is exempt from income taxes.

#### 5. INTERFUND TRANSFERS

During the year, the Society's board of directors have approved the following transactions:

- i) The Operating Fund owes the Casino Fund \$8,885 (December 31, 2013 \$21,809), regarding office and other sundry transactions.
- ii) The Operating Fund owes the Restricted Fund \$16,379 (December 31, 2013 \$6,943) for payment of general operating expenses.
- iii) The Restricted Fund owes the Casino Fund \$12,849 (December 31, 2013 \$12,489) regarding office rent and other sundry transactions.

These advances are non-interest bearing and due on demand.

#### 6. DEFERRED REVENUE

The deferred revenue below relates to outstanding projects.

	2014		2013
Deferred revenue - restricted			
Balance, beginning of the period	\$	35,907	\$ 47,888
Contributions during the period		159,491	-
Amounts spent during the period		(178,646)	(11,981)
Amounts recovered from the operating fund		5,131	-
Expenses incurred to be reimbursed		9,234	-
	\$	31,117	\$ 35,907

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

#### Year Ended December 31, 2014

(Unaudited)

#### 7. CASINO

Revenues of the Casino are recognized when the related expenses or distributions are incurred, with the balance of Casino proceeds recorded as deferred revenue. Gaming proceeds may not be disbursed without the prior approval of the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission. Gaming proceeds are required to be expended within 24 months of receipt.

	 2014	2013
Balance, beginning of the period Amounts received during the period Amounts spent during the period	\$ 36,321 76,467 (42,288)	\$ 44,098 - (7,777)
	\$ 70,500	\$ 36,321

#### 8. SHORT TERM DEBT

The Society received funds from the Law Society of Alberta as temporary bridge financing for the office relocation project. The amounts are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are to be repaid on demand.

#### 9. CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Since 1995, the Society has contributed to various provincial community foundations as a means of fulfilling its mandate. Beginning in 2005, these annual contributions were suspended. The balances in the various foundations are as follows:

	 2014	2013
Edmonton Community Foundation	\$ 122,157	\$ 122,157
The Calgary Foundation Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta	115,458 4,792	115,458 4,792
Lethbridge Community Foundation	5,995	5,995
Medicine Hat Community Foundation Red Deer and District Community Foundation	6,487 5,566	6,487 5,566
	\$ 260,455	\$ 260,455

Funds contributed are held in trust indefinitely. Income distributions to the Society are at the discretion of the various foundations. Distributions are recognized as income in the year received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated. Amounts have not changed materially from the balances disclosed at December 31, 2013.

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

#### Year Ended December 31, 2014

#### (Unaudited)

#### 10. ECONOMIC INFLUENCE

The Society receives a significant portion of its funding from the Law Society of Alberta. The Society's by-laws make provision for a representative of the Law Society to be a member of its board of directors.

The Society has a deposit agreement regarding the administration of the Law Society's archival records. No fee is assessed by the Society for this service.

#### 11. LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Society has a long term lease with respect to its premises expiring July 31, 2017. The lease contains renewal options and provides for payment of utilities, property taxes and maintenance costs. Future minimum lease payments as at December 31, 2014, are as follows:

2015 2016 2017	\$ 37,632 37,632 21,952
	\$ 97,216

#### 12. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Society is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the Society's risk exposure and concentration as of December 31, 2014.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The Society is exposed to credit risk from customers. In order to reduce its credit risk, the Society reviews a new customer's credit history before extending credit and conducts regular reviews of its existing customers' credit performance. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific accounts, historical trends and other information. The Society has a significant number of customers which minimizes concentration of credit risk.

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. In seeking to minimize the risks from interest rate fluctuations, the Society manages exposure through its normal operating and financing activities. The Society is exposed to interest rate risk primarily through its floating interest rate bank indebtedness and credit facilities.

