

2020

ANNUAL REPORT



ABOUT PRO BONO LAW SASKATCHEWAN

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan (PBLS) is a non-profit, non-government organization that provides free legal advice to low-income clients in Saskatchewan. PBLS operates and partners with 14 free legal clinics across Saskatchewan. PBLS tries to fill the gap of legal services between government-funded Legal Aid and hiring a private lawyer.

PBLS defines pro bono legal services as providing professional legal services without expectation of fee, where legal aid is not available, for:

- persons of limited means who demonstrate a need for legal assistance but are unable to afford legal counsel without suffering financial hardship;
- charitable, non-profit, religious, civic, community, governmental and educational organizations in matters that are designed primarily to address the needs of persons of limited means or which work for the public good of marginalized or disadvantaged individuals or groups;
- matters of public interest and broad community concern, which might not otherwise be pursued; and
- the improvement of the law or legal system in a manner that benefits marginalized or disadvantaged individuals or groups.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide quality pro bono legal services to persons of limited means.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to provide prompt, efficient, and effective pro bono legal services and legal resources to persons of limited means with the assistance of volunteer lawyers across Saskatchewan.

WE BELIEVE:

- in the intrinsic value of every person;
- that the justice system should be accessible to every person;
- that lawyers care and want to give back;
- that knowledge gives people power;
- that everyone deserves justice; and
- that lawyers and PBLS have a role to play in advocating for social change.

Message from the President and Executive Director

No one could have predicted the global pandemic that swept the world in 2020. The COVID-19 virus impacted everyone's lives in so many ways but was particularly isolating and devasting to those already in vulnerable places. Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan (PBLS) was able to weather the storm, as well as continue to provide quality free legal services to those in need despite the global pandemic.

Beginning in March 2020, PBLS staff and volunteers made the transition to providing all of our services remotely via telephone and video meetings in order to keep our staff, volunteers, and clients safe. Words cannot express the gratitude we have for our volunteer lawyers who effortlessly pivoted to remote legal services. Without their help, we would not have been able to continue to provide our quality free legal services to serve our clients.

Since the transition to working and providing programming remotely, we have missed our connections with our Free Legal Clinic host organizations. We look forward to being back in community space and working alongside the excellent community-based organization partners in serving our clients!

Despite the challenges that the global pandemic has created, we have also appreciated the time to reflect on our and the justice systems' processes. We strive to create inclusive and accessible services for our clients and advocate for the justice system to do the same.

We would like to highlight and thank our longstanding supportive funders that make our existence possible. The Law Foundation of Saskatchewan continues to be Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan's primary funder, as well as the Law Society of Saskatchewan, the Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch, and Childview Inc. PBLS is thankful for the support of our community of lawyers, justice stakeholders, and community partners.

Major Mike Hoeft
President of the Board of Directors

Carly Romanow

Executive Director

FREE LEGAL CLINIC PROGRAM

PBLS's largest program is our Free Legal Clinic Program. At the Free Legal Clinics, clients will receive **up to one hour of free legal advice** from a volunteer lawyer. Clients can receive advice in **any area of law**. Clients may book follow-up appointments, as necessary.

In 2020, PBLS directly operated **12** Free Legal Clinics in **10** communities across Saskatchewan. We further support the work of AJEFS in providing the French Free Legal Clinic and the Central Alberta Community Legal Clinic in providing the Lloydminster Free Legal Clinic.

FREE LEGAL CLINIC PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Salvation Army - Meadow Lake

Indian Metis Friendship Centre

- Prince Albert

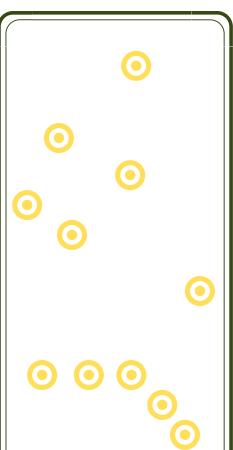
Central Alberta Community Legal Clinic - **Lloydminster**

Catholic Family Services

North Battleford

Salvation Army - Swift Current

Salvation Army - Moose Jaw



Scattered Site Outreach - La Ronge

Salvation Army - Yorkton

Salvation Army - Regina

Regina Public Library

Small Claims Court - Regina

AJEFS - Regina

Community Low Income Centre - Weyburn

Salvation Army - Estevan

FREE LEGAL CLINIC PROGRAM

In 2020, PBLS served **1,200** clients through the Free Legal Clinic Program. This number is a decrease in clients served from previous years and reflects the global downturn from COVID-19, including the closure and delay of aspects of our justice system.

CLIENTS SERVED PER YEAR



Below is client demographic information from 2020:

- 41% of our clients identified as female, 35% male, and less than 1% non-binary
- 30% of our clients were unemployed, 24% were employed, and 7% on disability
- Our clients on average have a gross monthly income of approximately \$1,600
- Our clients on average have 1 child
- 40% of our clients identified as White/European, 20% as Indigenous (First Nation, Inuit, Metis), 6% as Asian, 2% as Black, 1% Middle Eastern/Arab, and 1% as Latinx.
- 67% of our clients identified as heterosexual, 31% preferred not to say, and 2% as a member of the LGBTQ2S+ community

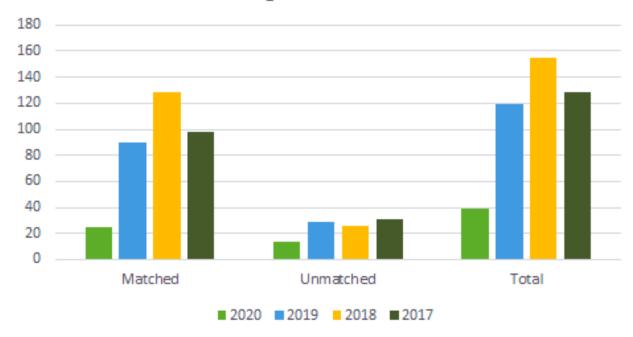


PANEL PROGRAM

Through the Panel Program, volunteer lawyers provide limited scope to full representation for individuals and community organizations of limited means. The program is provincewide. We have a General Panel program, as well as several specialized panels, where volunteer lawyers assist with particular areas of law. Below is a list of our specialized Panel Programs:

- Inmates Legal Assistance Panel: Assists inmates in provincial or federal prisons in Saskatchewan with institutional matters, such as access to healthcare, discipline charge hearings, and review of segregation use.
- Immigration & Refugee Panel: Assists individuals in Saskatchewan with the immigration and refugee process.
- Seniors Panel: Assists seniors receiving the Federal Guaranteed Income Supplement.
- **Solicitor Panel**: Assists charitable, non-profit, or community organizations of limited means.
- Residential Tenancies Panel: Assists tenants with their residential tenancy matters. This panel utilizes articling students to assist our clients.
- Criminal Appeals Panel: Assists individuals, who are denied both Legal Aid and courtappointed counsel, appealing a conviction or sentence, or are the respondents of a criminal appeal.

Panel Program - Clients Served



VOLUNTEERS

During 2020, **120** lawyers volunteered with PBLS programs or our approved partner programs.

| <u>REGINA</u> |
|--------------------|
| Adam Fritzler |
| Anderson Stodalka |
| Andrea Johnson |
| Annie Quangtakoune |
| Barbara Mysko |
| Carly Romanow |
| Christa Weber |
| Connor Clyde |
| Dan Morris |
| Deidre Brandt |
| Derek Tochur |
| Donald Hobday |
| Emily Kirk |
| Gene Josephson |
| Graham Quick |
| Haley Irwin |
| Jeff Norwig |
| Jessica Nixon |
| Jim Hall |
| Kara-Dawn Jordan |
| Karolee Zawislak |
| Kathleen Peterson |
| Khurshed Chowdhury |
| Lee Reid |
| Lennard Young |
| Lindsey Beaudry |
| Mackenzie Tulloch |
| Megan Milani |
| Michelle Owolagba |
| Nicholas Brown |
| Nicholas Cann |
| Nicole Hamm |
| Nicole Sarauer |
| Nordika Dussion |
| Olumide Adetunji |
| Paul Kangles |
| |

Randy Langgard Stephanie Yang Yinka Jarikre Zina Scott Northern Rural (La Ronge, Meadow Lake, Estevan, Weyburn) Adedoyin Ajayi Alanna Carlson **Amjad Murabit** Ashala Naidu Ben Rakochy Brad Mitchell Colin Oullette Damian McGrath Darlene Wingerak **Deb Hopkins** Denim Martyn Jared McRorie Katherine Melnychuk Kim Armstrong Neil McPhee Nicole Hataley

Family Law Clinic
Bhavan Jaggi
Danish Shah
David Flett
Kaylea Lax
Kelsey Krecklewich
Kristen Bates
Nicole Hamm
Rani Grewall
Shealagh Mooney

Thomas Le

Small Claims
Brady Knight
Brendan Campbell
Pierre Hawkins
Sean Watson
Tony Thera

Moose Jaw
Bukola Afolabi
Idowu Adetogun
Jeffery Galbraith
Ken Cornea
Monique Paquin
Talon Regent
Tim Hansen

North Battleford
Ben Feist
Jeff Baldwin
Marilyn Adsit
Richard Gibbons
Rob Feist

Swift Current
Jean Jordaan
Lindsay Gates
Logan Spearing
Marisha Paquin
Nicolas Koltun
Ryan Nagel

Prince Albert
Carla Dombowsky
Daniel Arnot
Estelle Hjertaas
Henry Siwak
Randi Arnot

Ron Parchomchuk Victoria Elliott-Erickson

Yorkton
Adeola Oloko
Habibat Kasim
Kristin Martinuk
Kyla Eiffert
Mark Persick
Michelle McCrea
Rhiannon Montgomery
Shane Wagner

Panel Volunteers Arjun Shankar Ashala Naidu* Bill Holliday Dale Beck Dan Leblanc Graham Beke **Jason Clayards** Jeffrey Howe Kellie Wuttunee Kenneth Ready, Q.C. Michelle Owolagba Neil McPhee Nicole Hamm Paige Moreside Ron Cherkewich*

*accepted more than one file

VOLUNTEERS

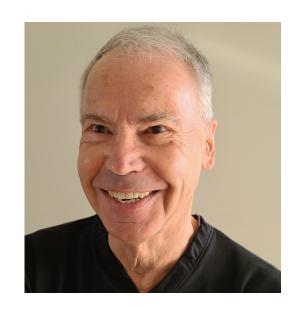
Victor P. Dietz, Q.C. Pro Bono Service Award

PBLS partners with the Law Society of Saskatchewan to recognize outstanding pro bono contributions by a lawyer in the province. In 2018, the award was named the Victor P. Dietz, Q.C. Pro Bono Service Award to honour the life of one of the founding board members and long-time support of PBLS. In 2020, Idowu Adetogun was the receipient of the award.



Volunteer of the Year Award

This award acknowledges volunteer lawyers, across Saskatchewan, who display an exemplary dedication to the provision of pro bono services as a PBLS volunteer. In 2020, **Ron Cherkewich** was the award winner.



Dedicated Firm Award

This award acknowledges a law firm in Saskatchewan that displayed an exemplary dedication to the provision of pro bono services within their firm. In 2020, **Leland Campbell Kondratoff Persick LLP** from Yorkton was the award winner.



PBLS TEAM

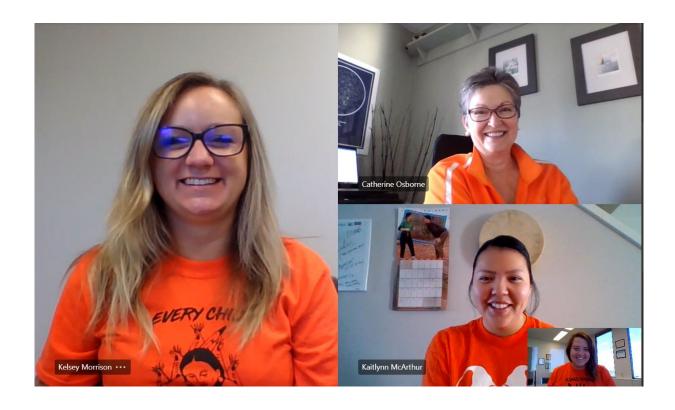
Board of Directors

Major Mike Hoeft (President)
Riva Farrell Racette (Vice-President)
Josh Morrison (Secretary-Treasurer)
Randi Arnot
Kim Newsham
David Stack, Q.C.
Norman Bercovich, Q.C.
Jim Hall



Staff

Carly Romanow, Executive Director & Staff Lawyer
Lindsey Beaudry, Programs Director & Staff Lawyer
Bob Hale, Intake Lawyer (February 2018 - September 2020)
Kaitlynn McArthur, Programs Coordinator
Paige Moreside, Interim Programs Coordinator (June 2019-June 2020)
Catherine Osborne, Intake and Administrative Assistant
Kelsey Morrison, Intake and Administrative Assistant (May 2020 - December 2020)



SUPPORTERS & FUNDERS

Funders

PBLS relies on the **Law Foundation of Saskatchewan** for the majority of our annual funding. We thank the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan for its commitment to access to justice in Saskatchewan.

PBLS would also like to acknowledge and thank the **Law Society of Saskatchewan** for their generous financial and in-kind support.





<u>Supporters</u>

CBA Saskatchewan Disbursement Fund

PBLS partners with the **Saskatchewan branch of the Canadian Bar Association** to offer the Disbursement Fund. The Fund is used by volunteer lawyers providing pro bono assistance through PBLS programs to cover out-of-pocket expenses associated with client files.

Insurance Partnership

PBLS continues to work with the **Saskatchewan Lawyers' Insurance Association** and the Law Society of Saskatchewan to ensure that there are no barriers regarding insurance coverage and membership for lawyers engaging in the delivery of probono legal services through PBLS.

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc.

Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

Management's Responsibility for **Financial Statements**

The accompanying financial statements of Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. have been prepared by the Organization's management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and necessarily include some amounts based on informed judgement and management estimates.

To assist management in fulfilling its responsibilities, a system of internal controls has been established to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements are accurate and reliable and that assets are safeguarded.

The Board has reviewed and approved these financial statements.

These financial statements have been examined by the independent auditors, Virtus Group LLP, and their report is presented separately.

Carly Romanow

CRomanow

Executive Director

Ruth aunstrong

Office Administrator/Accounting

VIRTUS GROUP Chartered Professional Accountants 6 Business Advisors LLP

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members, Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc.

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020, and the statements of operations, accumulated surplus and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at December 31, 2020, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Saskatchewan, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditors' Report Thereon

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The annual report is expected to be made available to us after the date of this auditors' report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

When we read the annual report, if we conclude that there is a material misstatement therein, we are required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT continued

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
 - Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

April 21, 2021 Regina, Saskatchewan Chartered Professional Accountants



Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. Statement of Financial Position For the year ended December 31, 2020

(with comparative figures for the year ended December 31, 2019)

| | | 2020 | | 2019 |
|---|----|---------|----|---------|
| Assets | | | | |
| Current Assets | | | | |
| Cash | \$ | 439,204 | \$ | 518,351 |
| Accounts receivable | | 4,184 | | 3,175 |
| Receivable from the Law Society of Saskatchewan | | 18,656 | | - |
| Prepaid expenses | | 4,555 | | 300 |
| | | 466,599 | | 521,826 |
| Trust Assets - Disbursement Fund (Note 3) | | 88,871 | | 79,936 |
| | \$ | 555,470 | \$ | 601,762 |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | | | | |
| Current Liabilities | • | 730 | • | 6,501 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Annual fees received in advance | \$ | 58,800 | Þ | 59,470 |
| Deferred grant revenue | | 8,000 | | 50,000 |
| Payable to the Law Society of Saskatchewan | | - | | 58,660 |
| | | 67,530 | | 174,631 |
| Trust Liabilities - Disbursement Fund (Note 3) | | 88,871 | | 79,936 |
| | | 156,401 | | 254,567 |
| Net Assets | | 000.00- | | A |
| Unrestricted Surplus | | 399,069 | | 347,195 |
| | \$ | 555,470 | \$ | 601,762 |

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Commitments (Note 4)

Approved by:

M TO Director WHENCE Direct

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. Statement of Operations and Surplus For the year ended December 31, 2020

(with comparative figures for the year ended December 31, 2019)

| | 2020 | | | 2019 | |
|--|----------------|---------|----|---------|--|
| Revenues | | | | | |
| Annual fees | \$ | 56,970 | \$ | 27,990 | |
| Disbursement fund (Note 3) | Ψ | 1,565 | Ψ | 3,292 | |
| Donations | | 6,562 | | 19,485 | |
| Investment income | | 3,518 | | 11,513 | |
| Law Foundation of Saskatchewan grant | | 500,000 | | 450,000 | |
| Law Society of Saskatchewan grant | | · - | | 30,000 | |
| Fundraising events | | 10,669 | | 7,670 | |
| Ministry of Justice grant | | 50,000 | | - | |
| | | 629,284 | | 549,950 | |
| Expenses | | | | | |
| Board meetings and travel | | 228 | | 1,394 | |
| Fundraising events | | 1,881 | | 2,775 | |
| Disbursement fund (Note 3) | | 1,565 | | 3,292 | |
| Insurance | | 1,762 | | 1,762 | |
| Management fees to the Law Society of Saskatchewan | | 17,400 | | 17,400 | |
| Office and sundry | | 11,035 | | 13,301 | |
| Office rent | | 43,301 | | 19,658 | |
| Professional development | | 3,650 | | 5,518 | |
| Professional fees and services | | 7,768 | | 11,375 | |
| Program development costs | | 1,545 | | 14,947 | |
| Public relations | | 3,100 | | 4,529 | |
| Salaries and benefits | | 477,914 | | 416,162 | |
| Server hosting and communications | 98 | 6,261 | | 5,533 | |
| | 24 | 577,410 | | 517,646 | |
| Excess of revenues over expenses for the year | | 51,874 | | 32,304 | |
| Unrestricted surplus - beginning of year | Ø . | 347,195 | | 314,891 | |
| Unrestricted surplus - end of year | \$ | 399,069 | \$ | 347,195 | |

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended December 31, 2020

(with comparative figures for the year ended December 31, 2019)

| | 2020 | 2019 |
|--|---------------|---------|
| Cash provided by (used in) operating activities: | | |
| Excess of revenues over expenses for the year | \$ 51,874 \$ | 32,304 |
| Non-cash operating working capital (Note 5) | (131,021) | 48,613 |
| | (79,147) | 80,917 |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | (79,147) | 80,917 |
| Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of year | 518,351 | 437,434 |
| Cash and cash equivalents - end of year | \$ 439,204 \$ | 518,351 |
| | ! | |

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2020

(with comparative figures for the year ended December 31, 2019)

1. Governing statutes and nature of operations

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. is provincially incorporated under *The Non-Profit Corporations Act, 1995* and is a registered charity. The Organization's mandate is to improve access to justice in Saskatchewan by creating, facilitating, and promoting opportunities for lawyers to provide high-quality pro bono legal services to persons of limited means who are in need and/or disabled. As a registered charity, the Organization is exempt from income taxes under Section 149(1)(f) of the *Income Tax Act.*

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the period. These estimates are reviewed periodically, and, as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. The financial statements reflect the following policies:

Financial instruments - recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recorded on the statement of financial position when the Organization becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. All financial instruments are required to be recognized at fair value upon initial recognition, except for certain related party transactions. Measurement in subsequent periods of equity instruments is at fair value. All other financial assets and liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost adjusted by transaction costs, which are amortized over the expected life of the instrument.

Fair value is the amount at which a financial instrument could be exchanged at arm's length between willing, unrelated parties in an open market. Changes in fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities measured at fair value are recognized in excess of revenues over expenses.

When there is an indication of impairment and such impairment is determined to have occurred, the carrying amount of financial assets measured at amortized cost is reduced to the greater of the discounted cash flows expected or the proceeds that could be realized from the sale of the financial asset. Such impairments can be subsequently reversed if the value subsequently improves.

The Organization recognized financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The fair value of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, approximate their carrying value given the short term nature of the amounts.

Tangible capital assets

In previous years the Organization's average total revenues were less than \$500,000, the Organization had chosen to expense the purchase of capital assets. In fiscal 2020 the Organization no longer met the appropriate threshold and all future purchases of tangible capital assets will be recognized. At the end of the year, the Organization's assets consisted of office furniture. There were no tangible capital assets purchased in 2020 (2019 - nil).

Revenue recognition

The Organization uses the deferral method of accounting to recognize revenue. Annual fees received in advance are deferred and recognized as revenue in the period to which they apply. Grant revenues are recognized in the period to which they apply. Grants that are restricted to a specific purpose are recognized as the related expenses are incurred. Investment income is recognized as it is earned. Fundraising and donation revenues are recognized when the funds are received.

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2020

(with comparative figures for the year ended December 31, 2019)

3. Disbursement trust fund

The Disbursement Trust Fund consists of restricted donations received by the Organization. These amounts are used to cover the costs incurred by volunteers, such as photopcopying or filing costs, in providing litigation services to clients. As the funds are restricted, revenues are recognized as expenses are incurred.

| | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Opening balance - beginning of year | \$ 79,936 | \$ 77,862 |
| Donations received Expenses | 10,500 (1,565) | 5,366 (3,292) |
| Closing balance - end of year | \$ 88,871 | \$ 79,936 |

4. Commitments

The organization has commitments for premises under agreements requiring aggregate minimum payments (rent and operating costs) over the next three years as follows:

| 2021 | \$ 52,052 |
|------|--------------|
| 2022 | \$ 52,052 |
| 2023 | \$ 47.714 |

5. Non-cash operating working capital

Details of net change in each element of working capital relating to operations excluding cash are as follows:

| | 2020 | <u>2019</u> |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| (Increase) decrease in current assets: Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses Receivable from Law Society of Saskatchewan | \$ (1,009) \$ (4,255) (18,656) | 11,686 1,581 |
| Increase (decrease) in current liabilities: | (23,920) | 13,267 |
| Annual fees received in advance Deferred revenue Payable to the Law Society of Saskatchewan Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ (670) \$ (42,000) (58,660) (5,771) | 27,380 50,000 (44,870) 2,836 |
| | (107,101) | 35,346 |
| | \$ (131,021) \$ | 48,613 |

6. Economic dependence

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. currently receives the majority of its revenues in the form of grants from The Law Foundation of Saskatchewan. As a result, the Organization is dependent upon the continuance of this grant to maintain operations at the current level.

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan Inc. Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2020

(with comparative figures for the year ended December 31, 2019)

7. Financial risk management

The Organization has a risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage the principal risks assumed with financial instruments. The significant risk to which the Organization is exposed to is:

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Organization's exposure to liquidity risk is dependent on the receipt of funds from its operations and other related sources. Funds from these sources are primarily used to finance working capital and are considered adequate to meet the Organization's financial obligations.

8. Significant Event

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic for the COVID-19 virus. The Organization is following health advisories and mandatory requirements from local, provincial and national health and government organizations. The Organization has continued to operate since the pandemic was declared. The future impact of the pandemic on the Organization's operations and finances, if any, is known at this time.