



# 2015 ANNUAL report



Edmonton Community  
Legal Centre

"I was very very satisfied with the help of the lawyer. I feel very educated now and know what to do. I cried in the office I was so thankful."

## A Client's Experience

As an international student, Phillip was pursuing his post-secondary education in Edmonton when he began receiving threatening messages from his family and friends overseas. Without Phillip's permission or knowledge, someone had informed his family in his home country that he was in a long-term romantic relationship with a man in Canada. The news spread throughout his community in an African country that criminalizes same-sex relationships. Phillip's family and friends called, e-mailed, and texted him threatening physical violence and police reporting if he ever returned home. Phillip initially tried to deny the relationship to his family and friends for his own protection and safety. However, he soon realized that it would not be safe for him to return home when his Canadian studies concluded. As Phillip did not have other options to remain in Canada, he made a refugee claim. Because his household income exceeded Legal Aid's financial eligibility criteria, Phillip did not qualify for refugee claim representation through Legal Aid. He approached the ECLC for assistance.

The ECLC agreed to represent Phillip at his refugee hearing before the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB). Prior to the hearing, the ECLC assisted Phillip by preparing him for the hearing and compiling his documentary evidence. After the ECLC reviewed the initial refugee application that Phillip had submitted himself, it became clear that additional information and evidence was needed in order for his claim to succeed. The ECLC worked with Phillip to identify and explain relevant facts that supported his refugee claim. Further research was undertaken to demonstrate the adverse and hostile conditions against LGBTQ individuals in Phillip's home

country. All this new evidence was submitted to the IRB in advance of the hearing. Additionally, witnesses were identified and scheduled to testify at Phillip's hearing to prove that he would face persecution, harm, and risk to life in his home country on the basis of sexual orientation. Furthermore, the ECLC ensured that Phillip and his witnesses were educated about the hearing process and possible outcomes, as well properly informed about the importance of providing clear, coherent, and credible answers to IRB during the hearing.

The ECLC staff immigration lawyer attended the hearing with Phillip, prepared to facilitate the testimonies and make oral arguments to the IRB in support of Phillip's refugee claim. After only a few questions to Phillip and brief deliberation, the IRB panel was ready to render an oral decision. The IRB found Phillip's evidence, including all the materials submitted with ELCC's assistance before the hearing, to be credible, comprehensive, and persuasive. The IRB even elected not to call Phillip's witnesses as his case did not require further corroboration. As the conclusion to the hearing, the RPD determined that Phillip was a Convention refugee and accepted his claim.

Phillip and his partner were very relieved to receive the favorable decision from the IRB. For Phillip, it meant that he could complete his studies, apply for permanent residence, and continue building a life in Canada without a looming fear that he would have to return to his home country, face prejudice and condemnation, and be subjected to criminal punishment and possibly death.



"Thank you. I felt completely helpless before meeting with the lawyer."

## Our Community Volunteers

Bukola Abioye  
Niki Bains  
Jenna Baron  
Sherri Brar  
Matt Brockman  
Robert Brown  
Cindy Casemore  
Michelle Castrillon

Tara Lynn Cesario  
Alice Colack  
Carlos Crisol  
Lanny Der  
Peter Faid  
Thomas Feth  
Brigjidla Gera  
Jamie Happy

Drew Hubka  
Yikima Ketiku  
Lorretta Klein  
Debbie Lavigne  
Matthew Lewans  
Ryan Magh  
Becky McClelland  
Cameron Mccoy

Ayaz Mehdi  
Katia Michel  
Georgia Mitchell  
Iris Moreno  
Joanne Pawluk  
Krystal Pronovost  
Alison Ronson  
Myrna Roy

Meghan Russ  
Nasimbanu Saiyed  
Melissa Schmidt  
Cathy Schofield

Brett Sheehan  
Katarina Wasielweski  
Chris Weibe  
Carmen Zhang

### Grande Prairie Volunteers

Arlene McDonnell Valerie Day-Keizer

## Our Volunteer Lawyers

Amy Abbott (5)  
 Barbara Acton  
 Ayla Akgungor  
 Mark Alexander  
 Kyle Allen  
 Tamara Andreglou  
 Carl Argo  
 Christine Ashcroft  
 Aman Athwal  
 Sharon Au (5)  
 Yoko Azumaya  
 Andrew Bachelder  
 Tim Bailey  
 David Barker  
 Rebecca Bell  
 Elizabeth Berg  
 Heidi Besuijen  
 Michaela Blahutova  
 Miranda Bokenfohr  
 Bonnie Bokenfohr  
 Jeff Bone  
 Melissa Bourgeois  
 Manpreet Brar  
 Tracy Brown  
 Laura Bruyer  
 Erin Burton  
 Jenelle Butler (5)  
 Yessy Byl  
 Clara Cerminara  
 Arman Chak  
 Darcie Charlton  
 Jo-An Christiansen  
 Jasmine Chu  
 Donald Cranston (10)  
 Rebecca Cuthbertson Hulst  
 Wendy Danson (5)  
 Sarah Dargatz  
 Megan Dawson  
 Allan Delgado  
 Jose Delgado

Mark Demas  
 Michael DeRosenroll  
 Cynthia Dickins  
 Sarah Dolgoy  
 Evan Duffy  
 Laura Dunham  
 Mark Dupres  
 Peter Edelmann  
 Fiona Ellington  
 Kate Engel  
 Tom Engel  
 Heidi Engler  
 Kanchana Fernando  
 Nigel Forster  
 Michelle Freebairn  
 Tami Friesen  
 Penny Garnsworthy  
 Patricia Gay  
 Michael Good  
 Marie Gordon  
 Maya Gordon  
 Michael Greene  
 Gloria Grieco  
 Allison Grimsey  
 Erika Hagen  
 Adam Halliday (5)  
 June Han  
 Ian Hanson  
 Amanda Hart-Dowhun  
 Greg Heinrichs  
 Ceilidh Hemmati  
 Randy Hogle  
 Chris Holmes  
 Tina Huizinga  
 Elan Wiebe  
 Chris Jackson  
 Jayne Janzen  
 Allyson Jeffs (10)  
 Su Ji Yim  
 Moosa Jiwaji

Rochelle Johanson  
 Lori Johnson  
 Monica Johnson  
 Brian Kash  
 Jeff Keller  
 Kimberley Ketsa  
 Cherisse Killick-Dzenick  
 Justin Kingston  
 Dale Knisely  
 Trafton Koenig  
 Angela Kos  
 Jeremiah Kowalchuk  
 Michael Kraus  
 Bruce Laycock  
 Jordan Lefairve  
 Rhoda Lemphers  
 Jennifer Leung  
 Shelly LLOYD Atkinson  
 Michael Long  
 Anna Lund  
 Scott MacMillan (5)  
 Kelechi Madu  
 Doug Mah  
 Natalia Makuch  
 James Mallet  
 Scott Matheson  
 Margaret McCabe  
 Sharisse McCalla  
 Kim McCarthy  
 Morgan McClelland  
 Allison McDonald  
 Sean McDonough  
 Karen McDougall  
 Ross McLeod  
 Kathryn McNeil  
 Rekha McNutt  
 Debra Meakins  
 Damien Meardi  
 Valerie Meier  
 Ron Meleshko

Naz Mellick  
 Megan Mickalyk  
 Gavin Millan  
 Fauza Mohamed  
 Kristy Moore  
 Alexander Mosaico (5)  
 Terrance Myers  
 Jim Neilson  
 Vince Ng  
 Yasmeen Nizam  
 Rhyannon O'Heron  
 Idowu Ohioze  
 Crista Osualdini  
 Katie Oviat  
 Don Padget  
 Lynn Parish  
 Bonnie Parker  
 Sara Peacock  
 Dan Peskett (5)  
 Michelle Pidhirney  
 Debjani Poddar  
 Anna Pogosjan  
 Christine Pratt  
 Kimberly Precht  
 Matt Pruski  
 Michael Pucylo  
 Anthony Purgas  
 Ning Ramos  
 Will Randall (5)  
 Dave Rechlo  
 Bruce Reid  
 Sharon Roberts  
 Sarah Rossman  
 Belinda Schmid  
 Catherine Scott  
 Alexandra Seaman  
 Benjamin Seigel  
 Imane Semaine  
 Michael Sestito  
 Farrel Shadlyn

Paul Shenher  
 Andrea Simmonds  
 Ashvin Singh  
 Bradley Smith  
 Tim Smythe  
 Mary Softley  
 Michael Solowan  
 Catherine Spafford  
 Darlene St. Jean  
 Tiffany Stokes  
 Patrick Stratton  
 Brian Summers  
 Jillian Swainson  
 Zsolt Szekeley  
 Robert Szollosy  
 Tara Szott  
 Ashley Taunton  
 Ellen Ticoll  
 Michael Tilleard  
 Dale Tumbach  
 Anna Turcza-Karhut  
 Holly Turner (10)  
 Winston Tuttle  
 Natalie Tymchuk  
 Yolanda Van Waehem  
 Stella Varvis  
 Shyne Victoria  
 Anatoliy Vlasov  
 Cristina Wendel  
 Kent West  
 Shaun Wetmore  
 Andrea Willey  
 Ruth Williams  
 Liza Wold  
 Susan Wood (5)  
 Matt Woodley  
 Karen Wun  
 Christopher Young (5)  
 James Young  
 Simon Yu

## Grande Prairie Lawyers

Christian Banks  
 Tim Bayly  
 Jim Bird  
 Patrice Brideau  
 Joe Canavan

Nathan Fry  
 Leah Hayes  
 Jocelyn Innes (5)  
 Jennifer Laverick  
 Owen Lewis

Stephane McCrum  
 Chris Millsap  
 Gareth Pugh  
 Julia Rees  
 Ryan Rigler (5)

Chad Sawatzky  
 Denis Sawyer  
 Yuri Shapoval  
 Steven Shavers  
 Nicole Simoneau

Flora Stikker  
 Carley Tremeer  
 Derek Van Tassel  
 Mike Wheaton  
 Linh Wisekal

Special thanks to  
 our five and  
 ten year volunteers!

## Our Law Student Volunteers

Brad Agove	Rebecca Lee
Sanjana Ahmed	Chyna Lines
Stephanie Arsenaault	Stephanie Lo
Yang Bai	Manshu Luo
Sean Barber	Allana McComb
Grayson Bateyko	Krista McFadyen
Nohayla Benayad	Molly McIntosh
Jaclin Casios	Caitlin McCall
Julia Chan	Barret McNally
David Cowley	James McTague
Eric Crowther	Anthony Morrish
Aditya Dhingra	Dylan Morrison
Matt Dolan	Michelle Murphy
Kaila Eadie	Kate Nunn
Caitlyn Field	Roxana Neculescu
Vanessa Fiorillo	Michelle Newman
Adelyn Foong	Daniel Nunez
Fabjola Gera	Kristin Plester
Brittany Goetz	Allison Purdon
Robley Goff	David Ranieri
Robyn Graham	Samantha Russell
Chelsey Grue	Sarah Sager
Beth Gryzb	Lara Simonar
Sarah Harvey	Dorian Simonneau
Ally Ismail	Nick Smith
Afshaan Jiwaji	Tracy Spilde
Lisa Jung	Christine Tayes
Rebecca Kauffman	Tory Thibaudeau
Kara Kawanami	Julie Trohimchuk
Jessica Kind	Maryna Vysotski
Andrew Lawrence	George Wong
Brooklyn LeClair	Landy Zhao



## Advice-a-Thon

At our Annual General Meeting in April 2015, we unveiled a new initiative: Advice-a-Thon! This was a multi-purpose affair which included fundraising, community awareness, and legal advice. Advice-a-Thon was modelled after events held in British Columbia for the past several years, organized by Access Pro Bono.

The first annual ECLC Advice-a-Thon happened in Sir Winston Churchill Square in downtown Edmonton on a warm and sunny September Saturday. Essentially, Advice-a-Thon took an ECLC clinic night to an outdoor setting, with volunteer lawyers providing free legal advice in civil, immigration, family, and criminal law in

“tents” situated along the edge of Churchill Square. 36 volunteer lawyers each agreed to take a one-hour shift and provide 30 minutes of legal advice to two clients each, and to collect a minimum of \$500 in donations to the ECLC in “pledges” for their participation, similar to collecting pledges for a walk-a-thon. Corporate sponsorship was solicited from Edmonton law firms and businesses, and banners with sponsor logos were on display. 17 volunteer hosts provided information about the ECLC to passersby and free hot dogs and ice cream was available. Close to 300 people attended Advice-a-Thon, 93 people received free legal advice, the ECLC Executive Director appeared on CBC radio and CTV, CBC, and Global TV news, as well as a YouTube interview promoting the event and ECLC services. Advice-a-Thon raised a total \$31,785 for the ECLC, \$23,535 by volunteer lawyers and \$8250 in corporate sponsorships.

Advice-a-Thon corporate sponsors included Gold Sponsor, Edmonton Bar Association; Silver Sponsor, Felesky Flynn; and Bronze Sponsors, Ackroyd, CBA Alberta Branch, Chivers Carpenter, Edmonton Party Rentals, The Estate House, Gordon Zwaenepoel, Hawkings Epp Dumont, Ogilvie, RMRF, and Weir Bowen.

ECLC volunteer lawyer Farrel Shadlyn collected \$2425 in pledges and had first pick from prizes donated by local businesses, including Edmonton Eskimos tickets, golfing at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club, dinner for two at La Ronde, tickets to the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, a Melting Pot gift certificate, and a day at Rocky Mountain Wine and Food Festival.

The 2016 ECLC Advice-a-Thon is scheduled for September 24, 2016.

## Our Major Funders

The Edmonton Community Legal Centre receives the majority of its funding from the Alberta Law Foundation. We appreciate financial support from a variety of foundations, government agencies and departments, law firms, and private individuals. Our financial supporters all contribute to our ability to provide access to justice to Albertans in need.

### Our major funders include:

Alberta Solicitor General  
(casino funds)  
Alumni & Friends of the  
Faculty of Law Association  
City of Edmonton  
Government of Alberta  
Service Canada  
(Canada Summer Jobs)  
Union 52 Benevolent Society

### Law firm “sustaining funders”

Thank you to these law firms for their multi-year ongoing funding commitments which totalled \$57,500 in 2015.

Bennett Jones LLP	Dentons Canada LLP	McLennan Ross LLP
Bishop & McKenzie LLP	Duncan Craig LLP	Parlee McLaws LLP
Brownlee LLP	Field Law	Witten LLP

## 2015 Advice-a-Thon Corporate Sponsors

**Gold (\$2000 and over)**  
Edmonton Bar Association

**Silver (\$1250 to \$1999)**  
Felesky Flynn LLP

**Bronze (\$500 to \$1249)**  
Ackroyd LLP  
CBA Alberta Branch  
Chivers Carpenter LLP  
Edmonton Party Rentals  
Weir Bowen  
Gordon Zwaenepoel  
Hawkings Epp Dumont LLP  
Ogilvie LLP  
RMRF LLP  
The Estate House



## Client Services

	2015	2002 - 2015
Volunteer Hours	8,809	49,516
Clients Served	2,536	19,666
Volunteers	304	1,934

## Message from Executive Director

2015 was the ECLC's 14th year of operation, and was a year that saw the ECLC engaging in a number of activities to promote ECLC services to the community.

In July, 23 volunteers and staff took part in the K-Days Parade, walking the parade route wearing bright green t-shirts, waving hand-made signs, and carrying two large banners promoting the ECLC and our upcoming Advice-a-Thon. Although audience attendance at the parade was much lower than usual due to a very cold and rainy day, ECLC participation in this event was a fun and inexpensive way to promote the ECLC, both to parade observers and to the public by way of television and radio coverage during the day.

The first annual ECLC Advice-a-Thon in September exceeded all expectations, with 36 volunteer lawyers raising \$23,535 in "pledges", providing free legal advice to 93 people in a day-long Saturday "clinic" in Sir Winston Churchill Square.

Both of these events were an opportunity to highlight the important ECLC work that happens very day and weekday evenings—the legal clinics and public legal education sessions that would quite simply be impossible without the service of ECLC volunteers.

ECLC volunteers are students, paralegals, lawyers and community professionals. Some are involved "front line" with our clients and some work behind the scenes on the many administrative needs of our not-for-profit organization. More and more, ECLC volunteers are law students. In 2015, 63 law students and 40 community

volunteers contributed a staggering 5400 hours of service to the ECLC. 200 volunteer lawyers contributed an additional 3200 hours.

Volunteers are joined in service by a small but dedicated staff team of 15 who provide service coordination and follow-up support, legal advice, and representation to people living in poverty and least able to advocate for themselves.

The contributions of staff and volunteers are supported by our funders and financial supporters, all working to fulfill the ECLC access to justice mandate.

Thanks to all of you for your service and support.

*-Debbie Klein*

*19 staff, 12 Board members,  
and 304 volunteers provided  
service to over 20,000  
low-income Edmontonians.*



**25 volunteer lawyers, 142 hours, 2 community volunteers, 137 hours  
224 clients served**

## Grande Prairie Legal Guidance

Grande Prairie Legal Guidance has been in operation since 2008, and has been administered by the ECLC since January 2011. One staff person coordinates service provision which includes summary legal advice by 25 Grande Prairie volunteer lawyers and client support from two administrative volunteers and the staff Program Coordinator. Clients inquire most often for family law advice, with civil claims, housing, employment, and wills and estates also being frequent requests, although all areas of law are handled.

# Our Mission

The Edmonton Community Legal Centre provides effective advocacy and access to justice in a supportive environment to persons living with low income.

Public Legal Education	Sessions	Participants	Lawyer Hours
Civil Law	29	454	58
Family Law	62	639	124
Immigration Law	11	254	22
	<b>102</b>	<b>1347</b>	<b>204</b>

**The ECLC administers a court filing fee waiver program on behalf of Alberta Justice, providing for free filing of court documents for low income people. 430 people received fee waivers in 2015.**

*"It was awesome and the lawyers were perfect and everything was very clear. SPECIALLY for me that have not good English and everybody helped me to make it easy and clear."*

# Message from Board Chair

Year over year, the number of low income Edmontonians receiving legal representation, counselling, education and other related services from ECLC increases. The year 2015 was no exception as the number of clients served increased by approximately 7% over the previous year.

Our ability to serve so many in need continues to come from the combined contributions of many: the two hundred plus caring volunteers, lawyers and non-lawyers alike that so generously donate many hours of their time; the incredibly hard working staff working under the guidance and direction of our fabulous Executive Director Debbie Klein; the dedicated members of the Board of Directors who work with Debbie to provide direction and oversight to the organization; and ECLC's financial contributors who provide the funding to pay salaries, rent and the office expenses that keep our operation running. The Alberta Law Foundation continues to be ECLC's primary funder; but additional funding has been provided by the City of Edmonton, Faculty of Law Alumni and Friends and several local law firms, among others.

This past year ECLC introduced a new form of funding by putting on its first ever "Advice-a-Thon" in Sir Winston Churchill Square. Volunteer lawyers sought and obtained pledges from sponsors to support those lawyers providing pro bono legal advice to people who would drop in to the Square for free legal advice. The event was a resounding success, both in raising money and increasing the exposure of the organization to the people of Edmonton. It was such a success that there is a plan to repeat the event this year.

ECLC is not just striving to serve as many people as it can—but is striving to provide the best quality of service possible. To that end, in 2015 ECLC carried out external and internal reviews of the services that it provides to clients to determine when and the type of follow up that may be required by its clients.

An important part of ECLC's work every year is planning for the future and 2015 was no different. Work done in 2015 in that regard included the following:

1. The three year strategic plan created in the prior year was followed up with a special board meeting in 2015 to address: (1) being proactive in better delivery of services to underserved groups in the

Edmonton region through the use of outreach clinics; (2) developing ECLC's capacity to use technology to deliver services in its current mandate but also with an eye to possible future expansion to other regions of the province; and (3) continuing to maintain contact with other organizations seeking to enhance access to justice in more remote parts of the province; and

2. Representatives of ECLC attended an inaugural meeting among the four legal clinics in the province and Pro Bono Law Alberta to discuss prospects of collaboration and different ways that these organizations can work together to create efficiencies and share ideas. These meetings will continue as we explore exciting ways to pursue access to justice in every part of the province of Alberta.

We certainly see many challenges on the horizon with respect to achieving access to justice for all Albertans. One current challenge that we are carefully watching is the changes that may be brought to legal aid in Alberta as the provincial government conducts a comprehensive review. What impact this may have on ECLC's role in the future is not known, but we at ECLC remain very confident that this organization will continue to be a leading force in providing pro bono legal services in this province.

My confidence in the future of ECLC comes from seeing so many wonderful people, working together, to provide something that is truly remarkable. To you, the volunteers, staff, board members and financial contributors I extend a heartfelt thanks for all that you do in helping Edmontonians, and others, in need.

In closing the 2015 chapter, we say goodbye to two of our board directors: Jeremiah Kowalchuk and Alice Colack. We wish to sincerely thank them for contributions to the Board and to this organization over their years of service. We are very pleased to welcome Scott Matheson to the Board who brings much talent and energy to the Board of ECLC.

*-Brian Summers*

# 2015 Financial Supporters

## PEARL

(\$20 - \$99)

Carrie Aasland  
Sanjana Ahmed  
Ayla Akgungor  
Lona Benson  
Heidi Besuijen  
J. Robert Black  
Jason Bodnar  
Linda Bolton-Holder  
Thomas Booth  
Danielle Bourgeois  
Bev Boyden  
Alan Brackett  
Leni Caldwell  
Randal Carlson  
Mikhail Carter  
Cindy Casemore  
1st Choice  
Conveyance  
Services  
Marcela Coffin  
Sarah Crummy  
Sonja Deaeth  
Richard Drewry  
Alison Duffy  
Sarah Eadie  
Joan Evans  
Jane Fagnan  
Bill Fairbairn  
Laura Feehan  
Brian Filips  
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Aaron Friedenthal  
Alex Gavinchuk  
Giselle General  
Christine Gertz  
Meghan Gibson  
Peter Gibson  
Barbara Gilbert  
Tim Gilchrist  
Kara Gillespie  
Sarah Girard  
Elena Golsheva  
Tessa Gregson  
Donna Grossman  
Paul Grossman  
Jeneane Grundberg  
Robin Hamel  
Tara Hayes  
Gail Henderson

Leslie Henkel  
Gabriel Hill  
Dean Hitesman  
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Linda Houle  
Jennifer Janz  
Kaylyn Johnson  
Gale Johnson  
Alison Jones Jonzon  
Thomas Kannanayakal  
Lynn King  
Evan Kirker  
William Kirker  
Loretta Klein  
Ivy Koenig  
Randy Koenig  
Trafton Koenig  
Tamara Korassa  
Stephanie LeBlanc  
Agnes Leung  
Claudia Li  
Crystal (Jing) Li  
Andrea Locks  
Anna Loparco  
Beth MacKenzie  
Edward Mah  
Christine McDonald  
Laura McIveen  
Zoie McIntyre  
Shaunna Mireau  
Janet Mitchell  
Dena Mitchell  
Michelle Molineux  
Dr. Alan Murdock  
Fernande Nowlan  
Jennifer Oakes  
Eamon O'Keeffe  
Omolara Oladipo  
Janice Overend-  
Pontoy  
Michel Parent  
Steven Penney  
Joanna Percher  
Jody Peterson  
Petrotraxx Inc  
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Jordan Reiniger  
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Debbie Rohatynski  
lan Runkle

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Jennie Russell  
Deborah Salo  
Laura Schechte  
Ashley Schell  
Cathy Schofield  
Aaron Schofield  
Collin Schofield  
Breanne Schwanak  
Laura Scott  
Thomas Scott  
Benjamin Seigel  
Heidi Semkowich  
Ashvin Singh  
Jennifer Snoek  
Lauren Staple  
Sharon Stefanyk  
Anne Stevenson  
Darcy Strang  
Peter Szigeti  
Tawanis Testart  
Winston Tuttle  
Natalie Tymchuk  
Jean Violette  
Allan Wachowich  
Jennifer Walton  
Les Wasyluk  
David Webber  
Doug Webster  
Sylvia Whitson  
Michelle Williamson  
Lola Wright  
Daina Young  
Jenine Ziolkowski

## EMERALD (\$100 - \$199)

Alberta Association  
of Professional  
Paralegals  
Arrow Engineering  
Annalise Acorn  
Elizabeth Berg  
Bonnie Bokenfohr  
Lea Boyd  
Tracy Brown  
Tamara Buckwold  
Lorne Bullio  
Jo-Anne Bund  
Rose Carter  
Denise Chang-Yen  
Ruth Clarke

Curtis Craig  
Kelly Dawson  
Diana de Sousa  
Sandeep Dhir  
Mona Duckett  
Evan Duffy  
Kevin & Cynthia Feth  
Lois Field  
Patricia Frey  
Sandra Friesen  
Julie Gagnon  
Paul Girgulis  
Marie Gordon  
Manoj Gupta  
Greg Harding  
Jackie Heitzman  
Madelaine Hicks  
Jodie Hiermeier  
Michael Hoosain  
Trevor Horwitz  
Michael Kirk  
Jayne Leon  
Anna Lund  
Lloyd Lutig  
Douglas Lyness  
Douglas Mah  
Maureen McGuire  
Chantelle McNichol  
Meadow  
Construction  
Joshua Miller  
Len Mora  
Susan Morgenstern  
Andre Morin  
Katherine Park  
Stephen Raby  
Kathy Randall  
Will Randall II  
Lee Roe  
Ray Rutman  
Laurie Scott  
Ryan Slack  
Wanda Stephens  
Lindsay Tate  
Grant Vogel  
Yichuan Wang  
Cristina Wendel  
Leah Wintermute  
Matthew Woodley  
Pat Yuzwenko  
Barry Zalmanowitz

## SAPPHIRE

(\$200 - \$499)

AIM Realty  
Mark Asbell  
Marc de la Bruyere  
Paul Duffy  
Gloria Grieco  
C H Williams  
James H. Brown  
Katrina Haymond  
Steven J Fix  
HUSH  
Allyson Jeffs  
Debbie Klein  
Ryan Krieger  
Kevin G Kropp  
Mark & Lois Lund  
Marla Miller  
Patrick Nugent  
Eleanor Olszewski  
William Ostapek  
Patricia Paradis  
Dennis Picco  
Francis Price  
Anthony Purgas  
Giuseppe Rosselli  
Zack Said  
Maurice Slack  
Brian Summers

## RUBY (\$500 - \$700)

Darlene Acton  
Gunn Law Group  
John Henderson  
Cherisse Killick-  
Dzenic  
Don Kramer  
Joanne Pawluk  
Shannon Prithipaul  
Heather Summers  
UFCW Local 401

# 2015 Financial Statements

## Statement of Financial Position Year ended December 31, 2015

ASSETS	2015	2014
Current	389,974	328,471
Tangible Assets	55,403	77,745
	445,377	406,216
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current	128,549	107,714
Deferred capital contributions	42,701	76,814
	171,250	184,528
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	152,167	220,756
Internally restricted - invested in tangible assets	12,703	932
Internally restricted - operating fund	109,257	
	274,127	221,688
	<b>445,377</b>	<b>406,216</b>

## Statement of Operations Year ended December 31, 2015

REVENUE	2015 BUDGET	2015	2014
Alberta Law Foundation	1,503,612	1,487,899	1,446,906
Donations	95,992	96,549	87,520
Other grants	35,400	65,944	46,466
Casino	40,000	40,000	39,012
Amortization		34,113	32,007
Interest and other		4,284	3,239
	<b>1,674,104</b>	<b>1,728,789</b>	<b>1,655,150</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Personnel	1,277,591	1,248,011	1,209,505
Premises	253,903	250,524	246,048
Program	132,610	142,134	136,674
Amortization		25,743	31,363
Board	10,000	9,334	11,416
	<b>1,674,104</b>	<b>1,675,746</b>	<b>1,635,006</b>
Excess of revenue over expenses from operations		53,043	20,144
Other income (expenses)		(604)	4,827
<b>Excess of Revenue over Expenses</b>		<b>52,439</b>	<b>24,971</b>



## Our Staff

**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR**  
Patricia Andrews

**ARTICLING STUDENT**  
Courtney Sarsiat  
Elen Bereket

**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**  
Jennifer Smyth

**FAMILY LAW PROJECT MANAGER**  
Lee Andrus

**IMMIGRATION SERVICES MANAGER**  
Robyn Thomas-Heule

**INTAKE COORDINATOR**  
Sofia Alani  
Becky McLelland

**LEGAL ASSISTANT**  
Tammey Kezhis

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR**  
Tanya Ruigrok (Grande Prairie)

**SOCIAL BENEFITS ADVOCATE**  
Lucas Porciello

**STAFF LAWYER**  
Sarah Eadie  
Anna Kuranecheva  
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## Our Process

The ECLC is unique in its holistic approach to legal problems, situating the individual and family within the broader picture of their financial, personal, and social circumstances.

Clients have an initial interview to help them to clarify their legal concern and to receive appropriate community and legal referrals and information.

Low income clients receive free legal information and advice from a volunteer lawyer at an evening legal clinic. Volunteer lawyers may refer clients with complex issues for further follow-up by ECLC staff or free legal representation by an ECLC staff lawyer.

The volunteer lawyers and staff lawyers work in partnership with staff client support professionals and daytime volunteers to identify and address social and personal factors that may have contributed to the legal problem. This multi-disciplinary approach facilitates client access to community resources and service providers, expands opportunities for the negotiation of non-legal remedies, and ensures skilled guidance in the handling of disputes.

Helping people  
with low  
income find  
solutions to their  
legal problems.

**The Edmonton Community Legal Centre provides access to justice and free legal information, education, support, advice, and representation in the areas of civil, immigration, and family law to persons living with low income in the Edmonton area.**



**Edmonton Community  
Legal Centre**

200, 10115 – 100A Street  
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2W2

P: 780 702 1725  
F: 780 702 1726  
[www.eclc.ca](http://www.eclc.ca)