



Legal Aid Manitoba
L'Aide Juridique du Manitoba

2021/22 ANNUAL REPORT

*DELIVERING ACCESS TO JUSTICE
FOR LOW-INCOME MANITOBBANS*

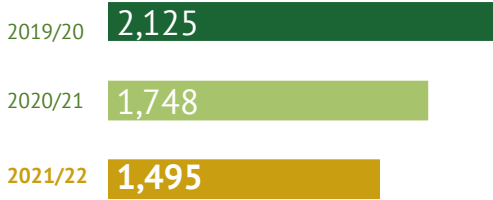




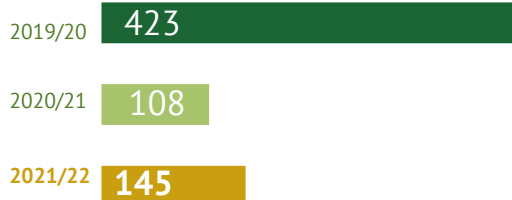
At-a-Glance

Legal Matters Issued (Opened Cases)

CHILD PROTECTION



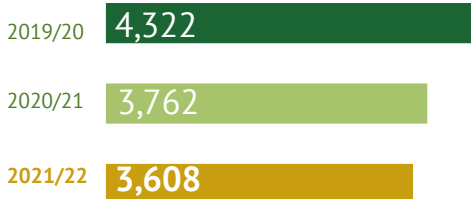
IMMIGRATION & REFUGEE



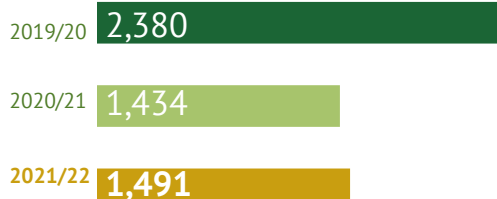
TELEPHONE ADVICE (*BRYDGES*)



FAMILY



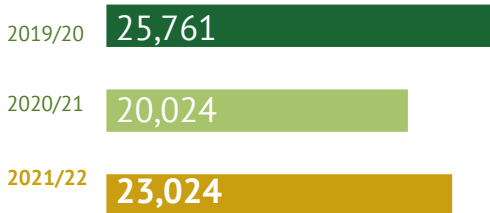
CRIMINAL (YOUTH)



FULL REPRESENTATION OF CLIENTS (CERTIFICATES)



CRIMINAL (ADULT)

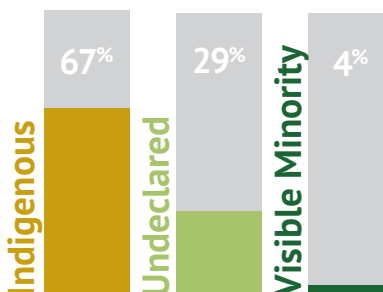


PARTIAL REPRESENTATION OF CLIENTS (DUTY COUNSEL)



Age Range for largest number of clients

26-35



People self-identifying as being of Indigenous ancestry make up the biggest proportion of LAM clients



People with gross family incomes under \$10,000 or in receipt of employment and income assistance make up the biggest percentage of LAM clients

CIVIL LAW



UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA CLC



AVERAGE COST PER CASE

\$1,056

Letter To The Minister



Legal Aid Manitoba
L'Aide Juridique du Manitoba

FIFTIETH ANNUAL REPORT
LEGAL AID MANITOBA
Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2022

The Honourable Cameron Friesen
Minister of Justice
Attorney General
Room 104 – Legislative Building
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Section 28 of *The Legal Aid Manitoba Act*, I am pleased to submit the Fiftieth Annual Report for the year ending March 31, 2022.

Detailed statistical information relating to clients, cases and costs is included. The report of the Auditor General and financial statements are attached. Also included is the Audited Statement of Compensation Paid to Council Members and Employees, and the Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in excess of \$75,000 in accordance with Section 2 and 4 of *The Public Sector Compensation Act*.

Respectfully submitted,

ALLAN FINEBLIT, Q.C.

Chair
Legal Aid Manitoba Management Council



Management Council Committees

Advisory

Irene Hamilton, Q.C., *Chair*
 Geraldine Wiebe
 Gary Robinson
 Stacey Soldier
 Laurelle Harris
 Darlene Osbourne
 Neil Cohen
 Nicole Beaudry
 Cindy Brass
 Genevieve Benoit

Finance/Audit

Dean Scaletta, *Chair*
 Renwick DaCosta
 Daljit Kainth
 Allan Fineblit, Q.C., *ex-officio*

Appeals Panel

Roberta Campbell, Q.C.
 Renwick DaCosta
 Daljit Kainth
 Dean Scaletta
 Helga Van Iderstine
 Brenda Gunn (*resigned December 16, 2021*)
 Allan Fineblit, Q.C., *ex-officio*

Executive Management Committee

Peter Kingsley, Q.C.
Executive Director and CEO

Sandra Bracken
Deputy Executive Director

Robin Dwarka
Director of Finance and Labour Management

Katherine Dowle
Senior Area Director

Marcelle Marion
Legal Director

Bruce Gammon
*Acting Deputy Executive Director and
 Legal Director (Retired July 2021)*

Area Directors

Lori Anderson
 Gary Robinson

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Cette publication est aussi disponible en français.



Chair's Report

Legal Aid life is never dull. Staff come and go as new opportunities arise for them. Clients always surprise us with new and interesting challenges. World events like an ever-changing pandemic and a significant economic upheaval challenge us and our clients. The law, the courts and the political environment are in a constant state of flux.

Good management in these interesting times requires one important thing: the ability to be nimble. Our senior staff need to be able to respond quickly to the unexpected, our board governance style needs to have capacity to develop appropriate policy responses to things we could not have foreseen and, our people on the ground (our staff and private bar partners) need to be resilient and resourceful. In my view the 2021/2022 fiscal year gave us lots of chances to practice that nimbleness, resilience and resourcefulness!

I'd like to highlight three significant initiatives that the Management Council (MC) undertook this year. The first was the creation of a new tariff of fees for the private bar, a historic first. Since the creation of Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM) in 1972 the tariff of fees has been set by regulation. That means that the province controlled the tariff. There was no doubt good reason for this when a new program was created with uncertainty about what the demand might be and what it would cost to meet that demand. Since the province funds the majority of the delivery costs, they wanted to exercise direct fiscal control on what was anticipated to be our biggest expenditure.

Well, 50 years later the government has come to agree that there are many ways to exercise responsible fiscal control and setting the tariff was one of the least effective ones. More importantly by putting control directly in the hands of the MC, the government could align responsibility with authority. It also allows for the kind of nimbleness I just said was so important to manage effectively in a rapidly changing world.

The second initiative I wanted to highlight was the development of a new performance review process for the Executive Director (ED). The MC established a set of performance objectives for the ED. We tried to align these with our strategic priorities and to make them objectively measurable. By giving the ED a clear indication of what success looks like and then evaluating his performance objectively against those objectives, we hope to discharge our dual responsibilities to set a strategic policy direction and to monitor organizational performance.

The third initiative I wanted to highlight the restructuring of Legal Aid's Advisory Committee (AC). This AC has a statutory mandate to provide the MC advice on client service needs, the environment in which we deliver those services and the way in which the tariff should be structured. Historically however the AC was made up only of lawyers and naturally focused only on the tariff. After a careful review and policy discussion MC agreed to add to the AC community and client representatives who could help us understand the needs of the community and our clients. We undertook a recruitment process and were lucky to get a wonderful group of AC people from diverse backgrounds that so far have provided great advice on a number of MC's more challenging policy issues.

This year will be the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of LAM. We are planning a number of events in communities around Manitoba that will allow us to celebrate with the folks that receive and deliver our services. We have come a very long way in 50 years but some things have not changed. We are still a lot of fun! We still face daily challenges in delivering a service to thousands of Manitobans, and we still are served by a truly wonderful staff and by private lawyers often working in difficult circumstances for clients with very serious and challenging legal needs.

I want to thank my colleagues on the MC for their vision, strategic leadership and collegiality and the senior leadership team that has supported our work so well. I am optimistic that we are ready to face the uncertain future with nimbleness, resilience and resourcefulness.

Allan Fineblit, Q.C.
Chair, Management Council



Allan Fineblit, Q.C.
Chair

Message from the Executive Director and CEO

When I am asked to draft an annual letter, my practice is to review what I, or the previous incumbent, said in the last letter to reflect on the previous year's milestones and on what was identified as our focus for the year. It is also true that lawyers like to rely on precedent material when it is available.

This year is a little different. Last year our focus was on the challenges of COVID-19, and while it is still a daily factor in our lives, we are no longer in a locked down pandemic world. We must now look forward to the post pandemic / endemic future.

While very few people will ever look back fondly at the pandemic there are many valuable lessons that working through COVID has taught us. The legal profession is steeped in tradition and history. The old joke that a lawyer from the 1800's would have no problem navigating our court processes and procedures is not far from the truth. There have been many practitioners and organizations, including Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM), who have advocated for change over the years. Those who felt that the law must adapt to new technologies, that there were better ways to practice and provide access to justice yet little real progress was made. Suddenly, when we were faced with no option but to embrace the new technological world, we discovered that we could practice in new ways.

LAM has, over the past 15 years, embraced the use of technology in our administrative operations but COVID gave us that opportunity to build upon our previous advances in this area and expedite long-term plans to change how we worked. These included plans to operate a number of departments with a hybrid work force, allowing staff to work sometimes at home and sometimes at the office. Using video conferencing technology not only for our internal operations but also for counsel - client contact and advocating for greater telephone and video access at courts so persons living outside of the community where court is being held do not have to travel hundreds of kilometres to attend. These choices not only increase staff and client satisfaction but they also save the taxpayer money. They reduce the cost of office space, reduce the number of administrative criminal charges due to missed court and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through excess travel. It would be a sad situation to lose the advancements made during COVID to return to the "old familiar".



Peter Kingsley Q.C.
Executive Director and CEO

“ With the support of the Government of Manitoba, the tariff was immediately increased by 25% in almost all categories. In the case of the most serious criminal matters, the tariff was increased by 60%. ”

Moving into the post-pandemic reality was not the only change of note this year. Over the past year LAM has completed its senior management restructuring. Sandra Bracken assumed the responsibility of Deputy Executive Director, Katherine Dowle became our new Senior Area Director and Marcelle Marion became our new Legal Director and Lead on Reconciliation. These three join myself and Robin Dwarka, our Director of Finance and Labour Management, as the Executive Management Committee at Legal Aid. Perhaps most telling of how well this team has jelled is by noting that our first week as a full team was spent travelling in a single vehicle across the province and meeting staff, private bar counsel and the judiciary in each region LAM has an office. We listened, we learned and we developed together. The messages we received across the province were varied but clear. Legal Aid is a vital service critical to our clients and to the well-being of a functioning justice system. We must continue to pursue processes which ensure we can provide these vital services not only in Winnipeg, but across the province.



One of the first steps that was taken was to address our Tariff of Fees which has not seen a permanent increase since 2008. October 7, 2021 marked a significant change in the way LAM does business. For the first time since our inception in 1972, LAM's Management Council (MC) assumed control over the Tariff of Fees paid to private bar counsel. With the support of the Government of Manitoba, the tariff was immediately increased by 25% in almost all categories. In the case of the most serious criminal matters, the tariff was increased by 60%. This is not the only change the tariff will see. Committees were also struck to do a comprehensive review of the Tariff of Fees. These committees were made up of senior management, private bar and staff counsel and their report will be brought to MC in early fiscal year 2022/23.

At the same time LAM also increased our eligibility guidelines to match the Low Income Cut-Off levels. Manitoba now has some of the highest financial eligibility guidelines for legal aid coverage in Canada. This is not a luxury, rather it is a recognition that many Canadians who work full-time have no ability to seek and retain counsel for basic, vital legal services. The ability of people to get quality assistance with legal matters reduces other costs on society. Single parents are able to get support so they can provide for their children who have better success in school. Resolutions are reached with less rancour and disruption allowing the parties to heal and move forward. Even in criminal matters, early legal assistance can mean early resolution of matters and greater opportunities to divert matters out of the traditional judicial system into community based diversion which assist the community to heal and allow the courts to concentrate on the more serious matters.

LAM has also made strides this year along our path of Reconciliation. I was pleased that my first "out of office / in person" meeting was with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Senior Management Team. We continue to work with First Nations and Métis organizations to develop our relationship. We have partnered in a number of matters either through legal challenges undertaken by the Public Interest Law Centre or through our support of Civil Society Organizations such as the First Nations Family Advocate Office. Working with this organization in particular has been an important milestone. They have been able to assist First Nation persons facing child protection matters through the provision of First Nations counsel facilitating a holistic model to address the underlying factors which have culminated in conflict with the law.

While this has been a challenging year for LAM I have also been excited and energized as never before by this organization. Together, our counsel, our support and administration staff and our private bar partners have made a difference in the lives of thousands of Manitobans. The assurances provided by the Province of Manitoba and the Government of Canada have allowed us to make funding and tariff commitments into the coming years ensuring our work will continue. We are entering our 50th year strong and vital and ready for the next challenge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Kingsley".

Peter Kingsley, Q.C.
Executive Director and CEO

“ I think the externship program is amazing and I am so grateful for being a part of it. I learned more about the law and legal practice in 8 months at the externship than I feel I did in 3 years of law school. The experience was priceless and something I think every student who wants to practice criminal law should do. Some things cannot be taught through books and theory such as ethics. Sometimes the best way to learn and understand something is to do it and this is what the externship provides, real life experience. ”

— 2021/22 University of Manitoba Externship Student

CHILD PROTECTION 2021/22

We opened over 1,450 child protection matters providing services that strengthen families and protect children





The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act

The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act came into effect in April 2007. This law gives employees a clear process for disclosing concerns about significant and serious matters (wrongdoing) in the Manitoba public service, and strengthens protection from reprisal. The *Act* builds on protections already in place under other statutes, as well as collective bargaining rights, policies, practices and processes in the Manitoba public service.

Wrongdoing under the *Act* may be:

- ✓ contravention of federal or provincial legislation;
- ✓ an act or omission that endangers public safety, public health or the environment;
- ✓ gross mismanagement; or,
- ✓ knowingly directing or counselling a person to commit a wrongdoing.

The *Act* is not intended to deal with routine operational or administrative matters.

A disclosure made by an employee in good faith, in accordance with the *Act*, and with a reasonable belief that wrongdoing has been or is about to be committed, is considered to be a disclosure under the *Act*, whether or not the subject matter constitutes wrongdoing. All disclosures receive careful and thorough review to determine if action is required under the *Act*, and must be reported in a department's annual report in accordance with section 18 of the *Act*.

There were no disclosures under section 10 or section 14 of *The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* during the period between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022. The activity under the *Act* is set forth in the disclosure reporting matrix below:

Information required annually	Fiscal year 2021/22
The number of disclosures received and the number acted on and not acted on. subsection 18(2)(a)	NIL
The number of investigations commenced as a result of a disclosure. subsection 18(2)(b)	NIL
In the case of an investigation that results in a finding of wrongdoing, a description of the wrongdoing and any recommendations or corrective actions taken in relation to the wrongdoing, or the reasons why no corrective action was taken. subsection 18(2)(c)	NIL

MARCELLE MARION

Legal Director & Designated Officer under *The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act*
Legal Aid Manitoba

Delivering Access to Justice

In Manitoba, there is a continuum of legal and non-legal services provided by publicly funded, non-profit, and volunteer-based organizations that strive to meet the different legal needs of the poor and working poor.

At one end of the continuum is a basic need for legal information and education services. This basic need is met by a number of organizations throughout Manitoba. Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM) seeks to support and coordinate the provision of services with these organizations, but does not duplicate these services.

At the other end of the continuum is the need for specialized legal advice and/or representation services that require the skill, knowledge and expertise provided by lawyers. LAM is an arms-length government agency that provides advice and representation in essential areas of legal need to ensure access to justice for eligible, low-income individuals and groups throughout Manitoba.

Poverty Law

2021/22

We provided a range of poverty law services, including disputes involving housing and government benefits and *Mental Health Act* detentions





Performance Measurement: Supporting the Delivery of Results and Access to Justice

Financial Guidelines

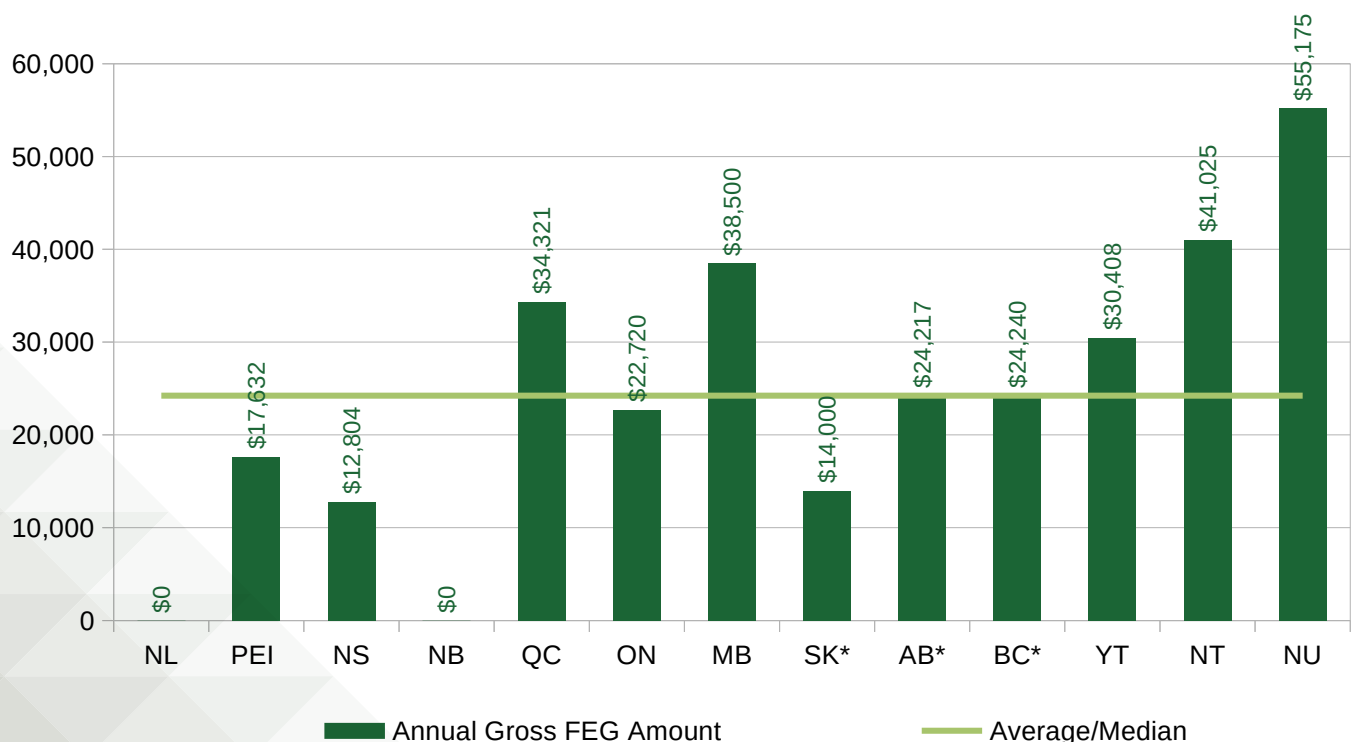
Legal Aid Manitoba's (LAM's) financial eligibility guidelines are designed to ensure LAM can provide legal services to as many Manitobans as possible (see Figure 1). We extend these eligibility guidelines through an "Agreement to Pay" program which recovers the cost of providing services at legal aid rates.

Figure 1

Family Size	"Free" Legal Aid Gross Family Income	Agreement to Pay Gross Family Income	Poverty Line [2021 Stats Canada Low-Income Cut Off (LICO) before tax]
1	\$0 - 26,500	\$26,500 - 38,500	\$26,426
2	\$0 - 33,000	\$33,000 - 51,000	\$32,898
3	\$0 - 40,500	\$40,500 - 59,500	\$40,444
4	\$0 - 49,200	\$49,200 - 69,200	\$49,106
5	\$0 - 56,000	\$56,000 - 76,000	\$55,694
6	\$0 - 63,000	\$63,000 - 83,000	\$62,814
More than 6	\$0 - 70,000	\$70,000 - 90,000	\$69,934

Figure 2 shows LAM's financial guidelines alongside those of the other Canadian legal aid plans.

Figure 2

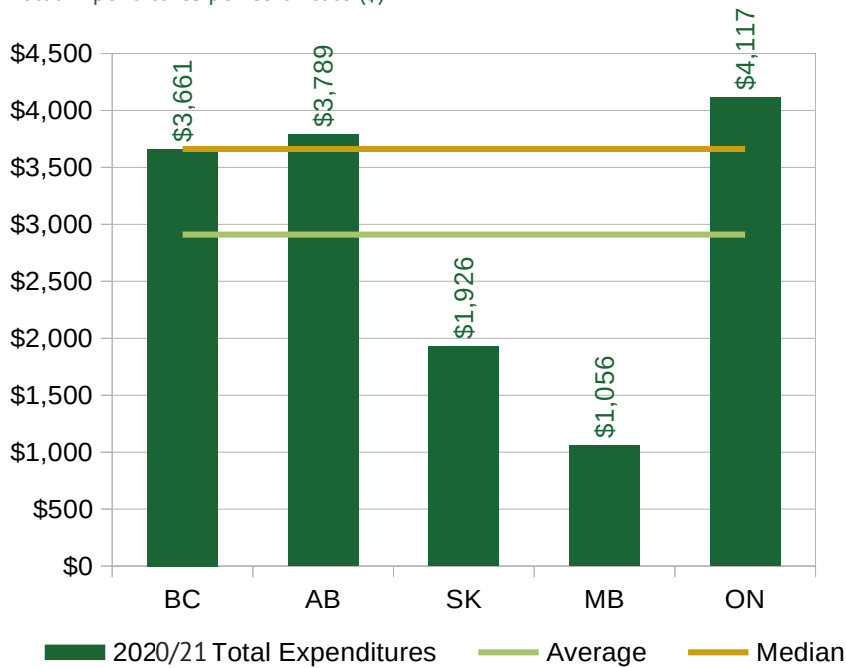


* Jurisdictions that calculate financial eligibility guidelines on a net income amount were adjusted to the gross amount for the comparative purposes.

Cost-Effective Delivery of Services

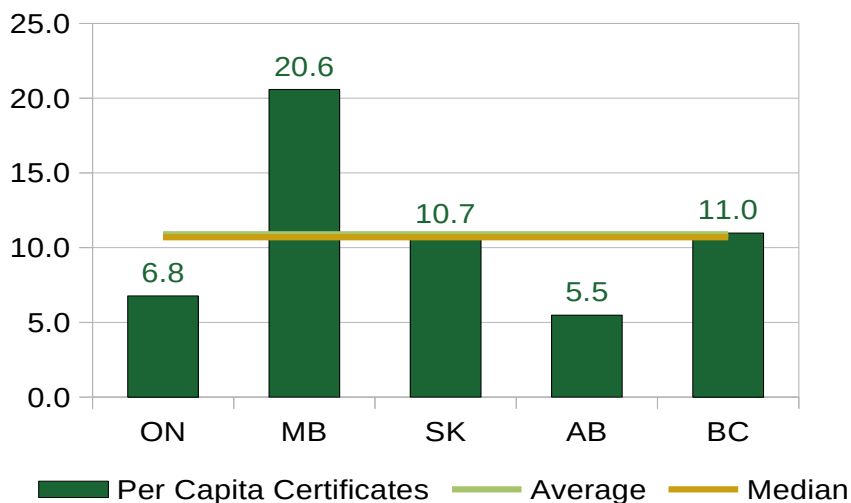
Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM) is focused on innovation and practices that increase overall efficiency in the delivery of full representation legal services, while still providing effective legal representation. The cost per certificate, and number of full representation certificates issued per capita by LAM, are provided in Figures 3 and 4 below, alongside comparative data for other Canadian legal aid plans.

Figure 3
Total Expenditures per Certificate (\$)



Source: Legal Aid in Canada 2020-21.

Figure 4
Per Capita Certificates (Certificates/person) Rate per 1,000



Source: Legal Aid in Canada 2020-21.

Manitoba numbers are based on Legal Matters



Scope of Service Details

Legal Aid Manitoba's (LAM's) purpose is to serve the public interest by providing low-income individuals and groups with fundamental and essential legal "advice" and "representation" services. These services fulfill Manitoba's constitutional obligation to ensure procedural and substantive fairness in the administration of justice, and address the constitutional principles of "fairness" and "efficiency" in Manitoba's justice system.

Services are provided in the areas of:

- Criminal defence (adult and youth);
- Child Protection;
- Family Law;
- Immigration and Refugee;
- Poverty Law issues - including disputes involving housing issues, government benefits and *Mental Health Act* detentions; and
- Public Interest (Indigenous, consumer and environmental).

The scope of coverage provided in Manitoba is set out in Figure 5 alongside those reported by other Canadian legal aid plans.

Figure 5

	NL	PE	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NT	NU
Legal Information		✓	✓			✓				✓	✓		
Legal Advice (not Duty Counsel)	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓		✓
Criminal Representation													
Likelihood of jail	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Loss of means of earning a living	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Youth	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Traffic/By-law Offences (unrelated to other CC charges)	✓					✓	✓				✓		✓
Other factors						¹				²			
Mental Health Reviews	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Institutional Disciplinary Hearings			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Family Representation													
Simple Divorce	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓		✓
Divorce with corollary	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Property Division (never alone)	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
<i>Family Maintenance Act</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Emergency Protection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Child Welfare	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Civil Representation													
<i>Mental Health Act</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
Income Support	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Residential Tenancy			✓				✓				✓		✓
Public Interest													
Indigenous, Consumer, Environmental, Human Rights			✓			✓ ³	✓						✓ ⁴
Law Reform/Test Cases			✓			✓	✓						
Immigration - Refugee/Deportation	✓				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			

Source: Statistics Canada website and information published by legal aid plans

¹ Member of vulnerable group i.e. First Nation, mental health or addiction issues

² Indigenous and case impacts your ability to follow traditional livelihood

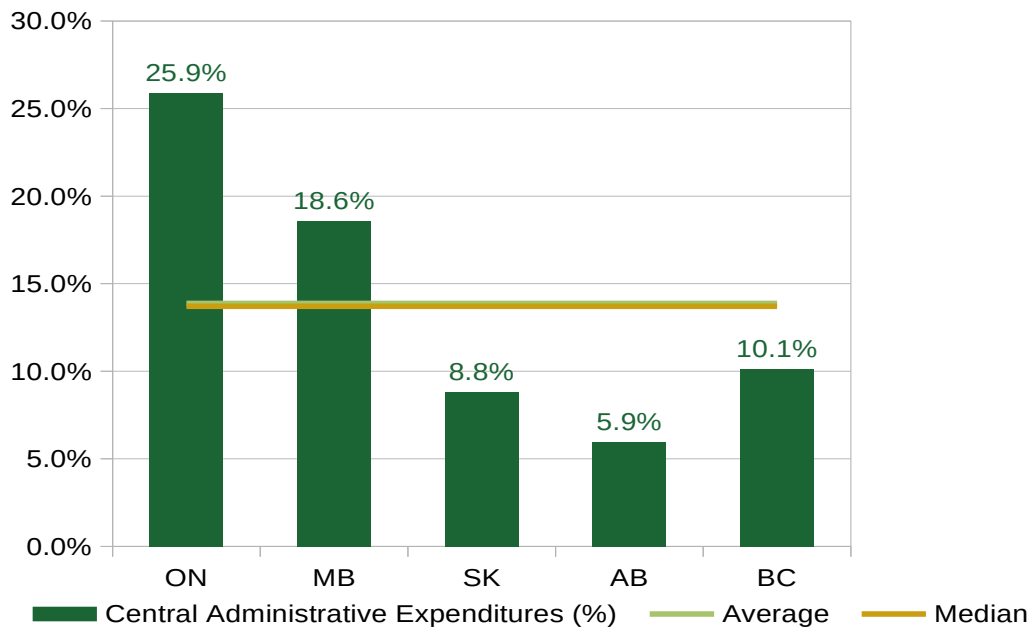
³ Consumer Law Excluded

⁴ Consumer and Environmental Law Excluded

Central Administrative Expenditures

Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM) endeavours to administer the provision of legal aid using sound business practices and principles. LAM's administrative costs, as a percentage of total expenditures, reflect this approach. The ability to provide all Manitobans living near the poverty line access to LAM's essential advice and representation services is the result of these sound business practices (see Figure 6).

Figure 6
Central Administrative Expenditures



Source: Legal Aid in Canada 2020-21.

University of Manitoba Community Law Centre

Law students provided a range of criminal defence and civil law representation and information services on almost 275 matters under the supervision of LAM staff lawyers

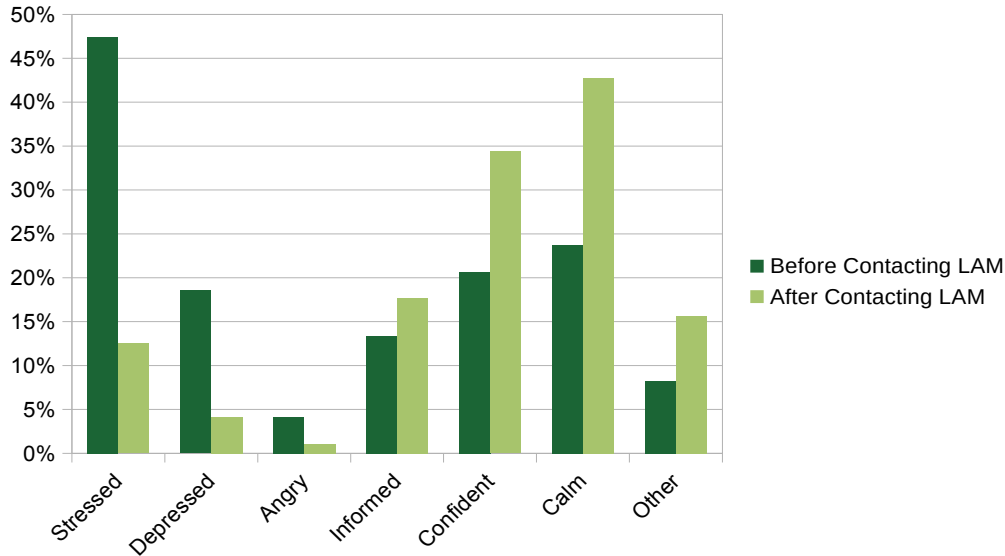




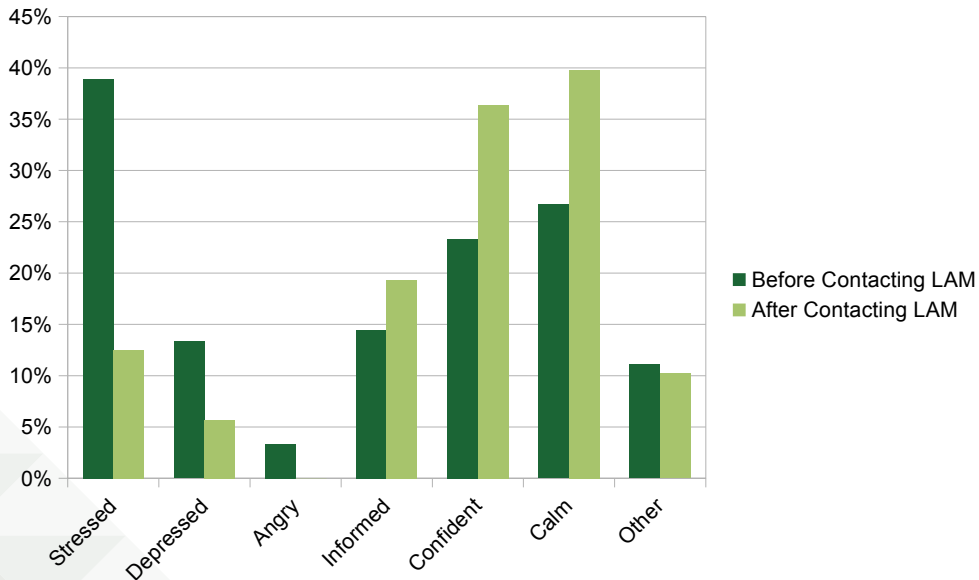
Client Satisfaction

During fiscal year 2021/22, Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM) directly engaged with Manitobans accessing our services. Through online surveys, we ask Manitobans to provide feedback regarding their experience with our administrative processes, and the services received from staff and private bar lawyers.

How clients reported feeling before and after contacting legal aid:



Clients rated their first contact with LAM as four out of five stars.



Clients rated LAM's appeal process as four out of five stars.

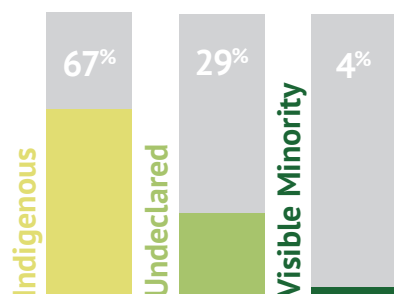
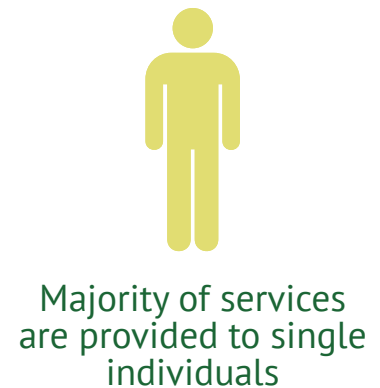
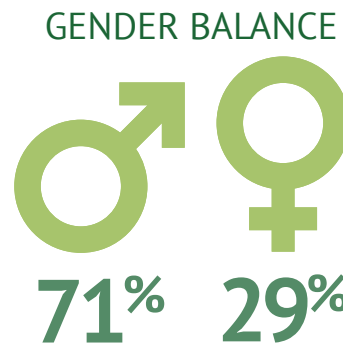


Who We Serve

Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM) provides legal services to low-income adults and youth in Manitoba who:

- qualify financially; and
- have a case with merit.

LAM collects statistics on the age, gender, family size, ethnicity and income of people that receive legal aid services. Over the years, statistics show:



People self-identifying as being of Indigenous ancestry make up the biggest proportion of LAM's clients



32% of all requests for assistance were rejected **DUE TO FINANCIAL REASONS**



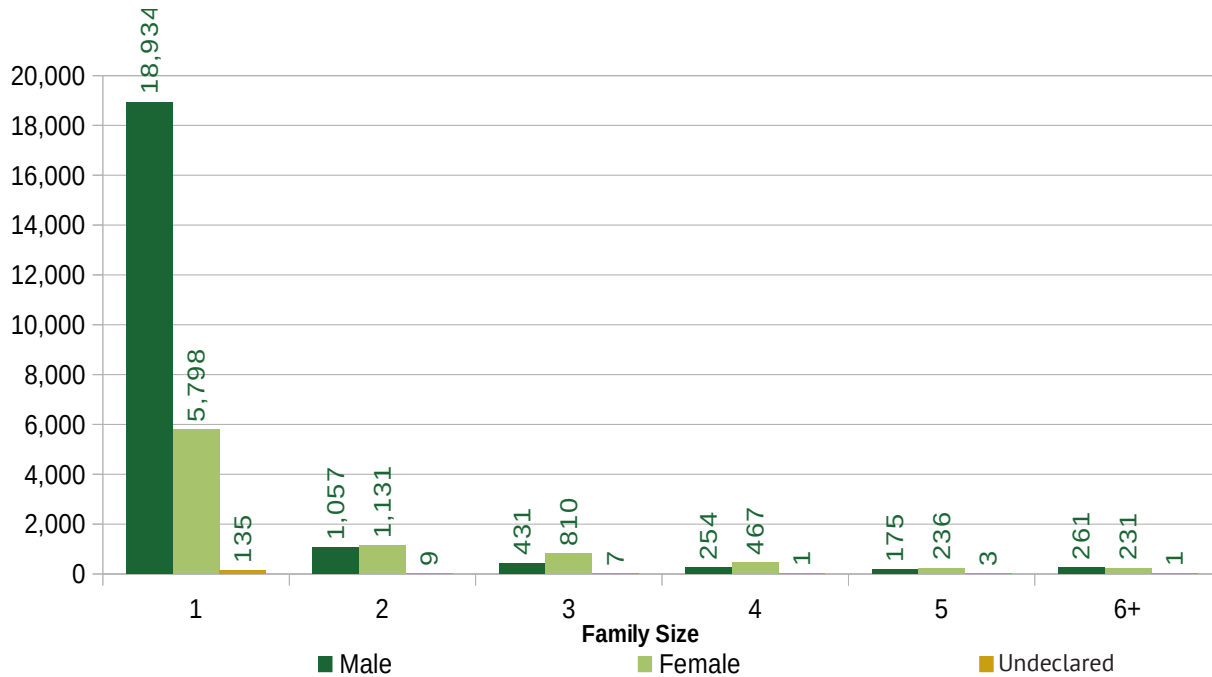
People with gross family incomes **UNDER \$10,000 OR ARE IN RECEIPT OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME ASSISTANCE** make up the biggest percentage of LAM clients



Client Family Size by Gender Distribution

Majority of services are provided to single individuals.

Figure 7



Note – Undeclared includes clients that selected “other” as their gender and clients that opted not to identify their gender at all.



Family Law 2021/22

We opened 3,608 family cases, involving matters such as divorce, separation, protection orders and child custody/support

Ethnicity by Gender Breakdown*

People self-identifying as Indigenous are the biggest percentage of Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM) clients. Undeclared** in Figures 8(a) and 8(b) represent all other ethnicities and people who did not declare as being Indigenous or a Visible Minority.

Figure 8(a)

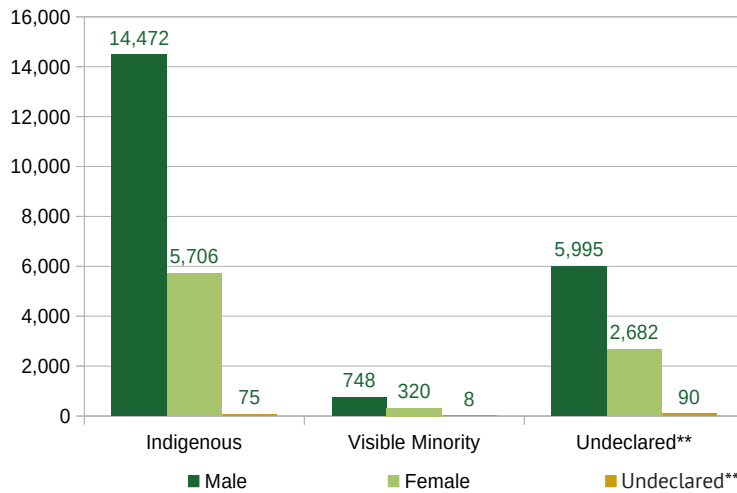
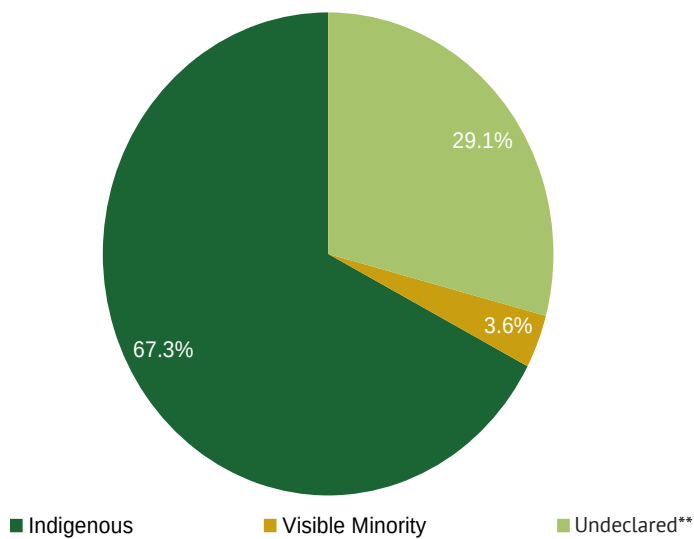


Figure 8(b)



* Where applicable, Indigenous clients were not included in the visible minority count where they also self-declared as being part of a visible minority group.

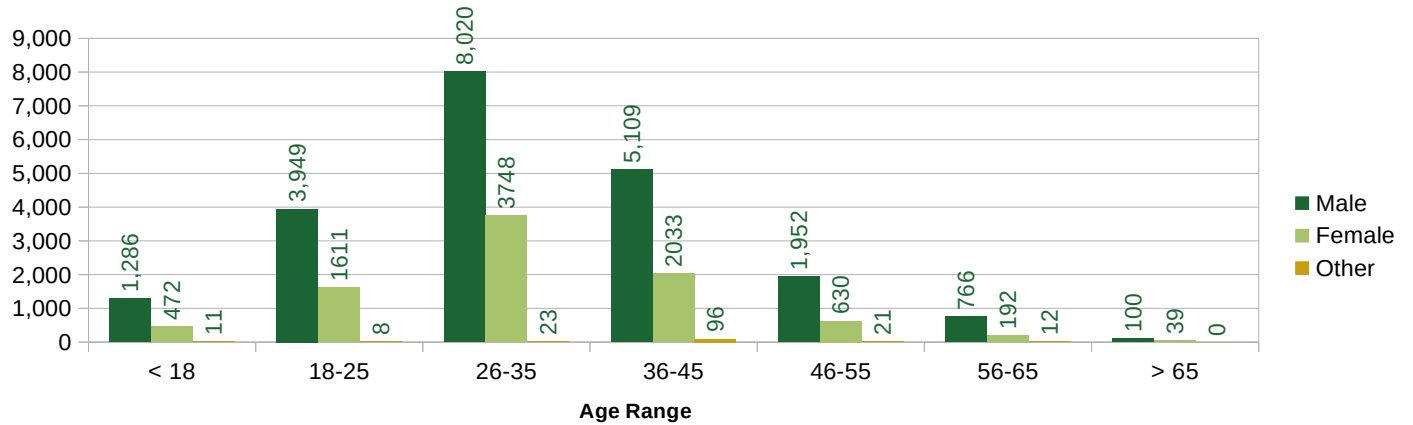
** May include Indigenous and other visible minority groups who chose not to self-identify their ethnicity.



Client Age by Gender Distribution

LAM's client base falls primarily in the 26-35 year age range.

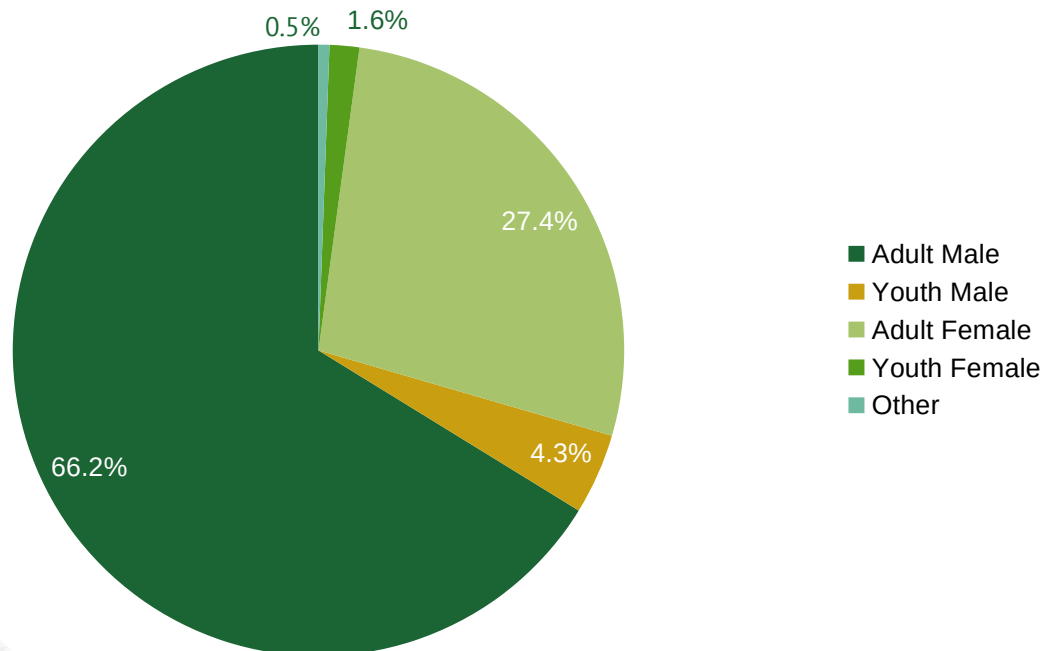
Figure 9



Client Breakdown

Adult males make up the biggest proportion of LAM clients (66.2%).

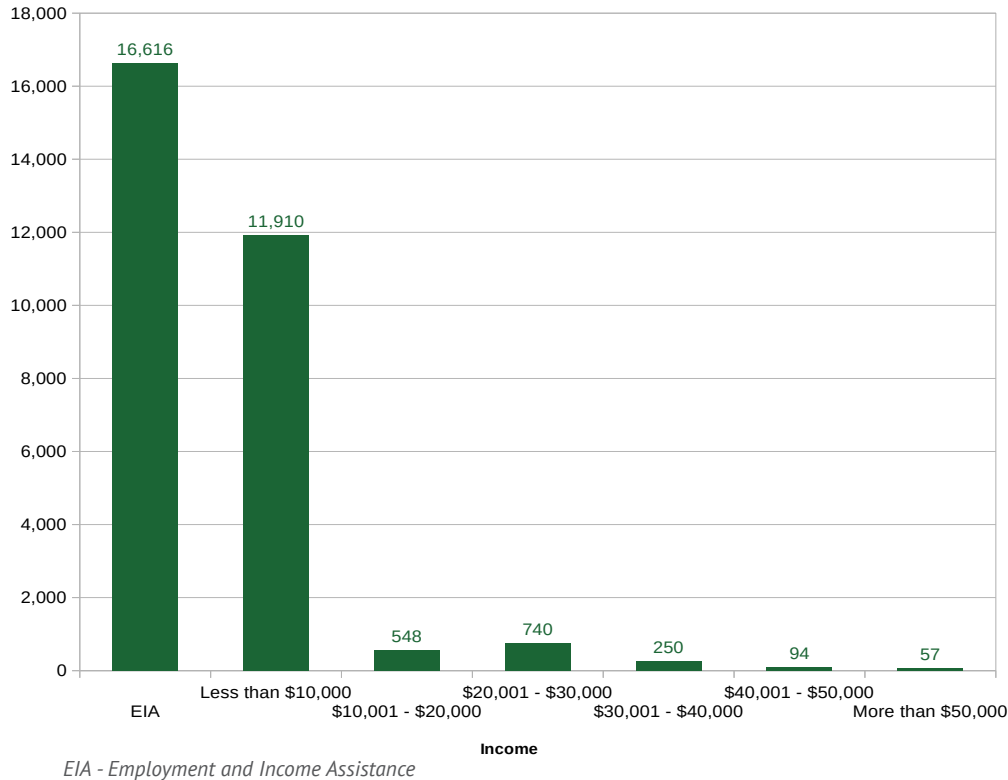
Figure 10



Income Breakdown

People in receipt of Employment and Income Assistance benefits and those with gross family incomes below \$10,000.00 make up the biggest percentage of LAM clients.

Figure 11



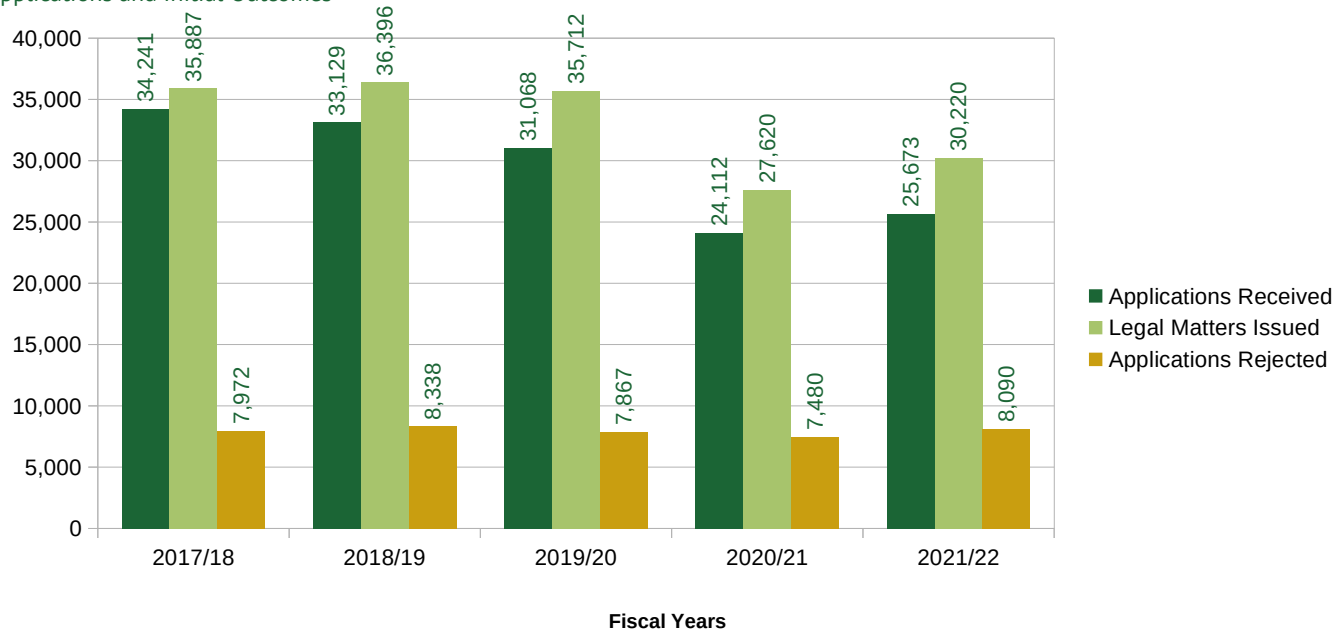
Immigration/ Refugee 2021/22

We helped 145 people with immigration matters such as seeking refugee status or opposing deportation or removal orders





Figure 12
Applications and Initial Outcomes

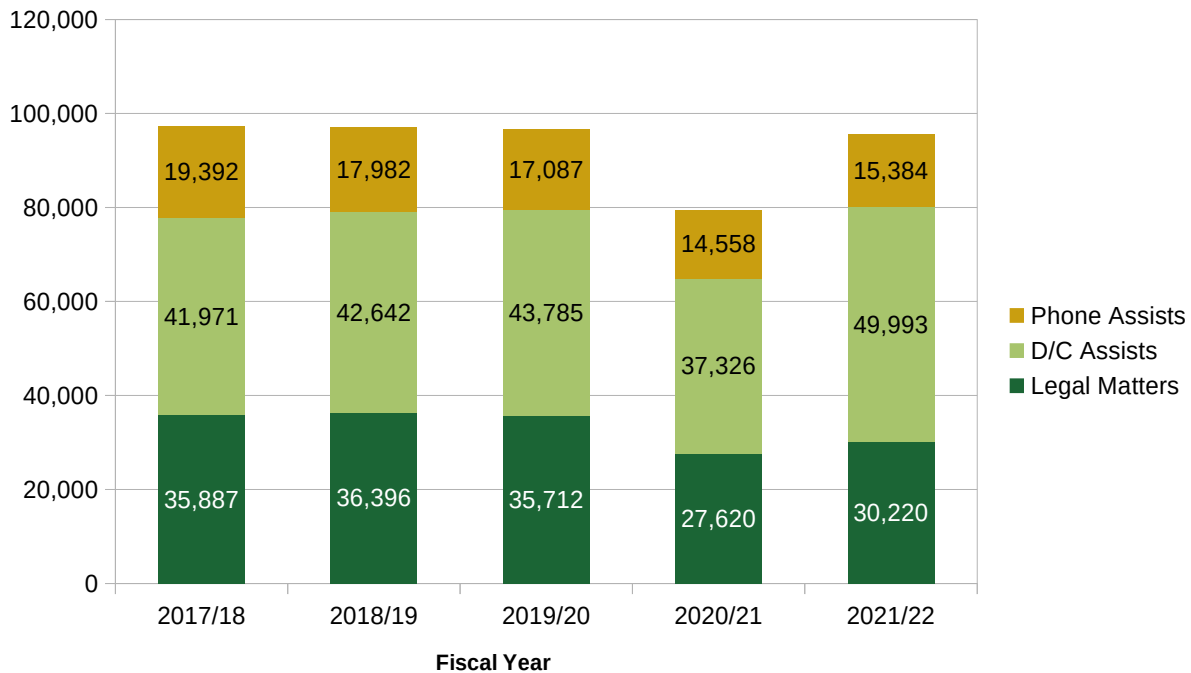


Note – Applications received may include requests for multiple different legal matters. Approved and refused applications are rejected or issued based on clients' financial eligibility and/or the legal merits of individual legal matters.

CRIMINAL LAW 2021/22

We approved and issued over 24,500 full representation criminal adult and youth defence matters - safeguarding constitutional rights and ensuring procedural and substantive fairness in the administration of justice in Manitoba.

Figure 13
Legal Services Delivery Breakdown



LAM provides duty counsel services to individuals, regardless of their financial circumstances, in many rural circuit points, and the service has been re-introduced

in Winnipeg to ensure immediate access to justice where the assistance of legal counsel is reasonably required to prevent a miscarriage of justice and/or fulfil the Charter right to counsel primarily in the areas of criminal defence and child protection. Duty counsel services include:

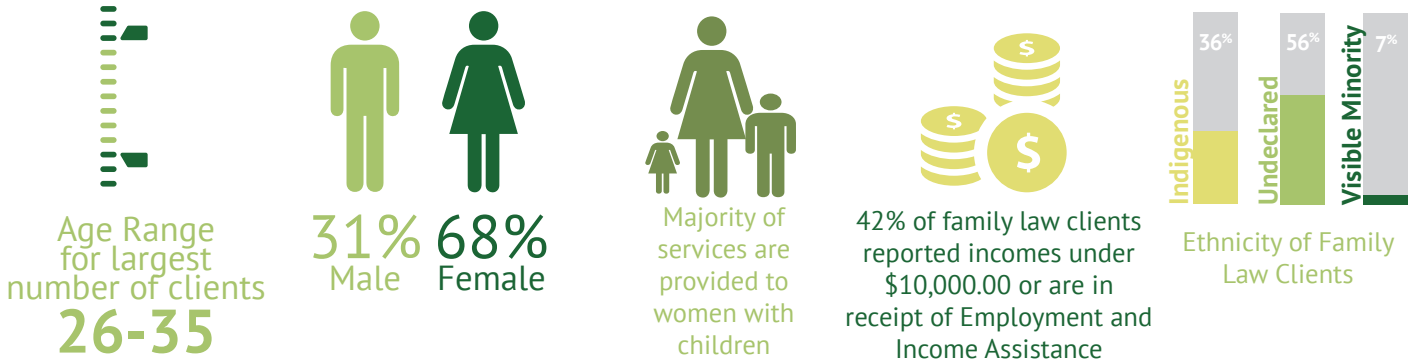
- meeting with unrepresented persons at court to provide urgent advice and assistance as needed;
- remanding matters from time to time for the appointment or retention of counsel; and
- assisting with impromptu bails, guilty pleas, and negotiated settlements with the Crown where a remand for counsel would significantly prejudice the interests of the Accused, or where a Judge directs that assistance be provided for the instant sitting of the court.



Client Base by Matter Type

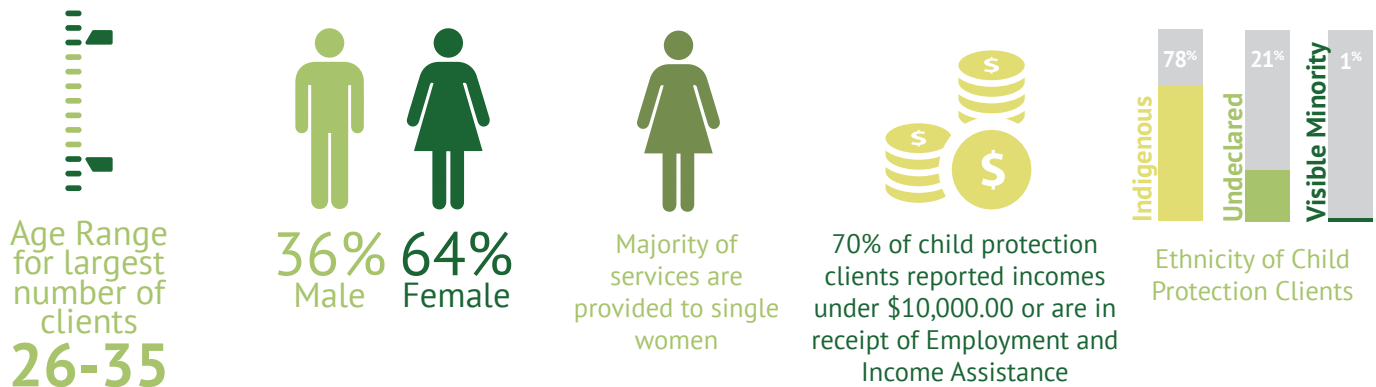
3,608 Family Law

Full Representation Cases Approved & Issued



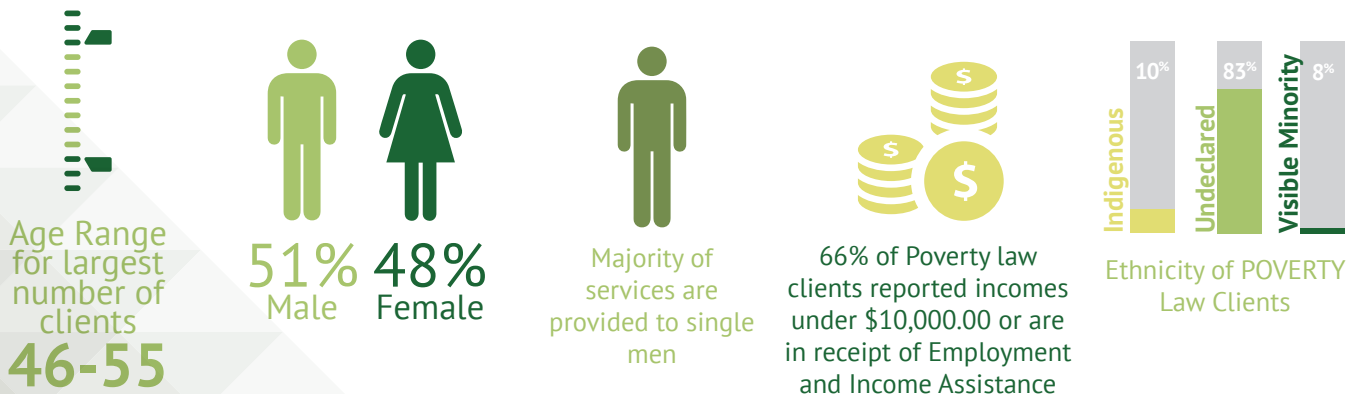
1,495 Child Protection

Full Representation Cases Approved & Issued



109 Poverty Law

Full Representation Cases Approved & Issued



145 Immigration and Refugee

Full Representation Cases Approved & Issued



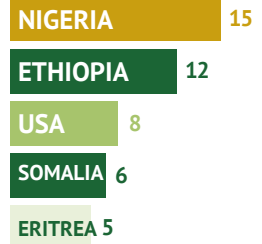
Age Range
for largest
number of
clients
26-35



Majority of
services are
provided to single
men



88% of Immigration
and Refugee law clients
reported
incomes under \$10,000.00
or are in receipt of
Employment and Income
Assistance



Top 5 Source
Countries for Clients
seeking Asylum

23,024 Criminal Law - Adult

Full Representation Cases Approved & Issued



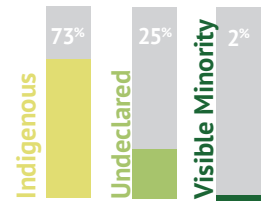
Age Range
for largest
number of
clients
26-35



Majority of
services are
provided to single
men



96% of Criminal Law -
Adult clients reported
incomes under
\$10,000.00 or are in
receipt of Employment
and Income Assistance



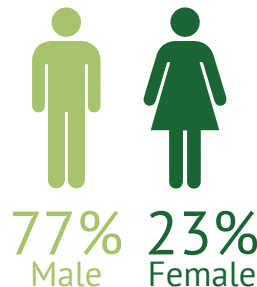
Ethnicity of Criminal
Law - Adult Clients

1,491 Criminal Law - Youth

Full Representation Cases Approved & Issued



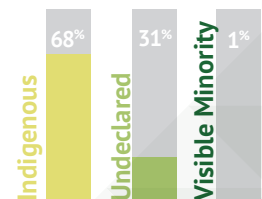
Age Range
16-17



Majority of
services are
provided to single
males



99% of Criminal Law -
Youth clients reported
incomes under
\$10,000.00 or are in
receipt of Employment
and Income Assistance



Ethnicity of Criminal
Law - Youth Clients



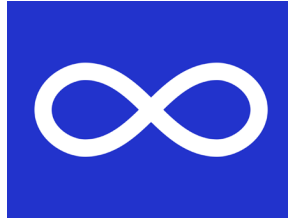
Journey to Reconciliation / Pimohtéwin tati mínowastánowahk

The Canadian Constitution recognizes three groups of Indigenous Peoples, each with unique cultural practices, heritages, beliefs, protocols and languages.



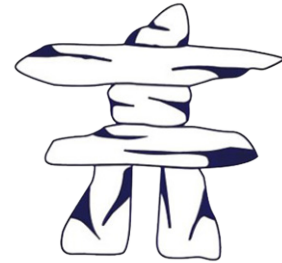
FIRST NATIONS

Descendants of the original inhabitants of Canada who have lived here for thousands of years.



MÉTIS

Descendants of communities that have historic links to the fur trade with a unique mixed First Nations and European heritage.



INUIT

Inuit are the Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic, living mainly in Northern Quebec, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Labrador.

“ *In every deliberation, we must consider the impact on the seventh generation... For the ties that connect the elderly and the young are essential. They must be cherished and protected, lest we lose our historical memory and our very identity. Whenever memory and identity are cherished and protected, we become more human.* **”**

- Pope Francis began his address to the delegation of Canada's Indigenous People with their traditional wisdom, 2022

Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM) is committed to achieving reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples through relationship building based on the following principles:

Respect: Respect for Indigenous nations, Indigenous Peoples and all the people of Manitoba who access our legal aid services;

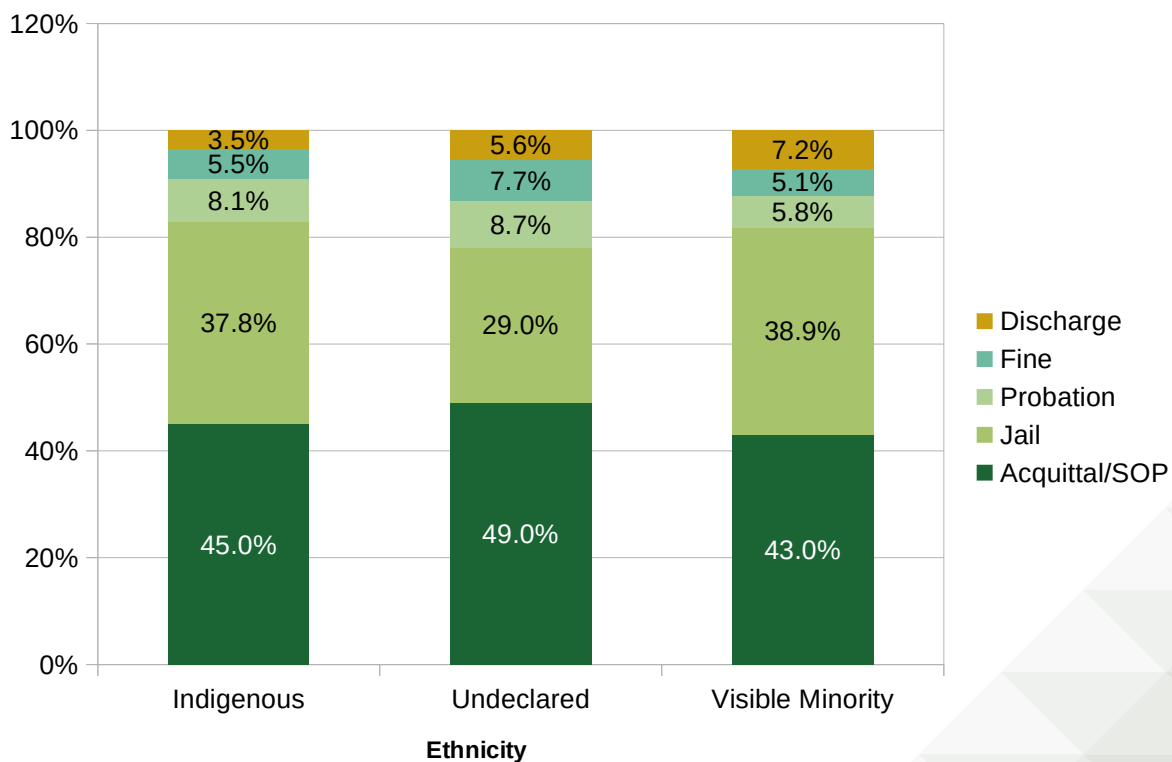
Engagement: Engagement with Indigenous nations, Indigenous Peoples and key stakeholders to better inform our strategic planning and implementation; and

Action: Concrete and constructive action that improves access to our advice and representation services for Indigenous and non-Indigenous in Manitoba in matters involving criminal defence, child protection, family, immigration and refugee, public interest and poverty law issues.

LAM is committed to ongoing engagement with Indigenous Peoples and communities to ensure that they are treated fairly, respectfully and equitably in the justice system.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action: 30. We call upon federal, provincial, and territorial governments to commit to eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in custody over the next decade, and to issue detailed annual reports that monitor and evaluate progress in doing so.

Figure 14
Disposition of Criminal Cases Broken Down by Ethnicity





Journey to Reconciliation: Connecting the Past, Shaping the Future

1972

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Legal Aid Manitoba opened its doors to clients in 1972

1982

SECTION 25 OF THE *CONSTITUTION ACT*

(1) The existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed. (2) In this *Act*, "aboriginal peoples of Canada" includes the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

1982

CANADIAN CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms came into existence in Canada

1982

THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTRE WAS CREATED

The Public Interest Law Centre was created. The Centre's first case was filed in court in December 11, 1982 defending the rights of bus riders challenging the City of Brandon's decision to save money by reducing services.

1996

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS CLOSE

The last Residential School was closed in 1996.

2008

PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER APOLOGIZES

Prime Minister Stephen Harper offers a formal apology on behalf of Canada over residential schools.

2014

THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTRE (PILC)

PILC began working with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Elders and a coalition of service providers to engage with the families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG). Together with its partners, PILC has proposed a made-in-Manitoba, Indigenous-led process to address the tragedy of MMIWG.

2015

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

Truth and Reconciliation Commission releases its report and its 94 calls to action. Calls to action 27 and 28 - Changing Legal Education and Culture - recommend that lawyers receive appropriate cultural competency training, which includes the history and legacy of residential schools.

2016

THE PATH TO RECONCILIATION ACT

The Path to Reconciliation Act: passed by the Government of Manitoba. It is the first reconciliation legislation in Canada. It is intended to guide Manitoba's reconciliation activities including ongoing engagement with Indigenous Nations and peoples in the development and implementation of a reconciliation strategy.

2016

ENGAGEMENT WITH INDIGENOUS GROUPS

PILC worked with Indigenous groups to organize the Elders and Traditional Knowledge Holders Gathering: Sharing Indigenous Knowledge on Survival in Times of Climate Change at Turtle Lodge on Sagkeeng First Nation; and participated as organizing committee member of the 2016 Isaac Pitblado Lectures: Pimohitewin tati minowastánowahk (Journey to Reconciliation): Lawyers Called to Action.

2017

LAM PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

LAM provided educational training workshops for all staff members; acknowledging that a deeper understanding of the historical and current relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples enhances staff's ability to continue delivering quality legal services.

2018 INDIGENOUS LEGAL TRADITIONS

PILC participated as one of the organizers of Tebweta Ajiimowin "To Tell the Truth" an Indigenous Law Program jointly presented by the Law Society of Manitoba, Manitoba Bar Association, Robson Hall, and the Manitoba Indigenous Law Students' Association.

2018 MMIWG

On behalf of the families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) PILC made recommendations to the National Inquiry into MMIWG.

2019 INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES

Guided by Traditional Knowledge holders and acting on behalf of Indigenous groups, PILC intervened in the Conseil scolaire Francophone de la Colombe-Britannique case providing the Supreme Court of Canada with a compelling illustration of the potential detrimental effects of diluted Charter protections on Indigenous peoples, and on the sacred gift of Indigenous languages.

2020 LAM PROVIDES ADDITIONAL TRAINING

In 2020, LAM presented an educational program for all staff on the impacts of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls crisis including the traumatic effects on the families, communities and nations of the women and girls who go missing or are murdered.

2021 INDIGENOUS LEGAL TRADITIONS

In 2021, PILC staff co-presented with Ms Cora Morgan at the National Permanent Working Group on Legal Aid (PWG) on issues relating to reconciliation within the child welfare system. The PWG is made up of representatives of the federal, provincial and territorial governments and Legal Aid Plans in Canada. The PWG is a forum for national information sharing, research and joint policy development and discussions on matters of shared interest respecting legal aid.





Statistics

Community Law Centre (CLC) Statistics						
	Supervising Attorney	Staff Lawyer	Advocate	Articling Student	Support Staff	Total
Winnipeg Offices						
Agassiz CLC	1	4	0	1	4	10
Child Protection Law Office	1	2	0	1	2	6
Criminal Duty Counsel Office	1	3	0	1	1	6
Phoenix CLC	1	3	0	1	3	8
Public Interest Law Centre	1	5	3	1	2	12
Regency CLC	1	3	0	1	2	7
Riel CLC	1	3	0	1	3	8
Riverwood CLC	1	4	0	1	2	8
University of Manitoba CLC	1	0	0	0	1	2
Willow CLC	1	4	0	1	4	10
Outlying Offices						
Amisk CLC, Dauphin	1	2	0	0	2	5
Northlands CLC, The Pas	0	4	0	2	2	8
Thompson CLC, Thompson	1	5	1	2	4	13
Westman CLC, Brandon	1	2	0	0	2	5
All Community Law Centres	13	44	4	13	34	108

Service Delivery Volumes	2021/22	2020/21
Application Services		
Applications Received	25,673	24,112
Applications Refused	8,090	7,480
Legal Matters Issued (Opened Cases)		
Criminal Adult	23,024	20,024
Criminal Youth	1,491	1,434
Family	3,608	3,762
Child Protection	1,495	1,748
Immigration	145	108
University of Manitoba Community Law Centre	177	289
Civil ¹	280	255
Total Legal Matters Issued² (a)	30,220	27,620
LM issued to Private Bar	21,366	18,992
LM issued to Staff	8,846	8,628
Other Services		
Duty Counsel Assists (b)	49,993	37,326
Drop-In and Phone Assists ³ (c)	15,384	14,558
TOTAL ASSISTS (a + b + c)⁴	95,597	79,504
Legal Matters Closed		
Criminal Adult	23,149	19,968
Criminal Youth	1,541	1,673
Family	4,288	4,236
Child Protection	1,515	1,834
Immigration	146	363
University of Manitoba Community Law Centre	274	321
Civil	123	125
Total Legal Matters Closed	31,036	28,520
LM closed by Private Bar	22,097	19,688
LM closed by Staff	8,939	8,832

¹ Civil includes the following legal matters: Residential/Landlord Tenant claims, mental health matters, workers compensation claims, Public Interest Law Centre, Employment and Income Assistance matters, civil appeals, other civil and administrative matters.

² LAM uses a mixed-model service delivery system. In 2021/22, the ratio of private bar to staff services was 71:29 (69:31). Eight legal matters were unassigned at the time of running the LAMAS reports.

³ Includes assists provided through LAM's application centres, Age & Opportunity, *Brydges* On-Call and general assistance calls.

⁴ At the end of March 31st, 2022, a total of 95,597 (79,504) people were assisted either on a formal or informal basis. This represents an increase of 20.2% over the previous fiscal year. For 2021/22, LAM observed increases in all areas of service delivery resulting from the removal of government restrictions enacted during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Financial Overview

Sources of Funding

During 2021/22, Legal Aid Manitoba (LAM) received funding from three sources:

1. Funds appropriated by the Provincial Government through Manitoba Justice;
2. Statutory and discretionary grants from the Manitoba Law Foundation; and
3. Contributions from clients, costs awarded by the Court on behalf of clients, project funding, interest earned on monies invested, and miscellaneous receipts.

The Government of Canada reimbursed the Province for some of the legal aid expenditures on federal criminal matters (adult and youth) and immigration and refugee matters. The contribution agreement is in effect until March 31, 2022.

Distribution of Funding

LAM divides its budget into three areas: direct legal services provided through staff; direct legal services provided through the private bar; and administration. The table below shows the distribution.

Significant Issues / Pressures

COVID-19 Pandemic – the closure of courts, institutions and other facilities within the justice system in early March, 2020 resulted in reductions in file disbursement and travel expenditures. The shut down led to savings in 2020/21 and 2021/22. These costs will be pushed into 2022/23 and 2023/24 as courts reopen more broadly.

Funding from the Provincial Government was significantly down this year compared to last year. Less funding was needed due to reduced volumes of cases and travel related to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the Province's migration to summary accounting, which includes Other Reporting Entities such as LAM, has resulted in a concerted effort by the Province to reduce LAM's accumulated surplus. In the past, LAM has relied upon the accumulated surplus as a "shock absorber" to manage in-year spikes in expenditures.

	2022 (\$000's)	2021 (\$000's)
Operating Fund Revenue:		
Appropriation	\$31,603	\$28,602
Manitoba Law Foundation	\$1,399	\$4,229
Other – 1	\$2,740	\$1,786
Total	\$35,742	\$34,617
Operating Fund Expenses:		
Private bar – 2	\$14,891	\$13,338
Direct legal services – 3	\$19,646	\$19,820
Administration – 4	\$1,517	\$1,501
Total	\$36,054	\$34,659
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expense	(\$312)	(\$42)

1 Other includes client and third party recoveries, net of bad debt expense and collection fees.

2 Private bar fees and disbursements include an accrual for cases outstanding at year-end.

3 Direct legal services expenditures include salaries and benefits, travel, provision of legal services, taxation, collections and other legal expenses.

4 Administration includes Management Council, the Executive Management Committee, and other administrative expenses for Winnipeg.

Responsibility for Financial Reporting

The accompanying financial statements of Legal Aid Manitoba are the responsibility of management and have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards for the year ended March 31, 2022.

As management is responsible for the integrity of the financial statements, management has established systems of internal control to provide reasonable assurance that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded from loss.

The responsibility of the Auditor General is to express an independent professional opinion on the financial statements. The Auditor's Report outlines the scope of the audit examination and provides the audit opinion.



PETER KINGSLEY, Q.C.
Executive Director and CEO
Legal Aid Manitoba
July 15, 2022



Auditor General MANITOBA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

To the Management Council of Legal Aid Manitoba

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Legal Aid Manitoba, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2022, and the statement of operations, the statement of changes in net financial assets and the statement of 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 Legal Aid Manitoba as at March 31, 2022, and the results of its operations, changes in its net financial assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards (PSAS).

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 *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of Legal Aid Manitoba in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, 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.

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 PSAS, 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 Legal Aid Manitoba'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 an intention exists to liquidate Legal Aid Manitoba or to cease operations, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing Legal Aid Manitoba's financial reporting process.



Auditor's 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 auditor's 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 Legal Aid Manitoba'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 Legal Aid Manitoba's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's 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 auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause Legal Aid Manitoba 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 timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Office of the Auditor General". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Office of the Auditor General
Winnipeg, Manitoba
July 15, 2022



Statement of Financial Position

	2022	2021
Financial assets:		
Cash	\$ 6,008,271	\$ 5,937,076
Short-term Investments	2,236,827	2,817,221
Client accounts receivable (Note 3)	145,723	106,263
Receivable from the Province of Manitoba	1,900,000	1,900,000
Other receivables (Note 4)	327,451	324,740
Long-term receivable – charges on land (Note 6)	772,846	820,459
Long-term receivable – severance – Province of Manitoba (Note 7)	716,167	716,167
Long-term receivable – pension – Province of Manitoba (Note 14)	35,081,578	33,257,785
	<u>47,188,863</u>	<u>45,879,711</u>
Financial liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,217,877	2,458,431
Accrued vacation pay	1,292,772	1,400,626
Deferred revenue from clients	855,113	762,365
Provision for employee future benefits (Note 8)	3,274,826	3,275,362
Provision for employee pension benefits (Note 14)	35,081,578	33,257,785
	<u>42,722,166</u>	<u>41,154,569</u>
Net financial assets	4,466,697	4,725,142
Non-financial assets:		
Prepaid expenses	221,016	206,771
Tangible capital Assets (Note 5)	400,969	468,505
	<u>621,985</u>	<u>675,276</u>
Accumulated surplus	<u>\$ 5,088,682</u>	<u>\$ 5,400,418</u>

Approved by the Management Council

 Chairperson

 Council Member

The accompanying notes and schedule are an integral part of the financial statements

Statement of Operations

		2022	2021
	Budget	Actual	Actual
	(Note 21)		
Revenue			
Province of Manitoba (Note 9)	\$ 35,465,000	\$ 33,427,056	\$ 28,601,962
Manitoba Law Foundation (Note 10)	1,355,900	1,399,089	4,228,857
Contribution from clients	790,996	748,011	633,778
Recoveries from Client services	792,385	208,670	1,139,406
Judgment costs and settlements	0	120,977	225,330
Interest income	40,000	26,626	23,865
Other	0	38,269	4,604
	<u>\$ 38,444,281</u>	<u>\$ 35,968,698</u>	<u>\$ 34,857,802</u>
Expense			
Private Bar Service Delivery (Note 13)	15,255,601	14,891,278	13,338,051
Area Director and Community Law Centres, Schedule 1	14,126,047	14,713,489	15,194,630
Public Interest Law Centre Service Deliveries, Schedule 1	1,328,339	1,758,573	1,700,084
University of Manitoba Community Law Centre Service Deliveries, Schedule 1	327,679	163,266	137,604
Management Council and Administrative, Schedule 1	6,751,989	4,753,828	4,529,269
	<u>37,789,655</u>	<u>36,280,434</u>	<u>34,899,638</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	<u>\$ 654,626</u>	<u>\$ (311,736)</u>	<u>\$ (41,836)</u>
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year		5,400,418	5,442,254
Accumulated surplus, end of year		<u>5,088,682</u>	<u>5,400,418</u>

The accompanying notes and schedule are an integral part of the financial statements



Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

	Budget (Note 19)	2022	2021
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$ 654,626	\$ (311,736)	\$ (41,836)
Tangible capital assets:			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	-	(9,394)	(349,507)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	76,930	51,468
Net acquisition of tangible capital assets		67,536	(298,039)
Other non-financial assets:			
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	-	(14,245)	10,698
Net acquisition of other non-financial assets		(14,245)	10,698
Decrease (increase) in net financial assets	-	(258,445)	(329,177)
Net financial assets, beginning of year	4,725,142	4,725,142	5,054,319
Net financial assets, end of the year	\$ 5,379,768	\$ 4,466,697	\$ 4,725,142

The accompanying notes and schedule are an integral part of the financial statements

Statement of Cash Flow

	2022	2021
Operating Activities:		
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$ (311,736)	\$ (41,836)
Non-cash changes in operations:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	76,930	51,468
Change in non-cash working capital:		
Client accounts receivable	(39,460)	(4,641)
Province of Manitoba receivable	-	2,170,000
Other receivables	(2,711)	(107,420)
Prepaid expenses	(14,245)	10,698
Accounts payable and accrued vacation pay	(348,408)	(164,916)
Deferred revenue	92,748	(110,542)
Charges on land	47,613	(7,000)
Long-term receivable - pension	(1,823,793)	(1,887,964)
Severance liability	9,764	(107,616)
Sick leave liability	(10,300)	(27,600)
Provision for employee pension benefits	1,823,793	1,887,964
	<u>(499,805)</u>	<u>1,660,595</u>
Capital activities:		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(9,394)	(349,507)
	<u>(9,394)</u>	<u>(349,507)</u>
Investment Activities:		
Proceeds from sale of investments	580,394	713,980
Purchase of investments	-	-
	<u>580,394</u>	<u>713,980</u>
Net Increase in cash	71,195	2,025,068
Cash - Beginning of Year	5,937,076	3,912,008
Cash - End of Year	<u>\$ 6,008,271</u>	<u>\$ 5,937,076</u>
Supplemental Cash Flow Information	2022	2021
Interest Received	\$ 26,626	\$ 23,865

The accompanying notes and schedule are an integral part of the financial statements



Schedule of Expenses

	Budget	2022	2021
Advertising	\$ 15,000	8,887	12,024
Amortization	0	76,930	51,468
Bad debts	179,000	224,335	237,212
Bank charges	9,600	11,321	8,343
Collection costs	15,000	2,899	3,417
Computer costs	224,700	114,734	199,781
Council expenses	97,000	45,861	45,709
Duty counsel	220,680	188,906	84,297
Equipment maintenance	101,448	67,178	85,017
File disbursements	441,280	749,181	655,683
Library	105,620	40,014	51,862
Meetings	22,940	19,460	13,224
Office expenses	490,361	446,119	300,736
Office relocation	13,000	35,590	16,107
Pension costs (Note 14)	2,080,128	2,853,163	2,866,256
Premise costs	2,019,581	1,331,860	2,005,834
Professional fees	407,185	381,629	358,267
Salaries, benefits, and levy	15,225,724	13,835,797	13,778,848
Severance benefits	100,000	253,846	254,708
Sick leave provision	0	-10,300	-27,600
Staff development	113,850	76,456	66,447
Staff recruitment	28,310	13,516	9,950
Telecommunications & Internet	367,932	448,646	318,738
Transcripts	35,880	16,300	14,711
Travel	219,835	156,828	150,548
TOTAL	\$ 22,534,054	21,389,156	21,561,587

Notes to Financial Statements

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

1. Nature of the Corporation

Legal Aid Manitoba (the Corporation) was established by an Act of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba.

The purpose of the Corporation, as set out in the *Act*, is to service the public interest by:

- (a) Providing quality legal advice and representation to eligible low-income individuals;
- (b) Administering the delivery of legal aid in a cost-effective and efficient manner; and
- (c) Providing advice to the Minister on legal aid generally and on the specific legal needs of low-income individuals.

The Corporation is economically dependent upon the Province of Manitoba. Other revenue sources include the Manitoba Law Foundation, individual clients, and third party agencies.

In March 2020, the novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. The spread of COVID-19 has severely impacted many local economies around the globe, and global stock markets have experienced great volatility and a significant weakening. Governments and central banks have responded with monetary and fiscal interventions to stabilize economic conditions. The Corporation has continued to operate throughout the pandemic as an essential service.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basic of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Canadian Public Accounting Standards (PSAS) as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board.

(b) Revenue Recognition

Revenues are recognized in the period in which the transactions or events occurred that gave rise to the revenues. All revenues are recorded on an accrual basis if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Revenues related to fees or services received in advance of the fee being earned or the service is performed is deferred and recognized when the fee is earned or service performed.

Provincial government transfers are recognized as revenues in the fiscal year they are authorized and any eligibility criteria are met, stipulations, if any, have been met and a reasonable estimate of the amounts can be determined.



LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

Any unrestricted non-government grants are recorded as revenue in the year received or in the years the funds are committed if the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. All non-government contributions or grants that are externally restricted such that they must be used for a specified purpose are recognized as revenue in the period in which the resources are used for the purpose specified. Any externally restricted amounts received prior to the criteria are satisfied is recorded as unearned revenue until met.

Interest income is recognized in the fiscal period in which it is earned.

(c) Recognition of Services to Clients

Clients may be required to pay a portion or all of the legal costs incurred on their behalf by the Corporation based on the clients' ability to pay.

i) Agreements to Pay – Partial

Clients who are able to pay, sign an agreement to pay for their portion of the applicable legal costs. The amount the client is required to pay is specified on the Legal Aid Certificate. The revenue and receivable are recognized when the service is provided.

ii) Agreements to Pay – Full

Under terms of Agreements to Pay - Full, clients are required to pay all of the legal costs and an administration fee of 25% of the Corporation's cost of the case. The revenue and receivable are recognized based on the date of the lawyer's billing which coincide with when the service is provided.

iii) Charges on Land

Charges on land are registered under section 17.1 and 17.2 of The *Legal Aid Manitoba Act* in a land titles office against property owned by clients. The revenue and receivable are recognized at the later of the date the lien is filed or the date of the lawyer's billing which coincide with when the service is provided. Collection of these accounts in the future is dependent on the client disposing of the property or arranging for payment.

(d) Financial Instruments

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition and are subsequently measured as financial assets and liabilities are recognized at cost or amortized cost using the effective interest rate method.

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

All financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis. When a decline is determined to be other than temporary, the amount of the loss is recorded in the statement of operations.

The Corporation's financial instruments include cash, short-term investments, client accounts receivable, receivable from the Province of Manitoba, other receivables, and accounts payable.

(e) Short-term Investments

Short-term investments consist of Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GIC's). These investments are recognized at cost plus accrued interest. Accrued interest is recognized through the statement of operations in the year earned

(f) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Estimates include the allowance for doubtful accounts, accrual for private bar fees and the provision for employee future benefits and provision for employee pension benefits. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(g) Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The allowances for doubtful accounts are determined annually based on a review of individual accounts. The allowances represent management's best estimate of probable losses on receivables. Where circumstances indicate doubt as to the ultimate collectability of an account, specific allowances are established for individual accounts. In addition to the allowances identified on an individual account basis, the Corporation establishes a further allowance representing management's best estimate of additional probable losses in the remaining accounts receivable.

(h) Capital Assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization of capital assets is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the capital assets as follows:

- Furniture and office equipment – 10 years
- Computer hardware & software – 4 years
- Leasehold improvements – over the term of the lease



LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

(i) Pension Plan

Employees of the Corporation are pensionable under *The Civil Service Superannuation Act*. The Civil Service Superannuation Plan is a defined benefit pension plan. The Corporation accrues a provision for the liability for the employer's share of employee pension benefits, including future cost of living adjustments, based on actuarial calculations. When actual experience varies from actuarial estimates, the adjustment is amortized over the expected remaining service life of the employee group (EARSL) which is currently 15 years (2021 – 15 years). Amortization commences the year following the year when the actuarial gain or loss arises.

(j) Severance Liability

The Corporation records the estimated liability for accumulated severance pay benefits for their employees. The amount of this estimated liability is based on actuarial calculations. The periodic actuarial valuation of this liability may determine that an adjustment is needed to the actuarial calculation when actual experience is different from that expected and/or because of changes in actuarial assumptions used. The resulting actuarial gains or losses are recognized on a straight-line basis over the expected average remaining service life (EARSL) of the related employee group. Amortization commences the year following the year when the actuarial gain or loss arises.

(k) Sick Leave Liability

The Corporation records the estimated liability for accumulated sick leave benefits for their employees. The amount of this estimated liability is based on actuarial calculations. The periodic actuarial valuation of this liability may determine that an adjustment is needed to the actuarial calculation when actual experience is different from that expected and/or because of changes in actuarial assumptions used.

3. Client Accounts Receivable

	2022	2021
Agreements to Pay – Partial	\$ 11,920	\$ 12,220
Agreements to Pay – Full	279,725	205,446
	291,645	217,666
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	145,922	111,403
Client accounts receivable	\$ 145,723	\$ 106,263

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended March 31, 20224. Other Receivables

	2022	2021
Court costs	\$ 675,459	\$ 729,465
Child and Family Services agencies	198,860	193,514
Employment and Income Assistance	23,215	104,885
GST recoverable, and miscellaneous	17,452	15,450
	914,986	1,043,314
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	587,535	718,574
Other receivables	\$ 327,451	\$ 324,740

5. Capital Assets

	2022		2021	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Cost	Accumulated Amortization
Furniture and office equipment	\$ 238,053	\$ 234,814	\$ 243,084	\$ 230,832
Computer hardware & software	299,257	259,380	325,487	264,605
Leasehold improvements	507,593	159,135	530,062	134,691
Work-in-Progress	9,395	0	0	0
	\$ 1,054,298	\$ 653,329	\$ 1,098,633	\$ 630,128
Net book value		\$ 400,969		\$ 468,505

6. Charges on Land

	2022	2021
Charges on land	\$ 2,653,918	\$ 2,527,023
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	1,881,072	1,706,564
Charges on land	\$ 772,846	\$ 820,459

7. Long-term Receivable - Severance Benefits

The amount recorded as a receivable from the Province of Manitoba for severance pay was initially based on the estimated value of the corresponding actuarially determined



LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

liability for severance pay as at March 31, 1998. Subsequent to March 31, 1998, the Province provides annual grant funding for severance expense. As a result, the change in the severance liability each year is fully funded. The interest component related to the receivable is reflected in the funding for severance expense. The receivable for severance pay will be paid by the Province when it is determined that the cash is required to discharge the related severance pay liabilities.

8. Provision for Employee Future Benefits

	2022	2021
Severance benefits	\$ 2,892,926	\$ 2,883,162
Sick leave benefits	381,900	392,200
	\$ 3,274,826	\$ 3,275,362

Severance benefits

Effective April 1, 1998, the Corporation commenced recording the estimated liability for accumulated severance pay benefits for their employees. The amount of this estimated liability is based on actuarial calculations. The periodic actuarial valuation of this liability may determine that an adjustment is needed to the actuarial calculation when actual experience is different from that expected and/or because of changes in actuarial assumptions used. The resulting actuarial gains or losses are recognized on a straight-line basis over the expected average remaining service life (EARS�) of the related employee group. Amortization commences the year following the year when the actuarial gain or loss arises.

An actuarial report was completed for the severance pay liability as at March 31, 2022. The Corporation's actuarially determined net liability for accounting purposes as at March 31, 2022 was \$2,892,926 (2021 - \$2,883,162). The report provides a formula to update the liability on an annual basis.

Severance pay, at the employee's date of retirement, will be determined using the eligible employee's years of service and based on the calculation as set by the Province of Manitoba. The maximum payout is currently 23 weeks at the employee's weekly salary at the date of retirement. Eligibility will require that the employee has achieved a minimum of 9 years of service and that the employee is retiring from the Corporation.

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended March 31, 2022

	2022	2021
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 2,150,900	\$ 2,381,700
Benefits accrued	140,634	128,723
Interest accrued on benefits	123,676	136,948
Benefits paid	(244,082)	(370,901)
Actuarial gain	(104,828)	(125,570)
Balance at end of year	2,066,300	2,150,900
Unamortized actuarial losses	826,626	732,262
	\$ 2,892,926	\$ 2,883,162

The Corporation's severance costs consist of the following:

	2022	2021
Benefits accrued	\$ 140,634	\$ 128,723
Interest accrued on benefits	123,677	136,948
Amortization of actuarial (gains)	(10,464)	(10,963)
	\$ 253,847	\$ 254,708

Significant long-term actuarial assumptions used in the March 31, 2022 valuation, and in the determination of the March 31, 2022 present value of the accrued severance benefit obligation were:

	2022	2021
Annual rate of return		
Inflation component	2.00%	2.00%
Real rate of return	3.75%	3.75%
	5.75%	5.75%
Assumed salary increase rates		
Annual productivity increase	0.50%	0.50%
Annual general salary increase	2.00%	2.00%
Service, merit, & promotion (SMP) – average	1.00%	1.00%
	3.50%	3.50%



LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

Sick leave benefits

Effective April 1, 2014, the Corporation commenced recording the estimated liability for sick leave benefits for their employees that accumulate but do not vest. The amount of this estimated liability is based on actuarial calculations.

An actuarial report was completed for the sick leave liability as at March 31, 2022. The valuation is based on employee demographics, sick leave usage and actuarial assumptions. These assumptions include an annual rate of return of 5.75% (2021 – 5.75%) and a salary increase rate of 3.50% (2021 – 3.50%). The Corporation's actuarially determined net liability for accounting purposes as at March 31, 2022 was \$381,900 (2021 - \$392,200).

9. Revenue from the Province of Manitoba

	2022	2021
Grant	\$ 19,221,554	\$ 14,589,387
Salaries and other payments	11,996,417	11,890,017
Health and post secondary education tax levy	255,290	239,494
Employer portion of employee benefits	1,953,795	1,883,064
	\$ 33,427,056	\$ 28,601,962

Grant revenue from the Province of Manitoba includes the Corporation's share of provisions recorded for unfunded pension liabilities.

10. Revenue from the Manitoba Law Foundation

	2022	2021
Statutory grant	\$ 1,073,189	\$ 3,922,957
Public Interest Law Centre	227,000	207,000
University Law Centre	98,900	98,900
	\$ 1,399,089	\$ 4,228,857

A statutory grant, pursuant to subsection 90(1) of *The Legal Profession Act*, is received annually from the Manitoba Law Foundation. The Corporation's share under the Act is 50% of the total interest on lawyers' trust accounts as received by the Foundation or a minimum of \$1,007,629, whichever is greater. In the event that interest received by the Foundation in the preceding year, after deduction of the Foundation's operational expenses, is not sufficient to pay the statutory minimum of \$1,007,629 to the Corporation, the Act provides for pro-rata sharing of the net interest.

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

Other grants from the Manitoba Law Foundation are received pursuant to subsection 90(4) of *The Legal Profession Act*. These grants are restricted for the Public Interest Law Centre and the University Law Centre. At March 31, 2022, all funds received through these grants have been spent in the current year.

11. Lease Commitments

The Corporation rents facilities under operating leases. Unpaid remaining commitments under the leases, which expire at varying dates are:

2023	\$	691,765
2024		531,743
2025		657,806
2026		659,806
2027		632,948
Thereafter		2,047,728
	\$	5,221,796

12. Related Parties Transactions

The Corporation is related in terms of common ownership to all Province of Manitoba created departments, agencies and crown corporations. The Corporation enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business. These transactions are recorded at the exchange amount.

13. Private Bar Fees and Disbursements

	2022			2021
	Fees	Disbursements	Total	Total
Legal aid certificates	\$ 13,003,255	\$ 707,325	\$ 13,710,580	\$ 12,169,262
Duty counsel services	953,443	51,473	1,004,916	895,147
Transcripts	—	175,782	175,782	273,642
	\$ 13,956,698	\$ 934,580	\$ 14,891,278	\$ 13,338,051



LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

14. Provision for Employee Pension Benefits

Pension costs consist of benefits accrued, interest accrued on benefits and experience (gain) loss. This liability is determined by an actuarial valuation annually with the balances for the intervening periods being determined by a formula provided by the actuary. The most recent valuation was completed as at December 31, 2020. The actuary has projected the pension obligation to March 31, 2022.

	2022	2021
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 33,746,198	\$ 32,599,098
Benefits accrued	826,387	870,748
Interest accrued on benefits	1,934,572	1,871,116
Benefits paid	(1,029,369)	(986,644)
Actuarial (gains) losses	(1,135,090)	(608,120)
Balance at end of year	34,342,698	33,746,198
Unamortized actuarial losses	738,880	(488,413)
	\$ 35,081,578	\$ 33,257,785

The Corporation's pension costs consist of the following:

	2022	2021
Benefits accrued	\$ 826,387	\$ 870,748
Interest accrued on benefits	1,934,572	1,871,116
Amortization of actuarial (gains) losses	92,203	132,745
	\$ 2,853,162	\$ 2,874,609
Employee contributions for the year	888,015	862,042

The key actuarial assumptions were a rate of return of 5.75% (2021 – 5.75%), 2.00% inflation (2021 – 2.00%), salary rate increases of 3.50% (2021 – 3.50%) and post retirement indexing 2/3 of the inflation rate. The projected benefit method was used and the liability has been extrapolated to March 31, 2022.

The Province of Manitoba has accepted responsibility for funding of the Corporation's pension liability and related expense which includes an interest component. The Corporation has therefore recorded a receivable from the Province equal to the estimated value of its actuarially determined pension liability \$35,081,578 (2021 – \$33,257,785), and has recorded revenue for the current fiscal year equal to its increase in the unfunded pension liability during the year of \$1,823,793 (2021 – \$1,887,965). The Province makes payments on the receivable when it is determined that the cash is required to discharge the related pension obligation.

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

15. Reserves:

The following reserves have been set aside in the accumulated surplus for future operating purposes:

	2022	2021
Invested in Capital Assets	\$ 400,969	\$ 468,505
Externally Restricted – Wrongful Conviction	51,854	51,854
Internally Restricted – Access to Justice	1,500,000	1,500,000
Internally Restricted – Mega Case Fund	600,000	600,000
Unrestricted Net Assets	2,535,859	2,780,059
	\$ 5,088,682	\$ 5,400,418

Wrongful Conviction Cases

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2006 the Province of Manitoba approved a reallocation of \$130,000 from the Corporation's unrestricted net assets. This funding was provided for section 696 applications under the *Criminal Code* for wrongful conviction appeals. In the current fiscal year, the Corporation did not incur any expenses (2021 - \$nil) for private bar fees and disbursements related to wrongful conviction cases. The balance remaining is \$51,854.

Access to Justice Initiatives

Effective the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015, the Management Council internally restricted \$1,500,000 of the accumulated surplus for the purpose of implementing access to justice initiatives and addressing the low financial eligibility guidelines. These funds are not available for other purposes without approval by the Management Council.

Mega Case Fund

Effective the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016, the Management Council internally restricted \$600,000 of the accumulated surplus to fund legal aid services to eligible individuals charged with indictable offences that are complex and costly. These funds are not available for other purposes without approval by the Management Council.

16. Public Sector Compensation Disclosure

For the purposes of *The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act*, all compensation for employees, Management Council members, and the private bar fees and



LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

disbursements from the Corporation is disclosed in a separate statement. The Corporation's Public Sector Compensation Disclosure statements are published in its annual report immediately following the audited financial statements and notes.

17. Financial Risk Management

The Corporation has potential exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

- Credit risk; and
- Liquidity risk

The Corporation manages its exposure to risks associated with financial instruments that have the potential to affect its operating performance. The Corporation's Management Council has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Corporation's objectives, policies and procedures for measuring, monitoring and managing these risks.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument fails to discharge an obligation and causes financial loss to another party. Financial instruments which potentially subject the Corporation to credit risk consist principally of cash and accounts receivable.

The maximum exposure of the Corporation to credit risk at March 31, 2022 is:

Cash	\$ 6,008,271
Short-term investments	2,236,827
Client accounts receivable	145,723
Receivable from the Province of Manitoba	1,900,000
Other receivables	327,451
Long-term receivables:	
• Charges on land	772,846
• Severance - Province of Manitoba	716,167
• Pension - Province of Manitoba	35,081,578
	\$ 47,188,863

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

Cash: The Corporation is not exposed to significant credit risk as the cash is held by a large financial banking institution.

Short-term investments: The Corporation is not exposed to significant credit risk as the short-term investments consists of several Guaranteed Investment Certificates held by a large financial banking institution.

Client accounts receivable includes clients that contribute toward the cost of their case under the Agreements to Pay – Partial and Agreements to Pay – Full payment programs based on a contract. The Corporation manages its credit risk on these accounts receivables which are primarily small amounts held by a large client base. It is typically expected that clients will settle their account based on their payment program. The Corporation establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts that represents its estimate of potential credit losses.

Receivable from the Province of Manitoba: The Corporation is not exposed to significant credit risk as the receivable is from the provincial government.

Other receivables include court costs, Child and Family Services agencies, Employment and Income Assistance, and miscellaneous. The Corporation is exposed to significant credit risk related to court costs and therefore, an allowance of 95% is set up to recognize the likelihood of collection. In the case of receivables from Child and Family Services agencies and Employment and Income Assistance, they are funded through the Province of Manitoba. Miscellaneous includes GST and other recoverable costs. GST is received quarterly and other recoverable costs are usually paid within 90 days of receipt of an order to pay by the courts or other authority.

Long-term receivable – charges on land: The Corporation manages its credit risk on these accounts receivables which primarily consists of small amounts held by a large client base for which payment is secured by a lien on property. The Corporation establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts that represents its estimate of potential credit losses. The allowance for doubtful accounts is calculated on a specific identification basis and a general provision based on historical experience.

Long-term receivables – severance and pension – Province of Manitoba: The Corporation is not exposed to significant credit risk as the receivables are with the provincial government.

The Corporation establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts that represents its estimate of potential credit losses. The allowance for doubtful accounts is based on management's estimates and assumptions regarding current market conditions, client analysis and historical payment trends. These factors are considered when determining whether past due accounts are allowed for or written off.

The change in the allowance for doubtful accounts during the year was as follows:



LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

	2022	2021
Balance, beginning of the year	\$ 2,536,539	\$ 2,410,863
Provision for bad debts	224,335	237,212
Amounts written off	(146,345)	(111,536)
Balance, end of the year	\$ 2,614,529	\$ 2,536,539

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Corporation will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they come due.

The Corporation manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate cash balances. The Corporation prepares and monitors detailed forecasts of cash flows from operations and anticipated investing and financing activities. Identified funding requirements are requested, reviewed and approved by the Minister of Finance to ensure adequate funding will be received to meet the obligations. The Corporation continuously monitors and reviews both actual and forecasted cash flows through periodic financial reporting. As disclosed in note 1, the Corporation is dependent on continued financial support from the Province of Manitoba.

18. Measurement Uncertainty – Private bar

A certificate is issued to individuals seeking legal aid assistance. Each certificate issued authorizes legal services to be performed within the tariff guidelines based on the type of legal case. The estimated liability on work performed but not yet billed is \$1,900,000 (2021 – \$1,900,000). The estimation is based on an analysis of historical costs and time frames to complete similar cases. The estimated liability is included in accounts payable. It is offset by an associated accounts receivable from the Province of Manitoba, which is included in the Receivable from the Province of Manitoba balance. Additionally, management estimates a future liability related to work not yet performed on outstanding certificates as at March 31, 2022 of \$6,466,000 (2021 – \$6,607,000). This amount has not been recorded in the financial statements.

The estimated liability is subject to measurement uncertainty. Such uncertainty exists when there is a variance between the recognized amount and another reasonable amount, as there is whenever estimates are used. While management's best estimates have been used for reporting the private bar liability, it is possible that there will be a material difference between estimated amount and actual costs.

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022

19. Budgeted Figures

The budgeted amounts represent the operating budget approved in May 2021 by Legal Aid Manitoba's Management Council.



Auditor General MANITOBA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

To the Management Council of Legal Aid Manitoba

Opinion

We have audited the Statement of Compensation Paid to Council Members and Employees and the Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in Excess of \$75,000 of Legal Aid Manitoba for the year ended March 31, 2022 ("the statement").

In our opinion, the financial information in the statement of Legal Aid Manitoba for the year ended March 31, 2022, is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Section 2 and 4 of *The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act*.

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 *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Statement* section of our report. We are independent of Legal Aid Manitoba in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the statement in Canada, 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.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the statement, which describes the basis of accounting. The statement is prepared to assist Legal Aid Manitoba to meet the requirements of Section 2 and 4 of *The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act*. As a result, the statement may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation of the statement in accordance with Section 2 and 4 of *The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act* and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing Legal Aid Manitoba's financial reporting process.



Auditor General
MANITOBA

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's 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 this financial information.

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 statement, 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 Legal Aid Manitoba's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Office of the Auditor General".

Office of the Auditor General
Winnipeg, Manitoba
July 15, 2022



Public Sector Compensation Statement

Legal Aid Manitoba Statement of Private Bar Fees and Disbursements in Excess of \$75,000 For the Year Ended March 31, 2022 (Prepared in accordance with Section 4 of <i>The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act</i>)			
Name	Amount	Name	Amount
Allardyce, Hayley	82,499	Janssens, Jennifer	100,594
Amy, Ryan	99,522	Jemmett, Meagan	77,909
Anstett, Josh	76,479	Johnson, Alexandra	122,034
Antila, Crystal	111,365	Jones, Kristen	98,049
Beddome, Aaron	146,556	Jones, Zilla	131,756
Bhangu, Mandeep	107,593	Joyce, David	111,274
Braun, Aaron	108,473	Kavanagh, Tony	146,198
Briscoe, Curtis	225,908	Kinahan, Zachary	211,902
Bueti, Katherine	95,853	Lawrence, Morgan	135,871
Claros, Amado	225,558	Mahoney, Carley	175,133
Cook, Michael	156,697	Mariash, Theodore	127,732
Corona, John	184,106	Marks, William	272,500
Davis, Myles	96,735	Martin-White, Wendy	140,882
Dyck, Michael	91,687	Mayer, Douglas	85,491
Enright, Mitch	99,925	McKay, Cameron	265,091
Gladstone, Brett	390,540	McKelvey-Gunson, Andrew	143,036
Glazer, Martin	82,065	Mokriy, Don	251,954
Goertzen, Kendra	191,755	Morgan, Kyle	103,075
Gould, Matthew	141,079	Munce, Matthew	247,721
Gowenlock, Karl	116,648	Myskiw, Jodi	117,569
Greenberg, Benji	75,286	Newman, Scott	96,753
Gupta, Rohit	176,429	Olson, Candace	87,656
Harrison, Robert	192,591	Phillips, Cory	119,837
Hodge, Adam	116,665	Phillips, David	204,614
Jack, Simon	134,806	Pinx, Adam	77,343

Name	Amount	Name	Amount
Plotnik, Omri	87,907	Sinder, Barry	115,709
Pollock, Ethan	181,700	Skinner, John	157,422
Porath, Kaitlynn	165,894	Smith, Pamela	123,529
Raffey, Matthew	102,094	Steigerwald, Alex	140,106
Rahimi, Kobra	112,269	Stern, Gary	91,630
Rai, Surinder	191,806	Suderman, Chelsea	78,875
Ramsay, John	252,703	Synyshyn, Andrew	198,557
Randel, Gerhard	87,879	Van Dongen, Lori	177,713
Rees, Tom	83,024	Walker, Tara	191,233
Robinson, Laura	89,558	Zaman, Saheel	240,809

The payments reflected in this statement are on a cash basis.

LEGAL AID MANITOBA Statement of Compensation Paid to Council Members and Employees For the Year Ended March 31, 2022 (Prepared in accordance with Section 2 of <i>The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act</i>)					
Paid to Council Members: In aggregate \$41,455 of this amount, \$35,000 was provided to the Chair Amounts paid to employees of \$75,000 or more:					
Name	Position	Amount	Name	Position	Amount
Amott, Lyndsey	Attorney	\$119,953.68	Fawcett, Ryan	Attorney	\$162,998.78
Anderson, Lori	Area Director	\$169,635.30	Fenske, Allison	Attorney	\$161,125.25
Aniceto, Leonardo	Attorney	\$157,805.53	Ferens, Melissa	Supervising Attorney	\$168,386.43
Balneaves, Scott	Systems Administrator	\$95,644.90	Gammon, Gordon	Legal Director	\$115,390.74
Bracken, Sandra	Deputy Executive Director	\$165,232.98	Goodine, Samantha	Attorney	\$96,906.66
Cheng, Wang	General Accountant	\$78,389.76	Hanslip, Melody	Attorney	\$141,172.74
Colquhoun, Lorelei	Attorney	\$229,416.64	Harrington, Jane	Attorney	\$87,033.26
Dilay, Katrine	Attorney	\$79,349.16	Hawrysh, Gregory	Supervising Attorney	\$174,092.26
Dowle, Katherine	Senior Area Director	\$184,425.69	Henderson, Donald	Attorney	\$141,194.51
Dwarka, Robin	Director of Finance and Labour Management	\$106,823.08	Hoyt, Brittney	Attorney	\$87,042.06



Name	Position	Amount	Name	Position	Amount
Kennedy, Crystal	Supervising Attorney	\$166,385.30	Robinson, Gary	Area Director	\$169,635.30
Kingsley, Peter	Executive Director	\$168,688.78	Ross, Monica	Attorney	\$101,375.47
Koturbash, Therese	Supervising Attorney	\$173,883.58	Rutherford, John	Supervising Attorney	\$131,786.76
Libman, Alan	Attorney	\$163,015.30	Sandulak, Tristan	Attorney	\$98,686.62
Liu, Wei	Information Technologist	\$88,170.94	Santos, Mario	Supervising Attorney	\$169,735.40
Loney, Alan	Attorney	\$163,926.84	Settee, Shannon	Senior Intake Officer	\$83,636.20
Lundrigan, Dawn	Senior Intake Officer	\$79,842.68	Simpson, Patricia	Information Technologist	\$80,056.08
MacAulay, Gail	Attorney	\$245,766.60	Sneesby, Kevin	Attorney	\$163,471.70
McAmmond, Ian	Attorney	\$96,398.43	Stewart, Wendy	Supervising Attorney	\$166,187.31
McNaught, Ian	Attorney	\$128,683.54	Stewart, Clayton	Attorney	\$159,434.81
Mendelson, Louis	Attorney	\$115,690.16	Strang, Kent	Attorney	\$141,194.51
Mitchell, Meredith	Supervising Attorney	\$163,464.66	Tailleur, Leonard	Attorney	\$163,015.30
Muchnik, Anita	Senior Intake Officer	\$95,022.45	Tait, Chris	Attorney	\$141,194.51
Nerbas, Michael	Attorney	\$80,669.30	Tasche, Hillarie	Attorney	\$149,688.55
Nygaard, Dean	Attorney	\$141,194.51	Taylor, Brett	Attorney	\$97,035.41
Paler, Scott	Attorney	\$161,593.72	Van Schie, Shirley	Attorney	\$163,015.30
Pastora Sala, Joëlle	Attorney	\$122,635.43	Weisensel, Spencer	Attorney	\$103,578.62
Pauls, Cameron	Supervising Attorney	\$166,385.30	Whidden, Stefania	Attorney	\$98,804.15
Puranen, Serena	Attorney	\$155,395.66	Williams, Byron	Director	\$170,722.26
Reid, Andrew	Attorney	\$107,729.94	Woodman, Randy	Attorney	\$163,015.30
Robbins, Jonathan	Supervising Attorney	\$159,259.01			

Notes to Financial Information

LEGAL AID MANITOBA

Note to Financial Information for the year ended March 31, 2022

1. Basis of Accounting

a) Private Bar Fees and Disbursements of \$75,000 or More

The financial information discloses every person who received \$75,000 or more during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022 for providing legal aid. The amounts are calculated in accordance with *The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act* of Manitoba.

b) Aggregate Compensation to Council Members

The financial information discloses the amount of the payments, in aggregate, to the Council Members during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022. The amounts are calculated in accordance with *The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act* of Manitoba.

c) Compensation of \$75,000 or More

The financial information lists employees who received compensation of \$75,000 or more during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022. The amounts are calculated in accordance with *The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act* of Manitoba.



Directory of Legal Aid Offices

Administration Office

4th Floor - 287 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 0R9
Ph: 204.985.8500
Toll-free: 1.800.261.2960
Fax: 204.944.8582

Agassiz CLC

1st Floor - 287 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 0R9
Ph: 204.985.5230
Toll-free: 1.800.300.2307
Fax: 204.985.5237

Child Protection Law Office

3rd Floor - 287 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 0R9
Ph: 204.985.8560
Toll-free: 1.855.777.3753
Fax: 204.985.5224

Criminal Duty Counsel Office

1st Floor - 287 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 0R9
Ph: 204.985.8500
Toll-free: 1.800.261.2960
Fax: 204.949.9216

Phoenix CLC

200 - 175 Carlton Street
Winnipeg MB R3C 3R8
Ph: 204.985.5222
Toll-free: 1.855.777.3759
Fax: 204.942.2101

Public Interest Law Centre

1st Floor - 287 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 0R9
Ph: 204.985.8540
Toll-free: 1.800.261.2960
Fax: 204.985.8544

Regency CLC

3rd Floor - 287 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 0R9
Ph: 204.985.8555
Toll-free: 1.855.777.3758
Fax: 204.774.7504

Riel CLC

410 - 330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3C 0C4
Ph: 204.985.9440
Toll-free: 1.855.777.3756
Fax: 204.947-2976

Riverwood CLC

3rd Floor - 287 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 0R9
Ph: 204.985.9810
Toll-free: 1.855.777.3757
Fax: 204.985.8554

University of Manitoba CLC

1st Floor - 287 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 0R9
Ph: 204.985.5206
Fax: 204.985.8551

Willow CLC

102 - 433 Main Street
Winnipeg MB R3C 1B3
Ph: 204.985.9732
Toll-free: 1.855.777.3760
Fax: 204.942.7362

Winnipeg Application Centre

4th Floor - 287 Broadway
Winnipeg MB R3C 0R9
Ph: 204.985.8500
Toll-free: 1.800.261.2960
Fax: 204.949.9216

Amisk CLC

138 1st Avenue SW, Unit A
Dauphin MB R7N 1S2
Ph: 204.622.7000
Toll-free: 1.800.810.6977
Fax: 204.622.7029

Northlands CLC

Box 2429, 1 St. Goddard Ave
The Pas MB R9A 1M2
Ph: 204.627.4820
Toll-free: 1.800.268.9790
Fax: 204.627.4838

Thompson CLC

3 Station Road
Thompson MB R8N 0N3
Ph: 204.677.1211
Toll-free: 1.800.665.0656
Fax: 204.677.1220

Westman CLC

236 - 11th Street
Brandon MB R7A 4J6
Ph: 204.729.3484
Toll-free: 1.800.876.7326
Fax: 204.726.1732





Legal Aid Manitoba
L'Aide Juridique du Manitoba

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