

2016 annual report 2017



PARKDALE
COMMUNITY
LEGAL SERVICES

Photo credit: Rignam Wangkhang



Message from the Board Co-Chairs

Richard Haigh and David Gellman

The Board of Directors of PCLS is very happy to be celebrating another productive year. Established in the neighbourhood by students and faculty of Osgoode Hall Law School in 1971, the Clinic has been operating for over four decades under a belief that knowledge about rights and the support to enforce rights could transform the lives of vulnerable people.

The Parkdale neighbourhood has seen much change since 1971. For years we have been highlighting problems that often seem to accompany such change: dispossession of affordable rental units for people of low income; reduced availability of affordable goods and services, including food; and decreases in income assistance that affect people's ability to access basic needs with dignity.

PCLS knows that we can reduce the negative impacts of change. The Board of Directors is proud to be part of an organization that helps individuals and the community through a number of community initiatives. We have worked to build community movements among those most affected by change. We have pursued rights to income security, decent work, secure and healthy affordable housing, and a host of other legal rights for newcomers.

As the Co-Chairs, we appreciate the commitment and efforts of our other Directors, those who participate on Board committees, other members of the community who have shared their experience and

knowledge in consultations and who support our work, and the students from Osgoode's Public Interest Requirement program – all volunteers contributing to PCLS's success and increasing our capacity to manage change.

Finally, but probably most important of all, we want also to thank the staff, summer employees, the students of the Poverty Law Intensive Program at Osgoode Hall Law School, and the Clinic and Academic Directors. Together they form a powerful combination of energy and commitment that helps make positive change possible.

Regards,

David Gellman and Richard Haigh

WHAT FORMER STUDENTS SAY

"Parkdale is amazing in helping you learn what kind of lawyer you want to be and the kinds of clients you want to work with."

"Enriching experience that will stay with me forever. I am very happy with my decision to do the Parkdale intensive, and I am proud to be a Parkdale alumni!"

Message from the Academic Director



Sean Reheag

It was another busy year at PCLS. In addition to all the amazing work that the clinic has done for the low-income community in Parkdale, much was also accomplished on the student program side of things – including some significant changes to the program.

First, and foremost, the clinic offered students a great learning experience again this year. As always, students benefited from hands-on experiential learning, from thoughtful and supportive guidance, from structured opportunities for critical self-reflection, from exposure to how law plays out in practice for members of our community, and from opportunities to participate in initiatives for achieving progressive systemic change. Below is just a sampling of student feedback.

Being a part of PCLS has been extremely rewarding in a multitude of ways, including: seeing the direct impact of our work on local community members, improving my knowledge of the law, acquiring practical skills related to file work and client management, and lastly, developing relationships with our division and team. Everyone at PCLS has been so helpful and supportive, it will be sad to say goodbye.

This year we also undertook major changes to our student Skills Training Program. These changes were designed to make the program more interactive, to carve out additional time for students to begin working on their files, and to leverage technology to

increase efficiency and accessibility. I am especially grateful to John No, who served as the Skills Training Instructor, and whose hard work has improved the program.

Another major change this year is that PCLS and Osgoode have entered into a new Memorandum of Understanding. This new framework increases the financial support that Osgoode provides to the clinic, and offers guidance in the areas of student workload and student accommodations. It also revises the role of the Academic Director at the Clinic. This new role, which removes the Academic Director from day-to-day management at the clinic, focuses more tightly on student learning, on the relationship between the clinic and Osgoode, and on clinic governance. I'd like to thank everyone who participated in reworking the Memorandum of Understanding, which will help to ensure the sustainability of the student program for many years to come.

Finally, this year saw the retirement of two Osgoode faculty members who have given so much to PCLS by serving terms as Academic Director and in many other ways: Professors Shelley Gavigan and Shin Imai. I know the clinic – and the Parkdale Community – wish them well.

All in all, 2016-17 was a productive and successful year. I look forward to 2017-18!

“Parkdale is the best thing that ever happened to me. I am glad that this program exists because it gave me a hands-on experience and showed me what my potential is.”

“Honestly... best part of law school.”

“Not only was I granted the opportunity to develop an understanding of the basics of poverty law, I was also given a chance to learn from the brilliant staff and lawyers at PCLS. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity and proud to call myself an alumnus of PCLS.”

“Parkdale has played a significant role in shaping my career interest and outlook.”



We had a busy year in Immigration with casework and community work. We continue our work with the community to identify issues and challenges they face with regard to immigration status and develop strategies to address these issues.

We also continue to advocate on behalf of the Parkdale and Swansea communities by monitoring significant legislative, regulatory, and judicial developments relevant to our work and communicating these to clients and community members as well as engaging in advocacy, law reform and public legal education. In addition, we engaged in newcomer and refugee youth through a drop in theatre program.

Family Reunification

The biggest demand for our services is currently for assistance with family reunification mainly, although not exclusively, for Tibetan Protected Persons. In 2016 – 2017 we helped over 15 clients reunite with their families and many more with other immigration issues. Many families had been separated for over 5 years. One of our files, opened in 2004, involved a 12 year battle a Tibetan Protected Person waged to be reunited with his children. After great effort we were able to convince an officer that the case warranted approval on humanitarian and compassionate grounds and one of the children came to Canada in 2013. The other child was refused on health grounds. We went to Court to challenge this decision and in April 2016 the Federal Court overturned the decision. Our client is now happily reunited with his second child.

Justice for Mercedes

We launched a campaign to demand justice for our client Mercedes, who arrived in Canada through the Live-In Caregiver Program in 2008. She applied for Permanent Residence in 2010 and, after completing 24 months of work as a live-in caregiver. She has been a caregiver to elderly people with high medical needs in Canada for almost a decade. She and her family have been deemed inadmissible for permanent residence because of her son's developmental delay.

We are calling on the Immigration Minister to intervene and grant Mercedes and her family permanent residence and also scrap section 38(1)(c) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, the excessive demand provision. This provision discriminates against people with disabilities, those living with HIV, and other health conditions. It contributes to stigma by relying on outdated attitudes that disabled people and people living with HIV are a burden on the Canadian healthcare or social services and ignores the many contributions they make to Canadian society.

Learn more and take action at justiceformercedes.com



Public Legal Education

We continue to promote community education and empowerment through public legal education through workshops for community members on relevant topics. We also hosted specialized workshop for settlement workers and other front line workers.

We noted interest from the community in public legal education and how important it is that they have



accurate and clear information they can communicate throughout the diaspora community as well as to relatives and friends in their countries of origin.

We also produced a video on sponsoring family members. **View the video at <http://bit.ly/2tceKC7>**

Refugee Rights Day 2017

Refugee Rights Day is celebrated each year in Canada on April 4th. It is an opportunity to bring attention to the advances made in the protection of refugee rights in Canada as a result of the Singh Decision. It is also a time to reflect on threats to those rights and all the work we still need to do to safeguard the rights of all refugees.

This year we celebrated Refugee Rights Day with members of the community and our community partner Parkdale Intercultural Association. Students from Immigration Division gave presentations on Canadian citizenship requirements and led small group discussions on issues affecting refugees and newcomers. Top among the issues identified by community members were delays in refugee family reunification, difficulties getting Canadian citizenship due to language and knowledge requirements and steep increases in application fees, and housing affordability in Parkdale.

Parkdale Stories Drop In Theatre Program

This year we also created a space at Parkdale for newcomer and refugee youth to collectively explore and share their stories. We held bi-weekly drop-in sessions from January – April 2017. Through this program, youth participants from the neighbourhood learned valuable skills from professional actors and writers on topics like improvisation, writing, acting and movement. They used storytelling to express the complexities of statelessness, migration and living in diaspora.

Submission to the Standing Committee on Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

We continue to participate in public inquiries, government studies and stakeholder forums. In October 2016 Immigration Division staff lawyer Toni Schweitzer appeared before the Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration (CIMM). We were pleased to see many of her recommendations cited in the final CIMM report on Family Reunification.



The PCLS Housing Divisions aims to support the development of neighbourhood-based organization to resist the displacement of working class renters from Parkdale.

Parkdale is one of the last remaining working class neighbourhoods near downtown Toronto. The neighbourhood is characterized by its high density of rental housing; a full 90% of residents are renters, the majority in privately-owned mid-rise apartment buildings. Parkdale is the Toronto neighbourhood where residents spend the highest proportion of their incomes on housing, at nearly 50% on average. It is a heavily racialized neighbourhood and home to many new immigrants including the largest population of Tibetan refugees outside of India and Nepal.

Gentrification and displacement of working class residents is not new to Parkdale. Hundreds of people and families have already been pushed out of their homes by predatory landlords hiking rents, neglecting repairs, and harassing and abusing residents. Parkdale is under massive pressure from the housing market and state and legal systems which facilitate the process of displacement. In Ontario there is no rent control on vacant units. This creates a financial incentive for landlords to push out long term tenants in order to hike rents.

Rent Strike

The PCLS Housing division is proud to support the Parkdale rent strikers who are on the front lines of the struggle for decent, affordable housing for all.

Right now more than 300 low-income and immigrant tenants in 12 apartment buildings in Toronto's Parkdale neighbourhood are on rent strike against rent increases above the Ontario rent guideline. The landlord is applying for the rent increases in order to push tenants out of their homes so they can raise rents without limitation on the vacant units. In Ontario there is no rent control on vacant units. A one bedroom apartment in one of the buildings is currently rented for around \$900. Once the tenant is pushed out the same apartments are rented out for around \$1400. The buildings are owned in part by the Alberta Investment Management Corporation (AIMCo). AIMCo manages the pensions of unionized Alberta government workers. AIMCo also claims socially responsible investment policies. We don't believe Alberta workers have any interest in pushing low-income and immigrant tenants out of their homes. There is nothing socially responsible about AIMCo's role in this process of displacement and gentrification. We are asking supporters to write messages in support of the rent strikers'

demands to AIMCo using the web form here:
aimcoevictstenants.ca.

For more information about the campaign, visit
parkdaleorganize.ca.

We continue to advocate on behalf of Roma tenants at 60 and 62 Triller Avenue to enforce their rights to well-maintained and affordable housing, and to defend against evictions. PCLS is currently representing nineteen tenants in a group application to the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) against the landlord. We have successfully negotiated rent abatements in all but one file, and are cautiously optimistic that the LTB will approve the minutes of settlement and issue final Orders that tenants can enforce against the landlord. We are representing tenants in 3 apartments in a 7 apartment building facing eviction for landlord's own use. The tenants are involved with Parkdale Organize and this is a fight back against displacement and gentrification in Parkdale. We are representing a West Lodge tenant in an appeal before Divisional Court. The tenant was illegally evicted. The landlord stole or discarded all his possessions. The consequences were devastating: the tenant was homeless for several months. Parkdale represented the tenant at the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB). The LTB issued a significant award in the tenant's favour as well as an administrative fine against the landlord, the Wynn family, for their behaviour. The Wynns have appealed this decision to the Divisional Court. We are also working with a group of tenants living in scattered

TCHC housing in north Parkdale. Following on a 2012 decision under Mayor Ford, the City intends to sell the houses. PCLS is assisting the tenants in a fight back. We have supported tenants at the West Lodge towers organize against disrepair and lack of heat in units. The tenants were able to pressure the City of Toronto to intervene with buildings inspections resulting in a number of work orders against the landlord. In partnership with the SAVAH division we have supported MetCap Tenants in their organizing effort against high rents.

In addition to collective action to advance Tenants' rights, PCLS has remained steadily busy working with an increasing number of households to defend against evictions on various grounds. We continue to advocate for tenants to save their housing or delay evictions through frequent representation at hearings before the LTB and, through settlement agreements.





SAVAH

This has been another busy and exciting year in the Social Assistance, Violence and Health division (SAVAH).

In September, we happily welcomed the return of Vic Natola to Parkdale to work as a SAVAH CLW. Under their stewardship, the community legal work has continued to grow and evolve in exciting ways! SAVAH continues to deliver our well-received Know Your Benefits workshops to the community, outlining Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program entitlements as

well as outlining strategies for self-advocacy. We continue working to develop a community action group to take on larger systemic changes around social assistance in order to build neighbourhood strength and capacity. We have also developed a very popular financial resources workshop, safety planning for people fleeing domestic violence information, and are working on new projects with our seniors group. We are also completing a needs assessment with our local organizations to make sure our work is relevant and necessary for their clients and staff.

Since May 2016, SAVAH has represented 70 clients in their ODSP disability appeals, successfully resolving 95% of them, either after a hearing at the Social Benefits Tribunal (SBT) or without having to go to a hearing. We obtained a new SBT hearing for 8 of 10 clients for whom we filed reconsideration requests, and also provided extensive assistance to 14 clients who represented themselves at their SBT hearings.

Also at the SBT, we successfully represented clients in a number of non-disability appeals. In one such instance, the burden of a \$67,370 overpayment was completely lifted from our client. In another overpayment case, relying on the 2014 decision of the Court of Appeal in Surdivall (in which PCLS intervened), we were able to convince ODSP to deem a \$30,000 overpayment uncollectible without even having to go to a hearing! Here, ODSP was responding appropriately to the particular circumstances of our client, who had been in an abusive relationship at the time the overpayment was accumulating. This was a welcomed outcome for our client, who is now able to focus on moving forward with her daughter instead of fighting this legal battle.

We also recently obtained a rare (if not unprecedented) Consent Order at the SBT requiring ODSP to provide the necessary funds to allow our client to purchase the extensive medical supplies he needs so that he can continue to live and be active in the community. The Order ensures that our client will receive the necessary financial support in the future, and also receive the significant funds he should have

95%
SUCCESS
RATE
FOR ODSP APPEALS

been paid all along. This was a highly satisfying result for our client after what had become an epic, year long battle with ODSP.

We continue to represent a client in her battle to require ODSP to issue her a shelter allowance to cover the cost of her storage unit. After she was evicted several years ago, our client prudently placed her belongings in storage. She has been residing in shelters and has been forced to use a significant portion of her basic needs allowance to cover her storage costs. We have teamed up with the Income Security Advocacy Centre and appealed the SBT's denial to the Divisional Court.

After our one client was refused assistance from the Housing Stabilization Fund was denied because she made too much money, we filed a Human Rights Tribunal application alleging that the financial eligibility rules that had been applied discriminated against our client based on her family status because they took into account the child tax benefits she received without also taking into account the costs of supporting her children.

We also routinely assist clients in their efforts to obtain health benefits, such as vision and dental benefits, continence supplies, extended health benefits, and special diet allowances. We have been able to resolve all such disputes prior to hearing, with our clients receiving lump sum payments to cover all of the past entitlements they were owed – in one instance, our client received \$7,600 because ODSP had failed for over three years to process her application for continence supplies. Meanwhile, we keep nudging Toronto Employment and Social Services to exercise their discretion fairly and reasonably with respect to applications for discretionary health benefits.

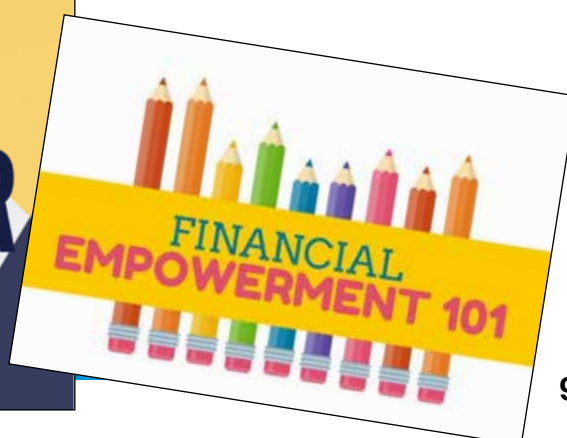
We have been able to assist a number of women who were leaving, or contemplating leaving, an abusive

relationship and/or who had experienced sexualized violence. We were able to assist them with accessing the VAW shelter system and related services, to alert them to issues that may arise with respect to their benefits or tenancies, and to provide them with meaningful referrals.

We represented six clients at the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, obtaining important awards for each of them. One of those claimants was a young girl who, as an infant, had suffered severe injuries during the commission of a crime. The CICB awarded the maximum possible lump sum amount in addition to monthly periodic payments of \$1,000 to cover the costs associated with the child's physical and psychological development and well being – the award is structured in a way that makes these periodic payments available for as many as 30 years.

With all that said, in most of our casework in SAVAH we concentrate our efforts on the local offices or with Ministry officials, trying to resolve disputes at their source. We've resolved countless disputes concerning initial or continuing eligibility for assistance, the disclosure and management of inheritances and other large payments such as pain and suffering awards, the need to negotiate manageable plans to repay overpayments and other common problems; we've also been able to resolve a number of obscure but longstanding disputes that had previously seemed intractable. On two occasions, when it became apparent that we were not going to get what we needed from the local office we filed complaints with the Ontario Ombudsman's office, both of which quickly led to the result we were seeking.

Finally, we continue to work at developing productive relationships with both Ministry and local office staff and have been broadly encouraged by our encounters with the new Parkdale ODSP office that opened in March 2017.





A \$15 minimum wage in 18 months! This is what community organizing gets you!

The \$15 and Fairness campaign has delivered on key demands for decent work. Under Bill 148, Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017, currently being debated by the government, Parkdale and Ontario workers are looking at key changes towards decent work.

- Equal pay for part-time, casual, temporary and contract workers, including temporary agency workers
- Fairer scheduling including on-call pay; cancellation of shift pay and the right to refuse shifts
- 10 emergency leave days for all workers, two (2) of which will be paid and no doctor's note will be required for any worker taking emergency leave
- 3 weeks vacation after 5 years
- Protection for contract service workers against contract flipping in the building services sector and publicly-funded institutions (like colleges and universities)
- A modest – but important – extension in card-based certification to remove barriers to the right to join a union
- Other measures to make it easier for workers to

join unions

- Doubling of the number of employment standards officers to enforce our basic rights. Easier access to the Ministry of labour when our wages go unpaid.
- Protection from being misclassified as independent contractors and denied our basic rights.

Public hearings will take place over 2 weeks in July and the Bill 148 will be brought back to the house for approval in September. We are working with allies across the province to win these improvements for workers.

The Government announced the Changing Workplace Review in 2015. PCLS and the Workers' Action Centre got ahead of the review and released a comprehensive framework for decent work and launched the \$15 and Fairness campaign shortly after. We provided mobilized community groups and unions to participate in the public consultation. PCLS did a comprehensive review of the Special Advisors Interim Report in September 2016. The Final Report of CWR was released in May 2017 and included 173 recommendations. The Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act includes some of these recommendations and, in many ways goes beyond the Changing Workplaces Review to include key demands of the \$15 and Fairness campaign.

Caregivers' Action Centre

We work in alliance with the Caregivers' Action Centre (CAC); an organization of current and former Live-in Caregivers. PCLS assists the CAC in providing information about workers' rights to caregivers and policy support. This year we have been involved in pushing for caregiver demands to be heard at the Changing Workplaces Review and responding to changes in the federally regulated caregiver program.

Closing the Employment Standards Enforcement Gap

PCLS and partners have completed the fourth of our five-year SSHRC Partnership Grant, Closing the Employment Standards Enforcement Gap. This research program brings together community and academic researchers to conduct research aimed at improving enforcement of employment standards (ES) among workers in precarious work. PCLS is the co-lead of the project along with York University and a team of university, legal clinic, and union and community organizations.

Casework

We had a very successful year, collecting an amazing \$504,870 in unpaid wages, wrongful dismissal damages, and other employment entitlements for the workers in our community. This is the second highest amount we collected since we started keeping track in 2011.

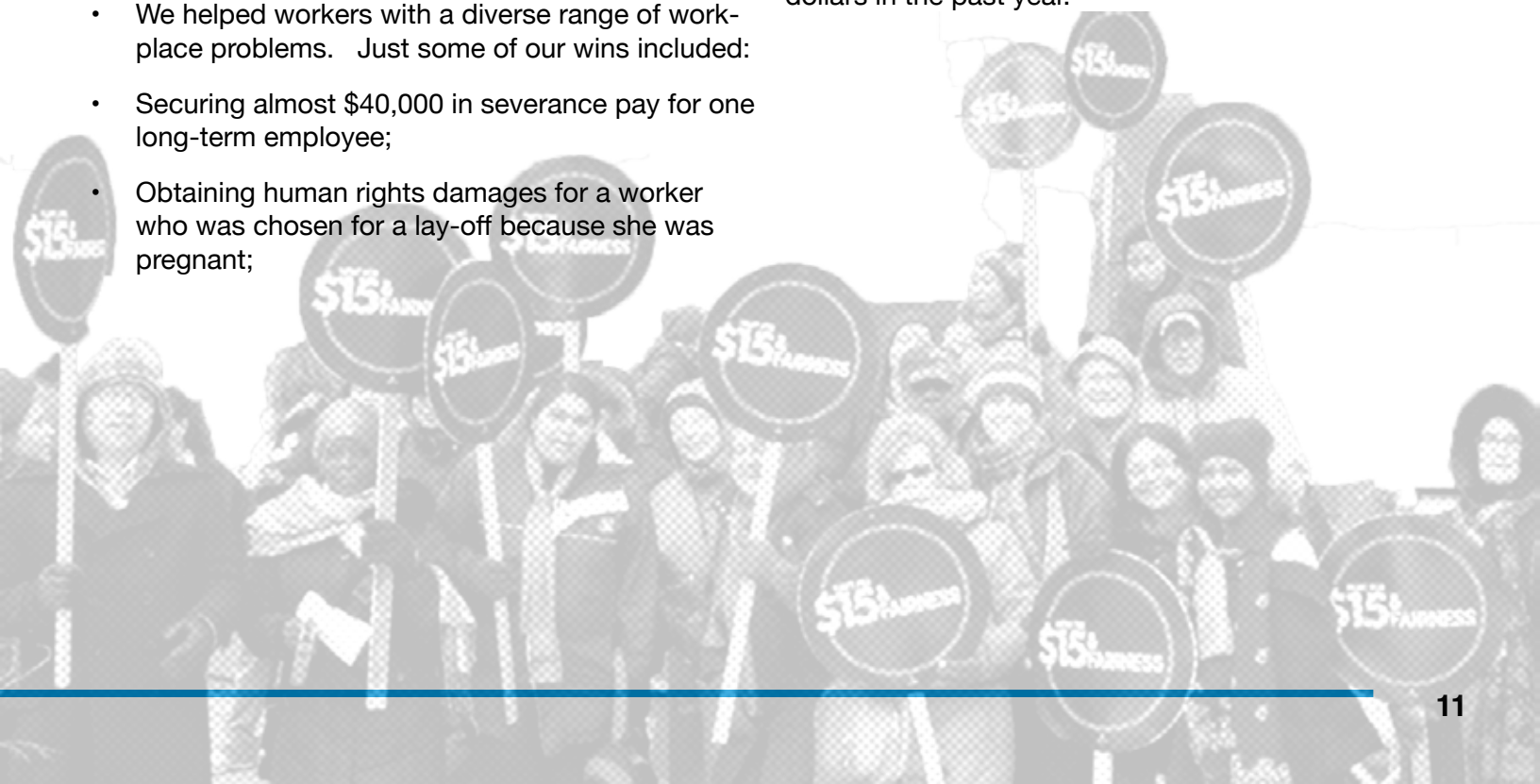
- We helped workers with a diverse range of workplace problems. Just some of our wins included:
- Securing almost \$40,000 in severance pay for one long-term employee;
- Obtaining human rights damages for a worker who was chosen for a lay-off because she was pregnant;

WINNING FOR WORKERS

Year	Files Opened	Files Completed	Amount Recovered
2013 – 2014	93	91	\$448,576.79
2014 – 2015	119	112	\$461,546.21
2015 – 2016	105	110	\$725,956.08
2016 - 2017	111	96	\$504,870.86

- Successfully challenging a Service Canada's decision to deny Employment Insurance benefits to a migrant worker merely because she had a restrictive work permit;
- Winning \$38,000 in Canada Pension Plan-Disability back pay for a worker with disability;
- Collecting more than \$30,000 for caregivers; and
- Commencing seven lawsuits (three completed, four pending) against one problematic company for unpaid remuneration.

We are very proud of all the workers who decided to fight back and also permitted us to assist them in their fight. We also thank all the law students and articling students (Andy Link, Jasmine Dunn, Toni-Ann Simpson, Alex Hunsberger, Brogan Masters, Maria Luisa Vitti, Ella Bedard, Darren Nguyen, Alec Stromdahl, Kim Veller, Matthew Smith, and Esther Song) for their hard work in collecting more than half a million dollars in the past year.



Treasurer's Report

2016-2017

Desiree Warner

The audit report is presented to the membership each year at the Annual General Meeting. The purpose of the audit is to provide the membership with a "reasonable assurance" the financial statements do not contain any misstatements due to fraud and error.

The PCLS audit is performed by the accounting firm Segal LLP. The auditors test the financial systems and assure you, the members, that the financial picture presented to you is a fair description of our finances.

LAO continues to be the primary funder of PCLS. They fund over 92% of the Clinic's budget. Osgoode is the second largest funder at 5%.

Staffing and the office comprise our two largest expenditures. This is a normal spending pattern in a community organization like ours. Our work is only possible through efforts of the dedicated staff.

The PCLS Board is happy that once again, the organization has received a clean audit with one exception. The only qualification in our audit is a standard one for all registered charities. Auditors have no way of independently verifying the money that donors may send to a charity.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the auditors Segal LLP for their work in producing the audit on a tight timeline and to thank Besrat Solomon for her work as our sole financial staff person.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT MARCH 31, 2017

	Directors' Fund	LAO General Fund	LAO Legal Disbursements Fund	LAO Capital Fund	2017 Total	2016 Total
ASSETS						
Current assets						
Cash	\$ -	\$ 301,776	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 301,776	\$ 241,700
Accounts receivable	25,000	19,334	-	-	44,334	54,165
Harmonized sales taxes receivable	-	23,588	-	-	23,588	22,761
Prepaid expenses	-	16,317	-	-	16,317	15,177
	25,000	361,015	-	-	386,015	333,803
Property and equipment, note 3	-	-	-	10,811	10,811	12,341
	<u>\$ 25,000</u>	<u>\$ 361,015</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 10,811</u>	<u>\$ 396,826</u>	<u>\$ 346,144</u>
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities						
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ -	\$ 222,853	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 222,853	\$ 159,251
Deferred revenue, note 5	3,831	-	-	-	3,831	7,989
Interfund payable (receivable)	(167,236)	164,649	(2,524)	5,111	-	-
	<u>(163,405)</u>	<u>387,502</u>	<u>(2,524)</u>	<u>5,111</u>	<u>226,684</u>	<u>167,240</u>
Commitments, note 6						
Contingent liability, note 9						
FUNDS BALANCE (DEFICIT)	<u>188,405</u>	<u>(26,487)</u>	<u>2,524</u>	<u>5,700</u>	<u>170,142</u>	<u>178,904</u>
	<u>\$ 25,000</u>	<u>\$ 361,015</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 10,811</u>	<u>\$ 396,826</u>	<u>\$ 346,144</u>

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND FUNDS BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017**

	Directors' Fund	LAO General Fund	LAO Legal Disbursements Fund	LAO Capital Fund	2017 Total	2016 Total
Revenues						
Legal Aid Ontario, note 8						
- direct receipts	\$ -	\$ 2,546,112	\$ 11,620	\$ -	\$ 2,557,732	\$ 2,518,568
- indirect receipts, note 4	-	154,725	-	-	154,725	183,460
Osgoode Hall Law School Grant - annual	100,000	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Projects	11,732	53,140	-	-	64,872	129,292
Osgoode Hall Law School Grant - special	32,280	-	-	-	32,280	27,324
Other income	5,859	1,174	3,042	-	10,075	1,693
Donations	<u>6,884</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,884</u>	<u>6,976</u>
	<u>156,755</u>	<u>2,755,151</u>	<u>14,662</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,926,568</u>	<u>2,967,313</u>

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND FUNDS BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017**

	Directors' Fund	LAO General Fund	LAO Legal Disbursements Fund	LAO Capital Fund	2017 Total	2016 Total
Expenditures						
Salaries	116,441	1,770,347	-	-	1,886,788	1,768,843
Occupancy	-	317,663	-	-	317,663	289,251
Benefits	15,351	297,467	-	-	312,818	296,778
Indirect payments, note 4	-	154,725	-	-	154,725	183,460
Professional services	-	64,092	-	-	64,092	91,303
Supplies and services	567	62,204	-	-	62,771	79,810
Client services	-	29,740	-	-	29,740	37,267
Communications	-	24,341	-	-	24,341	24,601
Equipment rental and maintenance	-	21,753	-	-	21,753	20,991
Legal disbursements	-	-	17,826	-	17,826	10,906
Staff development	3,614	11,676	-	-	15,290	22,653
Professional dues	1,953	8,579	-	-	10,532	9,859
Board	-	10,350	-	-	10,350	42,588
Project reimbursement	-	-	-	-	-	2,707
Amortization	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,641</u>	<u>6,641</u>	<u>9,003</u>
	<u>137,926</u>	<u>2,772,937</u>	<u>17,826</u>	<u>6,641</u>	<u>2,935,330</u>	<u>2,890,020</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures (expenditures over revenues)	18,829	(17,786)	(3,164)	(6,641)	(8,762)	77,293
Funds balance (deficit), beginning of year	<u>190,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,688</u>	<u>(17,310)</u>	<u>178,904</u>	<u>101,611</u>
	209,355	(17,786)	2,524	(23,951)	170,142	178,904
Transfer to (from) fund, note 10	<u>(20,950)</u>	<u>(8,701)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,651</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Funds balance (deficit), end of year	<u>\$ 188,405</u>	<u>\$ (26,487)</u>	<u>\$ 2,524</u>	<u>\$ 5,700</u>	<u>\$ 170,142</u>	<u>\$ 178,904</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Awards and Honours 2016-2017



Photo: Toronto Star

Diane Rajaram

Dorothy Leatch Community Award

Diane Rajaram has been an active member of the Parkdale community for many years and has lived in the area for over forty years. Her community involvement with PCLS began over fifteen years ago with the Parkdale Tenants Association, where she is the current President. She has also been involved with the Workers Action Centre, a project initiated in the Workers' Rights division of PCLS.

She has also raised her daughter, Nadia, to be a champion for social justice and who too is an active member of WAC. She has participated in numerous campaigns to address issues around employee wages, refugee status, bad landlords, and the rights of psychiatric survivors.

Diane has also served as on the Board of Directors as a Community Member for numerous terms.

Diane is currently an active organizer in the Parkdale Rent Strike, where her passion is a constant source for inspiration for the community.

Congratulations, Diane, and thank you!



Jennifer Danch

Fred Zemans Prize

Jennifer was a strong and dedicated student who understood and subscribed to Parkdale Community Legal Services' vision and mandate. She showed a keen interest in developing and engaging in initiatives that challenge the systemic poverty, violence and other oppressive forces affecting our clients. She identified many systemic issues that became apparent through her casework, her interactions with her clients and with members of the community. In all her work, we were especially impressed by the care she takes to engage meaningfully with vulnerable and marginalized members of our community – and by her insistence that such community members must have voice and agency in decisions that impact them.

Awards and Honours 2016-2017



PARC

Community Partner Award

PARC was established more than 30 years ago focussing on psychiatric survivors, quality of housing and the politics of poverty. With the deinstitutionalization of Queen West Mental Health Centre and Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital, many of the people affected by these changes moved into Parkdale and our many rooming houses.

If you go to PARC you will see art, music, writing and much more happening. There are meals, health care services, and activities both inside and outside the building. Elsewhere in the building you will see the Ontario Alternative Business organization, the Parkdale neighbourhood Land Trust and others working on behalf of Parkdale and supported by PARC.

PARC is more than a service provider. PARC members are active leaders in their own organization. They have a voice in where the organization is heading. Through PARC they have a stronger voice that can be heard at City Hall, Queen's Park and in Ottawa.

PARC is a partner with everyone in Parkdale. They are a part of the fabric of this neighbourhood and they are an essential element in what makes this neighbourhood vibrant and dynamic.

For these reasons and for many more reasons, PARC was selected as our organization of the year. We want to make sure their work, their members and their contribution to Parkdale and Toronto are acknowledged and thanked.

Farewell to Nancy Henderson, Clinic Director

Nancy Henderson came to PCLS on January 12, 2010. As a BC'er this was a big transition from Vancouver to Toronto, in the middle of winter. Nancy was a graduate of the University of British Columbia and the former Executive Director of Social Planning and Research Council-BC.

In Nancy's seven years as Clinic Director, she addressed some very serious financial challenges and left the organization with a strong stable financial position for the next Clinic Director.

Nancy also focussed on building PCLS' partnerships with other allies in the community. Nancy played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Parkdale Neighbourhood Land Trust. Nancy guided PNLT through its incorporation and initial application for charitable status. The PNLT is a uniquely Parkdale organization. It is focussed on preserving low income housing in the neighbourhood.

Nancy was also a Board member for the Social Planning Council. Nancy was active in rebuilding the Social Planning Council's capacity as both a research organization and an organization committed to developing community capacity.

Through Nancy's seven years at the Clinic, more than 140 students have passed through the Poverty Intensive program. This program forms the next generation of clinic and community-focused lawyers.

Nancy's strong commitment to community legal clinics and to Parkdale had a lasting impact. She brought her extensive legal experience and belief in community organizing to bear in the neighbourhood.

Nancy left PCLS at the end of February to join Landlord Tenant Board as Vice-Chair, where we wish her all the best. Thank you, Nancy, for your service!



Nancy with current Academic Director Sean Rehaag (left) and former Academic Director Shin Imai, who welcomed Nancy in 2010.

Thank You to Board, Staff, Students, and Volunteers

Board

Michael Barrack
Ella Bedard
Amar Bhatia
Sonam Chokey
Kolin Davidson
Kalsang Dolma
David Gellman
Richard Haigh
Ashleigh Ingle
Maram Khalif
Andrea Margles
Sean Rehaag
Alex Rogers
Desiree Warner
Victoria Watkins

Management

Nancy Henderson, Clinic Director
John Doherty, Interim Clinic Director

Lawyers

Phyllis Abrahams (Housing)
Tracy Heffernan (Organizing)
John No (Workers' Rights)
beth long (SAVAH)
Toni Schweitzer (Immigration)

Articling Students

Matthew Smith
Esther Song

Community Legal Workers

Peggy-Gail DeHal-Gunraj
Mary Gellatly
Amarna Moscote
Vic Natola
Bart Poesiat
Tenzin Tekan
Cole Webber

Administration

Lydia Dobson
Deborah Hanna
Rose Nabwire
Linda Newton
Marvalyn Rowe

Robert Routh
Besrat Solomon
Rebekah Tannis-Johnston

Student Caseworkers

Eleanor Andrew
Maxym Artemenko
Ella Bedard
Anthony Bishop
Laura Brown
Lillianne Cadieux-Shaw
Jessica Chandrashkar
Sally Chang
Madeleine Chin-Yee
Jacky Chiu
Jennifer Danch
Jasmine Dunn
Julia Flood
Benjamin Fulton
Ethan Garber
Giuseppe Gemmiti
Lycas Gindin
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Jessica Gryz
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Tristan Hunter
Ghazi Jarrar
Linda Kassim
Sarah Katz
Sunny Kim
Youssef Kodszy
Epiphany Leibovitz-Opar
Vanessa Leigh
Andrew Link
Kristen Lloyd
Luca Lucarini
Broghan Masters
Carly Moore
Darren Nguyen
Linda Noorafkan
Hannah Ordman
Nandhini Padmanathan
Mitchell Perlmutter
Zina Rita
Nicholas Rujloff-Queiruga

Yadesha Satheaswaran
Maya Sengupta-Murray
Kylie Sier
Toni-Ann Simpson
Katia Snukal
Alec Stromdahl
Ajith Thiyagalingam
Amy Tieu
Kim Veller
Maria Vitti
Sarah Weinberger
Ruth Wellen
Brianne Westland
Zara Wong
Majd Zakout

Interpreters

Kha-Tieu Chau
Orsolya Kiss
Jamyang Nyima
Kate Szczuka

Commissioning Volunteers

Uko Abara
Jesse Beatson
Michael Hoffamn
Jessica Karjanmaa
Gina Kripotos
Yohanna Laurensia
Christie McLeod
Monica Morcos
Natasha Novac
Amanda Rosenstock
Curtis Sell
Danielle Smithen
Daisy Sun
Arash Vakili
Ruth Wellen
Michael Wong
Samuel Zucchi

Summer Placements, 2016

Kayla Barclay (LAWS program)
Petra Kovacs (CSJ program)
Chemi Lhamo (CSJ program)
Aadi Singh (Co-op placement)



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