

Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society
Financial Statements
October 31, 2023
(Unaudited)

Management's Responsibility

To the Board of Directors of Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society:

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the accompanying financial statements, including responsibility for significant accounting judgments and estimates in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. This responsibility includes selecting appropriate accounting principles and methods, and making decisions affecting the measurement of transactions in which objective judgment is required.

In discharging its responsibilities for the integrity and fairness of the financial statements, management designs and maintains the necessary accounting systems and related internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded and financial records are properly maintained to provide reliable information for the preparation of financial statements.

The Board of Directors is composed entirely of Directors who are neither management nor employees of the Society. The Board is responsible for overseeing management in the performance of its financial reporting responsibilities. The Board fulfils these responsibilities by reviewing the financial information prepared by management and discussing relevant matters with management, and external accountants. The Board is also responsible for recommending the appointment of the Society's external accountants.

MNP LLP is appointed by the directors to review the financial statements and report directly to them; their report follows. The external accountants have full and free access to, and meet periodically and separately with, both the Board and management to discuss their review engagement results.



Loraine Champion
Executive Director

To the Board of Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society:

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society that comprise the statement of financial position as at October 31, 2023, and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society as at October 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Calgary, Alberta

April 29, 2024



Chartered Professional Accountants

Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society Statement of Financial Position

As at October 31, 2023
(Unaudited)

	2023	2022
Assets		
Current		
Cash	261,561	309,069
Marketable securities	-	35,000
Accounts receivable	-	1,203
Goods and Services Tax receivable	822	229
Prepaid expenses	5,225	384
	267,608	345,885
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals	40,830	37,115
Subsequent event (Note 6)		
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	226,778	308,770
	267,608	345,885

Approved on behalf of the Board


Director


Director

Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

*For the year ended October 31, 2023
(Unaudited)*

	2023	2022
Revenue		
Law Society of Alberta	585,000	693,000
Canadian Bar Association	20,100	20,000
Law firms and corporation donations (direct)	666	23,390
Individuals (direct)	6,417	27,909
Online donations via Canada Helps	10,566	8,316
Fundraising events	41,737	31,808
	664,486	804,423
Interest revenue		
Interest Income	3,162	275
Total revenue	667,648	804,698
Expenses		
Counselling services	443,994	433,467
Promotion, education and awareness	182,583	199,137
Peer support management and activities	58,632	41,694
Administration	64,431	56,416
Total expenses	749,640	730,714
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses	(81,992)	73,984
Net assets, beginning of year	308,770	234,786
Net assets, end of year	226,778	308,770

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended October 31, 2023

(Unaudited)

	2023	2022
Cash provided by (used for) the following activities		
Operating		
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses	(81,992)	73,984
Changes in working capital accounts		
Accounts receivable	1,203	(1,203)
Goods and Services Tax receivable	(593)	243
Prepaid expenses	(4,841)	(384)
Accounts payable and accruals	3,715	3,228
	(82,508)	75,868
Investing		
Purchase of marketable securities	-	(35,000)
Redemption of marketable securities	35,000	-
(Decrease) increase in cash resources	(47,508)	40,868
Cash resources, beginning of year	309,069	268,201
Cash resources, end of year	261,561	309,069

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended October 31, 2023
(Unaudited)

1. Incorporation and nature of the organization

Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society (the "Society") is a registered charity incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta. The Society is exempt from income taxes under the Income Tax Act ("the Act"). In order to maintain its status as a registered charity under the Act, the Society must meet certain requirements within the Act. In the opinion of management these requirements have been met.

The Society's purpose is to provide assistance, counselling and referral services to Alberta's lawyers, articling students, and their immediate families in personal crisis. Funding is provided by contributions from the Law Society of Alberta, The Canadian Bar Association (Alberta), and private contributors. In fiscal 2022 and 2023, the Society provided counselling through the professionals of Forbes Psychological Services Ltd. ("Forbes"), a leading provider of assistance to professionals and their families.

2. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations as issued by the Accounting Standards Board in Canada using the following significant accounting policies:

Cash

Cash includes cash balances with banks and investments with maturities of three months or less.

Marketable securities

Marketable securities consist of Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GICs) with a one year term.

Revenue recognition

The Society follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

Contributed materials

The Society receives various in-kind services to carry out its business operations. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, no amount is recorded for contributed services in these financial statements.

Financial instruments

The Society recognizes its financial instruments when the Society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. All financial instruments are initially recorded at their fair value.

Financial instruments consist of: cash, marketable securities, accounts receivable and accounts payable and accruals. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Society is not exposed to significant credit and liquidity risk, or market risk, which includes currency, interest rate and other price risks.

At initial recognition, the Society may irrevocably elect to subsequently measure any financial instrument at fair value. The Society has not made such an election during the year.

Transaction costs and financing fees directly attributable to the origination, acquisition, issuance or assumption of financial instruments subsequently measured at fair value are immediately recognized in the excess of revenues over expenses for the current period. Conversely, transaction costs and financing fees are added to the carrying amount for those financial instruments subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost.

Government assistance

Government assistance is recognized when there is a reasonable assurance that the conditions attached to the government assistance will be met and that assistance will be received. Government assistance is recognized as income over the periods necessary to match it with the related costs that it is intended to compensate.

Alberta Lawyers' Assistance Society

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended October 31, 2023
(Unaudited)

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued from previous page)

Allocation of expenses

The Society engages in counselling services; promotion, education and awareness; peer support management activities and administration programs. The costs of each program include the costs of personnel that are directly related to providing the program. The salaries and wages are allocated based on a percentage of time spent on each program.

Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

Accounts receivable are stated after evaluation as to their collectability and an appropriate allowance for doubtful accounts is provided where considered necessary.

By their nature, these judgments are subject to measurement uncertainty, and the effect on the financial statements of changes in such estimates and assumptions in future years could be material. These estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary they are reported in excess of revenues over expenses in the years in which they become known.

3. Economic dependence

The Society's primary source of revenue is the Law Society of Alberta (the "Law Society"). The funding can be cancelled if the Society does not observe certain established guidelines. The Society's ability to continue viable operations is dependent upon maintaining its relationship with the Law Society and ensuring that programs offered align with the Law Society's mission statement. As at the date of these financial statements, the Society believes that it is in compliance with these guidelines.

4. Contributed materials and services

During the year ended October 31, 2023, the Society received contributed services of \$49,800 (2022 – \$54,800) representing the estimated fair value of contributions of office space, printing and mailing, accounting, brochure production and conference space. These amounts are not included as expenses in the statement of operations.

5. Allocation of expenses

During the year ended October 31, 2023, salaries and benefits of \$264,332 (2022 - \$266,717) have been allocated to the following categories on the statement of operations:

	2023	2022
Counselling services	10,091	12,021
Promotion, education and awareness	166,728	181,550
Peer support management and activities	55,018	40,556
Administration	32,495	32,590
	264,332	266,717

6. Subsequent event

On March 11, 2024, the Society entered into an operating facility lease, with minimum annual lease payments of \$21,600. The lease expires March 11, 2026.