



LAMBDA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION CANADA ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Lambda Foundation is pleased to report that, at the end of our 2015–2016 year, we are on track for continued success in raising funds for research in LGBTI issues. Here are the highlights:

- Our Nicole LaViolette Prize keeps growing
- We held a successful summer party fundraiser to cover our (modest) administrative costs
- We are looking for new board members and other volunteers

The Nicole LaViolette Friends of Lambda Prize has Doubled!



This endowment at the University of Ottawa has grown in the last five years, so the Lambda Board of Directors recently decided to increase the annual research award it generates to between \$500 and \$1000, directly dependent on the funds available in a given year. Previously, it was set at \$500. The prize honours the late Professor LaViolette, a leading scholar and activist in international LGBTI rights, and the Friends of Lambda, who established the original endowment. We are delighted to see this Lambda legacy grow and we thank the generous donors who have made such a difference.

Endowments and Disbursements to Date:

Most of the money we raise at Lambda Foundation goes into our research awards at nine universities across Canada. When Lambda receives donations for specific research awards, we

forward the funds to the host universities, and we also liaise with the on-campus development offices, professors, student associations and campus media to promote excellent applications for our awards every year. The universities invest the funds carefully, each in their own way, and the annual payouts; that is, the interest they earn, constitute the awards. They do not touch the principal. The universities' awards committees (in some cases in consultation with Lambda), decide whose research on LGBTI issues merit the awards.

Here are the endowment totals and the available awards (in rounded-off figures) as of April 2016. As noted above, the LaViolette Prize at the University of Ottawa has been revalued since then.

University of New Brunswick	\$23,588 endowment	\$1,000 award
Université de Montréal	\$24,804 endowment	\$1,155 award
Carleton University	\$56,172 endowment	\$2,280 award
University of Ottawa	\$33,222 endowment	\$500 award
Laurentian University	\$19,160 endowment	\$650 award
University of Guelph	\$42,391 endowment	\$1,000 award
University of Manitoba	\$56,624 endowment	\$1,925 award
University of Victoria	\$36,291 endowment	\$1375 award

We have two other awards:

The bi-annual, \$1000 **Doctor Gary Gibson Award** at UBC/St. Paul's Hospital Foundation. This award is named after the late Dr. Gibson, a gay physician who specialized in treating HIV-related illnesses. It is not the product of a multi-thousand dollar university endowment, but is raised every second year through direct donations to the Lambda Foundation's Gary Gibson Fund that are sent to the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation, which chooses the worthy recipient. The award goes to a resident doctor doing medical research to benefit LGBTI patients. There was no recipient in 2016.

The Jack Hallam Human Rights Award at Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) on Salt Spring Island, BC. This \$1000 award challenges the students to consider the ways that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation intersects with other forms of bias, such as race, religion and gender, and allows them to submit presentations in the formats of their choice, including essays, videos, and social media productions. The late Jack Hallam, who established the original award, has bequeathed Lambda an additional \$2,000, which we have received gratefully as it will extend the lifetime of the award.

For our current award winners and their interests, please visit our website at www.lambdafoundation.org and check us out on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Lambda-Foundation-Fondation-Lambda-47501658828/>

Our Priority Fundraising

We have been laying the groundwork for our Priority Bursary Fund, one designed to financially assist deserving LGBTI leaders with university costs to the amount of \$1000 annually. We felt it was important to make sure we were building on our solid financial base first and we were successful in raising enough money to cover our modest administrative expenses without dipping too deeply into our operating fund. In June, we held a very successful "Still in my 60s" birthday party for the Lambda president, Barbara Freeman, who was turning 69 years old. The requested gift from guests was a financial donation to Lambda in any amount that included the number 6. Generous friends raised close to \$2,500 for Lambda, and the volunteer members of the Board of Directors and some of their partners contributed party-hearty talent and time to make it a very fun event. Special thanks to the 50 friends who came to the party with their donations, or sent them to us beforehand or afterwards.

Several of Lambda's supporters also generously answered our Giving Tuesday appeal in November for donations to boost our **Christian Landry Memorial Award in Graduate Studies** at the University of New Brunswick. Chris holds a special place as a gay activist in many of our hearts and we appreciate your generosity. We also want to thank the donors who supported Lambda's other university endowments, as well as our general fund.

We realize that in the future we will have to put an even stronger focus on fundraising, a fact of nonprofit life that has become increasingly competitive and driven by social media.

Openings on our Board of Directors

We are on the lookout for a new board member who is versed in successful ways of raising money, with some experience, and a lot of energy to help us reach our campaign goal of a \$50,000 minimum endowment for the planned Priority Bursary Fund, which will help deserving LGBTI community leaders attending university across Canada with some of their expenses. We actually have two vacancies to fill on our eight-member volunteer board. We hope that some of our donors, friends, and former award winners will apply to join us. The board, whose members live across the country, meets every eight week via Skype and communicates through email between meetings. Please email me at barbara_freeman@rogers.com, and I will be happy to tell you more about us. We also welcome new volunteers who will not serve on the board, but would like help out in other ways. All our directors and non-board volunteers are members of the Lambda Foundation, and any of our donors are also free to become members on an annual basis. There is no membership fee.

Farewell to Brian Ray and Bill Turner

In the past year, two of our directors have stepped down—Brian Ray of Ottawa, who served as our most recent Vice-President, and Bill Turner of Salt Spring Island, BC, a former Vice-

President and longtime member. We are sad to see them go, and we thank them both for their fine contributions to Lambda Foundation. Bill will continue to volunteer for Lambda.

Our current Directors are Barbara Freeman (President) and Meryn Stuart (Director-at-large), both in Ottawa; Michael Graydon (Secretary), in Sault Ste. Marie; Tuan Vu (Treasurer) in Montreal; and Chris Fox (Vice-President) in Victoria and Kathleen Reed in Nanaimo (Director of Social Media). The other members of Lambda team 2016 were Accountant Sandy Bonini in Ottawa and Social Media and Youth Outreach volunteer, Jefferson Morris IV, who has just settled in Ottawa.

We are looking forward to a very productive 2017 and we thank you most sincerely for your continuing support of Lambda Foundation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Freeman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Barbara Freeman
President