

Government of Alberta FUNDING REQUESTS VS. APPROVALS

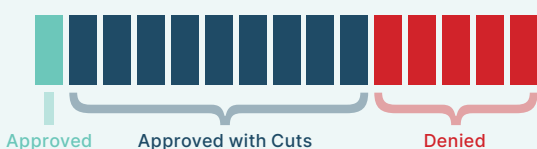
Since 1973, the Alberta Law Foundation has strategically managed the revenue it receives from interest on lawyers' pooled trust accounts to advance Access to Justice in the province. In its approach, the Foundation has worked closely with non-profit and community-based organizations, developing and reviewing grant applications for programs and services that provide critical legal support to vulnerable populations. For over 50 years, the Foundation has worked diligently to ensure that funds distributed effectively meet the legal needs of Albertans while also prudently managing its resources to ensure the long-term stability and sustainability of the Access to Justice sector.

In 2025, the Government of Alberta tabled Bill 39, doubling the Foundation's statutory contribution to Legal Aid Alberta from 25% to 50% and giving the Minister of Justice approval authority over all Foundation grants exceeding \$250,000.

Grant Applications

Fifteen Grant Applications, developed collaboratively by community agencies and Alberta Law Foundation staff, were reviewed and approved by the Alberta Law Foundation Board of Directors before being sent to the Minister for Justice.

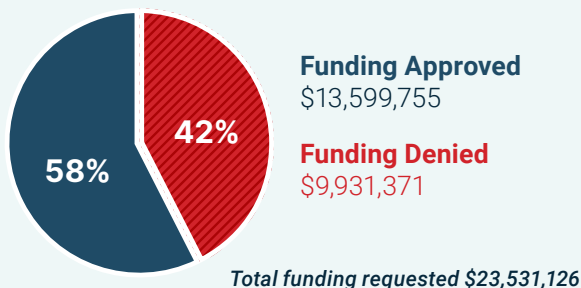
Only one of the fifteen applications was approved by the Minister. Nine were significantly scaled back for approval, and five were denied.



58% of Funding Approved

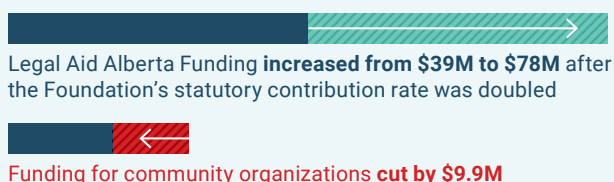
Grantees requested a total of **\$23,531,126** in their March applications. Six applications included annual funding across three years.

Of those requested funds, the Minister approved \$13,599,755—just 58%.



At the Expense of Community Funding

When doubling the Foundation's statutory contribution to Legal Aid Alberta from 25% to 50%, the Minister stated the increase would not come at the expense of community-based organizations. The Minister's recent decisions resulted in nearly \$10M in denied funds to the community even as the Minister takes an additional \$39M from the Foundation to offset the Government's obligations to fund Legal Aid, totalling \$78M in contributions in 2024 – 2025.



Distress Centre Calgary

\$265,705 in funding requested.



\$265,705 was approved; the only application approved without reduction.

The Alberta Seventh Step Society

\$998,840 in funding requested over three years.



\$856,500 was approved; **\$142,340** or **14%** less than requested.

YEAR-BY-YEAR BREAKDOWN

Year 1 Request: \$327,283



Approved: **\$285,500**

Denied: **\$41,783 (13%)**

Year 2 Request: \$332,948



Approved: **\$285,500**

Denied: **\$47,448 (14%)**

Year 3 Request: \$338,609



Approved: **\$285,500**

Denied: **\$53,109 (16%)**

Calgary Legal Guidance

\$3,805,422 in funding requested.



\$3,500,000 was approved; **\$305,422** or **8%** less than requested.

Central Alberta Legal Clinic Foundation

\$6,562,804 in funding requested over three years.



\$4,650,000 was approved; **\$1,912,804** or **29%** less than requested.

YEAR-BY-YEAR BREAKDOWN

Year 1 Request: \$2,126,510



Approved: **\$1,550,000**
Denied: **\$576,510 (27%)**

Year 2 Request: \$2,176,520



Approved: **\$1,550,000**
Denied: **\$626,520 (29%)**

Year 3 Request: \$2,259,774



Approved: **\$1,550,000**
Denied: **\$709,774 (31%)**

Kinbrace Community Society

\$772,579 in funding requested over three years.



\$250,000 was approved; **\$522,579** or **68%** less than requested.

YEAR-BY-YEAR BREAKDOWN

Year 1 Request: \$231,509



Approved: **\$250,000**
Increased: **\$18,491 (108%)**

Year 2 Request: \$259,152



Approved: **\$0**
Denied: **\$259,152 (100%)**

Year 3 Request: \$281,918



Approved: **\$0**
Denied: **\$281,918 (100%)**

Lethbridge Legal Guidance

\$2,663,920 in funding requested over three years.



\$1,800,000 was approved; **\$863,920** or **32%** less than requested.

YEAR-BY-YEAR BREAKDOWN

Year 1 Request: \$714,580



Approved: **\$600,000**

Denied: **\$114,580 (16%)**

Year 2 Request: \$965,720



Approved: **\$600,000**

Denied: **\$365,720 (38%)**

Year 3 Request: \$983,620



Approved: **\$600,000**

Denied: **\$383,620 (39%)**

Pro Bono Law Alberta

\$255,000 in funding requested.



\$250,000 was approved; **\$5,000** or **2%** less than requested.

Rural Red Deer Restorative Justice

\$379,855 in funding requested over three years.



\$300,000 was approved; **\$79,855** or **21%** less than requested.

YEAR-BY-YEAR BREAKDOWN

Year 1 Request: \$105,775



Approved: **\$100,000**

Denied: **\$5,775 (5%)**

Year 2 Request: \$112,190



Approved: **\$100,000**

Denied: **\$12,190 (11%)**

Year 3 Request: \$161,890



Approved: **\$100,000**

Denied: **\$61,890 (38%)**

Student Legal Assistance Society (Calgary)

\$693,500 in funding requested.



\$652,550 was approved; **\$40,950** or **6%** less than requested.

Wahkohtowin Law and Governance Lodge

\$3,884,029 in funding requested over three years.



\$1,075,000 was approved; **\$2,809,029** or **72%** less than requested.

YEAR-BY-YEAR BREAKDOWN

Year 1 Request: \$1,232,047



Approved: **\$1,075,000**
Denied: **\$157,047 (13%)**

Year 2 Request: \$1,293,650



Approved: **\$0**
Denied: **\$1,293,650 (100%)**

Year 3 Request: \$1,358,332



Approved: **\$0**
Denied: **\$1,358,332 (100%)**

Boyle Street Community Services

All **\$1,098,791** in requested funding denied.

SafeLink Alberta Society

All **\$384,739** in requested funding denied.

Centre for Sexuality

All **\$750,000** in requested funding denied.

Sweetgrass Youth Alliance

All **\$679,592** in requested funding denied.

Grande Prairie Family Education Society

All **\$336,350** in requested funding denied.