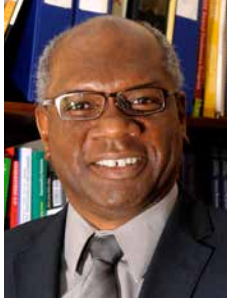




# 2016/17 ANNUAL REPORT

INGENUITY · PARTNERSHIPS · NEW OPPORTUNITIES

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



As Dalhousie approaches its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and ILA marks its 15<sup>th</sup> year of operations, we are excited about new opportunities for growth, partnership and collaboration. Imhotep's Legacy Academy's outreach

to the community continues to be a viable solution to the challenges facing universities in recruiting students of African heritage into the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

The work that Imhotep's Legacy Academy is doing makes a significant difference in changing the representation of African Nova Scotian learners in STEM studies and careers. African Nova Scotian enrolment in engineering and science has increased substantially as a result of ILA's programs. Since our inception, we have succeeded in building a platform for young learners of African heritage to appreciate STEM education, and our reach within the community continues to grow rapidly.

Through the hard work and dedication of our program staff, mentors and developers, ILA promotes the skills and attitudes necessary for African Nova Scotian learners' achievement. We value their contribution and that of our partners, and we remain committed to delivering programs that are engaging and culturally-relevant.

**J. Pemberton Cyrus**, PhD, PEng, FEC  
*President, Imhotep's Legacy Academy*

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



This was a year of ingenuity for our *FIRST* LEGO League Program, bringing positive outcomes. Our students are always fun, energetic and very ambitious; they are destined for great things. Their boldness is reflected

in their eagerness to learn, their young minds offer new ideas, and they embrace their cultural heritage.

This year, our goal to expand our After School Program was achieved, thus expanding our physical reach to more African Nova Scotian learners. We engaged more than 750 Nova Scotian learners in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) activities. We continue to aim and focus our efforts in involving learners of African heritage in STEM activities through mentorship from university students. Our partnerships with universities, government agencies, community organisations, and the private sector ensures the sustainability of our programs. We are steadfastly growing our organisation with each partnership.

We are projected for a massive expansion and we hope to involve more community members during this phase. As we enter our 15<sup>th</sup> year of operation, Imhotep's Legacy Academy remains committed to our mandate to prepare our young African Nova Scotian learners for their future in STEM careers.

**Mr. Sidney Idemudia**, BEng  
*Executive Director, Imhotep's Legacy Academy*

# ABOUT US

**Imhotep's Legacy Academy (ILA)** is an effective and successful, province-wide outreach organization, established in 2003. Based at Dalhousie University, ILA is built on a strong university-community partnership. It aims to redress the underrepresentation of African Canadians in postsecondary Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) studies.

ILA uniquely mobilizes university students, faculty and community leaders to help improve student success and bridge the achievement gap for Grades 6–12 African Nova Scotian (ANS) learners.

ILA provides its participants with an enriching blend of real-world learning projects, skill-building and leadership development activities, as well as tutoring support.

ILA, operating in more than half of Nova Scotia's regional school boards, trains and supports university students to play powerful roles in the lives of its participants through the building of self-confidence, self-discipline and the mastery of concepts related to scientific, technical, engineering, and mathematics fields.

## HISTORY

In 1999, a science outreach workshop dubbed “Imhotep's Legacy Project I.” was organized by ILA's founder Dr. Kevin Hewitt in Vancouver for kindergarten to grade 8 African Canadian students. Dr. Hewitt's experiences led to a discussion with Mr. Wayn Hamilton and the conceptualization of a series of Imhotep's Legacy Projects. Mr. Hamilton identified Ms. Barb Hamilton-Hinch, at the time Dalhousie's Black Student Advisor, who came on board to lend her connections. Years later, with the dedication of many, Imhotep's Legacy Academy operates across Nova Scotia, making STEM subjects accessible and interesting while also supporting academic success.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Involve members of the Dalhousie community, science teachers, ANS learners and their parents, in ILA's programs.
- Increase enrolment of African Nova Scotian learners in STEM programs at Dalhousie University and at other post-secondary institutions.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Since 2003, Imhotep's Legacy Academy has successfully provided Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) enrichment programs to over a thousand African Nova Scotian students.



# ILA'S PROGRAMS

ILA's **After School Program (ASP)** introduces junior high school students of African descent to curriculum-related science and math activities intended to develop their interest in, and increase awareness of, these subjects. Mentors visit junior high schools on a weekly basis and alternate between math and science activities. These sessions are an opportunity for students to develop an interest in STEM subjects and get extra assistance with their homework. The science activities are hands-on and interactive, using common household items familiar to students. The math activities are tailored to strengthen their skills in mathematics concepts. The university students who act as Mentors, are essential to the success of the program. Our Mentors work to develop a relationship with their students and they are also role models, as they themselves are pursuing STEM-related fields in their post-secondary studies.

ILA's **Virtual School Program (VSP)** provides tutoring to students of African descent in grades 9–12 throughout Nova Scotia. ILA Mentors interact with participants online or on-site at the ILA Office (currently located in Dalhousie University's Killam Memorial Library). The program is designed such that every participant has access to a Tutor, while also benefiting from the opportunity to work independently. In addition to receiving tutoring, Virtual School participants have the opportunity to participate in workshops and other fun activities that enhance their educational experience and prepare them for post-secondary studies.

ILA's **FIRST LEGO League (FLL)** Program is a robotics program designed to get junior high school students of African descent, between the ages of 9–14 years, excited about science and technology. It teaches students the values of working together and of solving problems. Each year, ILA's FLL teams have the opportunity to compete in regional and provincial competitions. The challenge for each year has a central theme based on a real-world scientific topic. (For example, the theme for 2016–17 was *Animal Allies*.) Imhotep's Legacy Academy has participated in FLL competitions since 2011, and over the years our teams have received awards for "Presentation", "Mechanical Design", "Technical Design", "Robot Design" "Spirit and Enthusiasm" and "Project Innovative solution" at the regional and provincial levels.

ILA's **Summer Student Research Scholarships (SSRS)** are offered in partnership with Dalhousie University's Faculty of Science, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Health and Faculty of Medicine to create research scholarships for African Canadians pursuing an undergraduate degree in science, engineering, or health professions, at any university in Nova Scotia. The scholarships, valued at \$6,500 each (\$5,000 for Medicine), are tenable at Dalhousie University and are paid-out over the summer months (May–August) to support university students as they conduct specialized research in their chosen field under the guidance of a Dalhousie faculty



member whose primary appointment is in the Faculty of Science, Engineering, Health, or Medicine. Students will gain valuable experience in the design, execution, and evaluation of experiments.

In partnership with TD Bank, the **ILA-TD Bank Opportunity Scholarships** are four-year renewable scholarships for ILA program graduates entering Dalhousie University. Its purpose is to reduce the financial barrier for African Nova Scotian students pursuing studies in STEM-related fields. The promised award is based on participation in ILA's programs. Each year a student remains active in ILA, an additional amount can be added to their total to a maximum of \$5,000 per year of study at Dalhousie. The table below illustrates the award increments per grade:

| GRADE                                     | 7-10  | 11     | 12     |
|---|-------|--------|--------|
| Future annual award at Dalhousie per year | \$500 | \$1000 | \$2000 |

ILA also has a number of programs under development, including: the Summer Rocket Activity; the Science Quiz Tournament; the Science Activity Videos; and the STEM Project Challenge.

**“The reason I joined ILA was to expand my knowledge in STEM areas and to enter more extra-curricular activities. My experience in ILA’s FLL robotics program has taught me many skills such as, teamwork and cooperation are extremely important to succeed.”**

– Kareem El-Beshbeeshy

**“I enrolled in ILA’s VSP to enhance my understanding in chemistry, biology and math, be surrounded by people of my ethnic colour and to involve myself in various activities.”**

– Ziel Jones



# CHALLENGES FACING YOUTH

African Nova Scotians have a long history in Nova Scotia. Over the years, despite sometimes adverse conditions, African Nova Scotians have made meaningful contributions to Nova Scotian society and have always endeavoured to improve conditions for succeeding generations. Some young learners of African descent; however, continue to find it challenging to develop into academic achievers in science and math within educational institutions that do not value their heritage, their abilities, or their input. Some other factors include:

- The nature of classroom instruction and interaction.
- Insufficient exposure to science as it relates to the life of the young learner.
- Failure to promote skills fundamental to the development of an appreciation for scientific inquiry.

By focusing on several subject areas in science, and adopting a mentoring scheme, Imhotep's Legacy Academy offers a unique approach to enhancing the quality of math and science education for young learners of African descent.

ILA has a number of programs under development, including: Summer Rockets; Science Quiz Tournament; Science Videos and the African Science Project.

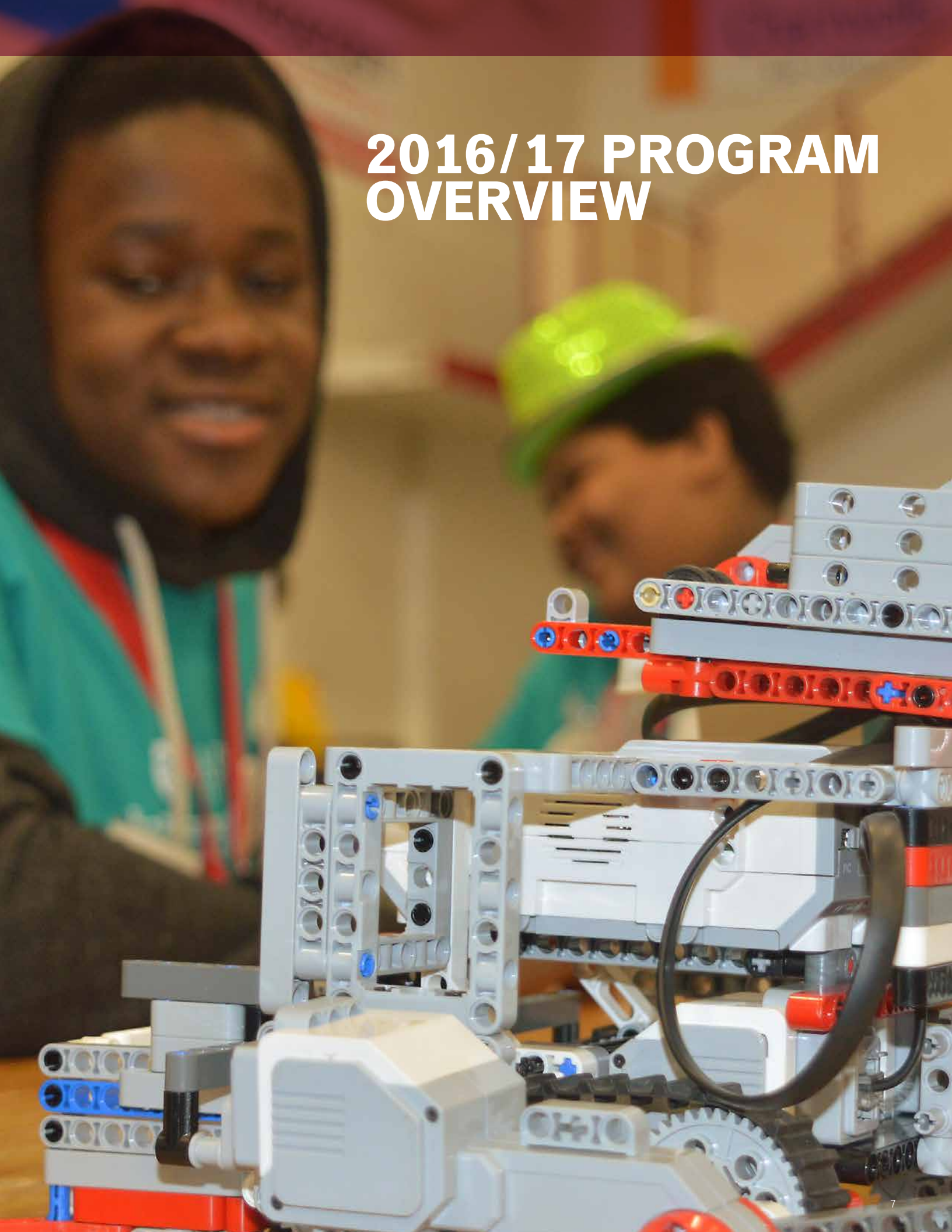
## **If you can see it, you can be it.**

– Dr. Barb Hamilton-Hinch, co-founder of ILA and Assistant Professor with Dalhousie's School of Health and Human Performance

**Young people need to see people of all races involved in the workplace. We have a very diverse culture out there, so we should have a wide range of people from all walks of life in different positions.**

– Bruce Johnson, BScPH '74, Nova Scotia's first Black pharmacist

# 2016/17 PROGRAM OVERVIEW





In the 2016/17 academic year (September to June), Imhotep's Legacy Academy (ILA) executed its core programs in six different regions across Nova Scotia with the Annapolis Valley being the newest. In doing so, ILA was able to sustain awareness of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), while delivering fun, hands-on educational activities to learners of African heritage in Nova Scotia. Industrial action hindered our program in the fall and as such, ILA was unable to carry-out its programs on school premises. However, we were able to work with community partners, public organizations and African Nova Scotian (ANS) Student Support Workers (SSW) to find alternate locations to run our programs. During this time, transportation of our students to temporary locations increased our expenditures. In February, in honour of African Heritage Month, we had a *Hidden Figures* movie screening and invited students, parents and community members to join us. In November 2016, ILA held a *Strategies for Success* workshop for university and high school students, providing them with study skills strategies and encouraging students to network with each other.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PD) TRAINING

Our work is very important and as such, training our Mentors is a crucial component to our success. This year, we executed two Professional Development sessions for our Mentors. Our Fall PD took place in October 2016 while our winter PD took place in January 2017. Cultural relevance, classroom interaction, building relationships with ANS learners, and knowledge of our programs were the key takeaways for Mentors who attended our PD sessions. Our PD training was administered by ILA's full time staff. ILA Mentors received constructive feedback from members of ILA's Board of Directors, and from some of ILA's Assisting Professors (faculty from Dalhousie University, Cape Breton University, and a Halifax Regional Municipality high school teacher).

2017 was a year of advancement for our **FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Programs**. As with previous years, we executed our FLL program in our Halifax and Truro sites at Oxford Jr. High School and Truro Jr. High School, respectively. Our goal as always with this program is to inspire ANS learners

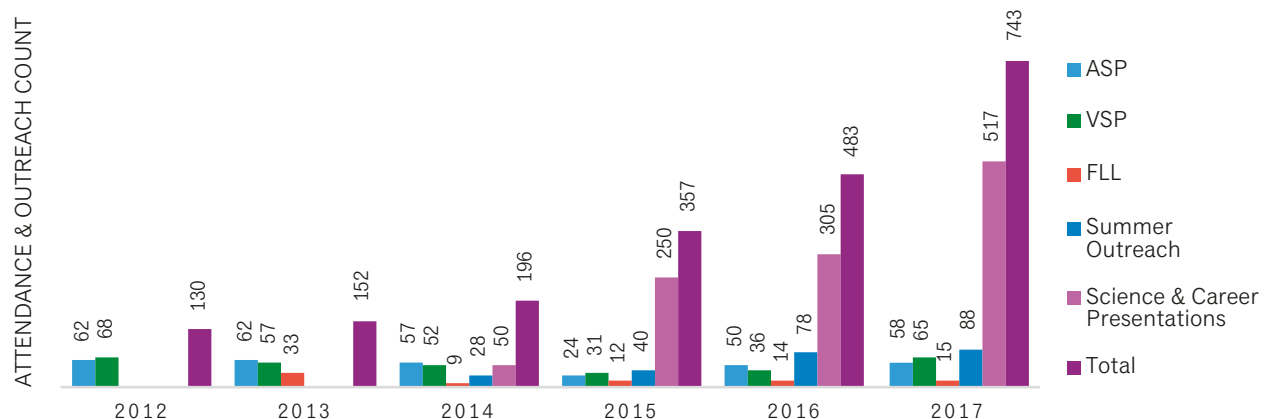


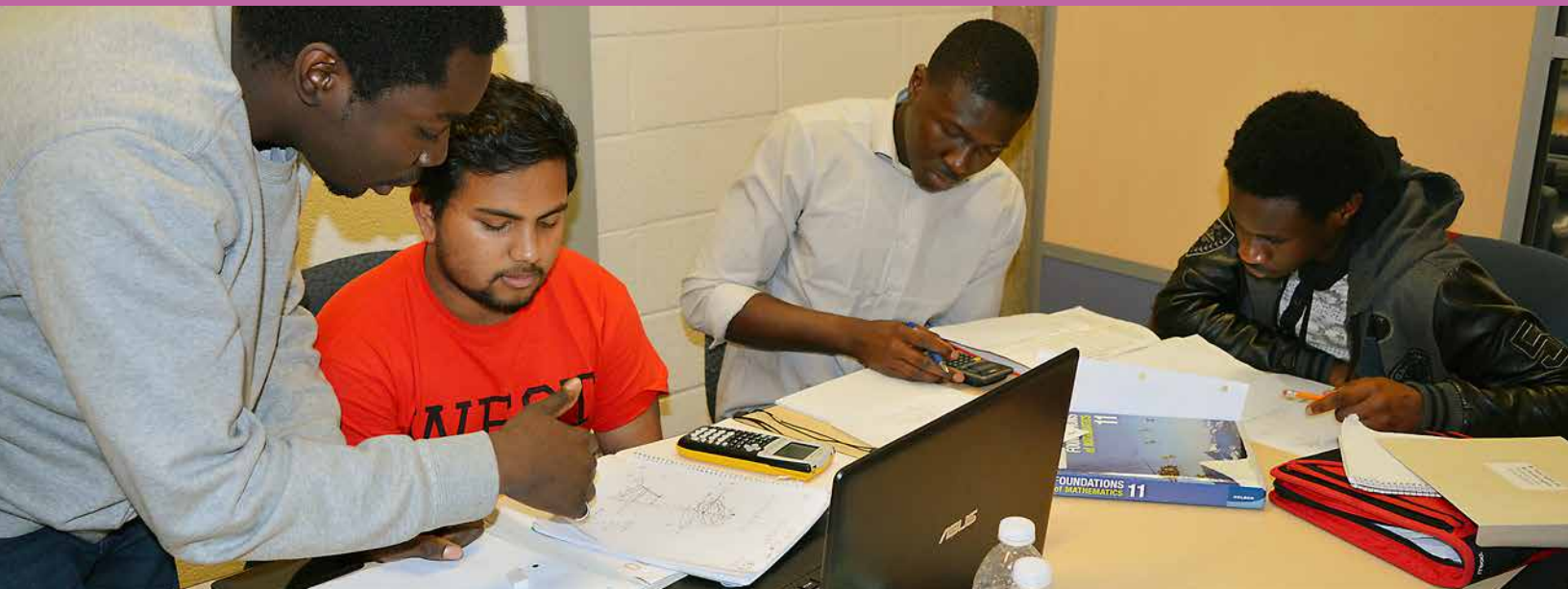
to develop an interest in coding and robotics. University Mentors of African heritage engaged our FLL students in coding and robot building activities, using LEGO Mindstorms kits, and prepared student-participants for the *FIRST* LEGO League competitions. Although our Truro team was not able to join the competition this year, they devoted their time towards learning and preparing for next year. Our Halifax *Legos 'R Us* team from Oxford Jr. High School competed at the regional and provincial championships, and made it to the global competition. The team won the *Best Robot Design Award* at the regional qualifiers and the *Project Innovative Solution Award* at the provincial competition. This led the team to be nominated for the Global Innovation Award Competition that was held in Washington DC, from June 18–21, 2017. This team was one of 3 teams to be nominated in Canada and one of twenty teams to be nominated worldwide. Through a *ProjectDAL* campaign, we reached our goal to raise the funds required to send every team member, their mentor and coach to the competition. Thanks to Dalhousie University, Oxford Jr. High School, parents, friends, families, and the broader community for helping us surpass our \$16,000 crowd-funding goal. This year's FLL theme was "Animal Allies" and the requirement for every team was to develop an innovative solution to make our interactions with animals better. Our *Legos R' Us* team choose to work on an animal deterrent system for Sable Island. Despite starting this program in November — very close to the

Regional Qualifiers competition, our teams had fun and learned a lot. Overall, in addition to the technical skills acquired from coding, robot design, and project research, our participants learned soft skills such as teamwork, team-building, friendly competitiveness, and sharing. Refer to Figure 1 for a graphical comparison of the program attendance over the past few years.

Our **After School Program (ASP)** grew this year with three new locations. We started a new site at the New Beginnings Ministries church in Cherrybrook, Nova Scotia. Additionally, we secured funds from the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's *Out-of-School-time Learning Grant* to expand our ASP to two schools in the Annapolis Valley region: Kings County Academy in Kentville and Northeast Kings Educational Centre in Canning. Our ASP also operated in our existing five sites: Oxford Jr. High School in Halifax; Caledonia Jr. High School in Dartmouth; Truro Jr. High School in Truro; Saint Andrew Jr. School in Antigonish; and Whitney Pier Memorial Jr. High School in Sydney. As with previous years, ILA hired and trained 19 university students of African heritage based in the six regions in which our ASP operates. Before our ASP sessions began, we promoted the program through a science demonstration "magic show", to ANS learners in every ASP location. The ASP sessions started in November 2016 for all sites, except for our two new Annapolis Valley

Figure 1: Distribution of ILA program participation from 2012 to 2017.



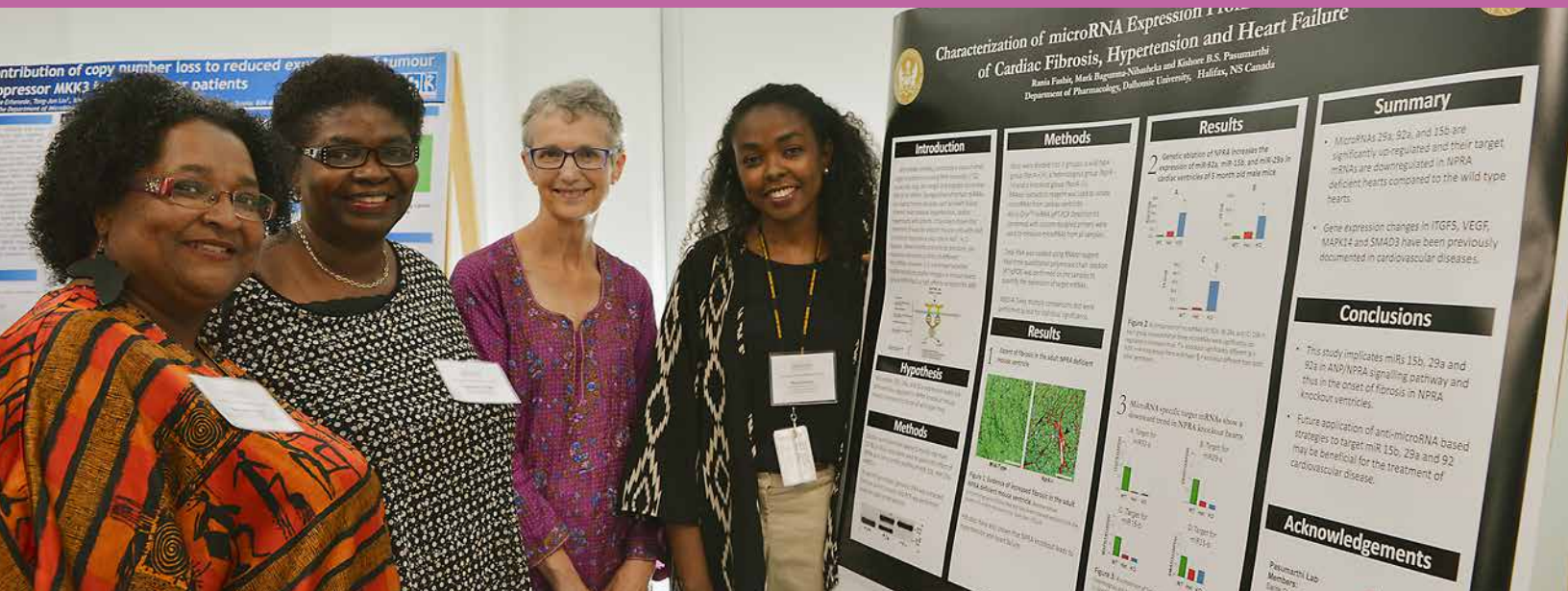


sites, which did not start until January 2017. All ASP sessions ended in May 2017. During the process of executing this program, our Mentors incorporated cultural-relevance in the delivery of all ASP activities: Mentors introduced an African proverb at the start of each activity, pinpointed the proverb's country-of-origin on a Peter's Projection map, and discussed the scientific contribution, by a person of African heritage, relating to the specific science activity being presented. In addition, ILA's ASP science activities were mapped to comply with the General Curriculum Outcomes for Nova Scotia schools. More importantly, our ASP participants benefited from taking home samples from their activities after every ASP session. African Nova Scotian (ANS) Student Support Workers, school administration and various community members at our ASP locations contributed in making this program successful at their various schools and locations. Once again this year there was growth in the number of participants, with 58 consistent student-participants in our weekly sessions. Refer to Figure 1 for a graphical comparison of the program attendance over several years.

This was another successful year for our **Virtual School Program (VSP)**. The VSP tutoring program nearly doubled its student reach from the preceding year. This year, 65 students benefited from one-on-one and group tutoring across NS. Due to increased demand from high school students for personal tutoring, our monthly workshops at

high schools turned into weekly tutoring sessions at those schools. Our Tutors made weekly visits to the following schools and community centers: Cole Harbour High School, Auburn Drive High School, Prince Andrew High School, Citadel High School and J.L. Isley High School. The virtual component of this program (tutoring across the internet) was executed via Skype and was used mostly by students outside of the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). As with all our programs, our VSP employs university students of African heritage to tutor high school students in their math and science subjects. In high schools outside of HRM, the school administration helped us promote the VSP to their students, and ILA Tutors and staff visited high schools within HRM to promote the program. Due to the number of students requesting tutoring, we hired more Tutors to meet the demand. The program started as the school year began in September to help prepare students for their first midterm exams in November. We ended our regular VSP sessions in June after the high school exams ended. During summer 2017, the VSP program continued on an "on-call" basis to help students who wished to prepare for the 2017/18 school year. Refer to figure 1 for a graphical comparison of the program attendance over the past few years.

The 2016/17 **Summer Student Research Scholarship (SSRS)** year started with the poster presentation by awardees from the previous year. They presented their results on September 9, 2016



to members of the university community, some ILA funders, and the general public. Dalhousie University's Vice-Provost Student Affairs, Dr. Arig al Shaibah, served as guest speaker. She emphasized the importance of giving university students a chance to do research work outside their school credit workload. There were five students who presented their research: one from each of the faculties of Engineering, Science, Health Professions and two from the Faculty of Medicine. As a result of our equal partnership with these faculties, we are able to provide practical research experience in STEM studies to undergraduate students of African heritage enrolled at any post-secondary institution in Nova Scotia. The students, regardless of their home university, must identify a Dalhousie University faculty member to supervise their research. Through this partnership, we are proud to sponsor scholarships of \$6,500 each

(\$5,000 for the Faculty of Medicine). The researchers receive monthly stipends from May to August to support themselves and stay focused on their research. During summer 2017, there were four new scholars who conducted research and gave poster presentations on September 8, 2017. Our goal is to expand this program to more STEM faculties.



2017 SSRS scholar Nnamdi Chiekwe's research at the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, Faculty of Medicine lab.

### 2017 Summer Student Research Scholars

| Student Name           | Faculty     | Project Title   | Supervisor                                |
|------------------------|-------------|---|---|
| Ikeoluwa Adebola Bello | Engineering | Investigating fire resistance of commercial ceiling tiles   | Dr. Jan Haelssig                          |
| Ogheneruemu P. Ememoh  | Health      | Investigating the relationship of the built environment and physical activity among African Nova Scotians       | Dr. Barb Hamilton-Hinch                   |
| Nnamdi Chiekwe         | Medicine    | Systematic review to investigate treatment methods for medical epicondyle fractures in the pediatric population | Dr. Ron El-Hawary                         |
| Yayra Aku Gbotsyo      | Science     | The study of molecular chaperones and cold stress tolerance in larvae of <i>artemia franciscana</i>             | Dr. Thomas H. MacRae<br>Dr. Laura K. Weir |

# MY ILA STORY



**Mariam Wurie** is a grade 12 student at Halifax West High School. She was seeking assistance with her calculus class and sought help from ILA. She heard positive feedback about ILA prior to registering for our VSP program, so she was assured she'll be getting the help she needed.

Mariam said *"My enrolment in the program has positively impacted me in several ways. First, the welcoming was superb, and I found the learning environment very conducive and this made me feel valued and relaxed. Also, the communication has been effective in a way that I don't feel constrained asking questions regarding the subject matter. This has provided me further motivation to always want to be there. In addition, and most importantly, the tutoring has been wonderful and this has tremendously improved my understanding and confidence in Calculus to the extent that I'm even helping some of my classmates who had difficulty with the subject matter."*

Mariam's interest in STEM lies specifically in Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and general Science, which is why she plans on pursuing a bachelor's degree in Nursing and has no doubt that her areas of interest would be beneficial to her during and after her Nursing education.



**Umar Timbo** is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Oxford Jr. High School, involved in our ASP and FLL programs. Umar says that he enjoys both programs and is looking forward to continuing with both next year. He testifies to how ILA has led him and his team to be nominated as 1 of 20 teams worldwide to compete for the *FIRST* Global Innovation Award in Washington D.C.

Umar said *"As a member of ILA's FLL team, I learned to program and build robots. I learned to work with a team and also developed some leadership skills. I also understood new areas of technology and biology because our FLL project was connected to Sable Island and my team came up with a solution to keep less interaction between the wild horses and humans there. Our solution involves the use of pressure plates and sound; it emits a sound in a frequency that only the horses can hear. That will irritate them and they will learn to stay away from those places that have the pressure plates."*

Umar wants to be a doctor and understands that to do this, he'll need to know a lot about STEM. After he obtains a bachelor's degree, he plans to start medical school with the goal of becoming a family doctor or a surgeon.

## DID YOU KNOW?

In 2016, Dr. Barbara-Ann Hamilton-Hinch, ILA co-founder, was the first African Nova Scotian-born to graduate with a PhD from Dalhousie University. She is currently an Assistant Professor with Dalhousie's School of Health and Human Performance.

# OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIPS





## SUMMER PROGRAMS

During summer 2017, our Virtual School tutoring Program remained open for students who wished to prepare for the upcoming school year in September. ILA's summer studentships are another way to provide financial support to university students and to engage those students who are interested in expanding and sharing their STEM knowledge. As our program materials are very important to the success of ILA's After-School Program, ILA employs university students to develop and polish our program activities. This summer we hired Olufolakemi Akpan to update all of our ASP science activities (replacing three of them) and create 30 new math activities. She also developed science and sport activities for the *Family Day Event* held this summer. In addition, ILA hired Akwamfon Usanga to develop science videos to complement our ASP science activities with the help of volunteers and ILA participants. This is an ongoing project. These videos are posted and catalogued on the Imhotep's Legacy Academy YouTube channel for reference by ILA Mentors, ILA participants and the general public. In addition, he captured videos of ILA's *2017 Closing Ceremony*. ILA thrives not only by the hard work of its staff but also from the dedication and to engage ANS learners in STEM. ILA also recognizes the positive

impact that parental involvement can have on student learning, and as such, on July 22, 2017 we held a *Family Day & Barbeque Event* to bring families together. This event successfully brought families together to participate in fun science games and sporting activities. Parents and their children complemented each other's strengths and weaknesses. At the end of the day, everyone convened for a nice summer barbequed meal. For the 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row, we had our summer rocket building activities to engage elementary and junior high school learners in STEM activities. We visited the African Canadian Service Division's (ACSD) *Brain Power SummerSlide* day camps in Nova Scotia's historically Black communities of North Preston and Beechville. We spent the first day at each camp building the rockets and launched them on the second day. Through this activity, African Nova Scotian learners acquire knowledge about space and rockets. Through our rocket activities, ILA engaged 24 students in STEM. Some of the take-home lessons for the students were learning how to follow instructions, paying attention to details, and working as a team. Students were also able to take home their rockets to share with friends and family.



# FIELD TRIP AND COLLABORATIONS

During March break, with the support of Dalhousie University and various partners, we scheduled a field trip for our students to visit Dal's *Innovation and Design in Engineering and Architecture (IDEA)* building construction site. The lead contractors on the site, Lindsay Construction and Pomerleau Construction, provided approval for our students to tour the site. In addition, Lindsay Construction provided protective equipment for everyone who participated and Pomerleau Construction treated everyone to pizza and beverages. Students from our Halifax, Dartmouth, Truro and Annapolis Valley sites took part in this field trip. Moreover, mentors engaged the students in rocket-building activities prior to the tour and they were very excited to launch them afterwards.

We collaborated with the *Black Business Initiative (BBI)* by hosting participants from their *Business is Jammin' (BIJ)* spring break day camp. These students were the second group to tour the IDEA building construction site. Also during March break, students from our Antigonish site took a field trip to visit the revamped *Halifax Discovery Centre* at its new location. On May 26, 2017, we worked with the Black Educators Association (BEA) to present information to community youth on the strategies to utilise in preparing for University. In Summer 2017, we partnered with *SuperNOVA at Dalhousie University* to host a summer camp at *St. George's YouthNet* in the North End of Halifax, engaging African Nova Scotian learners from this community in STEM activities.



# CLOSING CEREMONY AND RECOGNITIONS

ILA's annual Closing Ceremony provides an opportunity to publicly recognize participants dedicated to STEM, and to extend appreciation for our program staff, Board of Directors, and those supporters and funders who help keep ILA operational. We held our Closing Ceremony on June 10, 2017 and had the honour of hosting two guest speakers: Mr. Bruce Johnson, the first black Nova Scotian to graduate from Dalhousie University's School of Pharmacy in 1974, and Dr. Bryan Daniels, a PhD graduate in neuroscience and a management consultant with Davis Pier Consulting in Halifax.

This year, we awarded five **ILA-TD Opportunity Scholarships** through TD Bank's \$1 million endowment to Dalhousie University, which is specifically designated for distribution to deserving participants in ILA's programs. The ILA-TD Opportunity Scholarship, a four-year renewable scholarship valued at up to \$5,000, is payable to students upon enrolment in a STEM-related undergraduate program at Dalhousie University. The amount of the scholarship awarded depends upon the student's grade and accumulates for every year the student participates in an ILA program. For the 2016/17 program year, ILA incremented six promise scholarships for secondary school students and renewed eight ILA-TD Opportunity Scholarship payments for university scholars currently attending Dalhousie University and enrolled in STEM-related studies. Also, two of our new awardees are entering Dalhousie University in the fall of 2017 to obtain undergraduate degrees in Nursing and Pre-Veterinarian Medicine.

## 2016–17 ILA-TD Opportunity Scholars

| Student Name         | School/Grade                     | Amount Awarded  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mariam Wurie         | Halifax West High School, Gr. 12 | \$2,000         |
| Ziel Jones           | Citadel High School, Gr. 12      | \$2,000         |
| Taylor Murphy        | Auburn High School, Gr. 11       | \$1,000 promise |
| Kareem El-Beshbeeshy | Oxford Jr. High School, Gr. 9    | \$500 promise   |
| Mourisia Campbell    | Truro Jr. High School, Gr. 7     | \$500 promise   |

Figure 2: Number of ILA participants graduating high school and number of participants graduating with an ILA-TD Scholarship





# ILA-TD RECEPTION

On August 16, 2017, ILA hosted a reception to celebrate the seventh \$100,000 instalment toward TD's \$1 million endowment established at Dalhousie University. TD Canada Trust's Senior Vice President-Atlantic Region, Mr. Scott Belton was on campus to present the cheque to Dalhousie University President, Dr. Richard Florizone, and ILA President, Dr. J. Pemberton Cyrus. Mr. Belton was thrilled to meet with the ILA-TD Opportunity Scholarship awardees and also enjoyed a *FIRST LEGO League* robotics demonstration provided by one of our freshman high school ILA-TD Opportunity scholars.

We hope to partner with more post-secondary institutions and organizations in the private or public sectors to offer more scholarships of this nature to support African Nova Scotians as they pursue STEM studies and careers.



# STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

The *Student of the Year* award is another way of honouring ILA's exceptional student participants. This award is designated for students who have demonstrated (1) exemplary attendance (online or in-person), (2) an overall positive attitude, and (3) a commitment to the program and a love for STEM subjects. This year three students were given awards and gifts as *Students of the Year* for their respective sites.

## 2016–17 Students of the Year

| Student Name     | School/Grade                        | ILA Program                                       |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Omolola Oshikoya | Truro Jr. High School, Gr. 6        | <i>FIRST LEGO League</i> and After School Program |
| Haley Parker     | Caledonia Junior High School, gr. 7 | After School Program                              |
| Umar Timbo       | Oxford Jr. High School, Gr. 7       | <i>FIRST LEGO League</i> and After School Program |

# PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY

As with most organizational growth, establishing key partnerships is important. ILA strives to collaborate and partner with organizations and people who have mandates similar to our own. As well, we engage in activities that increase our public visibility and that will help broaden our reach to African Nova Scotian learners.

Our ILA-TD Opportunity Scholarship reception provides an avenue to showcase TD's funding of our scholarship endowment funds. Our summer developers ensure the upkeep of all our science activities and also give us an edge in reaching a larger audience through our science activity videos. Our partnership with various STEM faculties for our Summer Student Research Scholarships provides ILA with support for learners in post-secondary education.



On May 8, 2017, during a reception for ILA participants and other prospective Dalhousie University students, which was hosted at the home of Dalhousie University President, Dr. Richard Florizone, and his wife, Dr. Mona Holmlund, President Florizone reconfirmed Dalhousie University's support of our organization. In addition to providing assistance in our fundraising efforts, Dalhousie

University is also providing ILA with a state-of-the-art learning and office space including a maker space for executing our programs as part of the IDEA building project, scheduled for completion in spring 2018. As well, our ongoing partnership with the African Canadian Service Division (ACSD) at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and collaborations with community organizations such as the Delmore "Buddy" Daye Learning Institute (DBDLI) and others, ensures the sustainability of our programs.

# GOVERNANCE

ILA is governed by a Board of Directors who volunteer their time to the greater good of the organization's mandate.

## ILA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **Dr. J. Pemberton Cyrus (President/Chair)**

Associate Dean of Engineering, Dalhousie University

### **Dr. Barb Hamilton-Hinch**

Assistant Professor, Leisure Studies, School of Health and Human Performance, Dalhousie University

### **Dr. Wilber Menéndez Sánchez**

Nova Scotia Community College Faculty, Academics & Career Connections

### **Adrienne Glasgow-Slawter**

Guidance Counsellor, Prince Andrew High School, Halifax Regional School Board

### **Ms. Oluronke Taiwo**

Black Student Advisor, Dalhousie University

### **Dr. Keith F. Taylor**

Professor, Mathematics & Statistics, Dalhousie University

# FUTURE PLANS

In the spirit of Sankofa, ILA will build upon past successes as we plan for our future. Our ASP science video catalogue continues to grow and gain interest, so we plan to launch the use of the videos at various locations. We plan to partner with more STEM faculties for our SSRS and reach out to more universities to partner with us on this program. We are working to deliver coding through our FLL to ANS learners. This will enable us to add five new FLL sites in the following locations: Dartmouth, Annapolis Valley, Antigonish and Cape Breton.

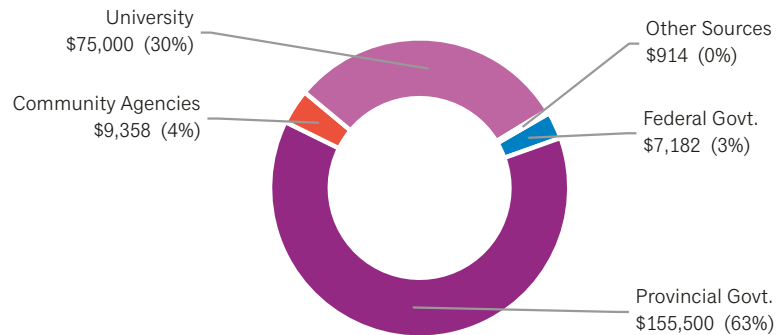
# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

ILA's financial transactions are processed on a cash basis through the Dalhousie University financial system (BANNER) and are tracked through a Special Purpose Fund. The financial statements of Dalhousie University are subject to an annual audit by an external accounting firm; reporting to the audit committee of the Board of Governors.

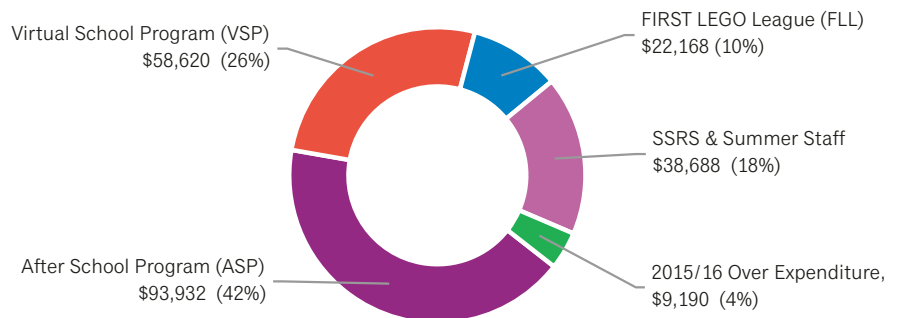
Dalhousie does not undertake to provide external audits of specific research and special purpose projects; unless it is expressly required by the contract and specific funds are provided for this purpose. The federal Tri-Council Agency and other funding agencies periodically review Dalhousie University research accounts.

Dalhousie University maintains extensive financial policies which in conjunction with the Internal Audit Department leads to a strong control environment.

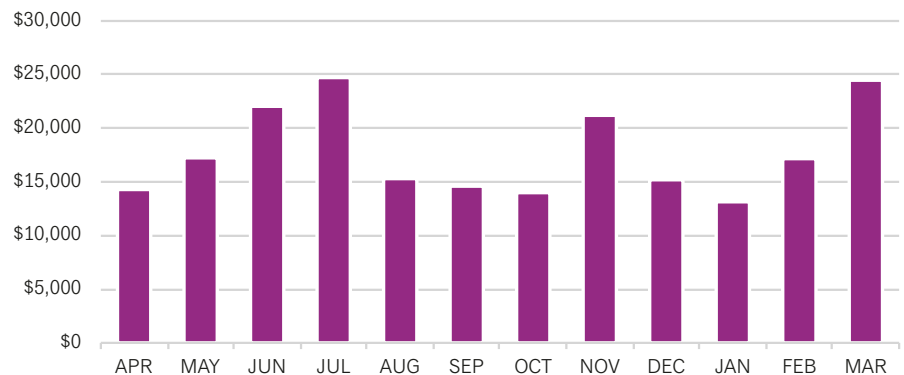
ILA 2016/17 REVENUE SOURCES



ILA 2016/17 EXPENSES BY PROGRAM



ILA 2016/17 EXPENSES BY MONTH



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## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

**IMHOTEP'S LEGACY ACADEMY** | PHONE: 902.494.7884 | FAX: 902.494.2420

imhotep@dal.ca | /ImhotepsLegacyAcademy | @imhoteplegacy | Imhotep's Legacy Academy

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