



Federation of Ontario  
Law Associations  
Fédération des associations  
de barreau de l'Ontario

Spring Plenary 2024

May 8 to 10  
Toronto, Ontario

## Welcome!

On behalf of the board and executive of the Federation of Ontario Law Associations, welcome to Toronto! Twice a year, FOLA comes together to share resources, network, and identify priorities for the delivery of legal services in the communities we serve across Ontario. At plenary, we strive to provide a relevant and engaging programme with content touching on key themes and emerging issues in the justice sector and the legal professions.

This plenary, we are focussed on several topics: women in the law (including the question of whether a “Me Too” moment is overdue in our profession, and the story of Afghan judges who were forced to flee their country and landed on our shores), legal technology and the growing influence of AI; access to justice issues arising from changes in our communities, paralegals and their participation in law associations, and the rise of self-represented litigants. We also welcome important updates from our regulator, malpractice insurer, and stakeholders that keep FOLA and the justice system humming.

FOLA is especially proud of the advocacy we advance on behalf of our members. We are leading efforts to protect the independence of our courts, and we have worked to improve collaboration with LiRN to keep our law libraries healthy and sustainable. These efforts, and more, are highlighted on our website. We aim to improve the conditions of the legal profession and the justice-seeking public we serve in our work.

Our board would like to thank our member associations’ presidents, their boards, and senior staff for their ongoing engagement with the work of FOLA and their local legal community. We are looking forward to connecting with you at this year’s plenary, to celebrating your many achievements, and to plotting the next steps in our advocacy for front-line legal service providers and courthouse law libraries.

Sincerely,

Douglas W. Judson (he/him)  
Chair

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**This FOLA Spring Plenary program has been accredited by the LSO for the following Professionalism hours:**

Total Professionalism Hours	6 hours 20 minutes
Total EDI Professionalism Hours	1 hour 30 minutes
Total Professionalism plus EDI Professionalism Hours	7 hours 50 minutes

## WIFI Network: Hilton Honors Meeting

**WIFI Code: diamond**

### Wednesday, May 8

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM	<p><b>Welcome Reception</b> <b>University Club, 380 University Avenue</b> Featuring the former Attorney General of Canada at the University Club for a special reception. The venue is within walking distance of the hotel.</p>	<p>Keynote Address: • The Honourable David Lametti, KC, PC</p>
9:00 PM - 12:00 AM	<p><b>Pub Night</b> <b>Artful Dodger, 10 Isabella St</b>  Join us in the upstairs loft at the Artful Dodger. Cash bar and walk or Uber over on your own!</p>	

### Thursday, May 9 – Mandarin Ballroom, Lower Level II, Doubletree

7:30 AM - 3:30 PM	<p><b>Registration Open – Mandarin Ballroom, Lower Level II</b> Collect your nametag at our registration table.</p>	
7:45 AM - 8:45 AM	<p><b>Breakfast and Networking</b> Buffet breakfast is included with your registration.</p>	
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	<p><b>Call to Order, Welcoming Remarks from the Chair, and Roll Call of the Presidents</b> During the roll call, presidents are invited to introduce the members of their delegation.</p>	<p>Speakers: • Douglas W. Judson, Chair, FOLA • You!</p>



9:15 AM - 9:20 AM	<b>Welcoming Remarks</b>	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mark Crane, President, Toronto Lawyers Association</li></ul>
9:20 AM - 10:00 AM	<b>Committee Chairs' Reports</b> Reports will be presented from FOLA's Real Estate, Family Law, and Legal Aid committees. For follow-up purposes or feedback, you will find their contact information printed on the last page of this document.	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Laura Oliver, Central West Rep. and Family Law Committee Co-Chair, FOLA</li><li>• Logan Rathbone, Family Law Committee Co-Chair, FOLA</li><li>• Mark Giavedoni, Real Estate Committee Chair, FOLA</li><li>• Terry Brandon, Legal Aid Committee Chair, FOLA</li><li>• Corey Wall, Creating An Estates Law Committee, FOLA</li></ul>
10:00 AM - 10:10 AM	<b>Treasurer's Report</b> A brief update on the financial status of FOLA.	Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Corey Wall, Treasurer and Central East Rep., FOLA</li></ul>
10:10 AM - 10:35 AM	<b>Break</b>	
10:35 AM - 11:00 AM	<b>LiRN Update</b>	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Allen Wynperle, Chair, Practice Resource Centre and 2nd Vice Chair, FOLA</li><li>• Theresa Leitch, Managing Director, LiRN</li></ul>
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM	<b>Special Topics: Is a Me-too movement overdue in law?</b> What barriers continue to plague women in the profession? Drawing from experience from Bay Street to solo practice to the Law Society, this panel explores the challenges women face to overcome them.  EDI Professionalism Hours: 55 minutes	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alexi Wood, Founding Lawyer and Partner, St. Lawrence Barristers</li><li>• Erin Durant, Founder, Durant Barristers</li><li>• Fay Faraday, Discrimination and Harassment Counsel, LSO</li></ul>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<b>Lunch</b>	



1:00 PM - 1:40 PM	<b>Law Society of Ontario Update</b>	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diana Miles, CEO, LSO</li></ul>
1:40 PM - 2:15 PM	<b>Insight – Afghan Women Judges as Refugees in Canada</b> Stripped of their title, their career, and their livelihood following the regime change in Afghanistan, women judges fled the country, helped by other women judges around the world. This story of humanity in the midst of plight is also a call to action.  EDI Professionalism Hours: 35 minutes	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Honourable Frances Kiteley</li><li>• Joanne Lagoudis, President, Peel Law Association</li><li>• Jennifer Bolduc, Vice-President, Waterloo Region Law Association</li></ul>
2:15 PM - 2:40 PM	<b>FOLA and LSO: Helping Underserved Communities</b> On May 10, 2023, FOLA made a motion at the LSO annual meeting to do more to encourage lawyers to practice in underserved communities. The motion passed. Benchers and the LSO provide us an update of their progress toward meeting this goal for our communities.  Professionalism Hours: 35 minutes	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cheryl Siran, Co-chair of the Access to Justice Committee and Bencher</li><li>• Cara O’Hagan, Executive Director, Policy, Equity and External Relations, LSO</li><li>• Patti Latimer, Strategic Policy Counsel, Policy, Equity and External Relations, LSO</li></ul>
2:40 PM – 2:55 PM	<b>FOLA Awards Presentation</b>	
2:55 PM – 3:15 PM	<b>Break – Find Your Breakout Session Below!</b>	



3:15 PM –  
3:55 PM

### **Breakout Sessions**

#### **Room 1 – Mandarin Ballroom, Lower Level II**

##### **Get An Edge: AI And Legal Tech Tools**

From AI tools to new legal tech, these lawyers share the tools that help give them an edge. Use these soon-to-be-ubiquitous tips and tools to perform better legal research, analyze cases, and organize files for your clients.

Professionalism Hours: 45 minutes

##### Speakers:

- Jordan Atin, Counsel, Hull & Hull LLP
- Pulat Yunusov, Founder, Yunusov Law
- Scott Rollwagen, Partner, Lenczner Slaght LLP

#### **Room 2 – Tokyo Room, 25th Floor**

##### **Seeking Help? Communicating with the Courts, MAG, and Government**

What do you do when you have a problem with the courts, MAG, and government? FOLA makes every effort to advocate for you, but you can also go straight to the source. These experts will point you in the right direction and help you make change effectively.

Professionalism Hours: 45 minutes

- Sheena Weir, Senior Advisor, Counsel Public Affairs and Founder, StrateJUST
- Vaia Pappas, Director, Court Services, MAG

#### **Room 3 – Shanghai Room, 25th Floor**

##### **Solo Practice: The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly**

Solo lawyers share their stories about practicing, from marketing and big wins to extending lines of credit, maintaining payroll, and balancing business, law, and life.

Professionalism Hours: 45 minutes

- Ronald Trac, Founder, Ronald Trac Law
- Jasmine Daya, Founder, Jasmine Daya & Co.

3:55 PM –  
4:05 PM

### **Get To The Next Breakout Session!**



4:05 PM -  
4:45 PM

### Breakout Sessions

#### Room 1 – Mandarin Ballroom, Lower Level II AI as a threat, a competitor, and a promise

AI tools can be used by the public to generate legal analysis. What is the threat and the promise to the legal profession? How will unauthorized practice of law look like in the near future? A high level discussion from experts in the field.

Professionalism Hours: 45 minutes

#### Speakers:

- Colin Lachance, Founder, PGYA Consulting
- Art Wilson, Manager, Access to Innovation (A2I), LSO

#### Room 2 – Tokyo Room, 25th Floor Scale Your Firm

These lawyers grew their firms and share what they did, learning from their mistakes and multiplying their gains, from marketing to personnel to finances.

Professionalism Hours: 45 minutes

- Jennifer Gold, Partner, Wood Gold LLP
- Kim Gale, Founder, Gale Law

#### Room 3 - Shanghai Room, 25th Floor Level Up Your Law Association Member Engagement

Learn creative and effective ways to increase member engagement from these trailblazers. Member engagement is their jam, join them in the fun and take back practical tips to level up!

- Jo-Ann McQuillan, Executive Officer/Law Library Director, Peel Law Association
- Pia Williams, Library Manager and Executive Director, Waterloo Region Law Association

4:45 PM -  
6:30 PM

### Free Time

6:30 PM -  
9:00 PM

#### Law Society Treasurer's Reception and Dinner Arcadian Loft, 401 Bay Street, Simpson Tower, 8th Floor

A time-honoured tradition at FOLA plenaries is the dinner hosted by the Treasurer of the Law Society.

#### Speakers:

- Jacqueline Horvat, Treasurer, Law Society of Ontario

#### Sponsor:

- Law Society of Ontario

9:00 PM -  
12:00 AM

#### Hospitality Suite Open Hong Kong/Singapore Rooms, 25th Floor

Our hospitality suite for Spring 2024 is generously provided by LAWPRO, our platinum sponsor.

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## Friday, May 10

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	<b>Regional Breakfast Meetings and Networking</b> Start the day with breakfast with the delegates from your region of Ontario. Your breakfast is included with registration.	
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	<b>FOLA Annual General Meeting</b>	
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM	<b>LAWPRO Speaks: Social Engineering Frauds &amp; Emerging Risks</b> Social engineering frauds are increasing. Hear horror stories and learn what you can do to prevent them.  Professionalism Hours: 30 minutes	Speaker: • Dan Pinnington, LAWPRO
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>How Our Firm Was Hacked</b> It can happen to anybody, including someone someone you know. A law firm shares their story, and a security expert weighs in.  Professionalism Hours: 30 minutes	Speaker: • Andrew Ferguson, Partner, MBC Law Professional Corporation • Dan Patjak, Senior Technical Account Manager, Cyber Strategy and Risk Consulting, Kroll Canada
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	<b>Break – Check out now then back for A2J panel and lunch!</b>	



11:00 AM -  
12:00 PM

**Special Topics: Access to Justice**

This A2J session features movers and shakers in the legal profession. They will share what they have learned dealing with inevitable change, as people migrate from rural to urban communities, as paralegals become licensees, and as self-represented litigants enter courtrooms in ever larger numbers.

**Paralegals in law libraries**

**Initial findings from Access to Justice Study In Rural Ontario**

**Self-represented litigants, legal information, and libraries**

Professionalism Hours: 60 minutes

Speaker:

- Michelle Lomazzo, Bencher and Founder, Lomazzo Worker's Compensation Appeals
- Neha Chugh, Bencher and Founder, Chugh Law
- Jennifer Leitch, Executive Director, National Self-Represented Litigants Project

12:00 PM -  
12:10 PM

**Final Remarks, Lunch, and Departure**

A final word to wrap-up before lunch and departure.

Speaker:

- Douglas W. Judson, Chair, FOLA
- Sam Misheal, 1st Vice-Chair, FOLA



## Thank you to our speakers!

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**Jordan Atin** is a Certified Specialist in Estates and Trusts Law and an Adjunct Professor of Law at Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto, Canada. Lexpert rates Jordan as one of its top recommended estate lawyers in Canada as well as being rated as a Best Lawyer in Canada. Jordan Atin is the co-creator of eState Planner (e-stateplanner.com), will planning software that is being used by hundreds of law firms in Ontario.

He is a Past Chair of the Ontario Bar Association - Trust and Estates Section and a full member of the Society of Trusts and Estate Practitioners (STEP). Jordan was the inaugural winner of the OBA's Hoffstein Prize in recognition of his contributions and achievements in the area of wills, trusts and estates.

He is a frequent presenter and Chair at STEP, Osgoode Hall Law School, Metropolitan Toronto Lawyers' Association, Ontario Bar Association and Law Society programs on estate matters. Jordan is a contributing author to the well-known text "Estate Litigation" and his articles are referred to in many of Canada's leading estates texts including "Widdifield on Executors and Trustees", Feeney's Canadian Law of Wills", "Drafting Wills in Ontario" and "Oosterhoff on Wills and Succession".

Jordan's book for non-lawyers, The Family War – Winning the Inheritance Battle, has been featured on CanadaAM, BNN and in dozens of Canadian and US newspapers.

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**Jennifer Bolduc** began her career in Thunder Bay, Ontario with a full-service law firm but ultimately returned to Southern Ontario and commenced work in the Waterloo Region in 2014. After working at other local firms where she developed a stellar relationship with her fellow lawyers and the courts, Jennifer joined Giffen LLP in March 2023. Jennifer practices solely in family law, including being a panel lawyer for the Office of the Children's Lawyer.

Jennifer currently sits as the Vice President of the Waterloo Region Law Association (the first in the organization's history to be from the 2SLGBTQIA+ community) and sits on numerous WRLA committees, including the Continuing Professional Development Committee, the EDI Committee, and the Unified Family Court Bench and Bar Committee. She also serves as a representative on the Courthouse Child Protection Committee and the Courthouse Community Resource and Liaison

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Committee, which brings together stakeholders around the Region to identify and improve family law and associated services.

Jennifer has been an active volunteer in the Ontario Justice Education Network's Waterloo Braiding Diversity program, which aims to connect marginalized and/or racialized young women (cis and trans) in high school with women working in the legal sector. Jennifer is currently co-chairing the development of Braiding Diversity 2.0, a program geared towards post-secondary students.

In addition to being the current Chair of the Family Lawyers of Waterloo Region, Jennifer is a member of The Advocates' Society, the Family Lawyers Association, the Waterloo Region Law Association, the Ontario Bar Association, and the Canadian Bar Association.

Jennifer grew up in Southwestern Ontario before obtaining her B.A. in English Literature from Kentucky State University on a full fastball scholarship in 2006 (summa cum laude), graduating from the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law in 2009, and being called to the Bar in 2010. In her spare time, Jennifer enjoys playing hockey and golf and attempting to keep up with her dog on hikes.



**Neha Chugh** is the founder of Chugh Law Professional Corporation, a small firm specializing in criminal defence, family and child protection courts since 2014 in Cornwall and the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry.

Neha is a prosecutor at the Akwesasne Mohawk Court and is the Hearings Officer for the Town of Cobourg and the Town of Brighton. She has conducted appeals at most levels of court in Ontario and has appeared as counsel for the Intervenor Barbra Schliker Clinic at the Supreme Court of Canada.

Neha's passion is advocating for people inflicted with mental health, addictions, and poverty. Neha serves on a number of non-profit community boards in the City of Cornwall, as well as being an editor For the Defence and contributing to the local newspaper.

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**Mark Crane** is President of the Toronto Lawyers Association.

He is a partner in the Advocacy Department of Gowling WLG's Toronto office. He is a member of the firm's Commercial Litigation, Construction & Infrastructure, Energy and Insurance & Professional Liability groups.

Mark is also the national lead of the firm's Arbitrations Group. Mark's practice is focused on complex infrastructure disputes, as well as other commercial and professional liability matters. He represents clients, both internationally and domestically, across a broad range of industries, including professional engineering, construction, energy and mining, information technology and the public sector. His municipal liability practice includes police liability and misfeasance in public office.

In his infrastructure practice, Mark has significant experience working in various complex P3 project-related disputes including in projects involving transit/transportation (including rail, subways and highways), bridges, hospitals, as well as national heritage buildings and properties. Mark also has experience representing parties in disputes involving arctic marine infrastructure, commercial construction, real estate developments and energy projects.

Mark has been successful in obtaining excellent outcomes for his clients through litigation, arbitration, negotiation or a combination of these approaches. He has been recognized by clients as having a practical and efficient approach to problem solving, and he has worked with clients and other counsel across Canada, the United States, Europe, Asia and Central America.

rior to his legal career, Mark practised as a management consultant at a global consulting firm



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**Jasmine Daya** is a lawyer and the Managing Principal of her personal injury law firm, Jasmine Daya & Co. She is also a published author, blogger, podcaster and entrepreneur.

Jasmine graduated from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas in December 2001 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance and a Bachelor of Science in Economics. She completed the Canadian Securities Course in 2004. Prior to commencing her undergraduate studies, Jasmine completed a Pre-college Summer program at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.



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Jasmine graduated from Queen's University in 2005 with a Bachelor of Laws. While at Queen's, Jasmine was the recipient of the Reuben Wells Leonard prize in Business law and an active volunteer within the Queen's Law community. During the Summer of 2003, Jasmine completed an International and Comparative Law Program through Tulane University, hosted by McGill University.

After completion of the Bar Admissions Course and exams, Jasmine commenced her articles in 2005 and was admitted to the Law Society of Upper Canada in 2006. While continuing to practice as a full-time lawyer, Jasmine studied at Osgoode Hall graduating in 2009 with a Master of Laws.

In 2013, Jasmine received a Certificate from Harvard Law School for successful completion of the Negotiation course for lawyers and executives. In 2019, Jasmine received a Certificate from the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for successful completion of the Digital Marketing and Analytics course and in 2023 a Certificate for successful completion of the Artificial Intelligence course.

Jasmine is host of the podcast, Law Girl, author of the chicklit novel Law Girl's Bump in the Road, author of the Indian cookbook series, JD in the Kitchen and proud owner of Pravda Vodka Bar among other entrepreneurial pursuits.



**Erin Durant** (she/her) founded Durant Barristers after practicing law as a partner at one of the largest law firms in Canada and at a litigation focused boutique. Erin's dispute resolution experience includes a wide variety of personal injury/insurance matters, defending professionals in negligence claims and disciplinary complaints, sports disputes, real estate and title insurance disputes, commercial litigation and investigations/reviews of all sorts. She also regularly conducts confidential independent investigations and reviews in times of crisis for various organizations.

Erin has experience conducting trials, particularly jury trials, and appeals. She accepts retainers from other lawyers to assist with trials as co-counsel. She has represented clients in court and before tribunals including the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Ontario Court of Appeal, Federal Court of Canada, applications for leave to the Supreme Court of Canada, the Sport Dispute Resolution Tribunal of Canada, and the Ontario

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Human Rights Tribunal. Erin regularly provides barrister services to other lawyers to assist with trials, appeals and other complex situations.

Erin is the recipient of various awards from legal associations including the Ontario Bar Association's David W. Scott Pro Bono Award, the County of Carleton Law Association's Regional Senior Justice Award, the Advocate's Society's Writer's Award and Canadian Defence Lawyer's Outstanding Young Litigator Award. Erin has also been recognized in various industry publications including Best Lawyers in Canada, Lexpert and Canadian Lawyers' "Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers". She can be reached at [Edurant@DurantBarristers.com](mailto:Edurant@DurantBarristers.com).

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**Fay Faraday** is a social justice lawyer, strategic adviser, policy consultant and academic whose work focuses on constitutional law/Charter of Rights and Freedoms, human rights, labour and employment law, pay equity, employment equity, transnational migrant workers' rights, and public interest litigation. She is the founder of Faraday Law an independent social justice law and strategic consulting practice in Toronto.

Fay represents unions, workers, civil society organizations, coalitions and social movements in litigation, and provides strategic advice, policy analysis and complex opinion work. She has represented clients on many leading constitutional and human rights cases at the Supreme Court of Canada and Ontario Court of Appeal. She has particular experience and expertise in large-scale innovative litigation that challenges intersecting dynamics of discrimination and the systemic roots of social and economic marginalization. Her work addresses a wide range of human rights issues including gender and work, racial discrimination, pay equity, employment equity, poverty, income security, rights of transnational migrant workers, LGBTQ rights, rights of Indigenous communities, economic and social rights, and international human rights norms.

Fay has more than two decades' experience as a policy consultant conducting commissioned research and policy analysis, and researching and writing law reform reports for governments, task forces, and public, private and community-based organizations on issues including constitutional and human rights, access to justice, migrant workers' rights, effective enforcement of labour rights, employment standards and pay equity.

She works collaboratively with community organizations and multi-stakeholder coalitions to develop strategic visions and practical action plans to advance human rights and social justice outcomes.

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She also provides training on human rights compliance, conducts workplace investigations and provides mediation/conciliation services on human rights issues.

Fay is also an Assistant Professor at Osgoode Hall Law School where she teaches in the areas of social and economic justice, labour, employment, transnational labour migration, human rights, ethical lawyering, appellate advocacy, and social justice and political activism. As an Innovation Fellow with the Metcalf Foundation, Fay has published three landmark reports on migrant worker rights in Canada. She has published extensively on constitutional law, labour and human rights.

Fay also serves as Discrimination and Harassment Counsel for the Law Society of Ontario.

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**Andrew Ferguson's** focus as an accomplished litigator is on both construction law and bankruptcy and insolvency law. He also handles for his client's general civil litigation matters.

In his construction law practice, Andrew represents suppliers, sub-trades, general contractors, construction managers, and owners in matters involving construction liens, delay and impact claims, contractual disputes, bond claims, trust claims, and deficiency claims. As part of his bankruptcy and insolvency practice, he represents creditors, debtors, and trustees in bankruptcy.

From a general litigation standpoint, Andrew has experience with property disputes, contractual disputes, shareholder disputes, and employment matters.

Andrew completed his undergraduate degree at Carleton University, where he graduated with highest honours in 2003. He then obtained his LL.B. from the University of Ottawa in June 2008 being voted Class Representative of the English Common Law Class of 2008 by his peers. Andrew joined MBC's predecessor firm as a summer student in 2007 and articulated in 2008-2009. He was an associate with the firm after being called to the Ontario Bar in 2009, becoming a partner in 2016.

Since 2016, Andrew has been a Trustee of the County of Carleton Law Association. Formed in Ottawa in 1888, the CCLA is the second-largest law association in Ontario. Besides his volunteer work with the CCLA, Andrew's recognized legal expertise means that he is frequently

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giving lectures or making guest appearances on industry-related media programs.

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**Kim Gale** is a seasoned advocate with a diverse background, championing her clients' causes across various platforms. Armed with an LL.M. in Dispute Resolution from Osgoode Hall Law School, she is also a skilled mediator, emphasizing communication and negotiation to resolve conflicts effectively. Kim's journey in law began in 2015 when she graduated from City University of London and gained experience at a prestigious Bay street firm in the UK before returning to Toronto to pursue her legal career further.

Since her call to the bar in January 2018, Kim has been at the forefront of legal innovation, founding Law For Millennials, NCA Network, and Gale Law Professional Corporation, all aimed at fostering diversity, inclusion, and accessible legal services. Her specialization in estate litigation underscores her dedication to resolving intricate legal matters such as dependant support applications and will challenges. As she completed her Masters of Law in Dispute Resolution, Kim continues to expand her expertise, positioning herself as a prominent figure in the legal community, offering not only legal representation but also mediation services through Gale Mediation.



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**Mark Giavedoni** is a partner in Gowling WLG's Hamilton office and a member of the firm's National Real Estate Sector Group, Construction/Infrastructure Law Group, Expropriation Law Group and Municipal Law Group.

Mark prides himself on being a responsive and dedicated strategic adviser on all aspects of real property transactions: title repairs, financing, project structure and development, dispute prevention and resolution. As a Certified Specialist in Real Estate Law by the Law Society of Ontario, Mark has the expertise and personal touch to bring the right solution to task.

He is frequently consulted by municipalities, universities, school boards, utilities and other lawyers to advise on complex matters. His experience enables him to guide and represent clients on condominium structures and developments; commercial leases; financings and secured lending; purchase and sale transactions; land use planning and assembly; expropriations; construction contracts and facilities management.

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Mark is a past president of the Hamilton Law Association. He is a member of the Real Estate, Municipal and Education Sections of the Ontario Bar Association and is the Chair of the Real Estate Committee for the Federation of Ontario Law Associations.

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**Jennifer Gold** is a Partner of Wood Gold LLP in Peel Region, where she practices Family Law and Wills. Jennifer serves as a Bencher of the Law Society of Ontario and as a part-time adjudicator of the Ontario Land Tribunal. Since 2021, she has been a Dispute Resolution Officer for the Superior Court of Justice to assist in early resolution of Family Law cases. Jennifer is former President of the Women's Law Association of Ontario and is a Board Member of Pro Bono Ontario. She also serves on the Board of Directors of Legal Aid Ontario where she chairs the Audit and Finance Committee. To support the next generation, Jennifer is a mentor in the Women's Law Association of Ontario's mentorship program and York University's Advancing Women program. The efforts of Jennifer and her partner to create alternatives to the traditional law firm, with a better work-life balance in a diverse workplace, were featured in The Toronto Star.

Jennifer is the 2021 recipient of the Ontario Bar Association's Award of Excellence in Promoting Women's Equality and a 2017 Lexpert Zenith Award celebrating the advancement of women in the legal profession.

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**Jacqueline Horvat** was elected as Treasurer by the Law Society's governing body (Convocation) on June 15, 2022 and she took office on June 28, 2022. She was elected for a second term on May 26, 2023. The Treasurer is the top-elected official of the Law Society, which regulates Ontario's lawyers and paralegals in the public interest. She is the sixth woman Treasurer in the 225-year history of the Law Society.

Treasurer Horvat was first elected a Bencher in 2011 and was serving her third term when she was elected. She was called to the Ontario bar in 2002.

She is a litigation lawyer at Gillian Hnatiw & Co., and was a founding partner of Spark Law, where she gained an understanding of the issues and daily worries faced by sole and small practice lawyers across the province.

Treasurer Horvat has a broad and varied corporate/commercial litigation practice representing both plaintiffs and defendants in complex commercial disputes, class action litigation and appeals. She has

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appeared at all levels of court in Ontario, the Federal Court Trial Division and the Federal Court of Appeal.

Her external appointments include:

Vice-President and Ontario representative on the Council of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada:

Chair of the National Requirement Review

Member of the National Committee on Accreditation and the Public Affairs and Government Relations Committee

Past Member of the Standing Committee on the Model Code of Professional Conduct

Past Director of Library Co. Inc.

Past Director of the Ontario Judicial Education Network

Member of the Independent Advisory Board for Supreme Court of Canada Judicial Appointments.

Splitting her time between Windsor and Toronto, Jacqueline is also an occasional instructor and frequent guest lecturer at University of Windsor's Faculty of Law. She is also involved in collaborative projects with the University of Windsor, including the Reclaim Pro Bono Project which provides free legal advice and representation to clients who have suffered technology facilitated violence, including the non-consensual distribution of intimate images, online harassment, sextortion, public disclosure of private facts, voyeurism, and impersonation.



**The Honourable Fran Kiteley's** career highlights include:

1976 called to the Bar of Ontario

1976 to 1995 associate or partner in 4 firms none of which exist now

member of the Executive and then Chair of the Family Law Section of what was then the Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Branch

member of the Executive and then Chair of the National Family Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association; one of the founders of the National Family Law Program

inaugural Chair of the Canadian Bar Association Task Force on Legal Aid

1987 elected Bencher

1991 re-elected Bencher

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1987 to 1995 attended many annual meetings of what was then known as the County and District Law Presidents' Association

member and then Chair of the Ontario Legal Aid Committee

Chair of the Law Society's inaugural Women in the Legal Profession Committee that authored the first Transitions in the Legal Profession Report

chaired or participated in Discipline Panels

member or Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Court Reform

panelist in many continuing education programs

February 1995 appointed to what is now the Ontario Superior Court of Justice

1995 to 2021 Founding Director of the Ontario Justice Education Network

Founding Director of the Canadian Centre for Court Technology

panelist in many continuing education programs

July 31, 2021 retired from the Ontario Superior Court of Justice

August 2021 the Coalition forces left Afghanistan and the Taliban took over the country

Since spring 2022 collaborating with sitting judges, retired judges, lawyers and academics with respect to the settlement of Afghan women judges and their families

Non-legal interests include cycling

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**Colin Lachance** supports legal professionals and organizations on their AI journey with advisory and hands-on-tools services through PGYA Consulting.

He is a frequent writer and speaker to national and international audiences on legal tech/information/innovation topics, and very active in supporting the development of legal information and technology projects through advocacy, consulting, business development and advisory services for courts, law associations, legal publishers and startups. Colin served as CEO of the Canadian Legal Information Institute (CanLII) from 2011 to 2015, where he developed and successfully executed its first independent multi-year strategic plan and expanded its operations to include high-quality secondary sources, gaining him recognition from the ABA Journal as a 2014 "Legal Rebel", Canadian Lawyer Magazine as among the "Top 25 Most Influential" of 2014, and Fastcase as a member of the 2013 Fastcase 50 class of legal innovators and visionaries. As its interim General Manager of North America, Colin grew the Canadian presence and prominence of international legal publisher vLex and also served on its global executive committee. As founder or co-founder of Compass Law, the Legal Innovation Data Institute and Jurisage, Colin has actively contributed to the advancement of legal AI in Canada.

Admitted to the law societies of Alberta (1998) and Ontario (2004), his prior roles included senior legal, advocacy, marketing and lobbying roles in the telecommunications industry. Finally, although an average and unimpressive student in all his schooling, Colin added an LLM in law in technology in 2013 to degrees in law and business earned in the bloom of youth.



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**Joanne Lagoudis** is a Partner at KMB Law and a member of the firms Family Law Group.

Joanne graduated from York University in 1999 with a Bachelor's Degree in Law and Society and Sociology. She subsequently attended law school at Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan and graduated in 2002. Throughout all her years in school, Joanne worked at the family business which taught her the value of family and hard work.

Since her call to the bar in 2004, Joanne has been primarily practicing family law in Peel and Halton Region. She has appeared in the Ontario Court of Justice, Superior Court of Justice and at the Ontario Court of Appeal. Joanne represents clients in court, mediation and arbitration on

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all matters relating to their divorce, parenting issues, child and spousal support issues, and division of property. However, Joanne is also a strong proponent of parties having their own say in how their affairs are handled and as such, she also negotiates and drafts Marriage Contracts, Cohabitation Agreements, and Separation Agreements.

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**David Lametti**, as Counsel to Fasken's Montréal office, draws on over 25 years of experience in law and politics as a professor, Parliamentary Secretary, Member of Parliament for LaSalle—Émard—Verdun and Minister of Justice. David Lametti will leverage his deep experience to work closely with the Indigenous Law group and the Government Relations and Political Law group and to provide support in the area of artificial intelligence.

David Lametti is internationally recognized for his experience in intellectual property as well as legal and political philosophy. He is a frequent speaker at a number of prestigious universities on issues related to his research, particularly with respect to property theory and social norms. David Lametti is a former Full Professor of Law and Associate Dean (Academic) at McGill University, with extensive experience in management and distilling complex information, as well as in-depth knowledge of the legal field. In addition to his renowned teaching skills, David Lametti was also Director of the Centre for Intellectual Property Policy (CIPP) at McGill University from 2010 to 2012.

In keeping with his experience in the political and legal fields, he was elected Member of Parliament for the LaSalle—Émard—Verdun riding in 2015. A few years later, following his terms as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Trade (2015) and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (2017), David Lametti was appointed Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada in 2019. His values of equity and equality have led him to initiate several legislative reforms and to help the government make significant headway in the reconciliation process with Indigenous peoples.

Prior to joining Fasken, David Lametti pursued a successful career as a lawyer, professor and politician. His wide-ranging expertise and professional achievements have enabled him to form unwavering, trusting relationships with individuals in each sphere of his experience.

David Lametti holds a Master of Laws from Yale Law School and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Law from Oxford University

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**Patti Latimer** is Strategic Policy Counsel at the Law Society of Ontario. She works in the Policy, Equity and External Relations department, providing support to Benchers on the Access to Justice Committee and the Professional Regulation Committee, among other projects. Prior to joining the Law Society, Patti was a partner at Stockwoods LLP, where she practiced civil litigation and administrative law. She has previously served as Vice Chair of the Council of the College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario, was General Counsel at the College of Opticians of Ontario and Tribunal Counsel at the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants.

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**Jennifer Leitch**, JD, LL.M., PhD is a researcher and law teacher, primarily in the area of legal ethics and professionalism, access to justice, and dispute processes. Her PhD dissertation at Osgoode included ethnographic research involving self-represented litigants' experiences participating in the civil justice system. She continues to research and publish in the fields of access to justice and legal ethics. She also practiced civil litigation at Goodmans LLP in Toronto. Jennifer was been an adjunct faculty member of Osgoode Hall Law School and the University of Toronto Faculty of Law where she taught legal ethics and professionalism, legal process and legal research and writing as well as torts most recently. She is also the Associate Director and an instructor in the Ethics, Society and Law program at Trinity College, University of Toronto and a Senior Research Fellow with the Canadian Forum on Civil Justice. Jennifer lives in Toronto with her partner and twins.

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**Theresa Leitch** is LIRN Inc.'s inaugural Managing Director.

Early in her career, Theresa practiced municipal law as both a litigator and a solicitor. After leaving the practice of law, she served in positions in law firm and organizational management, knowledge management, continuing professional development and project management of strategic initiatives.

Throughout her career she has developed a superior understanding of the legal information and knowledge needs of the profession. She has demonstrated a collaborative approach to leadership and expertise as a communicator and relationship-builder, bringing vision and creativity to her work.

In the Managing Director role, Theresa is responsible for the strategic leadership and management of LIRN, including administration of funding to county law libraries, creation and implementation of appropriate business and operational protocols to support LIRN, establishing

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collaborative relationships with stakeholders, and governance, legal and other compliance obligations.

When she's not working, Theresa can be found traipsing the trails around the GTA with her hiking group, the Viking F'ing Warriors. She also sings in a punk rock choir, and has performed at such storied venues as the Horseshoe Tavern and the Bovine.



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**Michelle M. Lomazzo** has worked as an injured worker advocate for more than 30 years in Windsor, representing workers across Ontario. Michelle has her own legal services practice, Lomazzo Workers' Compensation Appeals Professional Corporation with expertise in workers compensation appeals before the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) and regularly appears before the Workplace Safety & Insurance Appeals Tribunal (WSIAT). Her practice focus is estate claims and WSIB survivor benefits for the families of emergency responders where their loved one died by suicide because of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Ms. Lomazzo has represented the Windsor Police Association and the Windsor Professional Firefighters Association for years, as well as various other unions/associations. Ms. Lomazzo was elected a Bencher at the Law Society of Ontario in 2019 and is currently serving her second term as a Bencher. She is the Chair of the Paralegal Standing Committee and is Vice Chair of the Audit & Finance Committee, and as well currently sits as a Bencher on the following committees: Strategic Planning & Advisory Committee, Professional Regulation Co., Treasurer's Appointments Advisory Committee, Compensation Committee and the Governance Review Task Force. She has been an Adjudicator with the Law Society Tribunal adjudicating discipline matters involving lawyers and paralegals for more than 10 years. She was most recently a Director of the Hotel Dieu Grace Hospital Board of Directors for eight years and a Board member of the Hospital's Changing Lives Together Foundation Board of Directors. Michelle has an in-depth understanding of governance having sat on numerous boards of directors over the past 30 years including Citizen Advocacy, Family Services Windsor-Essex, the Homeless Shelter for Women, and the Unemployed Help Centre. She is a volunteer with the Coach and Advisor Network at the Law Society of Ontario and a mediator with Community Mediation Windsor-Essex. Ms. Lomazzo has been a member the Paralegal Advisory Committee of St. Clair College in Windsor since 2012. She is a regular guest speaker for Continuing Professional Development with various organizations including the Law Society of Ontario. She is bilingual. When not advocating or volunteering Ms. Lomazzo enjoys worldwide travel and golf. She is the proud mother of three adult children and a grandmother.

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**Jo-Ann McQuillan**, MIST, is the PLA Executive Officer/Law Library Director. She earned a Master of Information Studies (University of Toronto) in 2001 and has since worked in theological, academic and corporate libraries. Most recently, Jo-Ann completed almost 20 years at the Institute of Communication Agencies (ICA), where she operated a busy library and interdisciplinary research department serving Canada's advertising industry, as well as overseeing diverse publishing initiatives. She is a seasoned not-for-profit professional with deep research expertise and association management skills. She has also served on the executive boards of the Canadian Advertising Research Foundation (CARF) and the Digital Advertising Alliance of Canada (DAAC), in addition to being active in the Special Libraries Association (SLA).

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**Diana Miles** has been the CEO of the Law Society of Ontario since 2017 – appointed in September of 2017 as the Acting CEO and then CEO in March 2018. Prior to her appointment, she held numerous positions in the organization with a focus on the competence portfolio as Executive Director of Professional Development and Competence, and also including roles as the Executive Director of Organizational Strategy, of Communications and of Professional Regulation.

In her various roles within the organization, Diana has provided proactive and effective policy-oriented leadership to the Board while overseeing the implementation of significant structural and operational changes. Her responsibilities have included strategic and operational planning, financial management, governance assessment, board education, creation of defensible and valid licensure systems, provision of resources and supports for legal practitioners, and the development of progressive regulation, risk management and quality assurance for lawyer and paralegal licensees and their legal practices.

Prior to joining the Law Society, Diana was the Chief Operating Officer of a large Toronto law firm and in that capacity was responsible for overseeing business development, client services, firm administration, strategic planning, and financial accountability.

Diana has been a business executive for over 25 years, and has certifications from Rotman, Ivey, Smith and Harvard Schools of Business on a range of strategy, financial, leadership and management skills.

Diana is a Chartered Director (CDir) and a member of the Directors College and Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD) and has worked with private and not-for-profit organizations as a Board Chair and Board

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Director in the education, energy, health care, insurance and professional services sectors.

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**Cara-Marie O'Hagan** is the Executive Director of Policy, Equity & External Relations ("PEER") at the Law Society of Ontario. The PEER Division provides benchers with research and analysis of policy options and strategic advice on equity and reconciliation, issues management, stakeholder relations and policy implementation.

Before joining the Law Society in 2017, Cara was the Vice President of Stakeholder Relations and Member Communications for OMERS, the municipal pension plan in Ontario. Before assuming that position, Cara worked as the Director of Policy for several ministers, including the former Attorney General.

Cara also served as the director of Toronto Metropolitan University's (formerly Ryerson) Law Research Centre and, in that role, led a team in the winning proposal for the Law Practice Program. The LPP combines online and in-person learning that replicates the law firm experience using actors, simulation tools and real time scenarios.

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**Daniel E. Pinnington** was appointed President & Chief Executive Officer of LAWPRO in 2018. From 2012 to 2018, he served as Vice President, Claims Prevention & Stakeholder Relations, overseeing LAWPRO's claims prevention and outreach initiatives.

Dan joined LAWPRO in 2001 as Director, practicePRO – LAWPRO's innovative and internationally recognized claims prevention initiative. He used his unique combination of practice experience and technology expertise to provide lawyers with tools and resources to assist them to avoid malpractice claims and succeed in the practice of law.

Before joining LAWPRO, Dan practised for eight years in the litigation department of a Niagara-area law firm. Dan was called to the bar in 1993, having graduated with a combined LL.B./J.D. from the University of Windsor and Detroit Mercy College of Law.

Dan is a Fellow of the College of Law Practice Management and is a prolific writer, speaker and blogger on risk management, legal technology and law practice management issues. He has given hundreds of presentations throughout North America and has chaired more than a dozen major conferences.

Dan was the President of the National Association of Bar-Affiliated Insurance Companies (NABRICO) in 2019. He has been very active in the

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American Bar Association's Law Practice Division and was a long-time member of the ABA Legal Professional Liability Standing Committee. He was Chair of ABA TECHSHOW 2007 and Editor-In-Chief of Law Practice magazine from 2009-2012. He co-authored The Busy Lawyer's Guide to Success: Essential Tips to Power Your Practice and made several contributions to other books published by the ABA Law Practice Management section. Dan has also been active over the years in a variety of roles for the Canadian and Ontario Bar Associations.

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**Scott Rollwagen** is the research and strategy partner at Lenczner Slaght. His practice involves providing strategic advice and analysis to solve complex legal problems across a wide range of practice areas, including banking, corporate oppression, insolvency and restructuring, securities, pensions, derivatives, auditors' negligence and other complex commercial disputes – at all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada.

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**Cheryl Siran** has been a Bencher of the Law Society of Ontario since June 2022. She is a Partner at Hook, Seller & Lundin LLP in Kenora, with a practice typically split among residential real estate transactions and civil litigation—primarily focused on construction, real estate, and Estates. She was also appointed a Deputy Judge of the Small Claims Court in 2018 and continues to serve in that capacity in the Northwest Region.

Active in the legal profession throughout her career, she is a Past Chair of FOLA, and served on its Board for seven years. Additionally, she is in her second term on the Judicial Appointments Advisory Committee for appointments to the Ontario Court of Justice. Cheryl served two terms as President of the Kenora District Law Association, a term on the Ontario Deputy Judges Association, and was an appointee on the provincial Board for LibraryCo from 2014 to 2019. Outside of the legal volunteering, Cheryl also is a Board Member of the Pellatt United Firefighters (PUFF) in her local community.

Cheryl graduated from the University of Manitoba with her Bachelor of Arts in 2001 and Bachelor of Laws in 2005. During law school, she was the Treasurer, then the Executive Director of the Manitoba Law Students Association. She was called to the Ontario Bar in 2006 after completing her articles at the Ministry of the Attorney General Crown Attorney's office in Kenora.

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**Ronald Trac** is the Principal and Founder of Ronald Trac Law, a law firm in Toronto specializing in the areas of corporate/commercial and real estate law. Ron enjoys working with entrepreneurs, in both start-up and mid-size companies, and helping them solve the legal issues that their businesses may encounter.

Prior to founding Ronald Trac Law, Ron acted as legal counsel for the Canadian arm of a global financial services company. Ron also has a background in finance and economics, and has a keen understanding of the necessary organizational structures and legal foundations required for a business to have the highest chance of success. Ron is adamant about protecting his clients' interests and aims to be their trusted advisor.

Ron is also fluent in Cantonese and proficient in Mandarin.

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**Sheena Weir** has worked with all levels of government, opposition, the public and not-for-profit sectors. With decades of experience, her deep knowledge of government and expertise in stakeholder engagement has been demonstrated time and again, most recently as Executive Director of External Relations and Communications at the Law Society of Ontario. Sheena's ability to navigate crises and manage tough issues is widely acknowledged, especially in the justice sector.

Sheena thrives on finding solutions to difficult problems and has a unique ability to find common ground with multiple and often competing stakeholders. She's an exceptional collaborator who has played an integral role in achieving substantial legislative reforms, moving policies forward and establishing lasting coalitions of interest. Her creative approach has led to many progressive improvements in the regulation of lawyers and paralegals and the justice system more broadly. Passionate about public-interest regulation and access to justice, Sheena has worked on intersectional issues such as housing, poverty, and income security, and always with a diversity and inclusion lens.

Sheena graduated from Laurentian University and holds executive management certificates from Rotman and Smith schools of business focused on leadership, strategy, and planning.

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**Pia Williams** has over 25 years of experience as a librarian working in various libraries, including over thirteen years as a law librarian. Currently, Pia is the Executive Director and Library Manager of the Waterloo Region Law Association (WRLA). She received her Honours Bachelor of Arts in

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History and Politics from the University of Toronto, and her Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS) from Western University. Pia has a passion for membership and community engagement and a deep understanding of the power of libraries as hubs of knowledge and connection within the communities they serve. In her capacity as Executive Director and Library Manager, Pia is dedicated to fostering a vibrant and inclusive community within the Waterloo Region Law Association. She believes that strong membership engagement is essential for the growth and success of any organization, and she is committed to implementing innovative strategies to cultivate meaningful connections among members.

In her personal life Pia enjoys true-crime podcasts, reading, traveling, and spending time with her husband, two children and our dogs, Lizzy and Luna.



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**Art Wilson** is a lawyer with over 15 years experience leading innovative projects in law and professional services. He is a trained Six Sigma Green Belt and has extensive experience in legal project management, and targeted development and application of technology to optimize client value in the legal professions. Art understands the environment in which licensees work, and he's passionate about helping them achieve their goals. He delivers creative professional solutions through his willingness to look beyond the traditional confines of the legal industry and his innovative "how could we make that work here?" approach.

Prior to joining the Law Society, Art maintained a successful consulting practice, Lean Six Legal, working with several major Canadian and U.S. law firms as well as in-house legal departments. Art holds an LL.B and LL.M from the University of Toronto and has been a member of the Ontario Bar for over 25 years.

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**Pulat Yunusov** is a litigation lawyer in Toronto. He also hosts a Youtube show and podcast The Yunusov Question. His guests included many current and retired judges from all levels of court in Canada as well as leading Canadian advocates. Pulat lived in Canada most of his life but he was born and grew up in the former USSR. Like many expats from that country he was a computer programmer. Pulat is also stereotypically good at math, which did not help him in law school. After graduating from Osgoode in 2010, he started his own practice. Today Pulat serves a niche of people who require an experienced and discreet personal litigator and consigliere. He likes his work.



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