



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

Total Professionalism Hours	TBD
Total EDI Professionalism Hours	TBD
Total Professionalism plus EDI Hours	TBD

WIFI Network: TBD

Wifi Code: TBD

● = interactive panel

Wednesday, November 6

7:30 PM - **Welcome Reception - Pub Night @ Merit Brewery**
12:00 AM

Join your fellow members at Merit Brewery, 107 James St North! Cash bar, complimentary appetizers will be served.

Thursday, November 7

7:30 AM - **Registration Open**
3:30 PM
Centre/East Ballroom, 2nd Floor
Sheraton Hotel, Hamilton

Collect your nametag at our registration table.

7:45 AM - **Breakfast and Networking**
8:45 AM
Buffet breakfast is included with your registration.

9:00 AM - **Call to Order, Welcoming Remarks from the Chair, and**
9:15 AM **Roll Call of the Presidents**
During the roll call, presidents are invited to introduce the members of their delegation.

Speakers:
• Douglas W. Judson, Chair, FOLA
• You!

9:15 AM - **Welcoming Remarks from Hamilton Law Association**
9:20 AM

Speakers:
• Andrew Keesmaat, President,
Hamilton Law Association

9:20 AM - **2024: Justice System Update**
9:25 AM

Speakers:
• Ian Hu, Director of Policy & Advocacy,
FOLA



9:25 AM - 10:00 AM	Committee Chairs' Reports 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">• Laura Oliver, Central West Rep. and Family Law Committee Co-Chair, FOLA• Logan Rathbone, Family Law Committee Co-Chair, FOLA• Mark Giavedoni, Real Estate Committee Chair, FOLA• Terry Brandon, Legal Aid Committee Chair, FOLA
10:00 AM - 10:10 AM	FOLA Treasurer's Report A brief update on the financial status of FOLA.	Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Corey Wall, Treasurer and Central East Rep., FOLA
10:10 AM - 10:20 AM	Break	
10:20 AM - 10:45 AM	Presidents Roundtable ● An interactive panel featuring YOU! What issues are your association facing? How can FOLA help? Come up to the mic to speak, and give your input on issues like Wi-Fi in courthouses, Case Centre, and beyond.	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You! Moderators: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Doug W. Judson, Chair, FOLA• Sam Misheal, 1st Vice Chair, FOLA
10:45 AM - 11:15 AM	LAWPRO	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dan Pinnington, CEO, LAWPRO
11:15 AM - 12:00 PM	A Conversation About Courage, Stigma, and Healing ● Our featured speakers are lawyers and contributors to a groundbreaking book on mental health, <i>The Right to Remain Silent: The Truth About Mental Health in the Legal Profession</i> . They share their stories and join you in a revealing and important discussion. Bring your questions!	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Courtney A Wilson, Rachlin & Wolfson LLP• Dan Stein Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ashley Gibson, Gibson & Reitboeck LLP
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM - 1:20 PM	Law Society of Ontario Update	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diana Miles, CEO, LSO



1:20 PM - 1:55 PM	Viral Vibes: Spilling the Tea about Social Media Fit for all generations, our speakers have generated enormous buzz. Take away tips for how you, too, can become a social media wiz.	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kathryn Marshall, Levitt LLP• Amelia Yiu, Elm Law
1:55 PM - 2:30 PM	Rural Law: Exodus and Evolution ● As rural communities face an exodus of legal talent, the landscape of rural law is evolving. Explore the challenges and opportunities for law firms and lawyers in rural areas, and how they can adapt to meet changing needs while ensuring access to justice.	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gord Prisco, Valin Partners• Ashley Gibson, Gibson & Reitboeck LLP• Eldon Horner, Horner & Pietersma
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	AI Update	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark Doble, CEO, Alexi
3:00 PM – 3:10 PM	Break	
3:10 PM – 3:45 PM	#1 Keeping Talent in a Value-Driven Era Retaining talent requires more than competitive salaries. This panel will explore how law firms can align culture with values, promote inclusivity, and create a purpose-driven environment. #2 Retirement and Death: Succession planning In the wake of LSO's client contingency planning requirements, ensure a smooth handover of responsibilities, maintaining client relationships, and securing the firm's legacy, all while preparing the next generation of leaders to thrive. #3 My Vision: From Shingle to Powerhouse Our speakers hung out a shingle and grew their law firms to multiple lawyers. Participate in a discussion about the strategic decisions, challenges, and lessons learned along the way, providing insights into effective growth strategies, building a strong client base, and fostering a firm culture that supports long-term success.	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laura Dickson, DWA Law• • Kelly Gerra, LSO• Jim Scarfone, Scarfone Hawkins • Eric Nanayakkara, Regency Law Group• Amelia Yiu, Elm Law
3:45 PM – 3:55 PM	Break/Proceed to next breakout room!	



3:55 PM - 4:30 PM	<p>Breakout Sessions</p> <p>#1 Financial Planning for Lawyers Hear from the professionals about budgeting, cash flow management, and profitability analysis. Learn how to create a sustainable financial plan that drives growth, enhances efficiency, and ensures the long-term success of your practice</p> <p>#2 Incivil Conversations In today's polarized climate, incivility can seep into our professional interactions, impacting communication and collaboration. This panel will address the challenges and provide strategies for fostering respectful dialogue at the outset. Join us as we explore techniques for navigating difficult discussions, promoting understanding, and maintaining professionalism, even in the face of disagreement.</p> <p>#3 Collective Wisdom: Solo Practice Roundtable ● This interactive session invites you to share your experiences, insights, and strategies for success as a solo lawyer. Topics will be wide-ranging and can include client management, marketing, work-life balance, and overcoming obstacles.</p>	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>TBD Financial Planner Accountants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Imran E. Kamal, MAG● Jacob Stall, Wharton Woods Family Law● Rachel A. Sachs, Sachs Law● Rikin Morazaria, Kinara Law
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM	<p>Free Time</p>	
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	<p>Law Society Treasurer's Reception and Dinner</p> <p>Liuna Station</p> <p>A time-honoured tradition at FOLA plenaries is the dinner hosted by the Treasurer of the Law Society.</p>	<p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Peter Wardle, Treasurer, Law Society of Ontario <p>Sponsor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Law Society of Ontario
9:00 PM - 12:00 AM	<p>Hospitality Suite Open</p>	<p>Sponsor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● LAWPRO



Friday, November 8

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Regional Breakfast Meetings and Networking 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	FOLA General Meeting	
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Keynote Speaker	Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Honourable Michael H. Tulloch, Chief Justice of Ontario
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	LEAP speaker	Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malcolm Muthulingum, CEO, LEAP
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Reclaiming The Best Interests Lens For Trans Children Part I This panel addresses the challenges trans children face in family law, including family rejection, cultural and religious barriers, and gaps in child protection systems. Further exploration includes the politicization of the issue and how to refocus on the true best interests of trans youth to ensure their safety and well-being.	Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tami Moscoe, Office of the Children’s Lawyer
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Break – Check out now then come back for our final panels!	
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Reclaiming The Best Interests Lens For Trans Children Part II ● This session will dive deeper into youth criminal justice to healthcare. Why are trans children overrepresented as both victims and accused in the system? What can be done? How are children's voices heard — or neglected — and what reforms are needed? This is an interactive session – bring your questions!	Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allison P. Williams, Community Development Lawyer, Justice for Children and Youth Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logan Rathbone
11:30 AM - 11:45 PM	LiRN Update	Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vicki Whitmell, Chair of Board Directors, LiRN
11:45 PM - 12:00 PM	Wrap-up, Lunch, and Departure A final word to wrap-up before lunch and departure.	Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sam Misheal, 1st Vice Chair



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