



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

2024 FOLA Fall Plenary

November 6 to 8
Hamilton, Ontario

Welcome to Hamilton!

Twice per year at our plenaries, FOLA strives 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 return to a focus on our member associations. What are your successes, challenges, and concerns? How can FOLA help? Many of our sessions are interactive and will require your input and participation in discussions. As always, we welcome important updates from our regulator, malpractice insurer, and stakeholders.

Earlier this fall, FOLA's board met for its biennial strategic planning retreat. In taking stock of our activities over the past two years, we were proud of the profile, principled commentary, and strong advocacy that we have advanced on behalf of county and district law associations and their members. These achievements would not have been possible without the commitment of time and talent from our board, committee chairs, and staff – and the ongoing input from local law association leaders.

FOLA continues to lead efforts to protect the independence of our judiciary, to improve collaboration with LiRN, and to provide feedback to the courts, the Law Society of Ontario, and the Ministry of the Attorney General on areas of policy development. These efforts, and more, are highlighted on our website and newsletter.

This fall marks my final plenary as chair. I would like to take a moment to express my sincere thanks to our board and law association presidents and staff for their collegiality and support over my term. It has been my goal to situate FOLA as a leading voice in the legal community. I am grateful for the opportunity to help shape the debate on important issues facing the legal professions. My friend Sam Misheal brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the chair and he is well positioned to guide FOLA's evolution and ongoing advocacy role.

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.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Platinum Sponsors

LAWPRO[®]

 **LEAP**[™]

 **alexi**

Gold Sponsors

 **LAWYER
DONE DEAL
CORP.**

Start-up Sponsors


 **CPD ONLINE.CA**
Click. Watch. Credit.

 **Closer**

Welcome Sponsor

 **Law Society
of Ontario**



	Total Professionalism Hours	4 hours and 55 minutes
	Total EDI Professionalism Hours	1 hour and 20 minutes

WiFi Network: Sheraton Meeting Room Network
Wifi Code: Fall2024

● = primarily interactive panel

Wednesday, November 6

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM	<p>Welcome Reception - Pub Night @ Merit Brewery Merit Brewery, 107 James St North.</p> <p>Join your fellow members for a fun reception. Cash bar, complimentary appetizers will be served.</p>
-----------------------	---

Thursday, November 7

7:30 AM - 4:30 PM	<p>Registration Open Ballroom Central/East, 2nd Floor Sheraton Hotel, Hamilton</p> <p>Collect your nametag at our registration table.</p>
7:45 AM - 9:00 AM	<p>Breakfast and Networking Buffet breakfast is included with your registration.</p>
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	<p>Call to Order, Welcoming Remarks from the Chair, and Roll Call of the Presidents</p> <p>During the roll call, presidents are invited to introduce the members of their delegation.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Douglas W. Judson, Chair, FOLA • You!
9:15 AM - 9:20 AM	<p>Welcoming Remarks from Hamilton Law Association</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Keesmaat, President, Hamilton Law Association



9:20 AM – 9:25 AM	2024: Justice System Update	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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	Break	
10:10 AM - 10:45 AM	Your Input: Five Questions We survey you regarding your primary concerns, wi-fi in courtrooms, services FOLA can explore, future plenary formats, and underserved practice areas. Check your inbox for more details!	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 Not 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, Criminal Lawyer Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ashley Gibson, Gibson & Reitboeck LLP
12:00 PM- 12:10 PM	Special Presentation	
12:10 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch –Sponsored by LawyerDoneDeal (LDD)	



1:00 PM - 1:20 PM	Law Society of Ontario Update	Speakers: • 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: • Amelia Yiu, Elm Law • Kathryn Marshall, Marshall 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: • Ashley Gibson, Gibson & Reitboeck LLP • Eldon Horner, Horner & Pietersma • Gord Prisco, Valin Partners LLP
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	AI Update	Speakers: • Mark Doble, CEO, Alexi
3:00 PM – 3:10 PM	Break: Go to the next Breakout session! All rooms are on the 2nd floor #1: Ballroom Central/East #2: MacNab Room #3: Ballroom South/West	



3:10 PM –
3:45 PM

Breakout Sessions

Speakers:

#1: Ballroom Central/East

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.

- Amelia Yiu, Elm Law
- Eric Nanayakkara, Regency Law Group

#2: MacNab Room

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.

- Jim Scarfone, Scarfone Hawkins
- Kelly Gerra, LSO

#3: Ballroom South/West

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.

- Laura Dickson, DWA Law
- Nicole Simes, Simes Law

3:45 PM –
3:55 PM

Break - Go to next Breakout session!



3:55 PM -
4:30 PM

Breakout Sessions

Speakers:

#1: Ballroom Central/East

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 technology and AI use, staffing, client management, marketing, work-life balance, and overcoming obstacles.

- Rachel A. Sachs, Sachs Law
- Rikin Morzaria, Kinara Law

#2: MacNab Room

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.

- Imran E. Kamal, MAG
- Jacob Stall, Wharton Woods Family Law

#3: Ballroom South/West

Financial and Tax 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

- Mark Hunter, Hunter & Hooton Chartered Professional Accountants
- Sasha Gazeeva, Senior Financial Planner, RBC

4:30 PM -
6:30 PM

Free Time



6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Law Society Treasurer's Reception and Dinner Liuna Station, 360 James St N Buses will transport you to and from: 1st bus departs Sheraton at 6:00 PM 2nd bus departs Sheraton at 6:15 PM 1st bus returns at 9:00 PM 2nd bus returns at 9:15 PM A time-honoured tradition at FOLA plenaries is the dinner hosted by the Treasurer of the Law Society.	Speakers: • Peter Wardle, Treasurer, Law Society of Ontario Sponsor: • Law Society of Ontario
9:00 PM - 12:00 AM	Hospitality Suite Heritage Room, Lower Level Sheraton Hotel	Sponsor: • LAWPRO

Friday, November 8

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Regional Breakfast Meetings AND Regional Director Elections Ballroom Central/East, 2nd Floor Sheraton Hotel, Hamilton NOTE: The election for regional directors begins at 8:30 AM. 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 FOLA Treasurer's Report	
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Keynote Speaker	Speaker: • The Honourable Michael H. Tulloch, Chief Justice of Ontario



10:15 AM - 10:45 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: • Tami Moscoe, Office of the Children's Lawyer
10:45 AM – 11:15 AM	LEAP A word from one of our platinum sponsors	Speaker: • Spencer Chase, Business Development Manager, LEAP Canada • Aaron Copeland, Business Development Manager, LEAP Canada
11:15 AM - 11:30 AM	Break – Check out now then come back for our final panels!	
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	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: • Allison P. Williams, Community Development Lawyer, Justice for Children and Youth Moderator: • Logan Rathbone
12:00 PM - 12:15 PM	LiRN Update	Speaker: • Vicki Whitmell, Chair of Board Directors, LiRN
12:15 PM - 12:20 PM	Wrap-up, Lunch, and Departure A final word to wrap-up before lunch and departure.	Speaker: • Sam Misheal, 1 st Vice Chair, FOLA



Thank you to our speakers!



Laura Dickson was born and raised in Scotland, UK and moved to Canada in 2008. Laura earned her L.L.B in Scots Law from the University of Glasgow, Scotland, in 2007. After moving to Canada, she completed her NCA qualifications at the University of Toronto. Laura completed her training with Allen Wynperle in 2011/12 and was called to the Bar in 2012. It was only a matter of time before Laura and Allen would once again join forces in creating Dickson Wynperle Associates in 2024.

Laura chose a career in law to help those most vulnerable. Laura practices exclusively plaintiff civil litigation with experience in all aspects of Life and Disability claims, wrongful or constructive dismissal claims, critical illness denial claims, estate litigation matters, statutory accident benefit matters as well as claims resulting from auto accidents, slips and falls, WSIB claims and brain and spinal injuries.



Mark Doble is the CEO and founder of Alexi, a cutting-edge AI-driven platform revolutionizing the legal industry. With a deep background in both technology and law, Mark has expertly guided Alexi's growth from a specialized legal research tool to an all-encompassing litigation workflow solution. His strategic focus is on using AI to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of legal professionals, allowing them to focus on higher-level tasks while automating time-consuming processes. Mark is passionate about transforming the legal field, making AI-powered tools accessible and indispensable to firms of all sizes.



Sasha (Alexandra) Gazeeva is an accredited financial planner for RBC with over 13 years of financial services experience, specializing in holistic financial planning and investment advice for Business owners and Professionals. She helps clients achieve financial goals, minimize tax burden, and secure their family's future. In her spare time, she volunteers with Big Brothers Big Sister's newcomer school programs.



Kelly Gerra is Counsel and Manager, Practice Management Resources at the Law Society of Ontario. In her role, Kelly leads the development, design, and maintenance of innovative practice management tools designed to help lawyers and paralegals confidently navigate their professional obligations and manage their practice responsibly. She also provides confidential support through the Practice Management Helpline, guiding legal professionals on issues related to professional responsibility and practice management.

Before joining the Law Society, Kelly was the Director of Lexis Practice Advisor Canada at LexisNexis Canada, where she played a pivotal role in shaping the content strategy for a new online legal resource. Her legal career includes practicing constitutional law and commercial litigation at two national law firms, where she represented clients at all levels of court in Ontario and the Supreme Court of Canada.

Kelly's also holds an Adult Learning & Development Certificate from the University of Toronto's Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. She is passionate about empowering legal professionals with the information, tools, and other supports they need to proactively manage their practices and meet their professional obligations.



Mark Giavedoni is a partner in Gowling WLG's Hamilton office where he is the firm's National Leader of the Real Estate Industry and Sector Group, and also a member of the 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.



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.



Eldon Horner is a long-time advocate for the legal profession Eldon was one of 7 lawyers in the province of Ontario awarded the Law Society Medal for outstanding service within the profession.

Eldon practices in a broad range of areas with a focus on Real Estate, Wills and Estates, Municipal Law, and Corporate/Business matters. He has a great deal of experience in real estate transactions, with a focus on agricultural clients.

In 1993 Eldon was the valedictorian for the graduating class at the University of Toronto Law School. Prior to law school Eldon was the valedictorian for Seaway District High School (1986) and he obtained an Honours BA from Wilfrid Laurier University (1990).

Eldon is the past Chair of the Federation of Ontario Law Associations (www.fola.ca) which represents the interests of approximately 12,000 lawyers across Ontario in private practice.

Outside of work Eldon has coached hockey, baseball and soccer. He currently is a member of the Board of Directors of Dundas Manor Long Term Care Home. He previously served on the Board of the Winchester District Memorial Hospital and was a Champlain Grant review appointee for the Ontario Trillium Foundation. He is the former President of the Iroquois Golf Club, and Past President of the SDG County Law Association.

Eldon was born and raised on a farm in Dundas County, with a brief period in Montreal. He currently resides near Winchester with his wife Shelly. They have 4 adult children, Joshua, Daniel, Sam, and Katie.



Imran Kamal is Crown Counsel for the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General, specializing in Indigenous rights. Imran was legal counsel at the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton (CCAS) from 2014 to 2021. Imran is a LSO Certified Specialist in Indigenous Legal Issues. In 2021, Imran was named one of the Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers in Canada by Canadian Lawyer Magazine. Last year, Imran received the Precedent Setter Award for his work with Indigenous communities and received the Diversity Award from the South Asian Bar Association for his work in de-stigmatizing mental health and addiction as well as for his work with reconciliation. Imran also received the Catzman Award for Professionalism and Civility.

Imran's passion is to work front line and grassroots. In 2017, Imran established Hamilton Lawyers Feed the Hungry, which gathers volunteers from the legal community to financially support and prepare and serve meals for 80-100 children and youth in the Hamilton community bi-weekly. Since 2016, Imran has also been a weekly volunteer at a Men's Live-in Addiction Treatment Centre, providing support and resources for men overcoming alcohol and drug addiction. Additionally, Imran is Board Member of Mission Services of Hamilton.

Imran sat on the Family Law Subcommittee of the Hamilton Law Association and the Bench and Bar subcommittee of the Hamilton Law Association, and was the Treasurer for the Organization of Counsel for Children's Aid Societies of Ontario. Imran is currently a pro-bono consultant for the Adoption Council of Ontario and the Chairperson of the Adult Adoption Advocacy Group. Imran joined the organizing committee of the United Way John Sopinka Legal Luncheon. Imran serves as a LPP mentor for Ryerson University, and is a consultant for the University of Toronto's "Toolkit for Evidence-Based Child Protection Practice", as well as an Expert Lawyer for Pro Bono Students Canada. Imran advocates for equity for LGBT children and youth. Imran has organized and presented at numerous conferences on issues of family law, child protection and Indigenous legal issues.

Imran has vulnerably shared his experience, strength and hope recovering from addiction in hope to de-stigmatize mental health and addiction in our society and particularly in the legal profession with vulnerability, humility and compassion. With over 8 years of recovery, Imran has dedicated himself to support others recovering from addiction. Since 2016, Imran has been a weekly volunteer at a men's residential addiction treatment centre, providing support and resources for men overcoming alcohol and drug addiction. Imran led the team of volunteers to provide robust weekly support groups. Imran



is an active member of Voices for Mental Health which is a grassroots group of MAG employees who have fundamentally changed the landscape for mental health within the Ontario Public Service and the legal profession. Last year, Imran was a presenter at the LSO Mental Health Summit, where he vulnerably shared his experience recovering from addiction with the legal profession. This event was largest attended event in the Law Society's history, without approximately 6000 attendees. Imran had presented to numerous Bay Street firms, various law associations and within the Ontario Public Service about his journey recovering from addiction. It takes a tremendous amount of courage and bravery to speak openly about such a vulnerable subject. Imran does these presentations with the goal of raising awareness and eliminating the stigma towards mental health and addiction.

Imran is particularly passionate about Indigenous child welfare. Imran spent a significant amount of time in law school conducting research on Indigenous law issues. Since 2016, Imran was involved in forming the Indigenous Resource Group at the CCAS and was the chairperson of the Indigenous Resource Group for five years. In addition, Imran has been working in the community to enhance the service delivery to Indigenous families involved in the child welfare system. Imran is the founding Co-Chairperson of the Indigenous Child Welfare Collaborative, which brings together seven (7) Indigenous community organizations and the two child welfare agencies in Hamilton to systemically and holistically address child welfare issues in the Indigenous community. Furthermore, Imran was also asked to be a part of the Collaboratory for the Boldness Project to address Indigenous issues in the justice system and has been appointed a Steward to move forward with the Hamilton Boldness Project. Most recently, Imran was honoured to be asked by the Indigenous Community and the Superior Court of Justice Ontario ("SCJ") to facilitate the creation of the first Indigenous Child Welfare "Court" of the SCJ, and then appointed as the Chairperson of this working group by the Indigenous community.

Imran was called to the Bar in Ontario in 2013. Prior to joining the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton, Imran practiced in domestic family law in Halton region where his main area of practice was custody and access issues.



Tami Moscoe is a family lawyer who worked for 10 years as Senior Family Counsel at the Superior Court of Justice, and is currently working at the Office of the Children's Lawyer with responsibility for co-administering the office's work with 16 and 17 year old youth. Ms. Moscoe has been instrumental in many significant family justice improvements including recent Unified Family Court and Dispute Resolution Officer program expansion, the introduction of automatic disclosure orders and Ontario's unbundled legal services and binding judicial dispute resolution projects.

Her leadership, unlimited energy and zealous commitment have had a significant impact on advancing the interests of separating families in Ontario and ensuring that vulnerable family litigants can access the justice services they need. This includes having ensured that emergency legal services were available during the early stages of the pandemic and continuously advocating for better access to technology with the move to more virtual processes and court attendances.



Eric Nanayakkara is the Managing Partner of Regency Law Group and works closely with all of the firm's practice groups. This access to specialized knowledge, coupled with Eric's many years of litigation experience, provides the firm's clients with a unique competitive advantage.

To say that Eric enjoys strategic thought and zealous advocacy is an understatement. He is a diehard litigator who prides himself on being inquisitive, thorough and results focused. Choose Eric if your litigation matter is complex, combative or requires a fearless warrior who will negotiate a fair resolution or stay on the battlefield until your victory is declared.

He strongly believes that excellence in advocacy is born in a passion for the client and their cause. For this reason, his litigation practice is selective, bespoke in nature and entirely focused on the clients' experience and results.

In addition to Eric's litigation practice he serves as General Counsel to a number of local and international corporations. He also provides frequent advice and negotiation services to entrepreneurs, start-up companies, media personalities and high net-worth individuals.



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 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.



Rachel A. Sachs incorporated her North York based law firm, Sachs Law Professional Corporation, in 2017 shortly following her call to the Ontario bar. In the early years of her practice, Rachel experimented with different areas of law to find her niche while also working in AML compliance with a major bank. In 2020, Rachel re-designed her private practice in elder law, estates and civil litigation, as well as real estate matters related to estates, specifically in service to the legal needs of older and aging adults.

In addition to running her own business, Rachel works as a hotline lawyer dispensing free summary legal advice with Pro Bono Ontario and volunteers with several boards, including Yorkview Kids Care, RODA, ITLNCA Networks and the Filipino Canadian Lawyers Network, the last of she also represents as President. She is also a busy and proud mom of 2.

To learn more about Rachel, please visit her website, sachslaw.ca, or get in touch for lunch!



Jim Scarfone

Education: University of Western Ontario (Kings College), B.A., 1970;
University of Windsor, LL.B., 1973

Called to the Bar: Ontario 1975

Founding Partner at Scarfone Hawkins LLP

- Legal and Community Involvement
 - Ontario Trial Lawyers Association (Past President 1997-1998 and founding Director)
 - Hamilton Law Association (Past President 1991-1992);
 - Advocates' Society (Director 2003-2006)
 - Association of Trial Lawyers of America (Governor 2000-2006)
 - Law Society of Upper Canada Bencher (2011-2015)
 - Theatre Aquarius (Past President 1997-98)
 - Hamilton Golf and Country Club Past President
 - St. Thomas More Lawyers' Guild (Past President 1985)
 - Ontario Brain Injury Association (Past Director 1999-2004)

Awards:

Ontario Trial Lawyers Association Distinguished Trial Lawyer 2003

Kings College Alumni Award 2013

Hamilton Law Association Orzel Trial Lawyer of the Year Award 2024



Jacob Stall obtained an Honours Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Western Ontario, and obtained his law degree from the University of Toronto.

Jacob has worked exclusively in family law in his legal career, first starting in family law as a summer student following his second year of law school. He was called to the Ontario Bar in 2015.

Jacob currently works for Wharton Woods Family Law, a family law firm located in Toronto.



Chief Justice Tulloch was appointed Chief Justice of Ontario and President of the Court of Appeal for Ontario on December 15, 2022. Prior to his appointment as Chief Justice, Justice Tulloch served 19 years as a judge. First, 9 years as a trial judge on the Superior Court of Justice, where he was first appointed in September 2003, and secondly, he served 10 years as an appellate judge on the Court of Appeal for Ontario, elevated in June 2012.

In 2016, Chief Justice Tulloch was appointed by the Ontario government to conduct important reviews which resulted in two extensive reports: the Report of the Independent Police Oversight Review (2017) and the Report of the Independent Street Checks Review (2018). He served on the Government Response Team for the Commission on Systemic Racism while working as a Crown Attorney. He was Chair of a review panel on Osgoode Hall Law School's admissions policy in 2006.

Chief Justice Tulloch served as a member of the Ontario Superior Court Education Committee, the National Judicial Institute, and the Commissioner's Judicial Advisory Committee on International Engagement. He is currently a Senior Fellow at Massey College, University of Toronto. He was a Distinguished Fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto and a Distinguished Research Fellow in the Centre of Law and Policy at Ryerson University (now Toronto Metropolitan University). He is also a Distinguished Fellow at McLaughlin College, York University. He was a founding member and a patron of the Second Chance Scholarship Foundation and Chair of the Advisory Board to the Black Business and



Professional Association. He has been a frequent speaker in various post-secondary institutions as well as professional and community forums.

Chief Justice Tulloch was born in Jamaica. He holds a B.A. from York University and a LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School. He has also received honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from the Toronto Metropolitan University, the University of Guelph, and the Law Society of Ontario, as well as an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Tyndale University and Seminary. He was admitted to the Bar of Ontario in 1991.



Vicki Whitmell has been the chair of LiRN since June of 2024. She is a librarian who has served the Ontario legal and legislative communities through her work in academic and law firm libraries and as the former Legislative Librarian for the Province of Ontario. She is passionate about building advocacy and leadership skills in libraries and is active on a number of community boards and organizations, including chairing the Sundridge Strong Union Public Library Board.



Allison P. Williams (she/her), B.A. (Hons.), M.A., J.D. is a Community Development and Litigation Lawyer at one of the province's specialty community legal clinics, Justice for Children and Youth ("JFCY"). Her practice involves providing summary advice, referrals and direct representation to children and young people, often with complex and intersecting legal issues, as well as delivering public legal education and participating in law reform and test case litigation. Most recently Allison was intervening counsel before the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal in the matter of *Saskatchewan (Minister of Education) v. UR Pride Centre for Sexuality and Gender Diversity*, decision pending. Allison originally hails from Emo, Ontario and she attended Osgoode Hall Law School after completing a BA from Queen's University and an MA from the University of Toronto. While at Osgoode, Allison received an Ian Scott Public Interest Fellowship and spent a summer working for the Grand Council Treaty # 3 Women's Council. Allison articulated at the Office of the Children's Lawyer before being called to the bar in Ontario in 2016. Prior to joining JFCY, Allison spent several years working at a small firm practicing primarily immigration and refugee law, administrative law, and family law. In her spare time, Allison volunteers as President of the Queen's University Alumni Association,



and she sits as a member of the OBA Child and Youth Law Section Executive Committee.



Courtney Wilson is a lawyer, author, and advocate for mental health within the legal profession. She holds an honors degree in environmental biology from Queen's University and graduated from Western University's Faculty of Law. In her contribution to, *The Right Not to Remain Silent*, Courtney reflects on the mental health challenges often faced in high-pressure legal environments, including issues like eating disorders and anxiety. Through her writing and advocacy, she encourages open conversations around well-being in the legal field, aiming to support a healthier, more balanced approach to law.



Amelia Yiu, B. Journ., LL.B., T.E.P. is the founding principal lawyer of Elm Law Professional Corporation, a law firm with offices in Whitby and Oshawa, Ontario practising in the areas of Family Law, Estate Litigation and Elder Law.

Amelia was called to the bar of Ontario in 2007 and worked at a boutique estate litigation firm in Toronto before opening Elm Law in 2016. Her practice is focused on estate litigation, power of attorney disputes and family law where it intersects with estates, elder law and/or power of attorney issues.

Amelia has a Trusts and Estate Practitioner designation from STEP Canada, and is the former Chair of the Ontario Bar Association's Elder Law section. She is listed on the ReferToHer™ Trust and Estates Litigation list of leading women lawyers in her field. Amelia has also been a speaker for the Law Society of Ontario, the Ontario Bar Association, Osgoode Professional Development at York University, the Durham Region Lawyers Association, the Whitby Chamber of Commerce and Durham College.



FOLA Executive Contacts

Douglas W. Judson
Chair
info@douglasjudson.ca

Sam Misheal
First Vice Chair
sam@familyseparation.ca

Allen J. Wynperle
Second Vice Chair
Chair, Practice Resource
Committee
allen@dwalaw.ca

William Woodward
Past Chair
wwoodward@dyerbrownlaw.com

Corey Wall
Treasurer
Central East Representative
Corey@walllaw.ca

Laura Oliver
Central West Representative
Co-Chair, Family Law Committee
laura@rusolaw.ca

Ashley Gibson
Central South Representative
ashley@gnrlaw.ca

Jennifer Simpson Rooke
Southwest Representative
jrooke@mousseaulaw.com

Karen Seeley
Northwest Representative
kseeley@mcauleylaw.com

Gord Prisco
Northeast Representative
gordon@valinpartners.net

Kevin Cooke
East Representative
kcooke@cswan.com

Ian Kasper
Toronto Lawyers' Association Rep.
ibk@kasperlaw.ca

Terry Brandon
Chair, Legal Aid Committee
terrylbrandon@acriminaldefence.ca

Logan Rathbone
Co-Chair, Family Law
Committee
logan@rathbonelaw.com

Mark Giavedoni
Chair, Real Estate Committee
Mark.Giavedoni@gowlingwlg.com