

# FOLA News

Issue 16: February 24, 2025



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

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## Important Information

### Update: Governance & Electoral Reforms at the Law Society of Ontario

We continue to receive feedback regarding this issue and thank you for your ideas. We submitted our comments [here](#), and the Law Times interviewed FOLA Chair Allen Wynperle [here](#). We are staying on top of this and recognize it is an important issue for our members. If you have any questions please email Ian Hu, Director of Policy & Advocacy, at [ian.hu@fola.ca](mailto:ian.hu@fola.ca).

### 2025 FOLA Awards Series – Nominations Wanted

FOLA invites you to nominate a deserving candidate for the 2025 Awards Series! Information is below and also on our website at <https://www.fola.ca/awards/>. For those that put in nominations for the 2024 Award Series, those nominations on file will be considered as well.

### Civil Rules Reform Committee Presentation – Save the Date – March 27

We are working with the Civil Rules Reform Committee to present to FOLA members via Zoom. We are aiming for **March 27 at 4:30 pm**. Once this is confirmed a separate email invitation will be sent to Association Presidents with more details. In the meantime, visit [our website](#) for more information, including our submissions. If you have any questions please email Ian Hu, Director of Policy & Advocacy, at [ian.hu@fola.ca](mailto:ian.hu@fola.ca).

### FOLA Spring Plenary 2025 – Save the date!

Save the date! The Spring Plenary will take place from **May 14 to May 16** at the Hilton Doubletree in downtown Toronto.

### Law Foundation of Ontario – Guthrie Award Nominations

The Law Foundation of Ontario is seeking nominations for the Guthrie Award, their signature award to recognize access to justice champions. The Guthrie Award recognizes individuals who have a significant and proven track record of furthering access to justice for the people of Ontario. The award was created in 1996 to honour H. Donald Guthrie who served as a Foundation trustee for 21 years, including 13 years as Chair. Guthrie Award recipients have come from many directions – the judiciary, private bar, community legal clinics, academia, and nonprofit organizations. They saw opportunities to make a difference and took it. Guthrie recipients have: built bridges between youth and the justice system; advanced justice for Indigenous people; served women experiencing violence; strengthened the community clinic system to assist people with low incomes; and more.

Nominations are being accepted until **March 7**. See the [Guthrie Award webpage](#) for details on the streamlined nomination process.



## Current Consultations

### LSO Indigenous Cultural Training Course Consultation

The Equity and Indigenous Affairs Committee (EIAC) is seeking feedback from lawyers, paralegals, legal organizations and the public on the implementation of an Indigenous cultural training course in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Call to Action 27.

The Call to Action 27 asks the Federation of Law Societies of Canada to ensure that “lawyers receive appropriate cultural competency training, which includes the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.” Although the Call to Action 27 mentions the Federation, individual law societies are responsible for implementing this training and education for their licensees in response to the TRC.

The legal profession has historically played a role in the oppression of Indigenous peoples in Canada, contributing to a legacy of injustice and marginalization. Recognizing this, it is incumbent upon licensees to engage actively in reconciliation efforts and to help address these historical wrongs.

For more information, [click here to access the LSO's consultation website](#). We are seeking your input. Please email your comments to Ian Hu, Director of Policy & Advocacy, at [ian.hu@fola.ca](mailto:ian.hu@fola.ca).

### LSO Bulk Payments – How's it going?

What is your firm's experience dealing with bulk payments? We are gathering your input to determine if any steps need to be taken to advocate for you. Please email your comments to Ian Hu, Director of Policy & Advocacy, at [ian.hu@fola.ca](mailto:ian.hu@fola.ca).

## Recent FOLA Submissions

### LSO – Call for Comment: Towards More Effective Governance — Governance & Electoral Reforms at the Law Society of Ontario

We submitted our comments **January 31**, [click here to view](#).

### LSO – Considering Increased Transparency: Licensee Reporting and Disclosure to the Public

We thank you for providing us with your comments. FOLA provided feedback to the LSO which is [available here](#). The consultation period is complete and the LSO committee will now review and possibly give recommendations to LSO Convocation.



## Updates for the Profession

### LSO Licensee Update – January 30, 2025

Please [click here](#) for the latest LSO update.

## Member Rewards

A reminder that all FOLA members have access to the rewards program here:

<https://www.foia.ca/resource/member-rewards/>.

Discounts are available for a number of services and products!

### Clio

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As a FOLA member, you're entitled to a 10% discount on Clio products. [Dive into your free trial or claim your discount today](#). Already a Clio user? Great! Secure your discount by emailing [affinity.partners@clio.com](mailto:affinity.partners@clio.com). Plus Clio will be at the upcoming Plenary so you can connect with the Clio team there.



## Windsor Law – 3L Resume Book

Windsor Law is thrilled to present our annual 3L resume book, showcasing exceptionally talented, diverse and competitive students who are seeking paid articling positions for the 2025-2026 term. Please reach out to [windsorcso@uwindsor.ca](mailto:windsorcso@uwindsor.ca) for a complimentary electronic copy of this valuable resource. We hope this resume book will help you meet your hiring needs.

The image shows a modern, bright interior space, likely a library or study area, with several people sitting at tables. In the foreground, a man and two women are sitting around a white circular table, engaged in conversation. A laptop and a water bottle are on the table. A grey backpack with the Windsor Law logo is on the floor next to them. The background shows other students and a large window. The text 'THE WINDSOR LAW 3L RESUME BOOK' is overlaid in a blue box on the left. The Windsor Law logo and name are on the right. At the bottom, there is text about the book's content and contact information.

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## Upcoming Events and Law Association News

FOLA promotes law association events and other news. If your organization has upcoming events or related news that would be of interest to our members, please complete the form that can be found [here](#) and submit to both Ian Hu ([ian.hu@fola.ca](mailto:ian.hu@fola.ca)) Kelly Lovell ([kelly.lovell@fola.ca](mailto:kelly.lovell@fola.ca)).

Event details are also listed on the calendar on FOLA's website [here](#).

### Featured Promotion

#### Osgoode PD - 19th Annual: The Civil Litigator's Survival Guide to Evidence

Evidence can make or break your case! Stay current so you have the tools you need to build a successful litigation strategy with OsgoodePD's 19<sup>th</sup> annual one-day program. Join a distinguished faculty of leading judges and senior practitioners covering topics such as: hearsay, evidence in motions and applications, techniques for handling experts before and during trial, Tips from the Bench, and more. Register for the **March 26** online replay. Learn more and register [here](#).

### County And District Law Associations

#### Hamilton Law Association – 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Commercial Litigation Seminar

On **March 4** The HLA hosts the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Commercial Litigation Seminar from 9:00AM to 12:00PM at the John Sopinka Courthouse, suite 500. Hosted by Eric Nanayakkara, Michael Stanton, and George Limberis topics include Objections, Trial Checklist, Application or Action, Associate Justice Matters and Jurisdiction, A Discussion on Closing, and Federal Court v Superior Court. [Register here](#)

#### County of Carleton Law Association – A How-to on Civility – Don't be THAT lawyer

The New Legal Professionals and Advocacy Club is excited to announce its first workshop, "A How-To on Civility—Don't be THAT lawyer," which will be held on **March 19** from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. in the CCLA lounge. Coffee, refreshments, and small food items will be served.

This seminar aims to equip new lawyers, paralegals and soon-to-be lawyers and paralegals with essential strategies for maintaining and prioritizing civility in legal practice. Learn from experienced counsel and the judiciary how to foster a respectful work environment while managing and responding to difficult interactions and personalities. Discover practical tips for effective communication, conflict resolution, and stress management, foundational to any successful legal career! [Register here](#)

#### Toronto Law Association – Estate Law Roundup: 10 Key Issues to Address in 2025

This session will take place on **Wednesday, March 26 from 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm** via **Zoom Webinar**. Join us for this year's highly anticipated annual Estate Law program, where we'll review 10 critical topics that are shaping the future of Estate and Trust practice in 2025.



Our expert panel will discuss the latest trends, legal developments, and essential principles that continue to influence estate planning and litigation. Whether you're an experienced practitioner or newer to the field, this program will provide practical insights into the pressing issues facing Estate and Trust professionals. [Register here](#)

### **Toronto Law Association - Rosen's Anatomy of a Trial: A Course for Young (Criminal) Litigators**

These sessions will take place on **Saturday, April (5, 12, 26) & May (3, 10, 24) from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm**  
In Person Only.

The TLA Criminal Committee has arranged for well-known criminal defence counsel John Rosen to repeat his 6-part criminal advocacy and cross-examination course. As before, John will be joined by experienced prosecutors and defence counsel, who will share their unique perspectives on trial advocacy.

The program is designed with a primary focus on criminal lawyers with 2-5 years of practice. Young litigators interested in improving their litigation skills are also welcome. [Register here](#)

### **Waterloo Region Law Association – 2025 AGM & Coulter Osborne Award Dinner**

The Board of the WRLA is pleased to announce the AGM and the presentation of the Coulter A. Osborne Award to Steven Lubczuk on **Thursday, April 10** beginning at 4:00 pm. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

### **Appointment and Job Opportunities**

Judicial vacancies and job opportunities are free to advertise. Please submit your opportunities to FOLA Director of Policy & Advocacy, Ian Hu, at [ian.hu@fola.ca](mailto:ian.hu@fola.ca)

### **Community Care Durham – Volunteer Board Directors**

Community Care Durham is recruiting for a new member to join our Volunteer Board of Directors. They are seeking an individual with legal background. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Judicial Vacancies: OCJ - Sioux Lookout, Belleville, Cornwall, Pembroke**

Deadline for Belleville, Cornwall and Pembroke (Criminal) is **February 28**.  
Deadline for Sioux Lookout is **March 5**.

Apply via the [JAAC website here](#).



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