



FOLA News

Issue 25: April 24, 2026

In This Issue

Important Information	5
2026 FOLA Lobby Day	5
2026 FOLA Spring Plenary – May 12 to 14 in Toronto	6
Real Estate Update – December 15, 2026	6
FOLA Condemns Calls for a Judicial Apology in Umar Zameer Case	6
FOLA appears before the SCC in <i>English Montreal School Board v. Attorney General</i>	6
Current Consultations	6
MAG Courts Digital Transformation (Phase 2), Criminal Focus Group	7
Recent FOLA Submissions	7
Standing Committee on Justice Policy for Bill 75, An Act to enact the Constable Joe MacDonald Public Safety Officers’ Survivors Scholarship Fund Act, 2025 and to amend various other Acts	7
Updates for the Profession	7
LSO Licensee Update – March 26, 2026	7
Practice Direction Regarding Bail Hearings	7
Featured Member Rewards	8
Clio	8
Windsor Law 3L Resume Book	9
LDD	11
CPDonline	12
Bell	13
Hilton	14
Upcoming Events and Law Association News	15
Sponsor Your Association’s Event with the LDD CLE Partnership Program!	15



10% Off! OsgoodePD – The Osgoode Certificate in Negotiation	15
South Georgian Bay Regional Law Associations – Golf Tournament – April 30	16
Toronto Lawyers Association - Effective Client Communication – May 11	17
Toronto Lawyers Association - If I Knew Then What I Know Now: Reflections from the Bench.....	17
Appointment and Job Opportunities.....	17
LSO Seeks Appointments to JPAAC, Family Rules Committee, LAO Board of Directors, and Federal JAAC	17
Canadian Human Rights Tribunal - Member.....	18
FOLA Executive Contacts	19
FOLA Staff Contacts.....	19

The FOLA Newsletter is distributed to FOLA member associations. If you wish to subscribe, please do so at our website here: <https://www.fola.ca/category/newsletter/>. All back issues are also available there. To unsubscribe email ian.hu@fola.ca



Featured Member Rewards Partners in this Issue:



CPD ONLINE.CA
Click. Watch. Credit.



Windsor Law
University of Windsor



THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 FOLA SPRING PLENARY SPONSORS

Organization Sponsor



Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Silver Sponsor



Bronze Sponsors



realami

Welcome Sponsor





Important Information

2026 FOLA Lobby Day



Thank you to all the associations who helped make 2026 FOLA Lobby Day a success! 47 members from various law associations met with 11 MPPs, including the offices of the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Solicitor General, the Associate Solicitor General for Auto Theft and Bail Reform, the Minister of Rural Affairs, and the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. From the legal sector we met with the Treasurer of the Law Society of Ontario, the CEO of Legal Aid Ontario, and the Director of Court Operations from the Ministry of the Attorney General. We discussed many issues facing our associations, including the need to attract and maintain lawyers in our communities, the importance of maintaining the rule of law, improving bail reform, improving court security, and civil rules reform.

And we had a great time!



2026 FOLA Spring Plenary – May 12 to 14 in Toronto

[2026 FOLA Spring Plenary](#) will take place at the downtown Toronto Hilton Doubletree from May 12 to May 14. We are happy to announce that the Attorney General of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Downey, will give a keynote speech for the dinner on May 12.

If you have any questions please contact Kelly Lovell at Kelly.Lovell@fola.ca.

Real Estate Update – December 15, 2026

The [March 31, 2026 Real Estate Update](#) contains important information for real estate lawyers. Thanks to Real Estate Committee Chair and 2nd Vice Chair, Mark Giavedoni, for drafting the update!

FOLA Condemns Calls for a Judicial Apology in Umar Zameer Case

FOLA [released a public statement](#) condemning recent calls for a judicial apology in Umar Zameer case.

FOLA appears before the SCC in *English Montreal School Board v. Attorney General*

FOLA thanks counsel (and former CCLA President) Katie Black for representing FOLA at the Supreme Court of Canada. This was a momentous occasion in FOLA's history, and we are extremely proud of our role. There will be more to say when the decision is released.

All submissions are available for viewing. You may see Katie Black's submissions:

1. Go to [webcast link](#)
2. Click on "Webcasts"
3. Click on "Hearing on 2026-03-26"
4. Go to 2:16:48 of the recording

In addition, FOLA's factum was quoted in the Globe & Mail opinion article on March 20, [Law of the land](#) (paywall).

Current Consultations

Please contact Ian Hu, Director of Policy & Advocacy, at ian.hu@fola.ca if you have feedback or any questions.



MAG Courts Digital Transformation (Phase 2), Criminal Focus Group

On April 20 FOLA representatives Jennifer S. Rooke, Terry Brandon, and Karen Seeley participated in the Criminal Focus Group. We continue to work with the Ministry of Attorney General to improve the technology.

Recent FOLA Submissions

FOLA was involved in at least **14** consultations and submissions in 2025. See our advocacy efforts [at our website here](#). Please contact Ian Hu, Director of Policy & Advocacy, at ian.hu@fola.ca if you have feedback or any questions.

Standing Committee on Justice Policy for Bill 75, An Act to enact the Constable Joe MacDonald Public Safety Officers' Survivors Scholarship Fund Act, 2025 and to amend various other Acts

FOLA 1st Vice-Chair Jennifer S. Rooke appeared before this Ontario Parliament's standing committee on April 15. You may view [her notes](#) provided to Hansard, and FOLA's [letter of October 2025](#) to the Assistant Deputy Attorney General.

In addition, the County of Carleton Law Association also appeared before the standing committee, and [wrote a letter to federal and provincial governments](#) to review and remedy conditions at the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre and in other institutions.

These issues were also discussed with the Honourable Zee Hamid, Associate Solicitor General for Auto Theft and Bail Reform, at 2026 FOLA Lobby Day.

Updates for the Profession

LSO Licensee Update – March 26, 2026

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

Practice Direction Regarding Bail Hearings

Effective June 1, these [Practice Direction Regarding Bail Hearings - Ontario Court of Justice](#) will be in place.



Featured Member Rewards

A reminder that all members of FOLA county and district law associations have access to the rewards program here: <https://www.fola.ca/resource/member-rewards/>. If you have any questions or issues accessing the member rewards, please contact Ian Hu, Director of Policy & Advocacy, at ian.hu@fola.ca or Kelly Lovell, Executive Assistant, at kelly.lovell@fola.ca.

Discounts are available for a number of services and products! Below are the featured member rewards; more can be found on the website!

Clio

FOLA members **get an exclusive 10% off Clio**—the leading cloud-based legal tech suite.

Until September 30th, get up to three months of Clio for free in the first year!

Why Choose Clio?

- **Streamline Your Practice:** Make case management effortless, enhance client communication, simplify transactions, and automate your document handling for greater efficiency.
- **Customize Your Experience:** With access to over 250 integrations, Clio allows you to adapt your workflow to achieve optimal results.
- **Get Continuous Support:** Our dedicated 24/5 support team is here to ensure your experience is smooth and uninterrupted, keeping your practice operational at all times.
- **Drive The Best Outcomes:** Focus on supporting your clients, maximizing their settlements, and closing their cases faster, with Clio's Personal Injury add-on.

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. 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 2026-2027 term. Please reach out to 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 the cover of the Windsor Law 3L Resume Book. It features a photograph of a modern university lounge with students sitting at tables. A blue banner on the left contains the title 'THE WINDSOR LAW 3L RESUME BOOK'. The Windsor Law University of Windsor logo is in the top right, and the text 'Windsor Law University of Windsor' is below it. At the bottom, there is promotional text about the book's content and contact information.

**THE WINDSOR LAW
3L RESUME BOOK**

Windsor Law
University of Windsor

Featuring competitive students who are eager to secure
paid articling positions for 2026-2027.

Contact windsorcso@uwindsor.ca to receive your free electronic copy.



**Osgoode's
Part-Time
Professional LLM**

Access Canada's leading
Professional LLM from the
comfort of your home.

Access Canada's leading Professional LLM from the comfort of your home.

A tailor-made LLM as unique as your experiences – [Osgoode's Part-Time Professional LLM in General Law](#) gives lawyers like you an option to combine two to three specializations to customize your learning and achieve your personal and professional goals. Choose from these specializations:

Choose from these specializations:

- Administrative Law
- Business Law
- Canadian Common Law
- Constitutional Law
- Construction Law
- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Dispute Resolution
- Energy and Infrastructure Law
- Financial Law
- General Law
- Health Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International Business Law
- Labour and Employment Law
- Privacy and Cybersecurity Law
- Securities Law
- Taxation Law

[Request more information here.](#)



LDD

Realti

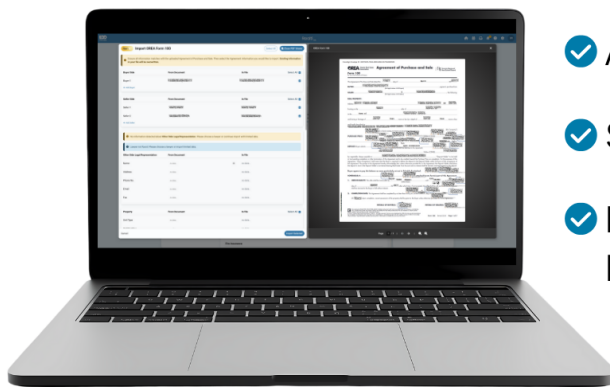
10 Free Files over 4 Weeks

1. Use Special Code Offer **FOLA2025** when signing up at ldd.ca/clients/new-clients/
2. Send us proof of membership in the local county and district law association (PDF or JPG formats) to your Business Development Manager (BDM)
3. Your BDM will note the free files

Sign Up Today

Your Quickest File Yet has arrived.

RenAI™



- ✓ AI-Powered Data Extraction
- ✓ Split-Screen Comparison
- ✓ Full Control Over Imported Data

Book a Realti demo today at ldd.ca/realti



The promotional code **FOLA2025** remains valid through November 30, 2025.



CPDOnline



CPDONLINE.CA
Click. Watch. Credit.

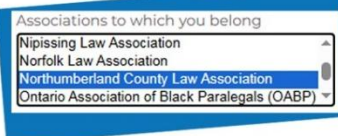
ADD PASSIVE INCOME TO YOUR ASSOCIATION'S BOTTOM LINE All Revenue, No Expenses



For almost ten years, more than two dozen Ontario law associations have earned Subscriber Revenue and Content-Sharing Revenue with CPDOnline, and your association can do the same.

Subscriber Revenue: Each year we send your association **\$100** for every lawyer who identifies as a member of your association at checkout when purchasing a CPDOnline subscription.

Simply promoting CPDOnline on your website, newsletter or through your social-media feeds can drive more subscriptions and increase this annual payment.



Content-Sharing Revenue:

Whether your CPD programs are virtual or held in-person, we can make them available to lawyers across Canada and unlock a **substantial and steady revenue stream** for your association.

Law Associations that host virtual CPD programs can simply send us the recordings; those that hold in-person conferences or programs can invite us to **videotape on-site completely free of charge**. In both cases, we promote each video on our site and split the resulting revenue 50/50 with your association.



Some partner law associations earn **tens of thousands of dollars each year** from this stream alone, and CPDOnline pays more than **sixty thousand dollars annually** to Ontario law associations.

Interested in learning how to boost your association's bottom line?
Connect with us to learn more at media@cpdonline.ca or call 1-888-295-4868



Bell

Bell

Exclusive Partner Program

Get preferred pricing on plans when you switch to Bell.



See more

Switch to Bell today and get on Canada's fastest 5G network.* As an employee or member of our preferred partners, you can get:

- Up to 30% on plans with tons of data¹
- Preferred pricing on popular phones
- The same great prices for up to 5 family members when you add them to your account

*bell.ca/network. ¹Beyond max speed, data speeds are up to 512 Kbps. One-time Connection service fee (\$70) will appear on your first bill.

To redeem this exclusive offer, follow these five easy steps:

1. Visit bell.ca/epp or call **1 833 964-4484**
1. Register as new user, choose 'Personal Email' option
2. Enter **FOLA** in the company/association field and select your company from the drop-down
3. Upload proof of **FOLA** membership (PDF or JPG formats)
4. Check out your exclusive offers from Bell



Hilton



Earn 2X Bonus Points on all stays



Earn 2X Bonus Points on all stays at Hilton hotels worldwide by 30 April 2025.
Register at HiltonHonors.com/DoubleYourStay/GB to stay and earn.

Flexible ways to spend your Points — the choice is yours



Book your next stay faster
with Points & Money.



Pool Points with friends
and family for getaways



Flexible ways to spend your
Points - the choice
is yours.

Terms & Conditions apply. © 2025 Hilton.



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) Kelly Lovell (kelly.lovell@fola.ca).

Featured Promotions

Sponsor Your Association's Event with the LDD CLE Partnership Program!

LDD, as the Organization Sponsor of FOLA, is proud to launch the CLE Partnership Program—an initiative offering financial and promotional support to help local law associations deliver accredited professional development to their members. This program is designed to make CLE more accessible and flexible, empowering lawyers to stay current in a rapidly evolving legal landscape. Associations interested in participating are invited to contact LDD and [click here to explore how this program can support their CLE efforts](#).



Federation of
Ontario Law
Associations



10% Off! OsgoodePD – The Osgoode Certificate in Negotiation

FOLA members receive 10% off using promo code **FOLA-10**

Shareholder Disputes and the Closely-Held Company 2026: Rights and Remedies for Litigators and Corporate Advisors - April 29, 2026

Business counsel and litigators require a robust set of skills and strategies for addressing the inevitable disagreements that occur in closely-held companies. OsgoodePD offers this unique, intensive one-day program to help you navigate these often complex and seemingly intractable disputes, so that you can deliver results for your clients effectively and with the highest standards of ethics and professionalism.

[Register today!](#)



County And District Law Associations

South Georgian Bay Regional Law Associations – Golf Tournament – April 30

**South Georgian Bay
Regional Law Associations
GOLF
TOURNAMENT**
HOSTED BY GREY COUNTY LAW ASSOCIATION

ALL LAWYERS WELCOME

Lora Bay Golf Course
109 EAST RIDGE DR, THORNBURY

THURSDAY
JUNE 25, 2026
Shotgun start 12 pm
Buffet Dinner and
Draw Prizes to follow

\$220
per player

Registration
Deadline:
**APRIL 30,
2026**

Email
library@greycountylaw.ca
to register



Toronto Lawyers Association - Effective Client Communication – May 11

This session will take place on **Monday, May 11**, from **12:00 pm – 1:00 pm** via **Zoom Webinar**.

This program will cover the foundational principles of professional communication including ethics and confidentiality. Come and learn about core communication skills such as active listening, plain-language explanations, effective verbal and non-verbal communication, and strong written communication practices. This program will help you communicate with clarity, empathy, professionalism and confidence.

[Register here](#)

Toronto Lawyers Association - If I Knew Then What I Know Now: Reflections from the Bench

This session will take place on **Wednesday, June 10**, from **5:00 pm – 6:30 pm** via **Zoom Webinar**.

This unique program will address these common concerns through a distinguished panel of three recently appointed Ontario judges: **Justice Darla Wilson**, Court of Appeal, **Justice Ira Parghi**, Superior Court of Justice, and **Justice Robert Tomovski**, Ontario Court of Justice. The judges will share what they have observed from the bench that they wish they had known when they were counsel, what advocacy techniques work and how advocates can be more effective.

[Register 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

LSO Seeks Appointments to JPAAC, Family Rules Committee, LAO Board of Directors, and Federal JAAC

The Law Society of Ontario is seeking positions to fill on a number of important committees:

- [Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee – East](#)
- [Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee – Central East](#)
- [Family Rules Committee](#)
- [Legal Aid Ontario Board of Directors](#)

The application deadline is **May 1, 2026**.



The LSO is also looking to fill a position on the Federal JAAC:

- [Federal Judicial Advisory Committee](#)

The application deadline is **May 15, 2026**.

More information about the roles can be found on the LSO website:

[Recommendations for External Appointments Application | Law Society of Ontario](#)

LAO: Senior Advisor (24 months)

Serve as LAO's subject matter expert in civil mental health and administrative law. Lead the management and ongoing development of LAO's Mental Health Appeals Program, support the evaluation of the mental health tariff, and provide expertise across a range of practice areas including criminal, family, refugee, and poverty law. The ideal candidate is a self-motivated strategic thinker who takes initiative, operates with a high degree of autonomy, and proactively identifies opportunities to improve services and client outcomes for some of Ontario's most vulnerable populations. The application deadline is **May 10, 2026**.

Apply here: [Senior Advisor \(24 months\) | Legal Aid Ontario](#)

Canadian Human Rights Tribunal - Member

The CHRT is pleased to share the following appointment opportunity for full-time and part-time members of the CHRT and would appreciate your support in circulating it within your networks.

Please note that the application deadline is **May 14, 2026**.

[GIC - Member, Canadian Human Rights Tribunal](#)



FOLA Executive Contacts

Allen Wynperle
Chair
allen@dwalaw.ca

Jennifer S. Rooke
First Vice Chair
Chair, PRC Committee
Southwest Representative
jrooke@mousseaulaw.com

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

Douglas W. Judson
Past Chair
info@douglasjudson.ca

Corey Wall
Treasurer
Corey@walllaw.ca

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

Ashley Gibson
Central South Representative
ashley@gnrlaw.ca

Curtis Pineiro
Central East Representative
curtis@pineirolaw.ca

Karen Seeley
Northwest Representative
Chair, Criminal Law Committee
kseeley@mcauleylaw.com

Danielle Vincent
Northeast Representative
dvincent@vincentlaw.ca

Kevin Cooke
East Representative
kcooke@cswan.com

Leanna J.T. Simpson
Southwest Representative
leanna@simpsoncoyne.ca

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

Andrew Keesmaat
Chair, Estates Law Committee
akeesmaat@anclaw.com

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

David Kornhauser
Toronto Representative
dkornhauser@ln.law

FOLA Staff Contacts

Ian Hu
Director of Policy and Advocacy
ian.hu@fola.ca

Kelly Lovell
Executive Assistant
kelly.lovell@fola.ca