



Federation of Ontario
Law Associations
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FOLA News

Issue 26: August 6, 2026

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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@fol.ca



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Featured Member Rewards Partners in this Issue:



Windsor Law
University of Windsor



Important Information

2026 FOLA Fall Plenary, November 4 to 6, London – Save the Date

The 2026 FOLA Fall Plenary will be held in London, Ontario from November 4 to 6. More info to come!

FOLA Congratulates Shalini Konanur on being elected Treasurer of the Law Society of Ontario (2026-2027)

FOLA welcomes incoming Treasurer Shalini Konanur and [extends our appreciation](#) to outgoing LSO Treasurer Peter Wardle [here](#).

We look forward to working closely with the new Treasurer to further improve the justice system for our members and the public.

Probate Wait Times: A Survey by Max Shiffman

Max Shiffman, a lawyer member from the Waterloo Region Law Association, is conducting a survey regarding current processing times facing estate practitioners. So far at least 75 responses have been received from across the province. The survey has been [covered by the Globe and Mail](#).

FOLA Estates Law Committee Chair Andrew Keesmaat asks you to please distribute and fill out the survey for estates lawyers in your Association.

Survey link: <https://bit.ly/ProbateSurvey>

2026 FOLA Spring Plenary Website Updated

[2026 FOLA Spring Plenary](#) was a success! The website is updated and contains slides, CPD and other information. Thanks to all our member associations for coming and sharing your ideas. We are also updating Youtube videos and will announce when available.

FOLA Advocacy: Current Consultations

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



LSO Access to Innovation 5-year Pilot Program Ending

The LSO A2I's 5-year pilot program ends November 2026, and input is requested by August 28, 2026. The A2I program has released a [report](#) and FOLA is drafting a response.

MAG Consultation – Implementing the *Uniform Access to Digital Assets by Fiduciaries Act* (UADAFa)

FOLA is considering submitting feedback for this consultation:

Background

UADAFa is uniform legislation developed by the Uniform Law Conference of Canada so that it can be implemented with general consistency by Canadian provinces and territories. UADAFa provides a clear right for certain fiduciaries (e.g., estate trustees and attorneys/guardians for property) to access digital assets (e.g., email and social media accounts), a process for requesting access and a requirement for the custodians of digital assets to provide that access.

Purpose of Consultation

Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General is seeking input on whether Ontario should implement UADAFa and if so, what changes should be made (if any).

The consultation paper provides an explanation of how UADAFa has been drafted and sets out questions for your consideration. Input on UADAFa is welcomed even if it doesn't directly respond to any of the listed questions.

More information about the consultation and the consultation paper can be found [here](#).

Your feedback will help the Ministry better understand the impacts of implementing UADAFa in Ontario and how best to modify UADAFa for application in Ontario.

How to Provide Feedback

The Ministry welcomes any comments you may have on this consultation paper. The consultation will close on **September 11, 2026**. Comments may be sent to MAGPolicy@Ontario.ca. If you have any questions, they may be sent to this address as well.



FOLA Advocacy: Recent Consultations

FOLA is deeply involved in advocacy work including consultations with the government, advocacy groups, and legal change-makers. In the statistics below, *consultations* is defined as including meetings and submissions with these entities, in which FOLA advocated for our members. See our advocacy efforts on our website. Please contact Ian Hu, Director of Policy & Advocacy, at ian.hu@fola.ca if you have feedback or any questions.

What We Have Done So Far in 2026: Statistics to Date	
Consultations + Lobby Day Consultations	14 + 14
Press Releases	4
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FOLA meets with new LSO Treasurer, Family Law App-Makers, and Justice Sector Stakeholders

From May to July, FOLA representatives met with the new LSO Treasurer Shalini Konanur, a number of family law court forms app-makers, justice sector stakeholders (OBA, Advocates Society, MAG), and the LSO (real estate matters). We discussed issues including recent attacks on the Rule of Law, our recent Resolution at plenary to include paralegals access to libraries, improving family law court form apps to offer more options to what has been available in the past., and real estate issues. We have also reached out to the Attorney General to discuss the Rule of Law and ways to improve estates administration.

FOLA responds to Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario Consultation regarding changes to Rules

On November 22, 2024, FOLA provided comments in response to the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario's consultation relating to the *Rules of Procedure*. The HRTTO's request for consultation is [here](#). [FOLA submitted a response on November 22, 2024](#). Following the November 22, 2024 consultation the HRTTO presented [changes to Rules and Practice Directions](#), and sought consultations due June 5, 2026.

FOLA [submitted a response](#) dated June 5, 2026.

FOLA submits feedback to MAG Consultation on Improving Information-Sharing Between Criminal and Family Courts

On April 15, 2026 the Ministry of the Attorney General (Court Services Division) released [a consultation paper](#) regarding improving information-sharing between criminal and family courts.



On April 30 FOLA [submitted our feedback](#). Thanks to board members Jennifer S. Rooke, Karen Seeley, and Terry Brandon for spearheading the submissions!

Updates for the Profession

LSO Licensee Update – June 25, 2026

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



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@fol.ca or Kelly Lovell, Executive Assistant, at kelly.lovell@fol.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.
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- **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.

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- Health Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International Business Law
- Labour and Employment Law
- Privacy and Cybersecurity Law
- Securities Law
- Taxation Law

[Request more information here.](#)



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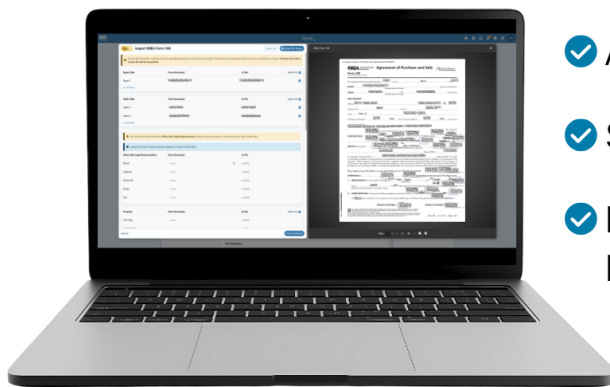
10 Free Files over 4 Weeks

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



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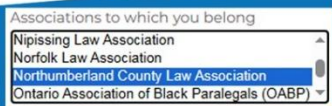
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3. Upload proof of **FOLA** membership (PDF or JPG formats)
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Hilton



GLOBAL 10% CHAIN-WIDE DISCOUNT

Team Members at **Federation of Law Associates** can receive a **10% chain-wide discount** at all North American Hilton hotels. The chain-wide discount is subject to availability, non-commissionable and valid for both business and personal travel.

Access Special Rates Discounted rates are available by booking via :

<https://www.hilton.com/en/preferred-rates/fola/>

Simply click into the link above, insert the Code:

FOLACA

to access the booking page and make your reservation.





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) and 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



County And District Law Associations

Middlesex Law Association Golf Tournament, August 25

 Join the MLA for a day on the green at FireRock with members of the Middlesex Law Association!

Date: August 25, 2026

Time: Shotgun Start at 8:00am

Location: FireRock Golf Club – 10345 Oxbow Dr, Komoka, ON N0L 1R0

Enjoy 18 holes of golf, cart rental, a delicious lunch, great company, and some fun surprises throughout the day!

[Register here](#)



Toronto Lawyers Association, September 10 - The Future of Client Acquisition, Part 1: Found or Forgotten: How Today's Clients Are Actually Choosing Their Lawyer

This session will take place on **Thursday, September 10**, from **12:00 pm – 1:00 pm via Zoom Webinar**.

In this session, we will break down what is actually happening when someone searches for legal help today. We'll explore how Search Engine Optimization (SEO), Answer Engine Optimization (AEO), local search, online authority, and AI-powered discovery tools like OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google AI Overviews, and Perplexity AI are influencing which firms get seen, trusted, and contacted and which firms never make the shortlist.

[Register here](#)

Toronto Lawyers Association, September 17 - Succeeding at Summary Trials and Simplified Procedures

This session will take place on Thursday, **September 17**, from **12:00 pm – 1:30 pm via Zoom Webinar**. Are you looking for practical tips and proven strategies to help you handle simplified procedures and summary trials with confidence?

This program is designed to equip you with the tools needed to effectively navigate simplified procedures and summary trials. Whether you are new to these processes or looking to refresh your knowledge, this program will give you insights to approach your next case with greater efficiency and success.

[Register here](#)

County of Carleton Law Association, October 17-18 – The 38th Annual Criminal Law Conference

Registration is now open for the 38th Annual Criminal Law Conference!

Join the CCLA at the 38th Annual Criminal Law Conference for 2 days of learning, collaboration, and enjoyment in the beautiful setting of Fairmont Le Château Montebello!

 Saturday, October 17 – Sunday, October 18, 2026

 Fairmont Le Château Montebello

 [REGISTER TODAY!](#)

Hi Kelly and Ian,



Would you kindly advertise this in the next newsletter?

Durham Region Law Association, October 29-30 – 2026 Fall Conference

The 6th Annual Durham Region Law Association 2026 Fall Conference planning is underway. Register today and join the DRLA on Thursday, October 29th and Friday, October 30th, 2026 at the Ajax Convention Centre in Ajax, Ontario. The DRLA is very excited to bring you another year filled with expert-led sessions on the practice of Law in Ontario. This is a special opportunity to learn and connect through professional development that will enrich your practice. This event is meant for you, whether you are a lawyer in good standing, a law clerk, paralegal or student of law or legal studies! What better way to bring in the Fall months!

The Fall Conference welcomes all your questions. Please reach out to Jennie Clarke drlalaw@bellnet.ca

The DRLA looks forward to seeing you there!

Please visit at drla.ca for all the details under the FALL CONFERENCE banner.
Please find the [registration form](#) 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

Judicial Appointments, OCJ

[The Judicial Appointments Advisory Committee \(JAAC\) is seeking qualified members of the Bar to serve as judges in the Ontario Court of Justice.](#)

JAAC follows a pool-based process and is accepting applications for judicial appointments on a continuous basis across all base court locations in Ontario. Candidates will be assessed and classified for three years from the date of application.

Applicants must have at least a combined 10 years' membership at the Bar in one of the provinces or territories of Canada.

JAAC is committed to ensuring that Ontario's judiciary reflects the excellence and diversity of our legal community. We strongly encourage applications from qualified candidates of diverse backgrounds. Bilingual candidates are also strongly encouraged to apply.



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