

FOLA's WEEKLY UPDATE April 27, 2022 Summary

SUPERIOUR COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES

The Toronto Region's <u>Consolidated Practice Direction Concerning the Estates List in the Toronto Region</u> has been amended to clarify procedures regarding passings of accounts and indicates that confirmation forms are due five business days in advance of the hearing.

ONTARIO COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES:

No updates this week

COURT OF APPEAL FOR ONTARIO UPDATES:

No updates this week

MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

NOTICE TO LEGAL PROFESSION - On April 26, 2022, a regulation was filed to amend court rules and forms for estates proceedings in the Superior Court of Justice: <u>O. Reg. 435/22</u>, amending the Rules of Civil Procedure. The revised estates forms are published on the <u>Ontario Court Forms website</u>. The rule and form amendments come into effect on July 1st, 2022.

FOLA SUBMISSIONS:

On April 21, 2022, FOLA sent in our Submission in response to the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services' proposed regulations related to purchasers of condominium homes. You can download our Submission <u>here</u>.

NEW MEMBER BENEFIT!

ReSTAYS OTTAWA: *re*Stays Ottawa is a luxury boutique property of 111 suites, located between Queen & Sparks Street one block south of Parliament Hill. It offers a unique and more convenient way of traveling for business and for pleasure with it's stylish and modern fully furnished suites. And Law Association members get a 15% discount off the standard rates! Learn more <u>here</u>. If prompted for a code, it is FOLA.

ONTARIO ELECTION UPDATE

NDP PLATFORM: The NDP have released their <u>Election 2022 Platform</u>. Copied below are their commitments in the area of Access to Justice.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE: CLIMATE, JOBS, JUSTICE: THE GREEN NEW DEMOCRATIC DEAL (Chapter 6)

Everyone in Ontario deserves equal access to justice. Years of Liberal and Conservative underfunding and cuts have caused a major court case backlog that ballooned to more than 60,000 cases during the pandemic. Doug

Ford's reckless cut to Legal Aid by one third has made it harder for many Ontarians to access justice. Ontario's tribunals are facing unprecedented delays and barriers to access, and Ontarians have lost confidence in the Ford Conservatives' appointment process.

• Reverse Doug Ford's cuts to Legal Aid and start fixing the inadequacies of Ontario's legal aid system. We'll increase funding for summary legal advice, unbundled legal services, and public interest litigation, and ensure more people qualify for legal assistance. We'll work with Legal Aid to provide appropriate supports.

• Increase resources for criminal diversion programs and dedicated diversion courts to ensure people with mental health and addiction issues, as well as young and underhoused people, are not caught in a self-perpetuating cycle of criminality.

• Fix Ontario's broken tribunal system. We'll create an independent Adjudicative Tribunal Justice Council to ensure tribunals are fully staffed with impartial expert adjudicators and vacancies are filled in a timely manner.

Unfortunately, the document itself contains no financial tables, so the magnitude of the commitments remains unknown. During the press conference, Andrea Horwath stated that the party will release the financial costing once the provincial budget has been released and they have had the opportunity to adjust their plan based on the province's projections.

PUBLIC PROSECUTION SERVICE OF CANADA

The Public Prosecution Service of Canada is inviting applications from private-sector lawyers or law firms with experience in prosecuting or defending criminal matters, to act as Agents of the Director of Public Prosecutions. A Fixed-Term Agreement (contract) is currently available in Parry Sound, including the satellite court of Sunridge. Learn more <u>here</u>.

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS?

Law Association members are welcome to send any issues/concerns related to the above Updates to FOLA by emailing Katie at <u>katie.robinette@fola.ca</u>. We will address them in as timely a manner as possible. Please also note that FOLA cannot assist in issues related to a specific case and the Courts will NOT provide clarification on any Notice to the Profession.