



FOLA'S WEEKLY COURTS UPDATE

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March 1, 2023

SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES

SCJ's GUIDELINES TO DETERMINE THE MODE OF PROCEEDING IN CIVIL, FAMILY, CRIMINAL, & SCC:

The Office of the Chief Justice of the SCJ is seeking input on the Guidelines to Determine the Mode of Proceeding in Civil, Family, Criminal and Small Claims Court. **Deadline is March 15th.** [Please visit here to learn more.](#)

ONTARIO COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES:

No updates this week

COURT OF APPEAL FOR ONTARIO UPDATES:

No updates this week

OTHER ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NEWS

REMINDER: ONTARIO'S NOT-FOR-PROFIT ACT: Ontario's Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) took effect on October 19, 2021. Existing non-profits have 3 years from that date to bring their governing documents into compliance with the new law. Learn more on our [ONCA Resource Page](#).

FOLA

❖ LOBBY DAY 2023

FOLA's 2023 Lobby Day will take place on March 7th via Zoom. Registration is now closed. Whether or not you've registered, you can check out what we have planned and read our Talking Points on our Lobby Day webpage [here](#).

FOLA sent out a Media Release encouraging members of the media to reach out to FOLA spokespeople to discuss our priority issues. We encourage individual participants and/or Law Associations to send reach out to local media contacts and do the same. Read our Media Release [here](#). If you have any questions about speaking with the media, feel free to email Katie at katie.robinette@fola.ca and put Lobby Day Media in the subject line.

- ❖ **FOLA SUBMISSIONS:** On February 22, 2023, FOLA sent in a letter to the Chief Justice of the SCJ regarding growing concerns about the court's expectations regarding the use of CaseLines. You can read that letter [here](#).
- ❖ **FEATURED MEMBER REWARD #1:** Bell Mobility has a new offer for the rest of February! [Learn more and shop now!](#)
- ❖ **FEATURED MEMBER REWARD #2:** Hilton Hotels is offering Double Points on every stay (plus 1,000 Bonus Points) each time you stay with a different brand within the Hilton portfolio. Offer available through April 30, 2023. [Learn more and book your stay today!](#)

- ❖ **FEATURED MEMBER REWARD #3:** Destination CPD is back Destination CPD is thrilled to invite FOLA members to their annual criminal law conference in Las Vegas from May 3-5, 2023. All Law Association members get 20% off! [Learn more & book your trip!](#)
- ❖ **FREE OFFER FROM JURISAGE:** Sign up for free customized daily Canadian case law summaries with Jurisage. [Learn more & sign up here.](#)
- ❖ **FOLA's MARCH NEWSLETTER:** FOLA's March newsletter is now available. You can access it [here.](#)

BENCHER ELECTIONS

- ❖ **BENCHER ELECTIONS:** Nominations have now closed. Voting will occur online in April 2023 with the results announced on May 1, 2023 after the tabulation of votes. Once the Law Society posts the Candidate profiles on their website, FOLA will begin to populate our website with mini candidate bios with links to learn more about them. We will also be sending out a survey to all candidates asking them a series of questions to help Law Association members be better able to identify "FOLA Friendly". Responses will be added to our website as they come in. You can find more information on [FOLA's Bencher Elections webpage.](#) If you want to have a quick look at the candidates, click [here.](#) Note that bios and contact info is not yet available.

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

- ❖ **LSO AGM:** The Law Society's AGM will take place virtually on May 10 at 5:15pm.

LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

- ❖ **GRANTS:** The Law Foundation of Ontario is currently inviting applications for its 2023 Responsive program. Responsive grants fund community-led initiatives that improve access to justice. Responsive grants aim to encourage new projects that fill existing legal gaps, supplement existing services, or otherwise help address emerging needs by connecting more people to legal information and support, especially people who are not currently being reached. [Learn more & apply here.](#) **Deadline is April 11th**
- ❖ **AWARDS:** The Law Foundation of Ontario is currently seeking nominations for the Guthrie Award. [Learn more here.](#) **Deadline is March 24th.**

JOBS

- ❖ **ONTARIO GOVERNMENT:** The Government of Ontario offers a challenging opportunity for an experienced labour and employment lawyer to serve as a full-time Vice-Chair of the Ontario Labour Relations Board. **Deadline is March 20th.** [Learn more & apply here.](#)

ASSOCIATION & OTHER EVENTS & COURSES

OSGOODE PD: THE OSGOODE CERTIFICATE IN FAMILY LAW SKILLS AND PRACTICE Dates: Mar 1, 8, 22, 29 & Apr 5, 12, 19, 26 & May 10, 2023 - Online (Live) (9 Modules)

If you practise or want to practise Family Law - you MUST take this unique, hands-on skills program. Over 9 intensive modules - spread out over 3 months - you will work closely with and receive personalized feedback from senior family law judges, experienced counsel, and specially trained simulated clients. With hands-on skills workshops and interactive, discussion-based lectures you will acquire the key foundational knowledge and practical skills you need to practice family law with confidence.

The Osgoode Certificate in Family Law Skills and Practice was designed and is delivered by the leading family law judges, lawyers and experts. Focusing on the practical, we will work through the key stages of a family law file using a combination of in-depth case studies, simulated clients, and skills workshops. You will benefit from individualized feedback and practice learned concepts

in a supportive learning environment. In an intimate online environment, you will have lots of opportunities to ask questions, engage with faculty and forge valuable connections with other family law professionals. Given the interactive nature of this program, space is strictly limited. Reserve your place now to take advantage of this unique learning opportunity.

[Learn more & register here](#)

OSGOODE PD - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

March 8-9, 2023 9:00 am to 5:00pm (In-Person or Online [Live])

Now in its 17th year, this acclaimed interactive program is specifically designed for legal professionals. Program Director Professor John Friedlan reviews complex concepts in a clear and interactive manner, providing you with comprehensive and practical guidance so that you can effectively understand analyze financial statements and reports in your practice.

[Learn more & register here](#)

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY PROGRAM

March 8, 2023, 5:30 PM to 7:15 PM

Innovation and technology for gender equality in the legal professions

Please join the Law Society of Ontario, the Ontario Bar Association's Women Lawyers Forum, the Women's Law Association of Ontario, the Women's Paralegal Association of Ontario, the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund, the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic and Young Women in Law, for their annual International Women's Day program.

[Learn more & register here](#)

ONTARIO MOCK TRIAL ASSOCIATION (OMTA)

March 11th - 6-9pm

Centre for Innovation, 720 Bathurst Street, Toronto

The official launch of the OMTA

[Learn more & register here](#)

THE OSGOODE CERTIFICATE IN MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT LAW AND PRACTICE (TORT AND ACCIDENT BENEFITS)

Dates: Apr 12, 17, 24 & May 1 & 8, 2023 (5 Modules) - online (live)

Once seen as an acceptable area for 'dabblers', injury law is shaping up as a practice area in which only those with a pronounced edge in practical expertise will prevail. This unique, intensive Certificate program will give you the edge you need to handle injury files effectively as well as efficiently, on both the tort and AB sides, and from plaintiffs' and defendants'/insurer's perspectives.

Over five non-consecutive one-day modules-via Zoom from the convenience of your office or home- you will:

- acquire essential knowledge as distilled by experts,
- learn where the pitfalls are and how to avoid or surmount them
- build your practice skills and have your most pressing questions answered.

[Learn more & register here](#)

OSGOODE PD: 12TH ANNUAL RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ADVANCED AND COMPLEX ISSUES IN PROPERTY AND EQUALIZATION

Dates: Apr 13, 2023 In-Person Online (Live) // May 10, 2023 Online (Replay)

Property and equalization issues just keep getting more complex. Which means you need to more ready than ever. This annual OsgoodePD program – designed and delivered by the leading family law experts – focuses on the more complex and challenging current and emerging issues in property and equalization.

This is not a quick summary of the year in review. Rather, it is an in-depth analysis of the critical issues confronting the family law bar. Invest a day acquiring the key knowledge, practical strategies and contacts you need to manage these challenges – and your clients – with confidence.
[Learn more & register here](#)

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO: HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY PROGRAM

April 18, 2023, 5:30 PM to 7:15 PM (virtual event)

Save the date. More information coming soon

[Learn more here](#)

TLA EVENT: ESCAPING THE PRISON OF BELLIGERENCE: MENTAL WELLNESS FOR LAWYERS

Thursday, April 20, 2022 (Free virtual event)

Incivility in the practice of law is reaching epic levels. The business of law has transformed the art of argument as a form of discourse into a war of words. Hyper-aggressiveness is becoming synonymous with good advocacy. This has a significantly negative impact on our mental health, and ultimately on the credibility of our justice system. In this session, the TLA panel will explore the toxic effect of high-conflict behaviour on our mental health, our relationships with others, and discuss the importance of self-accountability.

[Learn more and register here](#)

SAVE THE DATE: DURHAM REGION LAW ASSOCIATION 2nd ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

DATE: Thursday, September 28 & Friday September 29, 2023

Ajax Convention Centre

Information and registration coming soon

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS?

COURT WORKING GROUPS

SCJ FAMILY LAW & IN-PERSON vs. ONLINE MATTERS

If you have ongoing concerns regarding in-person vs online appearances at the SCJ, please direct your concerns to Katie at katie.robinette@fola.ca and she will relay them to our Family Law Working Group.

SCJ SMALL CLAIMS COURT WORKING GROUP: FOLA is requesting that practitioners (as well as Deputy Judges) take a moment to consider and comment on what works well and what could use improvement in our Small Claims Court so that constructive feedback can continue to flow to the Small Claims Court Working Group. Please send comments to Katie at katie.robinette@fola.ca.

EVERYTHING ELSE

Law Association members are welcome to send any issues/concerns related to the above Updates by FOLA by emailing Katie at katie.robinette@fola.ca. 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.