



FOLA'S WEEKLY COURTS UPDATE

Fola.ca

FOLA'S WEEKLY UPDATE January 25, 2023

SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES

No updates this week

ONTARIO COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES:

No updates this week

OCJ JUDICIAL VACANCY

No updates this week

COURT OF APPEAL FOR ONTARIO UPDATES:

No updates this week

MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

JUSTICE SERVICES ONLINE - LIVE (VIRTUAL) FEEDBACK SESSIONS

FOLA and MAG are planning on co-hosting a series of regional live virtual one-hour feedback sessions for Ontario lawyers and legal support staff who have used the JSO and have questions, suggestions, or other feedback about the portals. While we are still working out dates, please send Katie (katie.robinette@fola.ca) any questions and issues you have with the JSO and we will work to include these into the sessions and use them to craft an updated FAQ page.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

2023 BUDGET CONSULTATIONS

The Ontario Government is currently seeking submissions/comment in advance of their 2023 Budget. FOLA will be making a written submission. If you would like to make suggestions/comments for FOLA to consider in our Submission, please send them to Katie at katie.robinette@fola.ca by January 30th. You can also make your own submission online. Learn more [here](#). Deadline is February 10th.

ONTARIO'S STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE POLICY

Ontario's Standing Committee on Justice Policy is conducting a study on the reform of Canada's bail system as it relates to the provincial administration of justice and public safety with regard to persons accused of violent offences or offences associated with firearms or other weapons. The Committee intends to hold public hearings on **Monday, January 30, 2023 and Tuesday, January 31, 2023**.

If you and/or your Association would like to send a written submission, you must do so by **7:00 p.m. (EST) on Tuesday, January 31, 2023**. Learn more [here](#).

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

- ❖ **BELL LET'S TALK DAY:** Today is #BellLetsTalk Day. Each time you Tweet (retweet's included!) with the hashtag #BellLetsTalk, Bell will donate 5cents to mental health charities across Canada. FOLA has curated tweets you can use. Learn more on our [Mental Health Resource Page](#). Want to do something even easier? Simply click here and retweet this [Tweet](#).
- ❖ **LOBBY DAY 2023**
FOLA's 2023 Lobby Day will take place on March 7th via Zoom. Registration is free and is open to all members of Law Associations (not just Presidents!). Learn more & register [here](#). Deadline to register is January 30th.
- ❖ **FOLA LETTER TO THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (ONTARIO) RE: POLICE SERVICES ACT**
Last week, FOLA sent in a letter to Ontario's Solicitor General, The Honourable Michael Kerzner, MPP, drawing his attention to the current wording of section 27(13) of the Act, which prohibits criminal defence lawyers from serving on a police services board. You can read that letter [here](#).
- ❖ **REMINDER: NEW MEMBER REWARD**
FOLA is proud to announce a partnership with [Bell Mobility](#)! Get your family on Canada's best national network this new year. Enjoy preferred pricing on the latest phones and plans. [Check out special pricing for Law Association Members!](#)
- ❖ **THE WINDSOR LAW 3L RESUME BOOK FOR ARTICLING:** The Windsor Law 3L Resume Book features competitive students who are eager to secure paid articling opportunities for 2023 - 24. Employers who are interested in hiring an articling student can request our Resume Book from our Career Services Office. Simply email windsorcso@uwindsor.ca to receive your free electronic copy today! If you prefer to post a paid articling opportunity, please email your job posting to windsorcso@uwindsor.ca.
- ❖ **FOLA AWARDS 2023:** FOLA'S 2023 Awards have changed a bit. We have changed (slightly) the eligibility requirements for the Presidents' Award and the Luminary Award (for librarian staff and association staff) and have replaced the Distinguished Service Award with the Emerging Leader Award. Nominations are now open and full eligibility requirements and nomination forms can be found [here](#).
- ❖ **JOBS**
ONTARIO JUSTICE EDUCATION NETWORK (OJEN) - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: The OJEN is a charitable not-for-profit, non-governmental organization with a province-wide mandate. They develop innovative educational tools that introduce young people to the justice system, help them understand the law, and build their legal capability. The OJEN works to help prepare young people to manage the legal aspects of problems that arise in their own lives. The Executive Director is responsible for all operations at OJEN. Leading and supporting a close-knit, collaborative staff, the Executive Director coordinates and ensures the effective development and delivery of OJEN's public legal education programs and resources. As a community-focused leader, the Executive Director develops relationships and partnerships with individuals and organizations in the legal, education and community sectors.
[Learn more & apply here](#). Deadline is Feb 9th.

ASSOCIATION EVENTS

PEEL LAW ASSOCIATION WINTER SOCIAL

DATE: January 26, 2023 from 4-5 at the PLA Lounge, Brampton Courthouse, Suite 160

The PLA invites you to join them as they celebrate their 75th birthday!

Light refreshments will be served.

Bring your business card - you could win free books!

[Learn more & register](#)

MIDDLESEX LAW ASSOCIATION: WORKING WITH DATA & INFORMATION FOR IN-HOUSE LAWYERS

DATE: Tuesday, January 31st, 8:30-12:30 In-person at the Residence Inn by Marriott

The morning Conference will include:

- New legislation on electronic monitoring of employees
- Best practices for Caselines/ tendering evidence in remote hearings/ trials
- Use of arbitration for civil case management/ dispute resolutions
- Cyberattacks and Protection of Data
- Research resources available through the MLA

[Learn more and register](#)

PEEL LAW ASSOCIATION: PUTTING ON THE RED SASH

DATE: Wednesday, February 15, 5:00-6:30pm (by Zoom)

Learn about what takes place on the other side of the Bench!

Join the PLA as their speakers talk about their experiences transitioning from lawyers to members of the Judiciary. They will touch upon their new duties as part of the Judiciary, what training they had to undertake for their new roles, and what it is really like to be a judge.

[Learn more and register](#)

PLA: HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND CHILD PROTECTION PRACTICE

Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 4pm (in-person event)

Learn more about human trafficking and what is being done to protect children in Peel.

Topics discussed will include:

- Human trafficking and sex trafficking - recruitment, myths, signs, and impacts
- Changes to the CYFSA relating to human trafficking cases.
- Community support agency POVs

Of interest to counsel who are new to child protection law - come learn about

- Areas of legal representation in a child protection case
- Requirements for LAO child protection panel
- LAO child protection mentorship program

[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](#)

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

LIRN

REMINDER: DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING BUSINESS CASES FOR EXCESS FUNDS:

LiRN has once again extended the deadline for fund balance proposals. The new deadline for submitting your business case is **TODAY (Jan 25, 2023)**.

Association's business cases will be presented to LiRN's Audit and Finance Committee and Board meetings, currently scheduled in February. Associations will be notified of the results of the Board meeting as soon as practicable thereafter.

As a reminder, the business cases should include:

- The initiative
- The cost of the initiative
- The amount of the excess fund balance required
- How the initiative aligns with LiRN's mandate and supports and improves the library network
- How the initiative relates to library expenses that the LiRN grant covers, including:
 - o Library staff salaries
 - o Collection expenses
 - o Expenses related to the operation of the library
 - o Some capital expenses related to the library. Examples include library furniture, bookshelves, computers, printers, and copiers. Note that some equipment such as photocopiers may be more cost effectively procured centrally and identifying the equipment need is a necessary first step.

Please note that, as previously communicated, the Q1 grants are unaffected by the fund balance recovery process. Please contact Theresa Leitch if you have any questions: TLeitch@lirn.ca

Missed the info session? We have a recording!

[Recording of the LIRN Fund Balance Recovery Info Session \(Jan 2023\)](#)

Passcode: .4DwA80w

REMINDER: LAW LIBRARIES - HIRING STAFF

When you do hire new staff, please let FOLA, OCLA, and LiRN know of the new hire. You can email FOLA at katie.robINETTE@fola.ca, OCLA at Shuie@waterloolaw.org and LiRN at TLeitch@lirn.ca.

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

- ❖ **REMINDER - BENCHER ELECTIONS:** Nominations are now open for the 2023 Bencher Elections! You can find more information on [FOLA's Bencher Elections webpage](#). Information as to how FOLA will be involved in these elections will be discussed at our Fall 2022 Plenary and will be posted on that page following the event. Also, over the coming weeks, FOLA will be adding resources for those considering running - so please do visit this page regularly! **Nominations are open until February 24th and voting will occur online in April 2023 with the results announced on May 1, 2023 after the tabulation of votes.**
- ❖ **THINKING ABOUT RUNNING AS A BENCHER?** Cheryl Siran, a Bencher from Kenora, has written a guest article for FOLA about what being a Bencher is really about. It's on our Bencher elections page [here](#).
- ❖ **LSO CONVOCATION:** LSO's next Convocation will take place Feb 25th starting at 9am. Live weblink, Agenda, and materials will be accessible [here](#) closer to the date.
- ❖ **LSO AGM:** The Law Society's AGM will take place virtually on May 10 at 5:15pm.

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 to 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.