



# FOLA'S WEEKLY COURTS UPDATE

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## FOLA'S WEEKLY UPDATE April 26, 2023

### **SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES**

[CaseLines in the Superior Court of Justice - Quick Tips](#)

### **ONTARIO COURT OF JUSTICE UPDATES:**

No updates this week

### **COURT OF APPEAL FOR ONTARIO UPDATES:**

No updates this week

### **MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**JUSTICE SERVICES ONLINE FEEDBACK SESSIONS:** In late March, MAG and FOLA hosted a series of regional JSO Feedback Sessions. These sessions offered productive and respectful dialogue between the ministry, bar, and bench on online filing services and gave JSO users the opportunity to ask questions, share any challenges they may be experiencing, and suggest possible improvements to the platform, both in advance of and during the sessions. The ministry received important feedback about JSO, such as suggestions to further increase document size limitations and streamline user communication with court staff about a submission. The JSO project team is carefully reviewing all of the feedback and, in response, is exploring ways to enhance JSO and related operational processes. A summary of the feedback when available. In the meantime, here is a [link](#) to the final version of the presentation deck used at the sessions.

### **JUDICIAL VACANCIES - REMINDERS:**

#### **ASSOCIATE JUDGE (TORONTO)**

Associate Judges perform judicial duties in civil actions in the Superior Court of Justice, exercising the jurisdiction assigned to Associate Judges by the Rules of Civil Procedure. MAG is currently accepting applications for an Associate Judge in Toronto. **Deadline is May 3<sup>rd</sup>.** [Learn more & apply here.](#)

### **OTHER ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NEWS**

#### **MINISTRY OF FINANCE - FAMILY LAW CONSULTATIONS (MULTI-EMPLOYER PENSION PLANS)**

The Ministry of Finance (MOF) is proposing to establish a permanent framework for target benefit plans in regulations made under the Pensions Benefits Act. This framework will impact how the value of pension benefits is calculated for the purposes of family law matters for all Multi-Employer Pension Plans (MEPPs) that can reduce accrued benefits. [Learn more \(including information on how to send comments\) here.](#)

## MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS & HOUSING

**RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT, 2006:** The Ministry is seeking feedback on proposed changes to help protect tenants from bad faith renovation evictions. **Deadline is May 21<sup>st</sup>.** [Learn more here.](#)

**RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT, 2006:** The Ministry is seeking feedback on proposed changes to the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA) which would clarify and enhance rules related to the installation of air conditioning (A/C) units and enhance tenant access. **Deadline is May 6<sup>th</sup>.** [Learn more here.](#)

**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

- ❖ **FOLA'S SPRING 2023 PLENARY:** FOLA will be hosting our Spring 2023 Plenary from May 10-12<sup>th</sup> in Toronto. With a theme of **Growth & Opportunities**", we have great speakers, panels, and sessions lined up. Please take a moment to check out our Agenda, Speaker Bios, and Sponsors [here.](#)
- ❖ **FEATURED MEMBER REWARD #1:** Bell Mobility has a new special offer this month. [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!](#)
- ❖ **FOLA SUBMISSIONS:** In March, FOLA was asked by the Chair of the Bifurcation Subcommittee of the Civil Rules Committee to provide comment on proposed amendments to Rule 6.1.01 of the Rules of Civil Procedure. You can read that letter [here.](#) On April 25<sup>th</sup>, FOLA responded with a formal Submission, which you can read [here.](#)
- ❖ **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 library 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.](#)

## BENCHER ELECTIONS -

- ❖ **BENCHER ELECTIONS:** Voting closes on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 5pm! You can vote online or by phone. Learn more about the voting process on our [FOLA's Bencher Elections webpage.](#)
- ❖ **BE AN INFORMED VOTER:** To help Law Association members identify "FOLA Friendly" candidates, FOLA sent a survey to all Candidates. You can find all responses from Candidates who completed the survey by deadline (alphabetically by region - starting with Central East) [here.](#) To learn more about our survey, please visit [FOLA's Bencher Elections webpage.](#)
- ❖ **FOLA ENDORSEMENT:** FOLA's board has endorsed its past chairs and directors who are running in the 2023 bencher election: Cheryl Siran, Michael Winward, & Margaret Waddell - each of whom have all been strong advocates for sustainable courthouse law library funding. That said, FOLA recognizes that there are other law association leaders running in this election who are also supportive of libraries. You can see our announcement and learn more about the Candidates who are active in their Law Associations and are supportive of Law Libraries on our [Bencher Elections page.](#)
- ❖ **FOLA PLUG:** [Notice from Stewart Title wanted to remind clients that the Law Society of Ontario's Bencher Election is underway.](#) *Note: they encourage candidates to visit FOLA's website*

## APPOINTMENTS/JOBS

- ❖ **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 the following Ontario locations: Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (including Cornwall and the satellite courts of Alexandria and Morrisburg); Hastings County (including Belleville and the satellite courts of Bancroft); and Prince Edward County (including Picton). **Deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup>.**
- ❖ **ONTARIO SECURITIES COMMISSION (OCS) - CAPITAL MARKETS TRIBUNAL:** The Capital Markets Tribunal, an independent tribunal that is a division of the OSC, seeks applicants for part-time member positions with adjudicative and regulatory expertise. **Deadline is May 4<sup>th</sup>.**
- ❖ **ONTARIO LAND TRIBUNAL:** Ontario Land Tribunal is an independent and impartial tribunal which adjudicates matters related to land use planning, environmental protection, cultural heritage protection, land valuation and compensation, mining disputes and other matters. Ontario Land Tribunal is seeking full-time and part-time Members to adjudicate cases in relation to a range of matters governed by a broad range of statutes. **Deadline is May 14<sup>th</sup>.**
- ❖ **LICENCE APPEAL TRIBUNAL (LAT):** The LAT derives its legislative authority from the Licence Appeal Tribunal Act, 1999. The LAT adjudicates and resolves appeals concerning compensation claims and licensing decisions made by a variety of regulators under laws that protect consumers and the public and ensure the integrity of the regulated businesses and occupations. Common appeal types that come before the LAT involve liquor licenses, new home warranty claims, medical suspension of driver's licences, impoundment of motor vehicles and licensing of various businesses and occupations. In addition, the Automobile Accident Benefits Service (AABS) division of the LAT accepts applications for automobile insurance dispute resolution. The LAT is currently seeking applications for Tribunals Ontario is seeking full-time and part-time Members for the Licence Appeal Tribunal. **Deadline is May 14<sup>th</sup>.**
- ❖ **JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (MULTIPLE):** At the request of the Attorney General, and in accordance with the Justices of the Peace Act, the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee (the Committee) invites applications for vacant Justice of the Peace positions in the Province of Ontario in multiple locations across the province. **Deadline is May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

**Learn more & apply to any of the above postings on our [Job Board](#).**

## LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

- ❖ **NEXT LSO CONVOCATION:** The next Convocation will be held tomorrow (April 27). Information will be posted on their website closer to the event.
- ❖ **LSO AGM:** The Law Society's AGM will take place virtually on May 10 at 5:15pm. Watch the [LSO Portal](#) for log-in and meeting information and take a moment to check your [Portal](#) account now to ensure you have your credentials and that they are up to date.
- ❖ **FOLA MOTION AT THE LSO's AGM:** FOLA is bringing a motion to have the LSO devote more resources to ensuring access to lawyers in less populated areas of the province. As many of you will know the population of lawyers is not getting any younger but, in some areas, people in need of legal services will not be able to get a lawyer. As time goes on this situation is getting worse. FOLA's motion asks the LSO to develop a plan and devote resources to this growing challenge. We encourage you to attend the AGM and support our Motion. [Read our Motion here](#).
- ❖ **EXTERNAL APPOINTMENTS - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:** As part of its mandate, the Law Society recommends and makes appointments to a variety of boards, councils and committees. The Law Society is currently seeking applications from qualified lawyers for the Judicial

Appointments Advisory Committee. **The application deadline is May 10<sup>th</sup>.** [Learn more & apply here.](#)

## ASSOCIATION EVENTS

### **MLA - STRAIGHT FROM THE BENCH - 2023**

**May 1, 2023**

The MLA is excited to open registration for their ever-popular Straight from the Bench Conference taking place Monday, May 1st. Back to in-person for the first time since 2019, our Co-Chairs (Rasha El-Tawil, John Nicholson, Evelyn ten Cate, and Dara Lambe) are presenting an incredible agenda with keynote, retired Justice George R. Strathy as well as three panels which include Mentorship, Advocacy Tips for Motions & Pre-trials, and Appellate Advocacy: Best Practices at the Court of Appeal. There are many more sought-after presenters from among their MLA membership and our regional judiciary. Information can be found on their registration page and each week leading up to the Conference, they will profile the exceptional leadership and expertise at this year's Straight from the Bench.

[Learn More & Register here](#)

### **HALTON COUNTY LAW ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL ESTATES SEMINAR**

**Date: Friday, May 12, 2023, 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM**

Oakville Golf Club, 1154 Sixth Line, Oakville L6H 6M1

This program contains 1.5 Professionalism Hour(s) and 1.0 Substantive Hour(s)

[Learn more and register here](#)

### **SAVE THE DATE: DURHAM REGION LAW ASSOCIATION 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.robinette@fol.ca](mailto:katie.robinette@fol.ca) and they will be shared with 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.robinette@fol.ca](mailto:katie.robinette@fol.ca).

**ANYTHING ELSE?** Email Katie at [katie.robinette@fol.ca](mailto:katie.robinette@fol.ca)