

2018 FALL PLENARY REPORT



From November 7th through November 9th, 2018, Law Association Presidents, Law Association delegates and Law Association Library staff members in Waterloo, ON to attend FOLA's Fall Plenary. Guests heard from notable key note speakers such as Ontario's Attorney General, the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Law Society of Ontario Treasurer Malcolm Mercer, Law Society of Ontario Bencher Joe Groia, and Ottawa Lawyer Steve Kelly, and your FOLA Executive. With an overarching theme of mental health and wellness in the legal profession, FOLA also hosted a special panel on mental health, addictions, and mindfulness and unveiled a new webpage dedicated to providing mental health resources that many in our profession will find valuable.

FOLA also appreciates how important membership recruitment and retention is to you. To that end, we also offered a preview of our new videos highlighting the value of membership in local law associations.

Capping off the three-day meeting was the election of FOLA's new executive led by our new Chair, Mike Winward.

BONUS: Three of the sessions were accredited for professional content by the LSO. They are noted below and if you watch them in full, they can qualify towards your 2018 credits!

PLENARY OVERVIEW

Direct links to videos and mini summaries are provided below in order of Plenary appearance. For downloadable copies of presentations, please visit: <https://fola.ca/fola-plenary-nov-2018> (note that all videos are also available on this page)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7th, 2018

FOLA kicked off Plenary with an opening dinner with guest speaker Steve Kelly, a lawyer in Ottawa on the subject of "What Happens When You Talk Openly About Your Mental Illness?" Steve spoke openly and, at times, humourously, and shared his experience about meeting clients' needs while coping with depression.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8th, 2018

Thursday started early with an optional YOGA class and breakfast before the formal proceedings began. Following introductory remarks and roll call, [FOLA's Executive Director](#) provided an update of activities and a preview of [FOLA's new videos](#).

[REPORTS FROM FOLA'S COMMITTEE CHAIRS PART I](#)

Bill C-75 - Nathan Baker & Terry Brandon

Family Law - Valerie Brown

Law Society of Ontario Governance Review - John Krawchenko

Legal Aid - Terry Brandon

[REPORTS FROM FOLA'S COMMITTEE CHAIRS PART II](#)

Licensing & Accreditation Reform – Brigid Wilkinson
Paralegals – Alfred Schorr
Real Estate – Merredith MacLennan & Eldon Horner

LIRN REPORT

Jaye Hooper, FOLA Chair
Nathan Baker, FOLA PRC Committee Chair

LUNCHEON KEYNOTE GUEST SPEAKER

Ontario's Attorney General, Hon. Caroline Mulroney

DRUG IMPAIRED DRIVING – WATCH OUT FOR THE “POT” HOLES - PRESENTATION

Nathan Baker, FOLA Central East Regional Chair/PRC Committee Chair

RECOGNIZING STRESS & PROMOTING WELLNESS IN THE PROFESSION - PANEL

Darryl Singer, SINGER Barristers Professional Corporation
Janet Ozembloski, Vice President, Legal Counsel, Medcan
Leah Gardiner, Executive Director & Lead Trainer, Mindfulness Without Borders
Percy G., Barrister & Solicitor
Terry Brandon, Moderator (FOLA SW Regional Chair)

This Session is Approved for 1 hour of [Professionalism Content](#)



LSO CONSULTATION: UNLOCKING, UNBUNDLING & PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES - PANEL

Cara-Marie O'Hagan, Executive Director, Policy Division, LSO;
Sheena Weir, Executive Director, External Relations & Communications, LSO

This Session is Approved for 1 hour of [Professionalism Content](#)



WINE, WISDOM AND WITHSTANDING - PRESENTATION

Joe Groia, Law Society Bencher

TREASURER'S RECEPTION AND DINNER

Key Note Speaker: Treasurer Malcolm Mercer

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 2018

Due to popular demand, Friday morning began with another yoga session.

Delegates gathered for breakfast with their respective regional colleagues. This part was unrecorded, but we encourage you to connect with your law association President if you are interested in getting an update.

BRIEFING and Q&A ON LAW SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

Diana Miles, CEO

ENHANCED CASE MANAGEMENT PILOT PROJECT

Margaret L. Waddell, Waddell Phillips PC

LawPRO BRIEFING

Dan Pinnington, President & CEO, LAWPRO

This Session is Approved for 1 hour of Professionalism Content



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And of course, the Plenary closed with the election of FOLA's new executive. Click [here](#) to view the new executive list.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!!



FOLA'S PAST CHAIR, JAYE HOOPER, HON. CAROLINE MULRONEY, & FOLA'S NEW CHAIR, MIKE WINWARD

