



## **FOLA’s Eastern Regional Report for May 2021 Plenary**

The associations of the East Region have continued to cope extremely well under circumstances which continue to be trying for all of us. Annual meetings have been held virtually, new Presidents have come in, and our associations have been actively supporting their members in the context of the New World that the pandemic has brought to the profession. Bench and Bar committees have been successful in bridging communication gaps regarding the management of change at the local level. Continue Professional Development has occurred virtually to keep the members of our profession current on everything from pandemic changes to will and power of attorney signing, to recent changes to family law procedures.

Concern has been regularly expressed by our east region members in relation to the recent LIRN budget cuts. The results from those cuts are still being felt, but associations have had to make difficult choices regarding collection cuts, and even staffing in some instances has come under scrutiny. Some concern has been raised also about the potential for reduction in the number of association members, due to the pressures brought on by COVID. Finally, the inability to hold in person meetings and conferences for the last year has also had and will continue to have an impact on associations’ bottom lines. I can speak for all of us in saying that any further cuts would impair the ability of the associations to support their libraries and in some cases, even to stay in business supporting their members.

The members of the East Region very much appreciate the participation by Bill and Katie in our monthly meetings. Their presence has been helpful in keeping our members informed of activities happening at the provincial level.

Ted Mann,  
Eastern Regional Representative, FOLA