

## **GENERIC TALKING POINTS FOR LOBBY DAY 2023**

### **ABOUT FOLA**

FOLA represents all 46 county and district law associations in Ontario. Together with our associate member, the Toronto Lawyers' Association, we represent approximately 12,000 practicing lawyers working in communities across the province.

FOLA's members are typically private-bar lawyers who are business owners as much as they are professionals. These lawyers are on the front lines of the justice system and see its triumphs and shortcomings every day.

FOLA's primary mandate is to advocate for and promote the concerns of the legal profession and deal with the ever-changing business of providing legal services in Ontario.

FOLA provides opportunities for professional networking, communication, and an informal professional development platform for our members.

### **ABOUT LAW ASSOCIATIONS**

Every law association oversees the management of local courthouse law library

Associations provide professional development and networking opportunities to their members, which can include programs for CPD credit, mentorship opportunities, and opportunities to liaise with the judiciary and other justice stakeholders on local issues.

Membership also provides access to practice resources, discounted products and services, and special events and programs.

### **ABOUT LAWYERS & THE COMMUNITY**

According to a 2017 study by the Law Society of Ontario, over 75% of Ontarians have used a lawyer in the past.

Lawyers often provide the only direct contact point for the public with the justice system.

Because of the key role that private bar lawyers play in the Legal Aid system, lawyers are also providing an important public service to support the fair administration of justice for Ontarians.