

Hamilton Lawyer Mike Winward elected as new FOLA Chair

On Friday November 9th, Ontario's 47 Law Association Presidents elected Mike Winward as the new Chair of the [Federation of Ontario's Law Associations \(FOLA\)](#).

Winward is eager to work with FOLA's Executive in representing Ontario's Law Associations and staying true to FOLA's history of serving as a true grassroots organization in advocating on behalf of the 12,000 lawyers who are members of their local law associations.

Passionate about civil justice reform, Winward is also looking forward to helping the Ontario government find efficiencies in the system to ensure that court resources, particularly at the Superior Court level, are used to utmost effectiveness and to working in conjunction with Law Society of Ontario to develop strategies that maximize the practicing bar's ability to succeed - both professionally and in providing excellent legal services to the public.

Winward, who has previously served as FOLA's Treasurer, 1st Vice Chair, and 2nd Vice Chair, earned his BA at McMaster, his LLB at the University of Western Ontario, and was called to the bar in 1985.

Currently a partner with Mackesy Smye LLP in Hamilton, Winward has a long history of involvement in the legal community, including having served as the Treasurer, Chair of the Bench Committee, and President of the Hamilton Law Association. He also volunteers with the downtown Hamilton YMCA, primarily in a fund-raising capacity.

Learn more about FOLA here: <https://fola.ca/>