

# Hooper to chair FOLA's upcoming plenary session

Jaye Hooper, chair of [The Federation of Ontario Law Associations](#) (FOLA), will chair the association's plenary session, which takes place Nov. 7-9 in Waterloo.

Incorporating a theme of mental health, addictions, and wellness within the legal profession, FOLA's plenary offers a chance for Ontario's 47 law associations to gather, network, and discuss the most important issues facing lawyers throughout the province.

Attendees will hear from guest speakers, including Ottawa lawyer Stephen Kelly who will present on "What happens when you talk openly about your mental illness?;" Joe Groia, bencher with the Law Society of Ontario (LSO); Malcolm Mercer, LSO treasurer, and a panel of others who will discuss how to manage stress and promote wellness in the profession.

Hooper says the event will also include a number of sessions on topics ranging from LSO governance reforms, changes in family and criminal law (drug-impaired driving), legal aid, and licensing.

On the last day of the event, FOLA will introduce its new chair, Michael Winward, a partner with Mackesy Smye LLP in Hamilton.

The plenary is open to select representatives from Ontario's law associations and will be recorded for later viewing on FOLA's [YouTube](#) channel.