



COVID-19 & THE PRACTICE OF LAW

WEEKLY UPDATE

Fola.ca

COVID-19 - WEEKLY CHECK IN LOG #33

November 4, 2020

Summary

Invited participants: Sector calls

OBA, FOLA, LSO, LAO, the Advocates' Society, & OTLA

Superior Court of Justices in Ontario, Court of Appeal for Ontario, & Ontario Court of Justice

MAG - Political, Department staff, and the Recovery Secretariat

Issues discussed:

1. COURTS

- ❖ Yesterday (November 3rd), the SCJ issued a Notice re: Continued suspension of Small Claims Court operations due to COVID-19 (available [here](#)). Yesterday's Notice follows last week's Amended Consolidated Notice to the Profession and Public Regarding the Small Claims Court (available [here](#)).
- ❖ On Monday (November 2nd), the OCJ issued a Notice re: Criminal Virtual Case Management Courts Launching in Additional Court Locations. You can access that Notice [here](#).
- ❖ The SCJ is working with the Law Society on a series of CaseLines training sessions. The first one will be on Monday, November 9th and is geared towards the Toronto Family Law Bar. If you would like information on that session, please contact Katie at katie.robinette@folo.ca and we can send you the details once we have them. Once CaseLines prepares to roll out across the province, other session dates/times will be shared.
- ❖ The Law Society has a [FAQ page on CaseLines](#) available on their website.

2. MAG

- ❖ MAG is meeting with public health officials today and hopes to resume Jury Trials in Ontario's three "hot spots" (Ottawa, Toronto, Peel). We are to expect a Notice shortly.
- ❖ MAG is also working on a Provincial Offices Act Courts' (POA) Notice that will offer guidance on scheduling and virtual platforms. We are to expect to see something early next week.

3. RECOVERY SECRETARIAT

- ❖ Site-specific Courthouse HVAC data continues to be circulated to FOLA but in an effort to reduce the volume of emails sent by FOLA, they are no longer being sent to librarians. If you would like to receive the most up to date HVAC Courthouse data, please email Katie at katie.robinette@folo.ca with HVAC in the subject line and indicate which Association you are emailing about.
- ❖ **REMINDER:** Questions about Courthouse operations during COVID-19 can be directed to Samantha Poisson at MAGrecoverysecretariat@ontario.ca.

4. LSO

- ❖ The Law Society is hosting a Webcast titled “Unbundling Legal Services for Family Lawyers” on Monday November 9th at noon (EST). You can register [here](#).

5. FOLA

❖ SUBMISSIONS:

FAMILY LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDER (FLSP) LICENSING MODEL CALL FOR COMMENT: The Law Society’s Access to Justice Committee is inviting lawyers to provide comments on a FLSP Licensing model. Submissions are due November 30th. Please visit [here](#) for more details. FOLA has held extensive meetings with members and received many comments. Our Submission is currently being drafted and, once submitted, will be shared with Law Association members.

❖ SPECIAL #A2J WEEK VIDEO - MENTAL HEALTH PANEL

During Access to Justice Week 2020, FOLA and the Law Society jointly hosted a panel discussion on mental health titled: The Invisible Crisis: Coping & Caring for Mental Health, Today & Post-Pandemic. You can view the video [here](#).

❖ EVENTS:

FINAL REMINDER! FOLA’s POST-PLENARY VIRTUAL WINE TASTING! OPEN TO ALL LAW ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Join FOLA on November 12th from 4:30-6:00pm for a virtual wine tasting with Jason Axmith, founder of Cosecha Imports Inc. [Registration details here](#).

** Deadline for registrations is tonight (November 4th).*

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS?

Law Association members are welcome to send any issues/concerns related to the practice of law caused by the COVID-19 epidemic to FOLA at katie.robinette@fola.ca and we will continue to address them in as timely a manner as possible. Please also note that FOLA cannot assist in issues related to a specific case and the Courts will NOT provide clarification on any Notice to the Profession. If your concerns are related to issues surrounding health and safety measures as the Courts expand in person operations, please indicate the name of the Courthouse and the steps you have already taken to address your concerns to MAGrecoverysecretariat@ontario.ca.