

# Great Library & Courthouse Libraries *with* **Alma**

Olcay Atacan *October 2025*



**Law Society**  
of Ontario

**Barreau**  
de l'Ontario

# Meet your new best friend... ALMA

---

## What you can do with Alma:

- Update your holdings
- Edit item records
- Process withdrawals
- Highlight your collections with customized views



Law Society  
of Ontario

Barreau  
de l'Ontario

# HISTORY of LIS in Great Library

## That was Then...

### Voyager – for 20 years with (Back Office)

#### 3 User Interfaces

- WebVoyage (AdvoCat)
- Primo (InfoLocate)
- Digitool (AccessCLE)

#### Voyager's Limitations

- No e-resource management
- Runs on local computers
- Limited reporting
- Dated user interface
- Limited customization
- Overnight updates

The image displays two screenshots of legal research interfaces from the Law Society of Ontario. The top screenshot shows the AdvoCAT (Advanced Database for the Courts and Attorneys) interface, featuring a search bar, navigation tabs (Basic, Advanced, Subject, Author), and a search history section. The bottom screenshot shows the AccessCLE (Access to Court Law e-Resources) interface, which includes a search bar, a list of collections (e.g., AccessCLE, Administrative Law, Business), and a welcome message for the CPD article database.

**Law Society of Ontario | Barreau de l'Ontario | AdvoCAT Great Library Catalogue**

Log in to your account Help

New Search

Basic Search

Basic Advanced Subject Author Search History

Search: [ ] within Keyword [ ]

Limit To: All Library Locations

Records per page: 10 records per page

Search Reset

Search Tips: enter words relating to your topic, use quotes to search phrases: "world wide web", use + to mark essential terms: +explorer, use \* to mark important terms: \*internet, use ? to truncate: browser?

Search Help

Great Library

Law Society of Ontario | Barreau de l'Ontario | GREAT LIBRARY HOME | NEW SEARCH | SEARCH HELP | BROWSE | ... | Sign in | Menu

Search anything

ADVANCED SEARCH

Ask Us

About InfoLocate

Infolocate will be replaced on June 24 by a new catalogue with integrated full-text LSO CPD access.

[New Library Catalogue and Learn more](#)

InfoLocate is the search and discovery tool for the print and electronic holdings of the Great Library and Ontario County and District Law Association Libraries.

Search here for:

- Books, journals and other print materials
- e-books, e-journals,
- Online LSO CPD articles and
- Websites.

Need help with your research?

Friendly and knowledgeable staff is available to provide research assistance Monday to Friday, 9AM-5PM.

- Visit us in person
- Send an email
- Chat now
- Telephone us at 416-947-3300, x2510 or 1-800-668-7380 x2510
- Follow us on Twitter
- Read Our Blog

**Law Society of Ontario | Barreau de l'Ontario | AccessCLE LSO CPD Articles**

Search | Results | Previous Searches | Great Library Home | Login | End Session | Help Guest

Search Collections

Select collection: AccessCLE

Word or phrase: [ ] ☒ Contains ☐ Exact ☐ Starts with Search

Advanced Search

Browse Collections

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <a href="#">AccessCLE</a> (0 CLE Articles)               | <a href="#">Administrative Law</a> (271 CLE Articles) | <a href="#">Business</a> (1605 CLE Articles)           |
| <a href="#">Civil Litigation</a> (1456 CLE Articles)     | <a href="#">Criminal</a> (951 CLE Articles)           | <a href="#">Employment/Labour</a> (1196 CLE Articles)  |
| <a href="#">Environmental</a> (218 CLE Articles)         | <a href="#">Estates/Trusts</a> (1586 CLE Articles)    | <a href="#">Family</a> (1314 CLE Articles)             |
| <a href="#">Immigration</a> (334 CLE Articles)           | <a href="#">Indigenous Peoples</a> (89 CLE Articles)  | <a href="#">Insurance Law</a> (25 CLE Articles)        |
| <a href="#">Intellectual Property</a> (197 CLE Articles) | <a href="#">Paralegals</a> (330 CLE Articles)         | <a href="#">Practice Management</a> (583 CLE Articles) |
| <a href="#">Real Estate</a> (2474 CLE Articles)          |   |  |

Welcome to CPD article database AccessCLE

AccessCLE retires June 24 2025. [Try the New LSO CPD Material Search](#)

Great Library | Legal Notices | Feedback

# HISTORY of LIS in Great Library

---

## *This is Now...*

Back Office **Alma**  
Front Interface **PrimoVE**

- Shared platform for all content types (Print, Electronic & Digital)
- Cloud Based System
- Real time updates
- Enhanced Reporting
- Easy to use
- Customization for library views
- Enhanced resource discovery, user experience and accessibility
- Improved workflows



Law Society  
of Ontario

Barreau  
de l'Ontario

# Primo VE

Unified Discovery &  
Delivery

# Alma

Print, Electronic & Digital

# What's GREAT for YOU...

- **New** - Catalogue Name  
**Great Library and Courthouse Libraries**
- **New** - CPD Search View
- **New** - Clear resource identification
- **New** - Link with LSO membership database
- **New** - Secure and compliant access

Search anything

## Welcome to the LSO Great Library and Ontario Courthouse Libraries Catalogue

This catalogue contains information about print and digital collections, including full text access to LSO CPD materials.



### Who can use the libraries?

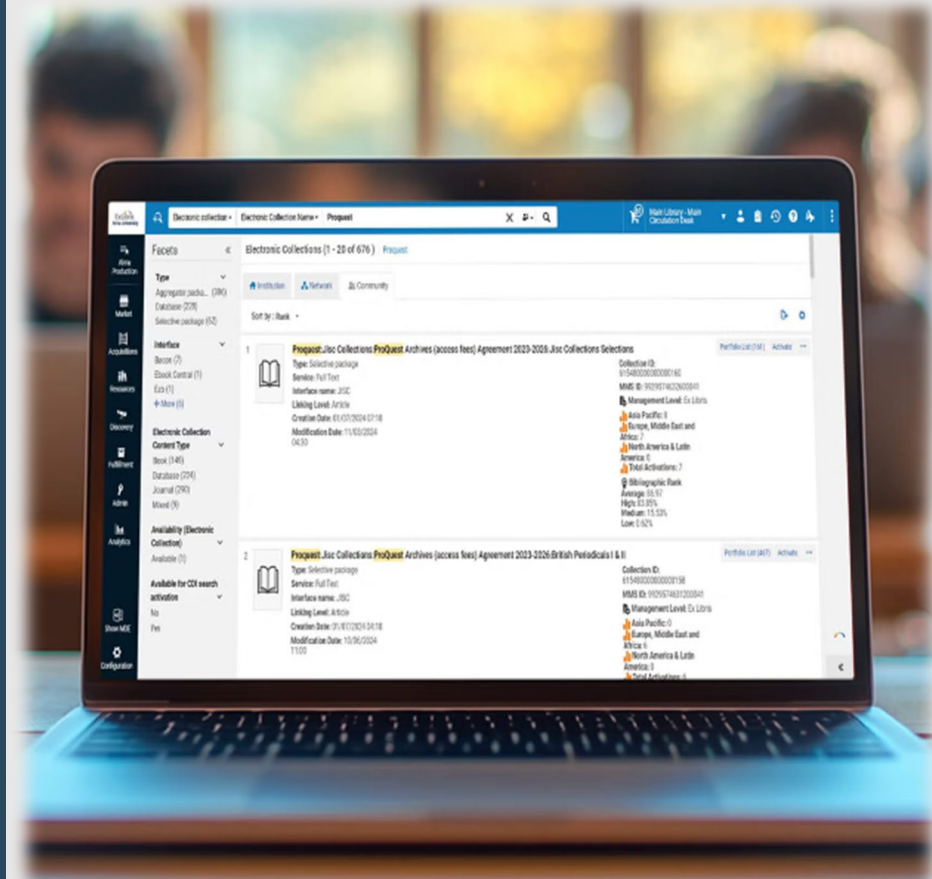
LSO licensees have access to local law association libraries throughout Ontario, each with their own policies. The Great Library is open to the public with some restrictions.

Visit the **Great Library** and **Courthouse Libraries** websites for details on hours of operation, contact information and services.

# CATALOGUING

With ALMA YOU will BE ABLE to

- **Create** / Edit your holdings
- **Withdraw** items
- **Prepare** Shelflist reports





# CIRCULATION

With ALMA YOU will BE ABLE to

- **Configure** circulation policies
- **Check-in/ out**
- **Create** renewals
- **Track** In-house use
- **Create** automatic user notices
- **Capture** circulation and in-house use
- **Retrieve** user records from LSO membership
- **Get real time updates** on Union Catalogue



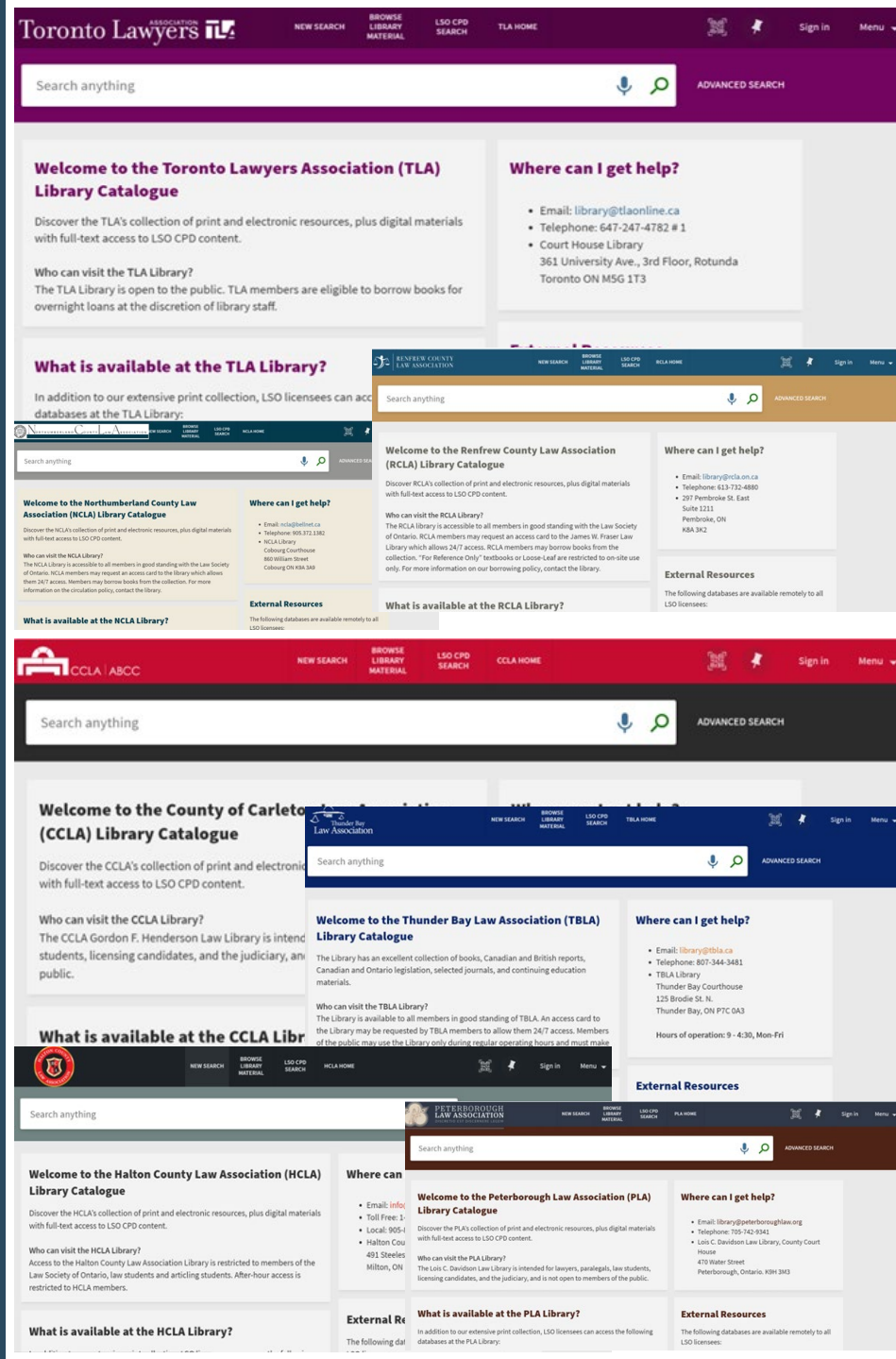
Law Society  
of Ontario

Barreau  
de l'Ontario

# Customized Views for Search

- **Branded** with local library's information and style
- **Search** each library for their physical items and e-resources

*Seven local views ready,  
more coming*



The collage displays seven distinct library catalogue interfaces, each branded for a specific law association or county. Each interface includes a header with the organization's logo and name, a search bar, and a 'Where can I get help?' section with contact details. The associations shown are:

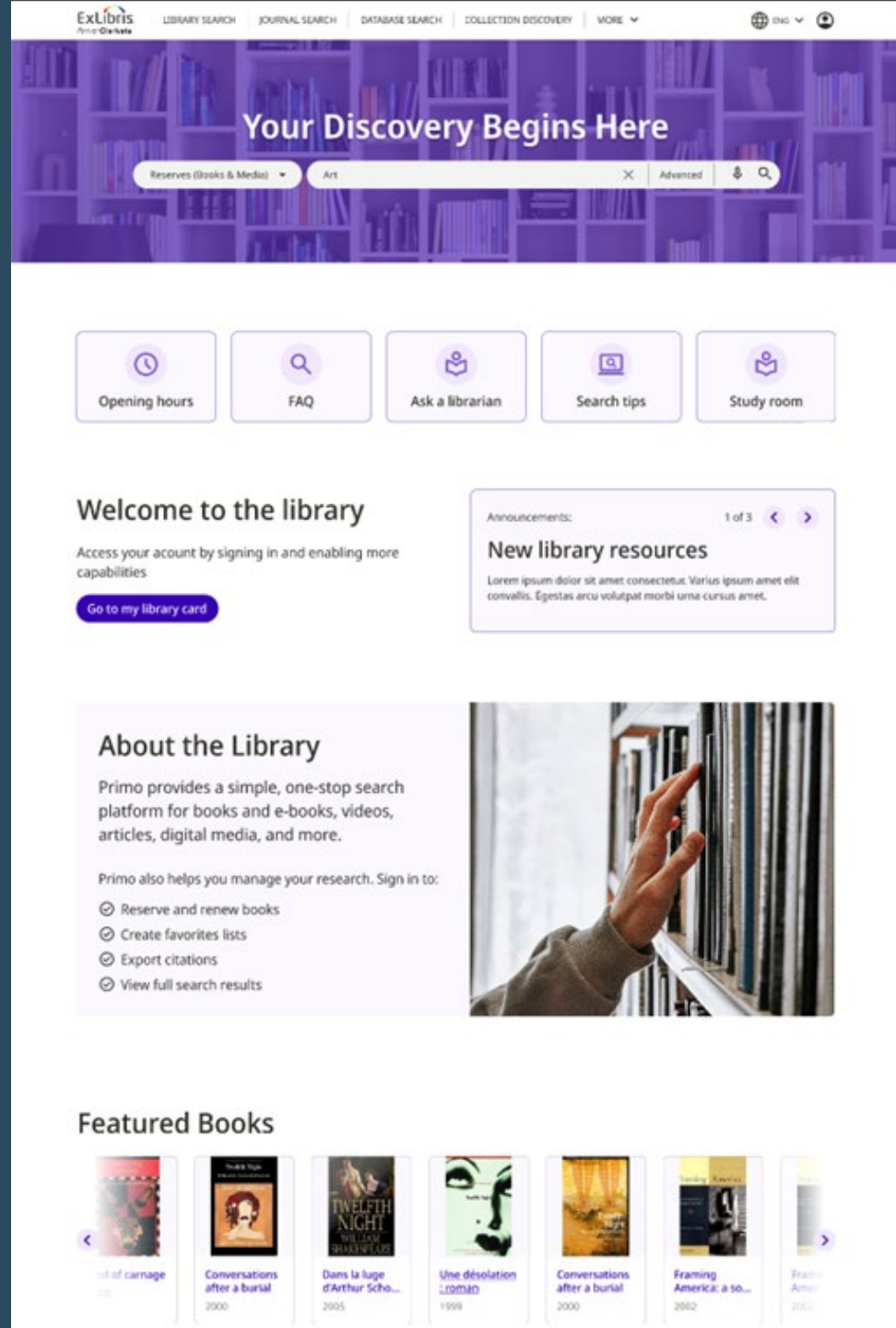
- Toronto Lawyers Association (TLA) Library Catalogue:** Features a purple header and provides contact information for the library at 361 University Ave.
- Renfrew County Law Association (RCLA) Library Catalogue:** Features a blue header and provides contact information for the library at 207 Pembroke St. East.
- CCLA | ABCC:** Features a red header and provides contact information for the library at 125 Brodie St. N.
- County of Carleton Place (CCLA) Library Catalogue:** Features a blue header and provides contact information for the library at 125 Brodie St. N.
- Thunder Bay Law Association (TBLA) Library Catalogue:** Features a blue header and provides contact information for the library at 125 Brodie St. N.
- Peterborough Law Association (PLA) Library Catalogue:** Features a blue header and provides contact information for the library at 470 Water Street.
- Halton County Law Association (HCLA) Library Catalogue:** Features a blue header and provides contact information for the library at 401 Steeles Milton, ON.



# What's Next...

## Primo New User Interface (PrimoNDE)

- **CPD searches** improved
- **WCAG** compliant for accessibility
- **Responsive design** for all devices
- **Faster search** performance
- **Improved relevance** and grouping items
- **French version** of the search interface



Law Society  
of Ontario

Barreau  
de l'Ontario

# What you can do next...

- **Update** your links
- **Work with us** to create your customized library view
- **Contact us** to request training
- **Start using** Alma
- **Ask Us** how to support you



Law Society  
of Ontario

Barreau  
de l'Ontario

## Welcome to the LSO Great Library and Ontario Courthouse Libraries Catalogue

This catalogue contains information about print and digital collections, including full text access to LSO CPD materials.



### Who can use the libraries?

LSO licensees have access to local law association libraries their own policies. The Great Library is open to the public with some restrictions. Visit the Great Library and Courthouse Libraries websites for more contact information and services.

## LSO CPD Materials

Search the full-text of the Law Society of Ontario Continuing Professional Development articles since 2004.



that contain my query words ▾

Full Text ▾

ADVANCED SEARCH

Browse CPD Programs

**Great Library and Ontario  
Courthouse Libraries Catalogue:  
LSO Library Search**

**LSO CPD Materials Search:  
ACCESS LSO CPD**

**Contact Us:**  
**CatDept@lso.ca**

# THANK YOU!!!

---

- A big thank you to the Toronto Lawyers Association, especially Joan, for testing, feedback and energy
- And to my project team, Sharon, Nancy, Zdravka, Maria, Rebecca and to entire library team for taking on this change with such enthusiasm and teamwork!
- Thank you all of you who provided feedback on search results and record display



THANK YOU





# Let's Talk About...

---

## **We are removing:**

- Duplicate materials
- Items available online
- International materials with limited use or relevance to Canadian law

**The Integrity of our collection  
will remain the same**



**Law Society**  
of Ontario

**Barreau**  
de l'Ontario



# Check our website for Information

---

Changes to the Great Library [About us](#) | [Law Society of Ontario](#)

Changes are coming to space occupied by the Great Library and other areas at Osgoode Hall. The Law Society will be transitioning out of certain provincially-owned spaces within Osgoode Hall that have historically supported aspects of the Great Library's operations. This change is necessary to accommodate the growing operational requirements of the Court of Appeal and the Superior Court of Justice and the increasing demands on the justice system. The main reading room will be unaffected by the upcoming changes.

To facilitate the transition of space, parts of the library collection will move to other areas within the Law Society's premises, including Convocation Hall and the Lower Barristers Room. Accordingly, these spaces will not be available during 2026.

We are working closely with the Province to help facilitate this transition in a way that maintains continuity of service and are making every effort to ensure that some event spaces at Osgoode remain accessible.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as this work progresses.

For further information and updates, check the Law Society's website.

