



David F. Blair C.M., Ad. E.

Partner

Québec City
Montréal

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+1 514-397-7081

Bar Admission

Québec 1980

Law School

Université Laval

Practices

Transportation and Logistics
Mergers & Acquisitions

Industries

Infrastructure
Technology

Clients trust David to keep their transportation infrastructure projects moving forward

Widely regarded as Canada's foremost authority on rail and road transportation law, David uses his unsurpassed knowledge of the federal, provincial, municipal and other governmental regulations impacting the sector, to enable large public companies and small-medium sized firms alike to successfully address their most pressing transportation business needs.

In-depth knowledge of the Canadian regulatory landscape

David is passionate about finding strategic and creative solutions to clients' transportation regulatory issues. Leading Canadian, U.S. and European companies in the rail, trucking, bus and mining industries routinely consult with him, relying on his 30 years of wide-ranging and in-depth experience to address general regulatory issues in all surface modes in all jurisdictions, as well as safety compliance and liability matters. Ranked "Band 1" by Chambers Canada in Transportation road and rail, David frequently guides clients through the maze of regulations throughout North America on complex issues such as the construction and upgrading of roads, as well as subway and rail lines, transportation contracts, and all matters relating to public passenger and freight transportation by road or rail. His practice also includes in-depth experience around private M&A and retail sector transactions.

David regularly appears before administrative tribunals, agencies and the courts in regulatory, safety compliance and liability matters. His practice includes private M&A, retail sector and supply chain transactions.

Community minded and connected

Admired as much for his accomplishments outside of the office as he is for his legal prowess, David is an active member of Québec City's Anglophone community, serving as a director and administrator of numerous socio-cultural organizations. In 2013, his work and dedication in promoting and preserving the culture and history of Québec City earned him an appointment to the Order of Canada, the highest honour that can be bestowed on a business and community leader.

A member and former president of the Canadian Transport Lawyers Association and a former executive committee member of the Transportation Lawyers Association of the United States, David is also an active member of the Institute of Corporate Directors and the Canadian Bar Association, and is Honorary British Consul for Québec. He received his LLB from Université Laval in 1979 and was admitted to the Québec Bar in 1980.

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Awards & Rankings

Barreau du Québec - 2019

Advocatus Emeritus (Ad. E.)

Chambers Canada

Band 1: Transportation Rail & Road - Nationwide Canada

The Legal 500 – Canada

Leading lawyer – Transportation

The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory

Leading Lawyer: Transportation (road and rail) and Corporate Mid-Market

Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure

Leading Lawyer

Lexpert Special Edition - Technology

Leading Lawyer

The Best Lawyers in Canada

Leading lawyer in the area of transportation law

The Best Lawyers in Canada - 2019

Lawyer of the year in the area of Transportation

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Recent Experience

- **Québec Port Authority and IMTT-Québec successful in dispute surrounding the application of Quebec's Environment Quality Act on port and IMTT operations**
April 16, 2020
- **Brookfield Infrastructure and GIC acquire Genesee & Wyoming Inc. for US\$8.4B**
December 30, 2019
- **CSX Transportation sells its Massena rail line and terminal assets to CN Rail**
August 29, 2019

Recent Insights

- **New Health Measures for Travelers Entering Canada - COVID-19**
January 11, 2021
- **Canadian Transportation Agency Prescribes 2021 Railway Interswitching Rates**
December 17, 2020
- **Québec Paves the Way for Young Truck Drivers**
December 10, 2020
- **Quebec Unveils Its Regulations for a Post-Taxi World**
November 20, 2020

Events

- **Transportation and Logistics Fall Tune-Up**
October 22, 2019
- **McCarthy Tétrault Advance™: The Regulatory Impact of Technology and Cannabis on the Freight Transportation Industry**
May 22, 2018