



Adam Goldenberg

M.S.M.

Partner

Toronto

agoldenberg@mccarthy.ca

t. +1 416-601-8357

Bar Admission

New York, USA 2015

Ontario 2015

British Columbia 2023

Law School

Yale University

Practices

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Corporate Commercial Litigation

Public Law

Appellate Litigation

Professional Liability

Transportation and Logistics

A tenacious and skilled courtroom lawyer, Adam represents clients in high-stakes disputes.

Adam Goldenberg is a partner in our Litigation Group. His trial, appellate, and arbitration practice focuses on commercial and public law disputes. Adam has litigated before judges and arbitrators across the country, including in the courts of Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and the federal courts. He has been counsel in more than 20 appeals to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Clients value Adam's focused advice on complex business problems, his agility in handling urgent issues, and his prowess in the courtroom. In interviews with *Chambers and Partners*, clients praise Adam's "commercial awareness and vision" and describe him as a "standout", "very effective", "very strong for client service", and "an absolute pleasure to work with". Clients also report that Adam "provides highly practical advice", which he delivers "succinctly, with confidence and at record speeds".

Adam is truly a brilliant lawyer. I'm always intrigued by his ability to expose critical, innovative perspectives of a case most would never contemplate. His personable, client-centric approach provides you with a great deal of confidence.

— CLIENT NOMINATION

Among Adam's notable representations are leading cases on the duty of honest contractual performance (*C.M. Callow Inc. v. Zollinger*), the enforceability of arbitration agreements and awards (*TELUS Communications Inc. v. Wellman*; *International Air Transport Association v. Instrubel, N.V.*; *Wardrop v. Ericsson Canada Inc.*), judicial review of administrative decisions (*Canada (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration) v. Vavilov*; *Bell Canada v. Canada (Attorney General)*), wrongful dismissal (*Matthews v. Ocean Nutrition Canada Ltd.*), defamation (*Hansman v. Neufeld*; *Bent v. Platnick*; *1704604 Ontario Ltd. v. Pointes Protection Association*), judicial independence, discipline, and remuneration (*Lauzon v. Justices of the Peace Review Council*; *British Columbia (Attorney General) v. Provincial Court Judges' Association of British*

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[*Columbia; Nova Scotia \(Attorney General\) v. Judges of the Provincial Court and Family Court of Nova Scotia*](#)), privacy ([*R. v. Jarvis*](#)), confidentiality in court proceedings ([*Sherman Estate v. Donovan*](#)), equality rights and constitutional remedies ([*Ontario \(Attorney General\) v. G.*](#)), federalism ([*Murray-Hall v. Quebec \(Attorney General\)*](#)), constitutional interpretation ([*Toronto \(City\) v. Ontario \(Attorney General\)*](#)); [*Quebec \(Attorney General\) v. 9147-0732 Québec inc.*](#)), police powers ([*Fleming v. Ontario*](#)), and the regulation of political speech ([*Canadian Constitution Foundation v. Canada \(Attorney General\)*](#)).

Adam also regularly acts *pro bono* for individuals and public interest organizations, particularly in matters affecting the LGBTQ2S+ community. He was named a “Leader To Be Proud Of” by Start Proud in 2014 and was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by the Governor General of Canada in 2017.

Having worked with Adam on several complex litigation files, I find him to be extremely responsive, strategic and pointed in his advice. He synthesizes information quickly and applies sound judgment under pressure to produce pragmatic advice. I have requested Adam to work on our most messy, challenging files because he has a way of simplifying and delivering a superior (and fast) work product in the midst of stress and complexity.

— CLIENT NOMINATION

Adam is an Honorary Overseas Member of the [Commercial Bar Association](#) of England and Wales (Combar) and serves on the Leadership Council of the [World Justice Project](#). He is also a co-founder and a member of the board of directors of [Teach For Canada—Gakinaamaage](#) and a former chair of the board of directors of [Action Canada](#).

Early in his legal career, Adam was a law clerk to Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin at the Supreme Court of Canada and to the judges of the Court of Appeal for Ontario. He has taught appellate practice and procedure as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Toronto and has lectured at law schools across Canada on constitutional and administrative law.

Publications

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Emergency Law in Canada: Commentary & Legislation (with Eric S. Block)
(LexisNexis Canada, 2021)

[Podcast: Law in the Time of COVID-19](#)

"Controversies in the Common Law of Judicial Review", in Vanessa Gruben et al., eds., *Controversies in the Common Law: Tracing the Contributions of Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin* (University of Toronto Press, 2022).

Awards & Rankings

The Legal 500 - Canada

Next Generation Partner: Dispute Resolution - Ontario

Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation

Leading Lawyer

The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory

Leading Lawyers to Watch: Litigation - Regulatory & Public Law

Precedent Innovation Award

2020 Recipient

Recent Experience

- **Ontario court allows defamation claim based on**
December 14, 2023
- **Supreme Court of Canada dismisses defamation case in Hansman v. Neufeld appeal**
May 19, 2023
- **The Supreme Court reaffirms the provinces' power to regulate cannabis**
April 14, 2023

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- **Ontario Native Women's Association intervenes in Supreme Court of Canada appeal concerning the constitutionality of Criminal Code provisions**

November 4, 2022

Recent Insights

- **Podcast: Appealing Briefs**

March 28, 2024

- **Ontario Court SLAPPs down “groomer” slur: drag performers can continue with defamation claim**

December 19, 2023

- **Appellate Quarterly 10/10/2023 - Key Takeaways**

October 16, 2023

- **Adverse possession and public parks: Ontario’s top court splits on the “public benefit” test**

August 9, 2023

Events

- **Appellate Quarterly**

October 10, 2023

- **Appellate Quarterly**

May 2, 2023

- **2022 U.S. Midterm Elections and the Road to 2024 – What Canadian Business Needs to Know**

March 21, 2023

- **Appellate Quarterly**

October 13, 2022

