



## Adam Goldenberg M.

S.M.

Partner

Toronto

[agoldenberg@mccarthy.ca](mailto:agoldenberg@mccarthy.ca)

t. +1 416-601-8357

### Bar Admission

New York, USA 2015  
Ontario 2015

### Law School

Yale University

### Practices

Litigation and Dispute Resolution  
Corporate Commercial Litigation  
Public Law  
Appellate Litigation  
Class Actions  
Professional Liability

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

Adam Goldenberg is a partner in our Litigation Group. His trial, arbitration, and appellate practice focuses on commercial and public law disputes. Adam has litigated before judges and arbitrators across the country and 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 ([Bent v. Platnick](#); [1704604 Ontario Ltd. v. Pointes Protection Association](#)), 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.

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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](#) 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

*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

Rising Star: 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

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## Recent Experience

- **Ontario Native Women's Association intervenes in Supreme Court of Canada appeal concerning the constitutionality of Criminal Code provisions**  
November 04, 2022
- **Supreme Court of Canada upholds Ontario law reducing the size of Toronto city council during the 2018 municipal election**  
October 01, 2021
- **Manitoba court enforces arbitration agreement in incentive payments dispute**  
August 10, 2021
- **Pastor who was fired after coming out as trans sues Baptist church for wrongful dismissal and human rights violations**  
July 20, 2021

## Recent Insights

- **Supreme Court of Canada affirms the importance of protecting "counter-speech"**  
May 23, 2023
- **Appellate Quarterly 05/02/2023 – Key Takeaways**  
May 04, 2023
- **The Supreme Court Rules on the Provinces' Power to Regulate Cannabis**  
May 01, 2023
- **"Buy American", Critical Minerals, and China: McCarthy Tétrault Panel on What Canadian Businesses Need to Know About the Canada-U.S. Relationship**  
April 21, 2023

## Events

- **Appellate Quarterly**  
May 02, 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