



Jill Yates

Partner

Vancouver

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t. +1 604-643-7908

Bar Admission

British Columbia 2002

Law School

University of British Columbia

Practices

Disputes
Class Actions
Corporate Commercial Litigation
Products Liability
Insurance Litigation
Competition Litigation
Alternative Dispute Resolution

Industries

Retail & Consumer Markets
Retail
Insurance & Reinsurance

Jill brings a blend of strategic thinking, practical problem-solving and procedural experience to resolve complex class action, product liability, financial services and general commercial litigation files for clients.

An experienced commercial litigator, Jill is the Chair of our National Class Actions Group and Practice Lead of our Vancouver Litigation group. She is also a member of our firm's Financial Services Litigation group and Consumer and Retail group.

Clients appreciate Jill's ability to simplify complicated legal problems, identify priorities, develop a strategy to navigate through the labyrinth of complexities, and arrive at a winning resolution. During her career, Jill has defended clients in industries such as financial services, retail and consumer markets, technology, and manufacturing, against class actions lawsuits. These class actions have included wide-ranging allegations such as breach of contract, economic torts and restitution, price-fixing, product liability, and breach of privacy. She has also represented financial institution clients in an assortment of matters such as mortgage terms, de-marketing and fraud, and has defended clients in consumer litigation matters, including in relation to the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act*.

Jill's representative experience includes:

CLASS ACTIONS

- defending various large financial institutions in class actions regarding various different fees and fee structures, including credit card fees paid by merchants, balance protection insurance, mortgage pre-payment fees, and others.
- defending clients in a variety of industries in product liability class actions.
- defending price fixing class actions for several different global producers of food and technological products.
- defending an online platform in a class action regarding pricing display.
- defending a large multi-national technology company in a class action based on privacy and geo-location issues.
- defending a large financial institution in a class action and related proceedings regarding alleged fraudulent schemes, including Ponzi schemes.
- defending a drug producer against a class action regarding consumer protection claims.

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COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

- representing a large landowner and resource extraction company in a significant dispute regarding conspiracy and fraud through a nine-week trial.
- representing government bodies in a significant dispute regarding an outsourcing contract.
- representing both vendors and purchasers in a variety of contractual disputes including through trial.
- representing a major developer in a significant dispute over closing terms through trial and appeal.

FINANCIAL SERVICES LITIGATION

- defending financial institutions in relation to various class actions (see above).
- defending a financial institution and its board members in relation to allegations of conspiracy and fraud through arbitration.
- defending a financial institution in relation to an alleged Ponzi scheme.
- defending a financial institution in relation to allegations of defamation.
- defending a financial institution in relation to de-marketing clients.

Jill is the editor of the fifth edition of *Defending Class Actions in Canada*, published by LexisNexis, and was an editor and contributing author to the previous editions. She is also a frequent presenter on class actions and other litigation topics at Canadian Bar Association events and other conferences. These are important commitments to Jill as they represent opportunities to provide the marketplace with a broader context of the class action and litigation landscape. By being made aware of the latest trends, how the law is evolving and how cases are being resolved in different industries, Jill believes the marketplace will be better informed and have a richer perspective from which to view their own legal challenges from.

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Jill received her BSc (Biological Sciences) from the University of Lethbridge in 1998, where she received the Gold Medal and the Governor General's medal. Jill received her LLB from the University of British Columbia in 2001. After graduating from law school, Jill clerked for the Chief Justice of the British Columbia Court of Appeal. She was called to the bar of British Columbia in 2002 and is a member of the Canadian Bar Association and the Vancouver Bar Association. She is the past chair of the Consumer Litigation Committee of the International Bar Association and of the Class Actions Section of the Canadian Bar Association, British Columbia. As of June, she will be Chair of the Boys and Girls Club of South Coast B.C.

Awards & Rankings

Chambers Canada

Leading Lawyer: Dispute Resolution - Class Actions (Defence) & Litigation: General Commercial - British Columbia

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory

Repeatedly Recommended: Class Actions and Litigation - Corporate Commercial

Best Lawyers in Canada - 2017

Class Action Litigation "Lawyer of the Year" in Vancouver

Benchmark Canada

Litigation Star - Class Actions and Product Liability

Who's Who Legal: Canada

Leading Lawyer - Product Liability Defence

Best Lawyers in Canada

Leading Lawyer in the areas of Corporate and Commercial Litigation and Class Action Litigation

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Recent Experience

- **National Money Mart settles class action lawsuits**
December 31, 2017
- **Bayer Xarelto class actions**

Recent Insights

- **Do exceptional times call for exceptional measures? Enforcing and avoiding contractual obligations in a time of crisis in British Columbia**
March 25, 2020
- **Must-Have New Edition of Defending Class Actions in Canada: A Guide for Defendants**
February 10, 2020
- **Defending Class Actions in Canada: A Guide for Defendants, 5th Edition, Available Now**
February 10, 2020
- **British Columbia proposes significant legislative amendments to “modernize” class proceedings in the province**
April 27, 2018

Events

- **5th Edition Defending Class Actions in Canada Book Launch**
February 07, 2020