

12th Annual Class Actions Colloquium: Litigating Class Actions Claims Amidst Profound Change



Webcast

Class Actions

Date: Wednesday, December 02, 2020 | 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Location: Webinar Only

Agenda: 9:00 am Program Commences
4:30 pm Program Concludes



This program contains:
1hr 15m of Professionalism Content
4hr 45m of Substantive Content

The OBA has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by The Law Society of Ontario.

Now in its 12th year, the Annual Class Actions Colloquium will be diving in deep to look at how class actions law is facing profound change in so many different ways. This past year has brought with it new elements of change including the global pandemic, an increase in “virtual litigation”, new legislation and novel claims. Join us as the bench and bar focus on timely topics such as how new class proceedings legislation will impact the class actions framework, the proliferation of Covid-19 related claims, what litigating will look like in 2025, among other relevant issues. We will also hear from judges from across the country in our popular “View from the Bench” panel. Keep yourself current as we navigate the issues that are pivotal to your practice and benefit from the collective lessons learned.

Join us to gain an exclusive understanding and analysis of key developments in class actions law from an expert faculty of judges and lawyers engaged in the most cutting-edge issues.

Program Chairs: **Nicole Henderson**, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP.
Remissa Hirji, The Law Foundation of Ontario

9:00 am Welcome and Opening Remarks

- How these alternative claims are being used and the strategic considerations for your cases

9:05 am **Proceedings By and Against the Crown**

Moderator: Garth Myers, Kalloghlian Myers LLP

Speakers

Christine Mohr, Justice Canada (Toronto)

Sonal Gandhi, Ministry of Attorney General-Crown Law
Office Civil

Jonathan Ptak, Koskie Minsky LLP

- Explore how the new Ontario *Crown Liability and Proceedings Act, 2019* is faring in the class actions context
- Examine recent developments in class actions by and against the federal and provincial governments

10:40 am **Update from the Bar**

David Outerbridge, Torys LLP

Get an update on the Ontario Class Actions Liaison Committee, the bench-bar committee formed to address issues that arise in class actions practice.

10:50 am **Health Break**

11:10 am **Turning the Tables: What Strategy Would You Use?**

Moderator: Remissa Hirji, The Law Foundation of Ontario

Speakers:

Margaret Waddell, Waddell Phillips Prof. Corp.

Katherine Kay, Stikeman Elliott LLP

Plaintiff and defence counsel switch sides to debate a unique fact pattern while highlighting a strategy they think their opposing counsel should use instead. Join us for what will be a lively discussion!

12:00 pm Break for Lunch

10:00 am **Class Action Claims, Mass Torts and Opt Out Litigation**

Moderator: Emily Assini, McKenzie Lake Lawyers LLP

Speakers

Sabrina Lombardi, McKenzie Lake Lawyers

Paul Martin, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Valérie Lord, Howie Sacks and Henry LLP

Loretta Merritt, Torkin Manes LLP

- Explore the alternatives to class actions proceedings to litigate mass claims

www.oba.org/pd
Questions? pd@oba.org

12:30pm Keynote Address

Professor Alexandra Lahav, School of Law, University of Connecticut

Professor Lahav's work focuses on the important role of litigation in a well-functioning society. Her keynote will address the ongoing debate around whether class actions are a net social positive, if they are the best way to provide access to justice, and innovations in how class actions or mass torts are litigated.

1:15 pm Legislative Changes Across the Nation

Moderator: Mohsen Seddigh, Sotos LLP

Speakers:

Mirilyn Sharp, Sharp Legal

Geoffrey Cowper, Faskens (BC)

Anthony O'Brien, Siskinds

Examine the new legislative amendments in Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia and how they affect the national class actions landscape

2:00 pm Covid-19 Related Cases and its Impact on the Law

Moderator: Tina Yang, Waddell Phillips Prof. Corp. Speakers

Elizabeth Bowker, Stieber Berlach LLP

Ashley Paterson, Bennett Jones LLP

James Sayce, Koskie Minsky LLP

Joel Rochon, Rochon Genova LLP

- Canvass the novel claims that have arisen from the global pandemic
- Analyze how these new types of cases will change the landscape of class action claims moving forward

2:45 pm Health Break

3:00 pm Litigating in 2025

Moderator: Jeremy Martin, Cassels Brock and Blackwell LLP

Speakers:

David Sterns, Sotos LLP

Sandeep Joshi, BMO Financial Group

Chantelle Cseh, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

- What will the class actions landscape look like five years from now from a procedural and substantive perspective?
- How will virtual proceedings affect how we litigate?

3:45 pm View from the Bench – The Judges' Perspective

Moderator: Nicole Henderson, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

The Honourable Paul Perell,

Ontario Superior Court of Justice

The Honourable Chantal Chatelain,

Superior Court of Québec

The Honourable David Stratas, Federal Court of Appeal

The Honourable David Masuhara, Supreme Court of British Columbia

Benefit from a discussion with the Bench about a broad range of issues regarding class action proceedings from coast to coast.

4:30 pm Closing Remarks