

OBA | Professional Development

The Fundamentals of Class Actions Law

Class Actions

Date: Thursday, November 26, 2020 | 9:00 am to 12:45 pm

Location: Webinar Only

Agenda: 9:00 am Program Commences

12:45pm Program Concludes



Webcast



This program contains:
Ohr 30m of Professionalism Content
3hr 15m of Substantive Content

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

Whether in novel areas related to the pandemic or in more traditional areas such as product liability, securities and public law, the use of the class actions mechanism continues to expand. More frequently, practitioners who have not practiced class actions are being asked by their clients to consider the prosecution or defence of a class action, or are wishing to update their understanding of this specialized area of practice and its own unique set of procedures and strategies. Join our highly experienced class action faculty who will address the fundamentals of class actions practice and procedure through the outline of the life cycle of a class actions case. From the commencement of a claim, through the certification process, to the ultimate resolution of the action, our speakers from both the plaintiff and defence sides of practice will also emphasize the strategies and ethical issues to be considered at each step of the process.

If you are a senior practitioner wishing to expand your practice, a new lawyer starting out who is keen to practice in this active area, or a lawyer wishing to broaden your understanding of this rapidly developing area of the law, you will benefit significantly from this comprehensive overview of the fundamentals of class actions law.

Program Chair: Paul Martin, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

9:00 am Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:05 am Class Proceedings in Canada - The Legislative Regime

Professor Suzanne Chiodo, Western Law **Valérie Lord,** Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP

- History and objectives of class proceedings legislation
- Overview of provincial and federal legislation (including recent changes to the Ontario CPA)
- Alternatives to class proceedings

9:50 am Overview of Class Proceedings

Anthony O'Brien, Siskinds LLP **Remissa Hirji,** Law Foundation of Ontario

- Overview of the class actions landscape in Canada
- Commencing a class action and issues in the precertification life of a class action, including funding and carriage
- Ethical considerations that arise from the relationship between class counsel, the representative plaintiff and class members, as well as those that arise from negotiating funding arrangements

10:35 am Health Break

10:45 am Certification I - Parts 1-3 of the Certification Test

Valérie Lord, Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP Tina Yang, Waddell Phillips Professional Corporation

Part 1 - Cause of Action

- Part 2 Identifiable Class
- Part 3 Common Issues
- National classes
- Ethical considerations that arise in assessing causes of action vs. a strategic certification position

11:30 am Certification II - Parts 4-5 of the Certification Test

Jeremy Devereux, Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

- Part 4 Preferable procedure (pre and post- October 1, 2020 actions)
- Part 5:
 - Representative plaintiff
 - Litigation plan
- Class counsel conflicts and ethical issues that may arise
- Evidentiary issues
- Appeals

12:15 pm Settlement, Costs and Fees

Garth Myers, Kalloghlian Myers LLP

- Settlement negotiations
- Notice and administration
- The approval hearing
- Class counsel fees and honoraria
- Key ethical issues at settlement and fee approval

12:45 pm Program concludes

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