

Juliet Chang Knapton, RODA (she/her)

Juliet Chang Knapton has served as a legal educator, civil litigator, and tribunal member. She is the Advocate-in-Residence at the University of Ottawa law school and is the incoming Chair of the Roundtable of Legal Diversity Associations (RODA). She has extensive experience with online adjudication, advocacy, and legal education and training. She has acted on matters of professional negligence and ethics. She has written and presented on a wide range of topics in regard to inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA) and has been recognized for her leadership roles in the legal profession and in her community.

Adrian Ishak, RODA (he/him)

Adrian Ishak is a trusted business partner and strategic global advisor on a wide range of legal and business issues with over 15 years of experience representing employers. His focus is commercially pragmatic advice, fearless advocacy and good counsel in connection with a wide range of workplace issues. Adrian is the current Chair of the Roundtable of Legal Diversity Associations (RODA), supports equity initiatives across his professional and personal engagements, and has extensive experience engaging with vulnerable and at-risk communities through his work on various NFP boards. He has been recognized by Lexpert as a Rising Star.

Alisa Lombard, Lawyer and Part-Time Professor, University of Ottawa (she/her)

Alisa Lombard is leading class and individual actions on the forced sterilization of indigenous women and birth alerts. She has spoken publicly before the Senate Committee on human rights, the House Committee on health, the UN Committee against torture and other forms of cruel and unusual treatment, as well as the Inter-American human rights commission. She has appeared before all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Honourable Yasir Naqvi, Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the King's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Emergency Preparedness, Member of Parliament Ottawa Centre (he/him)

The Honourable Yasir Naqvi was first elected as the Member of Parliament for Ottawa Centre in 2021. He immigrated to Canada from Pakistan with his family in 1988, and grew up learning the values of democracy, social justice, and compassion. A strong community leader who believes in the importance of giving back, he served as a Member of Provincial Parliament in Ontario for close to 11 years. During this time, he held the roles of Attorney General of Ontario, Government House Leader, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, and Minister of Labour. As a member of the Ontario legislature, he helped raise the minimum wage, ban race-based carding, and modernize the provincial court system. He was also an advocate for public services and sustainable community growth. He served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Canadian Citizenship from 2019 to 2021. He has also practised international trade and administrative law with major law firms. He has sat on the boards of many community organizations, including OrKidstra, United Way East Ontario, and the Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership. He was called to the Ontario Bar in 2001 and called to the Bar of England and Wales in 2002.

Eric Sadvari, SOGIC (he/him)

Eric Sadvari is an associate at Goldhart Keney LLP, and has been practicing exclusively in the area of family law since his call to the bar. He is a past Chair of both the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Community (SOGIC) and Family Law sections of the Ontario Bar Association. Eric is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law where he co-teaches the Trial Advocacy course.

Katarina Germani, Legal Counsel, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation / Radio-Canada (she/her)

Katarina is in-house legal counsel at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation/Radio-Canada, where she practices as a bilingual media lawyer. Prior to joining Canada's national broadcaster, Katarina was an associate at the Toronto office of Clyde & Co LLP, a UK-based multinational law firm. Katarina volunteers as an executive member of the Ontario Bar Association's Entertainment, Media and Communications Law section, of the Privacy and Access to Information Law section, and of the Canadian Corporate Counsel Association. She is also a mentor in McCarthy Tetrault's "Mentorship Plus" program, which promotes diversity and inclusion in law and provides mentor training in leading inclusive teams

Richard Moon, Professor of Law, University of Windsor (he/him)

Richard Moon is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Windsor. His research focuses on freedom of expression and freedom of conscience and religion. He is the author of *The Life and Death of Freedom of Expression* (U of T Press, forthcoming), *Putting Faith in Hate: When Religion is the Source or Target of Hate Speech* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2018), *Freedom of Conscience and Religion* (Irwin Law, 2014), and *The Constitutional Protection of Freedom of Expression* (U of T Press, 2000), and the editor of *Law and Religious Pluralism in Canada* (UBC Press, 2008), co-editor of *Religion and the Exercise of Public Authority* (Hart/Bloomsbury, 2016) and *Indigenous Spirituality and Religious Freedom* (U of T Press, forthcoming), and contributing editor to *Canadian Constitutional Law* (3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th editions) (Emond-Montgomery, 2006, 2010, 2016, 2022).

Chadd Pirali, Lawyer, Greenspan Partners LLP (he/him)

Chadd Pirali is an associate lawyer at Greenspan Partners LLP practicing criminal defence. He has worked on a variety of trial matters before the Ontario Court of Justice and Superior Court of Justice, including jury trials. Prior to being called to the bar in 2021, Chadd attended Osgoode Hall Law School, where he gained extensive experience in advocacy and leadership as a competitive mooter and active member of Osgoode's student government. He has done multiple volunteer placements with Pro Bono Students Canada, including working with Rainbow Railroad to assist in creating pathways to safety for displaced individuals fleeing persecution around the world.

Azadeh Lavictoire, AJEFO (she/her)

Azadeh is a Bilingual Criminal Duty Counsel. Prior to joining Legal Aid Ontario in 2021, Azadeh founded the law firm Nourbakhsh/CanadaLegalpro in 2009. Her practice focused primarily on estate administration and estate planning. She also advised non-profit and charitable organizations. Azadeh received her Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) from the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law in 2008. She also received a bilingual Bachelor of Arts from York University in 2003. Azadeh has also recently completed a certificate from Harvard Law School in Mediation and Conflict Management. Azadeh is very involved in the community and volunteers in several organizations. She is currently the Past Chair of the Ontario Bar Association (OBA) Official Languages Committee and the elected representative for the Toronto region. She is also the co-founder and past President of Spinal CSF Leak Canada, a national health charity dedicated to improving the health of Canadians with intracranial hypotension. Azadeh is fluent in English, French and Persian (Farsi).

Azadeh est une avocate de service bilingue en droit pénal. Avant de rejoindre l'aide juridique Ontario en 2021, Azadeh avait fondé en 2009 le Cabinet juridique Nourbakhsh/CanadaLegalpro. Sa pratique se concentrait principalement sur l'administration des successions et la planification successorale. Elle conseillait entre autres aussi les organismes à but non lucratif et de bienfaisance. Azadeh a obtenu son baccalauréat en droit (LL.B.) de la Faculté de droit de l'Université d'Ottawa en 2008. Elle a aussi reçu un Baccalauréat bilingue ès arts de l'Université de York en 2003. Azadeh a également complété récemment un certificat de Harvard Law School en Médiation et gestion des conflits. Azadeh s'implique fortement

dans la communauté et s'investit bénévolement dans plusieurs organismes. Elle est présentement la présidente sortante du Comité des langues officielles de l'Association du Barreau de l'Ontario (ABO) et représentante élue pour la région de Toronto. Elle est également la co-fondatrice et présidente sortante de Fuite Spinale LCS Canada, un organisme de bienfaisance nationale de santé visant à l'amélioration de la santé des Canadiens souffrant d'hypotension intracrânienne.

Louise Hurteau, *Law Society of Ontario* (she/her)

Louise Hurteau has been a member of the Ontario Bar since 1989. She practiced law with the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General as a bilingual civil litigation lawyer for 8 years. She then worked in private practice in Toronto and in her own firm before joining the Law Society of Ontario in 2004 as the bilingual discipline counsel in the Discipline Department (now Litigation Services). From January 2016 to January 2019, in addition to her duties as bilingual discipline counsel, she was counsel for Francophone Affairs at the Law Society. Ms. Hurteau was President of AJEFO (2006-2008), Chair of the Ontario Bar Association Official Languages Committee (2002-2004), Chair of the Board of Directors of the Centre francophone de Toronto (2012-2014) and currently sits on the Advisory Committee on French Language Services of Legal Aid Ontario. By Order of the Executive Council of Ontario, Ms. Hurteau was appointed in June 2021 as an external member of Board of Governance of l'Université de l'Ontario français (UOF) for a three-year term and currently sits as vice-chair of the Board. In June 2022, she was awarded the Order of Merit by the AJEFO.

Louise Hurteau est membre du Barreau de l'Ontario depuis 1989. Elle a pratiqué le droit au sein du ministère du Procureur général de l'Ontario à titre d'avocate bilingue, litige civil pendant 8 ans. Elle a ensuite travaillé dans un cabinet privé à Toronto et à son propre compte avant d'intégrer, en 2004, le Barreau de l'Ontario comme avocate bilingue au Service de la discipline (maintenant le Service du contentieux). De janvier 2016 à janvier 2019, en sus de ses fonctions en tant qu'avocate bilingue à la discipline, elle a été avocate des affaires francophones pour le Barreau de l'Ontario. Me Hurteau a été présidente de l'AJEFO (de 2006 à 2008), présidente du Comité des langues officielles de l'Association du Barreau de l'Ontario (de 2002 à 2004), et présidente du Conseil d'administration du Centre francophone de Toronto de (2012 à 2014) et siège actuellement sur le comité aviseur des services en français de l'Aide juridique Ontario. A partir du 10 juin 2021, elle a été nommée à titre de membre externe du Conseil de gouvernance de l'Université de l'Ontario français (UOF) pour un mandat de trois ans par décret du Conseil exécutif de l'Ontario et siège présentement en tant que vice-présidence. En juin 2022, elle a été récipiendaire de l'ordre du mérite décerné par l'AJEFO.

Anne Levesque, *Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa* (she/her)

Anne is an assistant professor in the French Common Law Program of the Faculty of Law of the University of Ottawa. Her research and her publications focus on human rights, equality and public interest litigation. Anne was admitted to the bar in Ontario in 2008 and practiced human rights law in private practice and also in a community legal clinic. She appeared before several administrative tribunals, Canadian courts of all levels, including the Supreme Court of Canada, and regional and international human rights bodies.

Anne est professeure adjointe du Programme de common law français de la Faculté de droit de l'Université d'Ottawa. Sa recherche et ses publications portent sur les droits de la personne, l'égalité et les litiges d'intérêt

public. Anne est admise au Barreau de l'Ontario en 2008 et pratique en droits de la personne dans des cabinets privés ainsi qu'une clinique juridique communautaire. Elle fait valoir les droits de ses clients devant plusieurs tribunaux administratifs, des tribunaux de toutes les instances du Canada, dont la Cour suprême du Canada, et des organes conventionnels internationaux et régionaux en droits de la personne.

The Honourable Justice Marie-Andrée Vermette, *Ontario Superior Court of Justice* (she/her)

Justice Marie-Andrée Vermette was appointed a Judge of the Superior Court of Justice of Ontario in Toronto in March 2021. She is currently a member of the Civil Team. Justice Vermette received her Bachelor of Civil Law and Common Law degrees from the Faculty of Law at McGill University and was the recipient of the Elizabeth Torrance Gold Medal. In 2001, she received a Master of Laws from Columbia University, where she earned the distinction of being named a James Kent Scholar. She was called to the Quebec Bar in 1998 and to the Ontario Bar in 2001. Prior to her appointment, Justice Vermette was a partner with WeirFoulds LLP in Toronto, where she practised civil, commercial and public law litigation for almost 20 years. She was Chair of the firm's Commercial Litigation Practice Group. Before joining WeirFoulds LLP, she had worked briefly with the Department of Justice Canada in the area of criminal law and served as law clerk to the Honourable Mr. Justice Gonthier at the Supreme Court of Canada. Justice Vermette has been involved in the legal community and the Franco-Ontarian community for several years. Prior to her appointment, she was Vice-President of the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario, a member of the Board of Governors of the Université de l'Ontario français, and a member of the boards of Avocats hors Québec and Le Labo. She also served on the Board of Directors of the Advocates' Society from 2016 to 2020.

La juge Marie-Andrée Vermette a été nommée juge de la Cour supérieure de justice de l'Ontario à Toronto en mars 2021. Elle fait présentement partie de l'équipe de droit civil. La juge Vermette a obtenu son baccalauréat en droit civil et en common law à la Faculté de droit de l'Université McGill et a été récipiendaire de la médaille d'or Elizabeth Torrance. En 2001, elle a obtenu une maîtrise en droit de l'Université Columbia où elle a reçu la distinction « James Kent Scholar ». Elle a été admise au Barreau du Québec en 1998 et au Barreau de l'Ontario en 2001. Avant sa nomination, madame la juge Vermette était associée au sein du cabinet WeirFoulds LLP à Toronto, où elle a exercé dans les domaines du contentieux civil, commercial et de droit public pendant près de 20 ans. Elle a présidé le groupe de pratique de contentieux commercial du cabinet. Avant de se joindre à WeirFoulds LLP, elle a travaillé brièvement au sein du ministère de la Justice Canada dans le domaine du droit pénal et a été auxiliaire juridique auprès de l'honorable juge Gonthier à la Cour suprême du Canada. La juge Vermette participe activement à la vie de la communauté juridique et de la communauté franco-ontarienne depuis plusieurs années. Avant sa nomination, elle était vice-présidente de l'Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario, membre du conseil de gouvernance de l'Université de l'Ontario français et membre des conseils d'administration d'Avocats hors Québec et du Labo. Elle a également siégé au conseil d'administration de la Société des plaideurs de 2016 à 2020.

Rachel Sachs, *FCLN*

Rachel Sachs is a lawyer, trained mediator and owner of Sachs Law Professional Corporation, a boutique law firm focused on providing legal service and advice to older adults. Her practice covers elder law, litigation and wills and estates work. Rachel hosts AMAs for her target market on different legal issues affecting older adults and seniors and works with Pro Bono Ontario on the hotline and case match programs. Currently, Rachel is the President of the Filipino Canadian Lawyers Network Réseau des

avocats philippinos-canadiens and a board member of a local daycare. In her spare time, Rachel enjoys hiking with her family and pursuing a2j and equity-enhancing side projects.

Kyongwha Chung, *Of Counsel, Arbitrator and Mediator at Covington & Burling LLP*

Kyongwha Chung is counsel and advisor for both states and corporate clients in complex international disputes. She is widely recognized for her expertise in public international law, international investment law, construction law, and international arbitration. In her work as counsel before numerous international tribunals, Kyongwha regularly represents clients in international arbitrations and arbitral award enforcement proceedings; and assists and advises clients in numerous industries, including: energy, engineering and construction, defense and government contracting, financial services, manufacturing, technology and gaming.

Kyongwha frequently sits as an arbitrator and mediator in international complex disputes. She is an IMI and KIMC certified mediator and APCAM certified mediator; a board member of the Korea International Mediation Center (KIMC); a member of the Rules Committee of the Asia Pacific Centre for Arbitration & Mediation (APCAM); a member of the Steering Committee of the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board Next (KCAB Next); and a member of the Young Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration (MCIA) Steering Committee; Kyongwha served as the representative of North Asia Chapter of the ICC Young Arbitrators Forum (ICC YAF) from 2017 to 2019 and the Secretary General of the Young Arbitration Practitioners' Forum (YAPF) under the auspices of Korean Council for International Arbitration (KOCIA) from 2010 to 2015.

Through her active pro bono practice, Kyongwha assists refugees seeking asylum, immigrant women facing domestic violence and immigrant workers. Kyongwha is a regular speaker and writer on various topics in international arbitration, mediation and investment treaty disputes. For a list of her authored works, please see her firm bio here: <https://www.cov.com/en/professionals/c/kyongwha-chung>.

Afsana Gibson-Chowdhury, *Solicitor, Mediator and Adjudicator, Gibson Chowdhury Clear Collaborative Mediation*

Afsana Gibson-Chowdhury is a lawyer and Qualified Mediator and founder of 'Gibson Chowdhury', a Toronto-based mediation boutique, specializing in civil and commercial disputes, business contract, neighbour, and residential construction/renovation disputes. Afsana is the co-founder and Senior Vice President of the Diversified Dispute Resolution Institute of Canada (DDRIOC) and an Adjudicator at the Property Standards Committee for the City of Toronto.

Afsana is an active member of the Ontario Bar Association and is currently serving as the Chair of the ADR Section Executive board and has recently co-chaired a groundbreaking report as part of an OBA Working Group called "Neutral Diversity in Ontario". She has written several CLE programs on Equity Diversity and Inclusion and intercultural communications. She developed a 4-day course, "Intercultural Communication and Diversity for Professionals" which is an accredited course through DDRIOC. She is a member of the International Academy of Mediators' DEI committee where she continues to build helpful tools for lawyers and mediators to help breakdown gender and racial barriers.

Afsana is often asked to attend speaking engagements globally to present on topics such as dispute resolution and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in ADR. Afsana is the recipient of the ADR Institute of Ontario, Star Award 2021. Afsana is a British born national and a daughter to British Muslim Immigrant parents from Bangladesh. She is now a Canadian immigrant where she enjoys the company of her

husband and three children, living in the traditional territories of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples, commonly known as Toronto.

Alnoor Maherali, *former Canadian diplomat, Mediator & Ombuds, Venn Mediation*

Alnoor Maherali is a highly skilled diplomat, dispute resolution specialist, practicing Ombuds, and SIMI accredited mediator. He resides in New York City and mediates for Venn Mediation and the New York Peace Institute.

A 'student of the world', his personal and professional travel has taken him to almost 50 different countries, making him especially adept at navigating cultural, ethnic, and racial differences. During his time in the foreign service, he worked overseas in Afghanistan and Bangladesh, specializing in conflict resolution, political dynamics, human rights, and disaster response.

His professional accomplishments include the negotiation of resolutions at the United Nations in Geneva and New York, sharing of best practices in disaster response and civil-military coordination with the Government of Brazil, and important roles in the resolution of two high-profile kidnapping cases in Afghanistan.

He studied Mathematics at Queen's University in Canada and has his Master in Public Administration (MPA) from the Harvard Kennedy School in Boston. It was in his MPA that he discovered his passion for mediation, while taking an advanced workshop in Multiparty Negotiation and Conflict Resolution. Since then, he has committed himself to mediation full-time, with training and professional development, co-launching his own mediation firm, and by joining community mediation rosters.

Alnoor aspires to help those who are uncomfortable with conflict, as he himself once was. He has since learned that conflict in itself is not bad, but that there may be challenges in how it affects us and how we respond to it. He views mediation as a safe and collaborative process that enables people to resolve their conflicts amicably with an outcome all can be happy with while maintaining or even enhancing their relationships.

Margie Primero-Pimental, *Lawyer and Mediator, Russell Alexander Collaborative Family Lawyers*

Margie Primero-Pimentel is lawyer and accredited mediator practicing in family law, family mediation and collaborative family law with Russell Alexander Collaborative Family Lawyers.

After thirteen years of litigating family law matters, Margie witnessed the financial and emotional toll of litigation on families and children. Compelled to change the way she practiced law and to offer a different path for resolution to her clients, Margie became certified in collaborative practice in 2014 and became a mediator in 2018. She seeks to better help clients facilitate fair and reasonable settlements with the goal of minimizing the financial and emotional damage of separation.

Called to the Bar of Ontario in 2002, Margie holds her Bachelor of Science from Andrews University, her BCL and LLB (JD) from McGill University's Faculty of Law and a Certificate in Family Mediation from York University. Margie is a member of the Ontario Association for Family Mediation, the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (Ontario), the York Collaborative Practice Group, Collaborative Practice Durham Region, and a sitting member of the Dispute Resolution Officer panel for the Superior Court of Justice in Toronto and Newmarket.

Margie has been a guest speaker for the Commons Institute and the Durham Region Law Association and has written articles for The Lawyer's Daily. She is also a regular speaker and presenter on a variety of family law topics through her firm's popular "Family Law Now" webinars, including their recent two-day Family Law Summit. Get to know Margie here <https://www.russellalexander.com/team/margie-primero-pimentel/>.

Najma Jamaldin, WLAO (she/her)

Najma Jamaldin is a Trial & Appeal Lawyer who is passionate about Canadian law and history. Najma has accumulated over 20 years of court expertise and with a deep belief in individual rights. She has experience dealing with complex matters before all levels of court and regularly appears in the appellate courts. Najma has frequently participated as a panelist for several legal education conferences held by Ontario Bar Association, Osgoode Hall Professional Development Program and the Criminal Lawyers Association. She is a Director of the Advocates' Society and Women's Law Association of Ontario.

Danielle Bisnar, Lawyer, Cavalluzzo LLP (she/her)

Danielle Bisnar is a partner with Cavalluzzo LLP practicing in the areas of workers' and Indigenous rights, equality, health and Aboriginal law. She is also the Chair of the firm's Student Committee. She represents unions and associations, regulated professionals, including nurses and midwives, and First Nations in diverse contexts, including labour disputes, government relations, human rights and constitutional law, health equity, pay equity, professional regulation, judicial reviews and appeals. She has particular expertise in the health care, policing and public sectors.

She has extensive experience litigating complex systemic discrimination claims, including leading equality cases on behalf of women, racialized and disabled workers. She has twice represented the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) as an intervener in appeals relating to workplace gender discrimination, first in *Canada v. Johnstone*, a leading case on family status discrimination, and second in *Fraser v. Canada*, a Supreme Court of Canada case on adverse effect discrimination and pension equality for women with caregiving responsibilities.

Teresa Donnelly, Treasurer Emeritus, Law Society of Ontario (she/her)

Teresa Donnelly is a former treasurer of the LSO. Prior to this role, she served as a benchler in 2015 and 2019. She has been a prosecutor with the Ministry of the Attorney General since 1994. She previously served as an assistant Crown attorney in Waterloo Region and Huron County. She has dedicated her career to providing access to justice for domestic and sexual violence victims and enhancing the quality of sexual violence prosecutions and the victims' experiences in the criminal justice system.

Teresa Donnelly is a member of the Huron Law Association, the Ontario Association of Senior Crown Attorneys, the Advocates' Society, the Women's Law of Ontario Association, and the Southwest Region Women's Law Association. Her community work focuses on contributing to the lives of children, families, the elderly, and people with developmental disabilities.

Lai King Hum, Lawyer, Hum Law Firm (she/her)

Founder of Hum Law, Lai King Hum is known for expertise in all areas of workplace law. Her practice encompasses employment law, human rights, professional regulation, mediation and litigation. Lai opened her Toronto-based employment law and human rights firm in 2014, having established herself as a leading employment law practitioner at top-tier national firms in Ontario and Quebec. She is a member of ADR Institute of Ontario and conducts workplace investigations and mediations.

In addition to her practice, Lai is a Deputy Judge in the Small Claims Court of the Superior Court of Justice in Toronto. She is also one of three Discrimination and Harassment Counsel in the Discrimination and

Harassment Counsel Program, a service funded by the Law Society of Ontario to deal with discrimination and harassment by lawyers and paralegals. In addition, she is a frequent speaker on equity, diversity and inclusion.

Outside of her work, Lai has been the Chair of RODA, and former President of the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers. She is currently the President of the Ontario Deputy Judges Association.