



Alisa McMaster
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Expertise
Dispute Resolution

Bar Admissions
Ontario, 2019

Alisa is developing a diverse litigation practice.

She acts for clients of all sizes across a wide range of litigation matters, including commercial disputes, complex class actions, securities disputes and insolvency proceedings, as well as proceedings before provincial securities commissions and the Competition Tribunal.

REPRESENTATIVE WORK

Continental Casualty Company

Successfully defended Continental Casualty Company (CNA) in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in a class action in which billions of dollars of claims were asserted by or on behalf of thousands of businesses throughout Canada for business interruption coverage arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. This matter was decided by a Justice of the Commercial List in early June 2023 in favour of CNA and other insurers following a multi-week common issues trial. This is the first case to determine authoritatively at trial in Canada that the SARS-CoV-2 virus does not cause “physical loss or damage to property”, and that mere loss of use of property resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic does not trigger coverage under ordinary commercial property insurance policies.

Legion Partners Asset Management

Acted for U.S. activist shareholder Legion Partners Asset Management in connection with its campaign for operational change and board seats on the board of Primo Water Corporation, a TSX-NYSE listed pure-play water solutions provider in North America and Europe. Legion’s campaign included the commencement by Legion of an oppression Application in the Superior Court of Ontario concerning the legality of Primo’s Advance Notice By-Laws. It culminated in an agreement to appoint two Legion nominees to the Primo board and Primo agreeing to adopt certain corporate governance enhancements, including changes to its advance notice bylaw provisions.

Shaw Communications Inc.

Successfully acted for Shaw Communications in landmark trial and appellate proceedings in which the Government of Canada challenged the company’s C\$26-billion merger with Rogers Communications, the largest contested merger case ever heard in this country. This case was named the #1 business decision of 2023 by *Law360 Canada* and one of *Expert’s* Top 10 Business Decisions of 2023.

Confidential client

Acted for the claimant in a C\$1.1-billion ICC arbitration regarding a major Canadian infrastructure project.

Ralph Reichmann

Acted as lead counsel for Ralph Reichmann, the patriarch of a wealthy and successful Canadian family, in defending claims against him and his wife brought by his son, Abraham Reichmann, in relation to events that span over 40 years and concern, among other things, oppression and breaches of fiduciary duties in relation to notable family-owned enterprises and numerous trusts.

DAVIES

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Hostess Brands LLC

Acting for Hostess Brands LLC in pursuing claims valued at approximately C\$109 million arising from its C\$425-million acquisition of Voortman Cookies Limited in 2020.

TransAlta Corporation

Acted for TransAlta Corporation in defending an oppression action brought by Mangrove Partners, a minority shareholder. Mangrove sought to set aside a \$750-million strategic transaction entered into between TransAlta and Brookfield Renewable Partners.

Willoughby Asset Management Inc.

Acting for Willoughby Asset Management Inc., a large unitholder, in connection with Bridging Finance Inc.'s court-appointed receivership proceedings amidst allegations of fraud and misconduct.

RECOGNITIONS

Chambers Canada: Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business—Litigation, General Commercial: Ontario (Associate to Watch)

Benchmark Litigation Canada Awards—Impact Case of the Year (2023)

Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch—Corporate and Commercial Litigation

The Canadian Law Awards—Commercial Litigation Team of the Year (2023)

Law360 Canada—Top Business Decision (2023)

INSIGHTS

Canada Gets Go-Ahead for a National Securities Regulator

Nov. 12, 2018

EDUCATION

University of Toronto, JD, 2018

McGill University, BA (Hons) (Dean's Honour List), 2015