



## William Brock, Ad.E.

Partner

### Office

Montréal

### Tel

514.841.6438

### Email

wbrock@dwpv.com

### Expertise

Dispute Resolution

### Bar Admissions

Québec, 1979

## Bill brings passion, energy and tenacity to everything he does.

He operates a market leading commercial litigation practice for a wide range of clients, including leading Canadian and foreign corporations and government entities. He has decades of experience before the Québec Superior Court, the Québec Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, and has acted as counsel or as an arbitrator in numerous significant commercial arbitrations.

In his spare time, Bill is a photographer and an author (*Portraits of Hope*, and *The Word*, Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal), a founder of the Maryse and William Brock Chair in Applied Research into Stem Cell Transplants, Chair of the Board of Directors of IRIC (Institut de recherche en immunologie et en oncologie of the Université de Montréal) and Chair or a board member of a number of the other companies involved in cancer research, training and commercialization.

Bill believes we should all be measured not only by what we have done, but also by what we have given.

## REPRESENTATIVE WORK

### BCE Inc.

Acted for BCE Inc. and Bell Canada in a successful appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada in a landmark commercial case involving the proposed \$51.7 billion privatization of BCE. The decision of the Supreme Court in this case set the standard in Canada for approval of plans of arrangement and claims of oppression. It also clarified the law concerning the duties of directors of public companies faced with potential change of control transactions. This case also resulted in the fastest commercial appeal ever heard by the Supreme Court of Canada. The appeal was heard by the Court and decided unanimously in favour of BCE less than 30 days after BCE launched its application for leave to appeal from a decision of the Québec Court of Appeal revoking approval for BCE's proposed plan of arrangement that had been granted by Justice Silcoff of the Quebec Superior Court following a lengthy and highly expedited trial.

### Cinar Corporation

Acted on behalf of Cinar Corporation in significant litigation in Canada and elsewhere involving the recovery of in excess of \$100 million in relation to certain unauthorized transactions effected by past directors and officers of the corporation. This litigation also involved multi-jurisdictional safeguard, enforcement and liquidation proceedings.

### Hollinger Inc.

Acted for Hollinger Inc. in its action against Conrad Black and other former executives of Hollinger in a multi-million dollar action for breach of fiduciary duty, etc.

### The Globe and Mail Inc.

Acted successfully for The Globe and Mail Inc. in its appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada involving the boundaries of freedom of expression and more

# DAVIES

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particularly, the extent of the protection of confidentiality of journalistic sources and the availability of publication bans to protect confidential communications.

### Steinberg Inc.

Acted for directors of Steinberg Inc. in relation to creditors' claims resulting from a leveraged buyout of the supermarket chain.

### Vitran Corporation Inc.

Acted for Vitran Corporation, a publicly-traded company, and its subsidiary Vitran Environmental Systems, in the successful defence of a multi-million dollar claim for the alleged breach of a share purchase agreement.

### Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec

Acted for Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec in litigation relating to a successful takeover bid for a major Québec cable company and in relation to a rival's unsuccessful bid.

### Liquidators of an estate

Acted for the liquidators of an estate valued at over \$100 million in connection with a challenge to the testator's will on grounds of incapacity and undue influence.

### ECN Capital

Acting for ECN Capital in a claim for over \$25 million in damages filed against Bombardier Inc. in the Superior Court of Québec.

### A real estate company

Acted for a real estate company arbitrating the fair market value of properties in and adjustments applicable to a \$500-million real estate portfolio being divided with a former partner.

## RECOGNITIONS

Québec Bar—Lawyer Emeritus Distinction

*Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers for Business*—Dispute Resolution: Litigation (Band 1)

*Chambers Canada: Canada's Leading lawyers for Business*—Litigation, General Commercial: Québec (Band 1)

*Benchmark Canada: The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys*—Top 50 Trial Lawyers in Canada (2018-2024)

*Benchmark Canada: The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys*—Arbitration (Litigation Star); Commercial (Litigation Star); Securities (Litigation Star)

*The Legal 500 Canada*—Dispute Resolution: Québec (Hall of Fame)

*The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada*—Litigation: Corporate Commercial

*Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure*

*Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation*

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*Lexpert Guide to US/Canada Cross-Border Lawyers in Canada*—Dispute Resolution

*The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory*—Litigation: Corporate Commercial (Most Frequently Recommended); Commercial Arbitration; Litigation: Directors' and Officers' Liability; Litigation: Securities

*The Best Lawyers in Canada*—Alternative Dispute Resolution; Appellate Practice; Corporate and Commercial Litigation; Defamation and Media Law; Securities Law

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

Université de Montréal, Faculty of Medicine—Medal of Honour

Israel Cancer Research Fund—Community Fellowship Honorary Recipient Award

Expert Guides—Litigation

## INSIGHTS

Canada's Top Court Rules on Personal Liability of Directors for Oppression  
July 18, 2017

*Portraits of Hope*

Dec. 31, 2012

Université de Strasbourg, lecture, "La fraude : histoire, enjeux, outils et défis"  
Jan. 01, 2012

## EDUCATION

McGill University, LLB, 1980

McGill University, BCL, 1978

McGill University, BComm, 1977

## BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer (IRIC), Université de Montréal  
Le Groupe Vision 2000 Inc.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital, The William Brock Fund for Research and Education on Blood Cancers at Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital

The Generations Foundation

Université de Montréal and Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital, creation of the Chair in Applied Stem-Cell Transplant Research, contributor