

Lynn McGrade

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Investment Management
Mutual Funds
Private Funds, Hedge Funds & Alternative Investments
Registrant Regulation & Markets
ETFs, Structured Products & Closed-End Funds
Mergers & Acquisitions
United Kingdom and Europe

Lynn is an International Strategy Partner at Borden Ladner Gervais. Lynn practises corporate law, with a focus on investment management. She represents both Canadian and foreign fund managers on legal issues related to the provision of advisory services, the distribution of securities, and the establishment, operation and administration of investment products such as:

- mutual funds
- exchange-traded funds
- segregated funds
- hedge funds
- closed-end funds
- pooled fund products

Lynn is a recognized authority on securities registrant regulation, compliance and fund governance. She also has extensive experience in merger and acquisition transactions in the investment industry.

Lynn is the national leader of BLG's Investment Management Group and the UK and EU Desk. She is also a member of the firm's Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) initiative.

Experience

- Represented Return on Innovation Advisors Ltd., an investment management firm, in its transaction with Stone Investment Group Limited.
- Has been involved in the creation and structuring of investment products, including fund-on-fund structures, funds involving derivatives, leverage or short selling and exempt or private funds, exchange-traded funds, listed or closed-end funds, segregated funds, and private equity funds.
- Frequently provides training and advice on compliance issues impacting securities registrants, including providing assistance with the preparation of policies and procedures and risk-management systems and preparing for and responding to issues related to regulatory compliance audits and surveys.
- Advises many foreign fund managers and portfolio managers in connection with offering funds or advisory services in Canada.
- Regularly advises on a wide range of fund governance, securities registrant regulation, sales practices and advertising issues.
- Regularly assists fund managers with fund restructurings including multi-classing, windups, mergers and terminations.
- Has acted for industry participants in a large number of merger and acquisition transactions, including sales and purchases of mutual fund businesses, closed-end listed funds, high-net-worth advisory businesses, and IIROC and MFDA members.
- Deals extensively with issues related to institutional and high net worth managed account businesses and mandates.
- Proficient in issues relating to custody, brokerage arrangements, repurchase arrangements and securities lending.
- Has obtained novel and group exemptive relief from various securities requirements.

Insights & Events

- Author, "From buybacks to enhanced disclosure: Canadian Securities Administrators signal a shift in regulation", BLG Article, June 2026
- Author, "The Registration Rules Book", BLG Article, June 2026
- Author, "CSA Proposals on Liquidity Risk Management", BLG Article, December 2025
- Author, "Investing in the long game", BLG Article, November 2024
- Author, "The CSA has competition: The Competition Act introduces new prohibitions on misleading environmental claims", BLG Article, July 2024
- Author, "ESG-related investment fund disclosure in 2024: “Walk your talk”", BLG Article, May 2024
- Findings and tips from Canada’s first survey of fund managers on ESG, BLG Podcast, February 2024
- Author, "The Registration Rules Book", BLG Article, January 2024
- Navigating the currents of ESG expectations: Survey Report on ESG perceptions and practices of Canadian Fund Managers, BLG Perspective, November 2023
- Author, "OSC issues new summary report with guidance for investment fund and structured product issuers", BLG Article, November 2023
- Author, "ETFs in the spotlight: The CSA review exchange-traded funds", BLG Article, October 2023
- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Trends: Why it’s important and what you need to know, BLG Perspective, June 2023
- Pearls of wisdom: Investment management regulatory trends and preparing for the new SRO, BLG Video, January 2023
- Author, "More than marketing How to share your ESG story with investors", BLG Article, June 2022

- Author, "Understanding the CSA's guidance on ESG disclosures by investment funds", BLG Article, April 2022
- Are you meeting Canada's ESG disclosure requirements?, BLG Podcast, March 2022
- Author, "CFA Institute & Canadian Securities Administrators release ESG investment disclosure standards", BLG Article, January 2022
- Special Presentation - ESG in the Capital Markets: The Ecosystem, BLG Video, January 2022
- Author, "ESG expectations of institutional investors ", BLG Article, July 2021
- Author, "Canadian securities regulators conduct a "green" sweep of ESG products and practices", BLG Article, April 2021
- Author, "Where are the Directors in a World in Crisis? ESG and corporate governance best practices", BLG Article, February 2021
- Trends to watch in 2021 – ESG: from optional to essential, BLG Perspective, January 2021
- Author, "Navigating the changing business and foreign investment landscape in 2021", BLG Article, November 2020
- Author, "Uniquely Canadian regulatory expectations for investment fund liquidity risk management", BLG Article, October 2020
- Author, "No advice on mutual fund investing? No trail after June 1, 2022, but challenges ahead", BLG Article, September 2020

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Past Chair and Board of Directors, National Society of Compliance Professionals

Community Involvement

- Secretary and Board of Directors, Member, Investment Committee and Finance Committee, Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation
- Past President, board of directors, Duke of Edinburgh Award Program (Ontario)

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in the 2027 edition of *The Best Lawyers in Canada* (Securities Law), since 2006 (Mutual Funds Law) and in the 2021-2022 editions (Cannabis Law).
- Recognized in the 2027 edition (and since 2016) of *Chambers Canada — Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business* (Investment Funds (Nationwide - Canada)).
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2008) of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Investment Funds & Asset Management), in the 2008 to the 2024 editions (Corporate Mid-Market) and in the 2008 to the 2023 editions (Corporate Commercial Law).
- Recognized in the 2025 edition (and since 2020) of *IFLR1000* (Capital Markets; Investment Funds; Corporate and M&A).
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2022) of *Who's Who Legal: Canada* (Private Funds).
- Recognized in the 2023 edition (and since 2022) of *Lexpert Special Edition: Finance and M&A*
- Recognized in the 2020 edition of *Lexpert Special Edition: Agribusiness and Cannabis*
- Recognized in the 2020 edition of the *Who's Who Legal (*Private Funds - Formation).
- Recipient of the Ontario Bar Association Award of Excellence in the Promotion of Women's Equality

- Recipient of the Women's Executive Network (WXN) Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award in 2013.
- Recipient of the 2013 *Lexpert Zenith Award*.
- Recognized in every edition of the *Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada* since 2008.
- Recognized as a 2017 Acritas Star.

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 1990

- JD, Osgoode Hall Law School, 1988

BLG | Canada's Law Firm

As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 800 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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