

Simon Ledsham

Senior Associate

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Shipping
Transportation
Class Action Defence

Simon's practice focuses on maritime law, acting in contentious and non-contentious transportation matters. He also represents clients in the defense of class actions.

Simon advises clients in cargo claims, collisions, regulatory matters, the arrest of ships and cargos, and the sale of ships. He also has experience in product liability, commercial disputes, and injunctions.

Simon pleads before the Federal Court and all levels of courts in Québec.

Experience

- Simon has acted for shipowners and P&I underwriters in several major marine casualties in the Canadian Arctic, on the Canadian East Coast, and in Québec, involving groundings and the threat of pollution; he has led casualty investigations and has liaised with local authorities on site to defend owners' interests
- He obtained the summary dismissal of a $6M claim against a shipowner involving damage to a dock
- He has represented and advised a major Canadian shipyard in commercial and litigious matters
- He frequently represents international shipowners in the defense of cargo claims, as well as claims for recovery of unpaid fees
- He acts for shipowners whose ships have been arrested, securing their release
- He advises marine industry clients in the drafting and negotiation of various agreements, including commercial leases and terms and conditions for transport

- He has represented various clients in Québec and national class actions in different fields, including banks and automobile manufacturers, obtaining the dismissal of class actions at the certification stage, both at first instance and on appeal

Insights & Events

- Author, "Key takeaways from BLG's 37th Annual Maritime Law Seminar", BLG Article, December 2025
- Author, "Final U.S. Trade Representative Chinese ship fees provide relief for Canadian shipowners", BLG Article, May 2025
- Speaker, “The Red Sea Crisis and War Risks Clauses,” Canadian Maritime Law Association Seminar, 2024
- Interviewed, “Canada formally rejects Hamburg Rules in maritime law update”, Canadian Lawyer Magazine, November 2023
- Speaker on the Arctic Shipping Panel, “Passenger Rights and Risks in the Canadian Arctic and the "Adventure Tourism" Exception,” Comité Maritime International (Colloquium), 2023

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Barreau du Québec

Community Involvement

- Member, board of directors (and Chair of the Young Members Committee), Canadian Maritime Law Association
- Member, board of directors, Youth of Shipping

Bar Admission & Education

- Québec, 2020

- BCL/LLB, McGill University, 2018
- BA in Political Science, McGill University, 2015

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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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