

Patricia (Trish) L. Morrison K.C.

National Group Head, Disputes - Commercial & Construction

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Construction
Construction Disputes
Construction Contracts
Infrastructure
P3 Contracts
Environmental Disputes
Commercial Arbitration
Products Law

Patricia (Trish) Morrison K.C. provides strategic advice to owners, developers, contractors, architects and engineers for the management of risk on construction projects from start to finish.

Trish has extensive experience in the mediation, arbitration and litigation of construction disputes on large-scale commercial, industrial and infrastructure projects, such as disputes involving tenders and RFPs, construction contracts, liens, design and engineering issues, construction deficiencies, cost overruns and delay.

She also advises clients on front-end project matters such as project delivery models, tendering and other procurement processes, contract negotiation and drafting (including P3 agreements) and provides advisory services throughout projects. Trish also advises on project-related environmental and product liability issues.

Trish is a fellow and president of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers, past chair of the Canadian Bar Association National Construction Law Section and a former director of the Calgary Construction Association. She regularly presents at construction industry and client seminars and is a frequent writer on a variety of construction law topics.

Experience

- Project counsel for the Construction Manager of the TELUS Sky Project in Calgary, Alberta

- Counsel for a design-build contractor in a dispute arising out of the design and construction of a highway infrastructure project in Alberta
- Counsel for an international engineering company in a dispute arising out of the design and construction of a oilsands production facility
- Counsel for a general contractor involved in disputes with the owner and numerous subcontractors arising out of the construction of an international airport
- Defence of claim for breach of contract and negligence arising out of the explosion and destruction of a decoking facility at the CNRL Horizon Project in the oil sands
- Counsel for an engineering company in an arbitration for damages arising out of the design and construction of a federal building in Alberta
- Counsel in the defence of a claim for damages arising out of negligence and breach of contract related to the failure and forced shut down of a Boiler Feedwater Preheat Exchanger
- Counsel for an owner in a six week, multi-party UNCITRAL arbitration claiming damages against two contractors and a fabricator in relation to the construction of a sour gas processing plant in northern Canada
- Defended an international engineering company against a claim for damages arising out of negligent design and project delay on pipeline project in a five-week arbitration.
- Counsel for an architect in the defence of an action by an owner for negligent design resulting in building envelope and other deficiencies

Insights & Events

- Co-Author, "Construction Arbitration: Canada," Global Arbitration Review (GAR), June 2025
- Author, "Construction Tariff Resource", BLG Article, April 2025
- Author, "Is an adjudicator's decision under the PPCLA final and binding?", BLG Article, June 2024
- Co-Author, "Construction Arbitration: Canada," Global Arbitration Review (GAR), May 2024
- Author, "Closing Ledore on non-compliance with the PPCLA", BLG Article, May 2024
- Co-Author, "Emojis, text messages and construction contracts," On-Site Magazine, November 2023.
- Author, "4 important construction industry trends to watch", BLG Article, October 2023
- Thought Starters, BLG Perspective, September 2023
- Author, "Adjudication under the PPCLA: Exercise caution and act early", BLG Article, June 2023
- Author, "PPCLA transition periods: What this means for the construction industry", BLG Article, May 2023
- Author, "Belt and suspenders never looked so good: Registering construction liens against condominium properties", BLG Article, May 2023
- Author, "Why purchase orders alone are not enough: Keep consistent or lose the benefit of the arbitration clause", BLG Article, May 2023
- Co-Author, "Trust the process," On-Site Magazine, March 2023
- Author, "Cash is King: Builders' Lien Security and Statutory Trusts under Alberta's Prompt Payment and Construction Lien Act", BLG Article, February 2023
- Panelist, Exculpatory Clauses in Construction Contracts, The Society of Construction Law - Prairies Chapter, Sept 21, 2022
- Author, "Resolving disputes on public infrastructure projects," On-Site Magazine, September 2022
- Author, "Defence infrastructure projects in Canada: considerations for contractors and subcontractors", BLG Article, September 2022
- Co-Author, "Prompt payment: The state of play across Canada", On-Site Magazine, July 2022
- Author, "Transitioning from Alberta's Builders' Lien Act to the PPCLA", BLG Article, March 2022

- Author, "Don’t Lien and Walk Away - Registering a builders’ lien is just the first step", BLG Article, February 2022
- Author, "Alberta Builders’ Lien Act update: It’s time to get your house in order", BLG Article, February 2022
- Author, "GAR Construction Arbitration Know-How", BLG Article, July 2021
- Author, "Alberta's Builders' Lien Act - one step closer to prompt payment and adjudication", BLG Article, June 2021
- Construction and autonomous vehicles — Considerations for increased adoption, BLG Perspective, May 2021
- Author, "Alberta Builders' Lien Act Update – Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act (Bill 62)", BLG Article, May 2021

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Fellow and Past President, Canadian College of Construction Lawyers
- Advisory Board, Certificate in Construction Law Program, Osgoode Professional Development
- Fellow, Construction Lawyers Society of America
- Past Chair, Canadian Bar Association, National Construction Law Section
- Member, Canadian Bar Association, Construction Law Section, Southern Alberta

Community Involvement

- Director, Famous Five Foundation (Celebrating Leadership in Women), 2010- 2022

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized at the 2024 *Benchmark Canada Awards* as "Construction Lawyer of the Year."
- Recognized in the 2027 edition (and since 2011) of *The Best Lawyers in Canada* (Construction Law).
- Recognized in the 2027 (and since 2018) edition of *Chambers Canada* (Construction (Nationwide - Canada)).
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2023) of *The Legal 500 Canada* as a "Leading individual" (Construction, Dispute resolution: Alberta).
- Recognized in the *Lexology Index Thought Leaders: Global Elite* for Construction in 2024 and 2025 as well as the 2025 edition (and since 2019) of *Lexology Index: Construction* (formerly Who's Who Legal).
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2011) of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Construction Law), in the 2025 edition (Infrastructure Law) and from 2011 to 2025 (Commercial Arbitration).
- Recognized in the 2026 (and since 2017) editions of *Benchmark Canada - The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* as a Local Litigation Star: Alberta and a Litigation Star: Construction, Environmental.
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2022) of *Benchmark Canada - The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* in the "Top 100 Women in Litigation".
- Recognized in the 2025 edition of *Lexpert Special Edition Litigation*
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2023) of the *Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada* (Construction Law).
- Recognized as a leading infrastructure lawyer in the 2026 edition (and since 2014) of *Lexpert Special Edition on Infrastructure.*

- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2022) of *Lexpert Special Edition: Energy*.

Bar Admission & Education

- Manitoba, 2015
- Alberta, 1998

- LLB, University of Calgary, 1997
- BA (Hons.), Queen's University, 1993

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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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