



Nadia Effendi

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[Disputes](#)
[Appellate Advocacy](#)
[Class Actions](#)
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Nadia represents a wide range of clients, in both English and French, in complex and often high-profile proceedings, including commercial litigation matters (including class actions) as well as administrative, regulatory, constitutional, and human rights law cases.

Nadia has represented clients in a broad range of industries (e.g. transportation, financial services, broadcasting and telecommunications, energy, entertainment, etc.) and has particular subject-matter expertise in transportation law, electoral law, access to information, and official language rights.

Nadia regularly appears before all levels of federal and provincial courts, administrative tribunals, and commissions of inquiry, and has appeared numerous times before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Nadia is the Co-Chair of BLG's Appellate Advocacy Group and serves as the President of the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario (AJEFO).

Prior to joining BLG, Nadia served as a law clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada to The Honourable Mr. Justice Bastarache.

Experience

- Counsel before the Federal Court for the Leaders' Debates Commission (led by the Honourable David Johnston) on applications brought Rebel Media and True North for media accreditation for the federal leaders' debates.
- Counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada for the Canadian Bar Association in *SCC 38381 AG of BC v. Provincial Court Judges' Association of British Columbia* | *SCC 38459 AG of NS et al v Judges of the Provincial Court et al*.
- Counsel before the Federal Court for the Courts Administration Services in an application brought by Pierre Devinat with respect to the translations of judgments of the Federal Courts.
- Counsel before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for Handa Student Travel in a wages class action (2018-present).
- Counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada, the Ontario Court of Appeal and the Ontario Divisional Court for the Law Society of Ontario in *Trinity Western University v. The Law Society of Upper Canada*, [2015 ONSC 4250](#); [2016 ONCA 518](#) (2014-2018).
- Counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada for the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada in *Deloitte & Touche v. Livent Inc., Through its Special Receiver and Manager Roman Doroniuk* (2016-2017).
- Counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada for the European Bank For Reconstruction and Development, the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation And Development, the African Development Bank Group, the Asian Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Nordic Investment Bank in *World Bank Group v. Wallace*, [2016 SCC 15](#) (2015-2016).
- Counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada, the Federal Court of Appeal and the Federal Court for the Speaker of the House of Commons and the Board of Internal Economy in applications commenced by members of the NDP (2014-present).
- Counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal and the Federal Court for Oceanex Inc. in a judicial review application against the Minister of Transport and Marine Atlantic Inc. (2015-present).
- Counsel before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada in *Council of Canadians v. Canada (Attorney General)*, [2015 ONSC 4601](#) (2015-2018).
- Counsel before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for GoodLife Fitness in a class action (2016-present).
- Counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada, Ontario Court of Appeal and Ontario Superior Court of Justice for Canadian National Railway Company in a contractual dispute with the City of Thunder Bay (2014-present).
- Counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada for the Railway Association of Canada in *Canadian Pacific Railway Co. v. Canada (Attorney General)*, [2016 SCC 1](#).
- Counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal for Canadian National Railway Company in various challenges of decisions of the Canadian Transportation Agency involving complaints by shippers about interswitching and statutory service obligations (see *CN v. Richardson International Ltd.*, [2015 FCA 180](#); *Canadian National Railway Company v. Canadian Transportation Agency and Wilkinson*, [2013 FCA 270](#); *Canadian National Railway Company v. Canada (Transport, Infrastructure and Communities)*, [\(2012 FCA 240\)](#)).
- Counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal for Canadian National Railway Company against the Canadian Transportation Agency in two appeals challenging the agency's revenue cap determinations for the transportation of grain (2015-2016).
- Counsel before the Federal Court for Canadian National Railway Company against Transport Canada challenging decisions on access to information requests (2016).
- Counsel before several provincial courts for JTI-Macdonald Corp. challenging the menthol ban (2015-present).

- Counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal and Federal Court for CBC/Radio-Canada in *CBC/Radio-Canada c. Canada (Commissariat aux langues officielles)*, [2015 CAF 251](#) (2010-2015).
- Commission counsel for the [Elliot Lake Commission of Inquiry](#) investigating the collapse of the Algo Centre Mall (2012-2014).
- Counsel before the Federal Court for the Auditor General of Canada in *Jean-Jacques Blais v. Michael Ferguson et al.* (2012-2013).
- Counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada for the Canadian Medical Association in *Canada (Attorney General) v. PHS Community Services Society*, [2011 SCC 44](#).
- Counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal and the Federal Court for the Chief Electoral Officer in *Canada (Chief Electoral Officer) v. Callaghan*, [2010 FC 43](#); [2011 FCA 74](#).
- Counsel before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for JTI-MacDonald Corp. in *JTI-MacDonald Corp. v. Attorney General of Canada* (2011-present).
- Counsel before the Ontario Court of Appeal and Ontario Superior Court of Justice for the Masters' Association of Ontario in *Masters' Association of Ontario v. Ontario*, [2011 ONCA 243](#).
- Counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal for the Right Honourable Prime Minister Jean Chrétien in *Canada (Attorney General) v. Chrétien*, [2010 FCA 283](#).
- Counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal and the Federal Court for Mr. Jean Pelletier (former chief of staff to the Right Honourable Prime Minister Jean Chrétien) in *Pelletier c. Canada (Procureur général)*, [2008 CF 803](#), and *Canada (Procureur général) c. Pelletier*, [2010 CAF 189](#).
- Counsel before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) in *Brandon Gray Internet Services Inc. v. CIRA* (2010-2012).
- Counsel before the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario for Hockey Canada in *J.C. v. Canadian Hockey Association*, [2011 HRTO 385](#).
- Counsel before the Federal Court for the Canadian Security Intelligence Review Committee in *Canada (Procureur général) c. Telbani*, [2012 CF 474](#).
- Counsel before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for Justices Campbell and Wilkins in *Baryluk (Wyrd Sisters) v. Campbell*, [2008 CanLII 55134](#).
- Counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada for the Federation of Law Societies in *Ontario (Public Safety and Security) v. Criminal Lawyers' Association*, [2010 SCC 23](#).
- Counsel before the Ontario Divisional Court for the Law Society of Upper Canada in *Law Society of Upper Canada v. Evans*, [2008 CanLII 34276](#).
- Counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal for the Canadian Bankers Association in *Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce v. Canada (Chief Commissioner, Human Rights Commission)*, [2007 FCA 272](#).
- Counsel before the Federal Court for Equifax Canada in *Equifax Canada v. The Privacy Commissioner of Canada* (2007).

Insights & Events

- Speaker, "L'équité pour les francophones: l'accès à la justice et à l'éducation," Symposium 2020, Droit et langue française, September 25, 2020.
- Supreme Court emphasizes positive duties owed to French-language schools under the Charter
- Supreme Court of Canada Releases its Decision on the Right to Vote of Canadians Living Abroad
- Co-chair, "ADR Advocacy: Advanced Techniques", The Advocates Society, December 11, 2018
- Co-author, "Supreme Court Clarifies Process for Challenging Production Orders," BLG Bulletin, December 2018
- Speaker, "Punitive Damages (Comparative Review of Cases in Quebec and Common-law provinces)," BLG 2018 Class Actions Update, November 20, 2018
- Supreme Court of Canada Slams the Door on CRA Challenge to Common Interest Privilege

- Co-chair and presenter, "Lessons from the Trinity Western University Appeals: Process, Public Interest, Balancing and Written Reasons," Canadian Institute's Annual Advanced Administrative Law & Practice Conference, October 23-24, 2018
- Speaker, "Making Sense of the Latest Developments in Freedom of Religion," Ontario Bar Association Annual Charter Conference, October 2, 2018
- CTA Amendment Bulletin
- Speaker, "Making Submissions Before the Federal Courts of Canada", Canadian Bar Association, May 9, 2018
- Speaker, "Rail Collision and Casualty Avoidance: Regulatory Requirements in Canada and the United States", BLG Conference Reducing Your Risk: Critical Issues in Canadian Transportation Law, April 12, 2018
- Federal Court Of Appeal Reaffirms The Validity Of Transactional Common Interest Privilege
- Speaker, "Fearless Advocacy: The Challenges of Representing an Unpopular Client," Canadian Bar Association Solutions Series, November 14, 2017
- Moderator, « Développement récents en droit administratif », Congrès de l'Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario, June 2017
- Guest lecturer, "TWU v. LSUC," Advanced Public at Western University, March 15, 2017
- Co-author, "Insite: A Novel and Historic Application of Section 7 of the Charter," Canada at 150: Building a Free and Democratic Society, LexisNexis, 2017
- Co-author, "Managing the Flow of Information at a Public Inquiry," Public Inquiries in Canada: Law and Practice, Carswell, 2017
- Co-chair, Canadian Institute's Annual Advanced Administrative Law & Practice Conference, October 25-26, 2016
- Speaker, "Striking the Balance between Competing Rights," Ontario Bar Association Annual Charter Conference, October 6, 2016
- Ontario Court of Appeal Upholds Law Society's Decision to Deny Accreditation to Trinity Western University
- Speaker, "From Tribunal to Courthouse: Judicial Review in the Federal Court," The Advocates' Society's Advocacy in Ottawa Symposium, April 8, 2016
- Co-author, "Bhasin v. Hrynew: Towards Clarity and Coherence with Respect to Good Faith in Contract Performance?", (2016), 46 Advocates Quarterly 94

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Past President, Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario, 2018-present
- Chair, Regulatory and Administrative Law Practice Group, The Advocates Society, 2020-present
- Member, Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF)'s Law Program Committee
- Member, Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association
- Member, County of Carleton Law Association
- Member, Canadian Bar Association, Federal Court Bench and Bar Association, 2019-present
- Member, Divisional Court Users' Committee, 2019-present
- Member, Organizing Committee of the Judicial Assistants of the Supreme Court of Canada's 2020 Conference

Community Involvement

- Past director and secretary, Citizen Advocacy (a charity that helps people with disabilities participate more fully in community life)

Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized in 2021 edition of the *Chambers Canada — Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business* (Litigation: Administrative & Public Law- Ontario)
- Recognized in the 2020 edition of the *Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory* (Litigation - Regulatory & Public Law) and in the 2018 editions (since 2016) (Litigation: Public Law)
- Recognized in the 2020 and 2021 editions of *The Best Lawyers in Canada* (Appellate Practice) and in 2021 for Administrative and Public Law
- Recognized in the 2020 edition of the *Benchmark Top 50 Women in Canada*
- Recognized as a 2013 Rising Star by Lexpert
- Awarded a Lexpert Zenith Award in 2011 for pro bono representation of veterans before the Federal Court
- Recognized in the 2020 and in the 2018 (since 2015) editions of *Benchmark Canada — The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* as a Future Star and a Litigation Star (Administrative, General Commercial, Public Law and Class Actions)
- Recognized in the 2020 (and 2017-2018) editions of the *Benchmark Canada 40 & Under Hot List*
- Nominated as Emerging Talent of the Year by Benchmark Canada 2019 Awards
- Recognized as one of Canada's 25 Most Influential Lawyers in 2016 by Canadian Lawyer Magazine in the Young Influencers category

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2004
- LLB (summa cum laude, gold medalist), University of Ottawa, 2003

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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 725 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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