



Robert (Rob) Dawkins

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[Banking Litigation](#)
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Rob has a wide-ranging **financial services** litigation, commercial and regulatory compliance practice. His expertise includes:

- financial services industry litigation
- financial crime compliance, including anti-money laundering and economic sanctions compliance and administrative monetary penalty appeals
- consumer protection law compliance
- assisting in FinTech and other financial services product design (advising on regulatory compliance issues and assisting with customer facing agreements)
- advising cryptocurrency exchanges, payment processors and digital wallet providers on financial crime compliance and consumer protection matters

Rob also acts in **fraud recovery** and **securities fraud litigation**, including financial institutions in Ponzi scheme and consumer protection class actions, anti-piracy litigation, and general commercial and shareholder disputes.

Rob's clients include:

- banks
- credit unions
- FinTech companies and cryptocurrency exchanges

- business clients ranging from large public companies to individual local entrepreneurs

Rob frequently acts as a supervising solicitor and as plaintiffs' counsel with respect to enforcement of civil search (Anton Piller orders). He was a member of the Law Society of British Columbia's Model Order Committee, tasked with establishing model civil search and asset freezing (Mareva orders) for use in British Columbia litigation.

He is a member of our Blockchain and Cryptocurrency Steering Committee.

Experience

- Acted for financial institutions, fidelity insurers and business owners in fraud litigation and investigations, and in designing and implementing commercial fraud recovery plans.
- Acting for clients defending claims of third-party and vicarious liability for fraud.
- Acted for financial institutions in negligence, misrepresentation, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty and *Bills of Exchange Act* disputes.
- Advises financial institutions on risk management and operational risk issues, including design and review of anti-money-laundering compliance regimes, account-operating agreements, duties of confidentiality and responding to third-party claims on customer funds (e.g., constructive trust claims, Mareva injunctions, garnishing orders, seizures and CRA requirements to pay).
- Acted in commercial disputes, including contract disputes, shareholder remedies litigation and oppression claims, termination of agency relationships, and matters before the BC Securities Commission.
- Assists clients in pre-litigation risk management, including advising boards of directors with respect to fiduciary obligations and conducting litigation risk audits of standard form contracts.
- Acted for commercial landlords in lease disputes, including termination, drafting surrender of lease documentation and distraint proceedings.

Insights & Events

- Preparing for open banking: Lessons from the U.K., BLG Perspective, February 2020
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter - September and October 2019", BLG Article, November 2019
- Author, "FINTRAC Issues Final Guidance for Non-Face-To-Face Verification Using Identification Documents", BLG Article, November 2019
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter - July and August 2019", BLG Article, September 2019
- Author, "Federal-Financial-Institutions-Legislative-and-Regulatory-Reporter-May-and-June-2019", BLG Article, July 2019
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative And Regulatory Reporter — April 2019", BLG Article, May 2019
- Author, "Amendments to Monthly Sanction Reporting Requirements", BLG Article, May 2019
- Author, "Federal Government makes Amendments to monthly Sanction reporting requirements", BLG Article, May 2019
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter — March 2019", BLG Article, May 2019

- Author, "AML Enforcement in Canada: Budget 2019 Targets Financial Crime and Trade-Based Money Laundering", BLG Article, April 2019
- Author, "Have your say on how crypto trading platforms should be regulated post-QuadrigaCX", BLG Article, April 2019
- Author, "Navigating the Blockchain Revolution – Cryptocurrencies may be traced, but to where and whom?", BLG Article, February 2019
- Quoted, "All that glitters is not gold," Lexpert, February 2019.
- Author, "Anti-Money Laundering And Fraud In Canada", BLG Article, January 2019
- Author, "Administration of Canada's Sanctions Regime get a Welcome Makeover", BLG Article, October 2018
- Author, "SEC Settlement Decision Disrupts The Rise Of Free Tokens And Bounty Programs", BLG Article, August 2018
- Author, "Will the Coffey Class Action have a Ripple Effect?", BLG Article, July 2018
- Author, "Department of Finance Proposes Significant Amendments to AML/ATF Regulations", BLG Article, June 2018
- Author, "Department of Finance Launches Consultations on the Canadian Payments Act", BLG Article, May 2018
- Author, "Interesting Overdraft Charge Decision – Criminal Rates of Interest Class Action Successful at Summary Trial", BLG Article, May 2018
- Author, "Updating Canada's Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing Regime", BLG Article, February 2018
- Author, "Prepaid Cards: Deposit Accounts? Or Something Else? Answer: It depends.", BLG Article, February 2018
- Presenter, "Blockchain / Bitcoin 101," BLG 2017 Investment Management Forum, November 2017
- Moderator, "Smart contracts and financial services: A discussion on the transactional application of blockchain," Canadian FinTech Forum, October 2017
- Author, "Department of Finance Launches Second Round of Consultations on Reform of Federal Financial Institution Statutes", BLG Article, August 2017

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, Law Society of British Columbia (LSBC)

Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized in the 2019 edition of *Benchmark Canada — The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* (commercial)
- Recognized in the 2018, 2017 and 2016 editions of *Benchmark Canada — The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* as a "Local Litigation Star: British Columbia" and a "Litigation Star: Commercial"

Bar Admission & Education

- British Columbia, 2004
- LLB, Dalhousie University, 2001, (Hons.)
- BA, University of Toronto, 1998, (High Dist.)

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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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