



## Samanthea Samuels

### Manager, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

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Samanthea is the Manager of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) at BLG, and leads the firm's EDI data collection and reporting efforts in response to an ever-increasing number of client inquiries regarding diversity demographics and programs.

Samanthea works with the National Director of Diversity and Inclusion to foster an inclusive workplace by:

- developing initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion;
- rolling out education and awareness programs;
- ensuring that firm policies and practices are aligned with diversity and inclusion goals;
- ensuring that all talent-related activities and firm processes are viewed through a diversity lens; and
- tracking and reporting on progress.

Prior to joining BLG, Samantha practiced general corporate and securities law at another Bay Street firm, and has led equity and inclusion efforts in schools, workplaces and in the broader community. The incidents surrounding racial injustices and inequalities in 2020, including the murder of George Floyd, nudged Samantha to move into EDI work full time.

Previously, she was very involved in EDI initiatives alongside a busy legal career. At her previous firm, Samantha was instrumental in the creation of a Black Lives Matter affinity group and the inception of a mini pro bono clinic offering legal advice to Black businesses affected by COVID. Samantha also developed a CLE-accredited presentation for firm members on power in the use of language.

Samanthea is also the founder of a not-for-profit community program called “iWin in my Skin,” which provides mentorship and guidance to high school students in pursuit of post-secondary education. In this capacity, she also encourages and assists students with future planning, application building, and extracurricular involvements, and pairs students with legal and other professionals in the Greater Toronto Area.

## Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2019
- LLB, McGill University, 2018
- BCL, McGill University, 2018
- BA, McGill University, 2014

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