Donna Spagnolo

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Commercial Contracts
Insurance
Investment Management
Mutual Funds
Private Funds, Hedge Funds & Alternative Investments
Registrant Regulation & Markets
Autonomous Vehicles

Donna practices corporate law, especially as it relates to the highly regulated insurance and investment management industries. She provides advice on day-to-day activities as well as extraordinary situations, with a focus on regulatory compliance, market conduct, governance issues and transactional matters.

Donna is a member of the firm's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) initiative.

Insights & Events

- Author, "The ETF next door? CIRO and CSA set expectations for foreign ETFs", BLG Article, August 2026
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter – June 2026", BLG Article, August 2026
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter – May 2026", BLG Article, August 2026
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter – April 2026", BLG Article, June 2026
- Author, "Online reviews, real risks: A closer look at RIBO’s guidance on online conduct", BLG Article, June 2026

- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter – March 2026", BLG Article, May 2026
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter - February 2026", BLG Article, April 2026
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter – January 2026", BLG Article, March 2026
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter - December 2025", BLG Article, January 2026
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter - November 2025", BLG Article, December 2025
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter - October 2025", BLG Article, December 2025
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter - September 2025", BLG Article, December 2025
- Author, "Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter - August 2025", BLG Article, December 2025
- Author, "CSA Proposals on Liquidity Risk Management", BLG Article, December 2025
- Author, "Investing in the long game", BLG Article, November 2024
- Author, "Let's inspect the OSC's 2024 Registration, Inspections and Examinations Division Summary Report", BLG Article, September 2024
- Author, "ESG-related investment fund disclosure in 2024: "Walk your talk"", BLG Article, May 2024
- Author, "OSC issues new summary report with guidance for investment fund and structured product issuers", BLG Article, November 2023
- Author, "Federal financial institutions legislative and regulatory reporter - June 2023", BLG Article, July 2023
- Pearls of wisdom: Investment management regulatory trends and preparing for the new SRO, BLG Video, January 2023
- Author, "Federal financial institutions legislative and regulatory reporter – June - November 2022 ", BLG Article, January 2023
- Author, "Cybersecurity framework and incident reporting for Ontario's mortgage brokering sector", BLG Article, October 2022
- Author, "Federal financial institutions legislative and regulatory reporter – May 2022", BLG Article, June 2022
- Author, "Fund total cost reporting – Coming to investor statements by 2025?", BLG Article, June 2022
- Author, "Federal financial institutions legislative and regulatory reporter - April 2022", BLG Article, May 2022

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, IFIC Sales Practices Guidelines Review Sub-Group
- Member, IFIC Legal and Compliance Issues Working Group
- Member, Canadian Bar Association (business law section)
- Member, National Society of Compliance Professionals

Community Involvement

- Chair, Turning Point Youth Services

Awards & Recognitions

- Selected by peers for inclusion in the 2027 edition (and since 2011) of *The Best Lawyers in Canada* (Mutual Funds Law).
- Recognized in the 2023 (and previous editions) of *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Investment Funds & Asset Management).
- Recognized as a 2019 Acritas Star.
- Honoured with a 2014 *Lexpert Zenith Award* (Corporate Finance and Securities).

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 1998

- LLB, York University, 1996
- BSc (with High Dist.), University of Toronto, 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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