



Cristina Birks

Counsel

T 514.954.2533
F 514.954.1905
Montréal
CBirks@blg.com

[Disputes](#)
[Commercial Arbitration](#)
[International Arbitration](#)

Cristina's practice focuses on **commercial litigation** and **arbitration** in numerous fields.

She pleads before all judicial bodies in the province of Québec, as well as before the Federal Court and the Federal Court of Appeal. She has also pleaded before international arbitration tribunals, including those governed by the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce and the International Centre for Dispute Resolution, as well as the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes.

Prior to joining BLG, Cristina worked at National Geographic in Washington, D.C. and completed an internship at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in Costa Rica. She also worked at a boutique Aboriginal law firm in Montréal.

She is fluent in English, French and Spanish.

Experience

- Represents a leading international aerospace company in an international commercial arbitration dispute under the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce.
- Represented a Latin American manufacturer in an international commercial arbitration dispute under the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce.
- Represented a Latin American government against a Spanish company in an investor-state dispute regarding illegal expropriation before the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes.

- Represented a manufacturer seeking compensation from one of its suppliers as a result of defective parts that gave rise to a global epidemic problem (*Hewlett-Packard France v. Matrox Graphics Inc.*, 2020 QCCS 78).
- Represents an institution of public government created under a modern treaty for the management of wildlife in Northern Québec with respect to polar bear harvesting before the Federal Court (currently before the Court of Appeal).
- Represented the trustee of a testamentary trust in a \$14 million damage action alleging poor management (*Bell v. Molson*, 2012 QCCS 5498) and debated before the Court of Appeal (*Bell v. Molson*, 2015 QCCA 583).
- Represents parties in the homologation, recognition and contestation of arbitral awards.

Insights & Events

- Author, "Quebec court consolidates law on third-party funding agreements: impact on commercial arbitration," International Law Office, June 2018
- Speaker, "Cross-Examination in International Arbitration," International Chamber of Commerce of Mexico, June 2017
- Speaker, "Recent Legislative and Judicial Developments in Latin America," YCAP 2016 Fall Symposium: in conjunction with ICC's Young Arbitrators Forum, October 2016
- Speaker, "The Right to Appeal in Arbitration: Benefits of Regulating the Appeal Process in Arbitral Proceedings", 9no Congreso latinoamericano de arbitraje, Lima, Peru (2015)
- Arbitrator, 11th Vis East Moot Competition in Hong Kong (2014)
- Speaker, "The Recognition and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards Annulled at the Seat of Arbitration", 8vo Congreso latinoamericano de arbitraje, Lima, Peru (2014)

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Advisory Board, (past president 2015-2016), Young Canadian Arbitration Practitioners
- Member, Canadian Arbitration Committee, International Chamber of Commerce, International Court of Arbitration
- Member, Proposals Committee, International Chamber of Commerce, International Court of Arbitration
- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, Québec Bar
- Member, International Bar Association, Young Arbitration Practitioners

Community Involvement

- Director, Montreal General Hospital Foundation
- Director, Elizabeth House
- Director, Hay Foundation

Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized in the 2023 edition (and since 2018) of *Who's Who Legal - Arbitration List of Future Leaders*

- Recognized as 2014 Lawyer of the Year: Civil and Commercial Litigation, Young Bar Association of Montreal

Bar Admission & Education

- Québec, 2008
- BCL/LLB, McGill University, 2007
- Certificate in Peruvian Law, Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Lima, 2003
- BA, Georgetown University, 1998

BLG | Canada's Law Firm

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.

[blg.com](https://www.blg.com)

© 2024 Borden Ladner Gervais LLP. Borden Ladner Gervais LLP is an Ontario Limited Liability Partnership.