Katherine Ayre

Partner

T 416.367.6016
F 416.367.6749
Toronto
KAyre@blg.com
LinkedIn

Aviation
Autonomous Vehicles
Government & Public Sector
Commercial Real Estate
Crisis Management
Aviation Liability
Municipal & Land Use Planning
Products Law
Metaverse

Katherine Ayre loves to fly, but that's only part of the reason she's an aviation lawyer. She sees the potential of aviation to connect underserviced communities, deliver essential items with lifesaving speed, integrate all modes of transportation and achieve Canada's net zero targets. She has dedicated her aviation law practice to working with industry and government to realize this potential in a cost-effective, commercially viable way.

Kate is one of the only lawyers in Canada to merge municipal and aviation law into a single practice. For more than 15 years she has focused on municipal risk, crisis management, mediation, public advocacy and building community acceptance of changes in both aviation and municipal law.

Kate is equally at home in a courtroom or boardroom. She regularly engages in written advocacy for complex, highly technical and multi-jurisdictional disputes, including nuanced settlement discussions. She also thrives on collaborating with in-house counsel and subject matter experts to help organizations and communities with regulatory advice, legal project management and strategic input for their air corridor development and infrastructure projects. She is a go-to on disruptive and autonomous technologies, including AAM, UAM, eVTOL, and unmanned aircraft systems and drones.

Mid-sized organizations consider Kate a fractional general counsel, essential to their team's day-to-day legal decision-making in everything from regulatory compliance to labour and employment issues. All organizations value her 10,000-foot view on highly sensitive initiatives and her enthusiasm for innovation, including how her

legal services are delivered and billed. A commercially licensed glider and fixed-wing pilot with some rotary and dispatch experience, she understands the industry from the inside.

She doesn't do it alone. Kate is the leader of BLG's national aviation law group — close to 70 lawyers with expertise and connections in every area of aviation, from satellites to real estate. Just like our clients, the aviation law team works without borders, serving every province and territory with a breadth and depth of services that helps clients achieve their goals and helps Canada's aviation industry evolve.

Katherine provides legal services through a Law Corporation.

Insights & Events

- Author, "The 10,000-foot view: Aviation trends and advice from lawyer Katherine Ayre", BLG Article, September 2021
- Next-gen spotlight: 5G, autonomous vehicles and connected devices, BLG Perspective, March 2021
- Author, "Losing connections: 5G wireless technology and the potential risk for aviation", BLG Article, February 2021
- Author, "Air passenger protections: an analysis and comparison between Canada and the European Union", BLG Article, November 2020
- Co-author, "Getting Ready for Take Off — New rules to consider when using drones in a maritime environment", *Canadian Shipper*, January 2020.
- Chair, "UAV Regulations", McGill Aviation Conference, October 2019
- Author, "Getting Ready to Take Off: New Rules To Consider When Using Drones On Construction Sites", BLG Article, June 2019
- Competition Bureau Expresses Serious Concern about Canadian Airline Merger
- Author, "Transport Canada Announces Changes to the Canadian Aviation Regulations to Address Flight Crew Fatigue", BLG Article, December 2018
- Chair, "Delivered by Drone", Canadian International Freight Forwarder's Association (CIFFA) 70th Anniversary Conference, October 16th & 17th 2018
- The Sensor: Cleared for Take-Off — Autonomous Technology and Aviation Litigation, BLG Perspective, August 2018
- Author, "Cleared for Take-Off: Autonomous Technology and Aviation Litigation, The Sensor, August 2018
- The Sensor: Québec Moves Forward with Regulation of Autonomous Vehicles, BLG Perspective, April 2018
- Author, "Municipality Liable for Damages Following Tobogganing Accident," BLG Publication, November 2017
- Chair, "Litigation Catastrophes: Handling High Stakes Litigation Disasters Over Air, Land, and Sea", 61st Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA) Congress, October 27th–30th 2017
- Speaker, "UAV and Drone Regulation in Canada", 61st Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA) Congress, October 27th–30th 2017
- Co-author, "United States Court of Appeals (6th Circuit) Provides a New Interpretation of Article 17(1) of the Montreal Convention," BLG Insurance & Tort Liability Alert, September 2017
- Co-author, "BLG Successfully Represents Air Charter Company During WSIAT Application and Reconsideration," BLG Insurance & Tort Liability Alert, September 2017
- Speaker, "UAV and Autonomous Technology for Municipalities", The Society of Public Insurance Administrators of Ontario, (SPIAO), May 28th–May 29th 2017

- Co-author, "Ontario Court of Appeal Determines that GARA is Not Applicable in Ontario Proceeding," BLG Aviation Alert, April 2017
- Author, "Aviation Alert: First Transport Canada Approved BVLOS Flight for a UAS", BLG Article, March 2017
- Co-author, "First Transport Canada Approved BVLOs Flight for a UAS," BLG Aviation Alert, March 2017
- Co-author, "Transport Canada Announces New Regulations for Recreational Drones," BLG Aviation Alert, March 2017
- Co-author, "General Aviation Revitalization Act of 1994 ("GARA") Not applicable in Ontario Action," BLG Aviation Alert, October 2016
- Co-author, "Vlanich v. Typhair 2016 ONCA 517: Ontario Court of Appeal considers whether a municipality may owe duty of care in relation to its enforcement of taxi licensing bylaws," BLG Insurance and Tort Liability Bulletin, July 2016

Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized in the 2023 edition (and since 2022) of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory* (Aviation (Regulation & Liability)).
- Recognized in the 2022 edition (and since 2019) of *The Best Lawyers in Canada* (Aviation Law).

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2009

- LLB, University of Western Ontario, 2007
- B.Sc. (Hons.), University of Guelph, 2003

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

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