

François D. Gagnon

Partner

T 514.954.2553
M 514.792.5309
F 514.954.1905
Montréal
FGagnon@blg.com

Banking Litigation
Contract Disputes
Fraud
Real Estate Disputes & Litigation
Insolvency & Restructuring

François Gagnon advises various stakeholders with regard to **restructurings** under the *Companies Creditors' Arrangements Act* and restructurings and **liquidations** under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*. He frequently represents:

- insolvent debtor companies
- major secured and unsecured creditors
- monitors
- directors
- asset purchasers

In addition to his specialized knowledge in corporate restructurings, François has considerable **litigation** experience in other fields of practice, including real estate, fraud, banking and **shareholder disputes**, which frequently proves highly useful in dealing with litigious and contested restructurings. This expertise enables François to skilfully represent real estate developers and property owners, and, in particular, the largest real estate investment trust in Canada, in disputes related to the holding and management of their properties.

François has pleaded before all judicial bodies in Québec, including the Québec Court of Appeal, as well as administrative and arbitration tribunals. He has also made representations on **motions for leave** to appeal before the Supreme Court of Canada.

François has pioneered in the drafting and application of safeguard orders in commercial disputes between landlords and tenants and in commercial mortgage foreclosure proceedings.

Experience

- Represented Amsino International Inc. in the acquisition of MedXL Inc. and Liebel-Flarsheim Canada Inc., Canadian manufacturers of medical devices, as part of MedXL Inc. et al.'s CCAA proceeding.
- Represented Bell Media in its acquisition of Octane Racing Group , the exclusive promoter of the Formula 1 Canadian Grand Prix, the largest annual sports and tourism event in Canada.
- Acting for FMC Lithium USA Corp. / Livent Corporation in the Nemaska Lithium inc. et al. CCAA proceedings.
- The special committee of senior secured noteholders and their trustee, in the cross-border restructuring of AbitibiBowater
- Mexicana Airlines and its foreign representative in proceedings instituted under Part IV of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*
- Various creditors and a potential purchaser of assets in the restructuring of Aveos Fleet Performance Inc. et al.
- A secured creditor in the cross-border restructuring of Quebecor World Inc.
- A controller in the restructuring of Canadian asset-backed commercial paper (ABCP)
- The controller in proceedings relating to the restructuring of Boutique Jacob Inc.
- The landlord under a lease redemption agreement in the informal restructuring of BELLUS Health
- The short-term lender in the restructuring of Béton Grilli
- The principal secured creditor in the restructurings of Blackwatch Entertainment Group and Telescene Film Group, television and film producers
- Effigi in its restructuring and proposal under the BIA, as well as in various commercial disputes
- A former director of Chantier A.C. Davie in the restructuring of that company
- Allianz Madvac and its majority shareholder in a receivership

Insights & Events

- Author, "BLG wins the appointment of a receiver for distressed residences for seniors", BLG Article, May 2025
- Author, "Top Canadian insolvency cases of 2022", BLG Article, February 2023
- Author, "A business acquisition strategy put to the test in the context of a proposal", BLG Article, February 2022
- BLG Talks Mining: Where do we go from here?, BLG Video, June 2021
- Co-Presenter, "Conseil des syndics autorisés en insolvabilité du Québec," (virtual presentation) Commercial Case Law Review, Montréal, March 12, 2021

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Canadian Bar Association, National Bankruptcy, Insolvency and Restructuring Law Section
- Member, Turnaround Management Association, Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law Section
- Member, University of San Diego Alumni Association

Community Involvement

- Member, BLG Reads to Kids

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in the 2027 edition (and since 2019) of *The Best Lawyers* in Canada (Insolvency & Financial Restructuring)
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2019) of *Lexpert Special Edition: Insolvency & Restructuring*.
- Recognized in the 2025 edition (and since 2017) of *IFLR1000* (Restructuring and Insolvency, Financial Restructuring).
- Recognized in the 2026, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2020, and 2019 editions of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Insolvency & Financial Restructuring).

Bar Admission & Education

- Québec, 1993

- LLB, Université de Montréal, 1991
- Certificate in International Law, University of San Diego School of Law, 1990
- Minor in Business Administration, HEC Montréal, 1988

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 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.

blg.com

© 2026 Borden Ladner Gervais LLP. Borden Ladner Gervais LLP is an Ontario Limited Liability Partnership.