

Patrick Plante

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Class Action Defence
Cybersecurity, Privacy & Data Protection
Data Mapping & Gap Analysis
Commercial Litigation
Disputes
Products Law
Appellate Advocacy
Transportation
Aviation

Patrick Plante is the Montréal regional manager for our Disputes – Commercial and Construction Group, a leadership position he has earned through his vast legal knowledge, meticulous work, and excellent client approach. A large part of his practice focuses on class actions in a wide range of industries such as environment, aerospace, product liability, consumer law, video gaming, banking, and privacy.

Patrick also delivers innovative solutions in general commercial litigation, administrative law, and disciplinary law, and handles a variety of civil and contractual liability lawsuits and special proceedings, including injunctions. With his passion for public and constitutional law, as well as his experience handling complex issues, he takes on cases of ambitious scope such as constitutional challenges to laws or regulations under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, the Québec *Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms*, and the Constitution of Canada. In addition, he represents and advises parties in disputes over official languages issues.

His clients' appreciation of his work has earned him a place on the *Thomson Reuters* 2025 Stand-out Lawyers list. After featuring on *Benchmark Litigation Canada's* "40 and Under Hotlist" for several years, Patrick is now recognized as a Litigation Star. Other distinctions, such as *Lexpert* and *The Best Lawyers in Canada*, attest to the quality of his practice, particularly in Class Actions and Corporate and Commercial Litigation.

Patrick has contributed to many important class action victories for BLG, often at the authorization stage. He was part of our litigation team in the following noteworthy proceedings:

- *Procureur général du Québec c. Compagnie de chemin de fer Canadien Pacifique*, which concerned a high-profile rail accident in Lac-Mégantic. Dismissal of the class action was confirmed on the merits by the Québec Court of Appeal in 2025, following an initial victory before the Superior Court of Québec in *Ouellet c. Compagnie de chemin de fer Canadien Pacifique et al.*;
- *Pollués de Montréal-Trudeau c. Aéroports de Montréal*, an environmental class action dismissed at the authorization stage by the Québec Court of Appeal;
- *Haroch v. Toronto-Dominion et al.*, a class action challenging the mortgage prepayment charges levied by Bank of Montréal and other banks, dismissed for the second time at the authorization stage;
- Benabu c. Vidéotron et al., in which he successfully defended Google in a class action on automatic renewal of online subscriptions after a free trial;
- A class action regarding data breaches and price advertisement, where he defended StockX.

Patrick is now working on a number of class actions, including lawsuits against the video game industry in which he is defending TakeTwo Interactive Software, Rockstar Games, 2K and Zynga.

Although his practice remains rooted in litigation and advocacy, over the years Patrick has forged trusting relationships with major corporations that now see him as a strategic advisor. They solicit his opinion on their interactions with regulatory authorities and on ways to prevent litigation, or position themselves against possible disputes, such as clauses to include in contracts.

He not only helps prepare files for them but also pleads before all levels of court in Québec, including the Federal Court, and provides expertise in arbitration. His clients are based in Québec, the rest of Canada, the U.S., the European Union and other parts of the world. Patrick sits on our firm's Partnership Admissions Advisory Committee.

Experience

- Participates in defending important class actions, and in particular:
    - Defends the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in the class action relating to the Lac Mégantic accident (*Ouellet c. Canadian Pacific Railway Company et al.*). Two victories have been won before the Superior Court of Québec (2021) and the Québec Court of Appeal (2025).
    - Defends HSBC in the Defrance Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) fee class action (*Defrance et Vaillancourt-Thivierge c. Banque de Montréal et al.).*
    - Defends Google in a class action on privacy and data protection.
    - Defends Peoples Trust Company in a class action regarding prepaid cards activation fees.
    - Defends Take-Two Interactive Software, Rockstar Games, 2K and Zynga in class actions against the video game industry.
    - Defended Aéroports de Montréal in class actions relating to aircraft noise pollution and the health hazard allegedly caused by airborne nanoparticles before the Superior Court of Québec and the Court of Appeal.
    - Defended BMO in high-profile banking industry class actions (*Haroch v. Toronto Dominion Bank et al.*, [500-06-000930-186] and *Pilon c. Banque Amex du Canada* [500-06-000899-183]).
    - Defended Google in a class action on automatic renewal of online subscriptions after a free trial (*Benabu c. Vidéotron et al.*).
    - Defended JTI-Macdonald Corp. in landmark class actions against tobacco manufacturers (*Conseil québécois sur le tabac et la santé c. JTI-Macdonald Corp. et al.* and *Létourneau c. JTI-Macdonald Corp. et al.*)
    - Defended StockX in a class action regarding data breaches and price advertisement.

- Defends Chicago Title Insurance Company in a dispute against the Chambre des notaires du Québec arising from amendments to the *Notaries Act*.
- Represents and advises several entities in disputes connected to official languages issues.
- Represents and advises airport authorities across the country.
- Participated in the debate concerning the constitutional validity of the *Tobacco-related Damages and Health Care Costs Recovery Act*.
- Represented victims of defamatory campaigns on the Internet and took measures to protect their public image.
- Represented a Canadian financial institution before the courts in a dispute dealing with unjustified enrichment of adverse parties resulting from an error made in a bank transfer.
- Participated in the debate on prohibiting the disclosure in court proceedings of supervisory information sent to the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions.

Insights & Events

- Author, "Mortgage prepayment charges: Class action dismissed again at the authorization stage", BLG Article, October 2024
- Author, "The Court of Appeal upholds the dismissal of an environmental class action at the authorization stage", BLG Article, February 2023
- Author, "Favourable judgement issued by Québec Court of Appeal in Pilon class action", BLG Article, April 2021
- Action collective – Rétrospective de l'année 2020 au Québec, BLG Perspective, March 2021
- Author, "De l'importance de ne pas confondre la chose jugée et le droit de s'exclure d'une action collective (French only)", BLG Article, January 2020
- Co-author, "Les principes directeurs de la procédure civile," La Procédure Civile, 2017
- Co-author, "Présomptions," Preuve et prescription, 2017
- Co-author, "Québec Superior Court Circumscribes Banks' Obligation to Investigate Deposit of Cheques," THE EXCHANGE: BLG's Financial Institutions Litigation Blog, April 29, 2016
- Speaker, "The provisions of the new Code of Civil Procedure in class action matters," BLG's 13th National Symposium on Class Actions, Toronto, April 21, 2016
- Author, "Amendments Expressly Ban Judicial Disclosure of Information Exchange Between Financial Institutions and OFSI", BLG Article, February 2016
- Author, "Disclosure: Information exchanged with the OSFI," Federated Press, Commercial Litigation, Volume XVI, No. 2, 2015
- Speaker, "La prévention des pertes dans le commerce de détail (aspects légaux)," lecture given to the Conseil québécois du commerce de détail (CQCD) with follow-up provided to shopping centres
- Speaker, "Cinq grands défis de la preuve civile," addressing recent developments relating to articles 403 C.C.P. and 2870 C.C.Q. and certain amendments provided for by the Act to enact the new Code of Civil Procedure, CCH Colloquium, 2013

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member of the Comité consultatif pour le Québec, The Advocates' Society

Community Involvement

- Member of the Board of Directors, Théâtre de Quat'Sous

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized as a 2025 *Thomson Reuters* Stand-out Lawyer
- Recognized in the 2027 edition (and since 2019) of *Best Lawyers in Canada* (Corporate and Commercial Litigation) and since 2021 (Class Actions Litigation).
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2024) of *Benchmark Litigation's - The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* as a Litigation Star, in the 2018-2021 editions as a "40 and Under Hotlist", in the 2018-2021 as a Future Star.
- Finalist for an Excellence Award at the Canadian Law Awards 2024.
- Recognized in the 2026 edition of *Lexpert Special Edition: Technology*
- Recognized in the 2025 and 2021 editions of *Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation*
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2025) of the *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Class Actions) and in the 2021 and 2024 editions (Litigation - Corporate Commercial).
- Finalist at the Young Bar Association of Montréal (YBAM) Lawyers of the Year Award (2015): civil and commercial litigation.
- Recipient of the *Lexpert*® Zenith Award (2011), awarded to the *pro bono* team of the year, for having represented Mr. Réjean Hinse.
- Selected as "Star Graduate" at the University of Ottawa at the conferral of degrees in 2008, recognizing his exceptional achievements during his university years.
- Recipient of some 20 awards of excellence, including the Gold Medal and Plaque of the Faculty of Law of the University of Ottawa for achieving the highest average in the civil law program.
- Recipient of the Barreau du Québec Award in 2008 for having maintained the highest average among all law students who completed their bachelor's degrees at the University of Ottawa.
- Recipient in 2007 of the Ronald St. John MacDonald Award that is granted to the team with the highest score for the factum it presented in the Canadian qualifications for the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Competition. The following year, Patrick acted as pleading consultant for the University of Ottawa team, in the same competition.
- Recipient in 2006 of a BLG Research fellowship that enabled him to collaborate in the writing of a research document (monograph) on contract law in Québec, which will be published in the *International Encyclopaedia of Law*.

Bar Admission & Education

- Québec, 2009

- LLB, University of Ottawa, 2008
- MA in Industrial Relations, Université Laval, 2005
- BA in Labour Science & Political Science, York University, 2003

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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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