



Katherine Ayre

Partner

T 416.367.6016
F 416.367.6749
Toronto
KAyre@blg.com
[LinkedIn](#)

[Aviation Liability](#)
[Aviation](#)
[Autonomous Vehicles](#)
[Product Liability](#)
[Professional Negligence](#)
[Municipal Liability](#)
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As chair of BLG's National Aviation Focus Group, Katherine is a civil litigator who specializes in aviation. She regularly advises clients on general insurance matters and helps them navigate the regulatory world in both transportation and travel. Her practice includes a focus on product liability, aviation litigation, insurance litigation and autonomous vehicles.

Katherine's expertise extends to land transportation, occupiers' liability and municipal defence. Additionally, she specializes in courtroom and written advocacy for both Canadian and international clients. Katherine also has experience in the following:

- cross-border litigation
- enforcement of letters rogatory
- conducting examinations for discovery/depositions
- conducting mediation, settlement negotiation, and conflict resolution
- risk assessment and management
- legal research and legal writing
- trial and appellate work, at all levels of court

Prior to becoming a lawyer Katherine became a licensed glider pilot and a commercial pilot for fixed-wing aircraft. While working towards her multi-IFR and flight instructor rating, she was a flight dispatcher.

Insights & Events

- The 10,000-foot view: Aviation trends and advice from lawyer Katherine Ayre
- Next-gen spotlight: 5G, autonomous vehicles and connected devices
- Losing connections: 5G wireless technology and the potential risk for aviation
- Air passenger protections: an analysis and comparison between Canada and the European Union
- 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
- Getting Ready to Take Off: New Rules To Consider When Using Drones On Construction Sites
- Competition Bureau Expresses Serious Concern about Canadian Airline Merger
- Transport Canada Announces Changes to the Canadian Aviation Regulations to Address Flight Crew Fatigue
- 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
- Author, "Cleared for Take-Off: Autonomous Technology and Aviation Litigation, The Sensor, August 2018
- The Sensor: Québec Moves Forward with Regulation of Autonomous Vehicles
- 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
- Aviation Alert: First Transport Canada Approved BVLOS Flight for a UAS
- 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 2022 edition of *The Canadian Legal Expert 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

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