Graham Walker

National Group Head, Specialized Disputes

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Shipping
Environmental Disputes
Railway
Commercial Litigation
Products Law
Insurance Claim Defence

Graham practises transportation law (with a focus on shipping law**,** rail and trucking), environmental law, insurance claim defense and general commercial litigation.

He has acted as counsel on numerous marine casualties, terminal and cargo claims, environmental prosecutions and civil disputes involving environmental issues. For example:

- land development impacts
- air pollution
- migrating pollution
- fisheries issues
- transport of dangerous goods
- agricultural issues
- heritage issues
- First Nations issues
- mining issues
- forestry issues
- administrative matters

Graham is the Group Head of the Specialized Disputes group.

Experience

- Counsel on a myriad of marine and transportation matters, including marine pollution, casualties, commercial disputes, cargo claims, bills of lading and contracts of affreightment disputes, collision, allision/grounding claims, derailments, ship arrest and sale, cargo arrest, Mareva injunctions, dangerous goods, immigration, coasting permits and cabotage, purchase/sale of vessels, financing, terminal services agreements, warehouse leases, charterparties.
- Lead counsel in the *CN v. ABC Recycling* case, the first decision in BC to consider what are reasonably incurred costs of remediation under BC`s *Environmental Management Act*.
- Counsel on many insurance claims, environmental prosecutions and civil disputes involving environmental issues, including land development impacts, migrating pollution, fisheries issues, transport of dangerous goods, agricultural issues, heritage issues, First Nations issues, mining issues, forestry issues and administrative matters.
- Vast experience drafting and negotiating terminal service agreements (for both terminals and shippers).
- Broad experience drafting and negotiating environmental management and remediation cost agreements and access agreements.
- Insurance and Tort practice focuses on issues of particular import to the transportation, environmental, and construction industries, and includes advice on coverage issues, product liability and warranty issues.
- General practice has included appearances before municipal councils, administrative tribunals, and provincial, superior, appellate and federal courts and educational seminars for the judiciary, the bar, clients and businesses.
- Also active in mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution.

Insights & Events

- Co-Author, "The 12th Annual BLG Environmental Law Update," BLG Publication, 2016.
- BLG Talks Transportation, BLG Perspective, December 2021
- Author, "BHP gives green light to Jansen potash project in Saskatchewan, Canada", BLG Article, September 2021
- Trends to watch in 2021 – Disputes: accelerated transformation, BLG Perspective, January 2021
- Trends to watch in 2021 – Supply chains: ensuring resiliency, BLG Perspective, January 2021
- 32nd Annual Maritime Law Seminar Webinar, BLG Video, December 2020

Beyond our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Director, Canadian Maritime Law Association
- Member, American Bar Association, Environmental Litigation Subsection
- Member, Plimsoll Club

Community Involvement

- Coach, West Vancouver Field Hockey Club
- Coach, Handsworth Senior Secondary Field Hockey

- Member, West Vancouver Yacht Club

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in the 2027 edition (and since 2024) of *The Best Lawyers in Canada* (Insurance Law and Railroad Law) and since 2015 (Environmental Law, Maritime Law, Transportation Law).
- Recognized in the 2024 (and since 2016) editions of *Chambers Canada — Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business* (Transportation: Shipping- Nationwide).
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2011) of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Transportation (Road & Rail); Shipping & Maritime Law).
- Recognized in the 2026 (and since 2015) edition of *Benchmark Canada — The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* as a "Local Litigation Star: British Columbia" and a "Litigation Star: Insurance and Shipping."
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2022) of *Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure*
- Recognized in the 2021 edition of *Doyle's Guide : Leading Transport Lawyers – Canada*

Bar Admission & Education

- British Columbia, 1994

- LLB, University of British Columbia, 1993
- BA, University of Victoria, 1989

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.

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