Sarah McEachern

Partner

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Disputes
International Arbitration
Energy Disputes
Construction Disputes
Commercial Litigation
Investor - State Dispute Settlement

Sarah has extensive experience in all aspects of commercial litigation and arbitration disputes. She focuses her practice on helping clients resolve complex disputes in the commercial, construction, mining, health and energy sectors. She has expertise in both domestic and international disputes and has acted or advised on proceedings under the rules of the ICC, ICDR, AAA, SCC, HKIAC and BCICAC (now VanIAC).

Sarah has experience negotiating commercial agreements with health authorities, as well as resolving related disputes through mediation and arbitration. She has acted for online pharmacies and pharmaceutical development companies dealing with financing and licensing disputes. Sarah, an experienced arbitrator, was selected as one of 12 arbitrators to sit on the inaugural roster of Arbitration Place's NextGen Arbitrators. In 2021 the Government of British Columbia appointed Sarah to serve a five-year term as a roster member for BC's Bid Protest Mechanism and Dispute Resolution panels, established under the New West Partnership Trade Agreement and the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.

She writes and presents frequently on topics related to arbitration and complex litigation, and co-authored the guide *Technology Resources for Arbitration Practitioners* for the IBA.

Sarah has a working knowledge of French and Spanish.

Experience

- Experience in product liability trials.

- Expertise in international and domestic commercial arbitration hearings.
- Experience in enforcement of foreign arbitral awards, jurisdictional disputes and licensing disputes.
- Experience in commercial dispute resolution and negotiations in the health sector.
- Assisted physicians in the health sector in negotiating commercial agreements with health authorities as well as in resolving related disputes, including successful arbitration proceedings.
- Worked with online pharmacies, and pharmaceutical development companies dealing with financing and licensing disputes.
- Frequent author, moderator and speaker of arbitration issues and matters.

Insights & Events

- Panelist, “Arbitration Espresso: A quick shot of arbitration in Canada", Arbitral Women, Toronto, November 2025
- Panelist, “Supply Chain Disputes and the Role of Third Party Notices", German Arbitral Institution, IBA Conference, Toronto, November 2025
- Speaker, “Hammering it out: arbitration vs litigation of construction disputes", CBABC Construction Subsection, Vancouver, November 2025
- Panelist, “Interim Arbitrators in Times of Crisis", ADRIC Conference, Vancouver, October 2025
- Speaker, “Finding Your People: Support Network for Arbitrators", ADRIC webinar, October 2025
- Panelist, “A View from the Arbitrator's Desk, Construction Update 2025: Complex Projects in Challenging Times", PBLI, Vancouver, June 2025
- Future of litigation: 5 big ideas to solve the court backlog , BLG Perspective, December 2024
- Moderator, "Debate on the uses of AI in Arbitration", YCAP Symposium, Vancouver, October 2024
- Moderator, “Efficiency and Creativity in Arbitration", VanIAC, October 2024
- Panelist, “Beyond the Usual Suspects—Arbitrator Selection and Appointment", ADRIC Conference, Toronto, October 2024
- Panelist, “Efficient Resolution of Disputes", VanIAC, Vancouver, June 2024
- Moderator, VanIAC Expedited Procedures Panel, CanArb Week, Toronto, October 2023
- Co-Chair, “Energy Disputes and Issues of Procedure", LCIA Tylney on Tour, Vancouver, June 2023
- Author, "British Columbia Court of Appeal upholds provisions of the Medicare Protection Act", BLG Article, August 2022
- Moderator, "Top Commercial Cases 2021 – What You Should Know & Why They Matter," February 2022.
- Moderator, ICC Canada Conference Debate on the Role of the Artificial Arbitrator, September 2021
- Co-Author, "Appeal Court Refuses Challenge to International Arbitral Award', International Law Office, 15 February 2018
- Panelist, "Negotiation Techniques for Women", Women's Enterprise Centre, February 2018
- Moderator, "New Developments in International Arbitration: Tour d'Horizon", ICC Canada Conference, November 2017, Montreal
- Moderator, "Arbitration Advocacy: Speaking the Same Language as Your Decision Maker," Advocates Society, November 2016.
- Presenter, "Drafting Arbitration Clauses," ADR Section of CBABC Meeting, November 2016.
- Presenter, "Managing Client Expectations," CLE on Electronic Evidence, November 2016.
- Co-Author, "Ontario Court Rules Arbitral Creditors Cannot Seize Shares Held by Kyrgyz-owned Company, "International Law Office, August 2016.

- Co-Author, "Ontario Court Rules Arbitral Creditors Cannot Seize Shares Held by Kyrgyz-owned Company," International Law Office, August 2016.
- Virtual Speaker, Sound-Off, Young-OGEMID Virtual Symposium on Speaking Engagements in International Arbitration, February 2016.

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Director, Vancouver International Arbitration Centre
- Vice President, North American Users' Council, London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)
- North America Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Arbitration Committee
- Member, Western Canada Commercial Arbitration Association (WCCAS)
- Roster Member, Arbitration Place, NextGen
- Member, International Chamber of Commerce - Canadian Chamber of Commerce
- Former VP North American Subcommittee, Campaign for Greener Arbitrations
- Former Steering Committee, IBA Arb40
- Former Editorial Board, Commercial Litigation and Arbitration Review
- Former Advisory Board, Young Canadian Arbitration Practitioners

Community Involvement

- Volunteer, BLG Reads to Kids
- Pro Bono Lawyer, Duty Counsel Project
- Minerva Foundation, Women Leading the Way

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in the 2027 edition (and since 2025) of *The Best Lawyers in Canada* (International Arbitration & Corporate and Commercial Litigation)
- Recognized in the 2026 edition of *Lexology Index* (Arbitration - since 2018) and (Commercial Litigation - since 2024) (formerly *Who's Who Legal*)
- Recognized in the 2026 (and since 2021) editions of *Benchmark Canada – The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* as a "Litigation Star" and in the 2019 (and since 2017) editions as a "Future Star".
- Recognized in the 2025 (and since 2023) editions of *Chambers Canada* (Dispute Resolution: Arbitration).
- Recognized in the 2026 (and since 2021) editions of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory* (Commercial Arbitration).
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2022) of *Benchmark Canada – The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* in the "Top 100 Women in Litigation".
- Recognized in the 2025 edition (and since 2020) of *Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation.*
- Recognized as a 2020 *Lexpert Rising Star*.
- Recognized in the 2020 edition (and since 2017) of the *Benchmark 40 & Under Hot List.*
- Recognized as a Rising Star in Commercial Arbitration in Expert Guides 2017.

Bar Admission & Education

- British Columbia, 2008

- JD, University of Toronto, 2007
- BA (Hons.), University of Victoria, 2003
- Participant, Singapore International Arbitration Academy, Nov/Dec 2013

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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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