# Edona C. Vila

## Partner

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Products Law
Professional Negligence
Health Care & Life Sciences
Transportation
Cybersecurity, Privacy & Data Protection
Autonomous Vehicles
Construction
Artificial Intelligence Law
MedTech

Edona is passionate about the intersection of innovation and the law. She specializes in complex commercial disputes and risk advisory services. She represents national and multi-national corporations, government authorities, and insurers in cross-border and domestic product liability, commercial, and insurance disputes across many different industries ranging from manufacturing and financial services to life sciences.

In her disputes practice, Edona has defended clients throughout all levels of court in Ontario and successfully driven claims to resolution in formal and informal alternative dispute resolution forums. Clients turn to Edona for sound guidance and timely advice. Her in-depth understanding of how business and technological innovations are transforming the status quo, allows her to better support her clients.

Armed with an insight of where her clients came from and where they want to go, she assists clients to identify and mitigate against commercial, regulatory, insurance, and litigation risks to inform internal enterprise risk management.

Much of her practice is focussed on advising on the liability associated with artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, connected devices, Internet of Things, additive and advanced digital manufacturing products. As part of this work, Edona advises clients who either face cross-border litigation or require assistance with compliance matters in the context of Canadian operations.

Outside her law practice, Edona is committed to the advancement of diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. She sits on the Board of the Toronto Lawyers Association.

## Experience

- Representing drug manufacturers related to pharmaceutical product litigation as a result of alleged adverse reactions.
- Acting as litigation counsel for automobile manufacturers alleging product defects.
- Representing medical device manufacturer in claims involving design manufacturing, and marketing defects.
- Representing manufacturers in fire loss claims related to alleged product defects.
- Acting as litigation counsel in the defence of professional negligence and breach of contract claims against engineers, architects, and other design professionals.
- Acting as litigation counsel for public institutions, including municipalities, in relation to infrastructure and professional negligence disputes.
- Defending insurers in litigation arising from denials of long term and short term disability benefits.
- Representing insurers and insureds on subrogated and non-subrogated claims.

## Insights & Events

- Driving into the future: U.K. announces regulatory scheme for the use of automated vehicles, BLG Perspective, December 2023
- Thought Starters, BLG Perspective, September 2023
- Internet of Things laws in Canada, the U.S., U.K. and EU, BLG Video, September 2023
- The professionalism series: Transforming the legal landscape with artificial intelligence, BLG Video, September 2023
- Author, "Health Canada releases draft pre-market guidance for machine learning medical devices", BLG Article, September 2023
- Author, "The Canadian legal landscape on AI enabled medical devices", BLG Article, June 2023
- Medical device litigation trends in Canada and the U.S., BLG Video, April 2023
- Co-Author, "Telemedicine: A Global Approach To Trends and Practices", International Bar Association A Healthcare and Life Sciences Law Committee Telemedicine Survey, December 2022
- Author, "Key legal issues in the metaverse: A primer for Canadian businesses", BLG Article, June 2022
- Autonomous vehicle laws in Canada: Provincial & territorial regulatory landscape, BLG Perspective, December 2021
- Medical Device Roundtable: Post-Market Surveillance Obligations, BLG Video, November 2021
- Author, "Health Canada releases guiding principles on artificial intelligence and machine learning for medical devices", BLG Article, November 2021
- Author, "Health Canada regulatory spotlight on medical device post-market surveillance", BLG Article, November 2021
- Transport Canada: 2021 Guidelines for Testing Automated Driving Systems in Canada, BLG Perspective, November 2021
- Business insurance trends: Climate change litigation, D&O risk, force majeure and transport insurance, BLG Perspective, October 2021
- Autonomous vehicles: Cross jurisdictional regulatory perspectives, BLG Perspective, October 2021

- Author, "Appellate Court rules on cyber breach class action coverage dispute", BLG Article, March 2021
- Author, "Product liability design negligence claims allowed to proceed in mass shooting class action", BLG Article, February 2021
- Author, "Court decision on defence bars assault claim", BLG Article, February 2021
- The COVID 19 vaccine: Considerations for Canadian employers, BLG Video, February 2021
- Autonomous vehicles: Moving forward in 2021 , BLG Perspective, January 2021
- Trends to watch in 2021 – Technology: the future is connected, BLG Perspective, January 2021
- Author, "Manufacturers of internet of things devices: guidance from the Canadian Federal Privacy Commissioner", BLG Article, August 2020
- Author, "Above and beyond: simply signing a waiver may not be enough", BLG Article, August 2020
- Author, "3D printing in the time of COVID-19: A triad of legal perspectives", BLG Article, May 2020

## Beyond our Walls

### Professional Involvement

- Member, Law Society of Upper Canada
- Member, Ontario Bar Association
- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, Current Board Director, Toronto Lawyers Association (Education Committee)
- Member, The Advocates' Society
- Member, Canadian Defence Lawyers Association
- Member, Defence Research Institute
- Membership Officer - International Bar Association, Product Law and Advertising Committee
- Officer, Product Law and Advertising Committee, International Bar Association
- Board Member, AIoT Canada
- Board Member, Urban Robotics Foundation

### Community Involvement

- Volunteer, BLG Reads to Kids
- Pro Bono Duty Counsel, Law Help Ontario

## Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized by the 2024 *Lexology Client Choice Award* (Product Liability Defence)
- Recognized in the 2024 edition of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Litigation - Product Liability & Litigation - Commercial Insurance)

## Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2014

- Juris Doctor (Cum Laude), University of Ottawa, 2013
- Master of Management of Innovation, University of Toronto, 2009
- Post Baccalaureate, Faculty of Science and Engineering, York University, 2008
- BSc (Honour Standing), Medical Radiation, University of Toronto, 2007

## 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 725 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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