



Marie-Claude Bellemare

Partner

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Montréal

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Expertise

Environmental and Indigenous

Bar Admissions

Québec, 2001

Clients in diverse industries reach out to Marie-Claude for her expert knowledge.

Marie-Claude's practice is focused on environmental and natural resource law, as well as energy and public law, both provincially and federally. Clients, including forestry and oil companies, industrial entrepreneurs, petroleum distributors, real estate developers and financiers, trust her to advise on compliance and regulatory matters, including regulatory requirements, authorizations and permits, reporting, inspections and investigations, as well as on climate change and greenhouse gas reduction. She also provides support to clients on the environmental aspects of their most important and complex transactions and litigation matters.

Before joining Davies, Marie-Claude practised law at national firms in Montréal and was the in-house counsel – for both litigation and compliance – for a leading Canadian forestry corporation. She is a frequent speaker on environmental matters at conferences in Québec and in Ontario.

REPRESENTATIVE WORK

Searchlight Pharma Inc.

Acting for the shareholders of Searchlight Pharma Inc., a top-growth Canadian specialty and innovative branded pharmaceutical company, in connection with the sale of their 100% interest to Apotex Inc., Canada's largest pharmaceutical company.

Groupe Legault / JE Mondou Ltée

Acted for Legault Group in its joint venture with Groupe Montoni relating to the construction of a nearly 400,000 square feet automated distribution centre as part of the final phase of the Mascouche CentrOparc business district. The facility, which represents an investment of over \$90 million, will be owned equally by the partners and will be used to service the Mondou chain of pet supply stores.

Hydromega Services Inc.

Acting for Hydromega Services Inc. in its sale, including its ownership interests in five hydropower generating stations in Québec and five additional hydropower generating stations in Northeastern Ontario, to FirstLight Power, a wholly owned subsidiary of PSP Investments and a leading clean power producer, developer and energy storage company.

American Holt, LLC, a portfolio company of Arcline Investment Management

Acted for American Holt, LLC, a portfolio company of Arcline Investment Management, in its acquisition of DMA Solution Inc., a leading engineering company for solutions in the manufacturing of high performance products for the PET plastic container and beverage industries.

The Canada Life Assurance Company

Acted for The Canada Life Assurance Company in the establishment of credit facilities to finance the operations of Intragas Limited Partnership.

DAVIES

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EcoPro BM

Acting for Korea-based EcoPro BM in its C\$1.2-billion joint venture with Ford and SK On to build a cathode manufacturing facility to produce electric vehicle (EVs) battery materials in Bécancour, Quebec.

Mason Graphite Inc.

Acted for Mason Graphite Inc. with its entering into an option and joint venture agreement with Nouveau Monde Graphite Inc. for the development of the Lac Guéret graphite project and Nouveau Monde's concurrent strategic private placement in common shares of Mason Graphite; and Mason Graphite's change of business from a Tier 2 mining issuer to a Tier 2 investment issuer, pursuant to the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange.

Cominar REIT

Acted for Cominar REIT, one of Canada's largest diversified real estate investment trusts and the largest commercial property owner in Québec, in its C\$5.7-billion sale to Iris Acquisition II LP, which is an entity created by a consortium led by Canderel Real Estate Property Inc., one of Canada's largest privately held real estate companies.

Enbridge Inc.

Acted for Enbridge Inc. in the sale of its minority ownership interest in Noverco Inc. to Trencap L.P. for \$1.14 billion.

Blackstone Tactical Opportunities

Acted as Canadian counsel to funds managed by Blackstone Tactical Opportunities in their acquisition (and related financing) of H.I.G. Capital-backed Sustana Group, a Wisconsin and Quebec-based manufacturer of premium, sustainable recycled fiber, paper, and packaging products.

RECOGNITIONS

Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers for Business—Environment

Chambers Canada: Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business—Environment

The Legal 500 Canada—Environment (Leading Individual)

Lexpert Special Edition: Energy

Lexpert Special Edition: Mining

The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory—Environmental Law; Environmental, Social & Governance; Mining; Oil & Gas

The Best Lawyers in Canada—Energy Law; Environmental Law (Lawyer of the Year 2020, Montréal)

Who's Who Legal: Environment & Climate Change; Who's Who Legal: Canada—Environment

Acritas Stars 2020

INSIGHTS

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Quebec Business Council on the Environment (CPEQ), “Session de formation portant sur le *Règlement sur l’assainissement de l’atmosphère* (RAA)”; Montréal, QC

Feb. 20, 2024

Supreme Court of Canada Finds *Impact Assessment Act* Unconstitutional

Oct. 17, 2023

Instructor, Québec Business Council on the Environment (CPEQ), “Session de formation portant sur le *Règlement sur les rejets à l’atmosphère* de la Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal”; Webcast

Sept. 28, 2023

CPEQ, Interim Provisions for the Management of Flood-Prone Areas, Shorelines and Littoral Zones, “Session de formation pour le conseil patronal de l’environnement du Québec”; Montréal, QC

June 06, 2023

Instructor, Québec Business Council on the Environment (CPEQ), “Les secrets industriels et commerciaux dans le cadre de la *Loi sur la qualité de l’environnement* : Écueils et défis du cadre réglementaire”; Montréal, QC

Nov. 23, 2022

Instructor, Québec Business Council on the Environment (CPEQ), “Cadre législatif et réglementaire relatif aux émissions de gaz à effet de serre au Québec”; Montréal, QC

Sept. 22, 2022

Instructor, Québec Business Council on the Environment (CPEQ), “Régime d’autorisation environnementale au Québec : une gestion efficace des formulaires relatifs aux demandes d’autorisations ministérielles” (Québec’s Environmental Authorization Regime : Effective Management of Ministerial Authorization Application Forms); Webinar

May 31, 2022

Instructor, Québec Business Council on the Environment (CPEQ), “Le nouveau régime applicable aux autorisations ministérielles pour l’exploitation d’établissements industriels (anciennes attestations d’assainissement)” (The New Regime Applicable to Ministerial Authorizations Relating to the Operation of Industrial Establishments – Former Decontamination Certifications); March 15 and 22, 2022; Webinar

Mar. 15, 2022

Instructor, Québec Business Council on the Environment (CPEQ), “Régime d’autorisation environnementale au Québec : Nouvelles exigences en matière de recevabilité” (New Application Requirements Under the Québec Environmental Authorization Regime); Webinar

Nov. 17, 2021

Rehabilitation Work in Québec: New Requirements for Traceability of Excavated Contaminated Soils

July 09, 2021

EDUCATION

DAVIES

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University of Cambridge, LLM (International Public Law), 2001

Université de Sherbrooke, LLB, 1999

University of Alberta, BA (Canadian Studies & Political Science) (with Distinction), 1996

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Québec Business Council on the Environment

TEACHING ENGAGEMENTS

Marie-Claude has taught environmental law as part of the Université de Sherbrooke Faculty of Law's undergraduate program.