DAVIES



Anita Banicevic
Partner

Office
Toronto

Tel
416.863.5523

Email
abanicevic@dwpv.com

Expertise
Competition, Antitrust and Foreign Investment
Advertising, Marketing and Distribution
Investigations and White Collar Defence

Bar Admissions
Ontario, 2000

“She is an excellent lawyer; she is very smart and personable.”

Market Commentator – *Chambers Canada*

Anita provides creative solutions on all aspects of competition law and foreign investment review, with a particular focus on mergers, abuse of dominance, misleading advertising and criminal price-fixing investigations. Anita is frequently sought out to advise on some of the most closely watched and leading competition cases in Canada.

With extensive expertise in multinational mergers, Anita has secured *Competition Act* and *Investment Canada Act* clearance for numerous high-profile transactions of Canadian and international businesses in various industries. She regularly assists clients with contested proceedings before the courts and the Competition Tribunal, as well as negotiated resolutions and consent agreements.

Anita has held leadership positions within the Canadian Bar Association and American Bar Association. She served as Chair of the Canadian Bar Association’s Competition Law Section from September 2017 to 2018.

Representative Work

Rogers Communications Inc.
Acted for **Rogers Communications Inc.** in its C$4.35 billion acquisition of Kilmer Sports’ 25% ownership stake in Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment.

Blackstone and TPG
Acted for **Blackstone** and **TPG** on Canadian regulatory aspects of the acquisition of Hologic, Inc., a global diagnostics and imaging company, in a transaction valued at up to US$18.3 billion.

Rogers Communications Inc.
Acted for **Rogers Communications Inc.** in its C$4.7 billion acquisition of BCE Inc.’s ownership stake in Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment.

Rogers Communications Inc.
Acting as co-counsel to **Rogers Communications Inc.** in connection with contested proceedings initiated before the Competition Tribunal by the Commissioner of Competition relating to the marketing of certain of Rogers’ wireless brands.

Hellman & Friedman
Acted as Canadian counsel to Hellman & Friedman-backed **AutoScout24**, a European online automotive marketplace, in its acquisition of TRADER Corporation, a Canadian online marketplace also offering dealership and OEM software and lender services for the automotive sector, from Thoma Bravo.

Ali Holding S.r.l.
Acted as Canadian regulatory counsel to **Ali Holding S.r.l.** in its US$3.5-billion merger with Welbilt, Inc.

Knighthead Capital Management LLC and Certares Opportunities LLC
Acted as Canadian regulatory counsel to **Knighthead Capital Management LLC** and **Certares Opportunities LLC** in their successful US$6-billion bid with Apollo

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Capital Management, LP to acquire Hertz Corp.

SESAC

Acted as Canadian counsel to **SESAC**, a portfolio company of Blackstone, in its US$385-million acquisition of Entertainment One Music (eOne) from Hasbro, Inc.

Northleaf Capital Partners

Acted for **Northleaf Capital Partners** in its strategic sale of a non-controlling interest to Mackenzie Financial Corporation, a subsidiary of IGM Financial Inc., and Great-West Lifeco Inc.

Plenary Group

Acted for **Plenary Group**, a leading investor, developer and operator of public infrastructure in North America, in its sale to Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec.

The Blackstone Group Inc.

Acted for real estate funds managed by **The Blackstone Group Inc.** and their affiliates in Blackstone's $6.2-billion all-cash acquisition of Dream Global Real Estate Investment Trust and the separation of its external asset manager, Dream Asset Management.

Blackstone Property Partners

Acted for an affiliate of **Blackstone Property Partners** in its joint venture with Hudson Pacific Properties, Inc., to acquire the 1.45 million-square-foot Bentall Centre office and retail complex in Vancouver.

Enercare Inc.

Acted for **Enercare Inc.**, one of North America's largest home and commercial services and energy solutions companies, in its $4.3-billion sale to Brookfield Infrastructure and its institutional partners by way of plan of arrangement.

Rogers Sugar Inc.

Acted for **Rogers Sugar Inc.** in connection with the acquisition of L.B. Maple Treat Corporation, one of the world's largest branded and private label maple syrup bottling and distribution companies, for $160.3 million.

DAK Americas LLC

Acted for **DAK Americas LLC**, a producer of PET (polyethylene terephthalate) resins, in connection with its acquisition of a controlling interest in Selenis Canada from IMG Group. Selenis Canada operates a PET plant in Montréal.

Stericyle Inc.

Acted as Canadian counsel for **Stericycle, Inc.** in its acquisition of Shred-it International, a global secure information destruction services provider, for US$2.3 billion in cash.

Bentall Kennedy (Canada) Limited Partner

Acted for the **Bentall Kennedy Group**, a premier real estate investment management firm operating in Canada and the United States, in its acquisition by Sun Life Financial Inc. for a purchase price of $560 million.

Rogers Communications Inc.

Acted for **Rogers Communications Inc.** in connection with its successful defence in closely watched misleading advertising proceedings in the Ontario Superior Court

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brought by the Commissioner of Competition. The case concerned comparative performance-based advertising used by Rogers in connection with its launch in 2010 of Rogers' Chatr brand. This case gave rise to a lengthy trial fought over many weeks, and involved complex expert evidence concerning the testing and operation of wireless networks as well as constitutional challenges to the misleading advertising provisions of the *Competition Act*.

Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc.

Acted for **Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc.** on Canadian regulatory matters in connection with the $2.6 billion acquisition of Dollar Thrifty by Hertz Global Holdings, Inc. to form one of North America's largest car rental agencies. Davies also acted for Dollar Thrifty on regulatory matters arising from a rival bid for Dollar Thrifty by the Avis Budget Group Inc.

Maple Group Acquisition Corporation

Acted for **Maple Group Acquisition Corporation** (renamed TMX Group Limited), an entity whose shareholders consisted of five of Canada's largest pension funds, four Canadian bank-owned investment dealers, a leading independent broker dealer, Canada's largest financial co-operative group and a leading Canadian-based financial services group, in connection with its $3.8-billion acquisition of each of TMX Group Inc., The Canadian Depository for Securities Limited, Alpha Trading Systems Inc. and Alpha Trading Systems Limited Partnership, resulting in the creation of a new integrated clearing and exchange group. This deal was awarded Deal of the Year in 2012 by *Lexpert* magazine.

Schlumberger Limited

Acted for **Schlumberger Limited** in connection with its $240-million acquisition of CE Franklin Ltd. by National Oilwell Varco by way of plan of arrangement. Schlumberger was the 56% controlling shareholder of CE Franklin, a supplier to the Canadian energy industry.

Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc.

Acted for **Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc.** on Canadian *Competition Act* matters in connection with the acquisition of Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc. by Avis Budget Group Inc. in a transaction valued at approximately $1.3 billion.

Eurocopter Holding SAS

Acted for **Eurocopter Holding SAS**, a subsidiary of European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company EADS N.V., in connection with its acquisition of Vector Aerospace Corporation in a transaction valued at $635 million by way of a takeover bid.

Ivanhoé Cambridge Inc.

Acted for **Ivanhoé Cambridge Inc.** in the sale of its five Canadian shopping centres to Primaris Retail REIT for an aggregate price of approximately $572 million.

Audley Capital

Acted for **Audley Capital**, the principal shareholder of Western Coal Corp., in the acquisition of Western Coal by Walter Energy Inc. Walter Energy acquired Western Coal through the initial purchase of part of Audley Capital's block and subsequent acquisition of the remaining outstanding common shares by way of plan of arrangement, with a total value of $3.3 billion.

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Ventana Gold Corp.

Acted for **Ventana Gold Corp.** in connection with the unsolicited $1.5-billion takeover bid by an affiliate of Eike Batista for all of the outstanding Ventana shares, which ultimately resulted in a supported transaction at a higher price.

The Cadillac Fairview Corporation

Acted for **The Cadillac Fairview Corporation** in the sale of Erin Mills Town Centre, Erin Mills Town Plaza and surrounding development lands to Ontario Pension Board for $370 million.

Wal-Mart Canada Realty Inc. and SmartCentres Realty Inc.

Acted for **Wal-Mart Canada Realty Inc.** and **SmartCentres Realty Inc.** in connection with the sale of a shopping centre in Ontario and a shopping centre in Québec to RioCan Real Estate Investment Trust for approximately $100.7 million.

Amcor Limited

Acted for **Amcor Limited** in its acquisition of Alcan Packaging operations from Rio Tinto plc in 31 countries for approximately US$2 billion. The acquisition enhances Amcor's position as one of the world's leading packaging companies.

Mill Road Capital, L.P.

Acted for U.S.-based private equity firm **Mill Road Capital, L.P.** in its successful "white knight" bid for Cossette Inc. for approximately $134 million.

Barzel Industries Canada Inc.

Acted for **Barzel Industries Canada Inc.** (formerly Novamerican Steel) in its cross-border restructuring proceedings involving independent proceedings under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* run in parallel concert with U.S. Chapter 11 proceedings for the U.S. parent company and U.S. subsidiaries and implementing a cross-border "stalking horse" sale agreement, cross-border bidding and auction process and closing of such sale within 65 days of the initial filing.

IPC US Real Estate Investment Trust

Acted for **IPC US Real Estate Investment Trust** in its strategic process and ultimate sale of its assets to Everclear Acquisition Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Behringer Harvard REIT I, in a US$1.4-billion all-cash transaction.

Barzel Industries Inc.

Acted for **Barzel Industries Inc.** (formerly Symmetry Holdings Inc.) in its acquisition of Novamerican Steel Inc. for a purchase price of US$585 million.

Cadim Inc.

Acted for **Cadim Inc.** (a division of Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec) in connection with its partnership arrangements with Westmont Hospitality Group and Cadbridge Investors LP, and acted for Cadbridge and InnVest REIT in connection with their joint negotiated takeover bid for Legacy Hotels REIT in a transaction valued at approximately $2.5 billion.

EdgeStone Capital Equity Fund III, LP

Acted for private equity fund **EdgeStone Capital Equity Fund III, LP** in its $70-million negotiated takeover bid for Stephenson's Rental Services Income Fund.

Fortis Inc.

Acted for **Fortis Inc.** in its acquisition of Terasen Inc., the Canadian natural gas distribution business of Kinder Morgan, Inc., in a transaction valued at $3.7 billion,

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creating the largest investor-owned utility in Canada. Awarded 2007 Deal Team of the Year at the inaugural Canadian Dealmakers Gala.

Fortress Investment Group LLC

Acted as Canadian counsel for private equity funds managed by affiliates of **Fortress Investment Group LLC** in their acquisition of substantially all of the North American operations and facilities of Holiday Retirement Corp., involving 299 seniors' living communities totalling over 35,000 living units, including 34 communities across Canada.

Fortress Investment Group LLC

Acted as Canadian counsel for private equity funds managed by affiliates of **Fortress Investment Group LLC** in their acquisition of RailAmerica Inc. in an all-cash transaction valued at US$1.1 billion.

INEOS

Acted for **INEOS** on Canadian regulatory matters in connection with the formation of a joint venture to combine the INEOS Silica business and PQ Corporation, both manufacturers of industrial silicates and silicas, in a transaction valued at US$1 billion.

Ivanhoé Cambridge Inc.

Acted for **Ivanhoé Cambridge Inc.** in its acquisition of the interests of The Mills Corporation in three shopping centres located in Vaughan, Ontario, Glasgow, Scotland and Madrid, Spain for US$988 million.

Unisource Canada, Inc.

Acted for **Unisource Canada, Inc.** in its defence of multiple class actions across Canada alleging a price-fixing conspiracy in respect of carbonless paper.

PetroKazakhstan Inc.

Acted for **PetroKazakhstan Inc.**, a Canadian-listed energy company**,** in its US$4.18-billion acquisition by China National Petroleum Corporation by way of negotiated takeover bid.

Canada Pipe Company Ltd.

Acted for **Canada Pipe Company Ltd.** before the Competition Tribunal, Federal Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Canada with respect to the only fully contested abuse of dominance case to be decided in Canada in more than 15 years. This matter was decided in favour of Canada Pipe following a lengthy trial in the Competition Tribunal and against Canada Pipe in the Federal Court of Appeal. The matter was eventually resolved through a negotiated Consent Agreement in December 2007.

Recognitions

Chambers Global
Competition/Antitrust
Band 1

Chambers Canada
Competition/Antitrust
Band 1

Global Competition Review
Women in Antitrust

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2016, 2021

GCR 100 Canada
Competition and Foreign Investment Review

Global Competition Review
40 Under 40
2012

Legal 500 Canada
Competition and Antitrust
Hall of Fame

Lexpert 500 Cross Border
Competition Law

Lexpert Zenith Award
Celebrating Change Agents in Law
2019

Lexpert Special Edition
Litigation

Lexpert (CLLD)
Competition Law; Advertising and Marketing Law
Most Frequently Recommended

Best Lawyers Canada
Advertising and Marketing Law; Competition/Antitrust Law

Best Lawyers Canada
Advertising and Marketing Law
Lawyer of the Year 2022, Toronto

Expert Guides
Competition and Antitrust
Women in Business Law

Gouvernance
Competition

External Engagements

In the News
Interview, *Law360***, "Canadian Merger Reforms Bring Longer Review Times, Greater Scrutiny, Analysis of Competition Bureau Data Says"; Online**
Aug 10, 2026
Read More

Article
Merger Control, Canada Chapter, co-author
May 3, 2026
Panoramic Guide (Lexology)
Read More

Speaking Engagement
Ontario Bar Association, OBA Business Law Program, Advertising & Marketing

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Law: What's New, What's Next, "Drip Pricing and Behavioural Economics: Practical Applications"; Toronto, ON
Oct 9, 2025

Article
Greenwashing in Canada: What You Need to Know About the New Provisions, Initial Guidance, and the Ongoing Public Consultation, co-author
Feb 4, 2025
Kluwer Competition Law Blog
Read More

Speaking Engagement
CBA Competition Law Fall Conference, "Are we there yet? Assessing the Efficacy of our New Toolbox,"; Ottawa, ON
Oct 26, 2023

Article
Significant changes to Canadian competition law, co-author
Dec 1, 2022
Financier Worldwide Magazine
Read More

Article
New amendments to the Competition Act: What they mean for HR, co-author
Jun 30, 2022
Human Resources Director Canada (Key Media)
Read More

In the News
Interview, Global Competition Review, "Canadian bar urges government to suspend competition law changes"
Jun 6, 2022
Read More

Speaking Engagement
American Bar Association, Antitrust Law Spring Meeting, "Canadian Competition Law – What's Different Up North?"; Washington, DC
Apr 6, 2022

Speaking Engagement
Moderator, Competition Policy International, "Frameworks of Inclusive Competition (Institutional, leadership)"; Webcast
Jul 19, 2021
Read More

Article
Competition Policy International, Inclusive Competition issue, guest editor
Apr 28, 2021
Antitrust Chronicle, Spring 2021, Vol. 1
Read More

Article
Canadian Competition Bureau Issues Guidance on "No-Poach" and other "Buy-Side" Employment Agreements Between Competitors, co-author

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Dec 4, 2020
Kluwer Competition Law Blog (Wolters Kluwer)
Download Article

Speaking Engagement
American Bar Association, "Competition & COVID-19: Mergers, Foreign Investment and Competitor Collaboration During the Pandemic"; Teleconference
May 15, 2020

Speaking Engagement
American Bar Association, Women in Antitrust Spotlight Series, "How to Thrive, Build Community and Develop a Personal Brand in the Antitrust World"
Jan 16, 2020

Speaking Engagement
Canadian Bar Association, Competition Law Fall Conference, "Vertical, Conglomerate, National Champion and Killer Acquisitions: Has Merger Review Abandoned the Chicago School?"; Ottawa, ON
Oct 17, 2019

Article
Recent Developments in Canada: Will the Competition Bureau Intrude on Privacy?, co-author
Sep 24, 2019
Kluwer Competition Law Blog (Wolters Kluwer)
Read More

Article
Algorithms: Challenges and Opportunities for Antitrust Compliance, co-author
Dec 12, 2018
Compliance and Ethics Spotlight (American Bar Association)
Download Article

Speaking Engagement
Advertising & Marketing Law: Social, Digital, Online Compliance - Legal Issues For 2018 And Beyond, "Enforcement and Regulatory Trends: What's New?"; Toronto, ON
Oct 4, 2018

Speaking Engagement
Canadian Bar Association, Competition Law Fall Conference, "Closing Plenary Session: If I Were Commissioner….."; Ottawa, ON
Sep 28, 2018

Speaking Engagement
Moderator, American Bar Association, Section of Antitrust Law Corporate Counseling Committee – June Antitrust Update
Jul 15, 2015

Insights

Takeaways from the CVCA Webinar
Sep 25, 2026

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Lexology Panoramic Guide: Merger Control
Sep 9, 2026

Davies Lawyers Recognized by *Best Lawyers*
Sep 3, 2026

Canadian Merger Reforms Bring Longer Review Times and Greater Scrutiny
Aug 12, 2026

Navigating Canada's Amended Merger Review Process
Jul 23, 2026

Pre-Merger Notification Guide: Canada's *Competition Act*
Jul 16, 2026

Investing in Canada: New Initiatives Signal More Welcoming Investment Climate
Jun 3, 2026

Court Clarifies Requirements for Production Orders Under Canada's *Competition Act*
Apr 23, 2026

Lexpert Affirms Davies' Position as a Leading Firm
Mar 17, 2026

Governance Insights: A Preview of 2026
Jan 26, 2026

Lexpert 500 Guide Recognizes Davies
Jan 14, 2026

Competition Bureau Publishes Draft MEGs
Jan 6, 2026

Lexpert Recognizes Davies' Excellence in Litigation
Nov 20, 2025

Competition Bureau Issues Final Environmental Claims Guidance
Jul 8, 2025

Expansion of Private Actions Under *Competition Act* Now in Effect
Jun 24, 2025

Disclosure Interrupted: CSA Pauses Climate and Diversity Disclosure Rules
Apr 28, 2025

The Canadian Competition Bureau's Draft Guidance for Going Green
Feb 11, 2025

Governance Insights: What GCs, Boards and Investors Need to Know
Jan 28, 2025

Comments on Competition Bureau's Consultation on its Merger Enforcement Guidelines
Jan 15, 2025

Hold My Popcorn: Canadian Competition Tribunal Decides First Case Under *Competition Act*'s Amended Misleading Representations Provisions
Oct 21, 2024

Navigating the New Norm: Further Changes to Canada's *Competition Act* in Effect

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Jun 21, 2024

Canada's *Competition Act* Reforms Include Expanded Power to Challenge Anticompetitive Agreements
Sep 28, 2023

Canadian Government Announces "First Set" of *Competition Act* Reforms
Sep 19, 2023

Employers Beware: Amendments to the Canadian *Competition Act*'s Criminal Conspiracy Provisions Take Effect
Jun 22, 2023

Federal Government Enacts Significant Amendments to Canada's *Competition Act*
Jun 24, 2022

Enbridge Completes Sale of Interest in Noverco
Dec 30, 2021

Davies Recognized in *Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation*
Nov 29, 2021

TPG Real Estate Acquires Cinespace Film Studios
Nov 22, 2021

Commissioner of Competition Urges Reboot of Canadian Competition Law
Oct 28, 2021

Anita Banicevic and Elisa Kearney Recognized in GCR's *Women in Antitrust 2021*
Sep 24, 2021

Best Lawyers in Canada Recognizes 128 Davies Lawyers
Aug 26, 2021

Eight Davies Lawyers Recognized in *Who's Who Legal: Competition 2021*
Aug 3, 2021

The Dangers of No-Poaching and Other Agreements Between Employers
Mar 2, 2021

Canadian Government Blocks Foreign Acquisition of Canadian Gold Miner on National Security Grounds
Jan 8, 2021

Education

Queen's University, LLB, 1998
Queen's University, BA, 1995

Bar Admissions

Ontario, 2000

Community Involvement

American Bar Association, Section of Antitrust Law, Long Range and Strategic Planning Committee, co-chair
American Bar Association, Section of Antitrust Law, 2017 Consumer Protection Conference, co-chair
American Bar Association, Section of Antitrust Law, Compliance & Ethics Committee,

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past co-chair
American Bar Association, Section of Antitrust Law, Influence Task Force, member
American Bar Association, Section of Antitrust Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Committee, vice-chair
Canadian Bar Association, Competition Law Section Executive Committee, past chair
International Competition Network, non-governmental adviser

Teaching Engagements

Anita has lectured on competition law at Queen's University Faculty of Law.

Professional Affiliations

American Bar Association
Canadian Bar Association