DAVIES



John Bodrug
Partner

Office
Toronto

Tel
416.863.5576

Email
jbodrug@dwpv.com

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

Bar Admissions
Ontario, 1987

“I think of John as one of the most brilliant minds in Canadian competition law.”

Client – *Chambers Canada*

John uses his deep knowledge of competition law and foreign investment review to provide clients with creative solutions in their most business-critical matters.

He advises Canadian, U.S. and international corporations across a wide range of industries on all aspects of competition and foreign investment review, including mergers, price-fixing investigations and other pricing, distribution and advertising matters. John has obtained *Competition Act* and *Investment Canada Act* clearances for numerous merger transactions. Clients appreciate John’s vast expertise and practical, responsive manner. As one client says, “John is almost like a supercomputer – he takes in everything and gives you a clear answer and a wonderful reference point giving you a reality check. He is a wonderful resource.” (*Chambers Canada*) Another client comments that “his ability to analyse and see through complicated issues as if they were transparent is uncanny.” (*Chambers Canada*)

John has significant expertise in advising companies on the criminal provisions of Canada’s *Competition Act*. Clients regularly consult him on contested matters, immunity or leniency agreements, and resolutions prior to formal proceedings.

A frequent speaker at industry conferences, John also writes on topics related to competition and foreign investment review.

Representative Work

The Ferrero Group
Acted as Canadian regulatory counsel to **The Ferrero Group** on its US$3.1-billion acquisition of WK Kellogg Co.

McKesson Corporation
Acted for **McKesson Corporation** in the sale of its Rexall and Well.ca businesses in Canada to Birch Hill Equity Partners.

Shaw Communications Inc.
Acted for **Shaw Communications Inc.** in the acquisition by Rogers Communications Inc. of all of Shaw's issued and outstanding Class A and Class B shares in a transaction valued at approximately C$26 billion, including debt, representing a significant premium for Shaw's shareholders. This deal won M&A Deal of the Year at the 2024 Canadian Law Awards.

Shaw Communications Inc.
Acted for **Shaw Communications Inc.** in its joint C$2.85-billion sale with Rogers Communications Inc. of Freedom Mobile Inc. to Videotron Ltd., a subsidiary of Québecor Inc.

Barrick Gold Corporation
Acted for **Barrick Gold Corporation** in its historic joint venture with Newmont Mining Corporation, which combined their respective mining operations, assets, reserves and talent in Nevada to create the world's largest gold complex.

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Barrick Gold Corporation

Acted for **Barrick Gold Corporation** in its recommended US$18.3-billion share-for-share merger with Randgold Resources Limited. This complex and multijurisdictional transaction created an industry-leading gold company with the greatest concentration of tier one gold assets in the industry and a diversified asset portfolio positioned for growth.

Monsanto Company

Acted for **Monsanto Company** on competition and regulatory matters in its US$66-billion acquisition by Bayer AG.

Major public multinational firm

Acted for **a major public multinational firm** in an internal investigation involving numerous jurisdictions, coordinating assessments of foreign jurisdictions and leniency applications to Canadian competition authorities.

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Acted as co-counsel for the **Association of Chartered Certified Accountants** in respect of trademark claims and antitrust defences against certain provincial Chartered Accountant and Chartered Professional Accountant institutes in Federal Court.

McKesson Corporation

Acted for **McKesson Corporation**, a leading international healthcare services and information technology company, in connection with its $3-billion acquisition of Rexall and Rexall Pharma Plus, which operate approximately 470 pharmacies in Canada, from Katz Group, one of Canada's largest privately owned enterprises.

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.

Recognitions

Chambers Global
Competition/Antitrust

Chambers Canada
Competition/Antitrust

GCR 100 Canada
Competition and Foreign Investment Review

Legal 500 Canada
Competition and Antitrust
Hall of Fame

Lexpert 500 Cross Border

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Competition Law

Lexpert (CLLD)
Competition Law
Most Frequently Recommended

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

Best Lawyers Canada
Competition and Antitrust Law
Lawyer of the Year 2017, 2025 and 2027, Toronto

Expert Guides
Competition and Antitrust

External Engagements

Article
Making Sense of the New Excessive and Unfair Pricing Provision in Canada's *Competition Act*
Aug 31, 2024
The Antitrust Source, August 2024 (American Bar Association)
Download Article

Speaking Engagement
CBA Competition Law Fall Conference, "Remedial Training: Remedying Remedies,"; Ottawa, ON
Oct 26, 2023

Article
Interview with Olha Pishchanska, Chair of the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine, interviewer
Jun 30, 2023
Antitrust Magazine Online, June 2023 (American Bar Association)

Article
A Revival or an Aberration? Prohibition Orders Without a Conviction for Cartel Offences Under the Competition Act, co-author
Dec 2, 2019
The Marker (Canadian Bar Association)
Read More

Article
Ontario Court of Appeal Upholds Application of Regulated Conduct Defence to Dismiss Class Action Alleging Conspiracy in Beer Industry, co-author
Jun 30, 2019
Competition Policy International
Read More

Speaking Engagement
Testimony, Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce, Examination of the *Competition Act* (Part 12) contained in Bill C-10, the *Budget Implementation Act, 2009*; Ottawa, ON
May 14, 2009

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Insights

Davies Lawyers Recognized by *Best Lawyers*
Sep 3, 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

Lexpert 500 Guide Recognizes Davies
Jan 14, 2026

Competition Bureau Publishes Draft MEGs
Jan 6, 2026

Bureau Releases Draft Civil Enforcement Guidelines
Dec 17, 2025

Competition Bureau Issues Final Property Controls Guidance
Jul 21, 2025

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

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

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

Canada's Competition Bureau Offers Guidance on Excessive and Unfair Pricing
Nov 20, 2024

Canadian Competition Bureau Stakes Out Aggressive Stance on Property Controls in Preliminary Enforcement Guidance
Aug 19, 2024

Canada Signals High Bar for *Investment Canada Act* Approvals for Acquisitions of Critical Minerals Businesses
Jul 24, 2024

Navigating the New Norm: Further Changes to Canada's *Competition Act* in Effect
Jun 21, 2024

New Excessive and Unfair Pricing Provisions in Force in Canada's *Competition Act*: Risk and Compliance Considerations
Jan 18, 2024

Canada's *Competition Act* Reforms Include Expanded Power to Challenge

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Anticompetitive Agreements
Sep 28, 2023

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

Canadian Competition Bureau's Updated *Competitor Collaboration Guidelines:* Practical Tips for Businesses
May 11, 2021

Transformative Deal Between Shaw and Rogers to Expedite Canada's 5G Rollout
Mar 15, 2021

Davies Achieves Highest Percentage of Band 1 Lawyer Rankings in *Chambers Global 2021*
Feb 18, 2021

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

Ontario Court Applies Regulated Conduct Defence on Summary Motion to Dismiss Class Action Alleging Market Allocation Conspiracy
Mar 23, 2018

Fulfilling the Promise: Proposals for a More Efficient Merger Review Process in Canada
Sep 20, 2017

Education

University of Western Ontario, LLB, 1985

Bar Admissions

Ontario, 1987

Community Involvement

American Bar Association, Antitrust Section, *The Antitrust Source Magazine*, editor and former co-chair of the Editorial Board
Canadian Bar Association, National Competition Law Section, former chair

Teaching Engagements

John has lectured on competition law at Western Law.

Professional Affiliations

American Bar Association
Canadian Bar Association