DAVIES



Rui Gao
Partner

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416.367.7613

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Expertise
Litigation

Bar Admissions
Ontario, 2018
British-Columbia, 2026

Rui advises clients in high-stakes, high-profile commercial disputes.

Rui's litigation practice focuses on contract disputes, class actions, arbitrations and securities litigation. She has been involved in proceedings before both provincial and federal courts across the country, including the Supreme Court of Canada. She has also appeared before the Capital Markets Tribunal.

In addition to her practice, Rui co-writes a regular column, "In Case You Missed It: Decisions on Our Radar," for *Rebuilding Success* magazine. She is fluent in French and Mandarin.

Representative Work

Apotex Inc.
Successfully defended **Apotex Inc.** and related entities in a multi-billion-dollar proposed class action commenced in the Federal Court of Canada alleging anti-competitive conduct regarding the sale of generic drugs in Canada.

Behold Control Equipment Inc.
Successfully represented **Behold Control Equipment Inc.** in a high-stakes dispute with RACE Mechanical and its affiliate, Aquire Facilities Management, concerning Behold's unique predictive facilities management hardware and software, and allegations of misuse of confidential information.

Bentprop Holdings Inc.
Successfully settled a contractual dispute for **Bentprop Holdings Inc.** with a group of companies operating under the name Global Merchant Finance (now eCapital) concerning finder's fees payable to Bentprop.

The Body Shop Canada Limited
Acted for **The Body Shop Canada Limited**, a subsidiary of UK-based The Body Shop International Limited, in its insolvency proceedings under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* and sale of substantially all of its assets. In connection with the closing of the transaction, Davies obtained novel relief from the Canadian court in respect of disclosure obligations under franchise laws in Canada.

Saline Investments Ltd.
Acted for **Saline Investments Ltd.** in successfully defending against enforcement proceedings commenced by the Ontario Securities Commission alleging violations of the *Securities Act* (Ontario) in respect of certain short selling and securities lending transactions. This decision was named one of the top 10 business decisions of 2024 by *Law360 Canada* and won an Impact Case Award at Benchmark Litigation Canada Awards 2025.

Potentia Renewables Inc.
Acted for **Potentia Renewables Inc.** and its affiliates in a contractual dispute with the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) regarding Potentia's right to optimize solar projects.

FTI Consulting Canada Inc.
Acted for FTI Consulting Canada Inc., as the neutral, court-appointed monitor of Imperial Tobacco Canada Limited and affiliates, in Companies' Creditors Arrangement

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Act and Chapter 15 U.S. Bankruptcy Code proceedings involving a historic C$32.5-billion settlement of tobacco-related liabilities.

Insolvency Institute of Canada

Acted for the **Insolvency Institute of Canada (IIC)** as an intervener before the Supreme Court of Canada in *Aquino v. Ernst & Young (Aquino)*and *Scott v. Golden Oaks (Golden Oaks)*, two important commercial cases concerning corporate attribution and set-off in the bankruptcy and insolvency context. These decisions were named #2 of the top 10 business decisions of 2024 by *Law360 Canada*.

Gotham Green Partners, LLC

Acting as counsel to **Gotham Green Partners, LLC** in defence of a petition seeking to unwind the debt restructuring transaction of iAnthus Capital Holdings Inc.

Confidential Client

Acted for a **leading global services provider** and its Canadian subsidiary in a high-stakes arbitration relating to the termination of a series of long-term services agreements.

Gotham Green Partners, LLC

Acted for **Gotham Green Partners, LLC** in a successful application by the Gotham lenders to compel the enforcement of a restructuring and support agreement concerning the recapitalization of iAnthus Capital Holdings.

Mohawk Industries Inc.

Acting for **Mohawk Industries Inc.** in its defence of a class action in Ontario alleging a conspiracy among suppliers of condominium refurbishment services.

Maxit Capital LP

Acted for **Maxit Capital LP**, as a financial advisor to Guyana Goldfields Inc., in a successfully contested plan of arrangement under the *Business Corporations Act* (Ontario) in relation to Maxit's retainer agreement with Guyana.

McKesson Corporation and McKesson Canada Corporation

Acting for **McKesson Corporation** and **McKesson Canada Corporation** in its defence of a class action brought by the Province of British Columbia on behalf of all Canadian provincial governments, as well as the Federal government, against manufacturers and distributors of opioids seeking to recover health care costs related to the opioid crisis. Also acting for McKesson in defence of additional opioid-related proposed class actions across Canada.

Estate Trustees of Barry Sherman and Honey Sherman

Acted as counsel to **Estate Trustees of Barry and Honey Sherman** in proceedings against the *Toronto Star* involving a request to unseal court files concerning the Shermans' Estates. The precedent-setting decision by the Supreme Court of Canada in this case created new and important law concerning privacy and court openness.

Liquor Control Board of Ontario

Acted for the **Liquor Control Board of Ontario** in defending claims asserted against it for approximately $1.5 billion in antitrust class action proceedings pending in the Ontario Superior Court against the LCBO, Brewers Retail Inc. and a number of major brewers. In March 2018, Justice Perell of the Ontario Superior Court granted summary judgment dismissing all claims asserted against the LCBO and the other defendants, and awarded substantial costs of almost $800,000. The decision of

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Justice Perell granting summary judgment in favour of the LCBO was affirmed by the Ontario Court of Appeal in April 2019.

Barrick Mining Corporation

Acting for **Barrick Gold Corporation** and certain of its former and existing officers and directors in defence of multi-billion dollar class actions in Ontario and Québec alleging breaches of the public disclosure requirements under provincial securities legislation concerning Barrick's Pascua Lama mining project in Chile and Argentina.

Recognitions

Best Lawyers Canada
Corporate and Commercial Litigation; Class Action Litigation
Ones to Watch

Law360 Canada
Top Business Decisions
2024

Chambers Canada Awards
Litigation Firm of the Year
2018

Chambers Canada
Litigation, General Commercial Department: Nationwide and Ontario
Band 1

Benchmark Canada
Future Star

Benchmark Canada
Litigation
40 & Under

Benchmark Canada Awards
Impact Case of the Year
2025

External Engagements

Article
In Case You Missed It: Decisions on Our Radar, co-author
Mar 14, 2025
Rebuilding Success - Spring/Summer 2025 (CAIRP)
Read More

Article
In Case You Missed It: Decisions on Our Radar, co-author
Feb 6, 2024
Rebuilding Success - Spring/Summer 2024 (CAIRP)
Read More

Speaking Engagement
Canadian Bar Association, “Solicitor-Client Privilege and the Bureau’s Immunity and Leniency Programs”; Online

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Nov 27, 2023

Article
In Case You Missed It: Decisions on Our Radar, co-author
Oct 8, 2023
Rebuilding Success - Fall/Winter 2023 (CAIRP)
Read More

Article
Developments in the Law of Evidence: The 2018-2019 Term, co-author
Feb 12, 2020
The Supreme Court Law Review, 2nd Series, Vol. 95 (LexisNexis Canada)

Insights

Davies Honoured for Landmark Imperial Tobacco Proceedings at ITR Awards
Oct 30, 2026

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

Benchmark Names 4 Davies Litigators in 40 & Under List
Aug 11, 2026

Historic Tobacco Industry CCAA Plans Implemented
Sep 23, 2025

Davies Welcomes Seven New Partners
Jan 6, 2025

Making a Profit Is Not Illegal: Capital Markets Tribunal Dismisses Enforcement Proceedings Finding Borrowed Free Trading Shares Remain Unaffected By Pledge of Restricted Shares
Nov 11, 2024

Canada's Top Court Confirms Anti-SLAPP Motions Protect Speakers, Not Plaintiffs
May 25, 2023

Education

McGill University, BCL/LLB, 2017
Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, IB (Economics), 2013

Bar Admissions

Ontario, 2018
British-Columbia, 2026