

Expropriation

SUMMARY

BLG's Expropriation Law Group is the largest in the country and has handled leading cases on behalf of both expropriated owners and expropriating authorities. Our extensive experience and national leadership in the field enables us to come up with creative solutions to expropriation related problems.

Members of our group enhance their expertise by practicing in a variety of closely related areas of law such as assessment appeals, municipal law, commercial real estate litigation, environmental law and professional liability work.

BLG's Expropriation Law Group has the expertise of a boutique litigation firm within a full-service national law firm. The professionals in our Expropriation Law Group are recognized nationally for their expertise, with many of the group's professionals recognized as being amongst *The Best Lawyers in Canada* and listed in the *Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory*.

As leaders in the field, we are authors of *New Law of Expropriation*, Carswell, 1990-present (updated semi-annually), the primary textbook on expropriation law.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- ["Bill 139 Update: Major Changes to the Planning Act Come into Force on April 3, 2018"](#), March 2018
- ["OMB Decision Sets Precedent for Managing Costs and Interest Against Unreasonable Claimants"](#), February 2018
- ["Province Releases Bill 139 Regulations for Transition From the OMB to the New Local Planning Appeal Tribunal"](#), December 2017
- Christel Higgs, ["Bill 139 — The Proposed End of the Ontario Municipal Board"](#), June 2017
- Christel Higgs, ["The Overhaul of the OMB"](#), May 2017
- ["Practical Lessons Learned from Growth Plan Hearings: A Legal Toolkit for Hearing Management"](#), September 2014
- Meghan Lindo, ["The Re-Balancing of Section 14\(4\)\(B\): The Spring Garden Case"](#), April 2014
- ["Practical Lessons Learned from Growth Plan Hearings: A Legal Toolkit for Hearing Management"](#), April 2014
- Christel Higgs, ["Treatment of Environmental Contamination in Expropriations"](#), April 2014
- Ajay Gajaria, ["Injurious Affection Claims where No Land is Taken after Antrim: Charting a New Course?"](#), April 2014
- Evan Cooke|Christel Higgs, ["BLG Announces 17 New Partners"](#), January 2014
- William K. McNaughton|Ian J. Houston|Adam Chamberlain, ["Twelve BLG lawyers listed as Leading Canadian Lawyers in Global Mining"](#), November 2013
- ["Sixteen BLG professionals lauded as "Canada's Leading Energy Lawyers"™"](#), October 2013

- "Perils of Proving Injurious Affection", July 2012

EXPROPRIATED OWNERS

For land owners facing expropriation or the prospect of expropriation we provide not only legal advice but assistance in all facets of the process including negotiation, identification and retention of experts, options for challenging the decision to expropriate and conduct of the entire litigation process.

Our clients range from the largest developers to individual homeowners and farm families. Often we are retained by groups of owners affected by large scale projects. An example of this would be the 80 farm families that we acted for in Lambton County, Ontario when the Province proceeded with the Darcy McKeough Dam and Floodway Project.

A great deal of our work for individual landowners is against Ontario's Ministry of Transportation. Although we act for other branches of the Ontario Provincial Government we do not act for the Ministry of Transportation in any respect. We are routinely retained by landowners affected by Ministry projects across the Province.

EXPROPRIATING AUTHORITIES

For expropriating authorities such as municipal governments, health regions, school districts and other land developers, we have considerable experience advising on all aspects of expropriation law. Our services include the option of providing a turn/key approach to expropriations, including the drafting of staff reports, by-laws, resolutions, notices, pleadings, counsel representation before the statutory boards and courts, as well as provision of budgeting for all aspects of the land acquisition program and management and direction of all professional and expert services.

Over the past decade, our Expropriation Law Group has developed a particular emphasis in acting for municipalities in expropriation matters, although we have acted in expropriation cases for some municipalities for over 25 continuous years. Through the growth of our practice group and our focus on municipal mandates, we believe that we have the largest expropriation practice in the province acting for municipalities. Every lawyer in our Expropriation Law Group has acted for municipalities in expropriation matters from the outset of their careers at BLG.

While expropriation law is the core practice area of our group, members of our group enhance their expertise by practising in a variety of closely related fields of law, such as planning and development, real estate (both litigation and transactions), environmental law, municipal finance and taxation, and lease arbitrations.

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