



Shelby Liesch

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[Disputes](#)
[Commercial Litigation](#)
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Shelby's practice focuses on all aspects of commercial litigation and arbitration. She acts for clients in a broad range of matters, including contract disputes, class actions, banking, fraud recovery, real estate litigation and appeals.

Shelby has successfully represented clients at all levels of court in British Columbia and assisted senior counsel on a number of complex commercial matters, including defending high profile class actions on behalf of clients. She has appeared as counsel before both domestic and international arbitration tribunals.

Shelby is a frequent author and speaker on a number of legal subjects. Shelby has served as Treasurer on the CBA Class Action Section executive since 2018. She is actively involved in the firm's student recruitment, summer student and articling student programs.

Shelby completed a secondment with a national in-house legal team at one of BLG's financial institution clients.

Prior to joining BLG as an articling student, Shelby clerked for six justices of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

Experience

- *Lower v Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada*, 2019 BCSC 2188 – counsel for the successful party on a summary trial application where the court dismissed each of the declarations sought by the plaintiff.
- Counsel to the successful party in a domestic arbitration proceeding where the tribunal awarded the key declarations sought under a commercial agreement and a supplementary award for reasonable legal costs incurred in the arbitration (2019).
- *Coburn and Watson's Metropolitan Home v. BMO Financial Group*, 2019 BCSC 1456 – counsel for the successful party in relation to an application for disclosure of joint defence and tolling agreements.
- *Coburn and Watson's Metropolitan Home v BMO Financial Group*, 2019 BCSC 947 – counsel for the successful party in relation to an application for a declaration that privilege had been waived.
- *Intergulf Investment Corporation v. 0954704 B.C. Ltd.*, 2018 BCCA 337 – counsel for the successful party defending an appeal from a trial order declaring that contracts for the sale of residential properties were binding and enforceable.
- *Transnet Carrier Ltd. v. Vancouver City Savings Credit Union* (unreported) – counsel for the successful party defending an action for negligence relating to fraudulent cheques drawn on the claimant's account on the basis of the enforcement of an account verification provision in a business banking agreement.
- *Canadian Olympic Committee v. VF Outdoor Canada Co.*, 2016 BCSC 238 – counsel for the successful party on an application to dismiss or stay an action on the basis of territorial competence.
- *BC Ferry Services Ltd. v. Canadian Freightways* (unreported) – counsel for the successful party in a regulatory dispute before the British Columbia Provincial Court.
- Served as a prosecutor for the City of Vancouver for bylaw prosecutions, conducting seven trials before the British Columbia Provincial Court.
- Completed a six month secondment with the in-house legal department of a leading financial institutions client.

Insights & Events

- Author, "BC Court of Appeal: Certification applications need not come first in class proceedings", BLG Article, August 2021
- Author, "B.C.'s New Arbitration Legislation comes into force", BLG Article, September 2020
- Author, "Human Rights and Labour Legislation Held Not to Oust Jurisdiction Over Class Action For Breach of Employment Contract", BLG Article, February 2019
- Author, "Navigating the Blockchain Revolution – Cryptocurrencies may be traced, but to where and whom?", BLG Article, February 2019
- Contributor, "Equitable Remedies," B.C. Creditors' Remedies – An Annotated Guide, CLE BC, 2019
- Author, "Reminder: litigants should withdraw unfounded allegations of fraud – and do it early – or risk cost consequences", BLG Article, June 2018
- Author, "Reminder: Litigants Should Withdraw Unfounded Allegations of Fraud – and Do it Early – Or Risk Cost Consequences," The Exchange, June 2018
- Co-author, "To Be or Not to Be (A Security): Regulatory Oversight of Crypto-Assets," The Exchange, August 2017
- Co-author, "Would a Bank Crime Prevention and Investigation Office by Any Other Name Smell as Sweet? Privacy Commissioner Guidance on Investigative Disclosures," The Exchange, May 2017
- Co-author, "Are Financial Institutions the Next Representative Plaintiffs in Canadian Class Action Proceedings? Lessons from Home Depot," The Exchange, March 2017

- Contributor, “Equitable Remedies,” B.C. Creditors’ Remedies – An Annotated Guide, CLE BC, 2017
- Contributor, “Civil Procedure: Small Claims Court,” Annual Review of Law and Practice, CLE BC, 2016
- Contributor, “Shareholder Remedies,” British Columbia Business Disputes, CLE BC, 2016
- Court Lifts Statutory Stay of Proceedings Where Proposed Class Action Alleges Fraud Against Bankrupts
- Author, "Maritime Law", BLG Article, January 1999
- Author, "Unsubstantiated Allegation of Reasonable Apprehension of Bias May Result in Costs", BLG Article, January 1999

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Treasurer, Class Action Section of CBABC
- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, Law Society of British Columbia
- Member, Vancouver Bar Association
- Member, The Advocates Society
- Member, Young Canadian Arbitration Practitioners

Community Involvement

- Volunteer, Access Pro Bono Roster Program, Barrister and Court of Appeal
- Volunteer, Pro Bono Students Canada ID Project – Downtown Eastside Clinic
- United Way Campaign

Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized in the 2023 edition (and since 2022) of *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in Canada* (Corporate and Commercial Litigation)

Bar Admission & Education

- British Columbia, 2016
- JD, University of Victoria, 2014
- BA (with Distinction), Simon Fraser University, 2011

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intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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