



Sonia Bjorkquist, FCI Arb

Partner, Disputes

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Toronto

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Bar Admission: Ontario, 1997 | Alberta, 2025 | British Columbia, 2025

Areas of Expertise

Banking and Financial Services

Technology

Automotive

Manufacturing

Agribusiness

Pharmaceuticals and Life Sciences

Health

Infrastructure

Food and Beverage

Retail and Consumer Products

Construction Disputes

Disputes

Domestic and International

Arbitration

Product Liability

Corporate and Commercial Disputes

Class Action Defence

Sonia is the former Chair of Osler’s National Disputes Group and past president of the Advocates’ Society. Sonia has extensive experience defending companies in class actions, commercial arbitration and other complex litigation, including advising clients on strategies for managing risks and cross-border issues in multi-jurisdictional cases.

She defends complex product liability claims across many industries. She also litigates business-critical issues related to commercial agreements, banking, construction and infrastructure, data and privacy, directors’ duties and shareholder rights and remedies.

An “extremely dedicated” and “tireless advocate” and trial lawyer, Sonia is ranked among Canada’s top litigators in Chambers Global (Dispute Resolution: Class Action Defence, and Litigation: Product Liability and General Commercial), Lexpert/ALM 500, Lexpert (Class Actions, Product Liability Litigation, Corporate-Commercial Litigation, and Commercial Arbitration), Best Lawyers (Class Action Litigation and Product Liability Law), and a Benchmark Litigation Star. Best Lawyers named Sonia as “Lawyer of the Year” for Product Liability Law, Toronto (2019). She is named as a leader in class actions in the Lexpert Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Litigation Lawyers in Canada. Sonia is rated AV Preeminent in Martindale Hubbell’s Peer Review Ratings. She is a frequent speaker and author on class action and commercial arbitration issues.

Sonia was selected by the Government of Canada as a delegate to the CUSMA Advisory Committee on Private Commercial Disputes under USMCA Article 31.22, and served on the predecessor NAFTA 2022 Advisory Committee. The CUSMA Advisory Committee promotes the use of arbitration, mediation and ODR for the prevention and resolution of international commercial disputes between private parties in the North American free trade area.

Prior to joining Osler as a lawyer, Sonia clerked for the Court of Appeal for Ontario.

Awards and Recognition

- **Chambers Canada: Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business:** Recognized in Litigation: Products Liability (Nationwide); Dispute Resolution: Class Action (Defence) (Nationwide); Litigation: General Commercial (Ontario); Dispute Resolution: Arbitration (Nationwide)
- **Chambers Global: The World's Leading Business Lawyers:** Recognized in Dispute Resolution: Arbitration
- **The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory:** Recognized in Class Actions; Commercial Arbitration; Litigation – Corporate Commercial; Litigation – Product Liability
- **The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada:** Recognized in Litigation – Product Liability
- **Best Lawyers in Canada:** Recognized in Class Action Litigation; Corporate and Commercial Litigation; Product Liability Law
- **Who's Who Legal:** Recognized in Product Liability Defence (Global; Canada); Life Sciences – Product Liability (Global); Life Sciences (Global; Canada); Litigation (Canada); Commercial Litigation (Global; Canada); Arbitration (Canada)
- **Benchmark Litigation Canada:** Recognized in Arbitration; Class Actions; Dispute Resolution (Litigation Star)
- **Thomson Reuters:** “Stand-out Lawyer”
- **Litigation Counsel of America:** Fellow
- **Lexpert Special Edition:** Recognized in Litigation

Community Involvement

Pro Bono

- Osler Pro Bono Community Law, international human rights matters and Canadian civil liberties matter

Credentials

Education

- Queen's University, LL.B.
- University of Waterloo, B.A. (Hons.)

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Languages

- English
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Professional Affiliations

- CUSMA Article 31.22 Advisory Committee On Private Commercial Disputes, Delegate
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Fellow
- The Advocates' Society, Executive Committee (2014-2018), Past President (2017-2018)
- Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel (FDCC), Elected Member, Vice Chair, Class Action Section
- International Association of Defence Counsel (IADC), Member, Vice Chair Membership, Vice Chair Engagement and Retention
- Defence Research Institute (DRI), Member
- Institute for Transactional Arbitration, Advisory Board Member
- Toronto Commercial Arbitration Society (TCAS), Member, Past Member of Executive Committee
- Young Canadian Arbitration Practitioners (YCAP), Past Advisory Board, Past Vice-President and Past Member of Board of Directors
- ADR Institute of Canada, Past Member of Board of Directors
- International Bar Association, Member
- Canadian Bar Association (Ontario), Member
- American Bar Association, Member, Litigation Section
- Toronto Lawyers Association, Member