



Éric Vallières

Co-Chair, Aviation, Co-Chair, Québec, Competition, Dispute Resolution
Montréal

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education and year of call

- Called to the Québec bar - 1992
- King's College London, United Kingdom, LLM (with honours) - 1993
- Université Laval, LLB (gold medalist) - 1991

practice areas

litigation
arbitration
restructuring and insolvency
competition and antitrust
cartels
construction litigation
class actions
marketing and advertising

industries

aerospace and defence
banking, finance and insurance
media, communications and entertainment
aviation
private equity - buyouts & venture capital investment
transportation

profile

Éric is a Montreal-based litigator and commercial lawyer specializing in sophisticated matters. He practices in multiple areas of the law; with the primary focus being in the area of competition.

Éric assists clients in numerous industries, including matters relating to aviation law (regulatory aspects as well as litigation and commercial matters), real estate (real estate brokerage industry) banking (credit cards and payment systems regulations), securities cases, and telecommunication (regulatory aspects). His vast litigation knowledge encompasses all levels of national courts, including specialized tribunals and disciplinary boards.

As a seasoned defense class action litigator, Éric has acted as lead counsel for multiple Fortune 500 companies in a significant number of cartel and antitrust class actions, misleading advertising cases, as well as in numerous product liability matters and consumer protection cases.

Éric's many appearances before the Supreme Court of Canada include cases in landmark involving the rights of indirect purchasers to sue in class proceedings, the rights and powers of the Canadian Competition law authorities, as well as the rights of bankrupt estates relating to the collection of sales taxes. He has also argued a significant number of international arbitration cases, including in front of ICC and UNCITRAL arbitration panels. His arbitration practice also includes appearing before industry specialized tribunals, such as the IATA Travel Agency Commissioner.

In commercial matters, Éric advises and represents clients in the application of Competition Law. He has been advising clients in connection with alleged price-fixing conspiracies, situations of

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potential abuses of dominance, disputed mergers as well as a multitude of compliance matters, including in connection with the launch and development of large-scale international industry solutions.

Éric is one of Canada's top-rated aviation lawyers. He acts for the International Air Transport Association both in Canada and internationally and routinely advises international and local airlines, as well as other stakeholders of the aviation industry.

Quebec-based Real Estate Brokers also benefit from Éric's counsel. More specifically, Éric has been retained by Real Estate Boards as well as the Quebec Federation, and has appeared before Parliamentary Commissions in connection with legislation reform. He has also acted for individual brokers in commercial matters, as well as before disciplinary boards.

Éric is a frequent speaker locally and abroad in areas relating to class actions, aviation, general commercial litigation as well as in antitrust and bankruptcy matters.

directorships and professional associations

- Canadian Bar Association
- Association des diplômés de l'Université Laval

awards and rankings

- Recognized by *Best Lawyers in Canada (2020)* as a leading lawyer in the area of Competition / Antitrust Law
- Recognized in the *2019 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* as a Repeatedly Recommended lawyer in the areas Competition Law and Aviation (Regulation & Liability)
- Recognized in the *2019 Benchmark Litigation Canada Guide* as a Litigation Star
- Recognized in the *2018 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* as a Repeatedly Recommended lawyer in the areas Competition Law and Aviation (Regulation & Liability)
- Listed in *Who's Who Legal Canada: 2018* as a leader in Aviation
- Ranked by *Lexpert Guide (2018)* as a leading US/Canada Cross-Border Lawyer in Canada
- Selected as one of the leading aviation lawyers by *Who's Who Legal: Canada 2017*
- Listed in the *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2017* as repeatedly recommended in the area of Competition Law
- Selected as one of the leading aviation lawyers by *Who's Who Legal: Canada 2016*
- Listed in the *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2016* as a

leading lawyer in the area of Competition Law

- [Client Choice Canada 2015](#) – Winner for Aviation Category - In association with Lexology and the International Law Office (ILO)
- [Client Choice Canada 2014](#) – Winner for Aviation Category - In association with Lexology and the International Law Office (ILO)
- Selected as one of the leading aviation lawyers in Canada by the *International Who's Who - Aviation Lawyers, 2014*
- Recommended in *Chambers Global 2012* for Competition/Antitrust: Litigators (Canada)
- Listed as a litigator to watch in the 2009 and 2010 Lexpert® Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Litigation Lawyers in Canada
- 2008 and 2009 Finalist at the *Lexpert® Rising Stars Leading Lawyers under 40*
- Commonwealth Scholar (1992)
- Highest grades in Commercial Law, Université Laval (1991)
- Best Pleader and Factum of the Pierre-Basile-Migneault Moot Court Competition (1991)
- CANPRO for the best Canadian television program in Public Affairs (1985)

publications

June 2019

Aviation – New Regulations Regarding Passenger Rights in Canada
Aviation Bulletin

May 2019

The Next Wave of US Extraterritorial Sanctions regarding Cuba – Potential Impacts for Canadian Companies
International Trade Bulletin

November 2018

The *Queen v. Callidus Capital Corporation* Overturned; Lenders Breathe a Sigh of Relief, But For How Long?
Insolvency Bulletin

March 2016

Final Report: *Canada Transportation Act* Review
Transportation Bulletin

2016

Getting the Deal Through - Private Antitrust Litigation 2016, Canada Chapter
Law Business Research

November 2015

The Supreme Court of Canada Confirmed Today the Paramountcy of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* over License Denial Regimes
Financial Services Bulletin

June 21, 2015

Taxpayers Lack Standing to Seek Damages in Class Action Proceedings for Bid-rigging
TerraLex Connections

February 2015

UPDATED: Canada Expands Economic Sanctions and Targets Russian Energy Sector
Economic Sanctions Bulletin

February 2015

Still Kicking: Quebec Court Confirms the Constitutionality of the Charter of the French Language, Clarifies the Rule of "Marked Predominance" and Reiterates the Exemptions for Unregistered Trademarks
Business Law Bulletin

December 2014

Hitting 'Em Where it Hurts: Canada Targets Russian Energy Sector in Latest Round of Economic Sanctions
Economic Sanctions Brief

November 2014

Access by Private Litigants to Criminal Investigations' Wiretaps: Has the Supreme Court of Canada Opened the Floodgates?
Privacy Bulletin

July 2014

Assigning Contracts in Canadian Insolvency Proceedings
Restructuring and Insolvency Bulletin

February 2014

Toronto Real Estate Board Abuse of Dominance Case Overturned on Appeal
Competition Bulletin

November 2013

Infineon Technologies AG v Option consommateurs: has the Supreme Court of Canada opened the door to purely speculative class action claims?
Class Action Bulletin

presentations

May 20, 2016

Product Liability Class Actions and Air Crashes
Ninth Annual Conference on International Aviation Law & Insurance, Edinburgh, Scotland

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September 16, 2014

Aircraft Noise - A Legal Perspective
ABA Forum on Air & Space Law 2014 Annual Meeting

March 2014

Le droit de la concurrence à toutes les sauces
Colloque national sur les recours collectifs, Barreau du Québec

February 2014

Preemption Revisited
IATA Legal Symposium, San Francisco

January 2014

La réalisation des garanties et les fiducies présumées – Retour
à la case départ?
Conférence sur le Financement et les sûretés, Institut Canadien