
CHAMBERS CANADA 2024

The Leading Lawyers and Law Firms in Canada

Health Law

How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine

rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

Contents:

Healthcare p.180
Leading Individuals p.185

Healthcare

Healthcare: Contentious
Leading Firms
Band 1
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Band 2
Bennett Jones LLP
Harper Grey LLP
Lenczner Slaght
Lerners LLP
Band 3
Cox & Palmer
McKercher LLP
MLT Aikins LLP
Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP
Rosen Sunshine LLP
Stewart McKelvey
<small>* Indicates individual with profile.</small>
<small>◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.</small>
<small>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</small>

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for Bennett Jones possesses a robust litigation group that enjoys a strong reputation for its experience in representing health professionals and associations in Alberta in medical malpractice and negligence defence. The firm often acts for the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) on other contentious issues, including mandatory vaccination, defamation claims and allegations of unprofessional behaviour.

Strengths

“The lawyers are very familiar with medical lawsuits. The firm is very knowledgeable on how to defend doctors.”

“I was very impressed at the quality of the support and actions of the team.”

“Bennett Jones is able to reply quickly and respond quickly in response to arbitrary and vindictive opponents.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones’s team successfully represented a defendant on behalf of the CMPA in a dispute regarding a sanction for boundary violations.

Notable practitioners

Calgary-based **Valerie Prather KC** is often retained by the CMPA for representation of individual physicians in malpractice and negligence

Healthcare: Contentious
Leading Individuals
Star individuals
Crolla Domenic <i>Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP</i>
Band 1
Cruz Darryl A <i>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</i>
Curry Tom <i>Lenczner Slaght*</i>
Jakeman Kimberly <i>Harper Grey LLP</i>
Kryworuk Peter <i>Lerners LLP</i>
Prather Valerie <i>Bennett Jones LLP</i>
Band 2
Brown Guy <i>Harper Grey LLP</i>
Dow Donald <i>Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP</i>
Kirshblum Risa <i>Lenczner Slaght*</i>
McLaughlin Frank <i>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</i>
Poupart Emmanuelle <i>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</i>
Sheahan Robert <i>Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP</i>
Band 3
Batner Sarit E <i>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</i>
Clark William <i>Harper Grey LLP</i>
Clarke Cindy <i>Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</i>
Crawford Kate A. <i>Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</i>
Hawkins Patrick <i>Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</i>
Jarvis Daphne <i>Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</i>
MacKenzie Donna <i>Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP</i>
Sammon Matthew <i>Lenczner Slaght*</i>
Trattner Paula <i>Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP</i>
Band 4
Baril François <i>Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP</i>
Baron Erica <i>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</i>
Boivin Daniel <i>Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP</i>
Campbell Todd <i>MLT Aikins LLP</i>
Cargnello Adriana <i>Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP</i>
Clarke Colin <i>Cox & Palmer</i>
Froese Andrea L. <i>Bennett Jones LLP</i>
Glazer Christine J <i>McKercher LLP*</i>
Heelan James J <i>Bennett Jones LLP</i>
Jones Rebecca <i>Lenczner Slaght*</i>
Kuehl Cynthia <i>Lerners LLP</i>
Lilles Jaan <i>Lenczner Slaght*</i>
Meadows Jonathan <i>Harper Grey LLP</i>
Plumb Andrea <i>Lerners LLP</i>
Rosen Lonny <i>Rosen Sunshine LLP</i>
Ross Kevin L. <i>Lerners LLP</i>
Spafford Anne <i>Lerners LLP</i>
Stratton Barbara <i>Bennett Jones LLP</i>
Sunshine Elyse <i>Rosen Sunshine LLP</i>
Veel Paul-Erik <i>Lenczner Slaght*</i>
Veneziano Mark <i>Lenczner Slaght*</i>
Up-and-coming individuals
Varah Dena N. <i>Lenczner Slaght*</i>

Healthcare Corporate/Commercial & Regulatory
Leading Firms
Band 1
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
Band 2
Fasken
Band 3
Norton Rose Fulbright
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Watts Michael <i>Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP</i>
Band 2
Golding Lynne <i>Fasken</i>
Pasquino Nick <i>Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</i>
Roth Michelle <i>Goodmans LLP (ORL) ◇</i>
Turner Laurie <i>Fasken</i>
Up-and-coming individuals
Barry Véronique <i>Norton Rose Fulbright*</i>
Murphy Maureen <i>Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP</i>
Newell Susan <i>Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP</i>
Associates to watch
Mitrova Victoria <i>Fasken</i>

Strengths: “We received extremely strong representation. Valerie Prather is surgically accurate with her approach to the case and took an interest in the medical details that supported the case. We couldn’t have stronger support.” “Ms Prather was fantastic to work with. Valerie is knowledgeable and responsive. I would welcome the opportunity to work with her and team in the future.” “She is at the top of the game in Alberta.” **Andrea Froese** regularly represents physicians in professional negligence claims. She is based in Calgary. **Strengths:** “Andrea was extremely thorough. She was well aware of the case overall and provided excellent advice. She provided ample availability to meet my busy schedule. Overall it was great working with her.” Alberta-based **James Heelan** is held in high regard for his ability to represent physicians facing allegations of misconduct before the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta. He has further experience handling medical negligence cases. **Strengths:** “In our work, James Heelan is a system-level thinker, and that is why we engage him. He can be strategic and look not just at individual issues but also at the system operating as a whole and identify areas for improvement.” “James is excellent to work with. He is a balanced and fair-minded individual who looks at the big picture for regulations.” **Barbara Stratton KC**

is noted for her expertise in contentious matters. She co-heads the firm's health law practice from Edmonton. **Strengths:** "Barbara consistently supplies usable and reliable advice. She is aware of the client's political and operational constraints, offers credible advice, is always willing to brief decision makers and does so in an understandable way, and stays up to date with evolving regulatory and legal developments." "Her leadership is important and she is collaborative and can provide constructive feedback."

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for The healthcare practice at Borden Ladner Gervais is renowned for its unparalleled bench strength across Canada, as well as its ability to provide high-quality legal advice and representation across the entire health sector. Its diverse client base includes long-term care facilities, hospitals and pharmacies. The health law group has proven skill across a broad array of healthcare matters including privacy and IT, governance, medical malpractice litigation and corporate transactions, with additional expertise in specialist areas such as child and adolescent health.

Strengths

"BLG is quite literally the go-to firm for complex medical legal matters, and this experience shows in the results achieved and the well-deserved respect the team is accorded."

"BLG is Canada's health law leader. The team provides outstanding legal advice and analysis."

"The advice is high-quality, timely and reflects a strong understanding of the client's operations and needs."

"We have diversified the range of subject areas we use BLG for in recent years and have come to appreciate that they have a deep bench available covering a wide range of specialised areas."

"We always felt a sense of fairness in working with BLG. The lawyers also tend to be clear and upfront on more costly work, and are also able to provide creative ways to make the work more cost-effective."

Work highlights Borden Ladner Gervais was retained by Alberta Health Services to defend it in class actions concerning COVID-19 contraction.

Notable practitioners

Nick Pasquino is noted for his skilled handling of corporate transactions and governance mandates for a range of care providers and non-profits in the healthcare sector. He is based in Toronto, from where he co-chairs BLG's health sector services group. **Strengths:** "Nick Pasquino is excellent and highly respected." "Nick is a trusted partner that truly understands our needs." "He is always willing – and interested – to learn more about our field and where we are going as an organisation." Toronto-based **Cindy Clarke** is noted for her extensive experience representing pharmaceutical clients, hospitals and other institutions in a range of disputes. Her recent practice includes medical negligence and product liability class actions. **Strengths:** "Cindy Clarke is the personification of client service, while remaining practical and clearly aligned with clients' business growth and accountability obligations." "Cindy runs an excellent shop. She is the brain behind the team." National practice

leader **Kate Crawford** is an experienced Toronto-based healthcare disputes lawyer with a solid reputation for defending healthcare institutions in class action proceedings. **Strengths:** "Kate provides excellent counsel on many clinician matters." "Her advice reflects her strategic and risk-based thinking and her appreciation of clients' needs." "She is smart, strategic and a true trusted adviser for the hospital. She goes above and beyond on every file." Toronto-based **Patrick Hawkins** acts for hospitals and other healthcare providers in a range of lawsuits, including class action proceedings relating to privacy issues. **Strengths:** "Patrick Hawkins is an expert in his field and supports his clients very well." "Patrick has solid experience and well-developed advice or strategy. He defines a plan, and explains and modifies it during discussions with us." "Patrick handles our difficult cases and resolves them amicably from legal exposure and cost perspectives." **Daphne Jarvis** defends hospitals and healthcare institutions against claims linked to controversial death certificates and 'do not resuscitate' instructions. She is based in Toronto. **Strengths:** "Daphne Jarvis is unmatched in her field and focus." "Daphne provides great strategic advice reflecting a strong understanding of her client's context and operation." "Daphne is an incredible lawyer who is skilled at dealing with very challenging medico-legal issues like end-of-life decision-making and other consent, capacity and mental health law issues."

Cox & Palmer

What the team is known for Cox & Palmer is a well-regarded firm noted for its representation of physicians on behalf of the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) from its offices in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Its lawyers provide support on a range of healthcare mandates, including product liability defence, medical malpractice and advising on risk.

Notable practitioners

Halifax-based **Colin Clarke KC** frequently acts as a lead counsel to the CMPA and its members in Nova Scotia. His well-regarded practice covers both litigation and disciplinary proceedings, responding to allegations of malpractice and negligence.

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken is a highly esteemed law firm with an acclaimed health law practice. It advises on corporate transactions and projects, and offers additional expertise in health privacy matters. The team often advises healthcare companies and hospitals on possible expansions. The firm is increasingly active in e-health and data sharing mandates in the sector. Specific areas of strength include providing counsel to health industry clients on labour and employment and real estate issues.

Strengths

"The firm has a broad array of talent it can call upon for complex matters."

"The partner in charge and the team are very competent, credible and helpful."

"Fasken provided in-depth and comprehensive analysis of complex and emerging issues."

"We have always received prompt responses to queries and been pleased with the timeliness of work that is being conducted for us."

Notable practitioners

Leader of the firm's practice group, **Lynne Golding** frequently assists healthcare institutions and non-profits in navigating regulatory regimes, as well as advising on corporate and commercial mandates. She is based in Toronto. **Strengths:** "Lynne Golding is incredible, one of the best lawyers that I have ever worked with. She is insightful, provides excellent legal advice, and understands the relationships between the business and the legal impact. She is so warm and friendly." "Lynne Golding is an outstanding lawyer who is able to draw on her own extensive knowledge, as well as the specialism of her colleagues, in order to provide comprehensive and commercially appropriate advice." "Lynne has been a great partner to work with, whether it is a complex detailed matter or as a resource to run a quick question by her. She has a sophisticated understanding of the complex legal and political environment and has been a valuable partner in navigating through legal issues that arise." **Laurie Turner** is noted for her ability to provide counsel to healthcare providers on a wide spectrum of matters, including regulatory issues and corporate acquisitions. **Strengths:** "Laurie Turner is very responsive. She assists us with corporate governance matters and gives us the information we need to move forward. She is a pleasure to work with." "Laurie has been instrumental in helping transactions occur or be done in a time-effective manner." **Victoria Mitrova** enters the rankings as an associate to watch on the back of her work on health sector regulations. She assists clients with negotiating joint venture and service agreements, as well as with corporate transactions in the healthcare industry. **Strengths:** "She is very knowledgeable, diligent and understands and delivers on the ask every time."

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG is an eminent law firm in the Canadian healthcare sector, renowned for its activity on behalf of the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA). The medical defence and health law team enjoys a strong reputation for its representation of physicians in medical malpractice cases in Ontario, Alberta and Nunavut. The group also acts as trusted counsel on regulatory and policy concerns at federal and provincial levels, as well as acting for health organisations and non-profits across the spectrum of corporate and commercial issues.

Strengths

"Gowlings is a world-class firm with exceptional talent."

"The team is cohesive, works well together and is always focused on the best and most practical outcomes while maintaining a high degree of personal touch and customer service."

"The firm possesses a strong leadership and a balanced approach."

"The firm has an in-depth understanding of the issues, presents a sophisticated analysis of the implications and offers creative and practical solutions."

"Gowlings provides a wide range of services. The lawyers understand our business, our environment and our priorities."

Work highlights Gowlings WLG advised Saegis on a range of governance issues around new programmes for healthcare professionals and on negotiating commercial agreements.

Notable practitioners

Ottawa-based **Domenic Crolla** is an eminent lawyer in the healthcare market, and well known for his leadership of the firm's CMPA-dedicated team. He has particular experience in topical matters such as virtual care and the rise of AI in the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** *"Domenic Crolla is an impressive leader in the legal field." "Domenic is amazing – always available, always supportive and provides exceptional guidance." "He is impressive, knowledgeable and a leading person in this space." "Domenic is a national leader in his field. He is trusted and valued by his colleagues."* **Donald Dow** leads the firm's medical defence practice group and has considerable experience representing clients in a broad array of contentious cases, from malpractice to genetic testing. He is licensed to practise in both Ontario and Nunavut. **Strengths:** *"Donald Dow is very experienced, knowledgeable and has good judgement." "Donald is a champion for us and physicians. He is the lawyers' lawyer. The doctors love working with him; he is a good leader."* Ottawa-based **Robert Sheahan** is a skilled health law practitioner who represents individual physicians in malpractice lawsuits. He also regularly provides counsel on disciplinary and misconduct reviews. **Strengths:** *"Robert Sheahan provides excellent case management support, support for submissions to medical regulatory authorities, and support for our products." "Robert is a very good lawyer who has exceptionally good judgement and experience."* **Donna MacKenzie** focuses her practice on professional liability and medical defence work, and frequently assists the CMPA in the defence of claims against its members. **Strengths:** *"For complex issues, Donna MacKenzie is my go-to lawyer." "She will always answer and always give a practical response. She gets it and she knows us."* **François Baril** acts for a number of non-profit organisations and professional bodies in the healthcare sector, assisting with matters ranging from governance to civil litigation. He is based in Ottawa. **Daniel Boivin** has extensive experience within the healthcare space, with a particular focus on issues concerning medical assistance in dying. **Strengths:** *"Daniel has been an essential expert on the Québec medico-legal environment."* **Adriana Cargnello** demonstrates strength in advising clients on matters concerning medical negligence issues. Her practice is based in Ottawa. **Maureen Murphy** is an up-and-coming partner based in Ottawa who frequently acts for the CMPA as part of the General Counsel team while also assisting with corporate, privacy, technology and governance matters. **Strengths:** *"Maureen provides us with expert advice." "Maureen does a lot of corporate work and is an expert in privacy." "Maureen is incredible at writing in a way that non-lawyers can understand."*

Harper Grey LLP

What the team is known for Harper Grey is highly regarded for its work on behalf of physicians, surgeons and other health specialists in British Columbia. The Vancouver-based law firm also represents medical clients in litigation in the Yukon. Its health law and professional regulation groups assist with both civil litigation and professional regulation issues, and its lawyers are also heavily involved with regard to end-of-life issues.

Strengths

"Harper Grey is a high-quality law firm, with regard to both the legal ability and the personal integrity and skills of its lawyers." "Lawyers at the firm are always well prepared." "All of the lawyers with whom I've worked have had the ability to get to the core commercial and legal issues and express them succinctly."

"The lawyers are dedicated to their clients, thoughtful and insightful."

Notable practitioners

Kimberly Jakeman KC enjoys an impressive reputation for leading physician defence cases in British Columbia. She has considerable experience in professional negligence and misconduct disputes, offering additional capabilities in matters concerning medical assistance in dying. **Strengths:** *"Kimberly Jakeman is a leader in terms of level of sophistication and commercial awareness. She handles the toughest files." "In all areas, Kimberly sees the bigger picture and is thoughtful in her advice and tactics." "She is a terrific trial counsel. Kimberly Jakeman is fearless in terms of cross-examinations and gets good results."* **Guy Brown KC** is highly regarded by sources for his skilful courtroom advocacy. His civil practice includes professional negligence, medical malpractice and personal injury, as well as assisting clients with appearances in inquests. **Strengths:** *"Guy Brown is reasonable, courteous and deservedly highly regarded." "One of the senior leaders at Harper Grey, Guy Brown handles some of the most complex and challenging work and does it well." "Guy is a strong trial counsel and he is strong at appellate too, with good trial management skills and strong skills for arguing appeals."* **William Clark** leads the firm's professional regulation practice group and is noted for his expertise in representing practitioners in class action proceedings. **Strengths:** *"He has advanced technical knowledge of legal issues, is thoroughly prepared and possesses very good advocacy skills."* **Jonathan Meadows** demonstrates considerable strength in defending physicians and medical practitioners against medical malpractice claims. He also acts on a number of matters involving medical assistance in dying. **Strengths:** *"He is an extremely good lawyer. Jonathan can do it all and never seems rattled or taken by surprise."*

Lenczner Slaght

What the team is known for Lenczner Slaght is an esteemed Ontario-based litigation boutique that offers deep expertise in healthcare trial work. The firm also regularly represents professional regulatory bodies in the health sector. It is particularly well regarded for its representation of Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) member physicians in medical malpractice cases.

Its lawyers also offer complementary strength in product liability proceedings in the pharmaceutical sector.

Strengths

"Lenczner Slaght has a number of lawyers who can handle complicated litigation. The firm has extremely capable partners, associates and clerks." "Lenczner Slaght has a team of very bright and experienced lawyers who are experts in the field of complex medical negligence and professional liability claims."

"The Lenczner Slaght team always provides strategic advice that specifically targets simplifying matters and ensuring the client is well informed."

Work highlights Lenczner Slaght's team defended a hospital's chief of staff on behalf of the CMPA in relation to allegations of defamation and misfeasance in public office.

Notable practitioners

Versatile litigator **Tom Curry** (see p.185) has represented a wide array of parties in the healthcare sector, including physicians and pharmaceutical companies. He is frequently engaged as lead defence counsel in complex medical malpractice and product liability lawsuits. **Strengths:** *"Tom Curry is a true barrister. His oral ability is second to none. He boils a case down to its essential elements." "Tom is one of the leading litigators in Ontario." "Tom Curry is known as a litigation superstar, at both trial and appellate levels. He is known across Canada for his skills and demeanour as a respectful advocate."* **Risa Kirshblum** (see p.185) has significant experience representing individual physicians in complex professional negligence and medical malpractice lawsuits. **Strengths:** *"Risa Kirshblum is a trusted and exceptional advocate." "Risa has a high degree of civility and respect for lawyers and clients. She sets the bar." "Risa Kirshblum provides effective strategic advice and sound recommendations, always with a view to achieving excellent outcomes for her clients." "It is obvious whenever you work with Risa that she loves her work and she cares about her clients."* **Matthew Sammon** (see p.185) has significant experience in representing physicians in medical malpractice suits, as well as before disciplinary bodies. **Strengths:** *"Matthew Sammon is tough, he is a strong advocate for his clients and he is someone who is always forthright. I have a ton of respect for him." "Matthew Sammon is an experienced litigator who can assess a file at its outset and work towards moving it forward in the context of competing objectives. He has strong legal analytical skills. You can rely on him for new issues and twists."* **Rebecca Jones** (see p.267) assists clients with workplace investigations and medical negligence cases. **Strengths:** *"Rebecca Jones is capable, insightful and practical." "Rebecca is bright, practical and strategic. She is an excellent lawyer." "Rebecca Jones is a strong litigator, who can narrow down the issues and vigorously advocate on behalf of her clients."* **Jaen Lilles** (see p.185) is highlighted for his ability to defend physicians in medical malpractice cases. He has additional experience representing clients in disciplinary hearings and defamation cases, as well as disputes regarding pharmaceutical distribution. **Strengths:** *"Jaen handles all matters, no matter the complexity, and every challenge with the same even-keeled"*

approach. His recommendations are direct and to the point, always ensuring that his clients have the necessary information to make an informed decision." *"Jaan is a very smart lawyer and keeps a 360-degree view."* **Paul-Erik Veel** (see p.185) advises physicians on medical malpractice cases.

Strengths: "Paul-Erik Veel is an exceptional lawyer and oral advocate. He is collegial and respectful while providing top-notch advocacy for his clients." "Paul-Erik Veel is an excellent advocate."

Mark Veneziano (see p.185) enters the rankings on the back of his reputation for representing clients in medical malpractice litigation. **Strengths:** "Mark handles sophisticated medical negligence matters capably and with good judgement." "He is a very solid litigator."

Dena Varah (see p.185) is noted for her ability to represent physicians in a wide spectrum of matters, including surgical misadventure cases and internal investigations. She is based in Toronto. **Strengths:** "Dena Varah is an excellent lawyer, she is exceptional – a straight shooter and an honest communicator."

Lerners LLP

What the team is known for Lerners is a highly regarded Ontario law firm that enjoys a strong reputation in the field of health litigation. Its health law team is endorsed for its representation of Canadian Medical Protective Association members and numerous other professional regulatory bodies in Ontario. The group is also increasingly active advising on health regulatory matters as well as class actions. The firm has offices in Toronto, London, Strathroy, Waterloo and Owen Sound.

Notable practitioners

The London-based chair of the health law group, **Peter Kryworuk** has extensive experience handling physician-side defence cases, as well as offering notable skill in class action proceedings. **Strengths:** "Peter is very responsive, gives great advice and provides information that I need to know in a way that is easy for me to digest."

Cynthia Kuehl offers notable experience representing physicians in a wide range of contentious proceedings, covering negligence lawsuits and disciplinary proceedings. She is based in Toronto. **Strengths:** "Cynthia is fabulous and a great advocate."

London-based **Andrea Plumb** is an experienced medical negligence and malpractice lawyer. She has also led administrative appeals cases. **Strengths:** "Andrea Plumb is an excellent lawyer." "She is a reasonable, practical but tough advocate."

Kevin Ross has a solid track record of representing health professionals implicated in serious malpractice and negligence lawsuits. Based in the firm's London office, he also has a busy class action practice, representing both defendants and plaintiffs. Based in the firm's Toronto office, **Anne Spafford** attracts praise for her trial experience. She represents physicians in medical negligence and professional discipline proceedings. **Strengths:** "Anne Spafford is terrific."

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is a prominent national law firm that is identified for the depth of its expertise in medical negligence

claims and other health-related litigation. The healthcare team regularly acts for the Canadian Medical Protective Association in Ontario and Québec, as well as representing a range of other healthcare clients, including private healthcare providers and suppliers. The firm stands out for its expert handling of complex health issues, including regulatory health matters and transactions.

Strengths

"They ensured that all Canadian-specific aspects of the case were properly explained to the foreign clients. We have extensive experience in the field, and McCarthy Tétrault is the best firm we've ever worked with in Canada."

"The service is second to none."

"The team members are highly strategic and collaborative and very helpful in solving complex problems."

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault represented Dr Chakraverty in a medical malpractice defence at trial following the accusation of negligence.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based **Darryl Cruz** has considerable experience representing individuals and institutions in contentious proceedings, including negligence claims and class actions. **Strengths:** "He is a Canadian leader in health law. Darryl Cruz is very knowledgeable, with impeccable judgement and a strong work ethic." "Darryl Cruz is a leading practitioner in Ontario. He is senior and his practice is devoted to this area." "He is confident and the kind of lawyer I want for a medical legal issue." "Darryl is an experienced trial lawyer and does the most sophisticated and complex cases. He is very valued by the client."

Toronto-based **Frank McLaughlin** is a seasoned lawyer who is highly experienced in litigating medical malpractice claims. **Strengths:** "Frank McLaughlin is a highly skilled trial lawyer."

"Frank McLaughlin is a trial warrior. Frank is the kind of trial lawyer you want to pull in for the most difficult trials." "Frank is certainly one of the best litigators I've ever worked with. His strong legal background, his ability to understand complex problems plus his communication and negotiation skills make him an outstanding attorney."

Emmanuelle Poupart is recognised by sources as one of the leading experts in health law in Québec for her representation of individual physicians in negligence and damage claims. **Strengths:** "Emmanuelle Poupart has good judgement and solid litigation skills. Emmanuelle is pleasant to deal with and an effective leader."

"Emmanuelle is a very skilled lawyer, an all-rounder. She does mainly civil action matters but she would be pulled into every problematic file where it needs strategic planning or problem solving." "Emmanuelle Poupart is very experienced, well respected and well regarded."

Sarit Batner has extensive experience of handling complex litigation related to allegations of medical negligence. She is based in Toronto. **Strengths:** "Sarit Batner is known as an outstanding, formidable and excellent opponent." "Sarit identifies the key issues, drills down on them and is a very talented cross-examiner." "Sarit Batner is strong and knowledgeable. I want her by my side."

Toronto-based **Erica Baron** represents clients in complex disputes relating to medical malpractice and professional negligence. **Strengths:** "Erica

Baron is reflective, careful and expert." "Erica is conscientious, a good advocate and an enjoyable person to work with."

McKercher LLP

What the team is known for With a respected healthcare department across its offices in Saskatoon and Regina, McKercher regularly acts on provincial medical malpractice and negligence cases.

Notable practitioners

Christine Glazer KC (see p.185) is noted for her considerable experience handling medical malpractice cases and wider personal injury claims. Her litigation expertise also covers administrative and professional regulation law. She is based in Saskatoon. **Strengths:** "Christine Glazer is very experienced and leads the practice."

MLT Aikins LLP

What the team is known for With offices across British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, MLT Aikins is a renowned full-service Prairie law firm, with particular health law strength in its Winnipeg office. The firm is regarded as go-to Manitoba counsel for the Canadian Medical Protective Association, assisting with a broad range of malpractice and negligence cases.

Notable practitioners

Todd Campbell defends physicians in medical malpractice cases. He is based in Winnipeg.

Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is respected for its handling of a range of corporate and commercial issues for healthcare clients, with particular strength in Ontario and Québec. The firm offers experienced representation to health authorities, medical research facilities and hospitals. The group's capabilities are supported by the firm's complementary expertise in IP and life sciences.

Strengths

"Norton Rose Fulbright are responsive, get the job done and have the confidence of our executives."

"The firm is reliable, has the bench strength and is responsive. That is what we needed and we are satisfied."

"As our business is expanding rapidly and health regulation is not static, we often have short-notice needs for accurate and comprehensive advice. I use this firm as I can rely on the team 100% to respond quickly and as required."

Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright acted as counsel to the University Health Network on its patent applications and prosecution.

Notable practitioners

Véronique Barry (see p.185) continues to be noted for her impressive expertise in negotiating commercial agreements for healthcare sector clients, as well as advising them on privacy issues. She is based in the firm's Québec City office. **Strengths:** "Véronique Barry is very strong in health law. I have gone to her for complex health law advice and every request I have sent to her has been executed to a high skill level." "Véronique Barry is dedicated, hard-working, astute, spirited, and a senior person with a good background."

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt commands respect for its representation of local and international players in public and private health. Operating out of its hub in Toronto, the health group advises on a broad range of regulatory, privacy and corporate commercial matters, with an impressive roster of clients from healthcare providers to government departments. The firm is particularly noted for its pioneering practice focused on the emerging e-health sector.

Strengths

“Osler has the ability to handle any legal matter with expertise.”

“The firm is well versed on all legal issues, provides proactive engagement around changes that impact clients, and is responsive to priority issues.”

“Osler are always responsive and quick to provide input and advice.”

“Osler is top notch for e-health.”

Work highlights Osler acted for several digital healthcare providers on various matters such as virtual health, regulatory compliance, privacy and security, and strategic initiatives. Clients include Felix Health and Cleveland Clinic.

Notable practitioners

Michael Watts continues to be an acknowledged leader in the healthcare space, with renowned expertise in corporate governance and transactions, as well as assisting with the development of a range of e-health platforms. **Strengths:** *“Michael Watts is an excellent, business-minded healthcare lawyer dealing with board governance and employee issues. He is well known in the Bar and is very innovative and aggressive in the legal opinions he provides against sensitive political issues.”* **Paula Trattner** has significant experience in healthcare administrative law, representing a range of institutions before the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board on employee privilege mandates and coroner’s inquests. **Susan Newell** is an up-and-coming corporate lawyer with a strong focus on the healthcare sector, advising on matters ranging from M&A to e-health and medical-use cannabis. She

works for an array of clients, covering healthcare providers and institutions, as well as investors and e-health platforms.

Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP

What the team is known for Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein is considered a leading choice for contentious regulatory work arising in the healthcare sector, offering a stable of highly regarded, Toronto-based litigators with an excellent pedigree in complex disputes. The firm frequently advises regulators, public sector entities and other businesses in public inquiries, employment matters and unauthorized practitioner litigation.

Strengths#

“They are open to accepting very challenging work and thinking creatively about how to address legal issues as they arise. They are a cooperative group who work together and with other teams in the interest of their client.”

“They enjoy a reputation as a firm that can handle any kind of litigation that may arise and they have particular depth in constitutional issues and administrative law. The depth of talent, the years of experience in this space, and the fact that they are so current in case law, means they’re great value for the dollar.”

“Working with Paliare is like working with a team that is working on a common goal, this is unique strength of the firm. They always respect our views and how we like to do things, they give us advice catered to our goals.”

Notable practitioners

Linda Rothstein is a key contact for clients.

Rosen Sunshine LLP

What the team is known for Rosen Sunshine is a distinguished boutique health and regulatory firm based in Toronto. The team routinely provides counsel to healthcare associations and professionals. The group has notable experience handling matters arising from allegations of misconduct and privacy breaches. Its practitioners are also relied upon to advise clients on regula-

tory policies and procedures.

Strengths

“I think it is a good shop and the lawyers do good work, such as policy advising and administrative/tribunal work.”

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based **Lonny Rosen** regularly represents healthcare professionals in disciplinary proceedings and privileges disputes. He also provides advice to clients on legislation and healthcare policy. **Elyse Sunshine** is called upon by both health associations and professionals to provide counsel on medical negligence disputes. Her practice is based out of Toronto.

Stewart McKelvey

What the team is known for With offices in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Stewart McKelvey is a notable team for healthcare law matters in Atlantic Canada. The law firm enters the rankings this year based on its experience in medical negligence, disciplinary and product liability matters. It represents both healthcare providers and insurers in contentious matters, including class actions.

Strengths

“Stewart McKelvey is a well-recognised firm in CMPA work.”

“The team is really responsive to our needs.”

Notable practitioners

Karen Bennett-Clayton and Cynthia Benson KC are key contacts at the firm.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Michelle Roth continues to be well regarded for her experience advising entities focused on senior living and elderly care. Her practice encompasses corporate transactions and financing, as well as the settlement of sanctions and liability protection.

Strengths:

“Michelle Roth is knowledgeable and well networked.”

Leaders' Profiles in Health Law

BARRY, Véronique

Norton Rose Fulbright, Québec
+1 418 640 5170
veronique.barry@nortonrosefulbright.com

Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Véronique Barry's practice covers all aspects of commercial and corporate law, with a particular focus on drafting commercial contracts and on matters relating to life sciences and healthcare. Véronique has gained valuable experience in personalized medicine, clinical trials and the use of technology in healthcare. She has also developed a keen interest in access to information and protection of personal information, as well as French language and Canada's anti-spam legislation requirements. Over the last few years, Véronique has given several presentations on these topics. While pursuing her bachelor of laws - international profile at Laval University, Véronique studied at Birmingham University in England where she furthered her knowledge of international commercial law, among other topics. Véronique also studied at Queen's University and subsequently became a member of the Ontario Bar.

CURRY, Tom

Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416.865.3096
tcurry@litigate.com

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide - Canada), Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Tom is recognized as one of the most experienced trial and appellate advocates of his generation in Canada. Tom has a long record of success in high profile commercial litigation, class actions, arbitrations, business disputes, administrative law, judicial review, intellectual property, competition, and professional liability cases. Tom is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and is certified as a specialist in civil litigation by the Law Society of Ontario. He is a regular speaker on a wide variety of subjects relating to trial practice and substantive law. He has been recognized with the prestigious Law Society Medal, The Katzman Award, The Advocates' Society Award for Excellence in Teaching, and most recently, the OBA Award for Excellence in Civil Litigation.

GLAZER, Christine J

McKercher LLP, Saskatoon

Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Health Care Medical Malpractice Defense Administrative Law Civil Litigation

Career: McKercher LLP Partner, 1999 Queen's Counsel, 1999 Of Counsel, 2020

Professional Memberships:

Member and Past President, Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch Member and Past Chair, Canadian Bar Association, National Health Law Section Member, American College of Trial Lawyers Member, Joint Committee of Law Society and CBA on No Fault Insurance Member, Trial Lawyers Association of Saskatchewan

JONES, Rebecca

Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416-865-3055
rjones@litigate.com

Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

See under Litigation & Dispute Resolution for profile.

KIRSHBLUM, Risa

Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416-865-3098
rkirshblum@litigate.com

Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: As co-lead of Lenczner Slaght's Professional Liability practice, Risa provides strong leadership and strategic guidance on a broad range of health law matters. Throughout her career, Risa has acted for physicians in civil, regulatory and various other legal matters related to their practice of medicine. She is a recognized expert on many health law topics and is regularly asked to speak at continuing legal education programs for organizations such as The Advocates' Society and Osgoode Professional Development. She has also presented in continuing education programs for a variety of medical organizations.

LILLES, Jaan

Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416-865-3552
jlilles@litigate.com

Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Jaan's practice includes a diverse range of litigation: professional liability, medical malpractice, commercial disputes, employment, and administrative law. In particular, he has extensive experience acting for both health professionals and regulators. Jaan has acted for physicians in a broad range of matters, including in civil actions, regulatory matters, and criminal proceedings. In addition, he has

acted as prosecution counsel for the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncturists of Ontario and the College of Massage Therapists of Ontario in discipline proceedings. Having acted in several significant medical negligence cases over the years, Jaan is recognized by colleagues and clients as a leading lawyer in his field. Jaan is also routinely invited to present in continuing education sessions on health law matters.

SAMMON, Matthew

Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
(416) 865-3057
msammon@litigate.com

Featured in Construction (Nationwide - Canada), Employment (Ontario), Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Recognized as a leading and formidable trial counsel, Matthew has extensive litigation experience across a broad range of areas, including complex corporate and commercial litigation, professional liability and medical malpractice, and employment cases. He regularly conducts trials, regulatory hearings, and arbitral proceedings. His roster of clients include large and mid-sized corporations across a wide range of sectors, including financial services, banking, telecommunications, retail, health care, manufacturing, hospitality, and oil and gas. Matthew also has deep experience in professional regulation and medical malpractice litigation, appearing regularly as lead counsel in complex medical litigation and regulatory proceedings. He also acts frequently for executives and other individuals in civil and regulatory disputes.

VARAH, Dena N.

Lenczner Slaght, Toronto

Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Dena's practice has broad scope, encompassing corporate and commercial litigation, shareholder disputes and oppression claims, contract issues, professional negligence cases, employment/wrongful dismissal matters and administrative and insurance law. She has often appeared in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Appeal, as well as before administrative tribunals and in private arbitrations. Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght, Dena clerked for the judges of the Court of Appeal. Dena has also taught in continuing legal education programs presented by the Law Society of Ontario, the Ontario Bar Association, The Advocates' Society,

and Osgoode Professional Development. She is a co-chair of the University of Toronto Academic Tribunal.

VEEL, Paul-Erik

Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416.865.2842
pveel@litigate.com

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide - Canada), Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Paul-Erik's litigation practice focuses on class actions, competition law, complex commercial disputes, and professional liability. His clients include major technology companies, financial institutions, professional services firms, pharmaceutical companies, retailers, and franchisors. He also routinely acts for physicians in a number of contexts, including in civil proceedings and regulatory matters. Paul-Erik has extensive trial experience in all types of cases, and he appears regularly before the Supreme Court of Canada and the Ontario Court of Appeal. Paul-Erik is an adjunct professor at the University of Toronto. As the lead of Lenczner Slaght's Data-Driven Decisions program, he is also a strong advocate of using legal data analytics to inform the practice of litigation and achieve exceptional outcomes for clients. In 2022, Paul-Erik was named one of the Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers by Canadian Lawyer.

VENEZIANO, Mark

Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416-865-3051
mveneziano@litigate.com

Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Mark is an expert trial lawyer having conducted dozens of trials and arbitrations as lead counsel. His practice has a particular emphasis on commercial and civil litigation, professional liability, shareholder disputes, insurance coverage, securities, construction, and real estate law. His clients range from corporations and physicians to stockbrokers and banks. Mark provides his clients with practical advice aimed at efficiently resolving disputes. However, when the case demands, he is willing and prepared to go to trial. Mark has significant experience in the area of professional regulation and appears frequently before the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario and other administrative and regulatory tribunals. Mark has also taught trial advocacy at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law.