



Éric Préfontaine

Partner, Disputes

Montréal

(514) 904-5282

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Bar Admission: Québec, 2001

Areas of Expertise

Transportation and Logistics

Banking and Financial Services

Manufacturing

Pharmaceuticals and Life Sciences

Retail and Consumer Products

Disputes

Domestic and International

Arbitration

Corporate and Commercial Disputes

Class Action Defence

Éric Préfontaine is a key contact for our National Class Action Defence group, and an experienced class actions practitioner in the Québec bar with specialized expertise in the defence of consumer protection, product liability and securities matters. While leading the firm's class action matters in Quebec, Éric also consistently brings his expertise to multi-jurisdictional matters for firm strategic clients.

In addition to his leading role in class actions, Éric's commercial litigation practice includes advising clients on highly complex commercial litigation and representing them before commercial and civil courts, administrative tribunals and in arbitration proceedings. His practice includes disputes in a wide range of expertise, including: securities, shareholders, product liability, banking and financial services, franchising, consumer protection and insolvency and restructuring. Eric also has experience in urgent and special procedures such as injunctions and seizures.

Éric is recognized as Lawyer of the Year by *The Best Lawyers in Canada* 2020 and as a leading litigator in *Chambers* 2021, Litigation: General Commercial (Quebec); Dispute Resolution: Class Action (Defence); *The Best Lawyers in Canada* 2020 in the area of Corporate & Commercial Litigation, Class Action Litigation and Product Liability. Éric was also recognized as a Litigation Star in *Benchmark Canada* 2020.

Eric Prefontaine

Awards and Recognition

- **Chambers Canada: Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business:** Recognized in Dispute Resolution: Class Action (Defence); Litigation: General Commercial (Québec)
- **The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory:** Recognized in Class Actions; Litigation – Corporate Commercial; Litigation – Securities; Franchise Law – Franchisor
- **Benchmark Litigation Canada:** Recognized in Class Action; Dispute Resolution (Litigation Star)
- **Best Lawyers in Canada:** Recognized in Class Action Litigation; Corporate and Commercial Litigation; Product Liability Law
- **Lexpert's Leading 500 Cross-Border Lawyers: A Guide to Doing Business in Canada:** Recognized in Litigation – Corporate Commercial
- **Who's Who Legal:** Recognized in Litigation – Global Leader; National Leader
- **Lexpert Special Edition:** Recognized in Technology and Health Sciences; Litigation

Community Involvement

- Éric is a member of Osler's Pro Bono Committee, and regularly provides pro bono services to clients in needs
- Éric is co-responsible for the organization of the annual regional finals of the Sopinka Cup Moot Court (trial advocacy)
- Éric has made presentations at a number of conferences in high schools regarding the profession of lawyer and the justice system
- Participation in Community Day organized annually by Osler since 2011
- Participation in the "Sponsored Dinner" held annually to the benefit the Old Brewery Mission
- Involvement in various fundraisers, including the Pedal for Kids campaign in support of the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation

Credentials

Education

- Université de Montréal, LL.B. (Civil Law)
- Université du Québec à Montréal, B.A. (Political Science)

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Languages

- English
- French

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Professional Affiliations

- Barreau du Québec
- Canadian Bar Association
- The Advocate's Society