



Sharon E. Groom

Co-Chair, Trademarks and Licensing
Toronto

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education and year of call

- Called to the Ontario bar - 1988
- INSEAD (Senior Executive Business Management Program), France - 2000
- Queen's University, LLB - 1986
- Queen's University, B.Mus. (Piano Performance) - 1983

practice areas

intellectual property

CASL - spam and other electronic threats

fintech

trademarks

marketing and advertising

licensing

technology

copyright

confidential information

privacy and data protection

cybersecurity

franchise and distribution

franchising and distribution disputes

industries

food, beverage and agribusiness

media, communications and entertainment

automotive

private equity - buyouts & venture

capital investment

profile

Sharon is a member of McMillan's Intellectual Property and Technology Law Group as well as its Competition Law Group. Her practice focuses on these areas.

Sharon has an extensive background in intellectual property having worked in private practice specializing in Canadian and US trademarks and copyright, as well as having been a Hearing Officer for the Trademarks Opposition Board.

She also brings a wealth of international corporate commercial and business expertise gained as in-house counsel for companies in the financial services, publishing and technology industries. Her positions have included Senior Vice President, Risk Management and General Counsel, Americas, for Thomas Cook; Director of Legal and Administrative Affairs and Assistant General Counsel for Harlequin Enterprises Limited where she managed a global portfolio of over 2,500 trademarks. She has also held a position as Corporate Legal Counsel for Newbridge Networks Corporation (now Alcatel Lucent).

Sharon is also an adjudicator for Resolution Canada Inc. to hear disputes over .ca domain names.

Sharon is on the Board of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Chair of its Nominations and Governance committee.

directorships and professional associations

- Associate member of the Pharmaceutical Trademarks Group
- Fellow of the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada

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information technology

franchising and distribution

manufacturing, distribution and retail

- International Trademark Association
- Internet Policy Advocacy Subcommittee of the Internet Committee of the International Trademark Association
- Adjudicator, Resolution Canada Inc.
- Intellectual Property Committee of Canadian Chamber of Commerce

community involvement

- Member of the Board of Directors of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Chair of the Nominations and Governance Committee
- Past Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of The Hummingbird (Sony) Centre for the Performing Arts

publications

April 2020

Implied Trademark Licenses: A Case Study
Intellectual Property Bulletin

March 2020

Bill C-4 Receives Royal Assent: Incoming Changes to the Intellectual Property Landscape
Intellectual Property and International Trade Bulletin

January 2020

Trademark Law: Change in Practice Regarding Extensions of Time in Examination
Intellectual Property Bulletin

June 2019

TOP TWELVE THINGS TO KNOW - New Canadian Trademarks Act June 17, 2019
Intellectual Property Bulletin

January 2019

Trademarks: Material Misstatements in Declarations of Use Revisited
Intellectual Property Bulletin

January 2019

Cross-Border Copyright Guide 2019
TerraLex, page 20

January 2018

The Top 10 Trademark Cases of 2017
Intellectual Property Bulletin

November 2017

Cannabis-related Trade-marks: Take Care in Choosing Correctly

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Intellectual Property Bulletin

June 2017

CASL Private Right of Action Delayed; Enforcement by CRTC Continues

Litigation, Business Law and Technology Bulletin

February 2017

Avoiding Liability when using Keyword Advertising

Intellectual Property Bulletin

January 2017

Are You Ready for CASL's Private Right of Action?

Privacy and Class Action Bulletin

July 2016

It's Time for Your Company's Cyber-health Check-up

Cybersecurity Bulletin

March 2015

CRTC Imposes \$1.1 Million Penalty for Alleged CASL Violation

Privacy Bulletin

February 2015

Top Things You Can Do To Annoy Your Trade-marks Lawyer

Intellectual Property Bulletin

December 2014

Green Eggs And Spam: The Surprising Side Dish to Canada's Anti-Spam Law that May Catch Software Businesses Off Guard

Privacy Bulletin

presentations

May 2015

Key Points to Consider in Drafting Sponsorship Agreements –
Moderated Table Topic Discussion

International Trademark Association Annual Meeting, San
Diego, California