

ADAM D.H. CHISHOLM



Categories: [People](#), [Lawyers](#)

Adam Chisholm is a skilled and tenacious litigator known for his expertise in capital markets and securities, intellectual property (IP) and administrative and public law. He has led teams at all levels of court in Ontario, in addition to the Federal Court and Federal Court of Appeal. He has rankings and recognitions from top publications such as Lexpert, Benchmark Litigation, Chambers and Best Lawyers.

An experienced securities litigator, Adam represents clients in contested transactions, investigations and enforcement proceedings before the Ontario Securities Commission. He also appears at trial, successfully arguing civil matters concerning securities blackout periods and corporate director responsibilities.

With a focus on intellectual property including trademark litigation, Adam pleads cases involving passing off and other provisions of the Trademarks Act. He acts for smaller private companies and large, publicly listed corporations, understanding the importance of trademarks to companies of all sizes. Adam also litigates

matters relating to patent disputes and confidential information.

With significant experience attacking and defending administrative decisions, Adam advises institutions and private clients on tribunal decision-making. He acts in a myriad of public law and administrative law proceedings, including those under the *Securities Act*, the *Mining Act*, the *Competition Act* and the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

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Expertise: Administrative & Public Law, Capital Markets & Securities, Energy, Intellectual Property, Litigation & Dispute Resolution

Language Spoken: English

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/adamchisholm/>

Location: Toronto

Phone: 416.307.4209

Position/Title: Partner, Litigation & Dispute Resolution

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/LawChisholm>

Directorships & Affiliations:

- International Trademark Association (INTA), Unfair Competition Committee
- Former Executive Member, OBA Administrative Law Section

Publications:

- "[Despite FTX implosion, overzealous crypto enforcement is not the answer](#)," The Globe and Mail (November 10, 2022)
- "[Confidentiality of a Compelled Testimony is Affirmed by the Ontario Securities Commission](#)," Canadian Securities Law News (June 2022)
- "[Intellectual Property 2021 Year in Review](#)," (January 2022)
- "[Book Review of The Guide to Energy Arbitrations](#)," by John William Rowley, ed, (2021) 9:3 EQR, online: Energy Regulation Quarterly (October 2021)
- "[The QuadrigaCX Report: Enforcement Against The Ether](#)," Securities Newsletter, Sec. L. Nws. 2020-04

(September 2020)

- "[No Family Resemblance in Ontario Securities Law: Ontario Securities Commission v. Tiffin](#)," Securities Newsletter, Sec. L. Nws. 2020-03 (July 2020)
- "[Cross-Border Copyright Guide 2019](#)," TerraLex, page 20 (January 2019)
- "Intellectual Property Disputes, Resolutions & Remedies," Volume 5, Ronald E. Dimock, Chapter 18 (May 2018)

Education & Admissions:

Degree: Called to the Ontario bar

Year: 2009

Degree: Certificate in Blockchain Strategy

University: Saïd Business School, University of Oxford

Year: 2021

Degree: Canadian Securities Course

Year: 2020

Degree: LLB

University: University of Windsor

Year: 2008

Degree: B.Sc. (Honours)

University: University of Western Ontario

Year: 2004

Media Mentions:

- "[Adam Chisholm Spoke to CBC News on OREA's New Benefits Package](#)", CBC News (January 21, 2024)
- "[Lawyer joins ORWP fray, files complaints with Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario](#)," by Susan Doran, Real Estate Magazine (November 10, 2023)
- "[Are Employee Defamation Cases a Fool's Errand?](#)" by Adam D. H. Chisholm, Dave J. G. McKechnie and Khaleed Mawji, Employment and Labour Law Reporter, Vol. 33, Number 8 (November 2023)
- "[Despite OSC ban, this crypto exchange still operates as if nothing happened](#)," by Ethan Lou, Globe and Mail (September 9, 2022)

- "Q&A with 40 & Under Star Adam Chisholm of McMillan," Benchmark Litigation (July 2020)
- "Minimise the maelstrom," Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, Accounting and Business (June 2020)
- "[Four Toronto lawyers newly appointed to Ontario's securities proceedings advisory committee](#)," by Bernise Carolino, Canadian Lawyer (February 21, 2020)
- "[Catalyst questions independence of HBC special committee at OSC hearing](#)," by Jake Edmiston, Financial Post (December 12, 2019)
- "[Richard Baker may have to sweeten HBC bid by 10 per cent to sway shareholders, analyst says](#)," by Rachele Younglai and Jeffrey Jones, The Globe and Mail (December 12, 2019)
- "[Battle heats up between Catalyst and Hudson's Bay over privatization bid](#)," by Rachele Younglai and Jeffrey Jones, The Globe and Mail (December 11, 2019)
- "[Empty Docket](#)," by Brent Dowdall, CBA National Magazine (December 2019)
- "[What to consider as OSC to pay \\$7.5M to three whistleblowers](#)," BNN Bloomberg (March 2019)
- "Lawyers worried about 10-year cap on tribunal appointments," by Marg. Bruineman, Law Times (September 2015)

Rankings & Recognition:

- Recognized in the 2024 Lexpert Special Edition on Litigation
- Recognized by Chambers Canada (2025) as a leading lawyer in the area of Litigation: Securities (ON)
- Recognized by Best Lawyers in Canada (2025) as a leading lawyer in the areas of Administrative and Public Law, Corporate and Commercial Litigation, and Securities Law
- Recognized in the 2024 Benchmark Litigation: Canada Guide
- Recognized in the 2024 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Repeatedly Recommended Lawyer in the areas of Competition Law and Litigation – Securities
- Recognized by Chambers Canada (2024) as a leading lawyer in the area of Litigation: Securities
- Recognized in the 2023 Lexpert Special Edition on Canada's Leading Litigation Lawyers as a Leading Litigation Lawyer
- Recognized by *Best Lawyers* in Canada (2024) as a leading lawyer in the area of Administrative and Public Law
- Recognized in the 2023 Lexpert Special Edition on Canada's Leading Technology and Health Sciences Lawyers as a Technology Lawyer
- Recognized in the 2023 *Benchmark Litigation: Canada Guide* as a Litigation Star

- Recognized in the 2023 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Repeatedly Recommended Lawyer in the areas of Competition Law and Litigation: Securities
- Recognized by Chambers Canada (2023) as a leading lawyer in the area of Litigation: Securities (Ontario)
- Recognized by *Best Lawyers in Canada* (2023) as a leading lawyer in the area of Administrative and Public Law
- Recognized in the 2022 *Benchmark Litigation Canada's 40 & Under Hot List!* as a leading litigator
- Recognized in the 2022 *Benchmark Litigation: Canada Guide* as a Litigation Star
- Recognized by Chambers Canada (2022) as a leading lawyer in the area of Litigation: Securities (Ontario)
- Recognized by *Best Lawyers in Canada* (2022) as a leading lawyer in the area of Administrative and Public Law
- Recognized in the 2021 *Benchmark Litigation Canada's 40 & Under Hot List!* as a leading litigator
- Recognized in the 2021 *Benchmark Litigation: Canada Guide* as a Litigation Star
- Recognized in the 2021 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Repeatedly Recommended Lawyer in the area of Competition Law
- Recognized in the 2021 Lexpert Special Edition on Canada's Leading Technology Lawyers as a Leading Technology Lawyer
- Winner in the Lexpert 2020 Rising Stars Awards: Leading Lawyers Under 40
- Recognized in the 2020 Benchmark Litigation's 40 & Under Hot List as a leading litigator
- Recognized in the 2020 Benchmark Litigation: Canada Guide as a Future Star
- *Global Competition Review Awards*, Behavioural Matter of the Year – Americas (2014)
- *Law Society of Upper Canada Award for Outstanding Achievement in Legal Studies* for top 15 cumulative academic ranking in LL.B. program (2008)
- *Robert H. Wilson Memorial Award* for top academic standing in Law III (2008)
- *Carswell Prize* for top academic standing in Law III (2008)
- *John H. Rodd K.C. Award in Conflicts* for top academic standing in Conflicts of Private International Law (2008)
- *President's Roll* (2006, 2008)
- *Stikeman Elliot/Carswell National Tax Award* for top academic standing in Tax (2007)
- *Zuber Moot Best Factum Award* (2007)
- *McMillan Binch Mendelsohn LLP Scholarship of Excellence* (2006)
- *CCH Prize* for top academic standing in Legal Research and Writing (2006)
- *Samia Rose Shaheen Memorial Award* for best factum (2006)

Speaking Engagements:

- Opportunities and Challenges of Written Hearings Chair, Ontario Bar Association Professional Development, Toronto, Ontario
- April 2018

- Amending Pleadings Pleading Your Case Successfully, Ontario Bar Association Professional Development, Toronto, Ontario
- April 2017

Representative Matters:

- *Rovi Guides, Inc. v. Videotron G.P.*, 2019 FC 1220, aff'd 2019 FCA 321.
- *In the Matter of The Catalyst Capital Group Inc*, File No. 2019-41.
- *Sino-Forest Corporation (Re)*, 2017 ONSEC 27 (Ont. Sec. Comm.).
- *969625 Ontario Ltd. v Goldstone Resources Inc.*, 2017 ONSC 879.
- *Cardinal v Cleveland Indians Baseball Company Limited Partnership*, 2016 ONSC 6929.
- *Hertz System, Inc. v. Herc Equipment Rentals*, 2016 FC 1085.
- *The Commissioner of Competition v. Visa Canada Corporation and MasterCard International Incorporated*, 2013 CACT 10 (Comp. Trib.).
- *Nemati v. Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario*, 2011 ONSC 5431 (Div. Ct.).
- *Carter v. Minister of Revenue*, 2010 ONSC 2825 (Div. Ct.).

Teaching Engagements:

- Winter 2021-2024 – Term Adjunct Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Queen's University, Securities Litigation
- November 2021, 2023 – Guest Lecturer, Osgoode Hall Law School, Innovation in Payments: Cryptocurrency, Blockchain
- February 2023 – Guest Lecturer, Windsor Law, Securities Law: Compliance, Litigation and Enforcement
- April 2021 – Guest Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Queen's University, Securities Regulation
- November 2021 – Guest Lecturer, Osgoode Hall Law School, Innovation in Payments: Cryptocurrency, Blockchain
- Winter 2021 - Term Adjunct Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Queen's University, Securities Litigation
- April 2021 – Guest Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Queen's University, Securities Regulation (Securities Enforcement Lecture)

The logo for mcmillan, featuring the word "mcmillan" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters "m", "c", "m", "i", "l", "l", "a", and "n" are in a dark red color, while the letter "c" is in a light blue color. The logo is positioned in the upper left corner of the page.

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Industries: Energy

Practices: Administrative & Public Law, Capital Markets & Securities, Intellectual Property, Litigation & Dispute Resolution