





JOHN E. CALLAGHAN

Partner

Speaks: English

Year of Call: 1989 - Ontario

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Primary office: Toronto

John E. Callaghan

John Callaghan is a partner in Gowling WLG's Toronto office with a broad practice in civil and commercial litigation and regulatory offence work. He is a past leader of the firm's Commercial Litigation Group.

John has acted on an array of different matters. He regularly acts for large corporations,

financial institutions and government and regulated industries. He has appeared at both the trial and appellate level, and has reported cases in such areas as contract, environmental law, elections law, corporate, competition, constitutional, statutory interpretation and class actions. Of particular interest, John was lead counsel for Bombardier on contentious litigation with Metrolinx in Ontario. The litigation involved complex contractual interpretation issues and required significant knowledge of Bombardier's manufacturing and contracting methods.

John has been recognized by several publications as a leading commercial counsel in Canada, including Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 lawyers in Canada; Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to The Leading 500 Cross-Border Lawyers in Canada; Benchmark Canada: The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys; the Best Lawyers in Canada and Financier Worldwide Litigation and Adjudicator Resolution Handbook.

John was a governor of the legal profession in Ontario having been a Bencher of the Law Society of Ontario, the governing body of lawyers in Ontario, for eight years. In his capacity as a Bencher, John adjudicated professional misconduct allegations against lawyers. At the Law Society, John served in many capacities, including Chair of Government Relations for several years.

John is the second-longest-serving member of the Civil Rules Committee in Ontario, having been appointed by successive Chief Justices of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. The Rules Committee is responsible for drafting and revising the Rules of Civil Procedure for the Province of Ontario. In this capacity, John has conducted numerous reviews regarding the civil justice system, and has been involved in most of the major procedural reforms in Ontario over this last two decades.

John is co-author of Class Actions: Law and Practice (Lexis/Nexis). The text is the leading authority on the subject of class actions in Canada and has been frequently cited with approval by the Supreme Court of Canada and other appellate and trial courts across Canada.

John is a frequent lecturer on issues of procedure and trial advocacy. He has chaired several of the leading class action conferences in Ontario. He has also spent a number of years as an instructor of trial advocacy with the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto.

Involvement in the legal profession

- Chair, Government Relations and Public Affairs, Law Society of Ontario
- Vice-Chair, Audit and Finance, Law Society of Ontario
- The Advocates' Society, Director (2007-2009)
- Chair, The Advocates' Society - International Conferences to The Hague (2004) and Ireland (2006)
- Adjunct Professor, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, Trial Advocacy (1996-2000)
- Rules Committee (1995-present)
- Chair, Simplified Rules Review Committee (1995-1998)
- Chair, Cost Review Committee (2002-2004)
- Chair, Appellate Delay Committee (1996)
- Member, Civil Procedure Reform Implementation Committee (2010)
- Director, Institute of Clinical and Evaluative Studies (2007-2013)
- Fox Scholar (1989-90)
- Class Action Editor, Toronto Law Journal
- Hockey coach - best job of all!

Expertise

Financial Institutions & Services

Competition Law & Antitrust

Class Actions

Commercial Litigation

Crisis Management

Insurance & Professional Liability

International Arbitration

Career & Recognition

2020

April

Acritas Stars 2020

April

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2020

2019

September

Chambers Canada 2020

August

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2020

April

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2019

2018

December

Legal 500 Canada 2019

December

Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada 2019

December

Lexpert/ROB Special Edition on Canada's Leading Litigation Lawyers 2018

September

Chambers Canada 2019

August

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2019

June

2018 Lexpert Zenith Awards

April

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2018

2017

December

Legal 500 Canada 2018

November

Lexpert/ROB Special Edition on Canada's Leading Litigation Lawyers 2017

November

Lexpert U.S./Canada Cross-Border Litigation Guide 2017

September

Chambers Canada 2018

August

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2018

May

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2017

2016

December

Lexpert U.S./Canada Cross-Border Litigation Guide 2016

December

Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada 2017

November

Legal 500 Canada 2017

August

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2017

June

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2016

April

Benchmark Canada: The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys 2016

2015

December

Lexpert/ROB Special Edition on Canada's Leading Litigation Lawyers

September

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2016

July

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2015

April

Chambers Global 2015

April

Benchmark Canada: The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys 2015

February

The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada 2015

2014

December

Lexpert recognizes Gowlings professionals as leading litigation lawyers

September

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2015

July

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2014

April

Chambers Global 2014

April

Benchmark Canada: The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms &
Attorneys 2014

February

Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada 2014

2013

December

Lexpert 2013 Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-border Litigation Lawyers in
Canada

September

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2014

July

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2013

March

Benchmark Canada 2013

February

2013 Lexpert®/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada

February

The Best Lawyers in Canada® 2013

2012

April

Benchmark Canada 2012

2007

Director, Institute of Clinical and Evaluative Studies

Director, The Advocates' Society

1996

Adjunct Professor, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, Trial Advocacy

1989

Year of Call, Ontario

University of Windsor, LLB

Memberships

- Bencher, Law Society of Upper Canada
- Fellow of the American Bar Foundation
- Founding Director of the Institute of Civility and Professionalism