





ROBERT A. MACDONALD

Partner

Speaks: English

Year of Call: 1983 - Ontario

 +1 613-786-0150

 +1 613-563-9869

 robert.macdonald@gowlingwlg.com

Primary office: Ottawa

Robert A. MacDonald

Robert MacDonald is a partner and trademark agent in the Ottawa office of Gowling WLG. He served as co-leader of the firm's global Intellectual Property Group for many years.

Robert specializes in assisting clients with clearing, protecting and enforcing their brands

in the Canadian market. He has over 30 years of experience in all areas of trademark law, including prosecution, licensing, oppositions and litigation.

Robert is known for taking a collaborative, team-based approach to the delivery of legal services. He is certified by the Law Society of Ontario (LSO) as a Specialist in Intellectual Property Law (Trademarks), and also served on its Committee for the Certification of Specialists in Intellectual Property.

Described by Managing Intellectual Property (MIP) as "one of Canada's foremost trademark practitioners," Robert consistently achieves recognition in prominent legal directories. He is listed in Chambers Global 2020 and Legal 500 Canada 2019 for Intellectual Property, and was a recipient of a 2018 Client Choice Award for his commitment to client service and ability to find practical solutions to complex problems. Client commentary on Robert in support of the award included:

“ “Rob and his team never let the client down; they are responsive, fast, diligent, detailed and attentive to client needs.” ... “Rob is sharp, knowledgeable and responsive; he provides practical, business-oriented and reliable advice.”

Most recently, Robert received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the MIP Americas Awards 2020.

Robert's insight is frequently sought as a speaker at events held by the LSO, as well as other prominent groups such as the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada (IPIC). He is an active member of various organizations and is currently the Chair of the Intellectual Asset Management Team within MARQUES, the Association of European Trade Mark Owners.

Robert has served as a lecturer for the Advanced Practical Trademarks Course offered by McGill University and the IPIC. He also shares his expertise with others by regularly contributing articles to a variety of professional publications.

In his spare time, Robert has a keen interest in music and has served as the Chairman of the Board of the Thirteen Strings Chamber Orchestra for many years.

Expertise

Life Sciences

Food & Beverage

Intellectual Property

Trademarks, Brands & Designs

IP Litigation & Strategy

United States

Career & Recognition

2020

September

Chambers Canada 2021

August

Best Lawyers in Canada 2021

May

Lexpert Special Edition: Technology 2020

April

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2020

March

Managing Intellectual Property (MIP) Lifetime Achievement Award

February

World Trademark Review 1000 2020

February

Chambers Global 2020

January

IAM Global Leaders 2020

2019

December

Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada 2020

November

Legal 500 Canada 2020

September

Chambers Canada 2020

September

World Trademark Review (WTR) Global Leaders 2019

August

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2020

July

Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars 2019

June

2019 Lexpert Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Lawyers in Canada

April

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2019

February

Chambers Global 2019

January

World Trademark Review 1000 2019

2018

December

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

December

Legal 500 Canada 2019

September

Chambers Canada 2019

August

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2019

June

Lexpert 2018 Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Lawyers in Canada

April

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2018

April

Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars 2018

February

Client Choice Award 2018

February

Chambers Global 2018

January

World Trademark Review (WTR) 1000 2018

2017

December

Legal 500 Canada 2018

September

Chambers Canada 2018

August

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2018

May

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2017

2016

December

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

November

Legal 500 Canada 2017

October

Chambers Canada 2017

August

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2017

June

Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars 2016

June

Who's Who Legal: Trademarks 2016

June

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2016

May

Expert Guides: Trademarks 2016

April

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

Chambers Global 2016

2015

December
Who's Who Legal: Canada 2015

November
Chambers Canada 2016

November
Legal 500 Canada 2016

September
The Best Lawyers in Canada 2016

September
The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers 2015

September
Who's Who Legal: Trademarks 2015

July
Who's Who Legal 100, 2015

July
Managing Intellectual Property 2015

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

February
World Trademark Review 1000: The World's Leading Trademark Professionals , 2015

2014

October
Who's Who Legal: Canada 2014

September
The Best Lawyers in Canada 2015

September
Who's Who Legal: The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers 2014

September
Who's Who Legal - The International Who's Who of Trademark Lawyers 2014

July
Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2014

June
Managing IP's Trade Mark & Copyright Handbook 2014

April
Chambers Global 2014

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

February
World Trademark Review (WTR) 1000 2014

2013

November

Who's Who Legal: Canada 2013

September

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2014

September

Who's Who Legal - The International Who's Who of Trademark Lawyers 2013

August

Expert Guides: Best of the Best 2013

July

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2013

July

Who's Who Legal: The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers 2013

April

Chambers Global 2013

February

The Best Lawyers in Canada® 2013

February

World Trademark Review (WTR) 1000 (2013)

Expert Guides' The Best of the Best

Expert Guides' The Best of the Best

2012

December

Who's Who Legal: Canada 2012

July

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2012

July

Who's Who Legal: The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers 2012

June

PLC Which Lawyer? 2012

May

Guide to the World's Leading Trade Mark Law Practitioners 2012

April

World Trademark Review (WTR) 1000 (2012)

April

Chambers Global 2012

February

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2012

2011

December

Who's Who Legal 2011

June

World Trademark Review (WTR) 1000 - The definitive guide to trademark legal services
(2011)

May

Who's Who Legal - The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers , 2011

May

Lexpert/ American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada , 2011

March

PLC Which Lawyer? 2011

February

The Best Lawyers in Canada® 2011

February

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory , 2011

2010

February

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory , 2010

February

Lexpert American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada , 2010

February

PLC Which Lawyer? Yearbook , 2010

February

The Best Lawyers in Canada® 2010

World's Leading Trade-mark Practitioners, Expert Guides

2009

July

Trade-mark expert, World Trademark Review

1998

World's Leading Trade-mark Practitioners, Euromoney Legal Group Guide, 1998-present

1983

Year of Call, Ontario

1981

University of Ottawa, LLB

1978

Carleton University, BA