



## APRIL 8, 2021 - "YOU'RE ON MUTE" – LESSONS FROM A PANDEMIC

### Brad Regehr, President, Canadian Bar Association (CBA) and Co-chair of the CBA Task Force on Justice Issues Arising from COVID-19 (Maurice Law)



Brad joined Maurice Law in 2017 as a partner in the Winnipeg office. Over his twenty years of practice, Brad has worked on a wide variety of legal matters, including aboriginal law, corporate/commercial law, civil litigation, and administrative law. Brad continues to provide advice to a wide range of clients, including First Nation and corporate clients. He has appeared in the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench and Manitoba Court of Appeal, as well as the Federal Court of Canada, Trial Division, and the Federal Court of Appeal. Brad was part of the legal team that successfully defended a challenge to a First Nation's tax laws under the First Nations Fiscal Management Act, the first litigation involving that statute. He also acted for a First Nation which became a partner in a major hydro-electric project, advising and acting at all stages of the project. Brad has also advised numerous First Nation clients on

implementation issues involving both land claim and flooding agreements. He was involved in the litigation concerning the disposal of the Kapyong Barracks in Winnipeg and has been involved in arbitrations and litigation concerning the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement and Saskatchewan Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement. He recently completed a two-year term as President of the Manitoba Bar Association, the first indigenous lawyer to hold that office and the first lawyer since 1946 to hold the office for two years. Brad is currently the President of the Canadian Bar Association, the first indigenous person to hold that office in the 124-year history of the Canadian Bar Association.

Brad has also been involved in eight productions of The Lawyers Play – a joint fund-raising production between the Manitoba Bar Association and the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre. Brad has also taught courses on aboriginal law at both the University of Manitoba and University of Winnipeg. Brad is a member of the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation in Saskatchewan.

#### Academic & Professional Memberships:

Law Society of Manitoba

Canadian Bar Association/Manitoba Bar Association

L.L.B. University of Manitoba (1996)

B.A. (Honours) University of Waterloo (1993)

## **Karen Eltis, Faculty member at the University of Ottawa Centre for Law, Technology and Society and Full Professor of Law within the Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section**



Karen Eltis is Faculty member at the University of Ottawa Centre for Law, Technology and Society and a Full Professor of Law within the Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section.

She is a past Affiliate with Princeton's CITP (Center for Information Technology Policy) 2016-2018. A past director of the uOttawa Human Rights Centre, Karen Eltis specializes in artificial intelligence/ innovation law and policy and cybersecurity from a comparative perspective. She served as Senior Advisor to the National Judicial Institute and has taught at Columbia Law School.

Fluent in French, English, Hebrew, Spanish and Romanian and proficient in German and Italian, Karen Eltis holds law degrees from McGill University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Columbia Law School (Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar). Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Ottawa, Karen was a litigation associate in New York City. Her research on privacy was cited by the Supreme Court of Canada (in the landmark case *A.B. v. Bragg*, 2012) and other Canadian and foreign courts. Karen's latest book is titled "Courts, Litigants and the Digital Age: Second Edition" (Irwin Law, 2016) supported by the CIRA grant. Her research on Artificial Intelligence and Expression is supported by the Foundation for Legal Research.

## **Chris Wirth, Christopher Wirth, Past Chair of the CBA Administrative Law Section and CBA Task Force on Justice Issues Arising from COVID-19 member (Keel Cottrell LLP)**



Chris is a Senior Litigation Partner with Keel Cottrell LLP, a mid-sized full-service firm located in Toronto, Ontario. He practises primarily in the areas of Commercial Litigation and Class Actions, Administrative Law, Professional Discipline, Libel and Slander, Health Law, Securities Litigation, Employment Litigation, Injunctions, Appeals and Judicial Reviews. He has a B.A. in Economics from the University of Toronto (1986), an L.L.B. from the University of British Columbia (1989) and was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1991.

An effective advocate for his clients, Chris as a former Chair of both the Canadian Bar Association's Administrative Law Section and the Ontario Bar Association's Administrative Law Section, is well known for his Administrative Law expertise. Equally though, he is also recognised by the Best Lawyers in Canada for Commercial Litigation and Labour and Employment Law and has extensive experience in Class Actions.

Chris also holds a Certificate in Advanced Adjudication from Osgoode Hall Law School, acts as an independent legal advisor to a number of administrative tribunals, is a Chair of the University of Toronto's Tribunal and the external General Counsel to the Registered Insurance Brokers of Ontario and is the author of *Interlocutory Proceedings* and the co-author of *O'Brien's Encyclopedia of Forms – Division VIII – Civil Litigation*.

He has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada, the Ontario Court of Appeal, Divisional Court, Superior Court of Justice, the British Columbia Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court of British Columbia, the Federal Court of Canada and the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench. Chris also regularly appears before many Tribunals, professional and regulatory bodies and at coroners' inquests.

## **Marc-André O'Rourke, Lawyer, Advocacy Canadian Bar Association (and Project Director of the CBA Task Force on Justice Issues Arising from COVID-19)**



Lawyer in the Advocacy group at the CBA since 2017. Previously, Marc-André was Executive Director of the National Airlines Council of Canada (NACC), the trade association that represents Canada's major airlines from 2012 to 2016. Prior to joining the NACC, Marc-André was Assistant General Counsel, with the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA), the federal agency responsible for passenger and personnel screening.

Marc-André started his career as a lawyer with the Atlantic Canadian law firm of Cox & Palmer. He holds a law degree from the Université de Moncton and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Ottawa.