



Kevin Wright

Partner

CHAIR, CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE, REGULATORY AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS GROUP

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Kevin Wright is an experienced competition law and class action defence lawyer.

In his 27 year career, he has covered all aspects of competition law from complex international and national cartel (price fixing) investigations and defence of criminal charges: merger clearance, abuse of dominance investigations, advice on marketing and distribution practices and compliance programs. He has acted in two of the six fully litigated merger cases before the Competition Tribunal, including an appearance in the Supreme Court of Canada and the successful defence of vendors against the proposed dissolution of a merger. While on a secondment early in his career, he was involved in significant merger cases before the European Commission and in the United States.

Kevin has been lead counsel in the defence of over 30 class actions across the country. His class action experience covers a variety of industries, including automotive, technology, manufacturing, electronics, transportation services, food and petroleum.

He has acted in other regulatory proceedings and civil litigation including intellectual property disputes, and appearances before regulatory agencies and a utilities commission.

Kevin has been an active member of the Canadian Bar Association National Competition Law Section throughout his career. He currently serves as a Vice-Chair of its International Committee. He has served in the past as Chair of its Legislation and Policy, Economics and Law, Mergers and Criminal Matters Committees.

He has spoken and lectured on competition law, class actions and intellectual property law to professional and business audiences on various occasions.

For ten years, Kevin has been an adjunct professor at the University of British Columbia Faculty of Law where he teaches competition law.

- Antitrust and Competition
- Intellectual Property and Technology
- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations

English

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- English

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- Acting for Trulieve Cannabis Corp. (CSE: TRUL) (OTC: TCNNF) in its proposed US\$2.1 billion acquisition of Harvest Health & Recreation Inc. (CSE: HARV, OTCQX: HRVSF).
 - Defence counsel in many class actions involving alleged anticompetitive conduct, including in respect of Automobile Parts, Ocean Shipping Services, Bearings, Optical Disc Drives, Ramen Noodles, Capacitors, Resistors, Lithium Ion Batteries, Diesel Engine Emissions, DRAM, SRAM, Flash Memory, Smart Card Chips
 - Defence counsel in class actions involving allegations of copyright infringement, breach of fuel supply contracts, and improper collection of excise taxes
 - Counsel to the Vendor Respondents before the Competition Tribunal in CCS/Tervita merger case
 - Counsel to the Competition Bureau in the Southam Newspapers merger case (including appearance before the Supreme Court of Canada)
 - Appearance before the British Columbia Utilities Commission Inquiry into Gasoline and Diesel Prices in British Columbia
 - Acted for Autopro Automation Consultants Ltd. in three-party acquisition transaction with Universal mCloud Corp. and Fulcrum Automation Technologies.
 - Acted for CDW Canada Corp. in its acquisition of Scalar Decisions Inc., a leading technology solutions provider in Canada
 - Acted for [Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd. and Sumitomo Corporation in the September 2018 acquisition of the Pogo Gold Mine in Alaska by Northern Star Resources for US\\$260 million](#)
 - Advised Nippon Paper Industries Co., Ltd., Marubeni Corporation and Daishowa North America Corporation in the \$465 million acquisition of Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd. by Mercer International Inc.
 - Defence of patent infringement litigation involving oil and gas drilling operations, safety-system devices, sawmills, and helicopter logging

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- British Columbia, 1994

Recognitions

- *Best Lawyers in Canada* (Competition / Antitrust Law), 2021-2022
- *Expert Guides: Guide to Competition and Antitrust*, 2014, 2021
- *Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory* (Competition Law), 2010-2022
- *Lexpert® ALM 500 Directory* (Competition Law), 2022
- *Chambers Canada* (Competition/Antitrust), 2016-2022
- *Chambers Global* (Competition Law), 2015; (Competition and Antitrust), 2018-2022
- *The Legal 500 Canada* (Competition and Antitrust), 2016-2022; (Dispute Resolution), 2018-2019
- *The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers* (Competition Lawyers & Economists), 2013-2017
- *Lexpert® Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-border Litigation Lawyers in Canada*, Competition Law, 2012, 2014, 2017
- *Lexpert Canada's Leading Litigation Lawyers*, 2020
- *Who's Who Legal Canada - Competition*, 2016-2018
- *Who's Who Legal Competition: Lawyers*, 2016-2020

Education

- J.D., (Honours), University of Toronto, 1993
- B.A., (Honours), University of Western Ontario, 1990

Memberships

- Member, Law Society of British Columbia
- Member, Canadian Bar Association, Competition Law, Administrative Law and Civil Litigation Subsections
- (Current) Vice-Chair, International Committee, Canadian Bar Association National Competition Law Section
- Past Chair, Economics and Law Committee, Canadian Bar Association National Competition Law Section
- Past Chair, Mergers Committee, Canadian Bar Association National Competition Law Section
- Past Chair, Criminal Matters Committee, Canadian Bar Association National Competition Law Section
- Past Chair, Legislation and Policy Committee, Canadian Bar Association National Competition Law Section

Other Activities

- Adjunct Professor, University of British Columbia Faculty of Law, 2011-2020
- Lecturer, British Columbia Institute of Technology, New Media Course, 2010

INSIGHTS

Publications

- Co-author, "The Supreme Court of Canada 'Levels' Class Certification," *Class Action Defence Quarterly*, Vol 14, No. 2, December 2019 [Reprinted by permission of LexisNexis Canada Inc., from the Class Action Defence Quarterly Edited by Eliot N. Kolers, Copyright 2019]
- Co-author, "On the 'Level' After Godfrey: Proving Liability in Canadian Price Fixing Class Actions," *Class Action Defence Quarterly*, Vol 12, No. 2, December 2017 [Reprinted by permission of LexisNexis Canada Inc., from the Class Action Defence Quarterly Edited by Eliot N. Kolers, Copyright 2017]
- Chapter author, Fundamentals of Canadian Competition Law (1st, 2nd and 3rd editions)

Events

Previous

White Collar Crime, Investigations and Compliance Symposium

5 October 2021
Webinar
