

DODOKIN LAW & CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Robin Dodokin

FCI Arb, Q. Arb., LL.B, LL.M.,
Q. Med.

(Lawyer/Mediator/Arbitrator)

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Practice Summary

I am an experienced arbitrator, mediator, and commercial/civil litigator. I have been practicing law since 1993. My expertise encompasses banking, contractual, commercial, shareholder, business and family enterprise disputes and insolvency issues.

I have received the following credentials. Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCI Arb); Qualified Arbitrator (Q. Arb) and Qualified Mediator (Q. Med.) by the ADR Institute of Canada.

I am a member of the Roster of Arbitrators and Mediators at Arbitration Place (Toronto) and also the Vancouver International Arbitration Centre. Since 2021 I have been appointed to arbitrate as sole *ad hoc* arbitrator for commercial, business, and contractual disputes. As an arbitrator, I have run arbitral proceedings, including hearings and written awards on jurisdiction, contractual interpretation, contractual and legal liability, damages. I have expertise in running virtual and in person proceedings.

Since 2011, I have also mediated disputes involving business relationships, contracts, negligence, failed transactions, real estate development and transactions, insolvency, fraud, employment, lottery winnings, hockey ticket subscriptions, supplier disputes, international transactions, family business succession issues and other legal issues.

In my legal practice, I have represented clients at arbitration and court proceedings. My work as a lawyer and practice encompassed representing, financial institutions, insurers, business owners, shareholders, companies, creditors, debtors, court appointed officers and individuals in commercial litigation and insolvency matters. I have appeared at all levels of the courts in Ontario with extensive experience in the Toronto Commercial Court.

More Details

My legal career began in 1993 as an associate in a boutique personal injury firm, and then as an associate and partner in a mid-size law firm in Toronto, with a focus on commercial, real estate and insolvency issues. In February 2017, I founded my own law firm, Dodokin Law & Conflict Resolution offering legal, mediation, and arbitration services.

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My legal experience encompasses representing parties in commercial litigation and insolvency proceedings on many kinds of matters including, contractual disputes, enforcing contractual and/or statutory rights, pursuing shareholder and oppression remedies, determining priorities, pursuing fraudulent actors, tracing funds, obtaining injunctive relief including orders to preserve and freeze property, setting aside fraudulent conveyances or preferential transactions and asserting property rights and appointing receivers and trustees. I have also represented court officers in the context of court appointed receiverships that involved locating assets, running claims and sales processes, obtaining approval and vesting orders, tracing funds, approving distributions or commencing litigation, and providing legal opinions.

Through my litigation and dispute resolution work, I have had a wide focus and exposure to many industries including finance, banking, insurance, real estate development and sale, construction, professional services, medical services, research and development, technology development, logistics, automotive manufacturing and sales, restaurant and hospitality, manufacturing, retail sales and mining.

Arbitration

I have been appointed as sole *ad hoc* arbitrator in commercial disputes. In this capacity I have run arbitral proceedings from the preliminary meeting and case conference, through evidence exchange, document disclosure issues, hearings, consideration of fact and expert witness evidence and legal submissions and writing arbitral awards. These arbitrations involved businesses and people in many different industries including finance, insurance, medical, scientific research, and hospitality. Some of the legal issues that I considered were jurisdiction, contractual interpretation, breach of contract, breach of good faith, triggering events, oppressive conduct, accounting and documentary disclosure, misrepresentation and assessing damages. I have also represented parties at arbitration.

Mediation

Since 2011, I have been appointed to mediate a variety of disputes, including disputes between business partners, shareholders, suppliers, manufacturers, parties to a sale transaction, creditors, estate beneficiaries, employers and employees and family members. The issues included contract interpretation and enforcement, business operations, breach of contract, negligence, misrepresentation, fraud, bad faith, conflict of interest, succession plans, employment, torts, and estate issues. I have also facilitated business meetings over several months and communication workshops for enterprising families looking to avoid litigation and preserve or repair relationships.

Employment

- February 2017 to Present: Dodokin Law & Conflict Resolution (Founder)
- 1994 to January 2017: Garfinkle Biderman LLP (Partner)
- 1993- August 1994: Dutton Brock LLP
- 1991-1992: Articling Student Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP
- 1991: Summer Student Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

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Education

- LL.M. Alternate Dispute Resolution (Osgoode Hall Law School) 2014
 - Call to Ontario Bar – 1993
 - LL.B. (University of Windsor)
 - BA (University of Toronto) (Economics & Political Science)
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Professional Training & Designations

- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators- Fellow (FCI Arb.)
 - Qualified Arbitrator (Q. Arb) and Qualified Mediator (Q.Med.)- ADR Institute of Canada
 - Arbitration Training (Gold Standard Course) (Toronto Commercial Arbitration Society)
 - Med-Arb Training from ADR Institute of Canada
 - Coach Training (Coaches Training Institute)
 - Ombuds Training (International Ombudsman Association)
 - Mediation Training (Harvard Negotiation Institute)
 - Advanced Mediation Training (Center for Dispute Settlement)
 - Trust Law (STEP)
 - Navigating Family Systems Theory
 - Family Business Advisor Certification (Family Firm Institute)
 - WBE Canada- certified
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Teaching

- April 2025-Faculty-Osgoode Hall Law School Professional Development- Shareholder Disputes & the Closely Held Company
 - November 2024-Instructor-Osgoode Professional Development GS Law International Arbitration Course- Constituting the Panel
 - May 11, 2023-Faculty-Osgoode Professional Development -Shareholder Disputes
 - February 2023-Toronto Law Firm -Mediation training and substantive legal issues in mediation-Instructor with two other lawyer/mediators.
 - November 2022-Instructor-Osgoode Professional Development GS Law 6298-International Arbitration Course
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Publications

- 2021-present-co-founder and contributor to blog Arbitration & Business Cases (<https://arbitrationandbusinesscases.ca>)
- June 2023 The Journal of Family Investment, FS Private Wealth Newsletter and Journal www.fsprivatewealth.com.au , How to short-circuit family office disputes.
- March 2, 2023, ADR Perspectives <https://adric.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/ADR-P-03.02.2023.html> , Artificial Intelligence and Arbitration : A Perfect Fit? Co-written by

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Robin Dodokin, Sarah McEachern, and Les Honywill.

- November 3, 2022 Canadian Family Offices, <https://canadianfamilyoffices.com/commentary/how-to-short-circuit-family-disputes-avoid-a-succession-worthy-mess> , How to short-circuit family disputes
 - Virtual Conflict Resolution: Considerations and Strategies, 2021, LinkedIn Article Post; [linkedin.com/in/robindodokin](https://www.linkedin.com/in/robindodokin).
 - Virtual Advocacy: Interview of Robin Dodokin, April 21, 2021, Canadian Lawyer Magazine.
 - Mediation as a Process for Change & Transformation for Managing Family Conflicts, (2016) Family Firm Institute, The Practitioner, <https://ffipractitioner.org/mediation-as-a-process-for-change-and-transformation-for-managing-family-conflicts/>.
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Relevant and Recent Presentations

- June 4, 2024, CanArb week conference- Moderator of panel discussion-“Exploring the Psychology of Arbitration-The challenges and complexities of decision making”
- June 12, 2024, ICDR/AAA International Mediation Group- “Cultural differences and best practices”
- September 28, 2023, American Arbitration Association- ICDR - Americas Conference in Mexico City-Panelist - mediation of international disputes.
- May 16, 2023, Toronto Commercial Arbitration Society ("TCAS")-Moderator of a panel on Arbitrator Diversity-How do we get there?
- February 9, 2023-Arbitration Place-“Preventing and resolving disputes in closely held corporations”-Presenter
- October 13, 2022-GTA Accountant and Advisors Network-Preventing and Resolving Disputes in Family Businesses- Co-presenter
- May 12, 2022-Canadian Italian Advocates Organization-"Shareholder Disputes: Litigate or Arbitrate and other considerations"-Co- presenter
- April 29, 2021-Key Media-Panel discussion of Judges and Arbitrator/ Mediator on virtual advocacy-Panelist
- January 2021-STEP Canada-Panel discussion on multi-disciplinary advising family enterprises on succession and planning issues

Professional Affiliations

- Law Society of Ontario- Member
- The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators-Fellow and Director of Canadian Branch
- ADR Institute of Canada – Member
- Toronto Commercial Arbitration Society- Director
- The Advocates Society
- Toronto Lawyers Association

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Volunteer Work

- 2025 -present The Boulevard Club- Board Member
- 2022-present-Toronto Commercial Arbitration Society- Director and Board Member
- 2020-present-Chartered Institute of Arbitrators-Canada Branch Board of Directors and Newsletter Editor (2020-2025)
- 2022 Volunteer Arbitrator Vis Moot Competition
- Past Chair and member of the Executive of the Ontario Bar Association- Insolvency Law Section and ADR Law Section
- 2013-2019-Former member of the Toronto Commercial Court Users Committee
- 2017-present- Law Society of Ontario CAN Network- Volunteer coach to lawyers