



DAVID T.
MCKNIGHT*
PARTNER

* Professional Law Corporation

BIOGRAPHY

David McKnight is a Partner, and the leader of the firm's Administrative Law, Police Law, Employment and Human Rights Law, and Defamation + Publication Risk Management Practice Groups.

David is also a member of the Insurance and Local Government Practices. His practice is in the area of insurance litigation defence and includes construction litigation, fire loss, police claims, personal injury, property damage, administrative law and defamation. David also regularly provides coverage opinions and handles subrogated claims on behalf of insurers.

He has extensive experience in the British Columbia Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, Human Rights Tribunal, and works closely with clients to resolve actions through trial, mediation and the settlement process.

RECOGNITION

- 2015 – 2025 Best Lawyers® in Canada Insurance Law
- 2012 – 2024 Benchmark Canada Litigation Star, General Commercial, Dispute Resolution and Insurance Law
- 2024 Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory repeatedly recommended in the area of Litigation - Commercial Insurance

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Successfully defended the Vancouver Police Department in a civil action

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EDUCATION

- 1992 Judicial Law Clerk, Supreme Court of British Columbia
 - 1992 LL.B. University of British Columbia
 - 1988 M.A. University of Saskatchewan
 - 1984 B.A. (Honours) University of Saskatchewan
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BAR ADMISSIONS

- 1994 Admitted to the British Columbia Bar
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PRACTICE AREAS

BUSINESS

- Administrative Law
- Defamation + Publication Risk Management

for alleged Charter and privacy breaches pertaining to the deployment of a public safety trailer: *Papenbrock-Ryan v. Vancouver (City)*, 2024 BCSC 2288, 2024 CarswellBC 3746 (B.C. S.C.)

- Successfully defended a civil forfeiture action for production of third party documents on behalf of the Vancouver Police Department (*British Columbia (Director of Civil Forfeiture) v. PacNet Services Ltd.*, 2023 BCSC 1113)
- Successfully defended judicial review of a Financial Services Tribunal on behalf of the B.C Superintendent of Real Estate (*Laity v. British Columbia (Financial Services Tribunal)*, 2023 BCSC 1165)
- Successfully defended the former Mayor of Mission in a defamation and breach of privacy action (*Lee v. Tilbury et al*, 2023 BCSC 189)
- Successfully prosecuted a life insurance agent in the trafficking and trading of life insurance policies contrary to section 152 of the *Insurance Act* (*Insurance Council of British Columbia v. Stephen Hill Craig et al*, September 12, 2022)
- Successfully acted for the Insurance Council of BC in the prosecution of a disciplinary matter involving fraud/misappropriation of funds by an insurance licensee and agency (*Insurance Council of BC v Fuller and Canada Loyal Financial Ltd. et al*, August 26, 2022)
- Successfully defended Insurance Council of BC in an FST appeal of an administrative disciplinary decision under the FIA (*Maxxam Insurance Services (Burnaby) Ltd. & Dewar, John Alexander v. Insurance Council of BC*, July 21, 2022, FST-FIA-21-A001(a))
- Successfully defended RECBC/Superintendent of Real Estate in a judicial review of an administrative disciplinary decision under RESA (*Deng v. RECBC*, 2022 BCSC 879)
- Successfully defended judicial review of an administrative *Police Act* disciplinary decision (*Grimsmo v. Jones BC*, 2021 BCSC 575)
- Successfully defended the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and its employees in a defamation action (*Level One Construction Ltd. et al, v. Burnham et al*, 2018 BCSC 1354)
- Successfully defended the City of New Westminster and its police department in trespass/charter breach action (*Allen v. City of New Westminster et al*, 2018 Vancouver Registry)
- Successfully defended judicial review of an administrative tribunal decision (*Kadioglu v. RECBC et al*, 2017 BCSC 2252)
- Successfully defended judicial review of an administrative tribunal

- Information + Privacy
- Employment Law

PERSONAL

- Administrative Law
- Defamation + Publication Risk Management
- Information + Privacy

INSURANCE

- Occupiers Liability
- Local Government
- Directors + Officers
- Professional Liability
- Class Actions
- Personal Injury
- Coverage Disputes
- Defamation + Publication Risk Management
- Information + Privacy
- Human Rights

INDUSTRIES

- Banking + Finance
 - Cannabis
 - Construction
 - Hospitality
 - Local Government
 - Property Management
 - Real Estate
 - Police Law + Liability
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decision (*Jalloh v. Insurance Council of British Columbia*, 2016 BCSC 47)

- Successfully defended an occupiers liability/personal injury action (*Nerland v. TD Bank*, 2016 BCSC 45)
- Successfully defended class action certification (*Monaco v. City of Coquitlam*, 2015 BCSC 2421)
- Successfully defended a real estate subdivision/construction action (*Dick v. City of Coquitlam*, 2013 BCSC 1698) (2014 BCCA 471)
- Successfully defended an internet defamation action (*Carter v. B.C. Federation of Foster Parents Association*, 2005 BCCA 398)
- Successfully defended a defamation and negligence action (*P.G. Restaurant Ltd. v. Northern Interior Regional Health Board et al*, 2004 BCSC 294)
- Successfully defended a building inspection/construction action (*Parsons v. Finch and City of Richmond et al.*, 2005 BCSC 1733)
- Successfully defended a real estate subdivision action (*Forster v. City of Nanaimo*)
- Successfully defended a negligence/defamation/interference with contractual relations action (*William v. City of Kelowna*, 2012 BCSC 421)

PUBLICATIONS

- 2022, “Supreme Court of Canada Raised Standard for Police to Search a Home Incident to Arrest for Safety, Upholds Warrantless Search of Basement”, Canadian Privacy Law Review, LexisNexis Canada, Co-Author
- 2021, “Handling Human Rights Complaints from Racial Profiling to Street Checks”, Canadian Institute | 12th Annual Law of Policing Conference, Co-Speaker
- 2019, Fire Chief Fireside Chat, *MIABC Risk Management Conference*, Panelist
- 2018, Police Negligence – Civil Liability, *MIABC Risk Management Conference*, Speaker
- 2015, Law of Policing Conference, *Canadian Institute*, Speaker
- 2014, Fire Services Liability, *BC Society of Fellows*, Speaker
- 2013, Libel and Slander, *BC RIMA*, Speaker
- 2012, Police and Law Enforcement Conference, Vancouver, Co-chair



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- 2011, Insurers' Duties to Defend and Indemnify, *CIAA/CICMA Pacific Region*, Vancouver, Speaker

EVENTS

- 03/04/2024, Partner David McKnight Speaks on Fire Service Liability at MIABC Risk Management Conference
- 16/11/2022, ARC Group Seminar & Cocktail Reception with Hayley Wickenheiser

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- [Law Society of British Columbia](#), Member
- [Canadian Bar Association](#), (Banking, Insolvency, Commercial Litigation, Construction, Municipal Insurance Law and Administrative Law Subsections), Member
- [Vancouver Bar Association](#), Member
- [Ad IDEM/Canadian Media Lawyers Association](#), Member



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