



IAN  
**BRENEMAN**  
PARTNER

## BIOGRAPHY

Ian is a member of the firm's Business Disputes, Transportation and Logistics, and Maritime Practice Groups.

Ian is a commercial litigator with a focus on dispute resolution in the transportation sector. He has represented a major railway in a variety of litigation related to derailments, cargo claims, crossing disputes, property damage, and personal injuries. Ian also acts as counsel in litigation and arbitrations involving cargo, casualty, construction, and contract claims relating to maritime and other modes of transportation. He also assists shippers, intermediaries, and carriers with drafting and negotiating transportation-related agreements. Ian also advises on compliance with the *Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act*.

In addition, Ian represents clients in numerous product liability matters. He primarily defends manufacturers in civil litigation and assists with reporting defects, incidents, and recalls to regulatory authorities.

Ian also has ample experience in the energy sector, including representing midstream, energy, and oilfield services companies in commercial and construction-related disputes.

In addition to his transportation, product liability, and energy law practice, Ian has experience in a variety of areas and industries, such as banking and securities, construction, municipal, insolvency, and administrative law.

Ian has appeared before all levels of the Ontario, Alberta, Nova Scotia, and Federal Courts, and has litigated in all Canadian common law provinces.

Before joining Alexander Holburn, Ian practiced in Calgary, Alberta, at one of Canada's leading business law firms. Prior to that, Ian clerked at the

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## EDUCATION

- LL.B. 2009, Dalhousie University
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## BAR ADMISSIONS

- 2021 Admitted to the Ontario Bar
  - 2015 Admitted to the Alberta Bar
  - 2010 Admitted to the Nova Scotia Bar
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## PRACTICE AREAS

### BUSINESS

- Administrative Law
- Appellate Advisory
- Business Disputes
- Construction + Engineering
- Corporate Finance + Securities
- Maritime

### PERSONAL

- Appellate Advisory

Federal Court of Canada and practiced at a major regional firm in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Ian volunteers with Pro Bono Ontario and sits on the board of directors of a registered charity. He has also acted as pro bono counsel for refugee claimants before the Immigration and Refugee Board and the Federal Court, and he has volunteered with Pro Bono Law Alberta's Civil Claims Duty Counsel and Queen's Bench Amicus programs.

## ON A PERSONAL NOTE

In addition to spending time with his young family, Ian loves sailing Lake Ontario in the summer and downhill skiing in the Rocky Mountains in winter and going for the occasional run.

## RECOGNITION

- 2022-2025 Best Lawyers® in Canada– Ones to Watch (Corporate and Commercial Litigation)
- 2021 The Legal 500 Canada (Dispute Resolution – Rising Star)

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Acting as counsel for shippers, intermediaries, carriers, ports, infrastructure owners and other transportation industry stakeholders in arbitrations and litigation in numerous disputes involving all modes of transportation
- Drafting and negotiating transportation related contracts, including charter parties, contracts of affreightment, shipper-carrier agreements, and contracts involving intermediaries
- Acting as counsel in disputes regarding the construction of pipeline, rail, and multimodal infrastructure
- Defending product liability and manufacturers' defects claims, and acting as counsel in related commercial litigation
- Acting for manufacturers and owners of heavy equipment involved in incidents during construction and operation
- Defending software developers and software escrow agents in litigation alleging negligence and breach of contract

## INSURANCE

- Appellate Advisory
  - Construction + Engineering
  - Maritime
  - Professional Liability
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## INDUSTRIES

- Banking + Finance
  - Construction
  - Technology
  - Transportation + Logistics
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- Acting as co-counsel for refinery and pipeline owners in disputes regarding refinery outages, capacity issues, and contractual disputes
- Representing clients in the financial and energy sectors in matters involving fraud and other serious misconduct
- Defending financial institutions and financial advisors against investment loss and similar claims, and advising companies responding to securities and related investigations
- Reporting potential incidents and defects to regulatory authorities on behalf of manufacturers and distributors
- Acting for and advising municipalities in disputes regarding the construction of light rail transit systems
- Acting for a major railway in a variety of disputes, including derailments, cargo claims, crossing disputes, property damage, and personal injury matters
- Representing business owners, developers, and landowners before municipal appeal boards and councils, including for cannabis store development permits, and in litigation with municipalities and provincial governments
- Acting as co-counsel in the *Clyde River v Attorney General of Canada* Supreme Court of Canada appeal regarding the duty to consult Indigenous peoples
- Acting as counsel for a major petroleum producer and shipper in judicial review proceedings
- Advising product manufacturers and petroleum producers regarding standard terms and conditions for shipping and crewing contracts
- Acting for applicants and respondents in applications for judicial review from a number of provincial and federal decision-makers

## PUBLICATIONS

- December 2023, “[Is it Wise to Use a Smart Contract?: Benefits and Risks of Smart Contracts in Transportation and Logistics](#)”, *The Transportation Lawyer Journal*, Co-Author
- April 2023, “The Criteria to Disclose an On-Board Recording in Litigation No Longer in a Black Box”, *The Transportation Lawyer Journal*, Co-Author
- May 2022, “[Ian Breneman discusses how businesses can mitigate the impact of fuel price volatility](#)”, *Canadian Lawyer Magazine*, Quoted



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- July 2022, “[Vaccination Requirements for Transportation Workers in International Commerce](#)”, *The Canadian Lawyer* | Vol. 24 No. 1, Co-Author
- October 22, 2021, “[Hottest Ticket in Town: M&A Events in the Rail Industry Today](#)”, *Canadian Transport Lawyers Association (CTLA) – 2021 Annual General Meeting & Educational Conference*, Speaker
- May 26, 2020, “The New Normal of Commercial Litigation: Moving Forward Effectively and Cost-Efficiently” webinar, Panelist
- September 27, 2017, “The Role of Regulatory Tribunals in Aboriginal Consultation: Decisions of the Supreme Court of Canada in *Clyde River (Hamlet) v. Petroleum Geo Services Inc. and Chippewas of the Thames First Nation*”, Administrative Law Section Meeting, Canadian Bar Association, Co-Presenter
- 2015, “An Unfinished Dance: The Steps Needed to Complete the Summary Judgment Culture Shift”, *Annual Review of Civil Litigation*, Co-Author
- 2015, “Canadian Maritime Law Update: 2015”, *Canadian Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce*, Co-Author
- 2013, “Canadian Maritime Law Update: 2013”, *Canadian Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce*, Co-Author

## PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- The Advocates’ Society, Member, former 10+ Committee, Anti-Racism Working Group, Inclusive Pronouns Working Group, and co-producer of the Friends Who Argue podcast
- Canadian Maritime Law Association, Member, and Members of the Arctic Issues, Federal Court Act and Rules, and Limitation of Liabilities Committees, Member
- Eastern Admiralty Law Association, Member
- Canadian Transportation Lawyers Association, Member
- Transportation Lawyers Association, Member
- Toronto Transportation Club, Member
- The Hamilton Bay Sailing Club, Director and Large Boat Captain
- The Cure Starts Now Canada, Director and Corporate Secretary



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