



MICHAEL
DERY*
PARTNER

* Professional Law Corporation

BIOGRAPHY

Michael Dery is a Partner and the group leader of the firm's Aviation Practice. Mr. Dery is also a past-member of the firm's Executive Team and served in that role for ten years, from 2011 to 2021. He is also editor of our [Aviation Law Blog](#). With a concentration on aviation law, Mr. Dery represents aviation insurers, airlines, aircraft owners, flight schools, UAV operators, Approved (Aviation) Maintenance Organizations, and Fixed Base Operators in complex litigation and regulatory matters.

Mr. Dery represents clients in litigation arising out of aircraft accidents and incidents, aviation related product liability litigation, airline claims handling, employment matters, human rights matters, and various other transportation-related issues. Mr. Dery has also represented and advised shipping lines, non-vessel operating common carriers, railways, freight forwarders, trucking companies and load brokers. Mr. Dery also acts as regulatory counsel to domestic airlines, foreign airlines and air operators.

Mr. Dery has appeared for clients before all levels of court in British Columbia and in the Federal Court of Canada. He also conducts litigation in Ontario and Alberta. He regularly conducts mediations and arbitrations and has extensive experience negotiating complex settlements in multi-party actions.

Mr. Dery has been repeatedly recognized by his clients for working with a client-centric approach. In 2017, he won the [Client Choice Award](#) for excellent client service in field of aviation, and most recently was named as an [Acritas Star 2021](#).

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FAX 604 484 9742

EDUCATION

- 2001 LL.B. [Queen's University](#)
 - 1998 B.A. [Simon Fraser University](#)
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BAR ADMISSIONS

- 2018 Admitted to the Alberta Bar
 - 2007 Admitted to the Ontario Bar
 - 2002 Admitted to the British Columbia Bar
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PRACTICE AREAS

BUSINESS

- Aviation

PERSONAL

- Aviation

INSURANCE

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

Michael is an avid skier and still tries to get up to Whistler as often as possible. He also enjoys running, basketball, boxing, sailing, wakeboarding, travelling and mountain biking.

RECOGNITION

- 2024 Who's Who Legal recommended in Transport - Aviation Contentious Global Leader, and 2022 Canada Transport - Aviation National Leader
- 2015 – 2025 Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory consistently recommended in the area of Aviation (Regulation and Liability)
- 2020 – 2025 Best Lawyers® in Canada Aviation Law
- 2013 – 2020 Guide to the World's Leading Aviation Lawyers
- 2021 Acritas Star - independent rated lawyers

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Acting as counsel in the defence of national and worldwide class actions in consumer and aviation related matters
- Acting as counsel in matters regarding aircraft hull, passenger, cargo, product and airport liability claims
- Acting as counsel in the defence of actions arising from mid-air collisions between aircraft
- Acting as counsel in the defence of actions arising from float plane accidents
- Providing regulatory counsel and advice to foreign air operators
- Providing regulatory counsel and advice to commercial operators of unmanned air vehicles
- Providing counsel and advice to airlines on emergency response preparedness
- Providing counsel and advice to insurers on coverage issues
- Acting as counsel for airlines in Workers' Compensation Board appeals
- Acting as counsel in the prosecution of actions arising out of train derailments

- Class Actions
 - Aviation
 - Personal Injury
 - Coverage Disputes
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INDUSTRIES

- Transportation + Logistics
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- Acting as counsel in the defence of cargo and shipping claims against national railways, shipping lines, non-vessel operating common carriers and freight forwarders

PUBLICATIONS

- February 2024, “Track 1: Consumer Protection”, *IATA World Legal Symposium*, Vancouver, British Columbia, Speaker
- September 2023, “[Aviation Liability Report](#)“, *Lexology*, Co- Author
- November 2023, “Exploring the Latest Trends in Aviation Insurance”, *Helicopter Association of Canada Annual Convention and Trade Show*, Speaker
- May 2023, “Continuing Legal Education Session: Canadian Aviation Liability Update and the Turbulent Implementation of Canadian Passenger Rights Legislation”, *Aviation Insurance Association Conference*, Speaker
- March 2021, “Air Passenger Rights Legislation and COVID-19”, *Canadian Bar Association (British Columbia Branch) Air Law Section*, Speaker
- January 2021, “[Getting the Deal Through: Aviation Liability 2021](#)“, *Canada Chapter*, Co-author
- January 2020, “Hot Tubs & Privilege: The Expert Chronicles”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Speaker
- January 2020, “Air Passenger Protection and Accessibility Regulations Roundtable”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Moderator
- December 2019, “Getting the Deal Through: Drone Regulation 2019”, *Canada Chapter*, Co-author
- October 2019, “Recent Developments in Air Carrier Cargo Liability”, *McGill Institute of Air and Space Law: 12th Annual Conference*, Speaker
- April 2019, “Drones: Local Government Considerations”, *MIABC Risk Management Conference*, Speaker
- January 2019, “Proposed New Passenger Rights Legislation – Industry Concerns and Expectations”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Moderator
- January 2019, “[Getting the Deal Through: Aviation Liability 2019](#)“, *Canada Chapter*, Co-author
- January 2018, “The Life Cycle of an Aviation Accident”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Moderator



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- November 2017, “[Getting the Deal Through: Aviation Liability 2018](#)”, Canada Chapter, Co-author
- February 2017, “The International Comparative Legal Guide to: Aviation Law 2017”, Canada Chapter, Co-author
- January 2017, “UAV Regulatory Update and Emerging Issues”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Speaker
- July/August 2016, “Making a decision on PFDs”, *Wings Magazine*, Author
- February 2016, “[The International Comparative Legal Guide to: Aviation Law 2016](#)”, Canada Chapter, Co-author
- January 2016, “Accident Investigation Authorities – Principles and Practice”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Speaker
- July/August 2015, “A Level Of Uncertainty: Amendments to CARs Creates Confusion For Private Operators”, *Wings Magazine*, Author
- March 2015, “Liability 101 for AMEs”, *Western Aircraft Maintenance Engineers Association Symposium*, Calgary, Alberta, Speaker
- February 2015, “[The International Comparative Legal Guide to: Aviation Law 2015](#)”, Canada Chapter, Co-author
- January 2015, “Accidents Caused by Third Parties: The Definition of “Accident” in the Montreal Convention”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Speaker
- October 2014, “Post-Accident Life Cycle Workshop”, *British Columbia Aviation Council*, Speaker
- April 2014, “You’re Grounded: Insurance and Legal Ramifications”, *2014 CHC Safety and Quality Summit*, Speaker
- February 2014, “[The International Comparative Legal Guide to: Aviation Law 2014](#)”, Canada Chapter, Co-author
- February 2014, “SMS: Protection of Safety Information from Disclosure”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Speaker
- February 2013, “[The International Comparative Legal Guide to: Aviation Law 2013](#)”, Canada Chapter, Co-author
- February 2013, “[Parlez-vous Francais?](#)” (Language Rights and the Montreal Convention), *Bartalk*, Author
- February 2013, “Exclusivity of The Montreal Convention”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Speaker
- February 2012, “The Law Governing Spoliation Claims”, *Winter Aviation*



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Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Speaker

- March 2011, “Up In the Air”, *Trial Lawyers Association of British Columbia Education Conference*, Vancouver, British Columbia, Speaker
- February 2011, “Code Share Concerns – Liability and Emergency Response”, *Winter Aviation Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, Speaker

EVENTS

- 21/02/2024, Alexander Holburn Gold Sponsor at IATA World Legal Symposium

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- [Law Society of British Columbia](#), Member
- [Law Society of Ontario](#), Member
- [Law Society of Alberta](#), Member
- [British Columbia Aviation Council](#), Scholarship and Awards Committee, Chair (2014-present)
- [British Columbia Institute of Technology, School of Transportation – Aviation/Airport Law](#), Instructor (2008-present)
- [Canadian Bar Association, Air and Space Law Section](#), Chair, Member of the Executive, Secretary (September 2019 to present)
- [Canadian Bar Association \(BC Branch\)](#), Air Law Subsection, Member-At-Large (September 2019 to present)
- [British Columbia Aviation Council](#), Director and Executive Committee Member (2010-2014)
- [American Bar Association](#), Forum on Air and Space Law, Member
- [Aviation Insurance Association](#), Member
- [Canadian Defence Lawyers](#), Member
- [Vancouver Bar Association](#), Member and elected Executive (2007-2009)



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