ROBERT M. **MCLENNAN***

PARTNER

* Professional Law Corporation

BIOGRAPHY

Rob is a partner and member of the Insurance, Class Actions, Administrative Law, and Business Disputes Practice groups. Rob has been a litigator for almost 30 years. His practice is primarily focused on personal injury, product liability, professional liability, property damage and class actions.

Rob has extensive experience appearing before the British Columbia Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, and Federal Court and Court of Appeal. He is an impassioned and skillful trial advocate, but he understands that the significant majority of matters are resolved through negotiation, not trial. Accordingly, he has developed his skills and ability to resolve matters effectively and efficiently through thoughtful analysis and strategy, from the outset of every case. He takes pride in being as persuasive an advocate in the dispute resolution process as in the courtroom. To enhance these skills Rob has completed numerous mediation courses, including the intensive Mediating the Litigated Case course through the acclaimed Strauss Institute of Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University.

Rob sits on multiple committees at Alexander Holburn and is the chair of the Insurance Practice Group.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

In his spare time, Rob is an avid road cyclist and mountain biker.

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EDUCATION

- 1992 LL.B. University of British Columbia
- 1988 B.A. Queens University

BAR ADMISSIONS

- 2008 Admitted to the Yukon Bar
- 1993 Admitted to the British Columbia Bar

PRACTICE AREAS

BUSINESS

- Administrative Law
- Business Disputes

PERSONAL

- Administrative Law

RECOGNITION

- 2016 – 2025 Best Lawyers® in Canada Insurance Law
- 2022-2024 Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory repeatedly recommended in the area of Litigation - Commercial Insurance

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Personal Injury

Rob regularly acts as counsel on matters involving all types of personal injury, including catastrophic injury claims, arising in the context of product, professional, occupiers', commercial host, and motor vehicle liability.

Rob has handled and successfully resolved innumerable occupiers' liability, product liability, professional liability and motor vehicle claims throughout his entire career. He regularly acts on, and supervises, all levels of such claims ranging from slip and falls on residential premises, to catastrophic injury resulting from property and product failures, to damage from incorrect medication dispense.

As a result, Rob has developed extensive knowledge and expertise relating to many medical conditions and injuries, ranging from minor soft tissue injuries to severe and permanently disabling injuries such as paralysis, brain injury, chronic pain and psychiatric disorders. As a result, Rob has developed a deep understanding of the necessary factual and expert evidence required to successfully defend such cases.

Rob's most recent personal injury trial success was the dismissal of a very high value claim arising out of a motor vehicle accident: *Helgason v. Rondeau*, 2022 BCSC 1130.

Product Liability

Rob handles a wide variety of product liability cases for retailers, distributors, and manufacturers.

He has extensive expertise with the legal and practical issues associated with product manufacturing, distribution, retail sales, use and failure. He also has detailed knowledge regarding the effects of product failure, including personal injury, property damage and economic loss, and the requirements to successfully analyze and defend, or prosecute, a product liability action.

INSURANCE

- Professional Liability
- Occupiers Liability
- Health
- Class Actions
- Personal Injury

INDUSTRIES

- Life Sciences
- Property Management
- Real Estate
- Retail + Wholesale

Professional Liability

Rob regularly represents and defends professionals in negligence claims. He acts for professionals in a variety of fields, including defending liability claims against pharmacists and real estate appraisers. Rob's successes for professionals includes an important decision of the Court of Appeal respecting the enforcement of limitation of liability provisions in professional service agreements: *Kokanee Mortgage M.I.C Ltd. v. Burrell,* 2018 BCCA 151.

Rob also frequently represents and defends pharmacists, other pharmacy professionals and pharmacy operators in disciplinary and related proceedings with the College of Pharmacists of BC.

Trial Experience and Advocacy

Rob has appeared many times as counsel in the British Columbia Supreme Court and Court of Appeal and in the Federal Court of Canada and Federal Court of Appeal.

Rob has participated in hundreds of mediations and has extensive training in mediation skills and advocacy.

Rob also frequently conducts seminars for lawyers and students through the firm's internal ASCEND™ program, and for law students at the University of British Columbia on the litigation skills required for effective advocacy and case management/resolution.

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- Law Society of British Columbia, Member
- Canadian Bar Association, Civil Litigation + Insurance, Member
- Vancouver Bar Association, Member
- Canadian Defence Lawyers, Member