

# SCOTT R. HARCUS PARTNER

# BIOGRAPHY

Scott Harcus, Partner, is the leader of the firm's Environmental Practice and a member of the Construction + Engineering and Insurance Practice Groups. Scott's practice is focused on dispute resolution which includes mediations, arbitration, regulatory hearings and trials.

Scott represents a major Canadian oil company in matters involving contaminated sites. Scott also assists clients in the insurance and construction industries with drafting contracts, policy wording, and warranties.

Scott prides himself on representing clients both large and small. His construction practice includes representing homeowners struggling with cost overruns on residential projects to assisting global construction companies working on major infrastructure projects. Scott has extensive experience dealing with standard form construction contracts including documents prepared by the Canadian Construction Documents Committee (CCDC) and Canadian Construction Association (CCA).

Scott also acts as coverage counsel, providing coverage advice on environmental, homeowners, commercial general liability, wrap-up, and boiler & machinery insurance policies.

Scott regularly contributes articles to industry publications and speaks to clients on emerging legal issues in his areas of practice. This work includes contributing to the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia's *BC Builders Lien Practice Manual*.

Scott is committed to vigorously advocating for his clients' interests and tailoring his legal advice to meet the specific business objectives of his clients.

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#### EDUCATION

- 2009 J.D. University of British Columbia
- 2006 B.A. Simon Fraser University

# **BAR ADMISSIONS**

 2010 Admitted to the British Columbia Bar

#### PRACTICE AREAS

# BUSINESS

- Construction + Engineering
- Environmental
- Insolvency + Restructuring

# INSURANCE

- Occupiers Liability
- Construction + Engineering
- Environmental
- Personal Injury



Scott is Fellow of the Construction Lawyers Society of America.

# ON A PERSONAL NOTE

In his spare time, Scott enjoys golfing, squash, downhill skiing and running the seawall.

#### RECOGNITION

- 2025 Best Lawyers® in Canada Construction Law
- 2023 Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory in the area of Environment Law.

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

## Construction + Engineering

- Representing contractors, material suppliers, engineers, architects, owners, developers, insurance companies, and warranty providers in litigation involving builder's lien claims, breach of trust claims, deficiency claims, delay claims, and breach of contract and negligence claims.
- Drafting contracts and providing advice with respect to contracts for owners, engineers, contractors, and material suppliers on construction projects.

#### Insurance

- Defending insureds in complex civil litigation matters including property damage claims. Scott has extensive experience representing liquor serving establishments in commercial host liability claims and defending occupiers liability claims.
- Acting as coverage counsel providing coverage advice to insurance companies and defending coverage actions on behalf of insurers. Scott has extensive experience providing opinions on commercial general liability insurance, wrap-up insurance, builders risk policies, and environmental insurance.

#### **Environmental**

• Handling claims commenced pursuant to the *Environmental Management Act* with respect to contaminated sites.

## • Coverage Disputes

#### **INDUSTRIES**

- Construction
- Environmental
- Hospitality
- Local Government
- Property Management
- Real Estate





- Acting as counsel before the Environmental Appeal Board relating to various regulatory matters including contaminated sites and permitting issues.
- Representing a large oil and gas company in matters before the Environmental Appeal Board and Supreme Court of British Columbia.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- October 31, 2024, "Lawyering in a climate emergency", CLE BC Climate Law Conference 2024, Speaker
- November 16, 2022, "Insurance Trends for 2023", ARC Group Event, Speaker
- April 19, 2022, "The New CCDC Terms and Contracting During COVID", Canadian Bar Association – BC Branch, Speaker
- December 8, 2021, "Insurance Law and Climate Change", Canadian Bar Association – BC Branch, Speaker
- June 2021, "Lien Issues and Insolvency", CCCL Journal, Co-Author
- October 28, 2020, "Builders' Liens Update 2020", CLEBC, Speaker
- November 8, 2018, "Extras! Extras! Learn All About Them!", *AHBL Lunch n' Learn Seminar*, Speaker
- May 2017, "Small Mistakes, Big Consequences", Construction Business magazine, Author
- January 2017, "Regulatory Update: Carbon Tax, Contaminated Site Regulations and Spill Response", EMA of BC, Speaker
- November 2016, "Limits of relief from forfeiture: Court of Appeal for BC denies insured pre-tender defence costs", *Insurance People* magazine, Co-author
- October 2016, "Insolvencies in the Construction Industry", Insolvency Discussion Group, Speaker
- June 2015, "Living Vicariously", Canadian Underwriter magazine, Coauthor
- January 2015, Environmental Managers Association of B.C. Annual Legal and Regulatory Update session, Speaker
- October 2013, "Host Liability's Legacy Raising a Glass to the 40th Anniversary of Commercial Host Liability", Claims Canada magazine, Coauthor





- August 2013, "Disclosure in multi-party litigation", Construction Business magazine, Co-author
- Law and Tenant Relations, Vancouver Community College, Instructor
- Professional Legal Training Course, Collections, *Law Society of BC*, Guest Lecturer

#### **EVENTS**

- 16/11/2022, ARC Group Seminar & Cocktail Reception with Hayley Wickenheiser
- 08/12/2021, CBABC Webinar: Insurance Law and Climate Change
- 08/11/2018, Construction Seminar: Extras!
- 18/06/2018, Construction Seminar: Builders Liens

#### PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- Vancouver Regional Construction Association, Board of Directors Member
- Construction Lawyers Society of America, Fellow
- Law Society of British Columbia, Member
- Canadian Bar Association, Member
- Vancouver Bar Association, Member
- BC CBA Insurance Section Executive, Past Chair
- Environmental Managers Association of British Columbia, Past Director, (2016-2017)



