



KATHRYN PODREBARAC

kp@PodrebaracMediation.com 416.568.1299

OVERVIEW

Following my call to the Ontario bar in 1994, I began my career on Bay Street at a large national firm where I practiced civil litigation and class actions for several years. Embracing my parents' entrepreneurial spirit, I later founded two leading litigation boutiques, the most recent being Podrebarac Barristers Professional Corporation, which was recognized by **LEXPERT** as "repeatedly recommended" for corporate commercial litigation in Toronto. My passion for resolving disputes led me to pursue extensive mediator training with top mediators in North America and, eventually, a career as a mediator. In April 2017, I established Podrebarac Mediation. I now devote my practice to acting as mediator in all manner of disputes and completing work on two class actions.

EMPLOYMENT

2017- Present	Podrebarac Mediation , Founding Mediator
2012- Present	Podrebarac Barristers Professional Corporation , Founding Principal
2004-2012	Tough & Podrebarac, LLP , Co-Founding Partner
2000-2004	Hodgson Tough Shields DesBrisay O'Donnell LLP , Consulting Lawyer
1991-2000	Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP , Summer Student, Articling Student, Associate Lawyer

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- **LL.B**, Osgoode Hall Law School, 1992
- Certificate in **Mediating Disputes**, Harvard Law School
- Certificate in **Advanced Mediation of Complex Disputes**, Harvard Law School
- Certificate in **Mediating the Litigated Case**, Pepperdine University School of Law, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution
- Certificate in **Negotiation and Leadership: Dealing with Difficult People and Problems**, Harvard Law School, Program on Negotiation
- Certificate in **Negotiating the Impossible**, Harvard Law School, Program on Negotiation
- Certificate in **Advanced Commercial Mediation**, New York State Bar Association
- Certificate in **Adjudication for Administrative Agencies, Boards & Tribunals**, Society of Ontario Adjudicators and Regulators (SOAR) and Osgoode Professional Development

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- The Law Society of Upper Canada – 1994 call
- The Advocates’ Society
- American Bar Association

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

I have served as a director of **The Advocates’ Society**, on the executive of the *Civil Litigation Section* and the *Class Actions Section* of the **Ontario Bar Association**, and as a director of the Canadian Branch of the **Chartered Institute of Arbitrators**, an international centre for excellence for alternative dispute resolution based in London, England.

EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE

In my 28 years of practice, I have always acted for both plaintiffs and defendants. I have been privileged to act for some of Canada’s largest public companies in litigation involving billions of dollars, small family-run businesses in bet-the-company litigation, as well as a wide array of individuals, from top corporate directors to sick people on social assistance. While the types of cases and clients have been quite diverse, common to each was building trust, rapport and connection. I use this essential skill as mediator.

I have expertise in several areas of the law. Complex commercial cases and class actions involving product liability, consumer contracts and legislation have been the cornerstones of my practice, but over the years, I developed expertise in many other areas, which you can read about in the **Expertise** section of my website www.PodrebaracMediation.com.

I also know “the system.” In addition to litigating before every level of the courts in Ontario and the federal courts, I have appeared before the superior courts of every province in Canada west of Nova Scotia and several courts of appeal. In 2016, four of my cases were resolved in my clients’ favour at the Supreme Court of Canada. But, for every case that I have litigated or arbitrated, I have successfully resolved dozens more.

For many years, I have chaired conferences and spoken at over 70 continuing legal education programs for The Advocates’ Society, the Ontario Bar Association, Osgoode Professional Development and others. The Law Society of Upper Canada has invited me to speak on legal ethics and professionalism at several of its programs. A list of my speaking, teaching and mentoring engagements is attached.



Kathryn Podrebarac
kp@PodrebaracMediation.com

Speaking, Teaching and Mentoring

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| September 9, 2021 | Speaker at the Advocates' Society's program <i>Mediators' Experiences in a Virtual World</i> |
| April 1, 2021 | Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program <i>Navigating the Tax Consequences of Settling Commercial Disputes</i> |
| March 4, 2021 | Speaker at the Advocates' Society's program <i>Mingling with Mediators</i> by the Estates Litigation Practice Group |
| November 6, 2020 | Speaker and Author at Osgoode Professional Development's program <i>The Civil Litigator's Survival Guide to Evidence</i> - "The Effective Use of Evidence at Mediation." |
| October 10, 2019 | Speaker at the Advocates' Society's Arbitration and Mediation Practice Group Networking Reception |
| April 4, 2019 | Speaker and Demonstrator at the Advocates' Society's program <i>Finding Your Hook: How To Develop a Winning Case</i> |
| May 8, 2018 | Speaker at the Advocates' Society's program <i>Career Transitions for Mid-Career Advocates</i> |
| April 27, 2018 | Speaker at Osgoode Professional Development's 15th National Symposium on Class Actions - <i>The Devil's in the Detail: Post-Settlement Litigation</i> |
| April 25, 2018 | Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program <i>Exploring the Tax Implications of Settlement Proceeds Characterization</i> |

April 20, 2018	Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program <i>Best Practices for Class Actions Settlements</i>
September 26, 2017	Panelist at the Ontario Bar Association's program <i>Navigating Ethical Challenges in Negotiations</i>
March 24, 2017	Speaker at the <i>National Conference on Class Actions</i> program of the Barreau du Quebec
February 28, 2017	Speaker at the Law Society of Upper Canada's Program <i>Getting the Most Out of the Rules of Civil Procedure</i>
December 5, 2016	Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's 8th Annual <i>Class Actions Colloquium</i>
October 13, 2016	Mentor at the Advocates' Society's program <i>Practice Makes Perfect</i>
April 14, 2016	Speaker at Osgoode Professional Development's program <i>The Civil Litigator's Survival Guide to Evidence</i>
December 1, 2015	Speaker and Author at the OBA's 7th Annual <i>Class Actions Colloquium</i>
June 16, 2015	Speaker at the Law Society of Upper Canada's program <i>Breaking the Bonds of Boilerplate.</i>
May 12, 2015	Mentor at <i>Well, That Was Awkward</i> program of the Young Advocates Subcommittee of The Advocates' Society
October 2, 2014	Speaker at the Law Society of Upper Canada's program <i>Class Actions – A Bootcamp For Litigators</i>
October 2, 2014	Speaker at the Law Society of Upper Canada's program <i>Injunctions – A Bootcamp for Litigators</i>
September 22, 2014	Faculty at the Ontario Bar Association's <i>Oral Advocacy Boot Camp</i>
May 28, 2014	Co-Chaired The Advocates' Society's Program on <i>Examining and Cross-Examining Expert Witnesses: Winning Strategies</i>
March 5, 2014	Speaker at The Advocates' Society's <i>Class Action Advocacy</i> program
February 27, 2014	Chaired The Advocates' Society's Program on <i>Opening Statements</i>
February 20, 2014	Chaired The Advocates' Society's Program on <i>Discoveries</i>
February 13, 2014	Mentor at the <i>Facing the Fear Factor</i> program of the Young Advocates Subcommittee of The Advocates' Society

February 13, 2014	Chaired The Advocates' Society's Program on <i>Motions</i>
February 12, 2014	Speaker at The Advocates' Society's program on <i>Preparing Winning Court Documents</i>
October 29, 2013	Speaker at Osgoode Professional Development's program <i>Evidence Law for the Civil Litigator</i>
October 8, 2013	Faculty at the Ontario Bar Association's <i>Oral Advocacy Boot Camp</i>
May 15, 2013	Chaired The Advocates' Society's program <i>Examining and Cross-Examining Experts: Winning Strategies, Trends and Solutions</i>
April 26, 2013	Speaker at The Advocates' Society's Spring Symposium <i>Advocacy in the Real World: Practical Tips, Updates, and Strategies</i>
April 6, 2013	Faculty at The Advocates' Society's <i>Do A Trial</i> program
February 27, 2013	Mentor at The Advocates' Society's program <i>Building Trusted Client Relationships</i>
July 9, 2012	Faculty at Osgoode Hall Law School's <i>Intensive Trial Advocacy Workshop</i>
May 22, 2012	Speaker at the Law Society of Upper Canada's <i>Civil Litigation Summit</i> .
April 19, 2012	Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program <i>Divine Discoveries: Building a Great Case</i>
March 31, 2012	Faculty at The Advocates' Society's <i>Do A Trial</i> Program.
October 14, 2011	Co-Chaired The Advocates' Society's <i>Women in Litigation</i> Conference.
October 4, 2011	Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's <i>Dialogue with the Bench and Bar</i> .
June 11, 2011	Faculty at Osgoode Hall Law School's <i>Intensive Trial Advocacy Workshop</i>
April 28, 2011	Faculty at The Advocates' Society's <i>National Expert Witness Academy</i>
April 7, 2011	Mentor at The Advocates' Society's program <i>Building Trusted Client Relationships</i>
February 28, 2011	Co-Chaired Insight's two day CLE program <i>Complex, Mega and Advanced Litigation</i>

January 27, 2011	Co-Chaired The Advocates' Society program <i>Cross-Examination: Strategies for Success</i>
October 27, 2010	Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program <i>Commercial Litigation</i>
September 29, 2010	Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's <i>Award for Excellence in Civil Litigation</i>
August 10, 2010	Co-Author of article <i>Keeping Secrets and Protecting Confidential Documents and Information in Litigation</i> published by The Advocates' Quarterly
June 2, 2010	Speaker at Women's Law Association of Ontario's Annual Award Dinner
May 6, 2010	Chaired the Ontario Bar Association's Program <i>Simplifying Simplified Procedure</i>
October 1, 2009	Co-Directed and Co-Produced a short film <i>Lessons from Leading Mentors on Excelling as a Woman Advocate</i>
October 1, 2009	Mentor at The Advocates' Society's <i>Women in Litigation</i> Conference.
September 29, 2009	Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's <i>Dialogue with the Bench and Bar</i>
April 4, 2009	Faculty at The Advocates' Society's <i>Do A Trial</i> program.
February 2, 2009	Speaker at the OBA's "2009 Institute: Canada/US Cross-Border Issues
December 11, 2008	Co-Chair of The Advocates' Society program <i>Winning with the Experts: Trends and Tactics</i>
May 2, 2008	Speaker at The Advocates' Society Spring Symposium <i>Trials and Tribulations: The Practical Advocate</i>
March 29, 2008	Mentor at The Advocates' Society's Conference <i>The Woman Advocate: Is there is a Difference?</i>
February 19, 2008	Speaker at The Advocates' Society program <i>Discovery Techniques and Strategies: Controlling the Process and Getting the Facts</i>
February 7, 2008	Speaker at The Advocates' Society's <i>Court House Series</i>
December 4, 2007	Co-Chair of The Advocates' Society's program <i>Examination –in-Chief: Advanced Introduction of Evidence</i>

- September 20, 2007 Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program *Pleadings, Motions to Strike: Homerun or Strikeout?*
- September 19, 2007 Speaker at Osgoode Hall Professional Development's *4th Annual Conference - Evidence Law for the Civil Litigator*
- April 19, 2007 Co-Chair of The Advocates' Society's program *Discovery Done Right: Controlling the Process and Getting the Facts*
- December 11, 2006 Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program *Divine Discoveries: Building a Great Case*
- September 28, 2006 Speaker at Osgoode Hall Professional Development program, *Evidence Law for the Civil Litigator*
- May 24, 2006 Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program *Dialogue with the Bench and Bar: Tools and Tactics to Improve Your Advocacy Skills*
- December 9, 2005 Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program *Divine Discoveries: Building a Great Case*
- November 11, 2005 Co-Chair of The Advocates' Society's program *How to Conduct Better Cross-Examinations*
- November 3, 2005 Speaker at the Ontario Bar Association's program *Your First Class Action: Get the Nuts and Bolts from Top Practitioners and Judges*
- October 21, 2005 Speaker at The Advocates' Society's program *How to Excel at Examination in Chief*
- February 15, 2005 Speaker at The Advocates' Society's program *Expert Essentials*