

AVOCATS - LAWYERS



Québec Bar 1975

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# François Rolland

senior counsel, mediator, arbitrator - Montréal

The Honourable François Rolland, O.C., Ad. E., is senior counsel, mediator and arbitrator in Langlois Lawyers' litigation group in Montréal.

Mr. Rolland was a Justice of the Superior Court of Québec from 1996 to 2015, and Chief Justice from 2004 to 2015. He presided numerous trials in all areas of the law, including commercial law, class actions, insolvency and corporate reorganizations, as well as matrimonial disputes. He also presided many settlement conferences in civil, commercial and family matters, as well as several facilitation conferences in criminal matters. Mr. Rolland actively worked on the implementation of the Settlement Conference Chamber and on the creation of the Class Actions Chamber, and made an active contribution to the development of Commercial Chamber of the Superior Court.

Since retiring from the bench, Mr. Rolland has rejoined the Québec Bar. He was appointed director of the Voluntary Reimbursement Program created by the Québec government pursuant to the *Act to ensure mainly the recovery of amounts improperly paid as a result of fraud or fraudulent tactics in connection with public contracts*, a mandate that he completed in December 2017. He also presides over mediations and acts as an arbitrator in commercial disputes, including multijurisdictional class actions.

Throughout his career as a lawyer and Chief Justice, Mr. Rolland has been invited to speak on many occasions to various local, national and international audiences including students, colleagues, members of the business community and international dignitaries. He also taught ethics at the National Judicial Institute for ten years.

# **Representative Work**

## Class action mediation

Has presided over numerous mediations, including several

in the context of multi-jurisdictional collective actions.

## **Publications**

#### News

2019 – The Former Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Québec Chooses Langlois

### **Events**

### **External Conferences**

2021 – The Honourable François Rolland leads a discussion on participatory justice

#### Involvement

Since 2018 – Federal member of the Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointments (Canada)

Since 2018 – Approved arbitrator on NAFTA's Chapter 19 list

## **Professional Associations**

2019 – Founding member and member of the executive committee of the *Institut québécois de la réforme du droit et de la justice* (Québec Institute for Law and Justice Reform)

Since 2016 - Ethics commissioner for the Québec Bar

Board of Directors of legal education organization Éducaloi – Since 2017 – Chair

Board of Directors of the centre for access to legal information (CAIJ)

- 2018 Vice-chair
- Since 2015 Member

Since 2009 – Member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Forum on Civil Justice

Since 2008 – Member of the International Insolvency Institute

Since 1975 - Member of the Canadian Bar Association

## **Education**

# Rankings & Recognitions

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2022

Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory 2021

The Best Lawyers in Canada 2021

Named Officer of the Order of Canada on November 27 ,2020

Advocatus Emeritus (Ad. E.), Québec Bar, 2018

Louis St-Laurent Award of Excellence, Canadian Bar Association, 2006

Centennial Medal, Canadian Bar Association, 1996

## **Areas of Practice**

Anti-Corruption and Regulatory Crisis Intervention Bankruptcy, Insolvency & Restructuring Class Actions Commercial Litigation Competition Litigation Corporate Governance / Directors & Officers Disciplinary and Professional Law Litigation and Dispute Resolution Product Liability

## **Industries**

Construction

Franchising and Retail Commerce

# **Teams**

Arbitration and Mediation

Internal Investigations