



**Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals**  
**Conseil des tribunaux administratifs canadiens**

## **Abrametz: What it means for Administrative Justice Proceedings**

### **Biographies**



#### **Moderator: David Wright, Chair, Ontario Physicians and Surgeons Discipline Tribunal**

David A. Wright has been Chair of the Ontario Physicians and Surgeons Discipline Tribunal and its predecessor since 2020. Previously, he was the founding Chair of the Law Society Tribunal, spearheading the reform of adjudicative processes at the Law Society of Ontario. He has also been an adjudicator at the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario, serving as Vice-chair, Interim Chair, and Associate Chair. He completed his B.A. in History at the University of Windsor and his LL.B. and B.C.L. at the Faculty of Law of McGill University. Mr. Wright articulated as a law clerk to Madame Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé of the Supreme Court

of Canada and then completed his LL.M. at New York University.

Prior to becoming an adjudicator, he practised labour and employment law. He speaks frequently at conferences, has taught at Osgoode Hall Law School as an adjunct professor, and is the author of several law journal articles. Mr. Wright is vice-chair of the Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals.

#### **Panelists:**



#### **Dr. Paul Daly, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa**

Associate Professor Paul Daly holds the University Research Chair in Administrative Law & Governance at the University of Ottawa, to which he was recruited from the Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge. Previously, he was successively Assistant Professor, Associate Dean and Associate Professor at the Faculté de droit, Université de Montréal and held visiting positions at Harvard Law School and Université Paris II, Panthéon-Assas. A graduate of University College Cork (B.C.L., LL.M.), the University of Pennsylvania Law School (LL.M.) and the University of Cambridge (Ph.D.), his influential, bilingual, award-winning scholarly work on public law – dozens of books, peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters and shorter pieces – has been cited more than 100 times, including by the Supreme Court of Canada, various other Canadian courts and tribunals, the High Court of Australia, the Irish Supreme Court and the New Zealand Supreme Court. His blog, *Administrative Law Matters*, was the first blog ever cited by the Supreme Court of Canada. Notable publications include *A Theory of Deference in Administrative Law: Basis, Application*

*and Scope* (Cambridge University Press, 2012) and *Understanding Administrative Law in the Common Law World* (Oxford University Press, 2021). Since September 2019 he has been a part-time member of the Environmental Protection Tribunal of Canada.



### **Nadia Effendi, Partner, Borden Ladner Gervais**

Nadia represents a wide range of clients, in both English and French, in complex and often high-profile proceedings, including class actions as well as administrative, regulatory, constitutional, and human rights law cases. Nadia has represented clients in a broad range of industries (e.g. transportation, financial services, broadcasting and telecommunications, energy, entertainment, etc.) and has particular subject-matter expertise in transportation law, electoral law, access to information, and official language rights.

Nadia regularly appears before all levels of federal and provincial courts, administrative tribunals, and commissions of inquiry, and has appeared numerous times before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Nadia is a member of the CBA Federal Courts Bench and Bar Liaison Committee. She is the chair of BLG's Appellate Advocacy Group and serves as past president of the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario (AJEFO). Prior to joining BLG, Nadia served as a law clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada to The Honourable Mr. Justice Bastarache.



### **Emily Ohler, Chair, British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal**

Emily Ohler was appointed as a full-time member of the British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal on June 9, 2016, and was appointed as Chair effective August 1, 2021, for a three-year term. She holds degrees from the University of British Columbia (B.A, 1997), Osgoode Hall Law School (J.D, 2000) and the National University of Singapore (LL.M, 2005). She was called to the bar of British Columbia in 2001.

Prior to joining the Tribunal, Ms. Ohler practiced as a litigator in Vancouver before moving to Geneva, Switzerland to join the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC), a subsidiary of the United Nations Security Council. There, she advised the UNCC on policy, legal, procedural, and practical matters related to post-conflict claims and sustainable development projects.

On returning to Vancouver, Ms. Ohler incorporated Broadleaf Solutions Ltd., an international advisory firm focused on implementing the UN Guidelines on Business and Human Rights and advising on equity and diversity policy. She has taught international and common law as Lecturer and Adjunct Professor at the University of British Columbia.



### **Lauren Wihak, Partner, McDougall Gauley LLP**

Lauren J. Wihak is a Partner with McDougall Gauley LLP in Regina, Saskatchewan, with a practice focusing on administrative and public law, civil litigation, and appeals. Prior to starting her career as a lawyer, Lauren clerked for the Honourable Madam Justice Georgina R. Jackson of the Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan (2008-2009) and for the Honourable Mr. Justice Louis LeBel of the Supreme Court of Canada (2009-2010). Lauren has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada, the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal, the British Columbia Court of Appeal, the Manitoba Court of Appeal, and various trial courts throughout Canada including the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's

Bench.

Lauren teaches Appellate Advocacy and Principles at the University of Saskatchewan College of Law, as a sessional instructor. Lauren has authored several papers and articles, some of which have been cited by Canadian courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada and the Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan, and she has spoken and presented at numerous conferences and seminars on administrative law across Canada. She is fluent in both English and French.