



Kathleen S. Duffield

Lawyer and Mediator

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Kathleen Duffield holds a BSc. (Hons) from the University of Alberta and an LL.B (now conferred as a J.D.) from the University of British Columbia, which included a term of study at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia in 1994 where her education in alternate dispute resolution began.

She was called to the bar of British Columbia in 1995 and was in private practice as a civil litigator until 2013. During that time, she was engaged in both the pursuit and defence of abuse claims, employment practice claims, disability claims, and the defence of actions involving professional liability, product liability, occupiers liability, sport and recreational liability, liquor liability, highway maintenance and transportation liability.

From 2013 to the end of 2021, Kathleen was Senior Counsel in the litigation department of a national property, casualty, commercial lines and specialty lines insurer.

In her litigation practice, Kathleen has appeared before all courts in British Columbia, had conduct of actions out of the Court of King's Bench in Alberta, and appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada.

In 2022, after over 25 years of practice in which she participated as counsel in countless mediations, Kathleen returned to private practice to provide services as a mediator. Prior to commencing her mediation practice, she received additional mediation and negotiation training through the Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University and Harvard University, respectively. She has completed continuing education through Harvard PON, ADRIC, the International Academy of Mediators, the CBA and CLEBC. She has had training in and successfully conducted mediations involving high conflict personalities.

Specific to mediation, Kathleen has been faculty in continuing education courses designed to assist counsel in preparing for mediation, generally, and in a trauma-informed context more particularly.

She has been engaged as a mediator in commercial, injury and abuse disputes since commencing her mediation practice.

In the litigation context, Kathleen continues to act as counsel with a primary focus on defence of professionals, municipalities and a regional transportation authority.