



Pierre J. Dalphond, FCIArb

1155 René-Lévesque Blvd. West, 41st Floor, Montréal, Canada, H3B 3V2
Direct: +1 514 397 3219 pdalphond@stikeman.com

The Honourable Pierre Dalphond is a senior counsel with the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. He is a Chartered Arbitrator, an accredited mediator, a former guest professor on arbitration at the Faculty of Law of the Université de Montréal and former senior judge of the Québec Court of Appeal.

His practice focuses on commercial arbitration and mediation and providing strategic advice in every field of law. He conducts internal investigations, provides neutral evaluations and acts as expert on Québec Law in foreign proceedings.

He is recognized in various publications as a leading arbitrator and was mentioned in previous publications as one of the best judges in Canada.

Since June 2018, Pierre also sits as an independent member of the upper house of the Parliament of Canada (an institution modeled on the British House of Lords).

Accolades

- *Chambers Canada 2026* as a leading lawyer in Dispute Resolution: Mediators and in Dispute Resolution: Most in Demand Arbitrators.
- *Chambers Global 2026* as a leading lawyer in Dispute Resolution: Most in Demand Arbitrators.
- *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2026* as a leading lawyer in Commercial Arbitration and Litigation: Corporate Commercial.
- *The Best Lawyers in Canada 2026* in Corporate and Commercial Litigation, and International Arbitration.
- *The Best Lawyers in Canada 2019* as "Lawyer of the Year" in Corporate and Commercial Litigation.
- *Who's Who Legal: Canada 2018* in Arbitration.
- *Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure 2025*, as a leading lawyer.

- *Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation 2025*, as a leading lawyer.
- *Martindale-Hubbell* Peer Review Rated AV Preeminent®, the highest level of professional ranking.

Representative Work

- Appointed since 2015 as sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator or chair in about one hundred Canadian and international disputes concerning complex construction projects, the expropriation of a mining investment project, the demobilization of a nuclear power plant, the termination of electricity production contracts, distribution agreements, disputes between franchisors and franchisees, airport operating agreements, shareholder agreements, partnership break-ups, etc.
- Successfully presided over mediations in connection with construction projects including PPP, sales and acquisitions, shareholder agreements and civil and commercial conflicts.
- Conducted internal investigations, including one that attracted media attention and lead to criminal proceedings.
- Chaired appeal committees in private disputes.

Publications

- "L'arbitrage" (a comprehensive review of the new legal provisions regarding domestic and international arbitration in Quebec and the enforcement of foreign awards), *Le Grand Collectif - code de procédure civile: commentaires et annotations*, Yvon Blais Ed., Montréal, 2021 (and all previous editions).
- "Québec's new Code of Civil Procedure: a major boost for private mediation and arbitration", *International Bar Association Arbitration News*, vol. 20 no. 2, September 2015.
- "Obligations owed when assessing tenders & the power to vary the works: a Quebec civil law perspective", *Canadian College of Construction Lawyers*, Halifax, May 2010.

Speaking Engagements

- "Annual Training Program for Arbitrators", Université de Sherbrooke (faculty since 2017).
- "Complex Mediation, how to manage them", Quebec Bar, Montréal, 2020.
- "L'arbitrage menace-t-il le rôle des tribunaux et l'évolution du droit", Université de Montréal, Montréal, February 28, 2018.
- Speaker at the annual meeting of the Advocates Society, Nashville, November 4, 2017.
- "The Art of Judging: some tips from an arbitrator", National Judicial Institute, Toronto, October 24, 2017.
- "L'autorisation d'une action collective : étape nécessaire? L'expérience australienne", Canadian Bar Association, Montréal, February 17, 2017.
- "L'arbitrage au Québec", Young Bar Association of Montréal, Montréal, February 1, 2017.

- “Suggestions pour une meilleure gestion de l’arbitrage”, Conférence des arbitres du Québec Annual Meeting, Mont St-Hilaire, October 2016.
- “Évaluer la crédibilité”, Conférence des arbitres du Québec Annual Meeting, Mont St-Hilaire, October 2016.
- “Use of Discretion in Arbitration”, ICC-Canada Annual Meeting, Toronto, October 2016 (speaker and panelist).
- “Commissions d’enquête publique : cadre légal, mandats et risques inhérents”, Université de Montréal Conference, November 2015.
- “Le nouveau droit de l’arbitrage au Québec” (the new provisions regarding arbitration in Quebec and enforcement of foreign awards), Le grand collectif, Éditions Yvon Blais, Montréal and Quebec City, November 2015.
- “Regard comparé sur le succès de l’action collective à travers le monde”, Quebec Comparative Law Society Annual Meeting Conference, Montréal, May 2015.
- “Suggestions pour une meilleure gestion de l’arbitrage” and “Assessing Credibility”, Annual Meeting of Conférence des arbitres du Québec Conferences, Montréal, October 2016.
- “Dispute Resolution: Managing Cross-Border M&A Disputes for Effective Resolution and Enforcement”, The American Bar Association (ABA) Business Law Section’s Spring Meeting Conference, Montréal, April 2016.
- “Future of class, collective and mass arbitrations”, ICC Institute of World Business Law Annual Meeting, Paris, November 2015.
- “The *Magna Carta* and its impact here”, IJC-Canada Conference, Montréal, November 2015.
- “Group Actions Around the World”, IBA Annual Litigation Group Forum, Paris, April 2015.
- “La transformation de la profession : impact sur vous et moi”, Université de Sherbrooke speech, March 2015.
- “La lutte au blanchiment d’argent”, Université Laval Conference opening speech, May 2014.
- “Class action in Quebec”, Canadian Institute of Contemporary Jewish Law and Ethics Conference, Montréal, December 2013.
- “Sitting in Panels”, conference for judges sitting in panels on how to work successfully in collegiality, Montréal, December 2013.
- “Managing cases”, conference for Quebec trial judges, Magog, October 2013.
- “The Canadian Legal System”, conference for judges, academics and students, Florianopolis, Brazil, April 2013.

Professional Activities

Pierre is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (London), a member of the Court of Arbitration for Sports (Lausanne), an arbitrator under NAFTA Chapter 19 and the Canada Transportation Act, and a ICDR Canada/AAA, CPR and ICC arbitrator.

He is also a member of the ICC Institute of World Business Law, the LCIA North American Users' Council and the International Bar Association (IBA).

He is a past Director of the Québec Society of Comparative Law, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Canada) Inc. and the International Jurist Commission – Canada.

Background

On June 7, 2018, Pierre was appointed to the Canadian Senate. Pierre was awarded the "Honourable" title for life in 2014. He was also awarded outstanding Graduate of the Université de Montréal in 2003, received the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002, made the Dean's list in 1978, received the Carswell award in Constitutional Law in 1977, and received the Governor General Academic Medal in 1972.

Very involved in legal education, he regularly gives conferences in Canada and abroad (over a hundred in the past ten years, in Canada, the United-States, China, Brazil, France, Rwanda and Kenya). He also organizes training programs for lawyers or judges and chairs many contests for students and young lawyers. He also taught domestic and international commercial arbitration at the Faculty of Law of Université de Montréal.

On the bench, from 1995 to 2014, he wrote about 1,500 judgments in French or in English, including leading decisions in constitutional law, class actions, insurance, construction contracts, commercial law, corporate law, securities, banking and insolvency cases.

Before being named trial judge in 1995, at age 41, he was a partner in another Canada-wide law firm. His practice focused on investments in Canada, power supply contracts (electricity, gas, steam), oil and gas distribution, plant construction as well as private financing and complex joint ventures and acquisitions.

Prior to that, he served as a clerk for a Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada and worked as a Legislative Advisor at the Privy Council in Ottawa.

Education

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Diploma in International Arbitration, 2016)
University of Oxford (M. Ph., Philosophy, Law and Politics, 1982)
Dalhousie University (Certificate in Common Law, 1978)
Université de Montréal (LL. L (1978), Minor in Chemistry (1975))

Bar Admission

Québec, 1979