

Construction Labour Relations

Local. National. Legal Services for Employers.



The construction industry is a unique employment environment, with highly specialized labour relations and employment law legislation. As one of Canada's pre-eminent construction labour relations firms, Mathews Dinsdale can help you navigate any challenges that come your way.

We believe that lawyers who are familiar with the "big picture" of the construction industry will best serve employers. Mathews Dinsdale lawyers have the expertise and experience to represent employers in dealing with the many facets of construction labour relations. We provide professional, practical support to construction businesses by helping you navigate any issues or pitfalls they may encounter.

In addition to representing hundreds of individual general contractors and subcontractors, the lawyers at Mathews Dinsdale represent many construction associations, trade groups and employer bargaining agencies.

Our Reputation

By cultivating relationships with both industry contacts and trade unions, our lawyers have direct and immediate access to current information and industry news. We routinely act on behalf of

construction industry lobby groups to address emerging issues in labour relations law reform. We regularly meet with various levels of government on behalf of our clients to discuss – and to help shape – potential legislative changes impacting construction labour relations. Moreover, labour relations tribunals often consult our lawyers regarding administrative and procedural changes affecting the construction industry.

Our construction labour relations team is highly regarded not just within the construction industry, but within the legal community as well. Our lawyers regularly write articles for legal publications, participate in speaking panels and deliver presentations to others within the community. We are able to draw upon our established relationships in order to provide our clients with up-to-date advice and to, where appropriate, facilitate effective and creative solutions to workplace conflicts without the need for litigation.

Collective Bargaining

We are actively involved in the negotiation of both provincial and local trade Collective Agreements either at the bargaining table or behind the scenes providing support to those engaged directly in the negotiations. Our lawyers provide insight and advice to our clients while assisting in strategies as well as drafting proposals to be presented during negotiations

Strategic Advice

Our lawyers provide seminars and advice to employers on a wide variety of topics, from defending against union organizing

to addressing drug and alcohol issues in the workplace. In short, we work with our clients to provide prompt and creative solutions regarding all labour relations issues pertaining to the construction industry. For example, we help clients develop strategies to remain union-free despite the availability of “card-based” certification in the construction industry, and assist them in understanding how to most effectively exercise their right to free speech while still remaining compliant with labour relations statutes.

Effective Advocacy

By providing proactive and strategic advice to our clients, we help them achieve best practices while avoiding unnecessary and disruptive litigation. That said, we are frequently retained to assist clients at times when litigation has already commenced or is unavoidable. In such circumstances, we have a strong track record of getting the best results possible for our clients.

Most labour relations disputes pertaining to the construction industry are heard at the Labour Board. Almost every single weekday, at least one member of our team can be found at the Labour Board forcefully advancing our clients’ interests in such matters as certification applications, grievance referrals, sale of business applications, related employer applications, unfair labour practice complaints, health and safety reprisal complaints and accreditation applications.

Our lawyers frequently appear on behalf of our clients in other forums as well, such as workplace safety and insurance and human rights tribunals. We also represent our clients’ interests before arbitrators in both interest and rights arbitrations, including expedited arbitrations under construction industry collective agreements.

Additionally, Mathews Dinsdale lawyers offer significant expertise and experience in appearing before all levels of court, including appealing and seeking judicial review of administrative tribunal or arbitrator decisions. For many, we are the go-to firm when an organization wishes to judicially review, or seek a second opinion about an earlier unsuccessful result at the Labour Board or at arbitration.

A Recognized Leader

Every year, the Canadian Legal Expert Directory and Best Lawyers in Canada recognize many of our lawyers as leaders in the field of construction labour relations. With offices across Canada, we are committed to providing our clients with strong advocacy, strategic guidance and practical solutions.

Connect with us

For more information about how we can serve you in Construction Labour Relations, please contact your Mathews Dinsdale lawyer or visit our website at mathewsdinsdale.com.

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