

Nuts and Bolts of Judicial Review

Administrative Law Section and Young Lawyers Division



Live Online

Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 | 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Live Online

Agenda: 9:00 am Program Commences
12:00 pm Program Concludes



This program contains:
3h 00m of Substantive content

The OBA has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by The Law Society of Ontario.

Join our panel of seasoned judges and experienced practitioners for a comprehensive guide on how to navigate a judicial review proceeding, including an overview of the applicable legal principles, procedural considerations, and a discussion of important recent cases. Sharpen your understanding of when and how to bring, or respond to, an application for judicial review and gain key insights into persuasive judicial review advocacy. Register now to secure your spot in this valuable program.

Program Chair: **Christopher Wirth**, Keel Cottrelle LLP
Catherine Phillips-Smith, EMD Serono, Inc.

9:00 am Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:05 am **Overview of the Judicial Review Process and Initial Considerations**

Erin Pleet, Ross Nasser LLP

- What types of decisions can be reviewed?
- When to apply for judicial review vs. statutory appeal or both?
- Limitation periods: key considerations
- What remedies are available?
- Managing client expectations
- Managing self-represented applicants and respondents
- Cultural awareness of your client’s circumstances and the opposing parties

11:15 am **Views from the Bench: Persuasive Written and Oral Advocacy**

The Honourable Justice David Corbet, Superior Court of Justice

- Tips for writing persuasive factums
- Effective oral advocacy in a virtual world
- Costs and without prejudice submissions
- Dealing with self-represented applicants or respondents

11:55 am Concluding Remarks

12:00 pm Program Concludes

9:45 am **Understanding the Substantive Legal Framework**

- Overview of the JRPA and applicable legal principles
- Standard of review: *Vavilov* and beyond
- Jurisdiction and competency of the courts
- Court intervention for breaches of procedural fairness
- Differences in judicial review between the Federal Court and Divisional Court

10:25 am Health Break

10:35 am **Practical Advice for Bringing and Responding to Applications for Judicial Review**

- Drafting an effective notice of application
- Putting together the application record and dealing with documentary evidence
- Effective use of affidavit evidence and consideration for whether “fresh evidence” is required
- Scheduling dates and urgent applications
- Provincial versus federal perspectives