

Ann Bigué, Ad. E.

Counsel



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Overview

During her career Ann Bigué has focused on regulatory and aboriginal law, as well as energy and natural resources law and environmental assessment matters. Prior to joining Dentons Canada LLP, she practised for more than 25 years with other leading law firms in these areas of practice, after acting as Counsel to the National Energy Board in the early years of her career. She acted as Canadian Lead on the Global Public Policy and Regulation Practice (PPR) group, Canadian PPR Lead and Canadian Co-lead of the Aboriginal Law Group. Ann is also a former member of Dentons Canada's National Partnership Board and Dentons Global Board.

Over the years, Ann's advice has been sought by corporate clients to deal with respect to issues relating to aboriginal and treaty rights in connection with energy and natural resources development projects. She has extensive experience in the negotiation of agreements between governments, Aboriginal communities and project proponents related to the development and implementation of energy, mining and industrial projects in Canada as well as aboriginal issues pertaining to forestry development activities. She negotiated numerous pre-development and impacts and benefits agreements in Canada, including in Quebec's Plan Nord territory. She has assumed leadership in complex litigation matters relating to aboriginal rights in the context of important hydroelectric development projects and forestry management activities in Quebec.

Ann has been recognized as "Lawyer of the Year" in Energy Law for 2017, in Energy Regulatory Law for 2013 and in Aboriginal Law for 2012. She is recognized by *Chambers Global* and *Chambers Canada* as a leading lawyer in the area of Aboriginal Law. She is also listed as a leading lawyer in the areas of Aboriginal Law, Energy Regulatory Law, Natural Resources Law and Mining Law in the *Best Lawyers in Canada* directory as well as in *The Canadian Legal Expert Directory* in Aboriginal Law, Energy (Electricity) and Mining. She was awarded the "Advocatus Emeritus" distinction by the Québec Bar in 2009.

Recognition

First recognized in 2006, Ann has been commended for her extensive knowledge and experience in a variety of respected publications, including:

- *Chambers Global*: Aboriginal Law - Canada

- *Chambers Canada: Aboriginal Law*
- *The Legal 500 Canada: Indigenous Law; Energy – Mining*
- *The Best Lawyers in Canada: Aboriginal Law; Energy Law; Energy Regulatory Law; Mining Law; Natural Resources Law*
- *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory: Aboriginal/Indigenous Law; Energy: Electricity; Energy: Oil and Gas; Mining*
- *Lexpert Special Edition – Canada’s Leading Lawyers: Energy; Global Mining; Corporate*
- *Lexpert Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Corporate Lawyers in Canada*
- Listed in the latest editions of the *Women in the Lead* Canadian directory

Honors and Awards

- Named "Lawyer of the Year" by *Best Lawyers* for: Mining Law, Montréal (2021); Natural Resources Law, Montréal (2019); Energy Law, Montréal (2017); Energy Regulatory Law, Montréal (2013); and Aboriginal Law, Montréal (2012)

In the Media

- Quoted in "Losing Your Social Licence", *Lexpert*, September 2016
- Quoted in "Big Plans Up North", article by Julie Triedman, *The American Lawyer*, November 5, 2012
- FMC Plan Nord team featured in *Les Affaires* special supplement
- Quoted in "Les meilleurs avocats de Montréal et de Québec", article by René Lewandowski, *Droit-inc.com*, August 28th, 2012

Insights

- "*Daniels v. Canada: Métis And Non-Status Indians Fall Under Parliament's Legislative Authority*", April 21, 2016
- "Acceptabilité sociale", March 10, 2016
- "Québec: Adoption Of Bill 55: An Act Respecting Transparency Measures In The Mining, Oil And Gas Industries", December 16, 2015
- "Bill 55 Tabled Before the Québec National Assembly - An Overview Regarding Transparency Measures In The Mining, Oil And Gas Industries", August 4, 2015
- "Relaunching the Northern Plan: Introduction of the Bill to establish the Société du Plan Nord", November 3, 2014
- "Relaunching the Northern Plan", October 20, 2014
- "Government Of Canada Updating On Mandatory Reporting Standards For Extractive Industry", September 3, 2014
- "Ontario Government Entitled To Exercise Crown Rights Under Treaty 3", July 17, 2014
- "Case Comment – *Tsilhqot'in Nation v. British Columbia*, 2014 SCC 44 ", July 4, 2014
- "Adoption of Bill 70, An Act to amend the *Mining Act* : Amendments relating to Native communities and

reactions of those communities”, December 27, 2013

- "Keewatin Raises Questions Over Infringement of Treaty Rights", *The Lawyers Weekly*, September 2011
- "The Government of Québec prepares to implement the Plan Nord", Focus on Québec's Plan Nord, June 3, 2011

Activities and Affiliations

- Member of the Québec Bar
- Member of the Canadian Bar Association
- Member of the U.S. Energy Bar Association
- Member of the Québec Mineral Exploration Association
- Member of the Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association
- Member of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum
- Member of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada
- Member of the *Association québécoise pour l'évaluation d'impacts*

Community Involvement and Pro Bono

- Member of the Board of Governors of APL Énergies

Areas of focus

Practices

- Aboriginal Law (Canada)
- Agreements with Aboriginal Peoples and Community Relations
- Environment and Natural Resources
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- Project Development
- Public Law
- Public Policy and Regulation
- Aboriginal Rights and Treaty Rights

Industry sectors

- Electricity
- Energy
- Mine Development and Mining Production
- Mineral Exploration, Licensing and Permitting

- Mining
- Mining Public Policy, Regulation, Community Relations and Disclosure
- Mining Regulation and Compliance
- Oil and Gas

Issues and opportunities

- Plan Nord

Education

- University of Ottawa, 1981, LL.M.
- Dalhousie University, 1979, LLB
- Université de Montréal, 1974, LL.L.
- Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, 1971, BA

Admissions and qualifications

- Québec, 1975

Languages

- French
- English