



CPD Bootcamp 2017

Leading the diversity and inclusion
agenda: The full participation imperative

Presenters Bios

November 2, 2017

**Kate Broer**

Partner, Dentons Global Client Development

Kate is a partner in the litigation group. She regularly acts as counsel in a variety of corporate and commercial matters with a focus on securities and investment dealer disputes and regulatory compliance and also in the areas of environmental, real estate and product liability.

Kate has experience in all levels of court and before a variety of regulatory bodies and tribunals, including the Environmental Review Tribunal, the Financial Services Commission of Ontario, Ontario Securities Commission, IIROC and the Mutual Fund Dealers' Association. She provides valued litigation and business advice to clients including with respect to risk management and mitigation.

Kate has experience acting in connection with contaminated land disputes and environmental spills both in the litigation and regulatory context. She has experience in dealing with site clean-up, risk assessment and indemnity claims.

She has litigated a number of complex, multi-party disputes involving complicated expert evidence in a range of areas from building science, structural engineering and real estate valuation to organic chemistry and environmental science.

Kate is Dentons' Canada Region Co-Chair of Diversity and Inclusion. Dentons was named one of Canada's Best Employers for New Canadians in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 and one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

**Brian V. Tobin**

Hon. Brian V. Tobin, P.C., O.C.

Vice Chair Investment and Corporate Banking, BMO Capital Markets

The Hon. Brian Tobin was named as an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2013 for his contribution to Canadian public policy as a federal and provincial politician, and for supporting economic development in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Mr. Tobin served as the Federal Minister of Industry from October 2000 to January 2002, prior to which he served as the Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador from 1996 to 2000. Mr. Tobin served as a Member of Parliament from 1980 to 1996 and served as Minister of Fisheries and Oceans in the federal cabinet from 1993 to 1996.

Mr. Tobin is currently Vice Chair with BMO Capital Markets in Toronto. Mr. Tobin serves as Chairman and director of New Flyer Industries Inc., Chairman and director of Aecon Group Inc. and is Chairman and director of Element Fleet Corp.

Mr. Tobin also served as Executive Chairman, President & CEO of Consolidated Thompson Iron Mines Ltd. Mr. Tobin lead the negotiating team that sold CLM to Cliffs Natural Resources for 4.9 billion dollars which was one of the biggest global mining deals in 2011.

Mr. Tobin is a member of the Institute of Corporate Directors and a graduate of the Directors Education Program. Mr. Tobin has been awarded honorary degrees by both St. Francis Xavier University and Brock University.



Melissa Kennedy

Executive Vice-President, Chief Legal Officer & Public Affairs, Sun Life Financial

Melissa joined Sun Life in 2014 with a breadth of experience spanning private practice, regulatory and in-house roles. Prior to joining Sun Life, she was Senior Vice-President, General Counsel and Corporate Affairs for the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, one of Canada's largest pension funds. Melissa started her career in private practice followed by roles as head of the prosecution team at the Ontario Securities Commission and as Vice-President, Associate General Counsel at a major Canadian bank.

Melissa has a Bachelor of Arts (Economics) degree from Carleton University and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Toronto. She was called to the Ontario Bar in 1989 and is a graduate of the Institute of Corporate Directors. She is also a member of the University of Toronto's Law Alumni Association Council, is on the Executive Committee of the Legal Leaders for Diversity and Inclusion, and received the Arbor Award from the University of Toronto for her volunteer work.

In 2017, Melissa received the Distinguished Alumna Award from the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law and in 2016, The Women's Executive Network recognized her as one of Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100. In 2012, Melissa was named Canada's General Counsel of the Year and received the Women of Influence, Canadian Diversity Champion award.

**Beth Wilson**

Dentons Canada Chief Executive Officer

As Dentons' Canada Chief Executive Officer and a member of the global leadership team, serving on the Global Board and Global Management Committee, Beth is leading the Firm in Canada through an aggressive and targeted focus on exceeding our clients' expectations of value and results, and commitment to an inclusive culture that empowers diverse teams and supports an entrepreneurial spirit and performance based culture. A respected senior strategic business leader, Beth is focused on ensuring that Dentons continues to be a workplace of choice for leading talent in Canada and around the world.

Prior to assuming her role as the Firm's Canada CEO, Beth served as Managing Partner at KPMG in the Greater Toronto Area, where she led the largest business unit in Canada. Beth served as a member of KPMG's Management Committee in various leadership positions, including Canadian Managing Partner Community Leadership, Canadian Managing Partner Regions and Enterprise with responsibility for 24 regional offices across Canada, and Chief Human Resources Officer. She also held various global leadership roles.

Beth is widely known and respected in the Canadian business community and is an accomplished and dedicated community leader. She exemplifies this through her board and community involvement, and her advancement of women in business, and has been recognized by leading organizations such as YWCA Toronto, Canadian Women of Influence and WXN.

The auditing and consulting professions, similar to the legal profession, are undergoing significant disruption and transformation. Beth's extensive experience and leadership is playing an important role in shaping how Dentons responds to this disruption

