

JAMES ROBBINS

Jim returned to CHSMC after five years of an intensive litigation practice with another Toronto union-side firm.

Jim has a strong interest in systemic and policy issues in labour relations. He has appeared frequently before the OLRB dealing with a broad range of cases from complex status and bargaining unit issues in the transportation industry to Bill 136 applications in the health care sector and diverse construction matters. At the CIRB, he was union counsel on DHL International Express Ltd., where for the first time the CIRB used its remedial powers to award first contract arbitration without a reference from the Ministry of Labour, resulting in the first collective agreement in Canada at the world's largest courier.

Jim is a member of the firm's construction group. His work in the construction industry has covered the gamut of OLRB issues including grievances, related employer applications, abandonment applications, sector and jurisdictional disputes, as well as private trade agreement arbitration.

In addition to his labour board work, Jim regularly appears at grievance arbitration hearings. He has represented clients in workplace safety and insurance matters at both Appeals and Tribunal hearings and in judicial reviews at both Ontario Divisional Court and the Federal Court of Appeal. He has provided practical advice and negotiated settlements in these areas as well as employment law and employment standards matters.

At the U. of T. Faculty of Law, Jim's academic excellence was acknowledged in numerous awards including the J.F.W. "Ted" Weatherill Prize in Labour Arbitration and the Alexander C. Pathy, Q.C. Prize in Labour Relations law and membership on the Dean's Honours List.

Education

- LLB University of Toronto, 1995; Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1990

Call to Bar

- 1997



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Areas of Expertise

- Construction Labour Law
- Labour Law
- Occupational Health and Safety