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## MCCAGUE BORLACK LLP

### REGIONAL EXPANSION STRATEGY

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At **McCague Borlack LLP**, we built our reputation by providing top quality legal services at a reasonable cost. In order to continue to achieve these standards, we are at all times focused on meeting our clients' needs and exceeding their expectations.

In response to client demand arising from trends developing regionally throughout the province, **McCague Borlack LLP** is now expanding into strategic locations outside the greater Toronto area. The purpose of this expansion is to provide our clients with the same top quality, cost effective legal services in regional offices with lawyers residing and often educated in their community. These lawyers have the knowledge, contacts, reputations and specific skill sets designed to best suit the local environment and court system.

Regional offices also eliminate the time and cost associated with transporting and accommodating lawyers from Toronto to act on matters throughout the numerous regions of the province. At the same time, lawyers in these offices are all managed and supervised by an experienced **McCague Borlack LLP** partner to ensure compliance with our firm's well established standards of quality, service and cost effectiveness.

#### *Ottawa*

In this context, **McCague Borlack LLP** opened its first office outside of the GTA in the fall of 2012. The office is centrally located in the Sun Life Financial Centre in downtown Ottawa. The address is:

McCague Borlack LLP  
99 Bank Street, Suite 1450  
Ottawa, ON K1P 1H4

**Martin Smith**, a 2001 year of call and a **McCague Borlack LLP** partner in our Toronto office for a number of years, is the managing partner of the firm's Ottawa office. Martin moved his family to Ottawa during the summer of 2012 where they now reside permanently. Martin exclusively practices civil litigation, specializing in the areas of employment law, human rights, professional liability, personal injury and subrogation. He also represents both employee and employer clients and professional clients practicing in areas such as veterinary medicine and chiropractic care, and he regularly defends equestrian riding operations. Additionally, Martin practices in the area of occupier's liability for Insurers, municipal clients and clients with self-insured retentions.

Since opening the Ottawa office, a number of lawyers from the Ottawa area have joined Martin:

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1. Our most recent acquisition is **Patricia Lawson**, who joined our team in August, 2014. Patricia is an experienced personal injury and senior insurance defence litigator focusing primarily on accident benefits, personal injury tort defence as well as coverage, first party property and subrogation. Patricia is fluently bilingual, serving her clients in both official languages and she has practiced her entire career in the Ottawa area. Patricia was called to both the Ontario and Quebec Bar in 1987 and her practice includes a broad range of clients from both provinces. Patricia brings with her, her assistant, Monique Belec and her dedicated law clerk, Jannika McCrimmon.
2. **Anita Dutt** is a 2004 year of call with a background in medical malpractice claims and high profile personal injury and fatality actions. Her practice focuses on subrogation, occupier's liability, property claims, coverage opinions, professional liability, directors and officers' liability and motor vehicle accident tort claims. Anita has represented Insurers, municipal clients, self-insured retentions and professional associations in court and before various administrative tribunals.
3. Also joining our firm in the summer of 2014 was **Fabrice Gouriou**. Fabrice studied law in Dijon and Paris and after being called to the Bar of France in 1998, he practiced civil litigation in Dijon for three years. He then moved to Canada and was called to the Ontario Bar in 2005. Today, Fabrice provides insurance litigation and risk management services to a broad range of clients in the Insurance Industry in both official languages. He is also an active Board member and director of The Alliance Francais d'Ottawa, a French language school and cultural centre promoting the French language and France in Canada's Capital Region. Professionally, Fabrice has focused his career on personal injury law, including accident benefits, tort defence and all forms of wrongful death and catastrophic injury cases. He also has extensive experience in defending sexual abuse/assault claims, including class actions, product liability, medical malpractice and all forms of employment related matters including workplace accidents. In pursuing his career, Fabrice has acted on numerous tribunals and on various disciplinary matters and he frequently appears before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and The Ontario Court of Appeal, and on at least one occasion, in the Supreme Court of Canada.
4. **Jennifer Reid** is a 2008 year of call who previously practiced in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. Jennifer's insurance practice focuses on subrogation, accident benefits, occupier's liability and general property, representing both Insurers and municipal clients in court and before various administrative tribunals.
5. **Emilie Lacharité**, a 2012 year of call who is fully bilingual, practices in both French and English. Emilie, a University of Ottawa graduate, previously summered and articulated at a full service international law firm in Ottawa where she gained valuable experience in litigation and labour and employment law. During

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her second year of law school, Emilie represented the University of Ottawa at the Ottawa-Moncton moot court competition where her team placed first.

6. **Desneiges Mitchell**, a 2012 graduate who focuses primarily on personal injury claims, subrogation, coverage, municipal liability and general casualty. Prior to joining the firm, Desneiges summered and articulated at a full service firm in Ottawa after completing her law school degree at Queen's University in Ottawa where she volunteered for pro bono services on various occasions. Desneiges continues to volunteer for non-profits in the Ottawa area.
7. **Sam Mohammadi**, Ottawa's articling student, is in a four-year JD and M.A. Joint program at the University of Ottawa and the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs. Prior to law school, she completed a bachelor in International Development and Global Studies with a minor in Business Administration at the University of Ottawa. Her interest in litigation and advocacy stemmed from an internship she completed prior to attending law school with the Human Rights Network in India.

Today, McCague Borlack LLP offers one of the largest and most experienced team of civil litigators focused on meeting and exceeding our client's expectations in Ottawa and throughout eastern Ontario from Cornwall to the east, south to Kingston/Belleville and Peterborough, North to North Bay and Timmins, and throughout the Province of Quebec.

## *Kitchener*

McCague Borlack LLP opened our second regional office in the fall of 2013. The purpose of this office is to serve our clients' insurance litigation and risk management needs throughout Central West Ontario. The intended area of coverage for the office is from Hamilton/Burlington to Guelph and from Mississauga to London, with the heavily populated Cities of Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge-Woodstock at its core. To facilitate this coverage, the office is located in the Sun Life Financial building in the heart of downtown Kitchener, Ontario, adjacent to the Regional Ontario Courts at:

McCague Borlack LLP  
22 Frederick Street, Suite 515  
Kitchener, ON N2H 6M6

The McCague Borlack LLP partner in charge of the Kitchener office is lawyer and doctor **Dr. Brian Murphy**. Dr. Murphy was called to the Ontario Bar in 2002 after practicing medicine as a fully qualified medical doctor for fifteen years. Over that time, Dr. Murphy was exposed to a broad range of medical areas including obstetrics, emergency

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medicine, motor vehicle injury, pediatric injury, neurotrauma (direct and indirect trauma), acquired brain injury, complex injury, orthopedic injury and other catastrophic injuries. In addition, Dr. Murphy's combined degrees in medicine and law provides him with the training, experience and skill to effectively represent clients with complex severe or catastrophic personal injury claims involving motor vehicles, occupier's liability, liquor liability and professional liability.

With this background experience and training, Dr. Murphy has the ability to understand reports and opinions of other medical practitioners, which enables him to apply his medical knowledge in a legal setting for the benefit of his clients, either directly or through consultation. As a result, Dr. Murphy has focused his career on accident benefits, tort defence claims, automobile fraud and medical malpractice. He also thoroughly understands the standard of medical care that ought to be provided in given situations and as a result, he has represented Insurers, patients and professions in a myriad of professional liability matters. Because of his renowned reputation in the area, Brian published numerous articles and he appears regularly at medical-legal related speaking engagements and education programs.

Dr. Murphy and his family live in nearby Guelph, Ontario, and he enjoys serving his extensive clientele throughout central west Ontario.

Dr. Murphy has three highly qualified and experienced lawyers practicing with him in the Kitchener office providing litigation, alternative dispute resolution and risk management services to a broad range of clients throughout the area:

1. **Mark MacDonald** is a senior insurance litigator having been called to the Ontario Bar in 1991. Before joining McCague Borlack LLP, Mark practiced in-house for a number of years in a large life and disability Insurer where he drafted policy wordings, opined on coverage, quarterbacked investigations, defended claims and generally fulfilled the role of overall legal counsel for the company. With this training and experience, Mark now focuses on all forms of personal injury, professional liability, construction law, coverage, life and disability insurance and subrogation. Mark resides with his family in London, Ontario.
2. **Michael Kennedy** was called to the Bar in Ontario in 2009. Michael practices exclusively in insurance litigation with an emphasis on accident benefits, automobile fraud, personal injury, products liability and transportation law including all forms of tort defence litigation. He is also head of the firm's Transportation Law Newsletter and he has successfully represented Insurers and their interests at all levels of court in Ontario as well as various administrative tribunals, including Financial Services Commission of Ontario. Michael regularly provides liability analyses, damages assessments and future handling strategies

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and recommendations on liability (tort) defence claims, opinions, rights of subrogation for out of province Insurers and denial of coverage due to misrepresentation and non-compliance. He has also assisted Insurers in the investigation and prosecution of fraud cases by conducting Examinations Under Oath, analyzing surveillance and financial records and bringing suit, if appropriate.

Michael lives in neighbouring Guelph, Ontario where he frequently plays the piano, saxophone or the oboe in the Guelph Concert Band.

3. **Jennifer Kelly**, a 2012 year of call, joined the firm in 2013 as an associate in the Insurance Law Group focusing on accident benefits and subrogation. Jennifer is bilingual in English and French and prior to becoming a lawyer, Jennifer worked for an insurance company, giving her current role the advantage of an inside look at the needs and expectations of an insurance claims department.
4. And most recently, **Peter Vlaar** joined the Kitchener team as its first articling student. After obtaining his degree from Southampton Law School in England, Peter completed his legal studies in the summer of 2014 at Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto where he qualified to article in the Province of Ontario. Peter's previous training at a leading law firm in Southampton, England as an intern for the Personal Injury Team has given Peter a solid foundation on which to build his career in personal injury defence and subrogation matters here in Ontario.

In summary, our Team of lawyers in the Kitchener office focus on all forms of insurance related litigation, serving the firm's clientele from the Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge core area throughout the region bounded by London, Brampton, Hamilton and Guelph, Ontario.