

HUMAN RIGHTS, HARASSMENT & ABUSE

The Supreme Court of Canada has recently considered the liability of institutional care facilities, school boards, and community service organizations for sexual abuse committed by their employees. The resulting decisions have broadened the circumstances under which organizations will be held liable for abuse. They have also affirmed the victim's right to recover from persons other than the actual wrongdoer.

Similarly, claims against landowners and property management companies for assaults occurring on their premises are becoming increasingly common. As a result, any organization that provides services to the public, or is accessible by the public, needs to carefully evaluate its operations and likely exposure to claims based upon abuse or assault.

Services

Our Human Rights, Harassment, and Abuse Group assists clients in risk management by:

- identifying risks; and
- developing internal procedures and controls to minimize them.

We also advocate for insurers and defend their insureds in courts and before tribunals throughout Ontario, by providing excellent legal representation that is sensitive to the client's public reputation and standing concerns.

Publications

- *Public Sharing of Private and Personal Information and Videos: Cyberbullying and the Implications for Insurers* by Michael Blinick, MB Newsletter, May 02, 2016
- *Ontario Court of Appeal releases decision in expert evidence case* by Laurie Murphy, MB Newsletter, January 29, 2015
- *There is no automatic duty of care between a diocese and students harmed by priests* by Michael Kennedy, March 22, 2013

Chairs

Martin Smith
613-566-5970
msmith@mccagueborlack.com

Members of the Group

Emily Cohen-Gallant
Marie-Pier Couturier
Marisa Gilmore
Joseph Griffiths
Theresa Hartley
Eitan Kadouri
Van Krkachovski
Alex Robineau
Miranda Serravalle
Irina Sfranciog
Martin Smith
Sean Valentine