

April 25, 2025

Entertainment & Media Law Symposium 2025



CO-CHAIRS:

Hilary Goldstein, *Buchli Goldstein LLP*

Stephen Henderson, *Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP*

April 30, 2025

9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

**Total CPD Hours = 3 h 45 m Substantive + 2 h Professionalism ^P
+ 1 h EDI Professionalism ^E (Not including speed mentoring below)**

**Law Society of Ontario
Donald Lamont Learning Centre
130 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON**

SKU CLE25-00407

Steering Committee

Angelika Heim, *Stohn Hay Cafazzo Heim Finlay LLP*

Nghia Nguyen, *WildBrain*

Bob Tarantino, *Dentons Canada LLP*

Samantha Traub, *Boat Rocker Media*


Danny Webber, *Hall Webber LLP*

David Zitzerman, *Goodmans LLP*

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Are you an up-and-coming lawyer? Bonus Session!

***Pre-registration is required - Space is limited
Open to law students and new calls up to 5 years
Qualifies for 1 h Professionalism.***

Speed Mentoring: (Almost) Everything You Wanted to Know About Practicing Entertainment and Media Law (But Were Afraid to Ask) (1 h )

Sit down for an informal mentoring session with senior members of the bar and learn about managing your practice, meeting your professional and ethical responsibilities, and dealing with your clients.

9:05 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.


Welcome

Hilary Goldstein, *Buchli Goldstein LLP*

Stephen Henderson, *Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP*

Please Note: Time has been allotted at the end of each session/workshop for question and answer

9:10 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Lights, Camera, Algorithm: Generative AI in the Entertainment Industries (50 m )

Everyone's talking about AI's impact on creativity—but this panel goes beyond the buzz. We take a dive deep into how entertainment industry clients are using AI, the real-time legal challenges they face, and how lawyers are advising them to stay ahead of the curve. Our panel covers the gap between how companies want to use AI and how they can use it under current law, how AI disrupting long-established practices in labour agreements, image rights, merchandising and licensing. And with policy shifts and court rulings on the horizon, they discuss how legal strategies need to evolve. Join us for a candid, cutting-edge conversation on AI's legal revolution in entertainment.

Moderator: Bob Tarantino, *Dentons Canada LLP*

Panelists: Jayme Alter, *Dentons Canada LLP*

Erin Finlay, *Stohn Hay Cafazzo Heim Finlay LLP*

Michael Shedletsky, VP, Legal and Business Affairs, Entertainment,
Spin Master

10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. Field of Streams: An Update on the CRTC's Implementation of the *Online Streaming Act*

It may seem hard to believe, but it has now been two full years since the *Online Streaming Act* received Royal Assent on April 23, 2023. Since then, the CRTC has been very busy, making process announcements, launching extensive public consultations, issuing draft and final regulatory policies, releasing a controversial initial decision re: foreign streamers' base contributions to the Canadian system, considering the level of their ultimate contributions and, if all that was not enough, proposing a completely new and expanded Canadian content points test too. Hear from our expert panel about what to expect at the rescheduled May 14, 2025, CRTC public hearings on "The Path Forward" and what the status is on the CRTC 5% base contribution s orders for foreign streamers.

Moderator: David Zitzerman. *Goodmans LLP*

Panelists: Ken Engelhart, *Engelhart Law*

Neal McDougall, *Writers Guild of Canada*

Alain Strati, Senior Vice-President, Industry Policy and General Counsel, *Canadian Media Producers Association (CMPA)*

10:50 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. Coffee Break

11:10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Entertainment & Media Law: The Year(s) in Review

Our popular year(s) in review is back! Our speakers examine the cases you need to know about in an engaging and fast paced session. Always a highlight of the Symposium, don't miss this session to hear the latest in the evolving landscape of entertainment and media law.

Casey Chisick, C.S., *Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP*

Jessica Zagar, *Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP*

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Lunch

Breakout Sessions

SALON A

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Session 1: The FAST and the Curious- Exploring Alternative Distribution Platforms

Are there avenues out there for my content other than linear TV? Are you aware of the current state of the FAST Market (international growth and discoverability, monetization models, etc)? The speakers in this session explore these issues and more including the single IP vs the curated experience.

Moderator:

Nghia Nguyen, *Senior Vice-President, Business & Legal Affairs, WildBrain*

Panelists:

Andrew Irwin, Senior Vice-President, Content Distribution & Partnerships, *Blue Ant Media*

Cassey Tan
Director, NA Partner Engagement, *LG*

Justin Vessair, *Vice-President, Business & Legal Affairs, WildBrain*

SALON B

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Session 2: Lights, Camera, Compliance: Employment Law Issues in the Media & Entertainment Industry

This panel will explore key HR and employment law challenges faced by media and entertainment companies, including best practices for employee terminations, navigating the distinction between independent contractors and employees, and recent developments regarding the use of NDAs in Canada and the US. It will also cover essential topics such as training, complaints, investigations, and disciplinary procedures. Additionally, the speakers will also provide insights on working with unions and guilds in Canada, offering valuable guidance for companies in the industry.

Moderator:

Hilary Goldstein, *Buchli Goldstein LLP*

Panelists:

Julia Dorfman, SVP, Co-Head HR, *Boat Rocker Media*

Jacqueline Luksha, *Hicks Morley Hamilton Stewart Storie LLP*

Victoria Shen, Executive Director, *Writers Guild of Canada*

2:15 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.

Coffee Break

SALON A

2:35 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.

Session 3: AI Integration in Clearance and Creative Processes and their Impact on E&O Insurance in Entertainment Law (1h)

In this session, we explore how AI is reshaping clearance procedures and the broader implications for Errors and Omissions (E&O) insurance in the entertainment industry. Our speakers review key topics including the use of tools to streamline script and title clearance, the implications of AI driven clearance on E &O insurance on areas such as risk associated with copyright, defamation and other liabilities, assessing unique risks and how the insurers are addressing risk management as well as the legal

and ethical challenges in utilizing AI such as data privacy reliability and oversight.

Sarah Fraser, *Fraser-Entertainment Law*

Danny Webber, *Hall Webber LLP/Co-CEO The No Conflict Clearance Company*

OR

SALON B

2:35 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.

Session 4: On the Road Again: Legal Issues in Live Music

Whether your client is traveling in an Econoline van or a Gulfstream private jet to their next show, promoting or hosting a concert, or seeking a prime branding opportunity, this panel is for you. Prepare for an in-depth discussion on the world of live music and the key issues that arise in the industry. You will gain insights into the roles of artists, crew, agents, promoters, venues, and sponsors, as well as the agreements that bind them. We'll also explore hot-button topics such as ticketing, insurance, and crowd safety.

Moderators:

Angelika Heim, *Stohn Hay Cafazzo Heim Finlay LLP*

Stephen Henderson, *Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP*

Panelists:

Alessia Kalish, Senior Legal Counsel, *Live Nation Canada*

Jeff Craib, CEO, *The Feldman Agency*

3:35 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Session Change

SALON A

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Session 5: Fostering Equity in Entertainment: Navigating BIPOC Funding and Diversity Policy Initiatives (1h EDI)

This interactive and insightful workshop will dive deep into the legal and policy frameworks shaping a more inclusive

entertainment industry. Discover how funding opportunities, regulatory incentives, and industry policies are evolving to amplify the voices of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) in Canadian media. Whether you're a policymaker or industry professional, this session will equip you with the knowledge and tools to navigate—and influence—the future of diversity, equity, and inclusion in entertainment.

Moderator: Christina Buchli, *Buchli Goldstein LLP*

Panelists: Luisa Alvarez Restrepo, Director, Inclusion & Community Development, *ACTRA Toronto*

Margaret Lewis, MBA, Senior Relationship Manager, Media & Entertainment, *Royal Bank of Canada*

Tash Naveau, Program Manager, CMF & ISO Production Programs, *Indigenous Screen Office*

Divya Shahani, *Wildeboer Dellelce*

OR

SALON B

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Session 6: Drafting Workshop - Key Terms in Common Entertainment Law Agreements

In this session, our speakers will walk you through key provisions in some of the most common entertainment law agreements: branded content deals and talent releases. Although these agreements can vary significantly, we will provide you with demonstrations of these differences and how to consider the negotiation power of the parties.

Moderator: Stephen Henderson, *Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP*

Panelists: Laura Wilson-Lewis, *Warner Music Canada*

Jaclyn Seidman, *Goodmans LLP*

4:45 p.m.

Program Ends

4:45 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Reception Sponsored by:

Buchli Goldstein LLP

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

Dentons Canada LLP

Goodmans LLP

Stohn Hay Cafazzo Heim Finlay LLP