

Benchmark Canada Recognizes Seven WeirFoulds Lawyers

April 24, 2017

WeirFoulds is pleased to announce that seven partners have been listed in the 5th edition of *Benchmark Canada, the Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys*.

Benchmark Canada identifies the leading litigation firms and lawyers in Canada through a rigorous research process involving in-depth interviews with litigators and their clients. Inclusion in the Guide is granted to lawyers and firms that display leadership and expertise in their field. Benchmark is the only legal directory to focus exclusively on litigation.

Congratulations to each of our partners listed below:

Litigation Stars:

- Bryan Finlay, QC – Top 50 Trial Lawyers in Canada – Constitutional, General Commercial, Public Law
- J. Gregory Richards – General Commercial
- Frank Walwyn – General Commercial
- Robert Warren – Energy and Natural Resources, Environmental, Public Law

Future Stars:

- Nikiforos Iatrou
- Michael Statham
- Marie-Andrée Vermette

Mr. Finlay received an added designation of being listed as one of the Top 50 Trial Lawyers in Canada.

Speaking to Finlay's courtroom acumen, a peer quips, "Good luck finding trial counsel as good as Bryan. He is just superb. They have some great people at WeirFoulds but when it comes time to go to the mat, Bryan is the guy."

During the research process, our peers and clients provided Benchmark researchers with the following feedback about our firm:

Future star **Marie-Andrée Vermette** acted with Finlay in the Trillium matter and also attends to a "fair bit of public law." In this capacity, she is part of a team arguing a \$1.5 billion tax-related case in the court of appeal regarding a tobacco manufacturer on a First Nation reservation.

A peer confirms, "**Frank (Walwyn)** is from St. Kitts, and he has been able to accomplish a vision, having Caribbean contacts and seeing these countries used for tax planning. He is attracting complex and attention-getting cases."

Commercial litigator **Gregory Richards** earns praise from a peer who testifies, “I’ve dealt with him on cases before and he is phenomenal. He is just so thoughtful and a real draw for speaking engagements and a pleasure on any level. He has developed a great reputation because he’s got the chops in so many different areas. He also used to be an advocacy society guy a few years ago.”

Future star **Nikiforos Iatrou** scored a December 2015 victory when the Competition Tribunal decided an application brought by Iatrou on behalf of Stargrove Entertainment was permitted to proceed. The application alleged that Stargrove, a low-cost CD label that produces CD compilations of public domain recordings, was being discriminated against because of its low pricing policy, a dispute triggered by the client’s sales of \$5 Beatles CDs at certain retailers.

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