



Robert Daigneault

Principal,
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 Profile

Robert Daigneault is owner of Robert Daigneault, cabinet d'avocats, a Montréal law firm specialized in environmental, land-use and resource law.

Mr. Daigneault is one of the leading lawyers in his area of practice and has produced numerous publications, most notably the legal textbook "L'Environnement au Québec" published by CCH. This is the standard reference text in French on federal and Québec environmental law and is updated on a quarterly basis. He lectures at various institutions including UQAM, U. of Sherbrooke, U. of MTL, and in France at ICAM-Lille and U. d'Artois. His textbook is frequently quoted by Québec tribunals, including the Court of Appeal, as well as several of his papers.

His practice and experience include litigation and dispute resolution (statutory and civil), providing advice on regulatory compliance, due diligence, corporate and director liability, negotiating approvals, reviewing and monitoring audits and site assessments and remediation plans, assisting parties throughout environmental assessment and review processes (federal and provincial), setting up financial guarantees such as environmental trusts, etc. His firm's clientele includes the primary and secondary industrial sectors such as refineries, mining, forestry, fisheries, metallurgy, chemical products, food industry, water bottling industry, utilities (gas, electrical), as well as real estate managers and developers, petroleum product distribution, waste and hazmat import/export and transportation, financial institutions, environmental services companies (landfills, soil and hazmat disposal or treatment sites, wastewater treatment), environmental consultants, engineering firms as well as ministries (federal and provincial) and Crown corporations, and other sectors, including Native organizations.

Formerly legal counsel for the Québec Department of Environment and later a partner with a major Montréal-based business law firm, Mr. Daigneault established his own firm in 2001. This firm has seen steady growth. Today it is pleased to offer the services of four specialized environmental lawyers.

He is also a biologist, member of the Québec Association of Biologists and a chartered administrator, member of the Québec Order of Chartered Administrator, and holds certificates in commercial arbitration (QNICAC). He acts as legal trainer in Québec for candidate certified environmental auditors (ISO-14012) and certified environmental site assessors and is also certified by the Québec Department of Employment (Emploi-Québec) as a private trainer in environmental law pursuant to the Act to Foster the Development of Manpower Training.

Mr. Daigneault has been involved for more than 30 years in the environmental and resource sector, successively as a biologist, a manager and a legal counsel, including 10 years with the Québec Department of Environment.

❖ Professional Memberships & Activities

- ❖ Member of the Environmental Law Committee of the Québec Bar 1992 - 2003
- ❖ Member of the Environmental Commission of the Québec Municipalities Union since 2002
- ❖ Member of the Professional Status Committee of the Québec Association of Biologists since 1997
- ❖ Co-Author with Mr. Martin Paquet of L'environnement au Québec, a 2000-page environmental law textbook, published by CCH (1994) and updated quarterly
- ❖ Yearly contributor, Développements récents en droit de l'environnement (Recent Developments in Environmental Law), Québec Bar Continuing Education Service (textbooks and seminars for legal practitioners), since 1991 (9 textbooks published by the Service to date)
- ❖ Contributor, chapter on Québec and Canadian federal law, in "Les environnements juridiques du bassin minier" (textbook on mining law in French-speaking countries), U. d'Artois, France (1999)
- ❖ Former Co-chair (appointed by the Québec Government) of the James Bay Environmental Advisory Committee, a Federal-Provincial-Cree board established pursuant to the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (1990-1997)
- ❖ Founder-member of both the Canadian and Québec Environmental Auditing Associations (vice-president of CEAA 1992-1995)
- ❖ Contributor, chapter on Environmental Management, "Guide de la saine gestion des entreprises et des organisations", a textbook of standards of practice of the Québec Order of Chartered Administrators (1994) for corporations and institutions
- ❖ Associate member of CSA's Technical Committee on Environmental Auditing (1992-1994)
- ❖ Former chairman of Environmental Committee of the Québec National and International Commercial Arbitration Centre (1989-1990)

❖ Education

- ❖ 1972 B. Sp. Sc., Biology (Ecology), Université du Québec à Montréal
- ❖ 1973 Admitted to Québec Association of Biologists
- ❖ 1982 Diploma of Business Administration, ICS International Institute
- ❖ 1986 Admitted to Québec Order of Chartered Administrators
- ❖ 1986 LL. B., Université Laval
- ❖ 1987 Admitted to Québec Bar
- ❖ 1988-89-90 Certificates in arbitration (QNICAC)

❖ Distinction

- ❖ Holder of the 1994-1995 "Prix Georges-Préfontaine" of the Québec Association of Biologists

❖ Languages

- ❖ Fluent in French and English