

Dr. Renée Duplantis is the leader of Brattle's Canadian Competition Practice, and a former T.D. MacDonald Chair in Industrial Economics (Chief Economist) at the Canadian Competition Bureau. Dr. Duplantis has more than 15 years of experience involving complex competition matters in Canada, the United States, and Europe. She has testified before the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission and has authored reports and presented findings to competition agencies globally, including the Canadian Competition Bureau, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, and the European Commission Directorate-General for Competition and the Chief Economist Team.

Dr. Duplantis specializes in the empirical analysis of competition issues, with a primary focus on quantifying the competitive effects of mergers. She has also been engaged on several competition matters involving allegations of abuse of dominance, exclusionary conduct, monopolization, collusion, and price-fixing.

Prior to joining Brattle, Dr. Duplantis spent almost five years at the Canadian Competition Bureau in various positions, including as the Chief Economist. During this time, she advised the Commissioner of Competition on economic matters related to competition policy, and participated in the economic analysis of numerous high-profile investigations under the *Competition Act* involving mergers, abuse of dominance investigations, and criminal matters.

Dr. Duplantis is recognized as a leading competition economist by *Who's Who Legal*, serves as an active NGA for the Competition Bureau in the International Competition Network, is a member of the CD Howe Competition Policy Council, is on the editorial board of the *Canadian Competition Law Review*, and is a frequent speaker at competition conferences globally.

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

- Principal, The Brattle Group, June 2015 – present
- Principal, Microeconomic Consulting and Research Associates, Inc. (MiCRA), January 2015 – May 2015
- T.D. MacDonald Chair in Industrial Economics, Competition Bureau Canada, 2014
- Special Economic Advisor, Competition Bureau Canada, 2011 – 2013
- Competition Law Officer, Competition Bureau Canada, 2010 – 2011
- Senior Economist and Economist, Microeconomic Consulting and Research Associates, Inc. (MiCRA), 2003 – 2011
- Senior Consultant, IBM Business Consulting Services (including its predecessor, the Washington Consulting Practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers), 2001 - 2003

EDUCATION

Northeastern University, Ph.D. in Economics

Duke University, M.A. in Economics

University of Louisiana at Monroe, B.B.A. in Economics

TESTIMONY

Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission: Testified on behalf of the Competition Bureau at Broadcasting Notice of Consultation 2014-190 Let's Talk TV Hearing, September 8, 2014.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

For over 15 years, I have been providing economic consulting services in numerous industries. The list of selected experience included below does not include active engagements or past engagements where my involvement was not in the public domain or is not known by other parties involved and/or for which authorization to disclose my involvement has not been provided by clients.

Merger Analysis

- Retained as the outside expert by the potential acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the funeral home industry.
- Retained as the outside expert by the acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the oil and gas industry.
- Retained as the outside expert by the acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the car rental industry.
- Retained as the outside expert by the acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the cement industry.
- Retained as the outside expert by the acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the natural gas industry.
- Retained as the outside expert by the potential acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the retail gas industry.
- Retained as the outside expert by the target in the review of an acquisition in the airline industry.
- Retained as the outside expert by the target in the review of an acquisition in the food products industry.
- Retained as the outside expert by the potential acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the heavy equipment industry.

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- Retained as the outside expert by Paper Excellence Canada Holdings Corporation in connection with the acquisition of the pulp production business of Catalyst Paper Corporation.
- Retained as the outside expert by the acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the retail crop inputs industry. Presented findings to the Competition Bureau.
- Retained as the outside expert by the potential acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the propane industry.
- Retained as the outside expert by the acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the public exchange industry.
- Retained as the outside expert for Superior Plus, LP in connection with its acquisition of the retail propane distribution business of Gibson Energy ULC (Canwest Propane), which involved empirically estimating the anti-competitive effects of the merger and conducting the section 96 trade-off analysis. Presented findings to the Competition Bureau.
- Retained as the Canadian outside expert for Agrium, Inc. in the review of its merger with PotashCorp of Saskatchewan, which involved empirically estimating the anti-competitive effects of the merger and conducting the section 96 trade-off analysis. Submitted findings to the Competition Bureau.
- Retained as one of the outside experts for Cintas Corporation in its acquisition of G&K Services Inc. Presented findings to the Competition Bureau.
- Retained as one of the outside experts for BCE, Inc. in its acquisition of Manitoba Telecom Systems Inc. Submitted findings to the Competition Bureau.
- Retained as one of the outside experts for Superior Plus Corporation in its proposed acquisition of Canexus Corporation. Presented findings to the Competition Bureau.
- Retained as the outside expert by the acquiror in the review of an acquisition in the landfill and bioremediation industry.
- Retained as the outside expert for the Competition Bureau in its review of an acquisition in the insulated metal panels industry.
- While seconded to the Competition Bureau, served as the Bureau's internal economist on its review of the acquisition of a hazardous waste landfill in northeastern British Columbia. This work included developing theories of harm, empirically estimating the anti-competitive effects from the merger, calculating the deadweight loss associated with the transaction and assisting with testimony before the Competition Tribunal. It also involved assisting with the Bureau's submissions before the Federal Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. *Commissioner of Competition v. Tervita (CCS Corporation)*.
- While seconded to the Competition Bureau, led the analysis of competitive effects for merger investigations in the following industries: grocery retailing; fertilizer manufacturing and retailing; newspapers; cement; fast food retailing; oriented strand board production; milk production; armoured car services; broadcasting; telecommunications; sports and entertainment; lumber; car rental; equities trading and post-trade clearing

services; upstream oil and gas; consumer auto products; mining consumables; and construction rental equipment.

- Led the empirical analysis of competitive effects for several mergers in the eyeglass and sunglass retailing and manufacturing markets. This involved developing and performing regression analysis for local geographic markets and predicting the competitive effects in those local markets. Presented findings to the Federal Trade Commission.
- Led the empirical analysis of competitive effects in support of an expert for mergers in the following industries: passenger air travel; newspapers; newsprint production; nitrogen-based fertilizers; paint and chemical manufacturing; beer manufacturing; satellites; asphalt and aggregates; search engines and advertising; and bioremediation.

Abuse of Dominance / Monopolistic Practices

- Retained by the complainant in an abuse of dominance matter before the European Commission Directorate-General for Competition. Presented findings to the Directorate-General and the Chief Economist Team.
- While seconded to the Competition Bureau, served as the Bureau's internal economist on its review of rules implemented by Canada's largest real estate association regarding the use of MLS data on virtual office websites and its application to the Competition Tribunal under the abuse of dominance provision of the *Competition Act*. This work included developing theories of harm and assisting with testimony before the Tribunal. *Commissioner of Competition v. Toronto Real Estate Board*.
- While seconded to the Competition Bureau, served as the internal economist on civil investigations involving the following industries: broadcasting; professional sports leagues; grocery retailing; search advertising and optimization; and waste collection.
- Led the support of an expert testifying on the liability aspect of monopolization and foreclosure in the antisubmarine warfare aircraft refurbishment industry. *L-3 Communications v. Lockheed Martin*.

Price Fixing

- Retained as the consulting expert by a defendant in an alleged price-fixing matter. Presented findings to the Competition Bureau.
- Led the empirical support of an expert analyzing the effects of an alleged agreement between firms in the parcel-tanker shipping industry to determine if the agreement resulted in an undue lessening or prevention of competition.
- Led the empirical support of an expert testifying on the estimated overcharge resulting from the price fixing of carbon fiber. *Horizon Sports v. Newport Adhesives*.
- Led the support of an expert testifying on behalf of the defendants in the alleged price-fixing of the universal service fees. *In re: USF Telephone Billing Practices Litigation*.
- Led the empirical support of an expert analyzing the competitive effects of the alleged air

cargo conspiracy for a defendant in the United States and the European Union.

- Led the empirical support of an expert analyzing the competitive effects of price-fixing in the US maritime shipping industry.

Regulatory Matters

- *Reply to the Report of Zhiqi Chen: “Assessment of an Expert Report by The Brattle Group Regarding Telecom Order CRTC 2019-288*, prepared for Bragg Communications Inc. (c.o.b. Eastlink), Cogeco Communications Inc., Rogers Communications Canada Inc., Shaw Cablesystems G.P., and Videotron Ltd., in the Application for Review and Variance and a Stay of Telecom Order CRTC 2019-288, March 13, 2020, with Agustin J. Ros, Dimitri Dimitropoulos and Ian Cass.
- *Analysis of CRTC’s Final Rates for Aggregated Wholesale High-Speed Access Services: Impact on Broadband Network Investment and Innovation*, prepared for Bragg Communications Inc. (c.o.b. Eastlink), Cogeco Communications Inc., Rogers Communications Canada Inc., Shaw Cablesystems G.P., and Videotron Ltd., in the Petition to the Governor in Council pursuant to Section 12 of the *Telecommunications Act* Re: Telecom Order CRTC 2019-288 and in the Application for Review and Variance and a Stay of Telecom Order CRTC 2019-288, November 13, 2019, with Agustin J. Ros, Dimitri Dimitropoulos and Ian Cass.
- *An Analysis of Broadband Services in Canada; Competition, Regulation, and Investment*, prepared for Shaw Communications Inc., in the Competition Bureau Market Study: Competition in Broadband Services, August 30, 2018, with Coleman Bazelon and Agustin J. Ros.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Merger Analysis

“Econometrics and Modeling for Mergers Globally,” Fordham Competition Law Institute International Antitrust Law & Policy Conference, moderator, October 7, 2020.

“The Impact of COVID-19 on Merger Control,” Canadian Bar Association Teleconference, April 8, 2020.

“Merger Control in the Face of COVID-19,” White & Case Teleconference, March 31, 2020.

“The Future of the Efficiencies Defense in Canadian Competition Law,” Canadian Economic Association Meetings, Banff, AB, June 2, 2019.

“ARC Requests and Market Definition 101,” Canadian Bar Association Young Lawyers and Mergers Committee Teleconference, December 18, 2018.

“From market shares and form-based approach to unilateral effects in innovation and Intel – 15 years of competition economics,” Association of Competition Economists, Bologna, Italy, November 15, 2018.

“Evidentiary Standards in Mergers with Innovation,” International Competition Network Merger Workshop, Break-out Session, Tokyo, Japan, November 8, 2018.

“Non-Price Effects in Competition Analysis: Fact or Fiction?” Canadian Bar Association, 2016 Annual Fall Competition Law Conference, Ottawa, ON, October 6, 2016.

“Mergin’ On Up: Current Issues in Vertical Transactions,” American Bar Association / Canadian Bar Association Brownbag Teleconference, May 25, 2016.

“Non-price Effects in Competition Assessment,” Competition Bureau Emerging Competition Issues Workshop, moderator, Ottawa, ON, January 18, 2016.

“A New World Order? Implications of the Supreme Court’s Decision in *Tervita* for Mergers?” Canadian Bar Association, 2015 Annual Fall Competition Law Conference, Ottawa, ON, October 2, 2015.

“The Relationship between Competition and Innovation,” Competition Bureau Innovation and Antitrust Workshop, Ottawa, ON, November 4, 2014.

“Issues in the Retail Environment,” Canadian Bar Association, 2014 Annual Fall Competition Law Conference, Ottawa, ON, September 18, 2014.

“The Use of Econometric Data in Merger Review,” American Bar Association International Section of Law / International Association of Young Lawyers Conference, Chicago, IL, June 7, 2014.

“Challenges in Merger Review: Price Discrimination,” Canadian Economic Association Meetings, Vancouver, BC, May 30, 2014.

“Structural Approaches vs. Competitive Effects – How the Canadian Competition Bureau Strikes a Balance,” Keynote Address, Canadian Bar Association Roundtable Event: Meet the Competition Bureau Economists, Toronto, ON, April 3, 2014.

“Bureau’s Use of Econometrics in Merger Cases,” Competition Bureau / Canadian Bar Association Mergers Roundtable, Toronto, ON, May 10, 2013.

“Quantitative Methods for Competition Analyses,” with Dennis Lu, Presentation to the Mergers Branch, Gatineau, QC, May 22, 2013.

“Econometric Tools in Merger Reviews,” with Dennis Lu and Patrick Hughes, Presentation to the Commissioner of Competition, Gatineau, QC, February 6, 2013.

“The Rough Guide to the *Commissioner of Competition v. CCS et. al.*,” with Nikiforos Iatrou and Trevor MacKay, Competition Bureau Town Hall, Gatineau, QC, February 23, 2012.

Abuse of Dominance / Monopolistic Practices

“Economic Issues Involving Platforms, Privacy and the Digital Economy”, co-moderator, Canadian Bar Association Teleconference, February 16, 2021.

“Abuse of Dominance Comes in for a Landing: The State of s.79 Following VAA and TREB”, Canadian Bar Association Teleconference, January 17, 2020.

“Competition Issues Involving Vertical Unilateral Conduct,” Canadian Bar Association Teleconference, November 21, 2019.

“Abuse of Dominance in a Changing World,” Canadian Bar Association, 2019 Annual Spring Competition Law Conference, Toronto, ON, May 7, 2019

“TREB, AMEX and the Future of Monopolization in Data-Driven Markets,” Canadian Bar Association, 2018 Annual Fall Competition Law Conference, Ottawa, ON, September 27, 2018.

“Vertical Restraints in Online Markets,” International Competition Network Annual Meeting, Break-out Session, Singapore, April 27, 2016.

Economics / Other Competition Issues

“Digital Strategy of Competition Agencies,” International Competition Network Annual Meeting, Agency Effectiveness Working Group plenary session, virtual, September 15, 2020.

“Economics of Antitrust Analysis and Policy: The Relevance of Gender,” American Bar Association Antitrust Law Section Panel, Washington, DC, November 19, 2019.

“Integrating Economics in Case Assessments – Lessons Learned from Experience,” International Competition Network Annual Meeting, moderator of Break-out Session, New Delhi, India, March 22, 2018.

“Expanding the Right of Private Access,” Canadian Economic Association Meetings, Antigonish, NS, June 3, 2017.

“Economists of Scale and Scope – the Role of Expert Economists for Effective Enforcement,” International Competition Network Annual Meeting, Break-out Session, Porto, Portugal, May 12, 2017.

“Economists and the ICN,” International Competition Network Chief/Senior Economists Workshop, Vancouver, BC, September 13, 2016.

“Economists and the ICN,” International Competition Network Annual Meeting, Break-out Session, Singapore, April 27, 2016.

“Notification in Aisle 5: A Cross-Border Survey of Econometric Trends and Tools,” American Bar Association / Canadian Bar Association Brownbag Teleconference, April 21, 2014.

“Managing Economics Experts,” Presentation to the Competition Bureau, Gatineau, QC, 2012, 2014.

LECTURES

RENÉE M. DUPLANTIS

Guest Lecturer in Ivey Business School at Western University Microeconomics Course, London, ON, 2016-2020.

Guest Lecturer in Northeastern University Industrial Organization Doctoral Course, Boston, MA, 2016, 2018, 2020.

Guest Lecturer in Western University Industrial Organization Honours Course, London, ON, 2013-2016.

Guest Lecturer in York University, Osgoode Hall Law School Competition Course, Toronto, ON, 2014, 2020.

“The Economics of Cartels,” Competition Bureau Basic Industrial Organization Course, Gatineau, QC, 2014.

PUBLICATIONS

“The Canadian Competition Bureau and Big Data: Interview with Renée Duplantis, PhD, former TD MacDonald Chair in Industrial Economics at the Competition Bureau,” with Zirjan Derwa, *Competition Law International*, 15(2), pp 149-152, December 2019

“The Importance of Quantifying Non-Price Effects in Canada,” with Ian Cass, *Concurrences Review*, No. 2-2017, pp. 51-57

“Economic Analysis of Retail Mergers at the Competition Bureau,” Competition Bureau White Paper, September 14, 2014

“Do Mergers Among Publishers of Academic Journals Affect Prices?” working paper, 2010

“Pass-Through of Non-sunk Fixed Costs with an Application to Fuel Costs,” working paper, 2010

“Merger Effects in Markets for Highway Construction,” working paper, 2010

“From Structure to Effects: the Economics of Merger Control,” *Global Competition Review*, June 2008, with R. S. Khemani and R. Warren-Boulton

HONOURS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- *Who’s Who Legal: Thought Leaders – Competition*, 2021
- *Who’s Who Legal: Competition Economists*, 2018-2020
- *Who’s Who Legal: Consulting Experts*, 2018-2020
- *Who’s Who Legal: Canada*, 2017-2020
- *Who’s Who Legal: Competition – Future Leaders – Economists*, 2017

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- Deputy Minister Merit Award Winner, Competition Bureau, 2015
- Commissioner Merit Award Winner, Competition Bureau, 2014, 2015
- Commissioner Merit Award Finalist, Competition Bureau, 2011, 2013
- Deputy Commissioner Merit Award, Competition Bureau, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Competition Policy Council, C.D. Howe Institute, 2016 to present
- Non-government Advisor to the International Competition Network for the Competition Bureau Canada, 2015 to present
- Editor-in-Chief, *Canadian Competition Law Review*, 2020-2021
- Editorial Board, *Canadian Competition Law Review*, 2015 to present
- Canadian Bar Association, affiliate member
- American Bar Association, associate member