

ARBITRATOR/MEDIATOR SPOTLIGHT

The Honourable Laurence Pattillo



CAREER & BACKGROUND

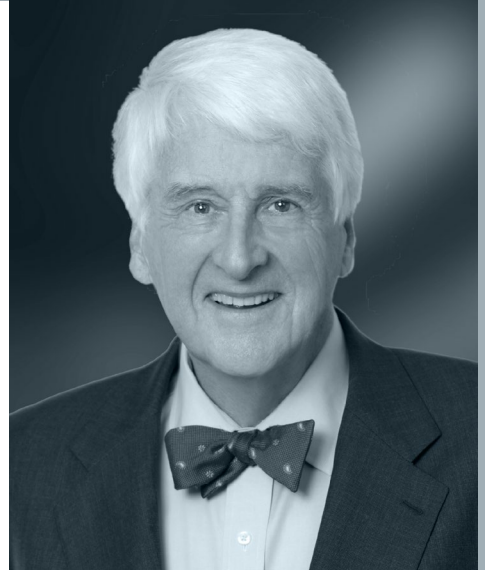
I was called to the Bar in 1974 and practiced primarily general commercial litigation at what is now Torys LLP from 1975 to 2006. In 2006, I was appointed to the Superior Court in Ontario where I remained until I retired in 2002. The majority of my time on the Court was spent on the Commercial List, which focuses on the timely resolution of disputes. While on the List, I dealt with commercial matters in general and specifically shareholder disputes, contract matters and insolvency, as well as Estate matters. I also case managed a number of matters.

ARBITRATOR/MEDIATOR PRACTICE

My arbitration practice has involved matters which bring into play my extensive experience both as a commercial litigator and a judge. In that regard, to date I have been retained for both mediations and arbitrations.

BENEFITS OF ARBITRATION/MEDIATION

ADR enables parties to obtain a timely resolution to their dispute based on their timing and in a more informal environment than a court proceeding. It offers the benefit of direct access to the decision maker throughout the proceeding. Decisions are rendered in a timely fashion and for the most part are final, enabling the matter to proceed or be concluded without delay. It also has the very important benefit of confidentiality for sensitive personal or business matters.



TIPS FOR COUNSEL TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN ARBITRATION/MEDIATION

Counsel's effectiveness in ADR is no different really than in litigation generally. They must present their client's case in a clear and concise manner both in writing and orally. Notwithstanding the more relaxed manner of proceeding, it is important for counsel to both co-operate and communicate not only with each other but with the adjudicator and adhere to agreed timetables to ensure the matter proceeds in a timely fashion.