

ERIC SCHJERNING

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EDUCATION

University of Windsor and Stitt Feld Handy **2016**

Executive Certificate in Conflict Management

F.L.M.I. (Fellow of the Life Management Institute) **1996**

Life Insurance Industry Course

Queen's University, Faculty of Law (Kingston, ON) **1984**

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B)

- *Queen's Law Entrance Scholarship (1981)*

Queen's University (Kingston, ON) **1981**

Bachelor of Arts (magna cum laude) - Politics

EMPLOYMENT

Schjerning Mediations Ltd. **April 2021 to Date**

Owner and Principal

- Conduct mediations, marketing, produce *Eric's LTD Update* newsletters.

Blaney McMurtry LL.P. **2005 to April 2021**

Partner

- Partner in the insurance defence group. Built up a life, critical illness, and LTD insurance litigation practice with 17 insurance company clients and roughly 140 active files;
- Liase with clients, conduct trials, motions, discoveries and mediations (in the role of counsel);
- Commenced working as a mediator in 2013. Mediation % of practice quickly increased and % of litigation practice decreased. In 2017 transitioned to full-time mediator.

The Canada Life Assurance Company **1995-2005**

Litigation Vice-President

- Managed litigation team of lawyers (7 to 10) law clerks (3 to 5) as well as all Legal Department Administrative staff (10 to 15);
- Contact lawyer for all multi-million dollar investments related lawsuits with outside counsel;
- Member of Canada Life's demutualization team;
- Litigated high value LTD and life insurance disputes.

The Canada Life Assurance Company **1992-1994**

Director of LTD and Life Insurance Claims

- Head of Canada Life's group LTD, STD, and Life insurance claims departments as well as the Rehab and Individual Disability claims departments;
- Managed 5 direct reports and roughly 85 indirect reports;

- Liased with large group policyholders as well as with Canada Life’s human resources, sales, underwriting and actuarial departments.

The Canada Life Assurance Company

1986-1992

Litigation Counsel and Senior Counsel

- Managed LTD and life insurance litigation with outside counsel.
- In 1988 spearheaded move to bring litigation in-house. Following this move, conducted discoveries, motions, mediations and trials on a caseload of roughly 120 active files.

TEXTBOOKS and PUBLICATIONS

Disability Insurance Law in Canada

Carswell 2010

Co-authored with David Norwood

Disability Insurance Law in Canada (Second Edition)

Thomson Reuters 2017

Disability Insurance Law in Canada (Third Edition)

Thomson Reuters 2023

(In progress)

Eric’s LTD Updates

A quarterly newsletter sent to roughly 500 counsel summarizing life and LTD insurance decisions of interest.

MEMBERSHIPS

The Law Society of Ontario

The ADR Institute of Ontario

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Presented over 50 times to groups such as The Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association, The Canadian Bar Association, The Canadian Institute, and The Ontario Trial Lawyers Association.

TYPES OF CASES MEDIATED

LTD Insurance	Life Insurance	AD & D Insurance
Critical Illness Insurance	Creditor Insurance	Travel Insurance
Slip and Falls	Global Mediations	Employment Law

INTERESTS

World War II strategy board games, reading, weightlifting, cycling, my wife, two sons and dog.