

Dr. Renée Duplantis has more than 15 years of experience involving complex competition matters in Canada, the United States and Europe. She specializes in the empirical analysis of antitrust issues with a primary focus on quantifying the competitive effects of mergers. She has been the expert for the parties in several large mergers including, Superior Plus, LP's acquisition of the retail propane distribution business of Gibson Energy ULC (Canwest Propane), the merger of Agrium, Inc. and PotashCorp of Saskatchewan, and BCE, Inc.'s acquisition of Manitoba Telecom Systems Inc. She has also been involved in several competition matters involving allegations of abuse of dominance, exclusionary conduct, monopolization, collusion and price-fixing.

Prior to joining Brattle, Dr. Duplantis spent almost 5 years at the Canadian Competition Bureau in various positions, including as the T.D. MacDonald Chair in Industrial Economics (Chief Economist). During this time, she provided the Commissioner of Competition with advice on economic matters related to competition policy and participated in the economic analysis of numerous high-profile investigations under the *Competition Act*.

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

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

For over 15 years, I have been providing economic consulting services in numerous industries. Selected experience includes:^[1]

Merger Analysis

- 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.

^[1] Note that the listed experience does not include active 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.

- 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 for the merging parties 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; armored 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.
- 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.

Monopolistic Practices

- 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*.

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- 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

- Empirically analyzed 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

- *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.

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.

HONOURS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- *Who's Who Legal: Competition Economists*, 2018
- *Who's Who Legal: Consulting Experts*, 2018
- *Who's Who Legal: Canada*, 2017, 2018
- *Who's Who Legal: Competition – Future Leaders – Economists*, 2017

- 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
- Deborah Allen Fellowship, Duke University, 1999-2000
- Tuition Scholarship, Duke University, 1999-2000
- Academic Scholarship, University of Louisiana at Monroe, 1995-1998

PUBLICATIONS

“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

PRESENTATIONS

“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.

“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.

“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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LECTURES

“Tervita And the Acquisition of Complete,” Lecture to Ivey Business School at Western University, London, ON, 2016, 2017, 2018.

“*Commissioner of Competition vs. Toronto Real Estate Board (TREB)*,” Lecture to Western University Industrial Organization Honours Course, London, ON, 2016.

“Tervita and the Acquisition of Complete,” Lecture to Northeastern University Industrial Organization Doctoral Course, Boston, MA, 2016, 2018.

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

“The *Staples* Revolution,” Lecture to York University, Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto, ON, 2014.

“The *Staples* Revolution,” Lecture to Western University Industrial Organization Honours Course, London, ON, various dates 2013, 2014, 2015.