



Ellen K. Embury

Partner
Dunphy Best Blocksom LLP
Calgary, Alberta

Education

University of Victoria, M.P.A.,
1999
University of Victoria, LL.B.,
1999
Queen's University, B.A. (Hons),
1995

Called to the Bar

Ontario: 2001
Alberta: 2003

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Ellen became a partner at Dunphy Best Blocksom in 2015 and has chaired the firm's Civil Litigation group since 2010. She has 15 years of extensive litigation experience, having spent many years at one of Calgary's largest law firms.

Ellen specializes in employment law and is well-known for successfully representing both employers and employees in a wide breadth of employment matters. In addition, she is experienced with general commercial litigation, including builder's liens and contract dispute matters.

Ellen splits her practice between employment and general litigation matters, and her strong interest in reproductive technology law.

Ellen has helped hundreds of couples and individuals who wish to become parents, as well as surrogates, with all aspects of surrogacy and fertility law. Ellen works with intended parents, surrogates (gestational carriers), and also with egg and sperm donors. Surrogacy agencies from across Canada and internationally refer their clients to Ellen for assistance with surrogacy legal services in Alberta.

When you are trying to build a family through assisted reproduction, look to an experienced lawyer who has successfully helped families with third party reproductive technology law. Ellen has handled a wide range of assisted reproduction issues for families – in Alberta and internationally. She has good relationships with the Judges of the Alberta Courts assigned to deal with surrogacy related actions.

As a Fellow of the American Academy of Assisted Reproductive Technology Attorneys, Ellen regularly attends conferences on fertility matters. In 2014 she was asked to co-chair Canada's first national conference on Reproductive Technology Law, which was held in Toronto.

Ellen takes a highly personal approach in dealing with families. She understands that clients have often expended considerable time and resources trying to become pregnant before they turn to surrogacy. She handles surrogacy law related matters in a supportive, timely and cost-efficient manner for all parties.

Ellen acts for both employers and employees in a wide range of employment law and human rights matters. These include drafting contracts, prosecuting and defending wrongful dismissal lawsuits and conducting harassment and other investigations. Ellen acts for both employers and employees, which gives her a unique perspective in dealing with employment related matters.

Ellen regularly receives referrals from the larger firms in Calgary who are unable to handle plaintiff's side employment matters for conflict of interest reasons.

Ellen has significant experience in professional liability work, having represented lawyers, building professionals and various medical professionals in professional negligence actions. Ellen also litigates commercial matters, builder's lien matters, collections matters and personal injury matters. Ellen has appeared at all levels of Alberta and Ontario Courts.

When she is not practicing law, Ellen sits on the Board of Directors of her Community Association and spends her weekends in beautiful Fernie, British Columbia.



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