



Michael Connell

Associate

Phone: 519 660 2095

Fax: 519 660 7879

Email: michael.connell@siskinds.com

Michael Connell is an associate in the municipal, planning & environmental law practice group at Siskinds.

Called to the Bar of Ontario, 2012; New York, 2009

About

Michael Connell's practice focuses on providing strategic advice and counsel to landowners, municipalities, developers and other related stakeholders regarding issues of land development, environmental regulation, and resource management. Michael regularly represents his clients before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (formerly the Ontario Municipal Board) and the Environmental Review Tribunal.

Michael's practice also includes a full range of services related to environmental contamination, including civil litigation, risk mitigation, regulatory compliance and assistance with permits and contracts for clients across several industries.

Michael is licensed to practice law in Ontario and New York. Prior to joining Siskinds, Michael worked in a full service Toronto firm in the area of land use planning and environmental law. Before practicing law in Ontario, Michael was Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs at a public

affairs and policy firm, where he advised energy and natural resource sector clients on the full suite of federal environmental legislation and regulation. He completed his articles with the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General.

Education

Ave Maria School of Law, Ann Arbor, Michigan
J.D. (magna cum laude)
University of Toronto B.A. (with distinction)

Memberships and Associations

- Ontario Bar Association, Planning and Municipal Law Section, Executive
- Canadian Bar Association, Member
- Middlesex Law Association, Member

Publications and Speaking

Articles

- Michael Connell, “Protective and Preventative Purpose of Ontario’s *Environmental Protection Act* Justifies Warrantless Inspection Powers.” *Canadian Environmental Regulations & Compliance*, vol. 30, no. 1, 2019, p. 547.
- Michael Connell, “Deterrence Justifies Minimum Fines in Environmental Offences.” *Environment Policy & Law*, vol. 29, no. 10, p. 909.

Speaking/Academic

- Speaker, “Legal and Regulatory Issues Facing Building Owners and Property Managers”, SpringFest, Toronto, ON, April 5, 2018
- Instructor, “Law and Construction Contracts”, George Brown College, School of Construction Management and Trades/School of Architectural Studies, 2017-2018
- Instructor, “Environmental and Planning Law”, University of Guelph, School of Planning and Development, 2013-2016
- Instructor, “Environmental Regulations and Legal Issues”, University of Waterloo, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, 2014-2016

Michael is also an active contributor to the Siskinds blog, found at www.siskinds.com/envirolaw/blog/. Some of his articles include:

- “Annual Report on Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Released”
- “Ontario Court of Appeal Provides Succinct Overview of Regulation of Sewage Works”
- “City of the Kawartha Lakes enters into

“Diversion Agreement” to resolve Federal Charges under the Fisheries Act”

- “Conservation Ontario’s 2019 Budget Consultation Submission”
- “Proposed new “Open-for-business” by-law authority scrapped”
- “10 Year Review of Ontario’s Endangered Species Act”
- “Ontario Environmental Review Tribunal Upholds Another Wind Turbine Approval”
- “Ontario Extends Moratorium on Issuing Water Taking Permits to Bottled Water Companies”
- ““Protective” and “Preventative” Purpose of Ontario’s Environmental Protection Act Justifies Warrantless Inspection Powers”
- “Ontario Court of Appeal Holds that Deterrence Justifies Minimum Fine in Environmental Prosecution”