Hélène Deschamps Marquis

Partner, AI Practice Lead and National Co-Leader, Privacy & Cybersecurity

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Artificial Intelligence (AI)
Cybersecurity, Privacy & Data Protection
Compliance with Privacy & Data Protection
Privacy & Security Breaches
Privacy Regulators' Investigations
Information Technology
Health Informatics

Hélène Deschamps-Marquis has over 25 years of market-leading experience advising many of Canada's foremost institutions on managing complex legal and business risks related to cybersecurity, privacy, information technology, and artificial intelligence.

Her practice encompasses AI governance and compliance, incident and breach response, global data protection frameworks, and the negotiation of cross-border technology transactions. She frequently advises boards and general counsel on emerging digital risks and regulatory developments, helping them strengthen organizational resilience and strategic decision-making in a rapidly evolving environment.

Hélène's clients span sectors including energy, financial services, health care, the public sector, and transportation. Her strategic guidance covers:

- Cyber and AI governance frameworks
- Risk assessment and mitigation, including privacy impact assessments
- Regulatory compliance and reporting
- Breach preparedness and incident response coaching
- Responsible AI tool deployment and oversight
- Technology-related policies, training, and internal procedures
- Drafting and negotiation of technology agreements (e-commerce, outsourcing, R&D, M&A, and financing contexts)

An active speaker, lecturer, and thought leader in Canada and internationally, Hélène contributes to shaping the ethical and regulatory landscape for digital transformation, particularly in AI governance, cybersecurity law, and privacy protection.

Insights & Events

- Speaker, "BC Hydro CFO Committee Meeting", November 2025
- Author, "Year 2025 in review and trends for 2026: Major developments in cybersecurity and personal information protection", BLG Article, January 2026
- Speaker, "Artificial Intelligence meets Marketing: Navigating Innovation and Legal Risk," BLG Advertising and Marketing Law Seminar, December 2025
- Speaker, "AI in Practice: Canadian Legal Framework and Best Practices for Your Contracts and Governance", ABC Québec, November 2025
- Speaker, Electricity Canada Presentation (Vancouver): Navigating Cybersecurity & AI in the Electricity Industry, November 2025
- Speaker, Electricity Canada (Montreal), Bill C-8: Cybersecurity Reform for Canada's Critical Infrastructure Sectors, November 2025
- Speaker, "Assurance cyber : faciliter la gestion d'un incident couvert", ACC Québec Conference, November 2025
- Speaker, IBA Conference, AI in banking and finance: applications, use cases, benefits and challenges, November 2025
- Director and Speaker, ITechLaw 2025 European Conference, London, Agentic AI: Liability, Bias and Transparency Considerations, October 2025
- Director and Speaker, ITechLaw 2025 European Conference, London, ITechLaw Technology Sourcing, October 2025
- Speaker, ACCP Conference, AI and How it Impacts US, October 2025
- Speaker, Can-Tech, AI Governance in Practice: Charting a Canadian Course (Post AIDA), October 2025
- Interviewed, AI as a new driver of performance in Business Law, Les Affaires, October 2025
- Speaker, Cybersecurity: Practical matters for in-house counsels, October 2025
- Speaker, CNFP Seminar, Cultivating Magic with AI: Practical Insights for Not for Profits, October 2025
- Author, "Culture determines whether cyber policies succeed or fail", BLG Article, October 2025
- Author, "Protecting your data: Your weakest link may be outside your firewall", BLG Article, October 2025
- Author, "Your first response to a cyber breach defines your reputation", BLG Article, October 2025
- Author, "Privacy and cybersecurity are no longer IT issues, they are board issues", BLG Article, September 2025
- Author, "Responsible AI is not just a tech issue, it is a leadership imperative", BLG Article, September 2025
- Author, "Your tech stack is only as strong as your contracts", BLG Article, September 2025
- Author, "Bill C-8 revives Canadian cyber security reform: What critical infrastructure sectors need to know", BLG Article, July 2025
- Author, "AI is transforming your business — and your risk profile", BLG Article, July 2025
- Author, "Data is an asset and needs to be treated like one", BLG Article, July 2025
- Author, "Your data strategy could be a goldmine — or a liability", BLG Article, July 2025

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Law Society of Ontario
- Member, Barreau du Québec
- Board member, Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA)
- Board and Executive Committee member, ITech Law
- Instructor (Board liability and cyber risks), Collège des administrateurs du Québec

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2014) of *Best Lawyers in Canada* (Information Technology Law; Technology Law) and named 'Lawyer of the Year' in 2026 (Information Technology Law).
- Recognized as Global Elite Thought Leader in the Data Security Category in the *Lexology Index Thought Leaders: Data 2025 report* (formerly *Who's Who Legal*)
- Recognized in the 2025 edition of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Technology Transactions) and since 2013 (Computer & IT Law; Data Protection & Privacy).
- Recognized in the 2025 edition (and since 2024) of *The Lexpert® Special Edition on Canada's Leading Technology Lawyers.*
- Recognized in the 2024 edition of *The Lexpert® Special Edition on Canada's Leading Health Sciences Lawyers.*
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2016) of the *Who's Who Legal: Canada* (Telecommunications Media & Technology; Information Technology and Data).
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2019) of the *Who's Who Legal's Thought Leaders: Data.*
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2015) of *The Legal 500 Canada* (Technology).

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2024
- Québec, 1998

- LLM, International Business and Technology Law, McGill University, 2000
- LLB, Université Laval, 1996

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intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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