



DEREK MAH*

Derek is Associate Counsel with Harper Grey and a member of our Critical Injury Group. Throughout his career, as a physiotherapist and a lawyer, Derek's focus has been on helping people who have been hurt.

DEREK MAH*

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EXPERTISE

Professional Regulation
Critical Injury

Read about Derek Mah's critical injury expertise [here](#).

Having graduated from UBC with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Therapy, Derek practiced physiotherapy at the Richmond Hospital and at private clinics until 2003.

While still practicing as a physiotherapist, Derek returned to UBC to obtain his LL.B. and was called to the B.C. Bar in 2004.

Following his call, Derek worked at a large downtown firm and specialized in the defence of ICBC and other personal injury claims. In 2006, he began to represent only people who have been hurt in accidents including ICBC car accident claims and slip and falls.

Derek's training and experience as a physiotherapist and defense lawyer provides him with unique insight into the medical and legal issues that his clients face. He also acts for the Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia on behalf of children who are unable to care for themselves. He has appeared as lead counsel in the British Columbia Provincial Court, Supreme Court, and Court of Appeal.

Derek was born in Vancouver and raised in Richmond. Through high school, he worked in the family printing business and in the summers, at a fish cannery. In 1992, he graduated from St. George's School and then, went to UBC and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Derek lives in Vancouver with his wife and two children. He coaches youth soccer, hockey, and baseball and enjoys painting. His most well-known piece is the 1994 Canuckmobile.

EXPERIENCE

CRITICAL INJURY

- Assisting a young man who was told by ICBC that he was entirely at fault for a car accident. The Court found that the other driver was 100% responsible. ICBC appealed and was unsuccessful.
- Helping a woman who has injured in a car accident recover \$357,000 in compensation despite ICBC's argument that most of her injuries were due to health problems that existed prior to the accident.

- Recovering compensation for two young men who were injured in a “low velocity impact” or LVI accident. ICBC argued that people cannot be injured in a low velocity impact.
- Helping a senior citizen recover \$115,000 in compensation for an injury suffered when the bus driver pulled away before she had a chance to sit.
- Helping a family recover compensation following a tragic accident when a high speed police cruiser ran a red light killing their husband/son.
- Assisting a young woman who suffered a significant knee injury after stepping into a hole while playing softball. The defence argued that her claim be dismissed because she had signed a team roster which was also a waiver.
- Helping a young man recover more than \$340,000 in compensation when he suffered a broken leg after a car jumped the curb and pinned him against a wall. The defence appealed and was unsuccessful.
- Assisting a woman recover compensation for injuries sustained in a slip and fall at a community centre. An application on behalf of the municipality to have the claim dismissed because she did not provide proper notice was unsuccessful. The defence appealed and was unsuccessful.
- Helping a woman recover compensation for shoulder injuries she sustained in a car accident.
- Assisting a young woman recover \$550,000 for a disc herniation she suffered in a car accident. The defence argued that her injuries were minimal.
- Assisting a family who were told by ICBC that they had misrepresented the principal driver when they purchased their car insurance and as such, would not be covered for their loss. The Court found that there was no misrepresentation of the principal driver.

CREDENTIALS

EDUCATION

- University of British Columbia, LL.B., 2003
- University of British Columbia, B. Sc. (P.T.), 1999
- University of British Columbia, B.A., 1996

BAR ADMISSION

- British Columbia, 2004

LEADERSHIP

- Consultant, UBC Law Students’ Legal Advice Program, since 2011
- Board Member, St. George’s Old Boys Association Board, since 2014
- Board Member, UBC Institute of Mental Health Advisory Board, since 2015

LEADERSHIP

- Member, The Law Society of British Columbia
- Member, Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch
- Member, Trial Lawyers’ Association of British Columbia, since 2010

PRESENTATIONS

- Judge, UBC Law School Moot Court since 2009
- Presenter, Trial Lawyers Association of British Columbia – *Pleadings*, December 2015
- Presenter, UBC Physiotherapy Graduating Class – *Charting, Interviews, Medical Legal Reports and Testifying*, August 2014
- Presenter, Trial Lawyers Association of British Columbia – *Young Lawyers*, February

2014

- Presenter, Physiotherapy Foundation of Canada – *Injury Law Update*, February 2014
- Presenter, Continuing Legal Education – *Personal Injury Conference*, June 2009
- Presenter, Continuing Legal Education – *Personal Injury & ICBC Cases in Provincial Court*, November 2008
- Presenter, UBC Continuing Studies – *Rehab and the Law*, April 2007

ARTICLES

- Physiotherapy Association of British Columbia – *Article Re: Swirski Interviews*, June 2012
- Physiotherapy Association of British Columbia – *Article Re: Expert v. Lay Witnesses*, September 2012

RECOGNITION

Recognized as a "Leading Lawyer" in the area of Personal Injury Litigation by Best Lawyers® in Canada, 2018 - 2019

COMMENTARIES

"Derek is a respected and knowledgeable legal professional with the ability to understand and connect with people. I really appreciated working with him as i felt like he took the time to understand me and my personal journey with the dispute he was working on for me."

— *Benchmark Canada®*

SELECT EVENTS + PRESENTATIONS

Derek Mah, Scott Marcinkow and Michael Thomas to present at Bridging the Gap 2018 Fall Seminar

Presentation date: 22.Nov.18

Presented by: Derek Mah*, Scott J. Marcinkow, Michael G. Thomas*

Derek Mah, Scott Marcinkow and Michael Thomas to present at Bridging the Gap 2018 Spring Seminar

Presentation date: 25.Apr.18

Presented by: Derek Mah*, Scott J. Marcinkow, Michael G. Thomas*, Drew Lawrenson

Derek Mah to present to UBC Physiotherapy Students on Records and Reports

Presentation Date: 03.May.18

Presented by: Derek Mah*

Barbara Norell, QC and Daniel Reid to present "Privacy And Reputation Management In The Internet Age" at Harper Grey Bridging the Gap Seminar Series

Event Date: 30.May.17

Presented by: Daniel J. Reid, Barbara J. Norell, QC, Derek Mah*

Derek Mah and Michael Thomas to present "Do Your Records And Reports Measure Up?" at Harper Grey Bridging the Gap Seminar Series

Event Date: 28.Mar.17

Presented by: Derek Mah*, Michael G. Thomas*, Abigail C.F. Turner*

SELECT NEWS

Harper Grey receives 48 rankings from Best Lawyers® in Canada 2020

Related to: Sandra Abley, JD, CFP®, TEP, Steven Abramson*, Owais Ahmed, Bryan G. Baynham, QC, Richard E. Bereti*, Salman Y. Bhura*, Guy P. Brown, QC*, William S. Clark*, Prentice Durbin*, Michael J. Hewitt*, Kimberly J. Jakeman*, Steven G. Lukas*, Maureen L.A. Lundell, QC, William D. MacRae*, Derek Mah*, Jonathan D. Meadows*, David W. Pilley, Una Radoja*, Christopher M. Rusnak*, Raj Samtani*, John P. Sullivan*, W. Sean Taylor, Michael G. Thomas*, Nigel L. Trevethan*, Abigail C.F. Turner*, Henning W. Wiebach*, Jennifer R. Woznesensky, Lara C. Zee - 21.Aug.19

30 Harper Grey Lawyers recognized by Best Lawyers® in Canada 2019

Related to: Steven Abramson*, Owais Ahmed, H. Roderick Anderson*, Bryan G. Baynham, QC, Richard E. Bereti*, Salman Y. Bhura*, Guy P. Brown, QC*, William S. Clark*, Prentice Durbin*, Michael J. Hewitt*, Kimberly J. Jakeman*, James M. Lepp, QC, Steven G. Lukas*, Maureen L.A. Lundell, QC, Derek Mah*, Jonathan D. Meadows*, David W. Pilley, Una Radoja*, Christopher M. Rusnak*, Raj Samtani*, John P. Sullivan*, W. Sean Taylor, Michael G. Thomas*, Nigel L. Trevethan*, Abigail C.F. Turner*, Henning W. Wiebach*, Jennifer R. Woznesensky, Lara C. Zee - 21.Aug.18

Harper Grey sponsors 2018 PABC Physio Forum & Gala Dinner

Related to: Scott J. Marcinkow, Derek Mah*, Michael G. Thomas* - 26.Feb.18

Harper Grey sponsors Physiotherapy Association of BC Event

Related to: Michael Brown, Derek Mah* - 28.Oct.17

Best Lawyers® in Canada 2018 recognizes 27 Harper Grey Lawyers

Related to: Bryan G. Baynham, QC, Richard E. Bereti*, Salman Y. Bhura*, Guy P. Brown, QC*, William S. Clark*, Prentice Durbin*, Kimberly J. Jakeman*, James M. Lepp, QC, Steven G. Lukas*, Maureen L.A. Lundell, QC, Derek Mah*, L. Neil Matheson, QC*, Jonathan D. Meadows*, Barbara J. Norell, QC, David W. Pilley, Christopher M. Rusnak*, Raj Samtani*, John P. Sullivan*, W. Sean Taylor, Michael G. Thomas*, Nigel L. Trevethan*, Abigail C.F. Turner*, Henning W. Wiebach*, Jennifer R. Woznesensky, Lara C. Zee - 22.Aug.17

Harper Grey sponsors 2017 PABC Physio Forum & Gala Dinner

Related to: Michael G. Thomas*, Derek Mah* - 22.Apr.17

Derek Mah joins Harper Grey

Related to: Derek Mah* - 31.Oct.16

Harper Grey sponsors today's Access Pro Bono 'Going Public' Event

Related to: Derek Mah* - 09.Sep.16