

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

### **Melanie L. Aitken**

Melanie Aitken was appointed Interim Commissioner of Competition in January 2009. Prior to that appointment, Melanie was the Senior Deputy Commissioner of Competition, Mergers, at the Competition Bureau. Immediately prior to joining the Bureau in 2005, Melanie was a partner at Bennett Jones LLP, practising commercial and competition litigation. Melanie received her LL.B. from the University of Toronto, and the Dean Cecil A. Wright Key on graduation. She was a partner at Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP from 1996-2002, including a two-year secondment to the Department of Justice (Canada) as Senior Counsel, where she was involved in major competition and trade litigation before the Competition Tribunal and the Federal Court. Melanie has appeared as counsel in the Supreme Court of Canada and on numerous appeals and hearings, including as counsel for the merging parties in *Superior Propane*, Canada's leading merger efficiencies case. Melanie has been listed as a leading Competition/Antitrust lawyer in Chambers Global, The World's Leading Lawyers, and as Top 40 Under 40 by Lexpert (2005).

Melanie was elected in 2007 as a Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada. She is an appointed Co-Chair of the University of Toronto Academic Appeals Tribunal and has been an Adjunct Professor at Osgoode and Queen's Law Schools. As well, Melanie remains very active in the affairs of the University of Toronto, receiving an Arbor Award in 1999, and as founder (in 1991) and co-ordinator of the Wilson Moot Court Constitutional Law Competition.