

VENKY JIE FENG

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Toronto, Ontario, Canada

PERSONAL SUMMARY

Venky Feng is an Ontario-qualified construction lawyer with a practice focused on complex construction and infrastructure disputes, including international arbitration, domestic arbitration, adjudication, and litigation. She currently serves as Legal Counsel to a national general contractor, where she advises on contract strategy, risk allocation, and dispute resolution across major projects in multiple Canadian jurisdictions.

Prior to her in-house role, Venky practiced at Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, where she acted in high-value, technically complex disputes for a broad range of stakeholders, including owners, contractors, engineers, consultants, sureties, subcontractors, and financial institutions. Her experience spans ICC and *ad hoc* arbitrations, large-scale infrastructure disputes, and multi-party proceedings involving intricate factual and expert evidence. Venky has direct experience in international arbitration, including serving as Tribunal Secretary to a retired appellate judge in an ICC arbitration seated in Toronto. In this role, she supported the tribunal in procedural and administrative matters, coordinated submissions and evidentiary records, assisted with hearing preparation, and contributed to the efficient management of the arbitral process.

Combining private practice and in-house experience, Venky brings a practical, detail-oriented, and process-driven approach to dispute resolution, with a strong understanding of construction industry dynamics and arbitral procedure.

EXPERIENCE

MAPLE REINDERS CONSTRUCTORS LTD., Mississauga, ON

May 2025 — Present

Legal Counsel

- Served as the General Counsel's key legal advisor, providing comprehensive legal advice to senior management on strategic, operational, and legal matters affecting business decisions and risk management.
- Provided legal support to a national general contractor operating across multiple provinces (NS, PEI, ON, AB, BC), advising on construction, corporate, commercial, and regulatory matters.
- Acted in an advisory capacity to senior leadership, overseeing and preparing government-mandated reports and making recommendations impacting strategic business decisions.
- Led the drafting, negotiation, and review of construction and project agreements (CCDC, CCA, integrated project delivery, progressive design-build, joint ventures, teaming, subcontracts, consultant agreements, purchase orders, NDAs, licenses, insurance, bonding and supplementary conditions) across diverse delivery models.
- Developed, updated, and standardized company contract templates, ensuring alignment with evolving construction law, procurement standards, and industry best practices; stayed current with legislative and regulatory changes affecting operations.
- Worked with management to resolve pre-litigation disputes, recommend settlements, and participate in mediation, adjudication, and alternative dispute resolution processes.
- Managed litigation and dispute resolution nationwide, including professional liability, breach of contract, construction, delay, surety, lien holdback, and enforcement matters; engaged and directed external counsel to ensure quality and cost-effectiveness.
- Delivered legal training and practical guidance to internal teams and executive leadership to support proactive risk mitigation, claims handling, legislative updates, and contract management.
- Provided advice on company policies and governance, including employment, human rights, health & safety, cybersecurity, privacy, AI, and other regulatory compliance areas.
- Oversaw legal budgets and external counsel management (labor & employment, procurement, and litigation) to maintain cost efficiency and alignment with corporate objectives.
- Offered guidance on human resources matters and compliance with federal and provincial laws, statutes, and regulations across all operational jurisdictions.
- Chair, Women's Committee – oversaw subcommittee activities, budgets, and internal policy initiatives; provided recommendations to senior management on diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives; and represented the organization at industry events and conferences.

BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS LLP, Toronto, ON

August 2021 — May 2025

Litigation Associate (formerly Articling Student from August 2021 to June 2022)

- Managed a diverse portfolio of construction and commercial disputes, including litigation, adjudication, and arbitration, with primary responsibility for day-to-day carriage of files from inception through resolution.
- Served as a key client contact, maintaining regular communications with clients, opposing counsel, experts, and adjusters, and providing strategic advice on risk assessment, procedural strategy, and settlement options.
- Supervised and mentored junior associates, articling students, and clerks, including delegating and reviewing legal research, pleadings, document review and production, and fact investigation.
- Drafted pleadings, affidavits, motion materials, submissions, legal opinions, and settlement documentation in contested matters at various stages of proceedings. Played a substantive role in trial and hearing preparation, including evidentiary analysis, witness preparation, chronology development, and briefing senior counsel.
- Regularly attended and participated in trial management conferences, discoveries, contested motions, mediations, adjudications and arbitrations, including examining and cross-examining witnesses where appropriate.
- Coordinated the preparation of expert and lay witnesses, including retaining experts, reviewing and assisting with expert reports, preparing affidavits, and developing examination strategies.
- Professional highlights:
 - Served as the Tribunal Secretary for a retired appellate judge in an ICC Arbitration hearing.
 - Represented a public energy utility in a \$240 million *ad hoc* arbitration hearing with an international contractor over the design, supply, and installation of seven turbine and generator units in a remote hydroelectric project, resulting in a favorable award of tens of millions of dollars.
 - Acted for a premier railroad maintenance and construction company in an ICC Arbitration against its international joint venture partner.
 - Secured a trial victory (full award of damages, interest, and costs) for a public hospital in a complex construction dispute with its former general contractor.
 - Represented an international hotel in various litigation and arbitration involving its former real estate development partner, property management company, and various subcontractors.
 - Acted for an international property management services firm in various disputes against its former landlord, general contractors, and subcontractors.
 - Represented a designer in a dispute with a public transport agency on a major infrastructure project.
 - Acted for a leading financial institution in managing its *Construction Act* lien litigation portfolio.
 - Represented a general contractor (via assignment of rights to its surety company) in various litigation with subcontractors, owners, and co-sureties on multiple Ontario infrastructure projects (hospitals, schools, long-term care homes, and community centers).
 - Acted for several surety companies in disputes involving lien bonds, Tarion warranty bonds, customs bonds, performance bonds, labor and material payment bonds, and indemnity actions.

BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS LLP, Toronto, ON

May 2020 — August 2020

Summer Student

- Researched surety law across Canada, the U.S., and the U.K., and drafted legal opinions and memoranda.
- Represented surety companies at court-mandated settlement conferences, achieving favorable settlements.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF LAW, Toronto, ON

J.D. (Juris Doctor), May 2021

OXFORD UNIVERSITY, Oxford, UK

D.Phil. Student, Department of Materials Science, voluntarily withdrew, 2016 – 2018

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE, South Hadley, MA

B.A., *summa cum laude*, Chemistry (American Chemical Society – Certified), May 2016

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Languages: fluent in Mandarin Chinese and English with basic knowledge of French.