# **MARCEL AUBUT**

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# **DIPLOMAS**

- Called to the *Barreau du Québec* (1972)
- LL.L., Université Laval (1970)
- B.A., Académie de Québec (1968)

## **AREAS OF PRACTICE**

#### Aboriginal Law

Administrative Law

Business, Commercial and Corporate Law

- Business Start-Ups
- Corporate Finance
- Corporate Reorganization
- Cross-Border Transactions
- Customs and International Trade
- Employee Incentive Plans
- Equity Financing
- Management Buyout
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Private International Law
- Transfer of Family Businesses
- Venture Capital Financing

Competition Law and Foreign Investment

### Construction Law

- Construction Litigation
- Construction Project Financing
- Development Partnership and Specific Contracts
- Public Private Partnerships

Entertainment, sports and media

#### Labour and Employment Law

- Employment Law
- Entertainment Law
- Healthcare and social services
- Labour Law
- Negociation of Collective Agreements
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Pension Plans and Benefits

### Securities

- Dealers and Advisors
- Mergers and Acquisitions of Public Companies
- Private Placements
- Public Financing

## **STRATEGIC TEAMS**

- Business and Technology
- Venture Capital
- Construction, Infrastructure and Procurement
- Labour and Employment
- Real Estate
- Mergers and Acquisitions

- Ethics, Anti-corruption and Governance
- Business Immigration
- Business Transfers
- Corporate Services
- Securities
- Entertainment, Sports and Media
- Administrative, Environmental & Municipal

# PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

French version is available here.

Marcel Aubut has been deeply involved in High Performance Sport in Canada for more than three decades. In 2000, he became a member of the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) and was elected to the Board of Directors. In 2005, he was elected to the COC Executive Committee. Mr. Aubut was subsequently voted President-elect of the COC in March 2009, becoming President in April 2010. Mr. Aubut was reelected president for a second four-year term in April 2013.

Mr. Aubut's leadership within the Olympic movement both in Canada and abroad continues to be extensive. In March 2011, he was appointed to the International Olympic Committee's International Relations Commission. In 2012, he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Pan American Sports Organization (PASO). He is also Vice-President and member of the Executive Committee of the *Association francophone de comités nationaux olympiques* (Association of francophone National Olympic Committees), Chair of the Canadian Olympic Foundation and Honorary Chair of Olympians Canada.

He previously served on the Board of the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC) where he was a member of both the Audit Committee and the Governance and Ethics Committee.

A board member on the successful 2015 Toronto Pan American Games Bid Committee, he is now a board member of the Toronto 2015 Organizing Committee and a member of its Finance Committee.

During his tenure as President of the COC, Mr. Aubut has reinvigorated the Canadian Olympic movement in a truly dramatic fashion. Under his direction, the COC attracted an unprecedented number of new corporate partnerships to the Canadian Olympic family and delivered the historic investment of close to \$130 million in High Performance Sport funding as part of the COC's partnership with the National Sport Federations to ensure best-in-class performance both on and off the field of play.

Under his innovative leadership, the COC also launched the ambitious and award-winning "Give Your Everything" brand marketing campaign leading up to the London 2012 Olympic Games as part of his mission to make Canadian Olympians household names from coast to coast.

During his tenure as COC President, Mr. Aubut has also been recognized both for his unwavering commitment to sport and for his ability to deliver for the sport community. In 2013, he was recognized as one of the 25 most influential French individuals in the world of sport.

In 2012, the Canadian Broadcast Corporation (CBC) ranked him as number six in a list of the 10 most influential figures in sport. He was also ranked the fifth most influential person in the Canadian Sports Industry according to the Globe and Mail's Power 50 List, then jumping to third in 2013.

Mr. Aubut has attended the last 12 Olympic Games, following Canadian athletes in their pursuit of excellence. He has been personally involved with the development and careers of many prominent athletes, supporting them over the years by providing advice, a network of contacts and help in seeking funding. In 1995, he created the Fondation Nordiques, an organization he still chairs that has distributed over \$5 million in scholarships and helped more than 425 athletes achieve top performances in international competition.

Renowned for his involvement in professional hockey, Mr. Aubut was president, CEO and co-owner of the Québec Nordiques from 1978 to 1995. He led the merger of the World Hockey Association (WHA) and the National Hockey League (NHL) in 1979, and was the architect behind the establishment of the Nordiques in the NHL. A 16-year NHL governor, he contributed to an evolving league by spearheading projects including the use of overtime periods and video replays, the introduction of NHL players to the Olympic Winter Games, the staging of Rendez-vous '87, and the coming of the Statsny brothers from former Czechoslovakia. He did not hesitate to challenge the monopolized broadcasting industry of NHL games, helping pave the way for a competitive environment that now benefits the entire world of hockey.

For exceptional contribution to Canada and Québec, Mr. Aubut received the Medal of the National Assembly of Québec in 1981 and was appointed Queen's Counsel in

1986. The same year, he became Member of the Order of Canada, and was elevated to the rank of Officer in 1993. In 2006, he was made *Officier de l'Ordre national du Québec*.

In 2008, Mr. Aubut received the Québec Bar's honorary title of Emeritus Lawyer and, in 2009, he received the official medal of the *Barreau de Québec*. He was inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame in 1999 and the Québec Sports Hall of Fame in 2008. In 2010, he was awarded the title of "*Grand Québécois*" by the Quebec City Chamber of Commerce, as well as the "*Médaille Gloire de l'Escolle*" from the *Université Laval*. In 2012, he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. Recently (2013), he also received the "Sports Volunteer of the Year" award at the Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance's PRESTIGE Awards.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

#### AWARD AND RECOGNITION

- The Governor General of Canada (Officer of the Order of Canada)
- Government of Québec (Officer of the Ordre national du Québec) (Medal of the National Assembly of Québec)
- Royal Prerogative (Queen's Council)
- Barreau du Québec (Emeritus Lawyer)
- The Best Lawyers in Canada (Sports Law 2014)
- Who's Who Legal (Sports & Media 2013)
- Canada's Sports Hall of Fame (Inductee Member)
- Panthéon des sports du Québec (Québec Sports Hall of Fame Inductee)
- Chambre de commerce de Québec (Grands Québécois)
- B'nai Brith Canada (Award of Merit)
- Université Laval (Prix Grands diplômés (Gloire de l'Escolle medal))

## **CONFERENCES**

- Speech before 300 key players in Quebec's business community, in connection with the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Québec Metro High Tech Park, 2013
- Speech before Vis Vires, an association of young business people in the Montreal region, Montreal, 2013
- Speech to the Drummondville business community on the occasion of its nomination as host city of the Quebec Winter Games in 2015. The announcement of the appointment of the Deputy Mission Chief for Sotchi 2014 was also made on the same occasion, Drummondville, 2013;
- Speech to the students of the Faculty of Law of the University of Montreal, Montreal, January 2013;
- Speech to delegates at the Americas Best Practices Symposium, in connection with the meeting of the Pan American Sports Organization (OSP/PASO), Miami, 2012.
- Speech titled "Let's Celebrate Excellence" to more than 1,200 participants during the gala lunch and inauguration ceremony at the Olympic Hall of Fame (more than \$3 million raised), Toronto, September 2012;
- Speeches made to groups of visitors to Canada Olympic House in connection with more 20 events, including the celebrations for medal-winning athletes, London, 2012.
- Speeches made in connection with over a dozen events across Canada to announce the nomination of Canadian athletes to the Canadian Olympic team for London 2012, 2012;
- Speech to members and invited guests of the Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance on the occasion of a luncheon, Quebec City, May 2012;
- Speech to over 4,000 members of the international Olympic community on the occasion of a luncheon for Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee, Quebec City, 2012;
- Speech to members of the General Assembly of the Francophone Association of National Olympic Committees, Quebec City, 2012;
- Speech to international sports federations on the occasion of a luncheon in connection with the SportAccord convention, Quebec City, 2012;
- Speech to more than 175 ministers of sport from across the world on the occasion of the General Assembly of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC), Moscow, 2012;
- Speech made in connection with the 35th anniversary of the Olympic Games in Montreal, Montreal, 2011
- Speech to more than 800 people during the Sport Leadership Convention (Coaching Association of Canada), Toronto, 2011;
- Speech in connection with an announcement of an increase in funding for the "Own the Podium" initiative at the Bell Centre, Montreal, November 2011;
- Speech to more than 700 members of Sports Media Canada, Toronto, 2011;
- Speech in connection with a breakfast with the Brazilian Minister Henrique Meirelles titled "Investment Opportunities in Brazil", Toronto, 2011;
- Speech to the General Assembly of the Pan American Sports Organization

- (OSP/PASO), Guadalajara, 2011;
- Speech to the convention of the Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance, Ottawa, 2011;
- Speech on the occasion of the breakfast of the business leaders of the Quebec Winter Carnival (800 people), Quebec City, 2011;
- Speech on the occasion of the convention of the World Olympic Sport Convention, Acapulco, 2010;
- Speech to the members of the alumni association of the *École Polytechnique* , Quebec City, 2010;
- Speech on the occasion of the "Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame" event, Centre Bell, Montreal, 2010;
- Speech on the occasion of the arrival of the Olympic flame in Quebec City, Quebec City, 2009;
- Speech to more than 600 people at the "Gold Medal Plates" event, Montreal, 2009
- Speech to the Quebec City police detachment assigned to security at the Vancouver Olympic games (more than 300 people), Montreal, 2009;
- Speech to a conference organized by the InterVal Rehabilitation Centre, Trois-Rivières (more than 400 participants), 2006;
- Speech made on the occasion of the "Rendez-vous 99" gala, the 8th gala for the benefit of the Sacré-Cœur Hospital of Montreal Foundation, Montreal, November 1999.

# PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Association
- Barreau du Québec
- Canadian Bar Association
- Sports Lawyers Association
- World Presidents' Organization, Inc. (WPO)
- Young Presidents' Organisation, Inc. (YPO)

## INVOLVEMENT

Among Others: - Canadian Olympic Committee, President - Canadian Olympic Foundation, President - International Olympic Committee, Member of the International Relations Commission - Toronto 2015 Pan Am and Parapan American Games, Director - Pan American Sports Organization (PASO), Executive Committee Member - Francophone Association of National Olympic Committees, Vice-president - Fondation Nordiques , President - Aeterna Zentaris, Director - Sama Resources, Vice-president and director