# LAW442 CONDOMINIUM LAW – Syllabus 2024-25

# **1. INTRODUCING CONDOMINIUM**

# A. Condominium

 Harris, "<u>Condominium: A Transformative Innovation in Property and Local</u> <u>Government</u>" in Graham et al eds, *The Routledge Handbook of Property, Law and Society* (London and New York: Routledge, 2023)

# **B.** Condominium & Property

- Harris, "<u>Embedded Property</u>," in Lippert and Treffers, eds., *Condominium Governance and Law in Global Urban Context* (London and New York: Routledge, 2021)
- <u>Syndicat Northcrest v Amselem</u>, 2004 SCC 47, paras 1-18, 35, 79-87, 91-102 (lacobucci J); 183-85, 206-209 (Binnie J)

#### Additional material

- Alexander, "Governance Property," 1853-1860
- Heller, "Common Interest Developments," 329-334

# C. Condominium & the City

- Harris, "<u>Condominium and the Right to Live in the City</u>" (2019) 34:3 Canadian Journal of Law and Society 371-392
- Omnicare Pharmacy Ltd. v The Owners, Strata Plan LMS 2854, 2017 BCSC 256, 37-66
- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 1, 120, 126, 128(1)

#### **Additional Material**

- Rosen & Walks, "Castles in Toronto's Sky: Condo-ism as Urban Transformation," (2015) 37:3 Journal of Urban Affairs 289-291
- Lehrer & Wieditz, "Condominium Development and Gentrification," (2009) 18:1 Canadian Journal of Urban Research 82-86
- Easthope et al, "How Property Title Impacts Urban Consolidation: A Life Cycle Examination," (2014) 32:3 Urban Policy and Research 289-304

# D. Statutory Condominium & Other Common Interest Communities

# i. Common Interest Communities

• John Oliver, <u>Homeowners Associations</u> (9 April 2023)

#### **Additional Material**

- o Evan Mackenzie, Privatopia
- Evan Mackenzie, *Beyond Privatopia*

#### ii. Statutory Condominium

- Harris, "<u>Condominium and the City: The Rise of Property in Vancouver</u>," (2011) 36:3 Law and Social Inquiry 694-702
- Easthope, The Politics and Practices of Apartment Living (EE Publishing 2019), 3-6

# iii. Common Law Condominium

• *Land Title Act*, RSBC 1996, c 250, s 73(4)-(5)

#### **Additional Material**

o *Mowat v Dudas*, 2012 BCSC 454, paras 1-3; 25-46

#### iv. Housing Cooperative

• Cooperative Associations Act, SBC 1999, c 28, s 8

# v. Building Scheme

• *Land Title Act*, RSBC 1996, c 250, ss 1, 220

#### **Additional Material**

- o The Owners, Strata Plan KAS 3162 v Staerkle, 2018 BCSC 1290
- o <u>Berry v Indian Park Assn</u>, (1999) 44 OR (3d) 301

# vi. Party Wall Agreement

• *Land Title Act*, RSBC 1996, c 250, ss 223.1 & 223.2

#### **Additional Material**

 Bill Buholzer, "Registered Party Wall Agreements: Now What?" (2012) 54:4 Planning West 15-17

# 2. CONDOMINIUM – The Actors

#### A. Owner-Developer

• <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 1 ("owner developer"), 5

#### B. Owner

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 1 ("common property", "limited common property", "owner", "strata lot"), 2, 53, 66-68
- <u>2475813 Nova Scotia Ltd. v Rodgers</u>, 2001 NSCA 12, paras 1-5
- Randy K. Lippert, "Condo Owners and Boards" in *Condo Conquest: Urban Governance, Law, and Condoization in New York City and Toronto*, 35-46

# C. Strata Corporation

- i. Creating a Strata Corporation
- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, s 2, 163, 166

# ii. Responsibilities of a Strata Corporation

- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, s 3
- Gentis v The Owners, Strata Plan VR 368, 2003 BCSC 120, paras 1-16, 20-26, 41

#### **Additional Material**

o <u>Sterloff v Strata Plan VR 2613</u>, 1994 CanLII 1011

# iii. Decision-Making

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 1 ("eligible voters", "majority vote", "3/4 vote", "80% vote", "unanimous vote"), 40, 42, 45, 46, 48, 50, 53, 54, 147, 148
- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, Schedule of Standard Bylaws, 25-28
- BC Strata Property Practice Manual, VIII. Schedule A Sections of the Act that Require Approval by Owners before Action Can Be Taken

#### **Additional Material**

- o The Owners, Strata Plan NW 971 v Daniels, 2010 BCCA 584, paras 1-13, 32-45
- o Loveys v The Owners, Strata Plan NW204, 2008 BCSC 1924
- o Macdonald v The Owners, EPS 522, 2019 BCSC 876

# iv. Addressing Dysfunctional Decision-Making

• <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, s 174

#### **Additional Material**

 <u>Norenger Development (Canada) Inc. v The Owners, Strata Plan NW 3271</u>, 2016 BCCA 118, paras 1-14, 43-45, 59-65

# D. Strata Council

- <u>Dockside Brewing Co v Strata Plan LMS 3837</u>, 2007 BCCA 183, paras 1-7, 16-35, 47-58
- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 4, 25-34.1 (Strata Corporation Governance, Division 1 The Council)
- Neville, "Bylaws: What a Council Needs to Know"

# E. Strata Property Manager

• BC, <u>Strata Property Managers</u>

# **3. CREATING CONDOMINIUM**

# A. The Strata Plan

# i. Creating the Strata Plan

- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 2, 239-40, 243-47
- <u>Stratton v Richter</u>, 2022 BCCA 337

# ii. Amending the Strata Plan

• <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 257, 259(3), 261, 263

# B. Bare Land Strata

- Harris & Patterson, "<u>Condominium to the Country: The Sprawl of Ownership within</u> <u>Private Local Government</u>" (2024) 49:2 Law & Social Inquiry 877-915
- <u>Swan Lake Recreation Resort Ltd v Kamloops (City, Land Title Registrar</u>), 1999 CanLII 6678 (BC SC), paras 1-9, 22-36
- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 1, 243, 244, 246
- Bare Land Strata Regulations, BC Reg 75/78, ss 2-3

#### **Additional Material**

o Tuwanek Ratepayers Association v Sechelt (District), 2014 BCSC 2625, 1-4, 23-35

# C. Leasehold Strata

- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 199-216 (Part 12 Leasehold Strata Plans)
- <u>Strata Property Regulations</u>, BC Reg 43/2000, s 12.1

#### D. Types and Sections

- Real Estate Council of British Columbia, "Strata Corporations: Types and Sections" in <u>RECBC Newsletter 48:5 (March 2013)</u>, 2-5
- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 91-92, 99-100, 190-198
- Strata Property Regulation, BC Reg. 43/2000, 6.4(2), 11.1-11.3

#### **Additional Material**

• British Columbia Law Institute, <u>*Report on Complex Stratas*</u>, 9-30

#### E. Air Space Parcels

- Harris, "Volumetric Subdivision and the Architectures of Property" (2024) 9 JLPS 1
- Land Title Act, RSBC 1996, c 250, ss 138-144, 169
- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, RSBC 1998, c 43, s 240

#### **Additional Material**

o <u>Owners, Strata Plan LMS 3905 v Crystal Square Parking Corp.</u>, 2020 SCC 29

# **4. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

#### A. Suits against the Strata Corporation

- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 163-169
- Civil Resolution Tribunal Act, SBC 2012, c 25, ss 120-123
- Dollan v The Owners, Strata Plan BCS 1589, 2012 BCCA 44, 1-40

#### **Additional Material**

- o <u>Reid v Strata Plan LMS 2503 (Owners)</u>, 2001 BCSC 1578
- o <u>Gentis v Owners, Strata Plan VR368</u>, 2003 BCSC 120
- o <u>Peace v The Owners, Strata Plan VIS</u>, 2009 BCSC 1791
- o <u>Radcliffe v The Owners, Strata Plan KAS1436</u>, 2015 BCCA 448
- o King Day Holdings Ltd. v The Owners, Strata Plan LMS3851, 2020 BCCA 342

#### B. Suits by the Strata Corporation

- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 170-173.1
- *Hamilton v Ball*, 2006 BCCA 243, paras 1, 19-29
- The Owners Strata Plan LMS 2768 v Jordison, 2013 BCCA 484
- Harris, "<u>Anti-Social Behaviour, Expulsion from Condominium, and the Reconstruction</u> of Ownership," (2016) 54:1 Osgoode Hall Law Journal 53-85.

#### Additional Material

- o <u>Toronto Standard Condominium Corporation No. 2931 v. Tsatskin</u>, 2024 ONSC 6392
- o Owners, Strata Plan LMS 888 v Coquitlam (City), 2003 BCSC 941
- o Ang v Spectra Management Services Ltd, 2002 BCSC 1544

# C. The Civil Resolution Tribunal

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, s 189.1
- <u>Civil Resolution Tribunal Act</u>, SBC 2012, c 25, ss 2, 4, 16.1-16.4, 17-20, 48(1), 113, 114, 120-123
- Administrative Tribunals Act, SBC 2004, c 45, s 58
- Salter, "Public-Centred Justice Redesign: A Case Study of the British Columbia Civil Resolution Tribunal" (2016), pp. 113-119, 123-135

#### Additional Material

o *Downing v Strata Plan VR2356*, 2019 BCSC 1745

#### D. Judicial Review, 2023 BCSC 113

- Dolnik v The Owners, Strata Plan LMS 1350, 2023 BCSC 113
- <u>Civil Resolution Tribunal Act</u>, SBC 2012, c 25, ss 56.6-56.9, 121(2)

# Additional Material

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# 5. GOVERNING & MAINTAINING CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY

#### A. Transitioning from Owner-Developer Control

- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 5-24 (Part 3 The Owner Developer)
- Lippert and Treffers, "Turnover or roll over? Property developer legal avoidance and influence on condominium governance in New York City and Toronto," 67-78

# **Additional Material**

- CMHC, <u>Condominium Buyer's Guide</u>
- Hazel Easthope and Bill Randolph, "Principal-Agent Problems in Multi-Unit Developments: The Impact of Developer Actions on the On-Going Management of Strata Titled Properties" (2016) 48:9 *Environment and Planning A*, 1829–1847

# **B.** Regulating the Use of Private Property

#### i. Enacting bylaws

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 119-121, 125
- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, Schedule of Standard Bylaws
- Kok v Strata Plan LMS 463 (Owners), 1999 CanLII 6382 (BC SC), paras 1-15; 25-35

#### **Additional Material**

- o The Owners, Strata Plan LMS 1590 v Yip, 2018 BCSC 2185
- o <u>The Owners, Strata Plan VIS4686 v Craiq</u>, 2016 BCSC 90
- o <u>Strata Plan VIS4663 v Little</u>, 2001 BCCA 337

# ii. Amending Bylaws

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 120(1), 126-28, 197
- Omnicare Pharmacy Ltd. v The Owners, Strata Plan LMS 2854, 2017 BCSC 256, paras 1-8, 96-135

#### iii. Enforcing Bylaws

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 26, 27, 115(1), 116, 129-138, 171(1), 173(1), 256(1)
- <u>Strata Property Regulation</u>, BC Reg. 43/2000, s 7.1, Form F
- <u>Terry v The Owners, Strata Plan NW 309</u>, 2016 BCCA 449, paras 1-6, 26-36
- <u>The Owners, Strata Plan NW 1815 v Aradi</u>, 2016 BCSC 105, paras 1-13, 24-26, 43-46, 55-70

#### Additional Material

- o <u>The Owners, Strata Plan VR 19 v Collins et al., 2004 BCSC 1743</u>
- o <u>Drummond v. Strata Plan NW2654</u>, 2004 BCSC 1405

# C. Contested Bylaws

# i. Rental Restrictions

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 121, 141
- <u>Strata Property Regulation</u>, BC Reg. 43/2000, ss 7.1
- Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act, SBC 2023, c 32
- Harris, "Regulating Short-Term Accommodation within Condominium" (2018)

#### **Additional Material**

o BC, Housing & Tenancy, "<u>Rental Restriction Bylaws in Stratas</u>"

- o Strata Property Regulation, Form J Rental Disclosure Statement
- o HighStreet Accommodations Ltd. v. The Owners, Strata Plan BCS2478, 2019 BCCA 64
- o Als v Strata Corporation NW1067, 2002 BCSC 134
- o Semmler v The Owners, Strata Plan NES3039, 2018 BCSC 2064
- The Owners, Strata Plan EPS2386 v Zhang, 2020 BCCRT 279
- o The Owners, Strata Plan VR 812 v Yu, 2019 BCSC 2340
- Ottawa-Carleton Standard Condominium Corporation No. 961 v Menzies, 2016 ONSC 7699, 1-23, 46-60

#### ii. Restrictions on Age

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 121, 123.1, 123.2
- *<u>Human Rights Code</u>*, RSBC 1996, c 210, ss 9, 10, 41(2)

#### **Additional Material**

- o The Owners, Strata Plan NW498 v Pederson, 1999 BCCA 224
- o Owners, Strata Plan NW 499 v Louis, 2008 BCCA 319

# iii. Restrictions on Pets

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, s 123
- *Human Rights Code*, RSBC 1996, c 210, s 8

# D. Common Property

# i. Managing Common Property

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 1, 3, 66-69, 71-72, 99-100, 108, 125, <u>Schedule</u> of Standard Bylaws, ss 2, 8
- Foley v The Owners, Strata Plan VR 387, 2014 BCSC 1333
- Lippert, "Ups and Downs of Urban Governance: High-Rise Condo Elevators" in *Condo Conquest*, 188-209

#### **Additional Material**

- o Shaw Cablesystems Limited v Concord Pacific Group Inc, 2008 BCCA 234
- o 674378 British Columbia Ltd v The Owners, Strata Plan VIS5122, 2022 BCCRT 1346

#### ii. Limited Common Property

• Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 1 "limited common property", 73-77, 257

#### **Additional Material**

o Moure v The Owners, Strata Plan NW2099, 2003 BCSC 1364, paras 20-21

# E. Responsibility for Repairs

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 72, 99, 100, 108, 165, 173(2), <u>Schedule of Standard Bylaws</u>, ss 2, 5, 6 & 8
- <u>Strata Property Regulation</u>, BC Reg. 43/2000, ss 6.4, 6.5
- <u>Tadeson v Owners, Strata Plan NW 2644</u>, 1999 CanLII 6999 (BCSC)

• Thurlow & Alberni Project Ltd. v The Owners, Strata Plan VR 2213, 2022 BCCA 257

#### **Additional Material**

- o Royal Bank of Canada v. Holden, 1996 CanLII 3440
- o John Campbell Law Corp v Owners, Strata Plan 1350, 2001 BCSC 1342
- o <u>The Owners of Strata Plan NWS 254 v Hall</u>, 2016 BCSC 2363
- o Owners, Strata Plan LMS 1537 v Alvarez, 2003 BCSC 1085
- o <u>Strata Plan LMS 2446 v Morrison</u>, 2011 BCPC 519
- o <u>The Owners, Strata Plan VIS114 v John Doe</u>, 2015 BCSC 13
- o <u>Santos v. The Owners, Strata Plan LMS 1509</u>, 2016 BCSC 1775

#### F. Insurance

• British Columbia Law Institute, *<u>Report on Insurance Issues for Stratas</u>*, 27-52

# G. Condominium Property and Human Rights

- i. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms
  - <u>Strata Plan NW 499 v Kirk</u>, 2015 BCSC 1487, paras 1-29, 143-166
  - The Owners, Strata Plan NW 499 v Louis, 2016 BCCA 494, paras 20-35

# ii. The Human Rights Code

- <u>Strata Property Act</u>, SBC 1998, c 43, s 121
- <u>Human Rights Code</u>, RSBC 1996, c 210, ss 4, 8, 9, 41(2)
- Jacobsen v Strata Plan SP1773 (No. 2), 2020 BCHRT 170

#### Additional Material

- Ganser v. Rosewood Estates Condominium Corporation, 2002 AHRC 2, "Facts" and "ANALYSIS 1. Whether the Commission has jurisdiction"
- o Williams v. Strata Council #768, 2003 BCHRT 17
- Konieczna v. The Owners Strata Plan NW2489, 2003 BCHRT 38
- o Hallonguist v. Strata Plan NW307 and another, 2014 BCHRT 117
- o Shannon v. The Owners, Strata Plan KAS 1613 (No. 2), 2009 BCHRT 438
- o Leary v. Strata Plan VR1001, 2016 BCHRT 139

# H. Condominium and Families

# 6. DISSOLVING CONDOMINIUM

# A. Cancelling the Strata Plan and Winding up the Strata Corporation

- Strata Property Act, SBC 1998, c 43, ss 272-289 (Part 16 Cancellation)
- Bare Land Strata Plan Cancellation Regulation, BC Reg 556/82
- Allyson Baker, "Voluntarily Winding Up a Strata Corporation," BCCLE

**Additional Material** 

- Harris, "Owning and Dissolving Strata Property" (2017) 50:4 UBC Law Review 935
- Harris & Gilewicz, "<u>Dissolving Condominium</u>, <u>Private Takings</u>, and the Nature of Property" (2015)
- o <u>The Owners, Strata Plan VR456 (Re)</u>, 2022 BCSC 502
- o <u>The Owners, Strata Plan LMS3746 v Strathcona Denture Clinic Inc.</u>, 2022 BCSC 1961