

DESCRIPTION

Soussana Karas:

Providing Guidance or Playing Catch-Up: The Challenge of Regulating Disruptors

How should we think about Airbnb hosts and Uber drivers? Are they disruptive innovators, catalysts for new development, a regulatory nightmare that undermines consumer protection, or both?

This presentation will explore what the “sharing economy” means for regulators, traditional business models, and consumers. Where do those quasi-professionals leveraging the excess capacity in their own assets stand on a spectrum of imposing a burden of regulation vs ensuring safety?

This talk will explore the debate about the approach that the government should adopt in regulating disruptors: hands off vs interventionists. The role of various stakeholders in shaping the policy-making process will be discussed, including lobbyist, consumers and industry representatives.

Drawing on her over 10 years of regulatory experience, Soussanna Karas will explore the topics of balancing consumer protection through regulation with supporting economic growth and fostering innovation.

Soussanna Karas is a Senior Counsel with Electrical Safety Authority, a provincial regulator of electrical safety in Ontario. Her work experience includes representing Travel Industry Council of Ontario, the provincial regulator of travel industry, and the Regional Municipality of Peel. Soussanna has extensive enforcement experience in the public sector, focused on regulatory, public and consumer protection. Soussanna's litigation practice covers a broad range of administrative, civil and quasi-criminal matters, with a particular focus on administrative tribunal litigation, and prosecutions before the Ontario Court of Justice, under the Ontario *Provincial Offences Act*. Soussanna has extensive trial and appellate experience and has appeared before all levels of the court in Ontario, including the Ontario Court of Appeal.

DATE AND TIME

Wed, 4 April 2018
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM EDT
[Add to Calendar](#)

LOCATION

Ted Rogers School of
Management
575 Bay Street
Room: TRS 3-099
Toronto, ON M5G 2C5
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