

Michelle Retief

Lawyer

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Michelle's Biography

Michelle's goal in practice is to achieve sustainable, tailored solutions that will give her clients peace of mind. Her practice focuses on parenting, support, and property issues in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Unified Family Court, and alternative dispute resolution processes where appropriate. Prior to joining McKenzie Lake, Michelle articulated and practiced as an Associate at a boutique family law firm in London.

Michelle earned her J.D. with distinction from Western University in 2019, where she received the Harold G. Fox Education Fund Award and UWO Faculty Association President's Scholarship.

During law school, Michelle volunteered with the Pro Bono Canada Family Law Project assisting local self-represented litigants. She also participated in the Walsh Family Law Negotiation Competition and was a member of the editorial board of the Canada-U.S. Law Journal. Michelle also had the opportunity to serve as an Advisor in Legal Affairs at the Canadian Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, which gave her the opportunity to closely observe and support multilateral negotiations on various human rights issues.

Before pursuing her law degree, Michelle obtained a B.Soc.Sc. in

Practice Areas

Family Law

Adoption

Child Custody & Access

Child Support & Spousal Support

Cohabitation Contracts

Fertility and Reproductive Law

Marriage Contracts

Mediation and Arbitration

Property Division

Separation and Divorce

Education and Year of Call

Bar Admission, Ontario (2020)

Juris Doctor, Western University

Honours Bachelor of Social Sciences,
University of Ottawa



MCKENZIE LAKE
LAWYERS

Honours International Development & Globalization from the University of Ottawa and worked for several years in the public and private sector in HR development, international business advisory services, and refugee affairs.

Michelle currently serves as a member of the Middlesex Family Lawyers' Association (MFLA) Executive and enjoys travelling, cooking, and reading in her free time.

Professional Associations

- Law Society of Ontario
- Canadian Bar Association
- Middlesex Law Association
- Middlesex Family Lawyers' Association

